Abstract

The world is aging rapidly, and China’s older population is growing faster than in any other country. The average life expectancy at birth has increased from 52 years in 1960 to 72 years in 2015, and by 2050, one out of every four Chinese will be sixty-five or older.\(^1\) Population aging is also caused by lower fertility. Three decades of the one-child family policy and behavioral change due to socioeconomic factors have reduced the size of the working age population.\(^2\) The dependency ratio—the number of people aged over 65 per 100 working age people—will continue to increase from 13 per 100 in 2010 to 45 per 100 by 2050, which has significant implications for workforce productivity and economic growth.\(^3\) This demographic transition is a defining issue of our time, and it poses unprecedented challenges for China.

The burden of population aging on the government and individuals has become more prominent due to increasing demand for health care, long-term care and other social services. Chronic and noncommunicable diseases serve as the main causes of mortality and disability in the older population, and the interaction between multiple diseases, conditions and risk factors increases the complexity of health issues.\(^4\)

The health system has not yet adapted to the shift in the disease burden and health care needs driven by the aging population.\(^5\) Although the government has introduced three public health insurance programs since 1998,\(^6\) the benefit packages provide limited coverage for outpatient management and care of NCDs and chronic conditions.\(^7\) In addition, there has been a lack of investment in training geriatric medicine professionals and incorporating geriatric principles into clinical practice.\(^8\)

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1 World Bank Data. https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/sp.dyn.le00.in
2 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
7 Ibid.
Aging preparedness is also an issue for other areas of social services, such as long-term care. Despite the legislative efforts to ensure elderly rights, the public sector investment has long been inadequate, resulting in the unequal distribution of services across wealth quintiles and geographic regions.\textsuperscript{9} Rural-to-urban migration and changes in social norms, such as filial piety, compound the supply-demand imbalance.\textsuperscript{10}

The higher burden of total cost of health and long-term care is inevitable. How do we tackle these challenges? We will need more innovative approaches to develop multi-sector and integrated solutions to issues concerning the aging population. While the system-level efforts, such as social protection system and universal health coverage, continue to be led by the government, Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) will play a catalytic role in adding capacity to ensure the sustainability of such systems through advancement of technology, human resources and innovation. There will be an increasing need for defining the conditions and application of PPPs that are compatible with adjustments to healthcare, pension and retirement policies and labor and capital markets. More importantly, political and public will is key to successful implementation of PPPs.

This workshop will feature PPP Initiative Ltd.’s recent efforts to develop PPP solutions for the aging population, followed by a discussion with experts from Tsinghua University and participants on how to move from awareness to action in China.

In 2018, PPP Initiative Ltd. completed the Case Development Program which generated six cases featuring the impact and challenges of applying PPP skills and frameworks to healthcare in China, Singapore and the US. In 2017 and 2018, PPP Initiative Ltd. co-hosted four forum events in China and Singapore with Tsinghua University and the National University of Singapore (NUS) to discuss general and context-specific insights from the cases.

PPP Initiative Ltd. and its partner institutions now focus on action steps that include significant expansion of research and curriculum materials, new academic program designs and far-reaching executive education programs. These actions steps are critical to building capacity and addressing country-specific facts, conditions and resources for operalization of PPPs.

Agenda
5:00 - 5:30 Keynote speech by Alan M. Trager
5:30 - 5:45 Discussion with two experts from Tsinghua University
5:45 - 6:00 Question & Answers moderated by Alan M. Trager

\textsuperscript{9} Ibid.
Biography

Alan M. Trager

Alan M. Trager is the Founder and President of the PPP Initiative Ltd. (pppinitiative.org), where he leads an institutional collaborative effort using public-private partnerships to address healthcare issues in Asia.

Mr. Trager is the Principal Researcher of the PPP Healthcare Case Study Program, an independent research project managed by PPP Initiative Ltd., with financial support from Amgen Inc; Technical Expert, WHO Independent High-level Commission on NCDs; and Global Expert, Global Initiative on Health and the Economy, USCC. He is also the lead author of a forthcoming White Paper titled Lessons Learned: Healthcare PPP Case Studies and Forums in Asia.

Through collaborative arrangements with leading universities in Asia—National University of Singapore and Tsinghua University—PPP Initiative Ltd. will widely disseminate the case studies and the White Paper.

Mr. Trager serves as Chief Specialist, International, at the Tsinghua University Center for PPP Research (TUPPP) in Beijing. Trager is the only foreign Chief Specialist at Tsinghua University.

Previously, he was a Senior Research Professor at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and a Principal Investigator (PI) at Johns Hopkins. He served as PI of the Mapping PPPs across Countries (China and India) study (2015), which was featured in specially organized meetings at U.S. State Department, in Beijing and Geneva from November 2015 to January 2016.

Mr. Trager has focused on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for 15 years. Starting in early 2003 as a Senior Fellow with the Center for Business and Government at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS), Trager joined the HKS faculty in 2005 and was responsible for designing and teaching HKS’s first PPP course. After 10 years at Harvard teaching PPP in a variety of formats in many countries, he left to accept a faculty appointment at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Mr. Trager is also a faculty member in the Leadership Academy for Development (LAD), an affiliate of Stanford University. LAD trains government officials and business leaders in developing countries. He has had numerous practitioner roles in PPP for the State of New York, the U.S. Government, Xicheng District in Beijing, and the Riverside Park Conservancy in New York City.

He led or co-led PPP symposiums, executive programs and workshops for Harvard, LAD, Johns Hopkins and Tsinghua University in Beijing, Singapore, Delhi, Mexico City, Cape Town, Nairobi, Tbilisi, Saudi Arabia, Lesotho, and Washington, including for Johns Hopkins Medicine International and the World Bank. He regularly teaches Chinese leaders at the ministerial,
provincial, and district levels through the Tsinghua University School of Public Policy and Management and CELAP (Chinese Executive Leadership Academy Pudong). In the private sector, Trager founded and chaired AMT Capital Management, a private investment firm. He also created and managed ventures for Morgan Stanley, where he was a managing director. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley, he was manager of planning for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

Early in his career, he was a VISTA Volunteer in Texas and worked for mayors in New York City, New Haven and Boston. Trager holds an MPA from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Source: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qH6307DeDqshDSLmxza2uULR6ME9zCym1g4nX75G8/edit