

LEE LI MING
PROGRAMME IN
AGEING URBANISM

Housing for Older

Population¹

Belinda Yuen²

Asia is not just urbanizing but ageing fast. By 2040, an additional 1 billion people will be added to Asian cities and half of that extra 1 billion people will be aged 65 and older. The speed and scale of the demographic estimates will have serious implications for sustainable urban growth. Japan is already the world's oldest society, with an older population unparalleled in modern history. Japan is projected to have 69 old people for every 100 of working age by 2035 (compared to 43 per 100 in 2010). The Asian Tigers, for example, Hong Kong (current 60+ population is 17.7%), Singapore (current 60+ population is 15.2%) and South Korea (current 60+ population is 15.1%) will see these proportions double to about 40% by 2050. Singapore and other Asian cities are at an important turning point to find

out what a sustainable age-friendly city model should be.

What kind of housing and neighbourhoods will meet our needs as we grow older?

Shelter is a basic human need that is critical to quality of life, especially for older adults. The literature suggests that the nature and suitability of older people's housing are central determinants of their wellbeing. We scan the literature to bring together some of the tools, trends and types of housing and living arrangements that are being harnessed by cities for their older populations. The aim is to highlight the myriad of possibilities, innovative models and solutions for addressing older people's housing needs.

¹ This is an evolving database. We will be adding more examples and cases over time.

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