

# From Active Ageing to Age Friendly City: a reflection on the theoretical framework

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THE HONG KONG  
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
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Figure 6. Age-friendly city topic areas

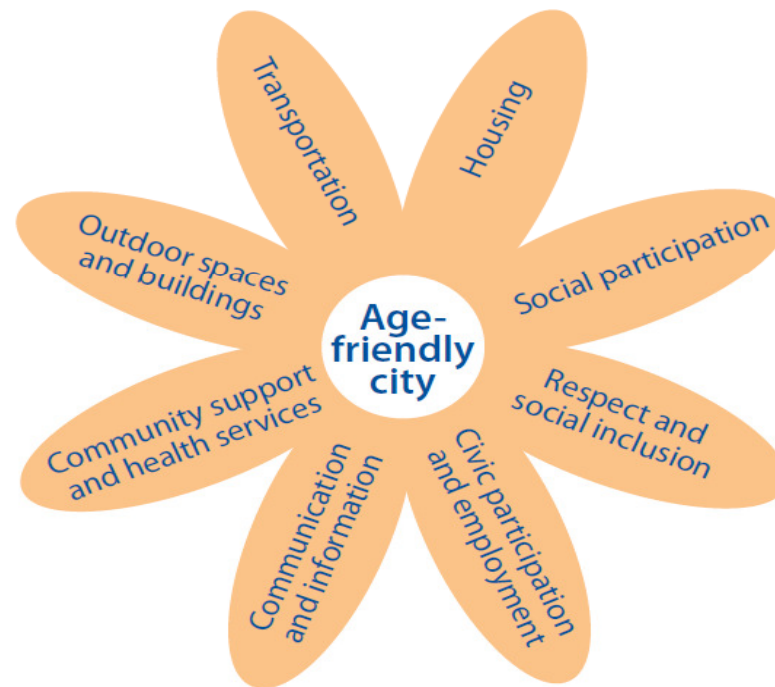


**A summary of the 8 topics of 'age-friendly city' into the 4 thematic directions of the present conference**

- Life long learning
- Physical environment
- Social and health service
- Social and civic participation

- Factual and flat description of the human activities and facilities in an urban environment, pragmatic solution to the issue. -- what is the background supporting such proposal of 'Age-friendly city'?

Figure 6. Age-friendly city topic areas



- Where is the linkage of these 8 aspects?

- Asking the ‘what’ and ‘why’ questions before the ‘how’ question.
- What are the core propositions leading to a conceptual framework which will in turn support the discourse of ‘age-friendly city’?

- **What is ageing?** Life course theory, active ageing, independent living
- **What is a city?** Urban living environment, right to the city, post medical geography of health
- **Based on what ground the city has to be ‘age-friendly’?** The performative citizenship; the being, belonging and becoming aspects of life; ageing in place

Age-friendly  
Urban Environment

Rights to the City

Individual and  
Communal  
Culture and Values

Performative  
Citizenship

Urban Space

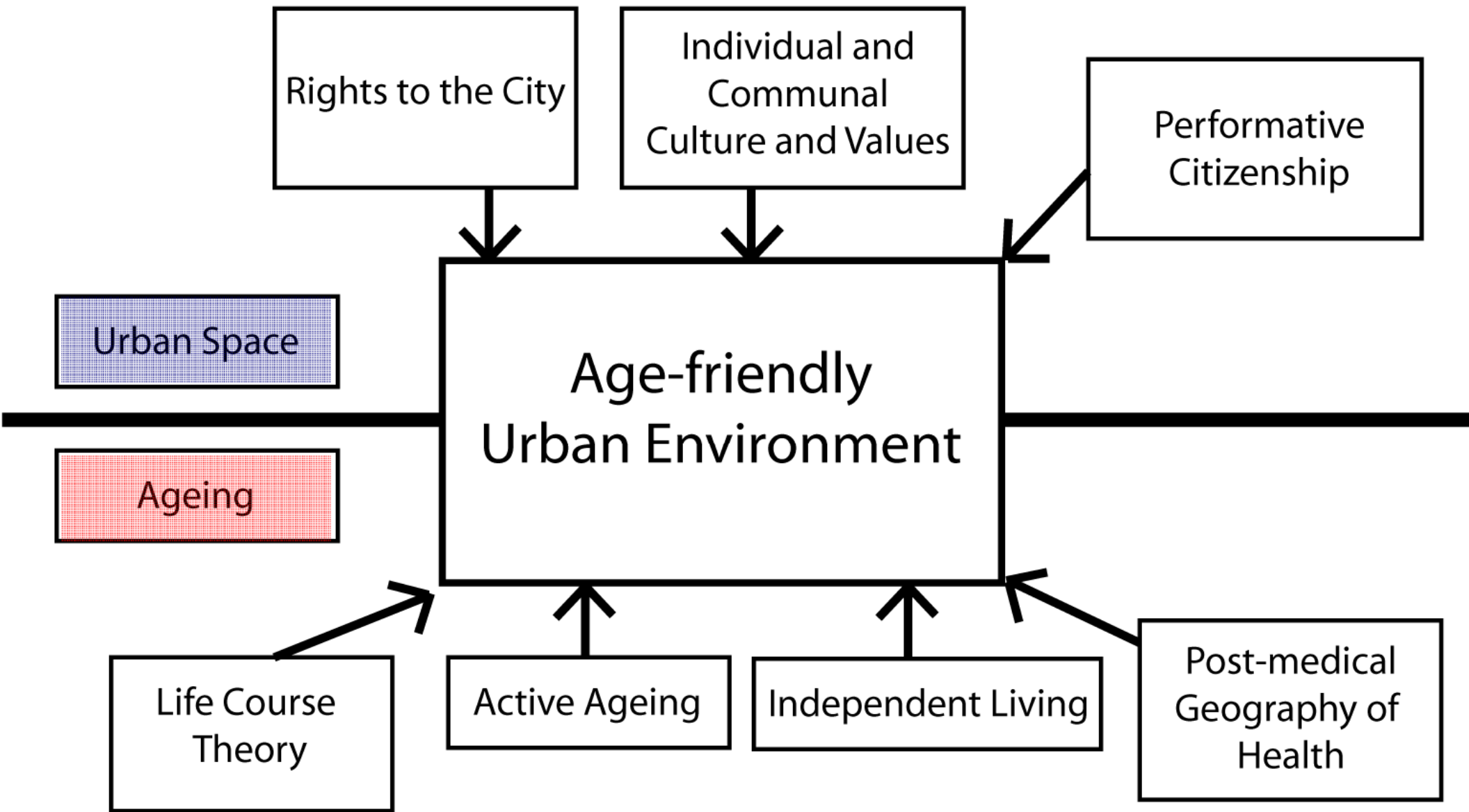
Ageing

Life Course  
Theory

Active Ageing

Independent Living

Post-medical  
Geography of  
Health





- What is ageing?
- Ageing is a social construction
- Becoming old at the age of 65 is a social creation that originated in the Western countries in the 19th Century



**Athlete Mr. Yip aged 87**



**Philosopher Lao Sze Kwang aged 82**

## Conclusion

- **Age is a social construct**
- Old citizens should be encouraged to work, and to 'exercise, have sex , take holidays, socialize in ways indistinguishable those of their children's generation' (Blaikie1999: 104)

# The life course approach of Confucius

- Confucius said: 'At fifteen my heart was set on learning; at thirty I stood firm; at forty I had no more doubts; at fifty I knew the mandate of heaven; at sixty my ear was obedient; at seventy I could follow my heart's desire without transgressing the norm.'  
(The Analects, Book 2: Wei Chang, Chapter 4)



# Life course approach

- Life course approaches can be characterised by five paradigmatic principles (based on Elder et al, 2003: 12 -13)
  - [life-span development] Human development and ageing are lifelong processes.
  - [agency] Individuals construct their own life course through the choices and actions they take within the opportunities and constraints of social, economic, political and cultural circumstances.
  - [time and place] The life course of individuals is embedded in historical times and places they experience in a life time.
  - [timing] The developmental antecedents and consequences of life transitions, events and behavioural patterns vary according to their timing in a person's life.
  - [linked lives] Lives are lived interdependently and socio-historical influences are expressed through a network of shared relationships.

# Active ageing

- people should be able to **realize their potential** for physical, social and mental well being throughout the life course
- The word 'active' refers to **continuing participation** in social, economic, cultural, spiritual and civic affairs
- Those who are ill or live with disabilities can remain **active contributors** to their families, peers, communities and nations
- Key goal of active ageing: **maintaining autonomy and independence** as one grows old
- Ageing takes place in the context of others --- friends, neighbours, family members and work associates.

**World Health Organization(2002). Active ageing: a Policy Framework**

## Leys and de Rouck :Independent living

- Each individual has a right to independence that comes from exercising control over his or her life, based on an ability and opportunity to make choices in everyday activities.
- These activities may include participating in community life; fulfilling social roles such as marriage, parenthood, employment, and citizenship; sustaining self-determination; and minimizing physical or psychological dependence on others.

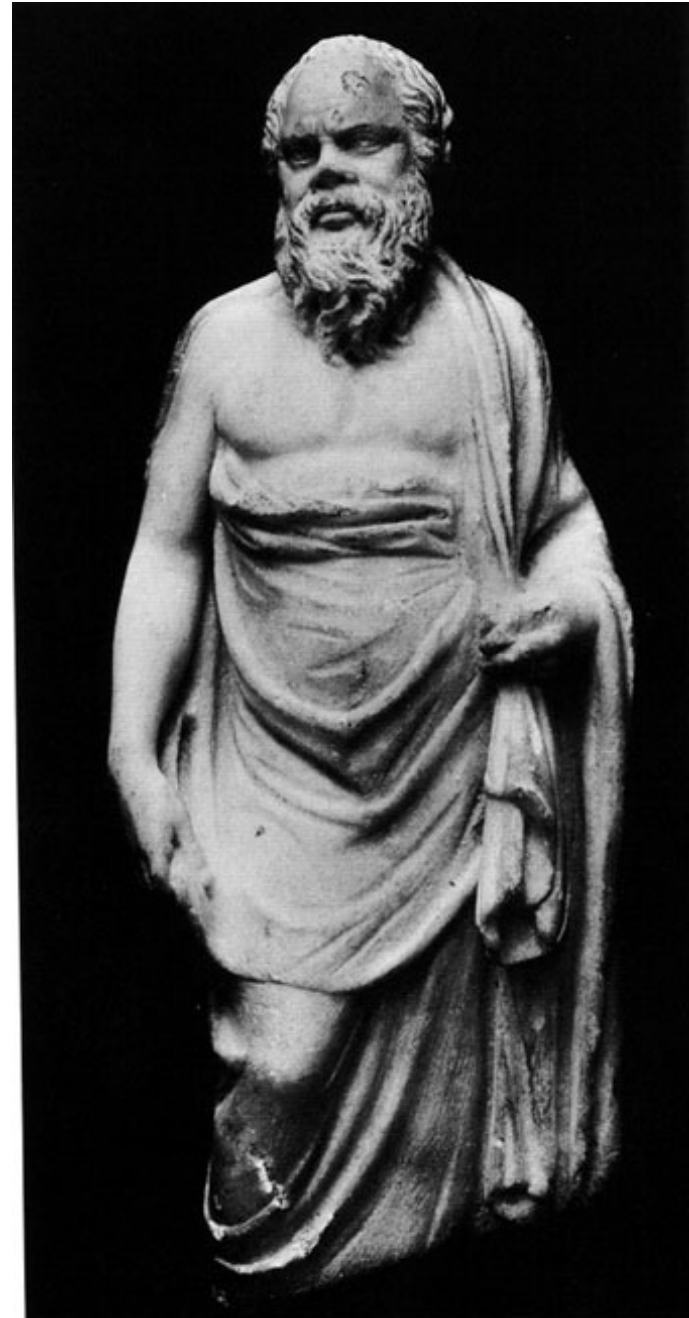
- What is a city?
- What is urban living?

- ‘Man is a creature who lives in a polis’ (Aristotle)





- Phadrus: ‘Do you ever cross the border (i.e. leaving the city of Athens and going into the natural landscape)?’
- Socrates: ‘I hope that you will excuse me when you hear the reason, which is, that I am a lover of knowledge, and the men who dwell in the city are my teachers, and not the trees, or the country.’



# Henri Lefebvre

- Urban form involves the bringing together and meeting up of everything in the urban space
- A place for to meeting and gathering together
- A place for communication

# Henri Lefebvre : **Rights** to the city

- The highest form of rights:
- **Not to be excluded**
- Liberty, individualization in socialization,
- Respect of different environs and ways of living

# Henri Lefebvre :Rights to the city

- All urban dwellers have the rights:
- to training and education, to work, to culture, to rest , to health ,and to housing.

# Norberg Schultz : culture and Values

- In a concrete space people continue to negotiate with existing ethical, social, economic and aesthetic orders to organize their life, to search for intimate relationships, and to acquire and defend individual and communal culture and values.

## Way of living is a quality of the person

- To think city as a totality
- Relation of the ways of living of the citizens and the city (living environment)
- Individuals are participating in different social domains or life spheres. In which they take up social roles and have particular interactions (Ley & de Rouck 2005)

# The performative citizenship

- A shift in the meaning of **citizenship** from being primarily guaranteed as a status to being primarily guaranteed as a **performative act** :
- what a citizen can do and how citizenship is important **to claim one's right to the city and the production of that space.** (Lepofsky & fraser )





## Kearns and Andrew: 'post-medical geography of health'

- It is no longer sufficient to design a living environment for older people where only medical services are provided.

The sustainability of the physical and psychological health of the citizens is a board concern which involves serious consideration in a multidisciplinary context.



## 3-B Model for measuring the Quality of Life

- This model serves as a means of understanding how community factors influence health and well-being.
- The quality of life model directs attention to how these factors affect individuals' lives by considering whether and how basic human needs are being met within a community.
- In 3-B model, *quality of life* is defined as “the degree to which a person enjoys the important possibilities of his or her life in three areas”\*.

\*References :Raphaella, Dennis., Renwickb, Rebecca., Brownb, Ivan., Steinmetz, Brenda., Sehdevc, Hersh., Phillips, Sherry.,(2001)  
'Making the links between community structure and individual well-being: community quality of life in Riverdale, Toronto, Canada'  
,*Health & Place* 7 ,pp.179–196

# 3-B model

**(1) The area of Being** reflects :“**who one is**” and has physical, psychological, and spiritual components.

**(2) The area of Belonging** is concerned with the **fit between a person** and his or her physical, social, and community **environments**.

**(3) The area of Becoming** refers to the **activities** that a person carries out **to achieve personal goals, hopes, or aspirations**. Becoming involves practical or day-to-day activities, leisure pastimes, and those activities that help one to cope and grow.

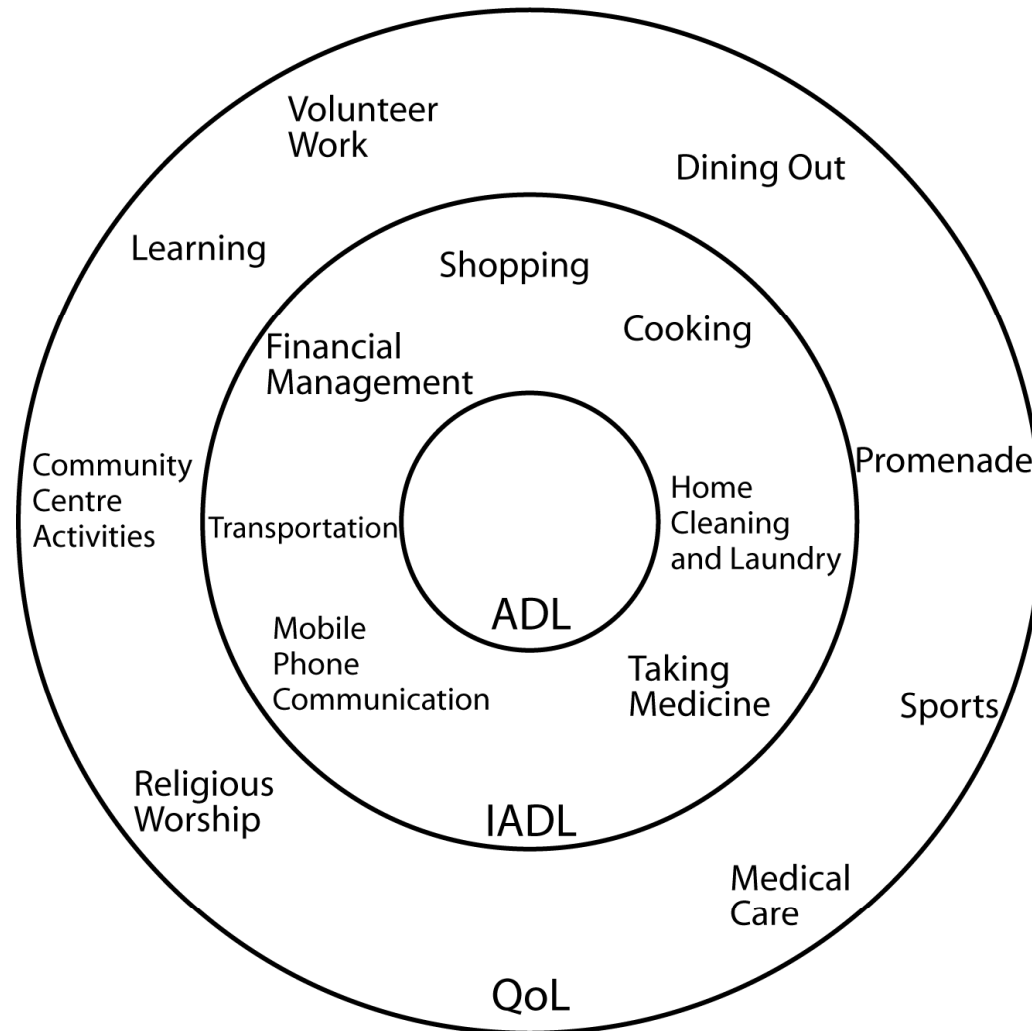
# Becoming

- people remain enthusiastic about 'self-development' and have expectations for a better future.
- From our analysis, we remark that, if people have the advantages of good health and financial stability, **they will continue to strive for a life with quality as they age.**

# Proposal of multi-dimensional schemas for age-enabling urban environment

Enhancing the quality  
of life of older people:

Activities zones from  
home to urban space:



•ADL: Home  
Environment

•IADL: Home/ outdoor  
Environment

•QoL: Outdoor  
environment

•The Activities of Daily  
Living (ADLs):  
movement in bed,  
transfers, locomotion,  
dressing,  
personal hygiene, and  
feeding.

Source: 大阪市立大学大学院生  
活科学研究科X大和ハウス工業  
総合技術研究所 2009

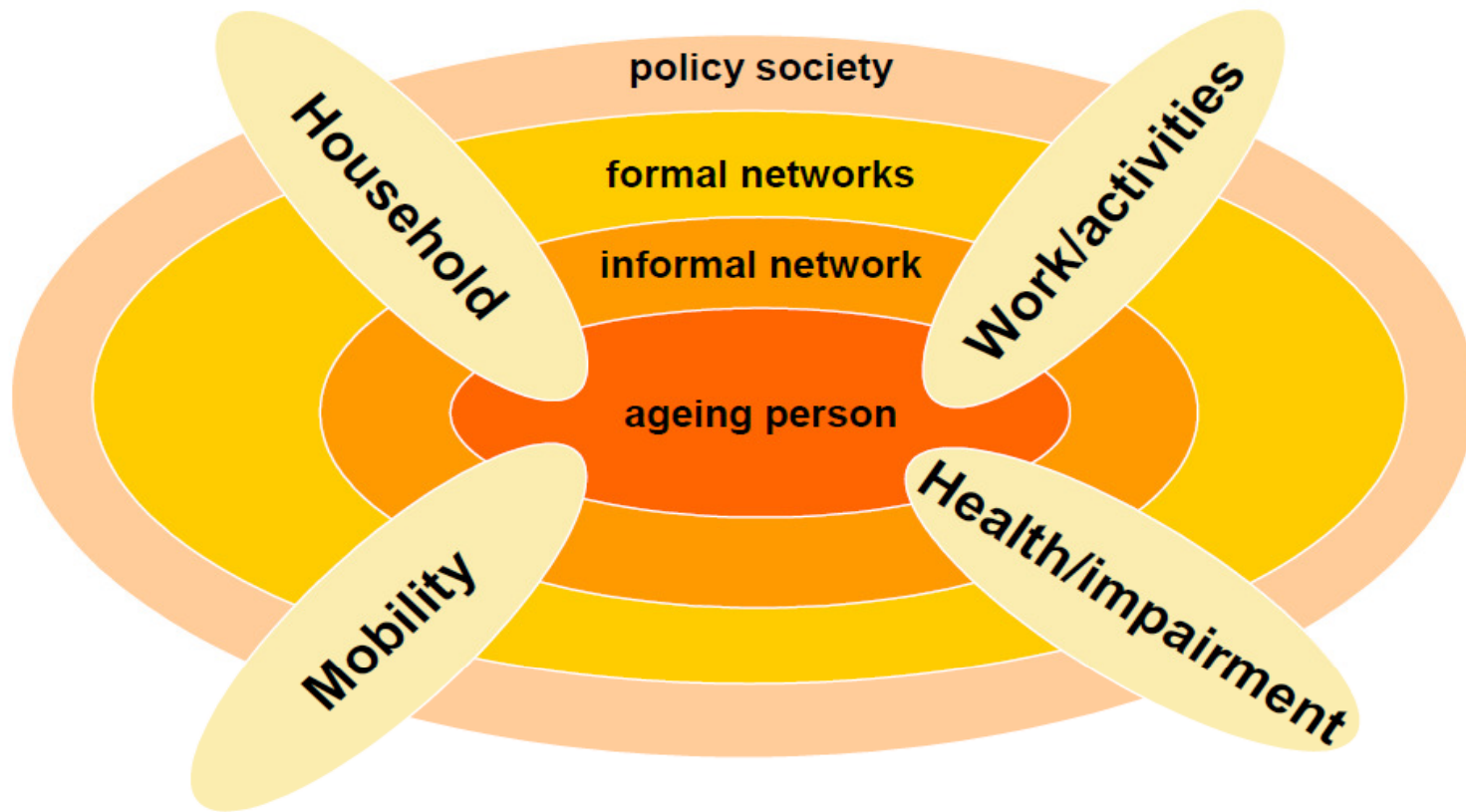


Figure 1: Model of conceptual framework

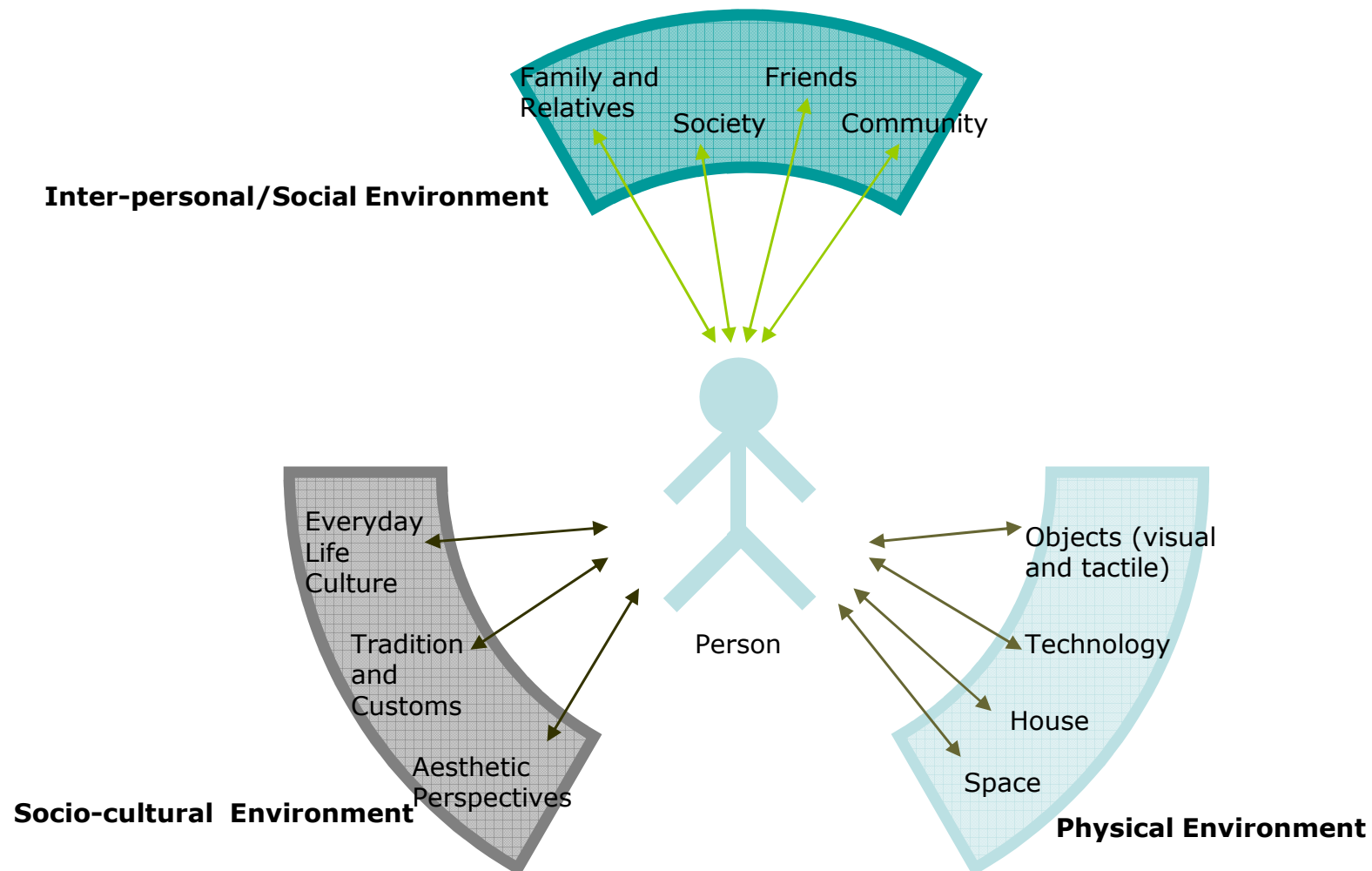
**Model of conceptual framework for  
independent living**

**(Leys & De Rouck, 2005)**

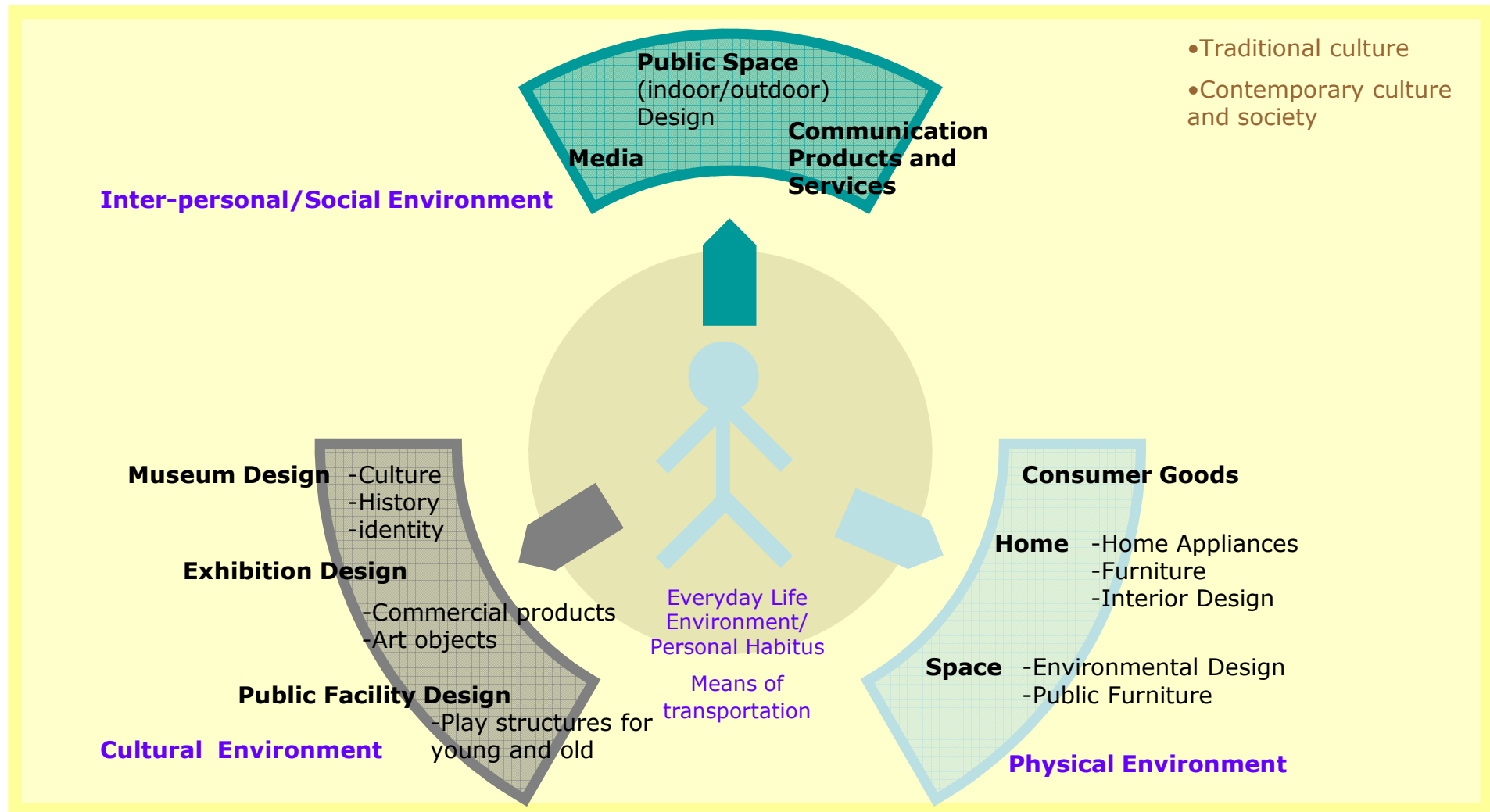
# A person with the related material world

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To see a person as an agent living in a different but inter-connecting network



- To see people as users of design products and services at different aspects of environment





## 作品 2

日期：2003年4月22日

參與者姓名：李女士 | 謝女士 | 張女士 | 李女士 | 胡女士

地方：聖雅各福群會老人社區服務中心

### 近家社區環境設計工作坊

#### 多用途大廈

1



水果店 魚檔 衣物店 蔬菜店

街市

2



購物商場

\*只是概念的建議，實際商場內的内容，未有特別討論。

3

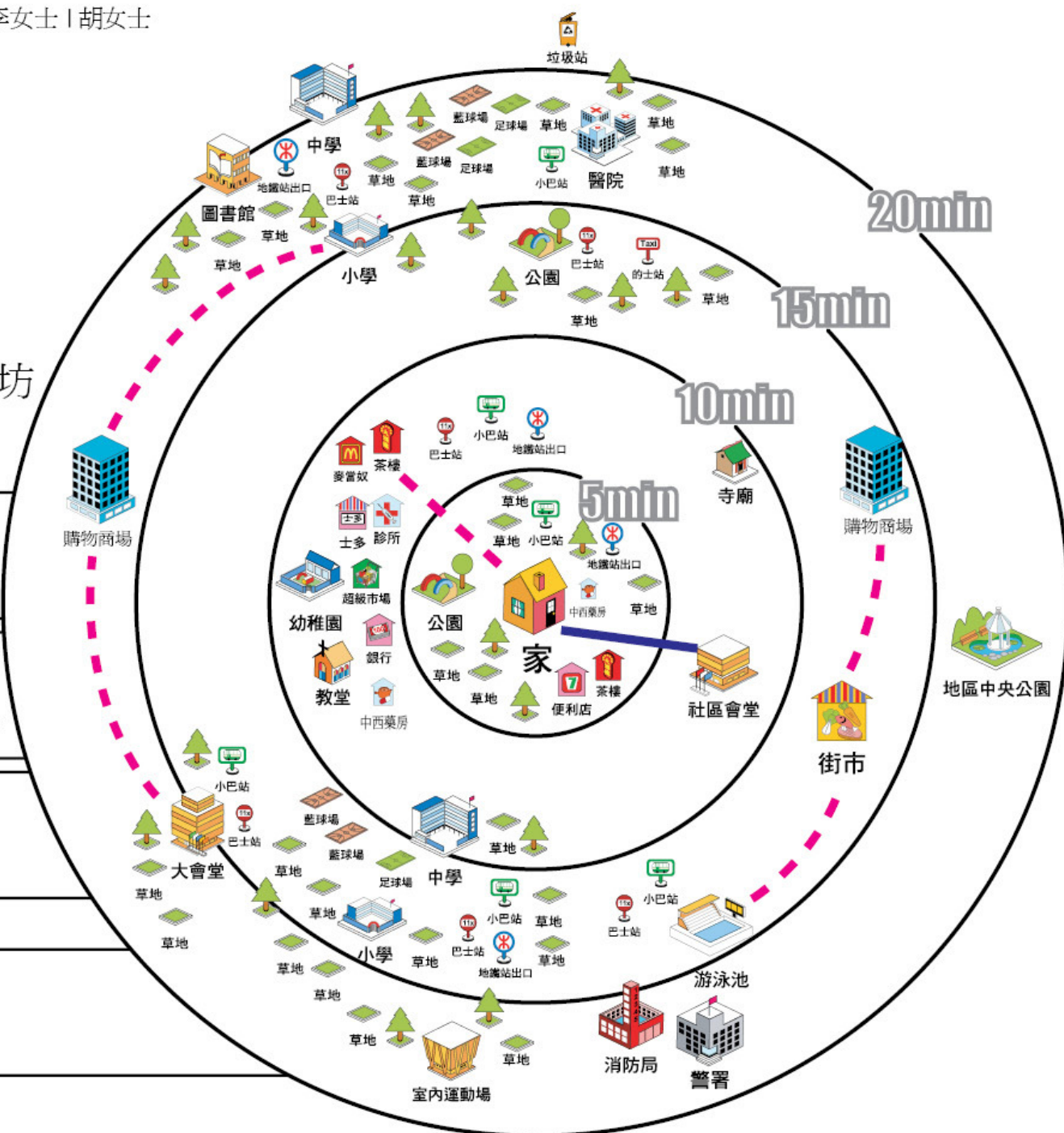


社區會堂

#### 備註

..... 有電梯的行人天橋有蓋行人通道

—— 有蓋行人通道



# Community Life

- Most participants **intentionally planned** the elderly home, elderly centre, library, schools, kindergarten, community hall, children and youth centre **in one cluster**.
- This showed that **the participants wished to live happily among other people in a community**.





## AIPスポットの 地区デザイン

### AIPスポットの地域展開

高齢化が著しく進行し、住宅の老朽化・空き家化、バリアフリー、医療介護支援などの対応が必要な住宅地に対して、従来の大規模画一的なスクラップビルド型開発とは全く異なる「AIPスポットの地域展開」を提案する。高齢者が独居や要介護などどのようなライフステージにおいても、それまでの豊かな生活を営みながら地域に住み続けられるためのサポート拠点「AIPスポット」を順次整備していく。AIPスポットがどの家からも徒歩圏（500m～1000mの間隔）にあるように小規模分散配置することで、高齢者のニーズにめ細やかに対応する。高齢者は分の住宅に住み続けることを基にしながらも、状況に応じて地域内住み替え（高齢者住宅）を選び、いままでの多様な生活を継続する。AIPスポットは、地域の実情に応じて、空き家活用による共同福祉住宅（AIPスポット1）、病院に寄り添う介護医療支援住宅（AIPスポット2）、まち機能をもつ交流促進住宅（AIPスポット3）のタイプを選定することで地域展開する。

#### AIPスポット1

空き家活用による共同福祉住宅

特徴	空き家活用による販売、サービスを含むグループ居住
用途地域	第1住専
附属機能	販売
圏域	0.5km
1棟当戸数	4～10戸
棟数	5棟
住戸数	40戸
住戸面積	100㎡程度

#### AIPスポット2

病院に寄り添う介護医療支援住宅

特徴	住宅地の集合住宅
用途地域	第2住専
附属機能	販売、コンビニ、病院併
圏域	0.5km
1棟当戸数	20～30戸
棟数	5棟
住戸数	120戸
住戸面積	20㎡程度

#### AIPスポット3

まち機能をもつ交流促進住宅

特徴	近隣商店街の集合住宅（集合住宅改修含む）
用途地域	近隣商業
附属機能	レストラン、店舗、介護、医療、健康クラブ
圏域	1km
1棟当戸数	30～60戸
棟数	4棟
住戸数	200戸
住戸面積	30㎡程度

Communal life in  
elderly home:

Greeting friends  
at the Kitchen

Go  
Worshiping  
in a temple

Go shopping  
alone on a  
wheelchair

Life with care

「安心・いきいき」の生活場面

生活、ひとりの  
活、ターミナル  
な状況になっ  
ても、身近にAIPスポットがある  
ことで、安心でいきいきした生活  
場面が展開される。  
たとえば...

要介護生活

ふたりの生活では、住み慣れた自  
宅に住み続け、自由で自立的な  
「自分50・夫婦50」の時間を過  
こす。夫婦での散歩、孫との風呂  
や料理などの時間を楽しむと共に、  
ボラン  
いつ  
ードマ

Gardening on  
a wheel chair

「ケア」  
による安心を基盤としながら、歩  
行が困難でも車いすを利用して  
AIPスポットで買い物や家庭菜園  
を楽しむ。さらに家族の心負担軽  
減や自由時間確保などの「サポー  
ターフォロー」をほかに、皆での  
神社のお参りや散歩、コンサー  
つる  
5時

Enjoying a  
concert

つ、孫とテレビ電話を楽しむ。さら  
にAIPスポットのレストランで  
安価な料金で好きなものを選ぶ  
食事や、キッチン越しの挨拶、縁  
側で井戸端会議を日課に組み込む  
ことで「ライフリズムキープ」を  
計り、安心して楽しみのある生活  
を実現する。

ターミナル生活では、「医療・看

Relatives  
visiting at  
the hospital

Residence  
occupied by  
older people

医療・看護・介護の  
三位一体システムに対応  
見守り緊急通報

life at the  
Terminal  
stage

Elderly home  
with medical  
care

(Unfurnished)  
apartments with  
social welfare  
facilities

AIPスポット1  
空き家活用による共同福祉住宅

Elderly home:  
Facilities to  
interact with  
community  
life

Gathering  
with grand  
children

Enjoying hot  
spring with the  
grandchildren

Living with  
partner

Promenade  
with the dog

Community  
meeting

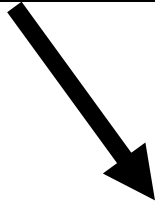
Video  
telephone  
with  
grandchildren

ターミナル生活

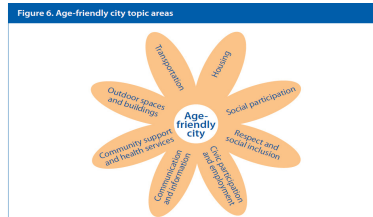
Source: 大阪市立大学大学院生活科学研究科X大和ハ  
ウス工業総合技術研究所 2009

Ageing in Place: Mix used urban district  
where older people can live among  
others: they can shop, work, recreate,  
learn, receive care services in a  
neighbourhood environment

Life Course Theory	Desires for Continuity	Active Ageing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Life is a continuous process</li> <li>•Ageing occurs from birth to death</li> <li>•Enabling older people to make adjustments to changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•One trends to sustain the continuity of identity and life experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Older people should be empowered</li> <li>•To optimize opportunity for health participation and security</li> </ul>



**Age Friendly City : it's not just identifying practical and immediate means to match each individual 'petal'**



- Advocating the rights to the city of all people
- Recognizing the capacities and resources among older people
- Responding to ageing-related needs and preferences
- Respecting decisions and choices of older people



**The quest for  
a Life Space  
a Life with  
Quality:  
A life with  
possibilities**

- Why does the city need to become age friendly?  
(Because at the moment it is not age friendly)
- Is Hong Kong able to become an age-friendly city?

- Concepts of ageing: chronologicalised , institutionalized, standardized (fixed retirement age)
- Privatization of social services (e.g. medical services, education, transportation, etc.)
- Commodification of urban space (land and property price are getting higher and higher)

# **Policy Address 2009-2010**

## **Residential Care Services**

- (1) Increasing from 50% to 90% the proportion of nursing home
- (2) Purchasing, for the first time, vacant places from self-financing nursing homes and care and attention homes;
- (3) Making full use of the space in existing subsidized elderly homes to provide more places that offer continuous care.

# **Policy Address 2009-2010**

## **Ageing in Place**

- To provide additional subsidized day care places
- To improve the existing home care services



# Policy Address 2009-2010

## Active Ageing

- To establish the Elder Academy Development
- To provide a one-stop information service through a new and dedicated Internet portal for the elderly

Elder Academy Development Foundation: 10 million

Vs

Hong Kong *2009 East Asian Games* Opening Ceremony  
on 5 Dec: 40 million

# Hong Kong

- The Government views that older people are leading a passive life in indoor space.
- Most policies are about offering supports to older citizens (who need care) in an interior context.
- The city: is not existing for the older persons.

- What should we do next?
- How do we look at ageing?
- How do we see the coming of ageing society in Hong Kong?

- The End
- Thank you

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