



ARC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN
POPULATION AGEING RESEARCH

AGEING ASIA RESEARCH HUB



UNSW
SYDNEY



ABOUT THE HUB

The Ageing Asia Research Hub was established in 2019 with the support of significant funding from the UNSW Business School. It is based at the UNSW Sydney node of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR), a globally recognised multidisciplinary research organisation which is uniquely placed to spearhead this initiative.

The Hub builds on the success of the Australia-China Population Ageing Hub which was established at CEPAR's UNSW Sydney node in 2015 with generous funding from the UNSW Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Priority Fund.

'With the number of people in Asia aged 60 and over expected to more than double, from about 520 million today to about 1.2 billion in the next 30 years (UN 2017), the Hub's research program addresses the challenges presented by this rapid demographic transition.'

John Piggott, Hub Director

In many Asian countries, societies will get old before economic growth delivers affluence, making even the initial development of strong social (income, health and long-term care) support structures problematic. Further, regional migration, leading to separation of families across generations, is combining with declining fertility to reduce effective intergenerational family support, especially family-based care of older people, which has for so long been a traditional part of the Asian way of life.

The Ageing Asia Research Hub's mission is to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the causes and implications of demographic change throughout the Asian region to inform policy formulation and practice innovation.





RESEARCH PROGRAM

The research program, focused especially on emerging Asia, draws on multiple disciplines to deliver new insights into which reforms should be prioritised as Asia's demographic transition unfolds. It comprises three related strands:

HEALTHY AGEING

This area explores the health of ageing cohorts in emerging Asia, to identify feasible interventions and help map future demand for health care and long-term care services. It analyses how health can be best characterised in ageing populations, especially in an emerging economy context.

Selected Projects

- Intrinsic Capacity: Validation of a New WHO Concept for Healthy Ageing
- Bayesian Hierarchical Multi-Population Mortality Modelling for China's Provinces
- Rural-Urban Migration and the Health of Elderly Parents
- Life Satisfaction of Middle-Aged and Older Adults: The Role of Health and Health Insurance
- Internet Use and Cognition among Middle-Aged and Older Adults

RETIREMENT INCOMES

This research area assesses which designs for retirement support are best suited to the rapidly growing and rapidly ageing economies in Asia, including tax and financing mechanisms.

Selected Projects

- Ageing and its Economic Implications
- Policy Modelling for Ageing in Emerging Economies: The Case of Indonesia
- Why is Inequality Higher among the Old? Evidence from China

'The Hub undertakes cutting-edge research and initiates workshops as well as other engagement programs to enhance and disseminate knowledge and policy expertise in the Asian region, focusing especially on emerging countries. Our research initiatives generate a strong evidence base to better inform decision-makers as these countries age.'

Katja Hanewald, Director of Research



- The Impact of Expected Pensions on Consumption
- Delay the Pension Age or Reduce the Pension Benefit? Implications for Labour Force Participation and Individual Welfare
- Is There a Demand for Reverse Mortgages in China? Evidence from Two Online Surveys
- Demand for Longevity and Health Insurance Products after COVID-19

LONG-TERM CARE

In this research area, the Hub undertakes analysis, using comparative techniques, to investigate which aspects of a range of policy initiatives are most successful.

Selected Projects

- Systems of Long-term Care Delivery and Alternative Financing Mechanisms in Emerging Asia
- Falls are a Significant Mortality Risk Indicator: Evidence from the China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Survey
- Dynamics of Pain and Impacts on Functional Limitations among Middle-Aged and Older Indonesians
- Household Economic Impacts of Family Caregivers: Longitudinal Findings in Indonesia
- Health Service Utilisation among Older Adults in Mongolia
- Substitutional Effect of Long-term Care to Medical Health Expenditure
- Long-term Care Insurance Financing using Home Equity Release



‘Without a major research effort and an evidence-based policy response - with both inclusion and sustainability as guiding principles - economic growth in emerging Asia will be compromised, and widespread poverty among older cohorts will be inevitable. A major objective of the Hub is to help fill this gap, with special emphasis on social security, health services, and aged care. ’

John Beard, Professorial Fellow

For more on our research, visit cepar.edu.au/ageing-asia-research-hub



Scientia Professor
John Piggott AO



Dr Katja
Hanewald



Dr Bei Lu



Professor Hazel
Bateman



Professor
John Beard



Emeritus Professor
Robert Cumming AO



Professor
Hanming Fang



Honorary Professor
Peter McDonald AM



Dr George Kudrna



Dr Vasoontara
Yiengprugsawan



Dr Yuanyuan
Deng



Dr Gaoyun
(Sophie) Yan



Dr Dandan Yu

LEADERSHIP TEAM

John Piggott AO, Hub Director, is an economist with extensive public policy experience, advising governments throughout Asia.

Katja Hanewald, Director of Research, is an economist whose research addresses risk management and insurance aspects of population ageing.

Bei Lu, Director of Outreach, is an economist with interests in pensions and population ageing-related social welfare and economic issues, including long-term care.

PROFESSORIAL FELLOWS

Hazel Bateman is an economist who researches consumer financial decision making especially as it relates to retirement accumulation and decumulation.

John Beard is an epidemiologist and former WHO Director of Ageing and Life Course.

Robert Cumming AO is an epidemiologist whose research brings together biological, psychosocial and medical aspects of ageing.

Hanming Fang is an applied microeconomist with interests in welfare reform, health insurance markets and population ageing.

Peter McDonald AM is a demographer who is frequently consulted on the issue of population futures by governments around the world.

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

George Kudrna is an economist who applies his expertise in developing macroeconomic models to the economics of population ageing.

Vasoontara Yiengprugsawan is an epidemiologist focusing on economic and health inequalities in mid and later life.

RESEARCH FELLOWS

Yuanyuan Deng

Gaoyun (Sophie) Yan

Dandan Yu

The Hub will leverage CEPAR's existing collaborative relationships with leading universities in the region as well as its partnerships with the World Bank, the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Willis Towers Watson to achieve major impact in the region. In addition, it has strong links with senior policymakers and academics in the following organisations:

NATIONAL LINKS

CHINA

Employment and Social Security Center, Fudan University

Department of Risk Management and Insurance, Peking University

School of Statistics, Renmin University of China

School of Entrepreneurship and Management, ShanghaiTech University

College of Public Administration, Zhejiang University

INDONESIA

Bappenas

SINGAPORE

Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

THAILAND

Ministry of Public Health

Ramathibodhi Hospital of the Mahidol University

VIETNAM

Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences

REGIONAL LINKS

Asian Development Bank

East-West Center

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

CONNECT WITH US

The Hub is interested in connecting with high-quality research organisations focused on population ageing in Asia, to establish collaborative research initiatives and related activities.

'The Hub focuses on connecting with decision-makers throughout Asia to ensure our research has the most effective impact.'

Bei Lu, Director of Outreach

Hub researchers regularly visit leading universities in Asia, and welcome visiting students and academics focused on population ageing in Asia to UNSW Sydney to collaborate, for example, under UNSW Sydney's Research Practicum Program.

The Hub has also assumed oversight of the Annual Workshop on Population Ageing and the Chinese Economy which features presentations from leading scholars, as well as PhD students and early career researchers, and provides regional networking and development opportunities for the next generation of researchers in the field. The location of the workshop varies, with some held in Sydney and others held in Shanghai, in collaboration with ShanghaiTech University and Fudan University.

For further information, contact us or visit the website.

CONTACT US

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