

and measure their “age friendliness”. Evidence enables cities to set targets and policy, and to enhance collaboration between governments, researchers, non-profits, and other members of communities concerned about our health and well-being as we age.

The Framework and indicators are grouped into physical environment, the social environment, impact and equity. They were robustly tested in 15 cities worldwide, and are designed to be tailored to local conditions. We will discuss the indicators, examples of metrics, and the empirical results from a number of cities that have used the Guide.

#### COMPETING NARRATIVES ON DEMENTIA FRIENDLINESS: THE AUSTRALIAN CASE STUDY

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The growing numbers of people living with dementia and a progressive trend toward age friendliness in urban neighborhoods raises the issue of how dementia is perceived in the public domain. This paper critically addresses competing narratives on dementia arising from professions and from the growing voices of consumers and dementia activists in Australia. The interconnection between narratives, public perceptions and public interventions will, it is argued have implications for policy, the co-creation of community and future conceptions of citizenship. Empirical material from Australia consequently addresses global discussion and potential relation between dementia / age friendliness.

#### UNLOCKING THE BLACK BOX OF AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES AND COMMUNITIES: CONTEXTUALISATION AND MEDIATION

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Age-Friendly Cities and Communities (AFCC) practices have emerged as an appealing field for experimentations, local initiatives, and they, sometimes, received the support of social research. Today, there is a need to critically discuss their development in different parts of the world and to support more theoretical perspectives.

The *Programme d'Etude Internationale sur le Vieillessement* (PEIV) led by REIACTIS ([www.reiactis.com](http://www.reiactis.com)) in 2013–2016 offers empirical observations and interviews with stakeholders from AFCC in France (N=18) and Quebec (N=29); furthermore, we observe the long-term evolution of a Walloon program on AFCC in Belgium since 2002, where we are now leading a pilot project in 6 municipalities offering stronger methodological directions.

Inspired by critical gerontology and sociology of public policies, we theoretically propose to insist on the variety of contexts and mediations between local stakeholders, including researchers, when present, to better understand how practices are deeply embedded in shared values, language and interests.

## SESSION 3195 (SYMPOSIUM)

### ACTIVE AGING IN ASIA: COMMUNITY CARE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN HONG KONG, JAPAN, KOREA, AND SINGAPORE

Chair: K.L. Braun, *University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii*

Discussant: C. Conybeare, *University of Hawaii West Oahu, Kapolei, Hawaii*

Counties across Asia are experiencing rapid growth of the number and percent of older adults in their societies. Although several countries have looked at paying for nursing home care, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, and Singapore have realized the creating home and community-based services will maximize independence and minimize costs. The purpose of this symposium is to share practices and policies from these four countries as they develop and test policies and programs that favor home and community services over nursing home care. Presenters are country representatives of ACAP (Active Aging Consortium Asia Pacific) who work within their countries to educate and facilitate change. The moderator (Braun, USA) will provide a brief overview of the trends that have led to rapid aging in Asia and describe ACAP's individual-family-community-social policy framework. Dr. Han (South Korea) will describe South Korea's efforts to build an active aging society, with specific examples from Busan city, as well as the national policy level. Dr. Ogawa (Japan) will introduce several initiatives from Fukuoka Prefecture, including Fukuoka City's “active aging” plan and efforts of the Asia Aging Business Center to promote a community-based comprehensive care system. Ms. Kay (Singapore) will discuss community-based initiatives in Singapore to support older adults in an inclusive “nation for all ages.” Ms. Tsien (Hong Kong) will describe Hong Kong's community-based work with older adults and policy makers to improve the age-friendliness of selected neighborhoods. Dr. Conybeare will discuss the similarities and differences in country approaches.

### COMMUNITY MODEL OF CARE AND SERVICES IN SINGAPORE: A NATION FOR ALL AGES

T. Kay, *Consultant, Singapore, Singapore*

In rapidly ageing Singapore, 1 in 4 Singaporeans will be over 65 by 2030. Efforts are being taken to build an inclusive “Nation for All Ages”, and several initiatives are underway to enable older persons to age-in-place and within the community. For example, Singapore is developing age-friendly “communities of care” through integrated health and social services, home services and home visitations. Continued participation is being facilitated through senior activity centres, community clubs, senior volunteerism, lifelong learning, community kitchens, and multigenerational activities. Age-friendly environments are also fostered, especially in housing, public spaces and transport services. Innovative community-based programmes are being implemented, such as care integration in a “community model of care”, community rehabilitation (for recovery and re-ablement), dementia-friendly communities and the Singapore Programme for Integrated Care for the Elderly (SPICE). Singapore's “Smart

Nation” initiative will also leverage technology to enable older people to age actively and productively.

#### **INTEGRATED COMMUNITY CARE IN FUKUOKA: A PARADIGM SHIFT FOR A HYPER-AGED SOCIETY**

T. Ogawa, 1. *Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center, Fukuoka, Japan*, 2. (NPO) *Asian Aging Business Center, Fukuoka, Japan*

In Japan, the demographic transition of rapid aging is considered a hindrance to economic growth. Neither public nor private sector will be able to survive using “business as usual” models in the coming future. Therefore, every sector must modify its planning framework, from forecasting to backcasting and from division of labor to collaboration. The Japanese government is now engaged in planning process to expected futures for 2025 and 2035, and working backwards to see how to best intervene to keep people healthy and independent in old age. An integrated community care system is being developed to reduce costs associated with long-term care, which has been institution based. More, less expensive options of paraprofessional and family care are being developed. Within this framework, the specific work of Fukuoka-city to enhance health and social programs as an Advancing Healthy City will be shared.

#### **BEST PRACTICES OF ACTIVE AGING AS A COMMUNITY MODEL IN KOREA**

D. Han, *Research Institute of Science for the Better Living of the Elderly, Busan, Korea (the Republic of)*

South Korea is rapidly aging society. The proportion of adults age 65+ in Korea will be 40% by 2060. To find best practices for community-based active aging in Korea, data were collected from older adults and providers affiliated with welfare centers for the elderly in Yangsan and Busan. Data on values, needs, and preferences for senior services were gathered. The result suggest the importance of the concept of “active aging” among elders and providers. Older persons overwhelmingly saw value in being active, staying healthy, and engaging in positive social participation in their older years. Program providers felt maintaining respected social roles and participation were important for older adults. The findings underscore the need for more community-based services to increase access to exercise, work opportunities, volunteer opportunities, digital literacy, health literacy, and intergenerational exchange. In Korea, community-based welfare centers for the elderly are important platforms to spread active aging.

#### **BUILDING AN AGE-FRIENDLY HONG KONG: A BOTTOMS-UP APPROACH**

T.B. Tsien, *Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, Hong Kong*

As many countries in Asia, Hong Kong is rapidly ageing. The Institute of Active Ageing of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University has implemented research, funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, to assess the current age-friendliness in two districts with high proportions of older adults and to identify appropriate action. The research has shed light on three priority directions for action, namely building Hong Kong into a friendly city for people of different ages; encouraging the elderly to participate in community

activities; and promoting social inclusion. Moving forward, the project team will work closely with District Councils, mass media, and community partners to develop three-year action plans with indicators to monitor progress. This paper will discuss the experience of this bottom-up and district-based approach and why it proves to be an effective way of building an age-friendly city and ensuring a long-lasting and sustainable impact on local communities.

### **SESSION 3200 (SYMPOSIUM)**

#### **REALISING THE POTENTIAL OF ACTIVE AGEING IN EUROPE**

Chair: A.C. Walker, *University of Sheffield*

Discussant: J. Beard, *World Health Organization*

This symposium reports the findings of the most comprehensive scientific investigation of the challenges presented by population ageing undertaken so far in Europe. The MOPACT (Mobilising the Potential of Active Ageing in Europe) was a four year multi-disciplinary collaboration involving 13 countries, which concluded in early 2017. Its objectives were to conduct systematic reviews of the social and economic challenges of ageing, generate new knowledge on key policy-related dimensions such as late working lives and healthy ageing, collect and analyse social innovations and policy initiatives and map the steps required to realise active ageing. As well as investigating the most important social and economic aspects of ageing, from pension system sustainability to social cohesion, MOPACT also included research on the built and technological environments and biogerontology. The major objectives of the symposium are to report findings from specific parts of this comprehensive project, namely new evidence on extending working lives and the challenge of increasing healthy life expectancy, and to provide a picture of the policy regimes that are associated with different degrees and forms of active ageing. In addition there is an overview of the MOPACT project and the strategy it adopted to enhance the policy relevance of its research. Symposium participants will encounter clear and concise summaries of the key findings from this unique project and take away fresh ideas about the promotion of active ageing in policy and practice.

#### **THE MOPACT PROJECT**

A.C. Walker, *Sociological Studies, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom*

This paper will provide an overview of the MOPACT project. Specifically it will outline the mission and objectives of the project and the strategies it developed to link scientific research to real world policy questions and, then, to ensure that the research findings were as policy relevant as possible. It will explain too why the active ageing concept was central to the project. This overview will be followed by a summary of the key findings not covered by other papers in the symposium. The main topics covered are national variations in the achievement of active ageing, the projected increase in the numbers of people aged 80+ living alone, measures required to improve pension system sustainability, the potential of biogerontology to increase healthy life expectancy, the barriers to take-up of ICT products, the need to transform long term care and the political gerontocracy question.