

Post-Event Summary: Main Forum

The Making of Age-friendly Communities in Rapidly Ageing Societies

Main Forum, titled “The Making of Age-friendly Communities in Rapidly Ageing Societies”, was successfully held on 10th December. The event was live streamed on the SIRF website, Mainland livestream site ifeng.com, and Facebook, attracting over 100,000 local and overseas participants.

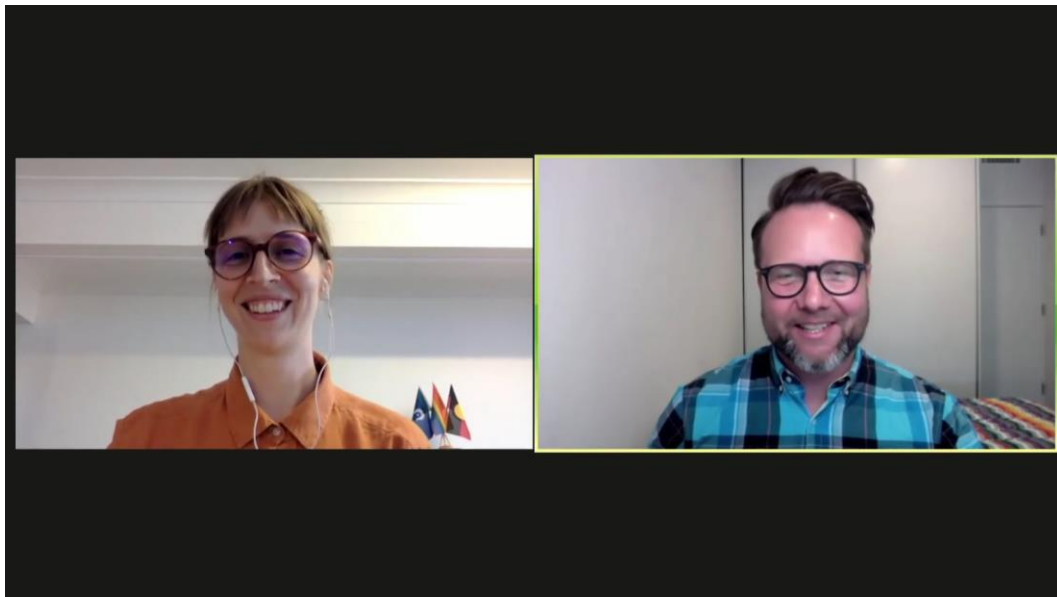
Deputy President and Provost of PolyU Prof. W.T. Wong and **Head of Charities (Grant Making) of The Hong Kong Jockey Club Ms Winnie Ying** gave welcome addresses at the Forum. Prof. Wong introduced the University’s efforts in improving the life of older people, and wished the Forum a success. Ms Ying indicated that the objective of The Hong Kong Jockey Club in funding the Forum is to bring together people of different sectors to share and exchange insights in order to explore solutions for resolving social issues together.

The Forum was also honoured to invite the **Secretary for Labour and Welfare of Hong Kong Dr The Hon. Law Chi Kwong** to be Guest of Honour. In his keynote address, Dr Law expressed the importance of the public’s attitude towards ageing, arguing that if society is prepared, ageing would not be perceived as a social issue. He looked forward to the exchanges between experts from different countries at the Forum, and hoped that innovative solutions could realise better age-friendly communities.



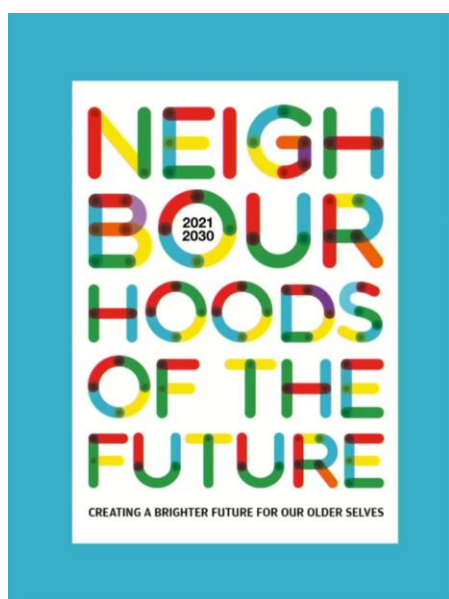
From left: Director of JCDISI Mr KK Ling; Head of Charities (Grant Making) of The Hong Kong Jockey Club Ms Winnie Ying; Secretary for Labour and Welfare of Hong Kong Dr The Hon. Law Chi Kwong; Deputy President and Provost of PolyU Prof. W.T. Wong

Senior Social Innovators at The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TACSI) Mr Ewan Black and Ms Lauren Anseline shared their organisation's work on building "impact networks" to reform the rigid end-of-life experience in Australia. Contrary to conventional systems, TACSI's impact network works to align macro systems and the efforts of different stakeholders towards a single goal. They stress that network initiators must not be positioned above others, but rather collaborate with other partners to reach the same objective.



Ms Lauren Anseline and Mr Euan Black, Senior Social Innovators at The Australian Centre for Social Innovation

Founder of the UK-based **Agile Ageing Alliance (AAA)** **Prof. Ian Spero** introduced his collaboration with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) on a golden standard on smart multigenerational neighbourhoods. Ian introduced their vision, challenges and initial goals, sharing guiding principles for the first time to that would inform the efforts of NGOs and private sectors. He also mentioned the inclusion of guidelines for digital infrastructure that would support incorporating smart technologies into homes, health and care centres and neighbourhood constructions, ultimately realising neighbourhoods that care.



Cultiv
Neighbourhoods
That Care
A Mandate for Change



Prof. Ian Spero, Founder of the UK-based Agile Ageing Alliance (AAA)

Honorary President of the Narada Foundation and Rotating Chairperson of Aging Society 30 Forum in 2021, Mr Xu Yongguang, explored the role of social enterprises in the making of age-friendly communities from a micro perspective. He believes that population ageing will bring market demands and opportunities. One example shared was a silver-age nurture project initiated by the Narada Foundation which supports young people in practicing social innovation, from which he shared four examples. Mr Xu believes that social enterprises are an innovative platform that can take advantage of cross-sector resources to resolve social issues. He looks forward to future possibilities held by social enterprises in age-friendly communities and related issues.



*Honorary President of the Narada Foundation and
Rotating Chairperson of Aging Society 30 Forum in 2021, Mr Xu Yongguang*

Research Fellow at the Centre for Civil Society and Governance of The University of Hong Kong and CEO & Founder of Impact Analytics Dr Norah Wang shared her research on social innovation and social governance in China. Dr Wang noted the replacement of social management with social governance raised by President Xi Jinping, where three areas of innovation include the restructure of the relationship between government, market and society, the development of the third sector, and capacity building of local governments to facilitate social innovation through the establishment of incubators. Dr Wang pointed out that in the development of the third sector, further exploration is needed on how the government could strike a balance between control and freedom to innovate.



Dr Norah Wang, Research Fellow at the Centre for Civil Society and Governance of The University of Hong Kong and CEO & Founder of Impact Analytics

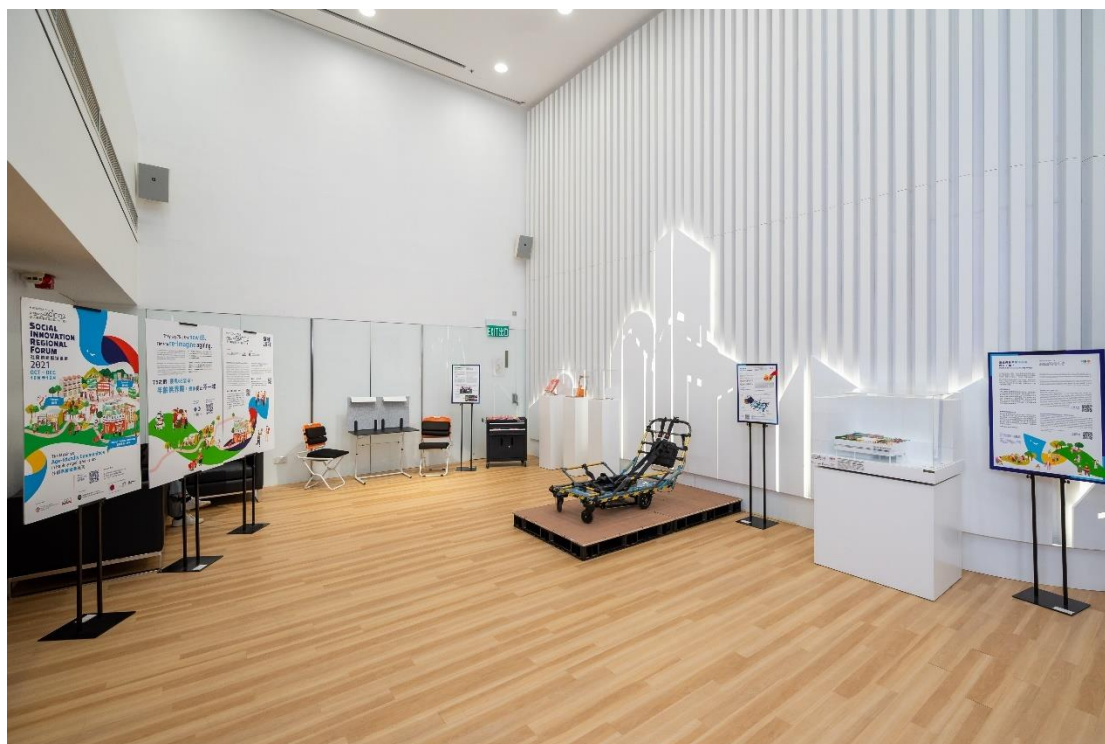
With the exception of Dr Wang, the keynote speakers then participated in the subsequent panel discussion, and were joined by **Director of The Pangao Institution Ageing Society Studies Centre Mr Liang Chunxiao, Portfolio Development and Quality Manager of HelpAge International Mr Quyen Tran, and Chairperson of the Tsao Foundation Dr Mary Ann Tsao. Director of JCDISI Mr KK Ling** facilitated the panel discussion. Panelists discussed how NGOs, governments and enterprises could collaborate to realise age-friendly communities. Mr Xu believed that charity donation is required support startups, while the development and growth of social enterprises require social capital support such as impact investment. Mr Liang argued that the current social framework is not well adapted to the ageing phenomenon, and that there is an urgent need for all types of innovation. Mr Tran shared that big data infrastructure is already being established by the Vietnamese government, NGOs and private sector. Mr Black argued that there is more competition than collaboration between NGOs in Australia, and therefore championed using impact networks to promote collaboration. Prof. Spero believed that NGOs play an important collaborative role in establishing standards for age-friendly communities. Dr Tsao believed that social enterprises must grow in scale and maintain quality of service, stressing the importance of collaboration between government subsidies and NGOs and the market. Mr Ling concluded that ageing society is an issue faced internationally and requires exchange and collaboration across different countries and territories to resolve.



Panel Discussion with Director of JCDISI Mr KK Ling as moderator



Guests and the Management Committee of JCDISI



A small exhibition was set up for guests to understand the innovative projects by JCDISI

