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# A Practical Discussion on Establishing an Elder Interactional Network to Support Sustainable Development



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## ABSTRACT

In Taiwan, a series of regional development initiatives has been implemented, focusing on various strategies. One strategic approach emphasizes community engagement to strengthen local organizations and promote community cohesion. However, financial and industrial advancements have led to a growing disparity between urban and rural regions, highlighting the increasing importance of national-level sustainable development.

The global issue of population aging is a prevalent and increasingly severe challenge. Communities in Taiwan are facing the challenge of an aging population, as the average age of participants continues to increase. In response to this complex situation, there has been a significant increase in research focused on the intersection of aging and sustainable development. This study explores the relationship between sustainable development and an aging population. A critical factor in regional development is maintaining a population of sufficient size to stimulate growth. Additionally, older individuals require a variety of activities to improve and maintain their health.

Given these considerations, encouraging interaction among older adults in different areas could be a viable approach. Community members participate in activities that provide a wide range of opportunities for senior engagement. The results of several studies offer valuable insights into community activities centered around common interests or shared memories, serving as a way to promote connections among older individuals. Building a rapport with elderly individuals by engaging with their interests or life experiences could facilitate connections with a diverse range of older individuals, presenting a new approach to addressing the challenges associated with aging process and sustainable development.

Keywords: Regional development; sustainable development; community engagement; active aging.

## **1** Introduction

In the rapid evolution of urban development, regional development is not balanced between the urban and the rural. The rural development is different to the urban. Thus, several scholars started discussing the future of rural development. Rural development is lacking efficient planning systems and implemented developing management in Taiwan, which is increasing disparities between urban and rural areas(Chou, 2010; GUO, 2000; XIAO, 2002). The rural areas have a shortage of resources, and support system must conclude the urban and the rural areas. Then build up a social ecosystem area(Chou, 2010; Wu, 2003). Hence it is extremely significant for

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the sustainable development, which to establish the support system for urban and rural and make the regional integration.

In addition to the concept of the social ecosystem, we are confronted with the growing exponential of the population aging. Each country is concerned about the situation. Elder activity engagement is such an important point which is been mentioned in Active Aging that WHO provides to this aging position. The local community engagement had been processed decades ago in Taiwan. Community engagement has become a type of elder actives, which provides the residents participate on daily and volunteer time. Numerous studies noticed that social engagement could promote the elderly positive attitude and health, which correspond with Active Aging. Therefore, this study would like to validate that elder community engagement can support regional development.

## 2 General Background Information

In Taiwan, the government takes several strategies to promote the regional development during the process of the community development. The government wonder the local self-govern would be operate by local groups and local organizations. The influence of the Community Renaissance policy caused the community development from the cultural facility construct to widespread social movement. To attempt to cohere the resident's local identity through the social movement on the diversity community development(LIU, 2008). This movement empower the self-governing and autonomy. And the government also wish this power could give the local development a worthy approach. Merely the sustainable is a serious challenge on the regional development. However, when we confront the sustainable issue, the proneness of the population ageing is obviously impact.

Taiwan National Development Council indicated Taiwan will enter Super-aged society in 2025 at the report of population projections (2022 to 2070) in 2022. Along with the growing of elderly population, the median age will be raising too. The median age in Taiwan had over 40 years old in 2006. While comes to 2026, the median age estimated will grow to 43.9 years old. Even up to 50 years old in 2033. That means half of the population in Taiwan is middle-aged and elderly people(NDC, 2020). The statistics show that all the country are face on the population aging. But the growing of elderly population is not just a problem. How to response and produce the

benefit? This question is a better Method to measure the solution. The participates which is engage community are the elder generally in every community. In the United States, mature adults make up 75% of the travel market(Huang, 2016; Tirrito, 2003). Thence the elder is the great part of the participants in the leisure industry, and in the local community too. If the elder population is growing in the participants of the community activities, the elder will come to be the key objects in the sustainable development.

According to the discuss of the above, the regional development and population elder are the core issue in this study. To validate that do establish the social network between the senior, or not, through the planning and operation of the community. And does it could translate the community activities to the relation forming, even though to arise the participant's population of the local area.

## **3 Literature Review**

## 3.1 The Progress of Taiwan Community Engagement

The community has two distinct meanings. One group is identical, without any boundaries, while the other group shares the same hobby. The most common and typical community is comprised of people who share the same interests through the network at present. The community in this study refers to the group of people in a specific area who gather(Tseng, 2007). Therefore, the community serves as the public relations group, promoting the area's identity.

The community participation process in Taiwan begins with promoting community development. Initially, the efforts for community development focus on local construction and infrastructure development. In 1966, the government proposed the "Eight-Year Plan for Community Development in Taiwan Province," demonstrating the authorities' initiative to improve livelihoods and local development through community empowerment. In 1968, the "Community Development Work Instruction" was proposed to establish a framework for developing content and methods for implementing community work. Subsequently, it incorporates the concept of enhancement to improve the quality of living. The Community Renaissance policy was first proposed in 1994, during a period of community building. It promotes local autonomy and provides a bottom-up approach to organizing authority in local areas. It empowers the community to become the primary implementer of social welfare and community development. This shows that community participation and operation are essential forces in both

local management and policy promotion. The shift from community development to community building indicates that the concept of community has evolved into one of the local units responsible for implementing policies, providing local social welfare, and serving as the primary executor of local cultural initiatives. Under the aforementioned actions and revolutions, the policies since 2002 have promoted people's participation through culture and arts. It is a bottom-up approach to achieve local autonomy and citizen participation, leading to advanced local development. However, the challenges are different from the content of the policy that rural areas face when operating social manufacturing. Therefore, the Rural Rejuvenation Act provides another way to support local development in rural areas, as proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture. Various ministries have provided different approaches to foster rural communities and industries based on the development of different districts. Although the operation of the community during this period of development relies on government policy support, the community organizations formed by the residents have been able to address the common needs of the community. The community had developed through the proposal, implementation, and maintenance of projects(Lee, 2011).

Due to the community building, a sense of place began to germinate. They could work locally to earn a livelihood. However, we can identify six general factors in Taiwan's community development over the decades (Lee, 2011). The purpose of community building is to encourage residents to consider not only how to communicate their opinions and usage needs to decision-makers, but also to actively address any deficiencies. The professionalism required of community planners is no longer solely defined by meeting the needs of the community, but also by addressing deficiencies and guiding the realization of an ideal relationship (Lee, 2009).

Subsequently, the National Development Council advanced the National Strategic Plan for Regional Revitalization in 2019 to construct the framework for regional development. The initiative would support local identity and stimulate the local population and industry. The National Development Council has endorsed and proposed measures that correspond to both the regional and local needs. This policy provides various public and private resources to the community in a specific regional area. It was moving towards achieving sustainable development in the local area.

The above statement highlights the emphasis on community development in Taiwan, with a focus

on achieving the following benefits: increasing and expanding participation, meeting local needs, and promoting sustainable development. It is obvious that the community has a problem with sustainability. The National Development Council has implemented a policy on Regional Revitalization aimed at reducing the urbanrural gap and integrating communities into a regional network.

## 3.2 Direction of Sustainable Community Management under Urban-Rural Development

Community development is closely linked to the regional network, and therefore, it is associated with both urban and rural development. Recently, everyone has attached great importance to the issue of sustainable development in order to promote and maintain urban and rural development. In 2003, the National Development Council proposed the Declaration of Sustainable Development in Taiwan, which contributed to Taiwan's journey toward becoming a sustainable island nation. In 2006, the council evaluated the sustainable development strategies of 13 cities. According to "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" with its 17 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in 2015, the council embraces Taiwan's Sustainable Development Goals. The 18 goals conclude the strategies and targets for urban and rural development.

In the operation of Taiwan, there are multiple approaches. In addition to the public sector guiding sustainable urban and rural development through policy initiatives, local communities will also play a crucial role as operating entities in driving action. The community is collaborating with the local government to create the possibility of sustainable urban development. The community development is related to sustainability, which is demonstrated through three core factors: livelihood, ecology, and production, in the core concept of community development. The concept of sustainable communities has been discussed in numerous publications. A sustainable community is described as one that meets the diverse needs of current and future residents, their children, and other stakeholders. This involves promoting a high standard of living, providing opportunities and choices, and empowering residents to achieve sustainability through the efficient use of natural resources, environmental conservation, community involvement and progress, and enhancing economic well-being(Lee, 2009). After a long period of effort

to implement policies aimed at fostering community cohesion, the principle of community autonomy has gained traction in numerous locations. Consequently, there is a need to improve the implementation and supervision of community organization, refine mechanisms for managing the community environment, promote the ecological development of communitybased industries, and enforce safety and health management within communities. Additionally, it is crucial to actively share experiences in community development, encourage inter-community exchanges, and support exemplary communities in their progression and expansion (Lee, 2007). In this type of community, Lee proposed 9 recommendations. Guidelines 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, and 9 emphasize the potential of community operations to foster local identity, expand community vitality to neighboring areas, stimulate regional development, facilitate increased interaction and communication among diverse stakeholders, drive the community's industrial economy from a regional standpoint, and cultivate a sense of resident engagement. Therefore, in pursuit of comprehensive and sustainable community development, it is recommended to adopt a grassroots strategy for community advancement. This approach involves establishing a sustainable operational framework for the community. It involves nurturing residents' ties to the area, improving the network of social activities within the community through spatial environment planning, and pooling community resources to establish a model for livelihood, production, and ecology.

Urban and rural sustainable development, community development, and community engagement are closely interconnected. In the context of community-based development, the emphasis is on recognizing individuals, organizations, and groups as integral parts of the community's assets. This approach is more dynamic than the traditional path and is demand-based (Chiang & Chang, 2014). The main goal of this study is to examine and suggest strategies for enhancing engagement and promoting greater cooperation among current residents in a specific community, with the aim of collectively contributing to the advancement of the area.

## 3.3 Active Aging

The National Development Council has proposed that Taiwan is expected to become a super-aged society by the year 2025. Given this expected demographic shift, it is crucial for local governments to take proactive steps and make early preparations. Thus, community participation could align with the Active Aging initiative from the World Health Organization (WHO). To address the challenge of population aging through community development and sustainable urban and rural development.

Active Ageing is a policy framework proposed by the WHO to address population aging. Based on data and research from diverse regions, the initial focus is on the progression and challenges related to aging, followed by the aging process and its accompanying needs. The policy framework requires action on three fundamental pillars: participation, health, and security.

These support individual aging phenomena and facilitate the aging process in a friendly environment and network. To increase the engagement of aging individuals, we need to involve them more in society. The following are the three basic pillars(WHO, 2002):

Guideline 1	Establish a community image, create a sense of community identity, and enhance the community's sense of belonging among the people.	
Guideline 2	Establish a community cooperation network to facilitate the exchange of experiences.	
Guideline 3	Implement the people-oriented community development and planning concept to create safe school routes and friendly living streets.	
Guideline 4	Establishing a safe community environment and security management protection mechanism and expanding care for vulnerable groups in the community.	
Guideline 5	Provide a community information exchange platform and establish a community oversight mechanism.	
Guideline 6	Application of environmental planning and design, as well as the construction of public facilities, strengthens interpersonal interactions among residents.	
Guideline 7	Enhance resource recycling, energy-saving planning, and other environmental protection measures.	
Guideline 8	Developing regional markets and local economies, establishing community industries, and moving towards green production and consumption.	
Guideline 9	Establish a community covenant mechanism to establish the rights and responsibilities of community residents to participate.	

**Table 1.** The Guidelines of Sustainable Community, Modified by researcher, from Guidelines for Urban Sustainable Communities:A New Trend in Sustainable Land Development, by Lee, Yung-Jaan, 2007, p.53



Figure 1. The three pillars of a policy framework for Active Ageing

Source: A Policy Framework, by World Health Organization; WHO, 2002, p.45, copyright 2002 by World Health Organization; WHO

### 1. Health

To maintain good health and reduce the impact of disease, it is important to achieve a high quality of life and satisfaction in daily life needs as we age. Health is an important aspect of the aging process, as it contributes to the elderly's self-satisfaction as they age.

#### 2. Participation

During the transition from employment to retirement, older individuals experience changes in their societal roles and reduced participation in social activities. This is due to the significant emphasis on interpersonal interaction and self-esteem in the workplace. Upon retiring, the lack of this role leaves older adults without a primary societal role and engagement. Consequently, there is a need to develop a model for social engagement during the aging process and to outline the productive significance of elderly individuals after retirement.

#### 3. Security

As individuals age, their physical and cognitive abilities decline, necessitating adequate support to safeguard their well-being and quality of life. Consequently, it is crucial for families and communities to offer services and assistance to fulfill the needs of the elderly and support their continued engagement in daily activities.

The three aspects of active aging focus on how to support aging through community and social relationships. The concept of participation, when applied to community development, is beneficial for the elderly, community management, and sustainable development. Therefore, by adopting the perspective of participation, it is possible to establish connections between community development, sustainable development, and active aging. This approach enables the proposal of models and options for communities to tackle local development and aging issues.

#### 3.4 Summary

Community participation in Taiwan is closely linked to sustainable development and social welfare. Activities play a significant role in fostering community participation and development. Therefore, the literature views the combination of community involvement with urban and rural sustainable development and active aging as an opportunity and possibility. In discussions about community development and sustainable communities, acknowledging the elderly as a valuable resource for the local area may inspire the creation and implementation of exchange programs between urban and rural areas. This approach should take into account the participation of the elderly in local activities and prioritize their health maintenance. This approach can also explore the impact and benefits of sustainable development.

#### 4 Research design and practice

According to the above chapters, the community has the opportunity to support sustainable development and address population aging. Numerous studies in the field of gerontology have highlighted the potential benefits for older adults who actively engage in various aspects such as nutrition, physical activity, health management, social support, stress reduction, and spiritual development. These proactive measures have been shown to not only reduce the occurrence of diseases but also improve the overall quality of life and well-being among older adults (Li & Huang, 2014; Zeng & Chen, 2016). How can we guide the current community, primarily led by the "Community Development Association," to move beyond a community-centric approach and be open to establishing a mechanism for forming community alliances with other communities, groups, or organizations, from the perspective of sustainable communities? This is crucial for bridging the gap between the quantity and critical impact of social capital. "Sustainable communities" cannot be built on a foundation of "community closure" or the "exclusion of outsiders." Therefore, fostering bridging social capital is also an essential requirement for advancing towards a "sustainable community" (Hwang et al., 2009).

### 4.1 Research hypothesis

Based on the concept of sustainable community development, this study promotes the establishment of formal or informal organizations by various community groups, in collaboration with partners



**Figure 2.** The Relation of Active Ageing and Elder's Living Life Modified by researcher

from neighboring communities, based on their shared interests or concerns. At the same time, it encourages the establishment of diverse community organizations in accordance with the government's process for allocating resources. This will break through the structural constraints of the past, where the community was exclusively represented by the Community Development Association. It will also enable us to respond to the diverse needs of the community(Chang, 2015). Thus, the program aims to establish connections among various communities through the cross-area concept in order to design activities that promote interaction among the elderly(Hsieh, 2019). For the community, it is an approach to increase participation in activities. In the Active Aging program, the activities should promote social interaction among the elderly participants. The study's hypotheses are based on various aspects of community development and active aging. The model's effects and impacts are then discussed in the context of a practical exercise.

## Hypothesis: Cross-area interaction offers opportunities for seniors to broaden their social circle, meet new people, and encourage socialization among seniors.

Therefore, this paper discusses the potential of social interaction in cross-area community activities. It provides an approach to connect different groups of people and promote a stable cross-area network. An operational method is then proposed to support and maintain sustainable development.

### 4.2 Research Flow



### 4.3 Research design

This study utilized an observational approach for hypothesis testing and analysis. It designed two sets of practices to confirm the hypothesis that engagement in community activities would lead to the development of intergroup social networks among older people. This was supported by exchanges and dialogues during the activities, as well as by observing interactions at other times after the tours and experiences to discuss the deepening of the interaction and the possibility of further extending it. The aim was to explore the possibility of deepening and expanding the interactive relationship.

#### Model 1: Local Experiential Activity-Based Design Model

The main focus was on the experiential activities of the local management, which aimed to enhance interaction between the elderly and others during the experience. Therefore, we have selected two methods to enhance interaction among elders: (1) handcrafted experiential activities to stimulate interest and communication, and (2) guided tours to deepen interaction by sharing past or daily life experiences, thus creating common memories.

Date	Objects of interaction	Interaction design
2021.10.01	10 people by online application and the members of Longtain community	Content: Fantain storyteller guided tour+ handcrafted experiential activity Concept: Fantain storyteller guided tours- living around pond: Introduce the specific part of living life in Longtain area, the agriculture of water chestnut, the ecosystem among the pond and the field etc. Those content will become the topic for the communicate among the elders. And it extends the memory about the water chestnut for them have extra interaction. And handcrafted experiential activity- Leather carving DIY: This activity is originated to Longtain Community. During the teaching process, make the elder communicate and help each other. Through this progress to promote and increase the interaction among the elder.
2022.07.30	Guoping community resident and the members of Linfongying community	Content: Linfongying railway living life guided tour+ steamed bread mom group handmade experiential activity Concept: The Linfongying Railway Living Life Guided Tour covers the railway, Linfongying train station, and Jing-Pu Pond, evoking memories of the past. The course encourages elders to share their impressions and communicate their collective memories. steamed bread mom group handmade experiential activity: the process of steamed bread DIY is an approach for the elders communicate. For the elder to contribute relation and share own experience on this DIY activity.
2022.10.30	Linfongying community residents and the members of Guoping community	Content: Anping Fort (Zeelandia) and old street guided tour Concept: Anping Fort (Zeelandia) and old street guided tour-Anping living style: Introduce the experience with Anping Fort and old street. The history and past are a collective memory, it may resonances for the elder.

#### Activity design and target group

The activities mentioned above are designed with the concept of creating opportunities for the elderly to initiate relationships through collective memory and their personal experiences from the past.

Model 2: Common Interests or Expertise by-Based Design Model

The activities are based on common interests. To promote communication and build relationships based on common interests and memories. Hence, this approach aims to bring together two older groups with a common interest or experience. To create opportunities for deepening interaction with the elderly.

The above activities are design with the concept to make the opportunity to start the relation among the elders by the common interest or similar experience in their self.

## 4.4 Result of the implementation

The above lacks extended interaction. However, it gives a view of the activities that have the potential to increase the desire of elders to make friends in certain situations. What activities did the elders engage in to communicate, but did not progress to the next step?

In the above, it shows that common experiences or interests could drive people's desire to communicate and interact. If the elders have similar interests or memories, they will communicate on more topics. This increases their potential in related areas. Models 1 and 2 demonstrate the challenge of establishing interpersonal networks between communities in different regions through one-time interactions. By designing shared experiences or activities, it is possible to increase the frequency of interaction and even encourage additional interactions among participants. By designing the same experience or activity, it is possible to increase the frequency of interactions between different individuals and even encourage the possibility of further interactions between them. For instance, on April 21, 2022, an event was organized to facilitate interaction between the residents of the Guoping community and the president of the elderly association. The event focused on the topic of planting. This event not only prolonged their interaction but also sparked a second opportunity for them to exchange ideas. During the event on June 23, 2022, the community's old clothes were repurposed into marketable items through a handicraft workshop. The community residents purchased these commodities and engaged in extended dialogue and interaction with the volunteers based on their product preferences.

Activity design and target group				
Date	Objects of interaction	Interaction design		
2021.11.27	The residents of Changsheng, Daren and Zhonglou village and the members of Longtain community	Content: Fantain storyteller guided tour+ handmade experiential activity Concept: Fantain storyteller guided tour-the memory of railway: the residents of the three villages are closed to railway. So the communicate topic could related on the common memory of railway. Making the common memory to promote the interaction among the elders. Handmade experiential activity- Scallion pancake DIY: The three villages share an interest in cuisine, which provides a common subject for communication and may increase the potential for interaction among elders.		
2022.04.21	Guoping community residents, president of Duba elderly association and the members of Tainan city Fanzihtia Siraya association	Content: living detour guided tour+ handcraft experiential activity Concept: Living detour guided tour- the living life around Chuanwenshan Forest Ecological Conservation Farm: The great landscape of Chuanwenshan is the nature environment. The residents around there are farming. The two feature is making the elders communicate with the nature environment and farming. This approach may stimulate the interaction among the elders. handcraft experiential activity- Siraya ceremonial wreath DIY: Guoping community has an interest in plants, which may attract the elders to communicate or interact with each other. This has the potential to strengthen social relationships among them.		
2022.06.23	Longtain community residents and the members of Zhenxing community	Content: American school guided tour+ recycling clothes handcraft experiential activity Concept: American school guided tour-the memory around American school: the common memory in postwar is a shared impression among the elders. The guide concludes the development from postwar until present, and the living life of Military dependents village. The collective memory would construct in the specific environment. Recycling clothes handcraft experiential activity- recreate the memory in their own object: recycling clothes via the handcraft DIY is similar to the leather DIY in Longtain community. Thus, the elders communicate with the memory of the object and the process of the handcraft. This common interest and own memory would contribute the relationship.		

## Model 1: Local Experiential Activity-Based Design Model

Date	Target group and content of interaction	Result of the implementation
2021.10.01	<ol> <li>Target group: 10 people by online application+ The members of Longtain community</li> <li>Content of interaction: Fantain storyteller guided tour+ handcrafted experiential activity</li> </ol>	The elders communicated and interacted with the main course originated in the guided tour and handcrafted experiential activity. The elder are interested in the water chestnut farming and ecology. And they had communicated with the handcraft DIY. But not success to promote the desire on construction in relationship.
2022.07.30	<ol> <li>Target group: Guoping community residents+ The members of Linfongying community</li> <li>Content of interaction: Fantain storyteller guided tour+ handmade experiential activity</li> </ol>	The elders communicated and interacted with the main course originated in the guided tour and handcrafted experiential activity. During the process, the elders had interacting in the guided and handmade DIY. It is obviously in handmade experiential activity. The teach and learn is an approach to make them communicate. However, these are kind of take a trip or hold an activity for the two groups. Does not make the elders desire to make a friend to whom form another group.
2022.06.23	<ol> <li>Target group: Linfongying community residents+ the members of Guoping community</li> <li>Content of interaction: Anping Fort (Zeelandia) and old street guided tour</li> </ol>	The elders communicated and interacted with the main course originated in the guided tour and handcrafted experiential activity. This guided process make the Linfingying community experienced a totally different living style form rural area. That caused the elders have more opportunity to communicated on the specific and the different. But this implementation is not make the desire to make a friend among the two groups.

Date	Target group and content of interaction	Result of the implementation
2021.11.27	<ol> <li>Target group: The residents of Changsheng, Daren and Zhonglou village+ The members of Longtain community</li> <li>Content of interaction: Fantain storyteller guided tour+ handmade experiential activity</li> </ol>	The activities facilitated communication among the elders who share a common interest in cuisine. This shared interest served as a great conversation starter. However, their similar experience with railways did not have an obvious impact on their communication.
2022.04.21	<ol> <li>Target group: Guoping community residents+ President of Duba elderly association+ the members of Tainan city Fanzihtia Siraya</li> <li>Content of interaction: Fantain storyteller guided tour+ handcraft experiential activity</li> </ol>	The farming experience made a great impact to Guoping community desire to communicated about the plants and the method of plants. In the other hand, Siraya ceremonial wreath DIY is a good approach to experiencing the local culture and may promote the elders to explore their interest.
2022.06.23	<ol> <li>Target group: Longtain community residents+ The members of Zhenxing community</li> <li>Content of interaction: American school guided tour+ recycling clothes handcraft experiential activity</li> </ol>	The interactions among the elders are related to the common experiences and interest. Both groups are familiar with the past around this area, that made their shared memories for communicated. And Longtain community residents are also interest in handcraft DIY. That made the two groups constructed communication in several common experiences and interests.

Model 2: Common Interests or Expertise by-Based Design Model

Furthermore, the community members have experienced significant changes due to these activities, becoming more proficient and self-assured in their interactions with outsiders. This has led to an increased willingness among the elderly to engage with outsiders. It is evident that the volunteers have also gained greater self-confidence through their involvement in tours and teaching. This exercise confirms that cross-domain communication among community activities can stimulate the development of social interaction. However, it is crucial to design and use suitable strategies to facilitate interpersonal interaction among diverse participants. If community activities are intended to encourage interpersonal interaction, they should be structured around various themes, interests, expertise, and shared life experiences. This will enable participants to connect with each other on a deeper level and potentially pave the way for future interactions. This will facilitate the expansion of interaction from community activities to personal experiences, thereby enhancing the interaction and exchange, and potentially creating additional opportunities for interaction.

## **5** Conclusions

The above examples demonstrate that community activities provide the elderly with an opportunity to communicate with each other and enhance social interactions. However, the initial aim of establishing a standalone social network has not been realized, and they still rely on intermediaries for matchmaking. Therefore, the emphasis for improvement and adjustment should be on creating activities that facilitate interactions with unfamiliar objects, fostering a connection that leads to stable interpersonal relationships. In study, practice, we have observed that the potential of interpersonal networks lies in their ability facilitate people's understanding and interaction interact with each other. During cross-domain communication, finding common interests can lead to discussions on mutual topics, spark curiosity, and deepen mutual understanding. This, in turn, facilitates the development of relationships between parties that were previously unfamiliar with each other. This mode facilitates increased interaction between unfamiliar objects, deepening mutual understanding, and promoting the development of interpersonal relationships. Therefore, when designing and planning the aforementioned activities, it is important to focus on their shared characteristics and emphasize the features of the community events. This will enable participants to select activities that match their preferences, bringing them closer together during the experience and fostering the potential for future interactions. Line accordance with the concept of operations, operation, suggested recommended approach for planning local activities, outlined stated in the literature, is take on adopt a regional perspective. The trend of population aging is becoming increasingly evident, with the number of elderly individuals decreasing every year in many places, while the birth rate remains low. Therefore, it is impossible for all regions to maintain stable population growth. Expanding the pool of potential participants offers an opportunity for local development. However, this study suggests that activities can be coordinated at the regional management level, information about activities in different regions can be disseminated, and relevant teams can be deployed to localities to assist in the planning and design of activities. If there is an opportunity, policies promoted by various government departments can be interconnected to disseminate policy information and deliver social services during events. This expands the benefits of the activities and facilitates collaboration between academia, the public sector, and the local community from various perspectives. Such collaboration fosters the functioning and advancement of the local community.

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The author declares that she has no competing interests.

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