Ageing in cities
OECD project 2015

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Cities are in diverse phases of ageing:
Cities have different priorities depending on the phases.

- Ageing and growing slowly
- Young and ageing fast
- Young and ageing slowly

Cologne, Toyama, Yokohama, Lisbon, Brno, Helsinki, Calgary, Manchester, Philadelphia.
Priority challenges and opportunities for cities in different ageing phase.

**Type I: Ageing cities with slow population growth**

Toyama, Yokohama, Lisbon

- The older population will continue to grow for the time being, but will reach a peak and subsequently decline.

**Type II: Young cities that are rapidly ageing**

Brno, Calgary

- Older population is increasing fast.
- However, the younger generation still accounts for the majority of their citizens.

**Type III: Young cities that are ageing slowly ageing**

Manchester, Helsinki, Cologne, Philadelphia,

- Population is still young, and their demographic structure will be less affected by the ageing trend in the immediate.

- Face a wide range of social and economic challenges and opportunities.
- What demographic structure should cities anticipate, both before the peak of population ageing or afterwards when it reaches equilibrium.

- Balanced benefit of young and old generations.
- Immediate policy reactions are needed while preparing for the challenges that lie ahead.
- Their young population could be their asset to overcome these challenges.

- When and how they are to prepare for ageing societies in their long-term priorities?
- Build public awareness about ageing, and older people’s capacity to lead autonomous and active lives.
- They can benefit from learning from the experience of other cities.
Ageing is spatially heterogeneous:

Lisbon’s case: City center becomes younger

Average older population as a percentage of total population in 2011

OECD Metropolitan Database
Ageing is spatially heterogeneous:

Lisbon city in 2001

Lisbon city in 2011
Recommended policy strategies

1. Develop a long term vision
   - Understand the ageing stage.
   - Have a realistic vision for the future.

2. Develop indicators
   - Understand policy impact

3. Promote health for all ages
   - Encourage walking. / improve access and walkability in cities

4. Increase older people’s engagement in the labour market and in social activities
   - Improve physical access to work place
   - Entrepreneurship
   - Community activity with younger generation

5. Provide affordable housing in accessible environment
   - Promote PPP to provide social housing
   - Improve physical access to work by public transport
   - Provide care at home

6. Redesign urban area to increase attractiveness and well-being
   - Reformulate the appropriate location for urban infrastructure and optimize land use
   - Invest in public transport and walkability
Metropolitan scale approach is needed.

The ratio of older population (65+) as a percentage of total population in 2011

Lisbon

235 local governments

157 local governments

27 local governments
Conclusion - Key concepts “Ageing in Cities”

- Ageing trends and their impact can be fairly predictable. Long term visions with credible future projection will enable mayors to plan ahead.

- Ageing societies are not “a problem” as such. Longevity is the result of socioeconomic development and can provide opportunities for growth, such as through technological development. “Challenges” in ageing societies are the sources of “opportunities” for change.

- Ageing societies are not simply societies of “older people”. Cities, where older people live with a high quality of life, can be good places for any generation. Streamline “ageing societies” in all policy areas.

- Cities in different phase of ageing have different policy priorities.
- Need to take views in metropolitan scale and neighbourhood scale simultaneously.
- Collaboration with the national government makes difference.
Thank you very much!