

G20 Side event: International Symposium Population Aging and City Management

June 6th 2019, Thursday 13:00 to 17:15 at Acros Fukuoka International Conference Hall

The Conference:

The World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC) is hosting a Side Event for the G20 Fukuoka Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, an International Symposium on Population Aging and City Management. The conference hosted with support from UN Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Fukuoka City aims to serve as a forum for countries to come together to learn from each other on how to solve complex problems of population aging in cities.

Overview

Virtually everywhere, the share of “older persons”, aged 60 years or over, is increasing. The number of older people globally is projected to grow from 901 million in 2015 to 1.4 billion in 2030, and to 2.1 billion in 2050. In 2015, one in eight people worldwide was 60 or older; in 2030, this number will be one in six people, and by 2050, one in five people. The number of the world's “oldest old”, i.e. people aged 80 years and over, is growing even faster than the number of older persons overall: it is projected to more than triple between 2015 and 2050, from 125 million to 434 million.

Japan is home to the world's most aged population, with seniors aged 65 years or over making up a third of the population in 2015. Major cities (e.g. Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, Nagoya) are projected to experience rapid aging compared with prefectures with minor cities. In the case of Tokyo, it is projected that seniors aged 65 years or over will increase from 2.3 million in 2005 to 3.9 million in 2035 (and oldest seniors aged 80 years or over will increase from 0.98 million to 2.11 million during the same time period). Most of them will be single persons or elderly couples who may need some kinds of medical support or nursing services.

We need to recognize that the problem is not population aging per se, but rather the inertia in adapting the social, physical, economic, and policy environments to the needs of this changing demographic. For example, rather than recognizing the critical role that older persons can potentially play in society, they are often regarded as a “problem” to be solved, a “burden” to society, or a “ticking time-bomb”. The value proposition of aging needs to be recognized for what it is – a celebration of a development feat, and a massive opportunity to make cities livable for all. This will require learning that cities that are more inclusive of their elders also provide benefits for broader social inclusion, allowing persons with disabilities, pregnant women, children, women carrying children, persons with temporary injuries, and others, to contribute to society and benefit from all that cities have to offer.

The International Symposium on Population Aging and City Management will provide a forum for the presentation of the latest policies and practices in the field, including 1) effects of demographic change on strategic city planning, 2) retrofitting infrastructure and urban service provisions, and 3) fiscal implication of aging cities. City leaders, community leaders, universal design experts, academics and experts from international organizations will discuss strategies and practices to address aging challenges in urban cities.

Agenda

Registration (12:30-13:00)		
13:00 13:10	<i>Opening Remarks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Eichi Nakamura, Deputy Mayor of Fukuoka City
Framing Presentations		
13:10 13:45	Population Aging and City Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Levine, Senior Officer, World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center Atsushi Koresawa, Director, UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Thematic Session		
13:45 14:45	<i>Effects of Demographic Change on Strategic City Planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Yasuko Arase, Deputy Mayor of Fukuoka City Mr. Shinji Honda, Senior Policy Administrator, Toyama City Mr. Yoshiaki Yuda, Manager, Urban Planning Division, Planning Department, Urban Planning Bureau Moderator: Shobha Shetty, GSURR, WBG
14:45 15:00	<i>Break</i>	
Thematic Session		
15:00 16:00	<i>Retrofitting Infrastructure and Urban Service Provisions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Naotoshi Nakamura, Manager, Urban Renaissance Agency Mr. Kozo Furukawa, President, Takamatsu-Marugamecho Shopping Street Promotion Association Mr. Jun Furuya, Chief Designer, Hitachi Moderator: Atsushi Koresawa, UN-Habitat ROAP
16:00 17:00	<i>Fiscal implication of aging cities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Masayuki Nakagawa, Professor of Economics, Nihon University Ms. Setsuko Saya, Director, International Cooperation Division, Disaster Management Bureau, Cabinet Office Commentator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Kiyotaka Matsushima, Finance Bureau Executive Director, Fukuoka City Mr. Shinji Honda, Senior Policy Administrator, Toyama City Moderator: Daniel Levine, World Bank TDLC
17:00 17:15	<i>Closing Remarks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Levine, World Bank TDLC

