

## **Project Title: Social Integration of Older Adults in Cross-border Ageing from Hong Kong to Mainland China**

### **Abstract**

This project addresses the growing need for effective elder care solutions within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area by focusing on the cross-border ageing experience of older Hong Kong residents relocating to Mainland China. Despite various cross-border welfare policies, challenges remain in ensuring older individuals' seamless integration into new environments, with many facing issues related to unfamiliarity with elder care systems, challenges associated with socio-cultural adaptation, limited family and social support, and increasingly complex medical and care expenses.

This project aims to promote the social integration of older adults who are interested in relocating or relocated to Mainland China by uncovering the challenges faced by them, using a combination of sociological and geographic methodologies, including surveys, interviews, and tracking analysis. By examining both the macro-level factors and individual characteristics shaping the relocation experience of this group of older adults, this project will construct an assessment tool for testing the level of social integration and examine social integration issues faced by Hong Kong older adults in Mainland China to identify key planning strategies and policies after testing the solutions and services, suitable for wider cross-border ageing from Hong Kong to Mainland China. The project will document and present personal stories, relevant policies (both Hong Kong and GBA), resources mapping, case studies, and findings in the form of zines/ small magazines and online open-access resources for the general public. To build the capacity of stakeholders in relevant industries, the methods, assessment framework and procedures, and findings will be disseminated through professional seminars and as open-access resources and booklets. This project can provide older individuals with insights and resources into living conditions in Mainland China, reducing barriers and clarifying misconceptions surrounding cross-border eldercare, while also offering government agencies a data-supported tool and platform to enhance policy implementation and resource and service allocations.