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Singapore builds new centre to address age-related challenges in Asia, with $5M funding

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To design living environments that foster well-being for people of all ages



The College of Design and Engineering (CDE) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) has established the Centre for Environment and Ageing Well (ENgAGE) to take the lead in enhancing living environments that foster the physical, psychological and social well-being of individuals across all age groups, particularly in response to the challenges brought about by demographic shifts and climate change.

ENgAGE will enhance Singapore's ongoing efforts to explore innovative ways to support older adults, as the nation prepares for an increasingly ageing population. By 2030, about one in four Singaporeans is expected to be above the age of 65, and approximately 83,000 older persons will be living alone and around 100,000 older persons will have mild disabilities. Creating inclusive living spaces that meet the diverse needs, preferences and aspirations of older persons is, therefore, crucial.

The Centre will leverage robust research capabilities, including urban planning, architecture, social sciences, medicine and engineering, to coordinate and consolidate place-based, ageing-related research, education and resources locally and internationally.

ENgAGE was officially launched on 27 August by Indranee Rajah, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Finance and National Development.

The establishment of ENgAGE was made possible through a generous S$5 million gift from Lee Li-ming, spouse of the late Associate Professor Lee Kip Lin, an architect and professor at NUS, who had devoted many years documenting Singapore's architectural heritage.