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# Technology innovations in defining the future of healthcare delivery in Western Pacific region

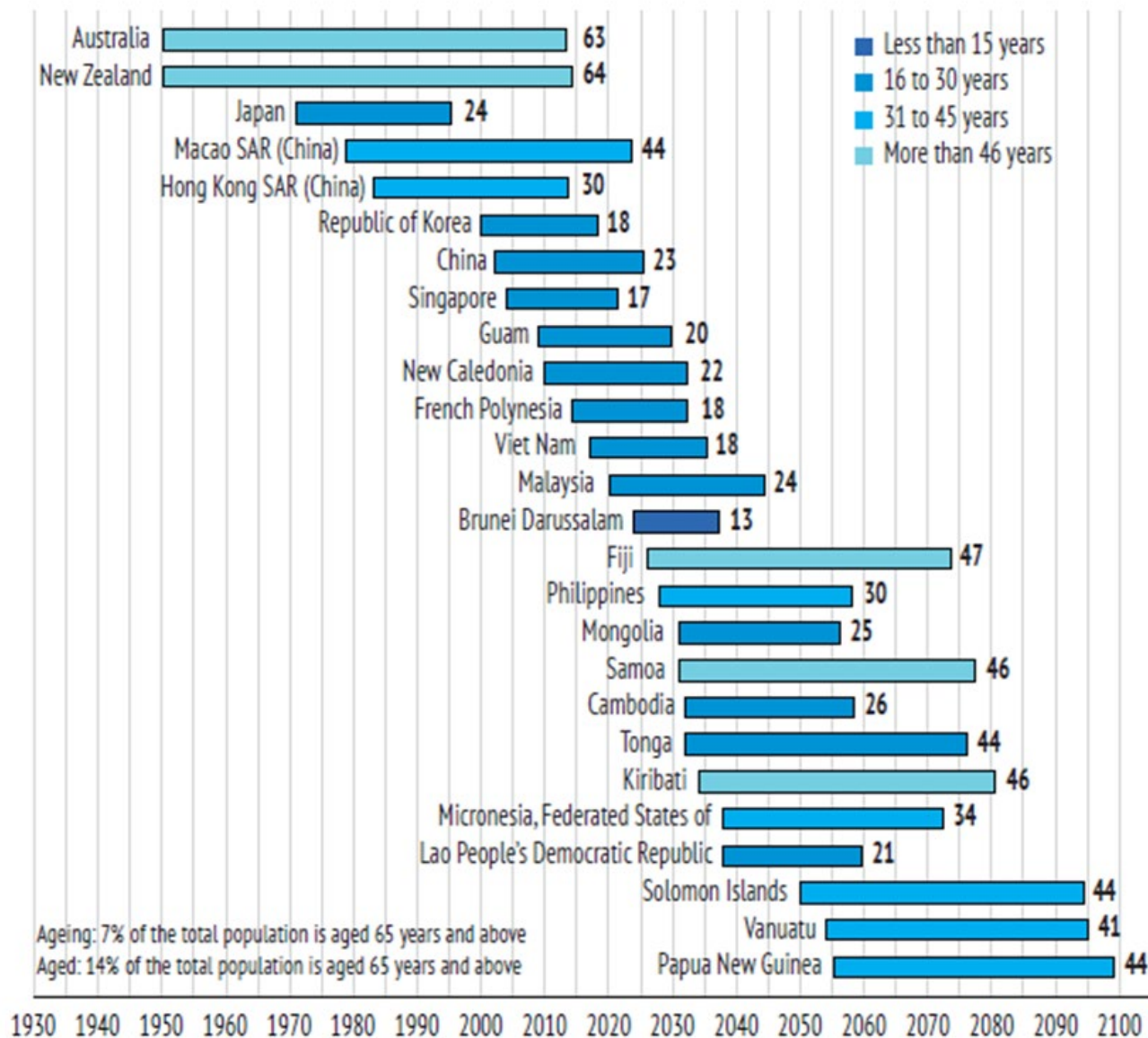
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**Dr Mikiko Kanda** ([mkanda@who.int](mailto:mkanda@who.int))  
Technical Lead, Healthy Ageing  
Division of Healthy Environments and  
Populations, WHO-WPRO



## Western Pacific Region is Rapidly Ageing:

Projected time to transition from an ageing (7%) to aged society (14%)

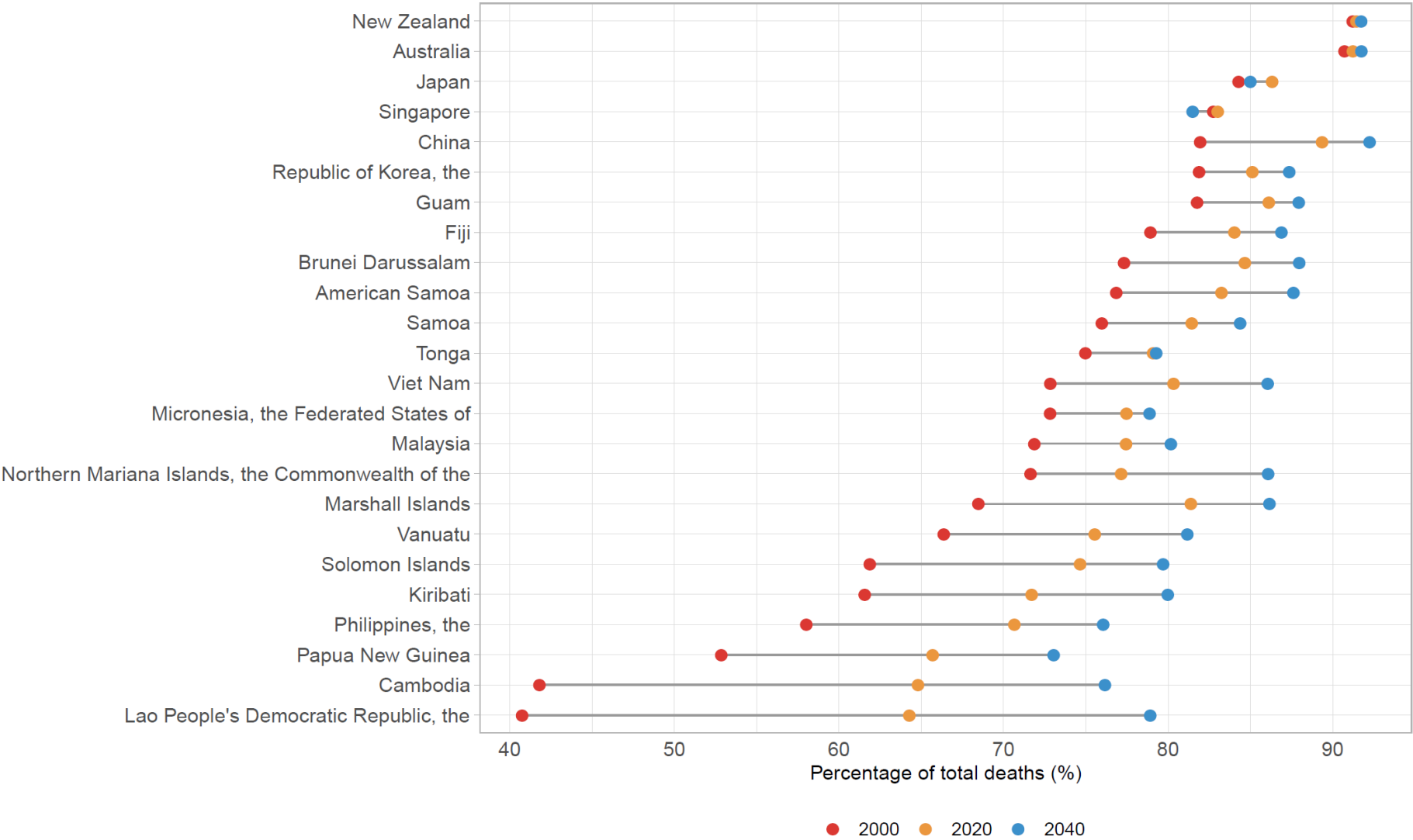


Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2)

Source: Dr. Hiromasa Okayasu, WHO/WPRO Lecture at Osaka Univ. 20 Nov.2021, with modification



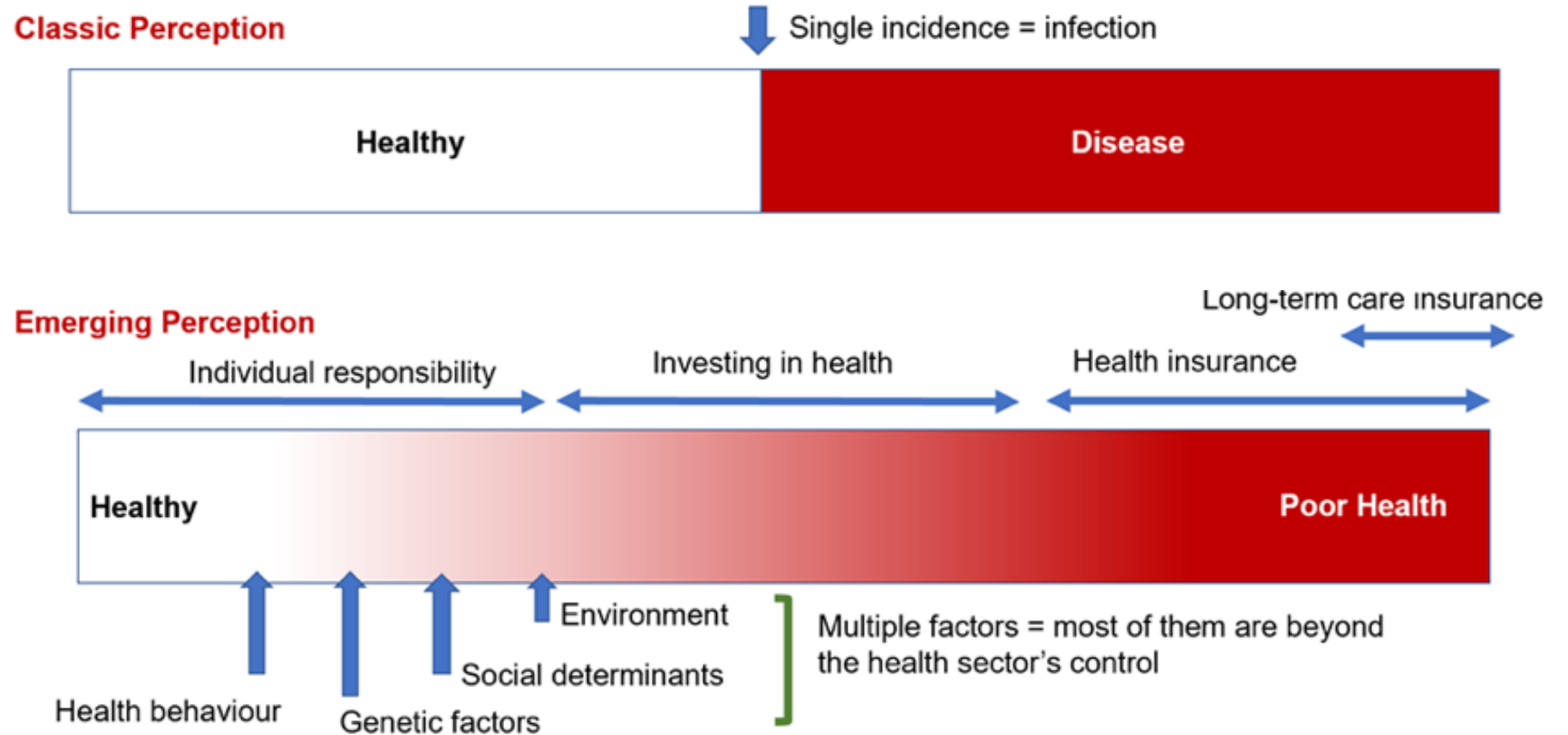
# Burden is Shifting to NCD in the Western Pacific Region



Source: Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation, Global Burden of Disease Study, 2018.

## Changing Concept of Health

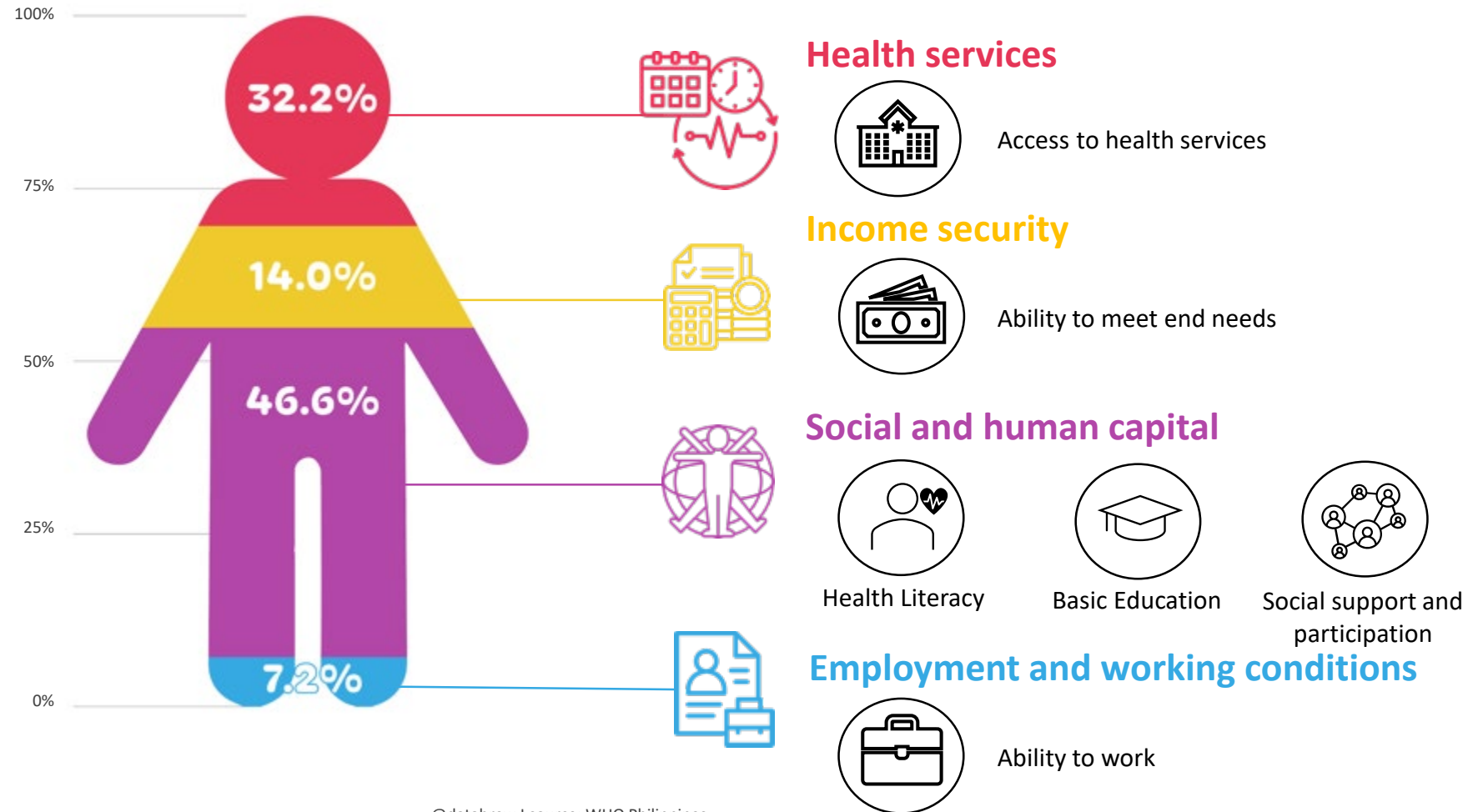
In NCD-dominant world, the boundary between healthy and sick is no longer clear



Source: Nakatani H. Globalization of public health: challenges and opportunities for globalization. The Journal of Public Health Practice. 2020;84:356–62.

## Majority of health equity is explained by the factors outside healthcare services

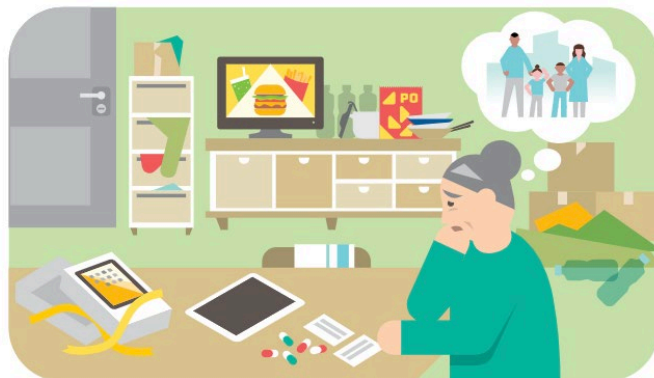
Decomposition of the health gap between the richest and poorest older persons in Philippines





## Shift in focus from “Sick” system to “Health” system

### “Sick system”



- Unhealthy environment and absence of support creates sick people
- Health system primarily focus on treating diseases

### “Health system”



- Society creates health-enabling environment
- Health system works closely with the community and society to promote health and wellbeing throughout lives

# Digital innovations

## Agatha (AI Avatar) as a platform and process that promotes digital equity



The image shows a digital interface for 'Agatha', an AI avatar acting as a healthy aging coach. On the left is a 3D-rendered female avatar with dark hair and glasses. To her right is a chat window with a 'Welcome' header. The chat message reads: 'Hi, my name is Agatha and I am your healthy aging coach. How are you today?'. Below the message are two buttons: 'Good' and 'Unwell'. Below the chat window is a video of an elderly woman with glasses sitting at a table and looking at a smartphone. A text box overlaid on the video says 'Agatha: 健康的饮食结构为每天2.5杯（5份）蔬菜，2杯（4份）水果，180克谷物、160克肉和豆类。每周吃1到2次红肉，家禽每周2到3次。'. At the bottom of the video, a caption reads 'A balanced diet includes 2.5 cups (5 servings) of vegetables'.

Welcome

Hi, my name is Agatha and I am your healthy aging coach. How are you today?

Good Unwell

**Agatha:**

健康的饮食结构为每天2.5杯（5份）蔬菜，2杯（4份）水果，180克谷物、160克肉和豆类。每周吃1到2次红肉，家禽每周2到3次。

A balanced diet includes 2.5 cups (5 servings) of vegetables

- Provide health promotion messages interactively
- Eventually, AI can customize/optimize the messages



# Social innovations



**Social prescribing** is a means for health-care workers to connect patients to a range of non-clinical services in the community to improve health and wellbeing.



Social isolation and loneliness  
among older people are widespread:



In some countries, up to  
**1 in 3 older people**  
are lonely.



Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

Social isolation and loneliness  
among older people are harmful:



They **shorten**  
older people's lives



They **damage**  
their physical and  
mental health



They **reduce**  
their quality of life



Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

*UN Decade of Healthy Ageing, 2022*



# WHO initiatives – Social prescribing toolkit & training

## A TOOLKIT ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT SOCIAL PRESCRIBING



Published in March 2022

Training of link workers across Western Pacific Region (e.g. SP pilot in Cambodia)



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# WHO initiatives – OpenWHO training

- Free 4-hour WHO online training
- Published in April 2022
- Train introduce the concept of social prescribing (e.g. community health workers to become link workers)
- 10,355 learners enrolled across the world



## Lesson 5: Who are the link workers?

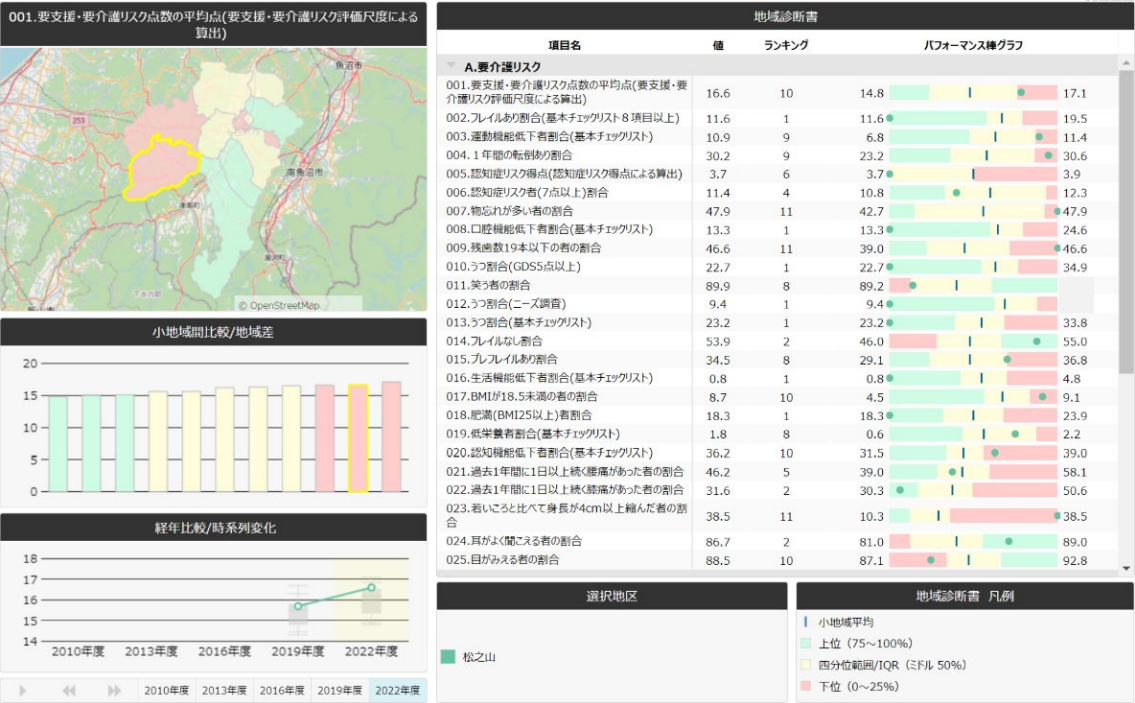




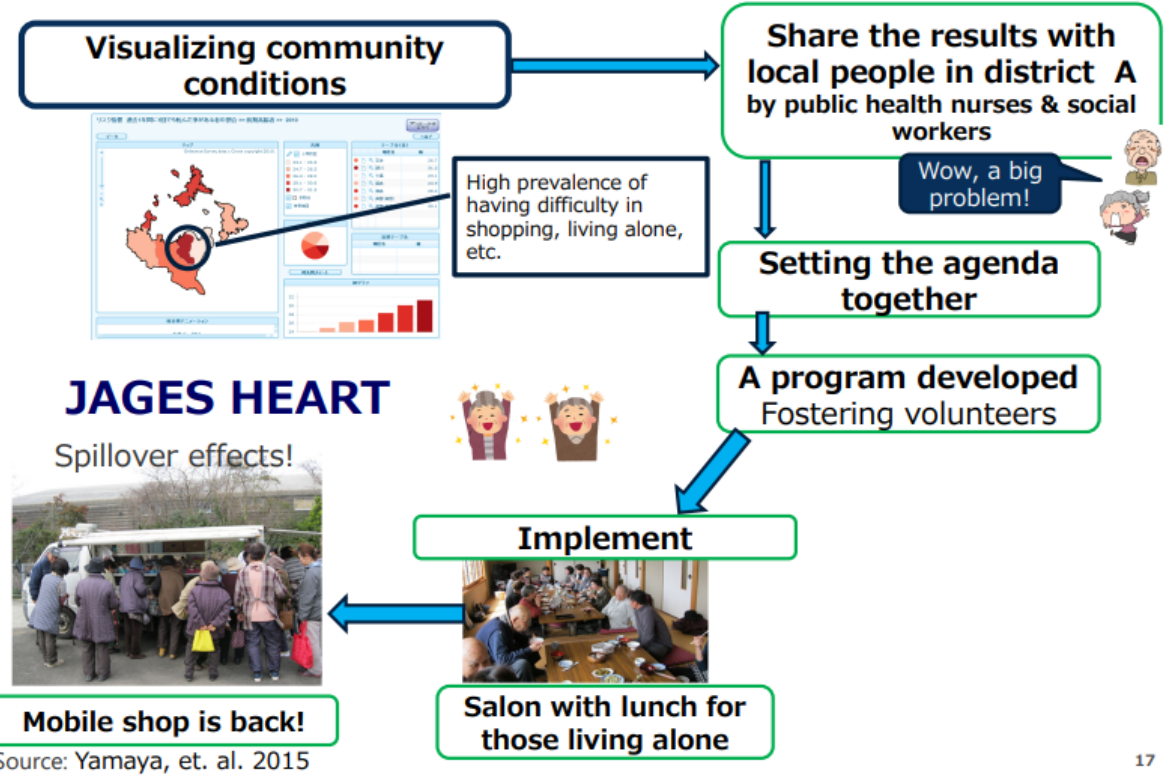
# Process innovations

## Community Assessment

### JAGES HEART



### Data-driven community organizing





Thank you



World Health  
Organization  
Western Pacific Region