

Elderly Care System Development Forum

A Case Study of Yichang City and International Experience

Exchange

26–28 September 2022



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ADB-PRC Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative

Review and Lessons from China's 10-year Aging Policy

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Three decades for aging: 2013-2022



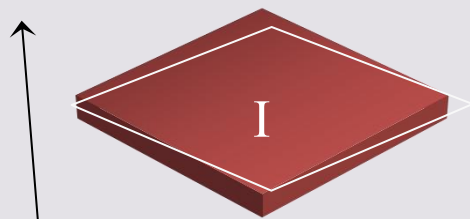
1. The decade when aging developed the most rapidly: In 2012, China had 194 million people over 60 years old, accounting for 14.3% of the total population; by 2021, this figure rose to 267 million, accounting for 18.9%. In the past 10 years, China's elderly population increased by 73 million, or by 4.6 percentage points.

2. The decade with the most remarkable results in the development of the aging cause, boasting historic breakthroughs and leapfrog development.

3. The decade during which the largest number of policies on aging with the highest quality were released. According to incomplete statistics, more than 300 policy documents had been issued by the central government.

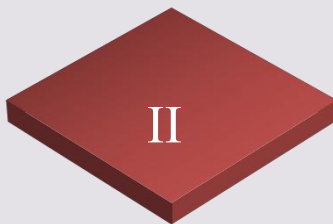


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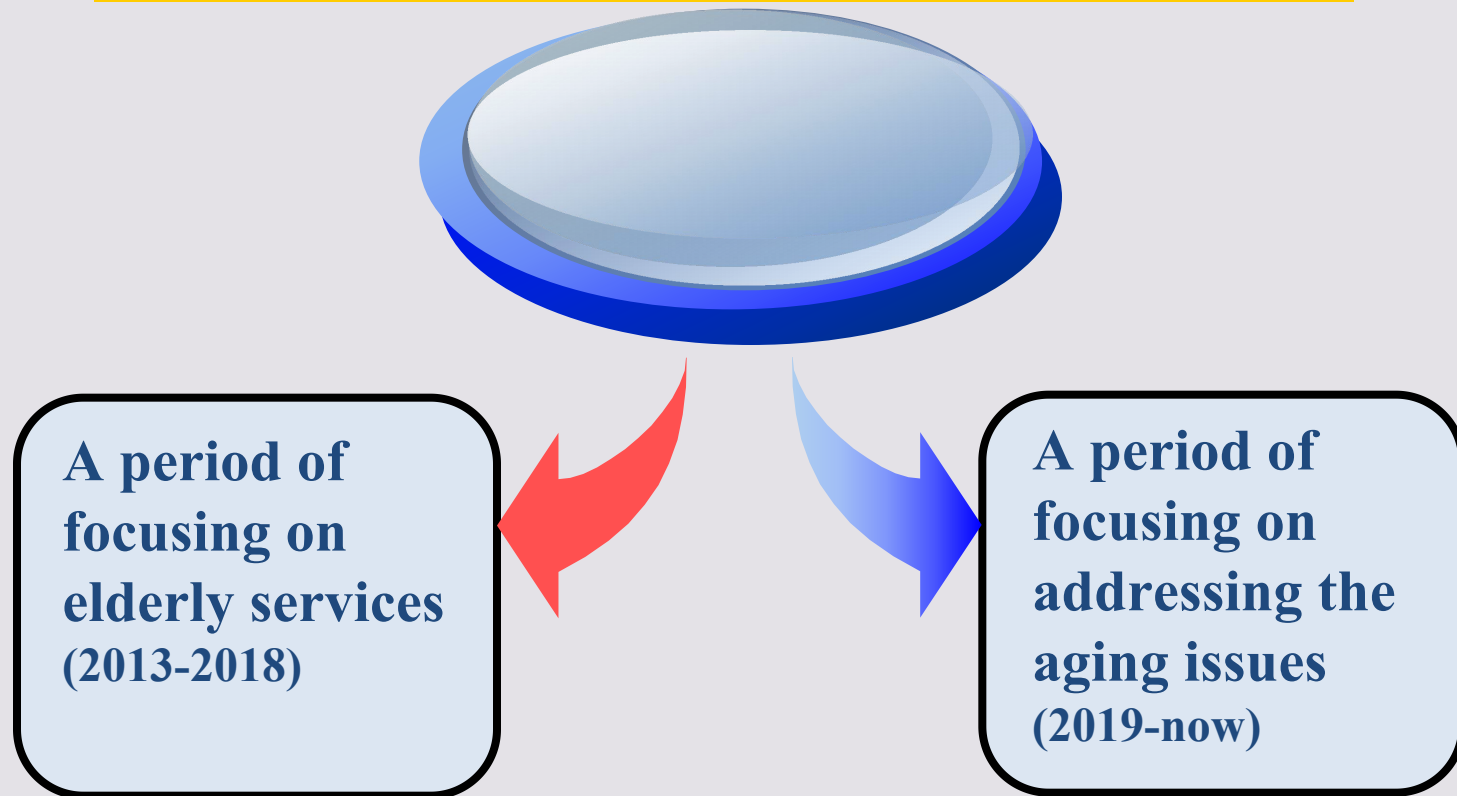
II



Lessons from 10-Year Aging Policy



I. Review of 10-year aging policy





(i) A period of focusing on elderly services (2013-2018)

In 2013, the State Council issued *Several Opinions on Accelerating the Development of Elderly Care Services* and *Several Opinions on Promoting the Development of Health Services*. Marked by these two documents, this year is also known in the industry as the first year of developing elderly care service industry. Since then, a large number of policy documents on elderly care and health services had been issued, suggesting that the elderly care service as well as medical and health care integration had been comprehensively implemented.



(i) A period of focusing on elderly services (2013-2018)

In August 2014, the Ministry of Finance, the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Civil Affairs jointly released the *Notice on Improving the Government's Purchase of Elderly Care Services*, with a view to facilitating the government's purchase of elderly care services.

In September 2014, several commissions including the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Civil Affairs jointly issued the *Notice on Establishing a Sound System for Subsidies to the Elderly with Economic Difficulties and Disabilities*, marking the establishment of the subsidy system for *the Elderly with Disabilities* that has benefited 3,700 old people so far.



(i) A period of focusing on elderly services (2013-2018)

In July 2016, the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Ministry of Finance jointly issued the *Notice on Advancing the Pilot Reform of Home-based and Community Elderly Care Services with Financial Support from the Central Government*, carrying out the pilot reform of home- and community-based elderly care services in five batches of 203 cities.

In March 2017, the State Council issued the *Plan for the Development of National Undertakings for the Aged and Elderly Care Service System during the 13th Five-Year Plan Period*, which clarified the guiding ideology, basic principles, development goals and key tasks during the 13th Five-Year Plan period.



(i) A period of focusing on elderly services (2013-2018)

In June 2017, the General Office of the State Council issued the *Opinions on the Formulation and Implementation of Elder Care Services Programs*, clarifying 20 priorities of care services for the elderly that cover clothing, food, housing, use, transportation, entertainment and other fields for the elderly.

In August 2018, the General Office of the Ministry of Civil Affairs issued a *Notice on Further Preventing and Dealing with Illegal Fund-raising Activities in the Elderly Service Sector*.



(i) A period of focusing on elderly services (2013-2018)

In this period, the Ministry of Civil Affairs departments carried out a four-year special campaign to improve the service quality of nursing homes nationwide in collaboration with relevant departments, remedying more than 420,000 potential service problems. A series of key projects, including the renovation and upgrading of support service agencies for people in extreme poverty and the meeting of fire safety standards for private elderly care facilities, were also implemented, significantly improving the quality of elderly care services.



(ii) A period of focusing on addressing the aging issues (2019-2022)

In November 2019, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council jointly issued the *National Medium-and Long-term Plan for Responding Proactively to Population Aging*, China's first medium-and long-term plan to address population aging.

In October 2020, the Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee incorporated active response to population aging as a national strategy.

In June 2021, the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the National Health Commission jointly formulated the *Plan for Implementing the Projects to Actively Cope with Population Aging and the Development of Nursery Services during the "14th Five-Year Plan" Period*, clarifying the work on supply of "elderly services and infant and child care services".



(ii) A period of focusing on addressing the aging issues (2020-2022)

After a decade, in October 2021, the State Council held another National Conference on Aging to make arrangements for five tasks for the elderly in the new era.

After 21 years, in November 2021, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council issued the *Opinions on Strengthening the Work on the Elderly in the New Era* to make comprehensive arrangements for the elderly in the new era.

In December 2021, the State Council issued *the Plan for the Development of National Undertakings for the Aged and Elderly Care Service System during the 14th Five-Year Plan Period*, which clarified the general requirements, key objectives and tasks during the 14th Five-Year Plan period.



(ii) A period of focusing on addressing the aging issues (2019-2022)

In February 2022, 15 departments including the National Health Commission and the National Development and Reform Commission jointly issued the *Healthy Aging Plan for the 14th Five-Year Plan Period*.

In April 2022, the General Office of the State Council issued the *Opinions on Promoting the Development of Personal Pensions*.

In April 2022, approved by the CPC Central Committee and led by the coordination group for building a peaceful China, 12 departments jointly launched a national campaign to crack down on fraud against senior citizens.

In April 2022, nine departments including the National Health Commission jointly issued a *Notice on Actions to Enhance the Capacity of Medical and Health Care Integration in Communities*.



II. Lessons from 10-Year Aging Policy

In the past 10 years, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council have issued more than 10 policy documents on aging, and relevant departments of the State Council have issued more than 300 policy documents as well as more than 50 national and industrial standards on aging.

Senior citizens have benefited from the elderly care policy. A total of 14.2 million senior citizens nationwide have received subsistence allowances, and more than 3.7 million senior citizens have been included in assistance and support packages for those in extreme poverty. The subsidy system for the elderly with financial difficulties and disabilities has been implemented across the province, benefiting nearly 37 million senior citizens.



II. Lessons from 10-Year Aging Policy

A historic breakthrough has been made in the development of elderly service facilities. There were 320,000 community elderly care service institutions and facilities nationwide, accounting for 88.9% of the total in China. There were 360,000 elderly service institutions and facilities nationwide, with 8.126 million beds, nearly two times that in 2012.



II. Lessons from 10-Year Aging Policy

1. Adhering to the leadership of the CPC and doing full justice to the strengths of China's socialist system are the most prominent features of China's policy on aging.

2. Make systematic planning and implement comprehensive policies. To actively address population aging is a strategic and overarching project that requires all-round efforts, systematic planning and comprehensive policies, as well as a focus on integration in all fields and coordination among all players.



II. Lessons from 10-Year Aging Policy

3. Adhere to the problem-oriented approach, and highlight the key points. It's important that we give priority to solving the most pressing problems facing the elderly in the health care field, and spare no effort to constantly meet basic needs, promote equity and improve quality.

4. Continue to consolidate grassroots foundation. It's important that we lower the focus of work on the elderly, allocate more resources to the grassroots, and incline various high-quality service resources to the elderly, their homes and their surroundings.

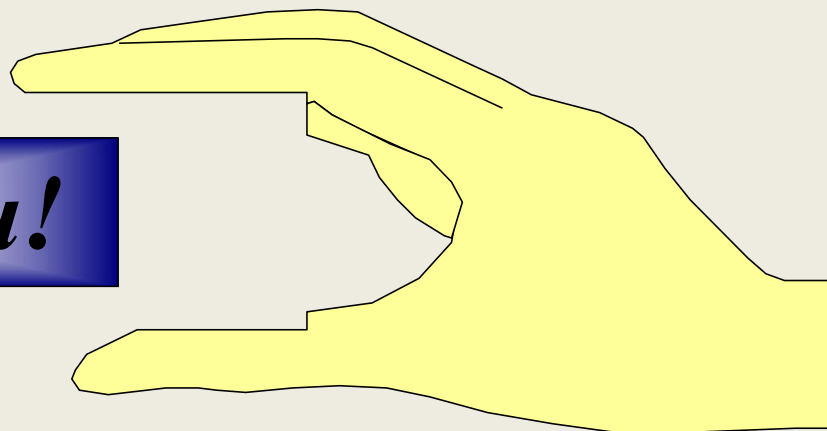


II. Lessons from 10-Year Aging Policy

5. Implement policies on aging in a scientific, precise and efficient way. It's important that we highlight the coordination, pertinence and effectiveness of policies on aging, so as to improve the governance of aging society.

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Thank You!



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