



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

a contribution to the
**Decade
of healthy
ageing**



SECOND
WORLD SUMMIT
FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
DOHA 2025

Commission for Social Development Sixty-fourth session

Side Event

Future-Ready Care Pathways for Later Life: Housing, Financial Well-Being and Smarter Support Solutions

Tuesday, 3 February 2026, 1:15 – 2:30pm
Conference Room 12 (tbc)

Introduction

The [Commission for Social Development \(CSocD\)](#) is the principal intergovernmental body of the United Nations mandated to advise the General Assembly on social development policy. At its sixty-fourth session in 2026, the Commission will consider the emerging issue **Eradicating poverty and ensuring dignity through resilient care and support systems**. This side event contributes to that discussion by examining practical approaches to housing, financial well-being and support in later life, with relevance to diverse national contexts.

The sixty-fourth session of the Commission is scheduled to take place from 2 to 10 February 2026 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Background

People today are living longer than at any other time in history, and more of us will spend many years in older age. Yet the experience of later life varies widely. Some older persons live in safe homes, participate in their communities, and have access to support when they need it. Others face major barriers such as limited housing options, financial insecurity or a lack of care and support that allows them to live well.

Over the past two decades governments have recognized the importance of creating environments where people can age with dignity, choice and belonging. The [Madrid Plan of Action](#), helped set this direction by emphasizing the well-being, participation and human rights of older persons. More recently the [Doha Political Declaration](#), adopted at the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#), reaffirmed the General Assembly's global drive for social progress and development. It highlights priorities such as responding to demographic shifts, including population ageing, and their implications for social integration, including through social policies adapted to all people at all ages, particularly older persons and youth.

Despite these commitments, gaps remain across different contexts. In many settings, families carry much of the caregiving responsibility without sufficient backup, training or financial support. In others, formal paid care plays a larger role, yet services may still be difficult to access, uneven in quality or unaffordable. Across both settings, many older persons also provide essential care and support within their households and communities, underscoring that this is not only an issue of later life but one that affects people throughout their life course. When appropriate support is lacking, people may face heightened risks of isolation, health challenges or financial strain. By contrast, when housing is accessible, when people are financially prepared for longer lives, and when affordable support is available, individuals are better able to stay active, sustain social connections and participate fully in their communities.

Objective

The objective of this side event is to explore how housing, financial well-being and adequate care and support systems can be better aligned to enable people to live with dignity, security and choice in later life. Drawing on policy experience and practice from different contexts, the discussion will examine how these interconnected areas can reinforce one another to reduce poverty risks, support family members and caregivers, and strengthen resilient care pathways across the life course. In doing so, the event aims to contribute practical insights to the deliberations of the Commission for Social Development on translating global commitments, including those reflected in the Madrid Plan of Action and the Doha Political Declaration, into people-centred approaches that respond to population ageing and extended longevity.

Provisional Agenda

Welcome remarks	H.E. Abdulaziz Alwasil , Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations in New York, and Chair of the Group of Friends on Ageing and Sustainable Development <i>(to be invited)</i>
Panel: Policy-Practice Dialogue	
	Peeter Wesik, Chair, Wesgroup <i>Sharing a business perspective grounded in lived experience, Peeter Wesik will showcase the River District, 130 acre development in Vancouver, illustrating how a community approach to housing development can serve to act as powerful levers to support the well-being and quality of life.</i>
	Ana Mahoney, Founder & CEO, Addition Wealth <i>Focusing on financial well-being as a foundation for dignity and security, Ana Mahoney will highlight how accessible and inclusive financial guidance helps people prepare for longer lives, navigate housing and care costs, and reduce poverty risks in older age, underscoring financial preparedness as a critical complement to resilient care and support pathways.</i>
	Himanshu Rath, Founder & CEO, AgeWell Foundation <i>Bringing a community-based lens grounded in lived realities of ageing in low- and middle-income settings, Himanshu Rath will draw on AgeWell's experience in India and highlight how locally anchored, intergenerational and volunteer-driven approaches can strengthen care and support for older persons, reduce isolation and extend the reach of services, particularly for those most at risk, within resource-constrained contexts.</i>

Shainoor Khoja, Founder & CEO, Thriving.ai

Drawing on decades of experience in fragile and conflict affected settings, Shainoor Khoja will illustrate how technology, community driven models and cross sector partnerships through Thriving.ai, AKA Partners and Connected Communities are reshaping care pathways for older persons. She will highlight how integrated digital health, connectivity and community mobilisation can expand access, improve quality and strengthen resilience. Her core message is that healthy ageing requires an ecosystem approach linking health, social support, livelihoods and community infrastructure, particularly in fragile contexts.

Hafsa Qadeer, CEO, ImInclusive

Building on community and service-delivery perspectives, Hafsa Qadeer will bring a disability-focused lens to the discussion and highlight how inclusive workforce practices and accessible environments can strengthen care and support pathways, ensuring that older persons and persons with disabilities are not left behind.

Moderated by:

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Closing remarks xxx