

# LESSON 2: THE POPULATION PYRAMID

## Answer Sheet for Teachers

### Activity 1 – Small Group Work and Different Types of Population Pyramids

#### Answers from Group 1

##### *Define the terms:*

- **Population ageing:** The share of younger people in a population decreases while the share of older people simultaneously increases.
- **Median:** Median, or rather median age, describes the middle point where 50% of the population is older and 50% are younger.
- **Ageing index:** Ratio of older people to younger people (per 100 inhabitants).
- **Dependency ratio:** Ratio of the economically dependent population to people of working age.

#### Answers from Group 2:

##### *Describe what the population pyramid shows and what conclusions one can draw from it.*

- It shows the distribution of age and gender within a population.
- In this format, it can be seen which trends could shape population change, for example which age groups could expect an increase.
- These forecasts are important for political decision-making since a younger, or even older population structure presents different demands for a society.

##### *Name three differences between the population pyramid of Sweden for 1860 and 2016.*

1. The birth rate in 2016 compared to 1860 has dramatically decreased.
2. More people reach a higher age in 2016.
3. In 2016, more women reach a higher age.

#### Results: Different Types of Population Pyramids

##### *Assign the texts to the appropriate graphic and explain your reasoning.*

1. United States 2012 – square form -> a slower population growth
2. Japan 2012 – more older people than younger -> population ageing
3. Rwanda 2012 – a very young population -> strong population growth