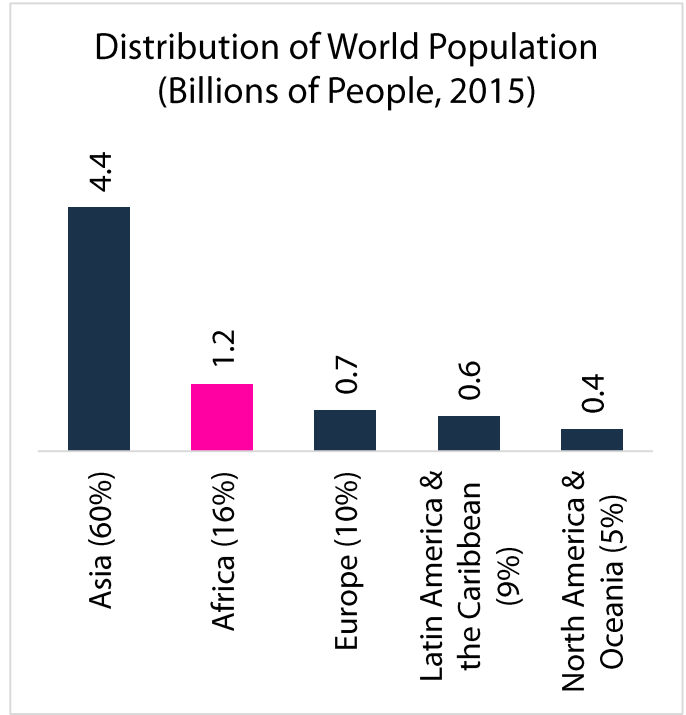




Africa has the youngest population in the world

According to the UN’s World Population Prospects (2015 Revision), the world’s population reached 7.3 billion people in 2015, of which 16% (1.2 billion) is African – second to Asia’s 60% (4.4 billion). Among the top 10 countries that increased their populations the most between 2010 and 2015, four are African countries led by Nigeria (+4.6 million). Projections show that between 2015 and 2050, more than half of global population growth will be in Africa such that of the 2.4 billion people to be added to the global population in this period, 1.3 billion will be African (followed by Asia’s 0.9 billion).



With the median age for the world’s population at 29.6 years, Africa has the most youthful population in the world, by median age. The top 10 countries with the youngest populations by median age are all African and are led by Niger (14.8 years), Uganda (15.9 years) and Chad (16 years). In contrast, the world’s 10 oldest countries by median age are from Europe and Asia led by Germany (46.5 years) and Japan (46.2 years). It is projected that up to 2050, the African population will remain relatively young compared to Europe and Asia. With good management, African countries can capitalize on this young and vibrant human capital base.

