Accelerating Digital Innovations for Older Adults in China, Japan and Republic of Korea

Date: 20th November 2023
Time: 1:30pm to 4:30pm
Venue: CIKD Building, Beijing, China

The world is witnessing a substantial increase in the number of older adults. This demographic transition is driven by factors such as increased life expectancy and declining birth rates. By 2050, it is estimated that nearly 22% of the global population will be aged 60 or older. This shift places tremendous pressure on healthcare systems, social services, and the overall well-being of older individuals. China, Japan and the Republic of Korea are key examples to which countries in the Asia-Pacific can learn from in their approaches towards this demographic transition.

One of the key challenges, is ensuring the well-being and quality of life for older adults while managing the strain on healthcare and social services. Digital innovation is emerging as a powerful solution to address these challenges and enhance the ageing experience. It offers opportunities to improve healthcare delivery, social inclusion, and overall quality of life for older adults.

This session aims to explore the key approaches by China, Japan and Republic of Korea in approaching digital innovation in managing its services for the elderly population and to explore the potential opportunities and challenges as seen by civil society in broadening the adoption of digital innovations by older adults.

Objectives:

- To showcase the approaches of three key countries in East Asia namely China, Japan and Republic of Korea in their approaches to accelerating digital innovation for older adults.
- To exchange ideas on the opportunities and challenges facing older adults in adopting digital innovations.
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<th>Beijing Time</th>
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| 1:30pm - 1:35pm (5 mins) | **Opening and Welcome**  
HAO Zhirong, Director, Division of Outreach and Communication, CIKD |
| 1:35pm - 2:35pm (60 mins) | **Presentations** on the country approaches of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea in accelerating digital innovation adoption among older adults and select cases of digital innovations. (20 mins each)  
- Dr. Feng Wenmeng, Research Office Director and Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Public Administration and Human Resources, Development Research Center of the State Council of China (DRC)  
- Dr. Komazawa Osuke, Senior Director, Human Development Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency.  
- Dr. Moon Choi, Head of Ageing and Technology Policy, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. |
| 2:35pm - 3:05pm (30 mins) | **Roundtable Discussion** on Country Approaches (30 mins) |
| 3:05pm - 3:25pm (20 mins) | Coffee Break |
| 3:25pm - 4:25pm (60 mins) | **Roundtable Discussion** on Trends, Opportunities and Challenges towards Ageing to 2050, based upon the changing demographics of the country, development pathways and changes in literacy and education levels impacting outlook for challenges.  
- Dr. Liu Jianbing, Director, Key Laboratory on Service Engineering and Smart Health for Seniors of Beijing Academy of Science and Technology (10 mins) |
| 4:25pm - 4:30pm (5 mins) | **Sharing of ESCAP Activities on Ageing**  
Napaphat Satchanawakul, Social Affairs Officer, UNESCAP |
List of Presenters and Discussants:

- Dr. Feng Wenmeng, Research Office Director and Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Public Administration and Human Resources, Development Research Center of the State Council of China (DRC)
- Dr. Liu Jianbing, Director, Key Laboratory on Service Engineering and Smart Health for Seniors of Beijing Academy of Science and Technology
- Dr. Komazawa Osuke, Senior Director, Human Development Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Dr. Moon Choi, Head of Ageing and Technology Policy, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- Dr. Ma Tianyue, Associate Research Fellow of CIKD
- Ms. Momoko Abe, Programme Officer, Japan Center for International Exchange
- Ms. Taekyung Kim, Doctoral Student, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- Ms. Ern Chern Kor, Doctoral Student, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- Mr. Fang Yian, Doctoral Student of Peking University

Guiding Questions on Country Approaches:
- To what extent has civil society played a role in shaping the approach of digital innovations by the private sector and government within your country and how it has been adapted to older adults?
- How can government, the private sector and civil society come together to support older adults in adopting the technologies digital or otherwise that are being developed?
- As the health of older adults become better with improving health care and support, what would countries need to change to ensure that they are not only benefitting from the economic dividends of changing demographics but also in terms of retaining knowledge and expertise not only in the social but also economic spheres?

Guiding Questions for trends, opportunities and challenges:
- What are the key trends showing positive and negative impacts for healthy, active and prosperous ageing?
- Given the previous mentioned trends, as well as change in trends of demographics and education, what are the likely challenges to face the current approaches of your country?
- What is the outlook for your country on immigration policy to alleviate perceived challenges towards the ageing demographic?
- How can countries in the East-Asia region accelerate knowledge sharing of the success of ageing related projects and their impacts, including accelerating the deployment of ageing related technologies?
- What policy or technology areas should see greater integration or standardization between the countries of East-Asia to facilitate improved quality of life for older adults?