

Social Gardening in the Age-friendly City: A Comparative Perspective on Japanese and British Experience

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Population Ageing

Climate Change

Population Ageing

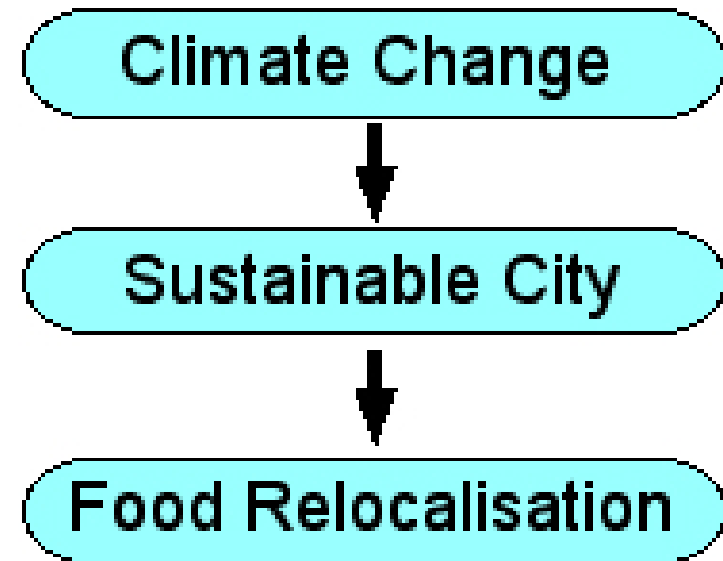
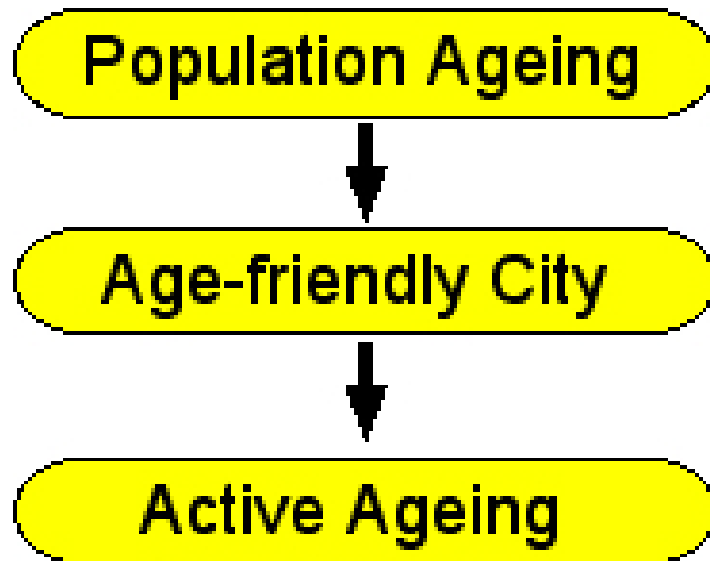


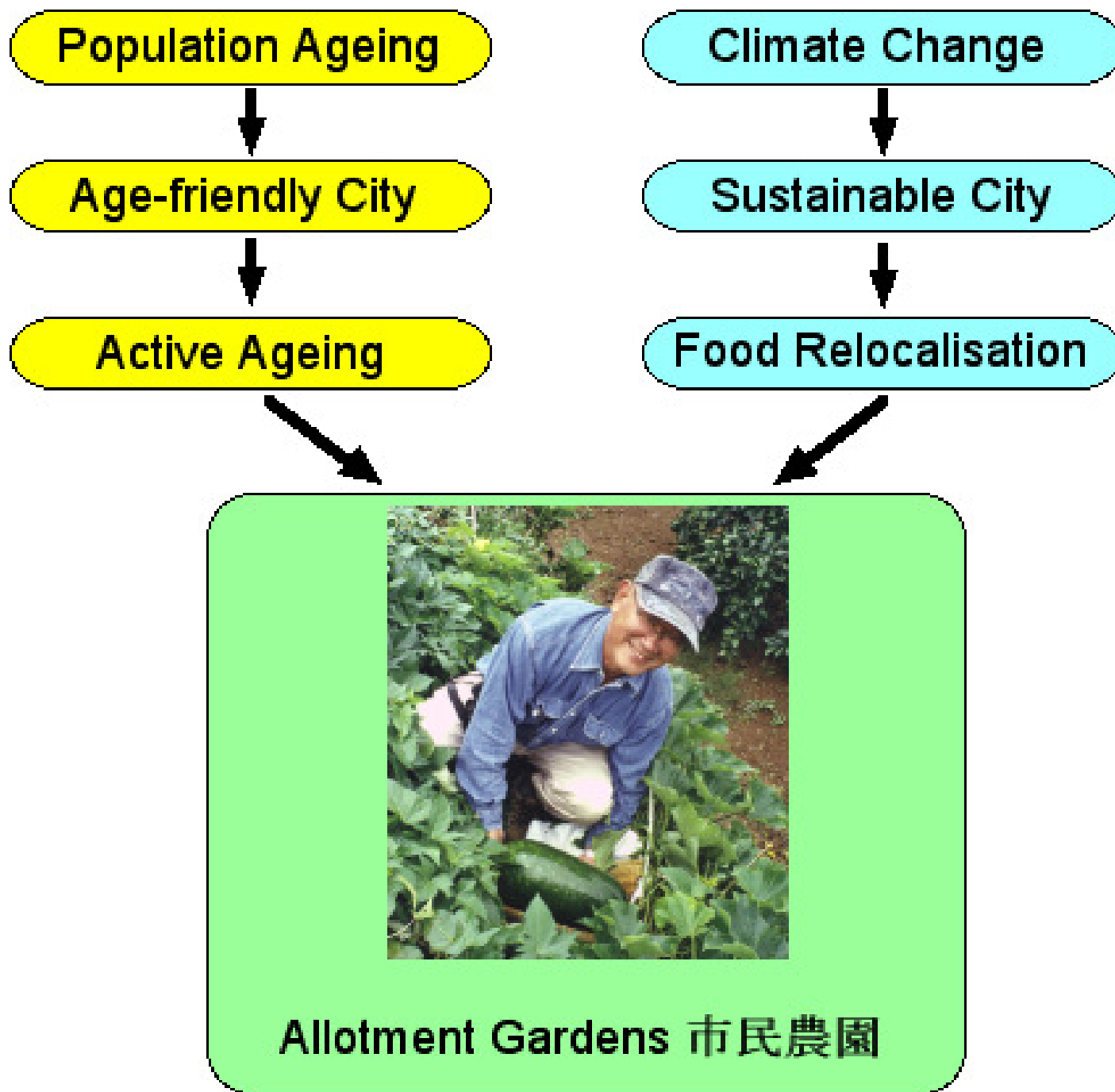
Age-friendly City

Climate Change



Sustainable City





“Gardening offers a route for closeness to nature, whilst also providing ... good exercise. Growing vegetables in allotments ... encourages healthy eating and promotes social cohesion, alleviating the loneliness which can come with old age.” (Mayor of London, 2006, p. 76).



“Horticulture is one of the effective means for enhancing the quality of life of the elderly. Why can horticulture help keep the elderly’s lives worth living? The answer to this question is that horticultural activity makes us feel that we are human beings.” (Matsuo 1992 p.146)



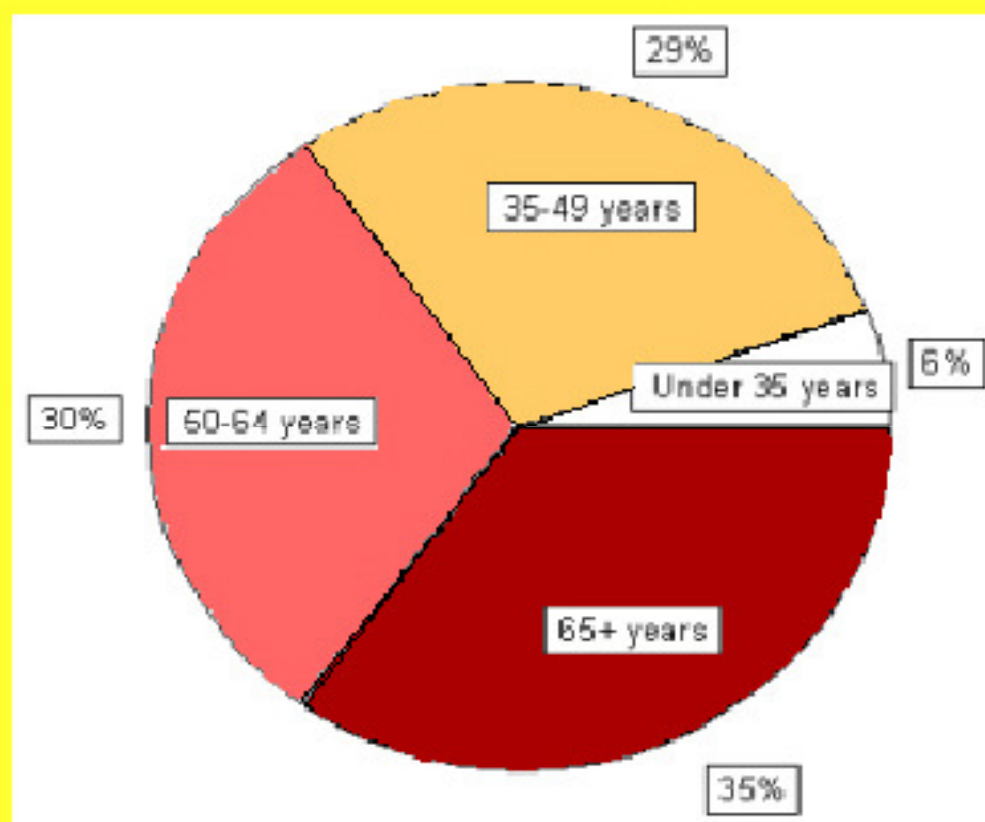
The Age-friendly City needs to embrace the allotment garden, to the immediate benefit older people in the city, but also to harness the skills, experience and commitment of older people to the task of nourishing a sustainable city for all.



Allotment Gardens



Allotment Gardens



Allotment Gardens

“... the continuing lingering image of allotments as a form of poor relief” [Tsuge, 1987, p. 186]

Allotment Gardens

Thorpe painted a “rather sordid picture [of allotments] tended by an older stratum of society, particularly men over forty and including many old age pensioners”. In Thorpe’s “brave new world, the elderly ... would have no place. Gone would be the ramshackle sheds, and the ramshackle men who built them.”
[Way 2008 pp 30,33]

Allotment Gardens

“Formby Allotment Association ... have a 74-name waiting list. ... Secretary Sylvia Adamson said: ‘We can’t tell people exactly when a plot will be free but I am quoting a ten-year wait. Demand has been considerable over the last few years.’ ... She added: ‘Attitudes seems to have changed. **Allotments are not simply used by retired men with nothing better to do.** People from all walks of life are becoming aware of a green lifestyle’.”

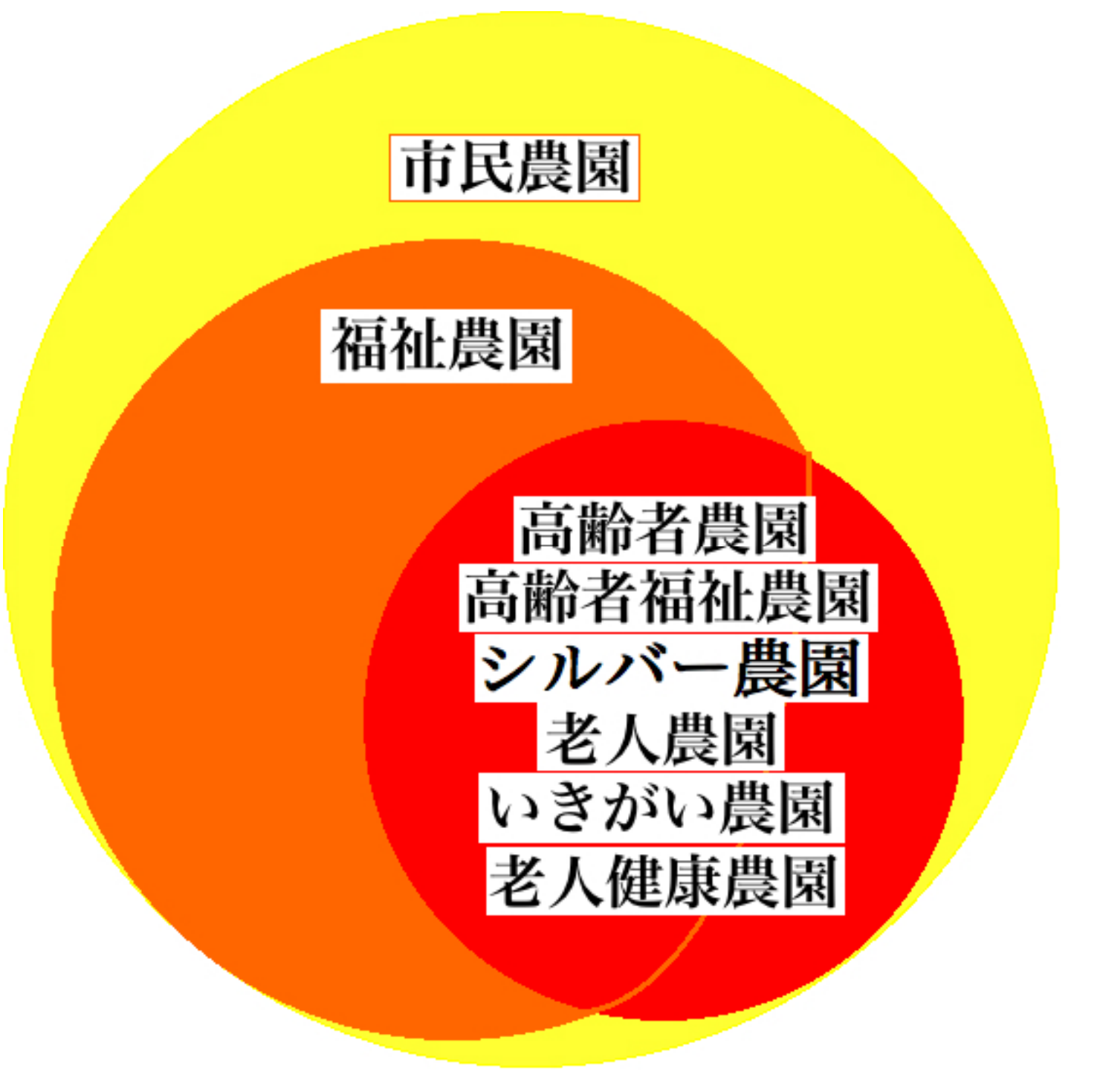
[Formby Times 12 February 2009]

市民農園

A Venn diagram consisting of two concentric circles. The outer circle is yellow and contains the text '市民農園' (Citizen Farm). The inner circle is orange and contains the text '福祉農園' (Welfare Farm). The orange circle is entirely contained within the yellow circle, indicating that all welfare farms are also citizen farms.

市民農園

福祉農園



市民農園

福祉農園

高齢者農園

高齢者福祉農園

シルバー農園

老人農園

いきがい農園

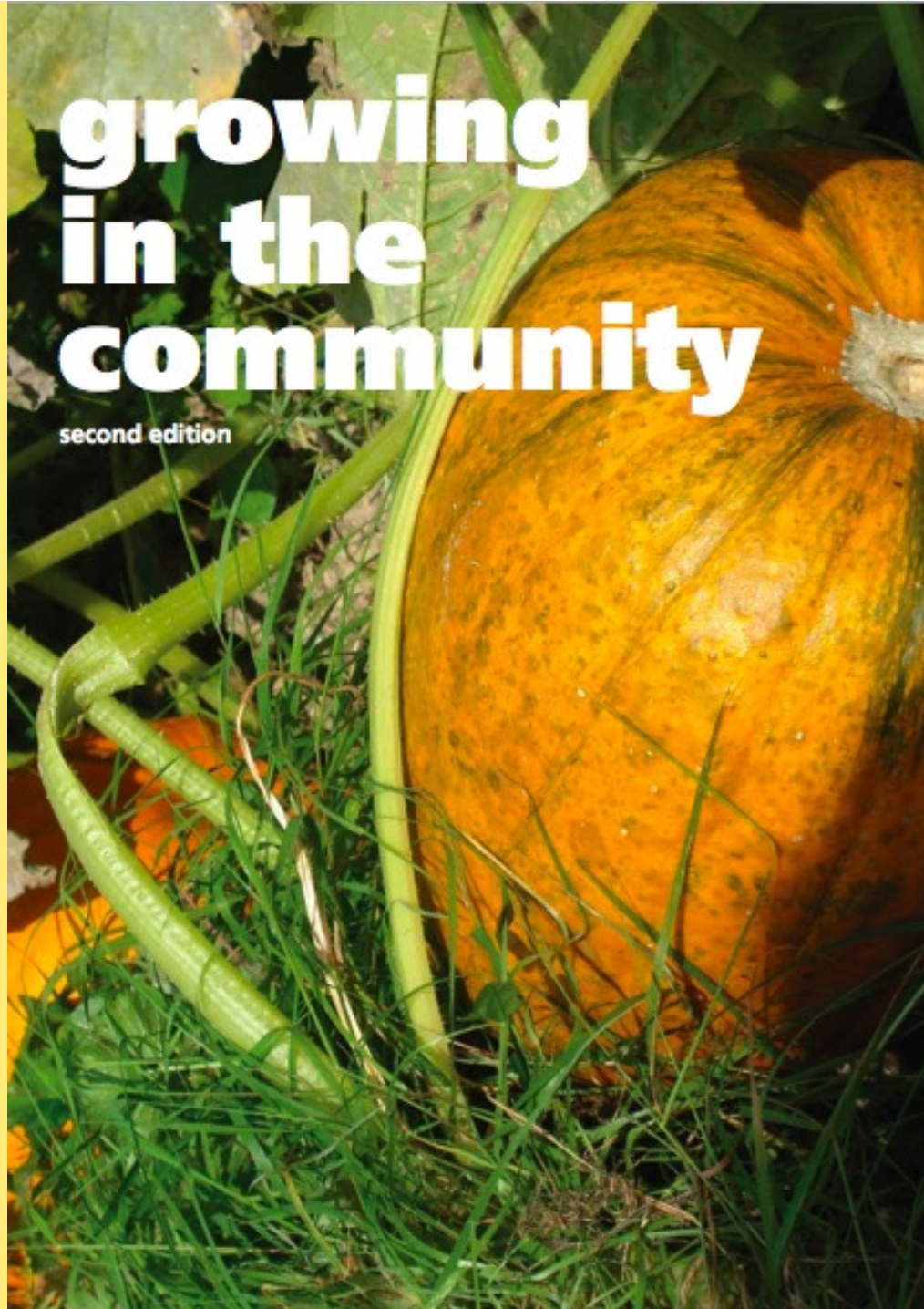
老人健康農園



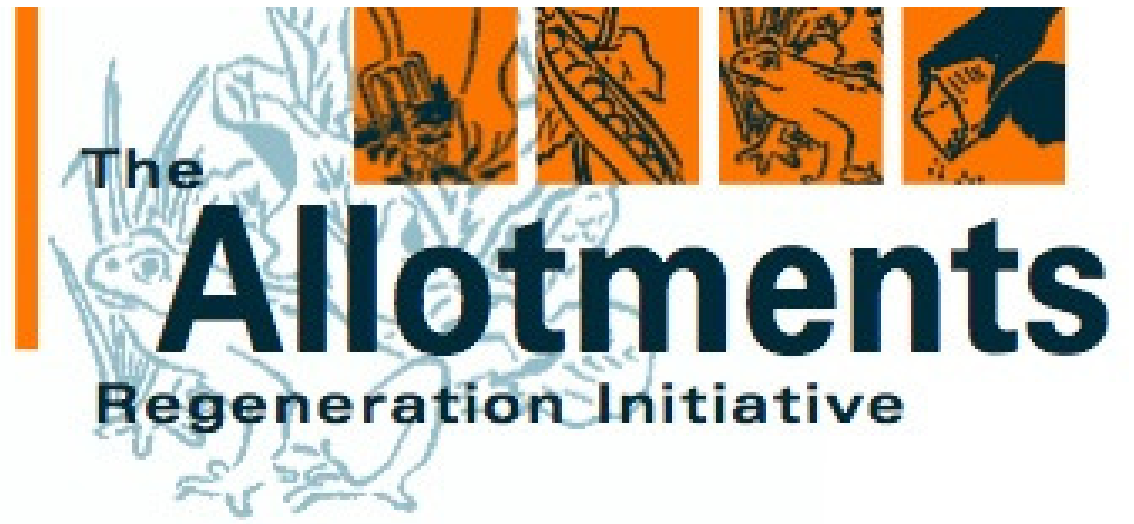
	Japanese	British
Official recognition of value to older people	Strong	Weak
Claim on land	Age-specific	Generic
Linking of ageing and environmental discourses	Hindered by bureaucratic structures	Enabled (eg <i>Growing in the Community</i>)
Medical discourse on ageing	Reinforced	Challenged
Inter-generational learning	Hindered	Enabled
Elder leadership	Hindered	Enabled

growing in the community

second edition



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Fact Sheet

Gardeners in Charge

A guide to devolved management for allotment associations





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