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Development  
*Australia*

I L L A W A R R A

# World Health Organisation Age Friendly Environments

An IRT led international initiative for the  
Illawarra Region



An Australian Government Initiative



A NSW Government Initiative

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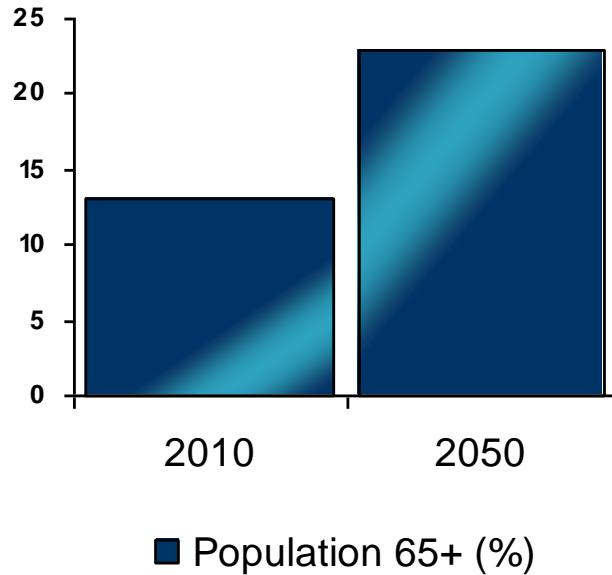
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# The Ageing Bubble

## Australian Growth in Seniors Segment



- ▶ Expected growth in 65+ age group to 2021:
  - Wollongong LGA 34%
  - Kiama LGA 45%
  - Shellharbour LGA 72%
- ▶ At IRT we believe that **“Seniors deserve the best”**



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Source: Resource for Ageing Population Planning,  
Local Govt and Shires Ass oc. NSW

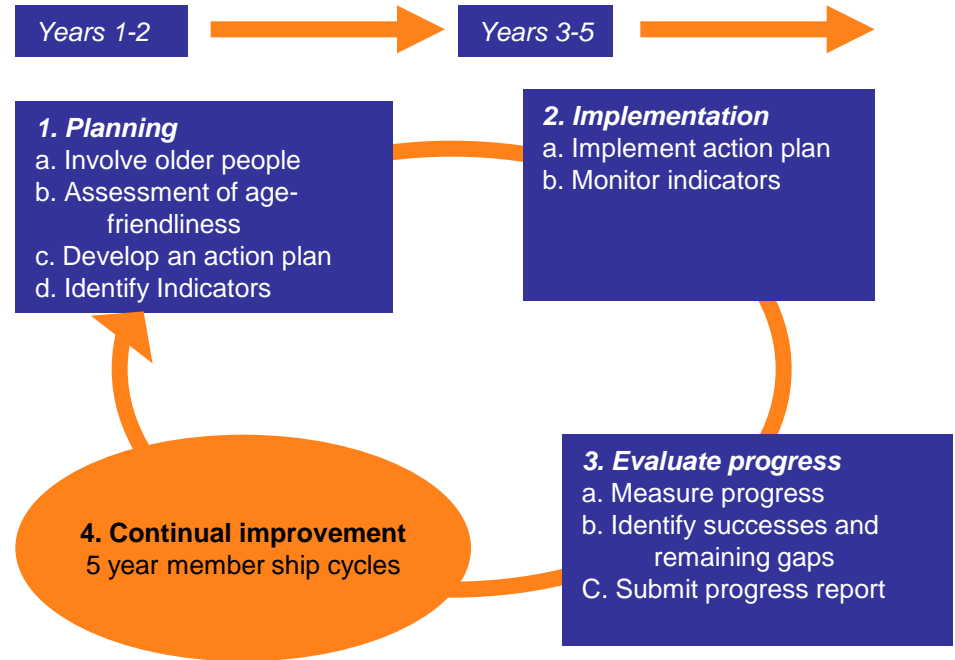


# WHO Age Friendly Environments



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▶ "An Age-friendly Environment is an inclusive and accessible urban environment that promotes active ageing".



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# 8 Domains of an Age-Friendly Environment



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1. outdoor spaces and buildings
2. transportation
3. housing
4. social participation
5. respect and social inclusion
6. civic participation and employment
7. communication and information
8. community support and health services



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# Benefits of Victorian Participants



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- ▶ Expanded thinking amongst older people, the community and a range of professionals about the topics and issues relevant to age-friendly cities and positive ageing
- ▶ An opportunity for councils and older people to jointly reflect on the effectiveness of current approaches and the factors contributing to effective engagement with older people
- ▶ Integration with
  - Council Plans, Municipal Public Health Plans and Disability Action Plans
- ▶ Opportunities for sharing knowledge and providing easy access to information
  - Workshops, Website, Mentoring
- ▶ Development of a comprehensive communication strategy, leading to a coalition of issues of significance to older people, strengthening advocacy



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# Next Steps



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- ▶ Gain support
  - Financial and in-kind support from all levels of government and interested parties is to be sought.
  
- ▶ Develop an Implementation Plan
  - Work closely with the stakeholder groups to develop a realistic and practical implementation plan along the eight domains.
  
- ▶ Apply to WHO
  - Formulate a formal application for recognition as an Age Friendly Region.
  
- ▶ Contact Details
  - Kristy Wandmaker – Research and Community Relations Officer  
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