

Long-term care for older persons

Assessing the status of implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action

Population Division, UNDESA

Session V. Leaving no one behind in an ageing world

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Programme of Action - adopted at the ICPD, Cairo, 1994

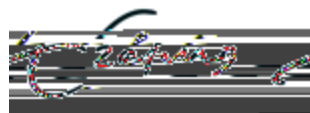
C. Elderly people

Objectives: (c) To develop a social support system, both formal and informal, with a view to enhancing the ability of families to take care of elderly people within the family.

Actions: 6.18 Governments should develop social security systems that ensure greater intergenerational and intragenerational equity and solidarity and that provide support to elderly people through the encouragement of multigenerational families, and the provision of long-term support and services for growing numbers of frail older people.

“Every Country should have a long-term care system”

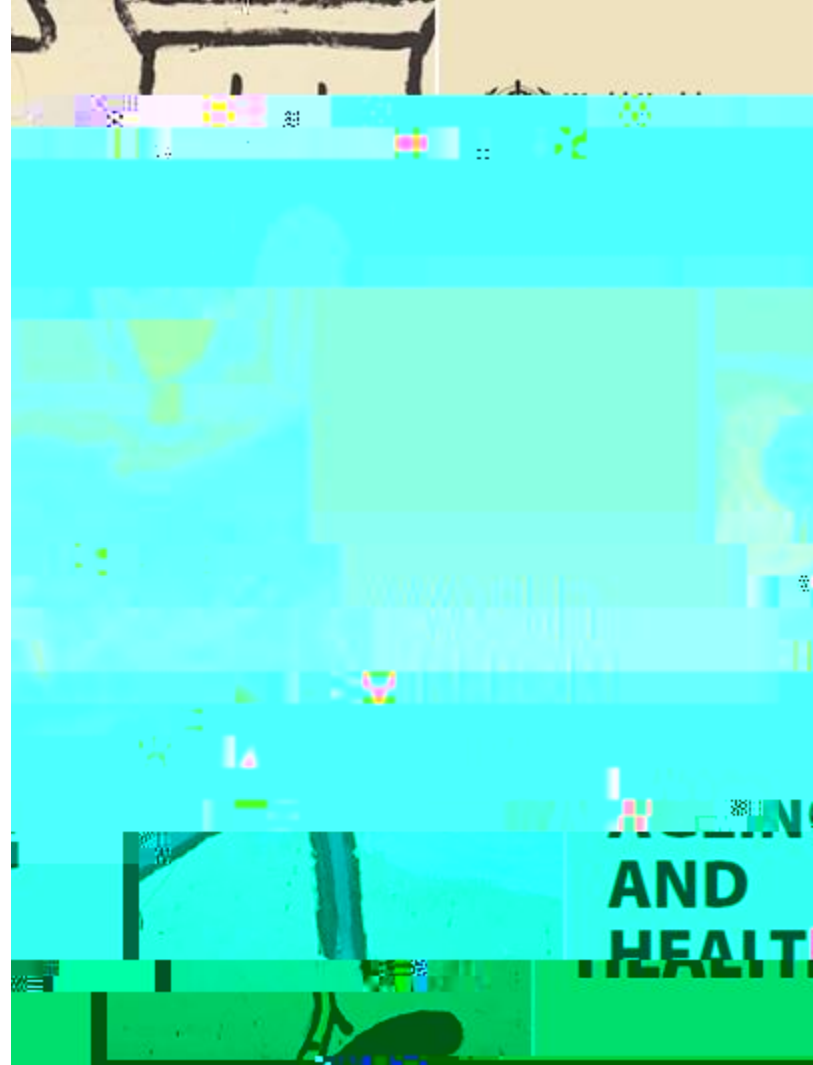




Long-Term Care

"...the activities undertaken by others to ensure that people with, or at risk of, a significant ongoing loss of intrinsic capacity can maintain a level of functional ability consistent with their basic rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity"

Source: World Report on Ageing and Health.
Geneva: World Health Organization; 2015.



Focus of Long-Term Care

Peoples' needs

Focus on trajectory of functional ability

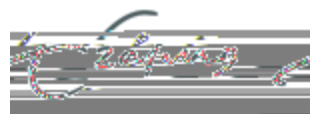
Not merely taking over, but stimulating to do as much possible themselves

Not only focusing on meeting older people's basic needs for survival, but also people's abilities:

- o to move around,
- o to build and maintain relationships,
- o to learn, grow and decide, and
- o to contribute to their communities

People have the right and deserve the freedom to realize their continuing aspirations to well-being, meaning and dignity, and a good life, even in the event of significant loss in intrinsic capacity.

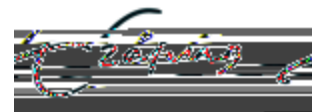






Misconceptions

- Families are the backbone of care
- Unpaid care does not entail any cost for society
- To care for older people with a significant loss in capacity doesn't need training
- There is nothing between unpaid care and institutional care



The role of unpaid carers

Supporting:

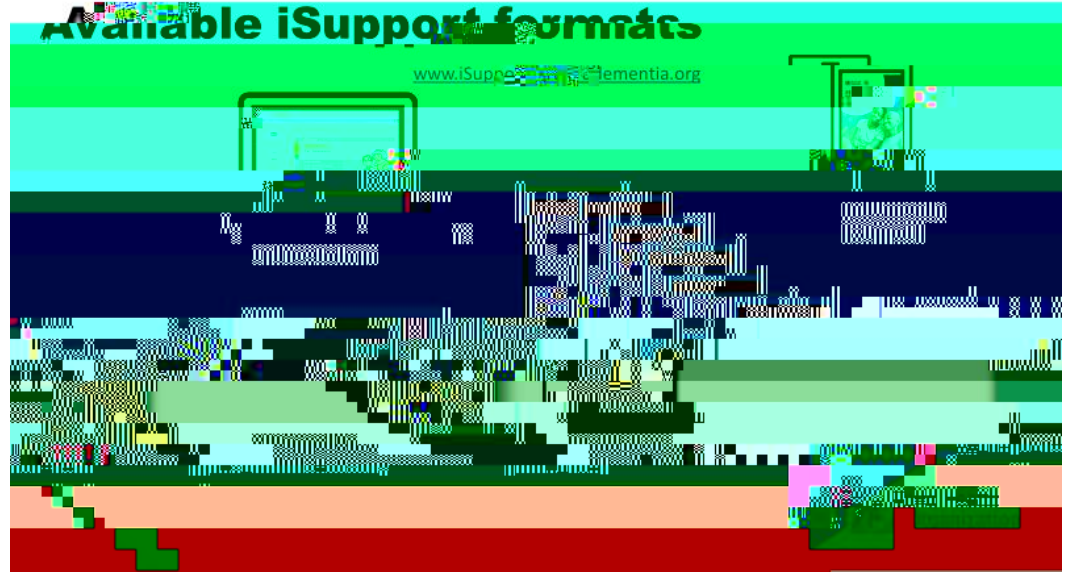
f.i. caregiver training, respite,
payment/vouchers

Complementing:

f.i. home-based care

Supplementing:

f.i. day-care or care home



The role of technology

Development &
Implementation

Enabling or disabling?



The role of the physical environment: Green Care Farms





Source: Pot, A. M. et al. (2023). Person-centred long-term care for older persons: a new Lancet Commission. *Lancet*, 401(10390), 1754–1755.

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