

Developing Elderly Care Networks in Vietnam

A Strategic Approach to Aging Population Support

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Vietnam's Elderly Population: By the Numbers

16.5M

Total Elderly

16.5% of population aged 60+

2.6M

Oldest Group

Aged 80 and above

10.3M

Rural Elderly

Living in rural areas

74.7

Life Expectancy

Years average lifespan

Vietnam has entered an aging population phase. The elderly population grew from 9.5 million in 2014 to 16.5 million in 2025, with poverty rates among elderly (3.6% poor, 11.6% near-poor) exceeding national averages.



Diverse Care Needs Across Age Groups

Ages 60-70

Day care at community centers. Focus on physical health, mental wellness, safe living spaces, and family engagement.

Ages 70-80

Half-day and short-term care. Chronic disease management, daily living support, nutritious meals, and social activities.

Ages 80+

Long-term residential care. Medical treatment, rehabilitation, mental health support, and preventive health measures.

Critical Challenges Ahead

→ Rapid Aging

Vietnam will become an aged society by 2036 when 20% of population exceeds 60 years old.

→ System Strain

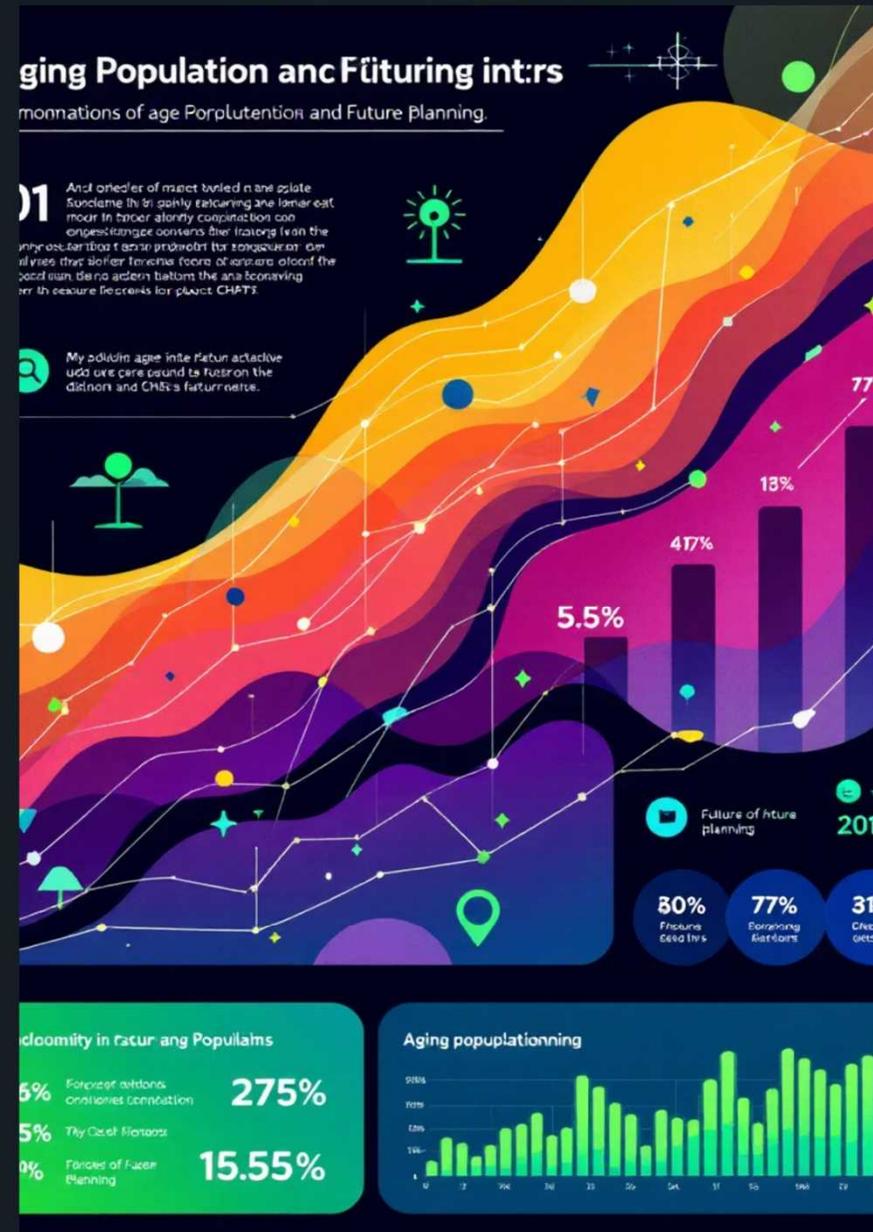
Healthcare, social welfare, and labor systems face unprecedented pressure from growing elderly population.

→ Vulnerable Groups

Poor, single, and isolated elderly risk abandonment and inadequate care without comprehensive strategy.

→ Resource Competition

Increased elderly support strains resources for other vulnerable groups including children and disabled persons.





Current Care Network Infrastructure

Residential Facilities

218 social protection centers care for approximately 10,425 elderly. Services include emergency care, long-term and short-term residential care, health services, and rehabilitation.

Community Models: 6,025 intergenerational self-help clubs established. Approximately 235,000 social workers support elderly access to welfare, healthcare, and rehabilitation services.

Healthcare System

110 geriatric hospitals, 957 clinics with dedicated elderly care units, 10,183 hospital beds, 1,791 trained geriatric staff, and 46,683 community care volunteers.

Major Gaps in Current System

Coverage Crisis

Current facilities serve only 0.5% of elderly needing care. Insufficient public facilities concentrated in major cities with high service fees.

Infrastructure Decline

Facilities are deteriorating with outdated equipment. Limited investment funding fails to meet infrastructure standards and expansion needs.

Workforce Shortage

Social workers and caregivers lack professional training in health care and rehabilitation. Geriatric specialists unevenly distributed across regions.

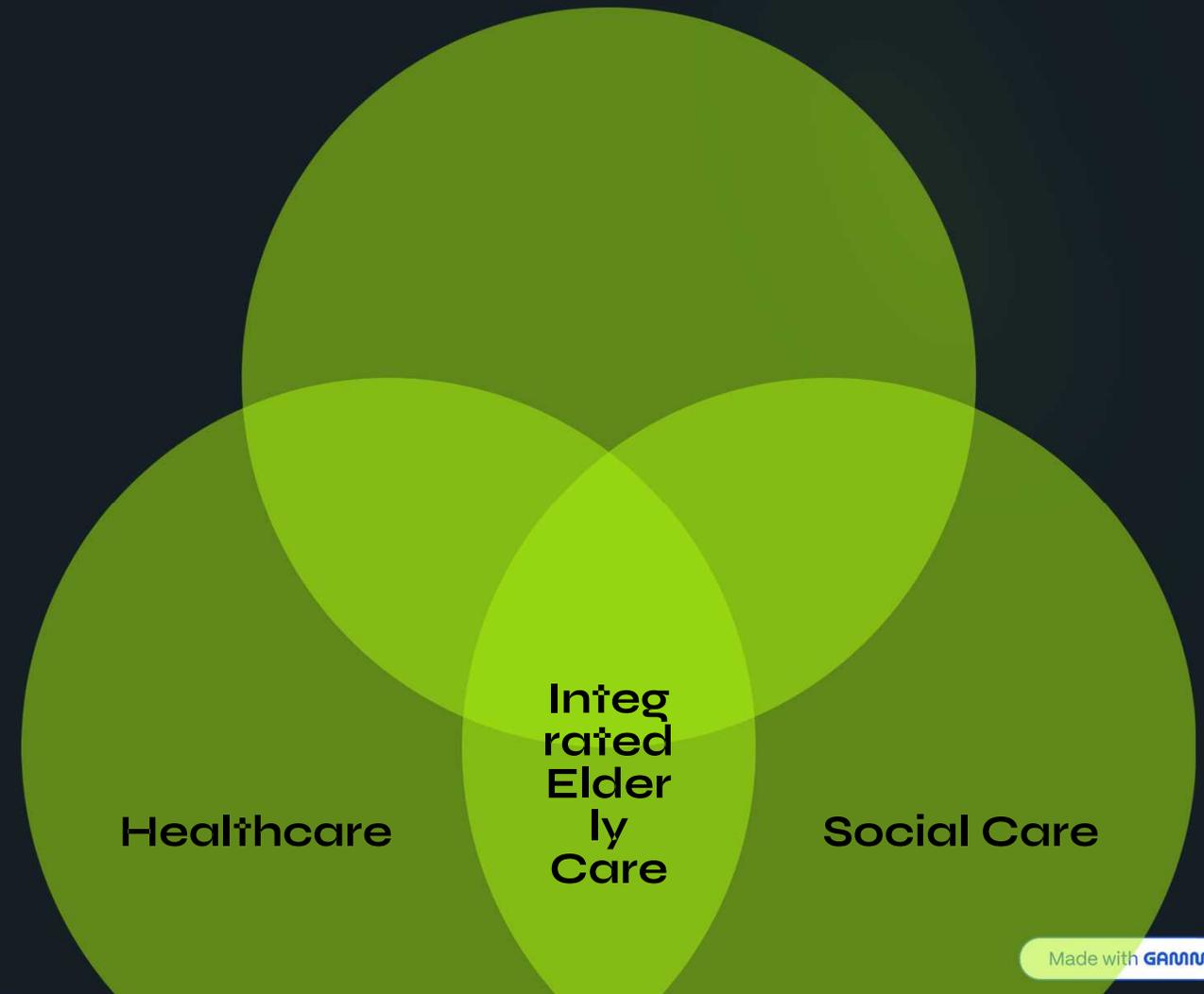
Service Gaps

Limited diversity in care services. Many elderly unaware of available support. Private sector participation remains minimal due to unfavorable policies.





Healthcare and Social Care Integration



Government Policy Achievements

01

Legal Framework

Enacted Law on Elderly, Law on Health Insurance, and National Strategy on Elderly Care through 2035.

02

Social Protection

Reduced eligibility age five times. From July 2025, citizens 75+ without pensions receive monthly social allowance plus free health insurance.

03

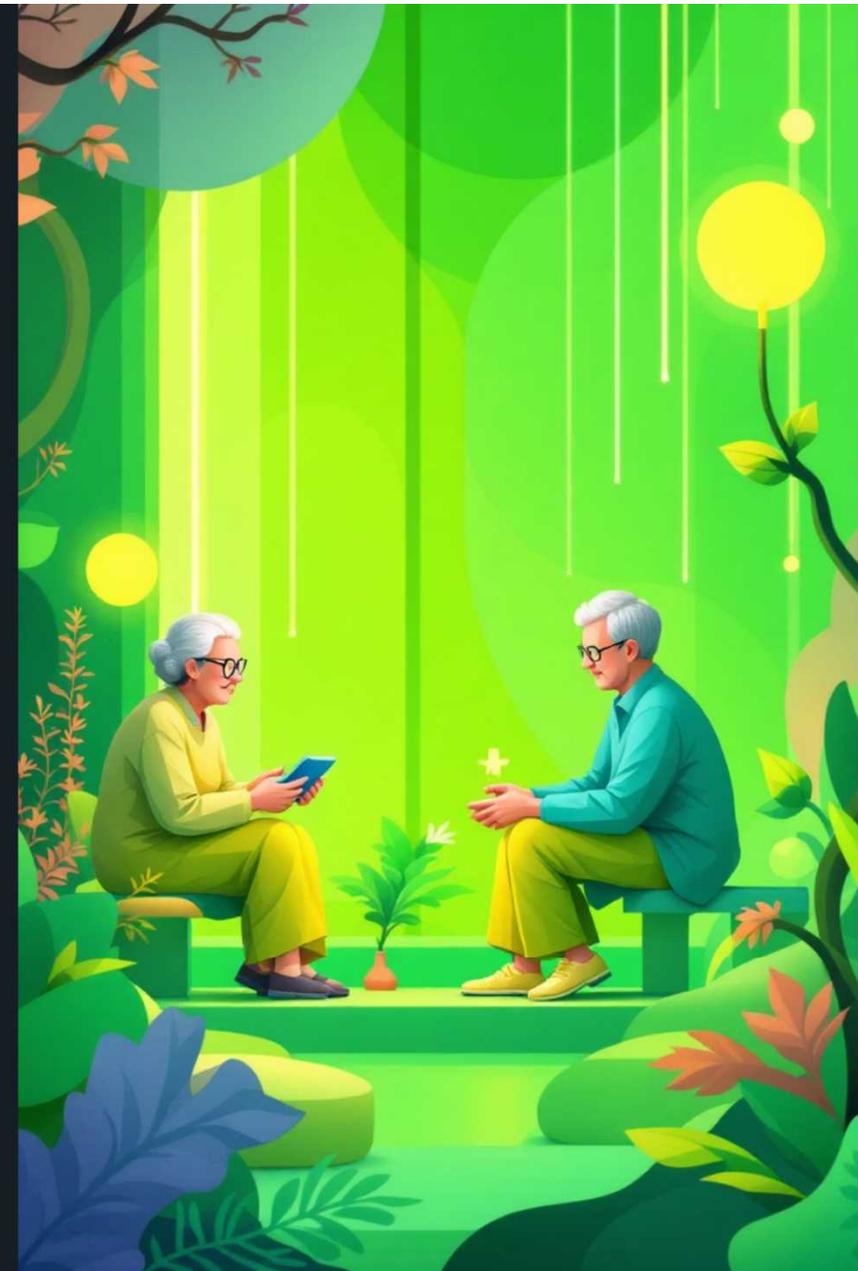
Coverage Expansion

2.5 million elderly receive monthly retirement allowance. Over 15 million have health insurance cards. 80% enrolled in health monitoring programs.

04

Community Models

Established intergenerational self-help clubs and community-based care initiatives to support elderly in their local environments.



Strategic Directions for Development

Infrastructure Investment

Upgrade, expand, and build new facilities nationwide. Develop long-term, short-term, and day-care centers in communities.

Private Sector Engagement

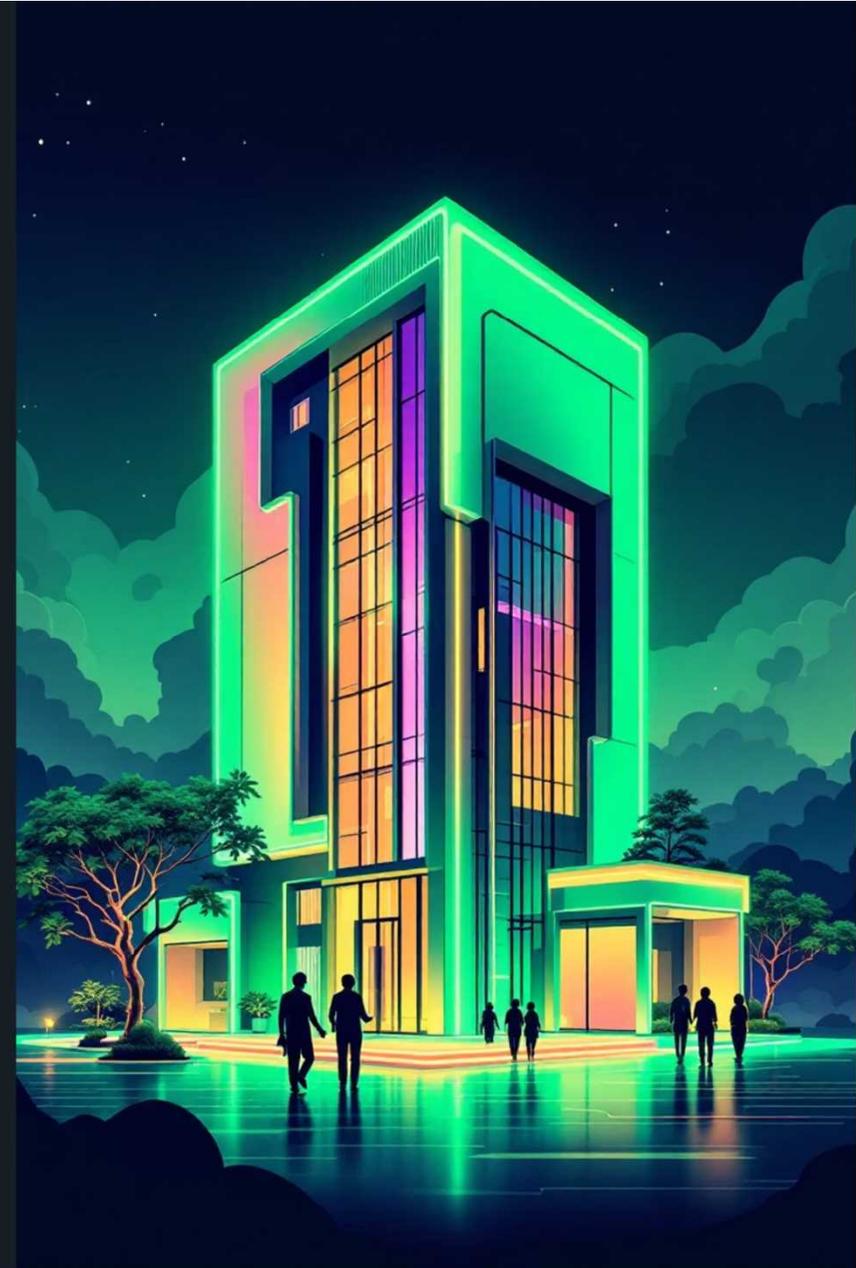
Simplify business procedures and reduce regulations. Allocate land and provide incentives for private investment in elderly care services.

Workforce Development

Expand geriatric specialist training. Strengthen healthcare networks with dedicated elderly care units and geriatric hospitals.

System Integration

Coordinate healthcare and social care systems. Establish clear legal frameworks for seamless data sharing and collaborative care delivery.



Building a Sustainable Future

Vietnam's elderly care network requires comprehensive transformation through strategic investment, policy reform, and integrated service delivery. Success depends on coordinated efforts across government, private sector, and communities.

Infrastructure

Expand facilities nationwide with modern standards



Workforce

Train professional caregivers and specialists



Partnership

Engage private sector and communities



Quality Care

Deliver comprehensive, integrated services

