

In the developed world, **average life expectancy** is increasing. What problems will this cause for individuals and society? Suggest some measures that could be taken to reduce the impact of **ageing populations**.

Life expectancy is longer than before. The main reason is that the technological development and living standards. Some problems can be caused and the society should take some measures to solve these problems.

Population is increasing and governments need more money to take care of elderly people. There is a lack of money for economic development. After retirement, people will receive a pension. Because of this, governments have difficulty in financing some projects which can improve the economy. For instance, governments would not have enough money to invest in education. Many young people cannot receive a higher education and there would not be sufficient money for research and development. This would reduce productivity and compromise the competitiveness of a country's products, having a negative influence on the economy.

The needs on health care would also increase with the population of elderly people. When people get older, there are some problems such as the lapse of memory and heart diseases. They need to build more medical facilities and rest homes look after the aged and help them solve health problems. It means that other age groups could not acquire convenient medical care problems.

Governments can do two things solve these problems. First of all, they can increase the retirement age, so people may work until 70 years old. So they can support themselves instead of relying on government pension. Secondly, governments should encourage citizens to form saving habits, so elderly people can pay for the majority of medical fees and accommodations, which would reduce the burden on society.

The elderly people would bring challenges to countries' economy and governments can encourage people to put off retirement age.

