

**World Health Organization Western Pacific Region
Healthy Cities Recognition 2014**

Fostering age-friendly cities

Background

Globally and in the Region, the proportion of older people in the population is growing faster than any other age group, due to both declining fertility and longer life expectancy. In 2010, the Region had more than 235 million people aged 60 years and over, accounting for over 13% of the total population. Population ageing reflects the success of past public health and development efforts. Now societies and health systems must find ways to maintain the optimal health and functional capacity of older people and their social participation and security.

The WHO Regional Framework for Action on Ageing and Health in the Western Pacific (2014-2019), which was adopted by Member States of the Western Pacific Region in October 2013, underlines the importance of fostering age-friendly environments through action across sectors. It recognizes that the economic, physical, political and social environment can be supportive of healthy ageing or it may pose barriers to the independence, health and well-being of older people. This is especially relevant for and in cities given growing urbanization. At the same time, as cities are growing, their share of residents aged 60 years and above is increasing. Cities will increasingly be asked to adapt its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities.

The WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, which started in 2007, aims to ensure that socioeconomic development enable healthy and active ageing through supportive urban environments. The Network's list of core indicators for age-friendly cities is a valuable reference tool for urban planners and others. It covers eight domains: outdoor spaces and buildings; transportation; housing; social participation; respect and social inclusion; civic participation and employment; communication and information; and community support and health services. In this context, this call for application is looking for good practices on fostering age-friendly cities.

Recognition of Best Practice

Recognition is given for innovative examples and outstanding practices of fostering age-friendly cities. Examples may focus on the health and well-being of older people in cities more broadly or highlight a specific aspect in line with the domains of the core indicators for age-friendly cities.



Application submission guide

When completing the application template, please ensure that the key points highlighted in this section are fully addressed:

Item # 6: Methodology

Equity - Did the programme focus more on the poor, the marginalized and/or the vulnerable groups, etc.

Process - Please specify what approaches/activities were implemented during the project. Specifically:

- Explain how a city has adapted its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities.
- Highlight in particular how older people themselves have become more engaged to participate and play an active role in shaping their social environment and local policies for healthy ageing.

Item # 7: Monitoring the process and evaluating the outcome - Evaluation methodology, specifically to show:

- How the example has made a difference to the health and wellbeing of older people with reference to the core indicators for age-friendly cities (developed by the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, and available at: http://www.who.int/ageing/publications/Global_age_friendly_cities_Guide_English.pdf)
- Monitoring and evaluation plan for measuring impact (if any)

Materials to be submitted

In addition to the filled out application template, please provide any relevant background materials in support of your publication, including for example: relevant policies/strategies on age-friendly cities, media releases, and other information materials (e.g. flyers, booklets, photos etc.).

** For further information, please email Ms Britta Baer (Technical Officer for Gender, Equity, Human Rights and Ageing) at baerb@wpro.who.int*

