

UN LIBRARY TALK Programme

ROUNDTABLE ON "HOW TO ENSURE AGEING WITH DIGNITY?"

Contributing to Implementation of SDG3 of the "2030 Sustainable Development"

Venue: UN Library Events Room (B-135), Palais des Nations, Building B, 1st Floor

Date/Time: 23rd May (Tuesday) at 16.00-18.00

Duration: 2 hours

Followed immediately by a reception hosted by the School of Public Health, Kyoto University



4792436ai **MUST CREDIT PHOTOS BY: Rui Gaiola/REX/Shutterstock**
Lata 65 is a creative workshop teaching street art to senior citizens, Lisbon, Portugal, May 2015 Junta de Freguesia de Carnide (parish), Lisbon FULL BODY: <http://www.rexfeatures.com/nanolink/qtxr> Lata 65 is probably the world's most interesting graffiti gang. The new urban workshops strive to break down stereotypes and ageism by teaching street art to senior citizens.
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Rationale

Ageing is a natural phenomenon of the life course. Societies have various ways in dealing with their respective senior members. However, human societies have seen an unprecedented age bonus with an extended life expectancy into the 80's. Number of people who are older than 60 years of age reached 901 million in year 2015, constitute 12.3% of the total worldwide population. By 2050, it was forecasted

that this number will reach 2.09 billion worldwide. This has changed the demographic distribution of populations and the demand patterns for public services.

Distribution of the senior population is pretty uneven correlating with the wealth of individual countries. Presently, most of the advanced economies have 20-29% of the population older than 60 years of age. By 2050 African countries are the only ones enjoy a youth bonus while the rest of the world are greying fast (UNDESA, 2015). Rapid depletion of the workforce of 25-55 age group is a major cause of rethinking, especially in the area of age, productivity, and human rights nexus.

In the context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the SDGs clearly identify older people as an integral part of social development in Goal 3 - "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages". This is particularly poignant for the senior citizens of the lower socioeconomic strata. Therefore the SDG Goal 3 serves as a policy reminder not to leave behind the older population in any shapes or forms. An integrated approach to policy making will range from rethinking physical environment, infrastructure to public financing, institutional design and explicitly social contract and solidarity such as welfare and insurance schemes.

How to provide for the senior citizens sustainable living, care, and access to opportunities of continued participation in different spheres of life has become a major policy challenge in all countries. What could be the right policy mix to address the needs of the senior citizens? How to adopt an integrated approach in tackling the ageing issue? These are the questions for debate.

During this Library Talk, a new publication titled "The 2016 Retirement Quality Index of Chinese Large and Medium Cities" by Prof Yang Yifeng, Keyu Cheng & Jia Cao, (2017) will be launched as well as publications by other speakers.

Programme

Welcome Remarks: Francesco Pisano, Chief, UNOG Library (to be confirmed)

Introductory Remarks: Raymond Saner, Director of Diplomacy Dialogue, CSEND.

A light reception will be offered by the Kyoto University at the end of the Roundtable Talk.

Round One (16.15-17.00)

How could an elder prepare and achieve an active ageing life

5 minutes introduction by each the panelists and followed by interactive conversations.

Hans Peter Graf, Dr. sc. pol. member of the Board of the Fondation pour la formation des aînées et des aînés de Genève. Topic: "Senior citizens as untapped resources for sustained societal wellbeing: Policy Implications and Challenges"

Angus Yifan Yang, Professor & Deputy Director, National Interdisciplinary Institute of Aging (NIIA) & International Health Care Institute, Southwest Jiaotong University, Chengdu. Topic: "2016 Retirement

Quality Index of China's Large and Medium-sized Cities: Personal Implications and Challenges for Urban Elderly"

Kozo Matsubayashi, Professor Emeritus, Centre for Southern Asian Studies, Kyoto University assisted by **Ayako Kohno**. Topic: "Holistic Approach towards Ageing Study: Asian Perspective"

Silvia Perel-Levin, Chair, Geneva NGO Committee on Ageing and UN Representative of International Longevity Centre Global Alliance (ILC GA). Topic: "Violence, Discrimination and Ageing: Security for the older persons".

16.35-17.00 Audience participation, including via Skype.

Round 2 (17.05-17.50)

What are the enabling environment and conditions to allow elders to live a life with dignity

5 minutes introduction by each the panelists and followed by interactive conversations.

John R. Beard, Director of Ageing and Life Course Department, World Health Organisation. Geneva. Topic: "The WHO Framework on Age-Friendly Environment and Combatting Ageism".

Jiang Wu, Professor, Beijing Centre for Organisational Learning & Urban Governance Innovation, Tsinghua University, Beijing. Topic: "Policy and Practices of Caring for the Ageing Population in China: Governance Innovations and Challenges"

Regula Ruez (by Skype), Director of MetroBasel, "Ageing in the Context of Sustainable Urban Development: Basle Perspective and Experiences"

Jerry Zhiyong Lan, Professor, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University, Beijing. Topic: "Ageing in the Context of Sustainable Urban Development: A Comparative Analysis".

17.25 -17.50 Audience participation, including via Skype.

Closure (17.50-17.55)

Reception

Moderator

Lichia Yiu, President, Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND)