

Message from the HKIUD President



Prof. Stephen TANG, BBS, MHKIUD

Ageing population has emerged as an issue in most cities.

In Hong Kong, “Caring for the Elderly” and “Active Ageing” have recently risen to the forefront of our government’s policy agenda. As a representative of the city’s urban design industry, we at HKIUD see it as our mission to be informed and to inform others about how to improve our city’s liveability for the elderly from an urban design perspective.

Today, at the HKIUD Conference 2018, our goal is to differentiate what it takes to have a “liveable” urban environment, over and above a “survivable” one, for our elderly. A proper “liveable” urban environment ensures the external environment can contribute to better health and helps our elderly remain active. In doing so, the elderly can move around more freely, safely and independently. Let’s set a higher standard, for our elderly, a valuable part of our wider community.

Here in HKIUD, in our series of events – the Experiential Workshop held in March, the Survey conducted then, and also today’s Conference – we have invited leading stakeholders to collectively explore how our living environment can better the quality of life for our elderly. This is, however, not the end but instead the beginning of on-going efforts. We aim to translate discussion takeaways into a set of precise principles and guidelines that can be applied to actual projects.

Given the interdisciplinary nature of our work, there are angles to consider beyond architecture, land policy and development. We also consider healthcare, technology, equipment, transportation, welfare, and much more. To adequately tackle these issues, “Government-Industry-Academic-Research” collaboration is absolutely necessary.

I thank all our speakers for contributing their time and expertise, our sponsors for their generosity, everyone who has worked on these events for their effort, and all of you here today for joining us. Let’s work together for “Active Ageing”.

Thank you.