

Inclusive urban design for future - elderly deserve a better living in their residential area

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Abstract

The issue/research problem

Projections from the National (Portuguese) Statistics Institute show that the process of aging of Portuguese population rapidly will become more prominent (INE, 2008).

While "place of aging," public spaces encourage the elderly to get rid of their space "private / home," a vital opportunity to promote health through activity that he can develop outdoor (Peace, Holland, & Kellaheer, 2005).

The relevance for the conference theme

The article focuses an innovative skill of urban design that has to be connected with new local policies/governance and professionals.

The background

Portuguese housing estates should enable elderly in outdoor to meet levels of sociability, helpfulness and leisure, in healthier and therapeutic environments.

Methodology

The research will reach:

- The relation of elderly costumes and activities and the assessment of the quality of public space.
- New design criteria for public spaces regarding elderly outdoor daily life.
- New parameters that should drive the municipal rules and politicians.

Innovation and key results of the paper

A potent methodology for 'Good Urban Design for Elderly' will be sketched, within a deep 'inclusive' skill.

Keywords: urban space; inclusive urban design; dimensions of urban space older people; home zoning; inclusion; health and psychology, geriatrics, elderly leisure time; friendly cities for elderly.