Stakeholder network analysis of the WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

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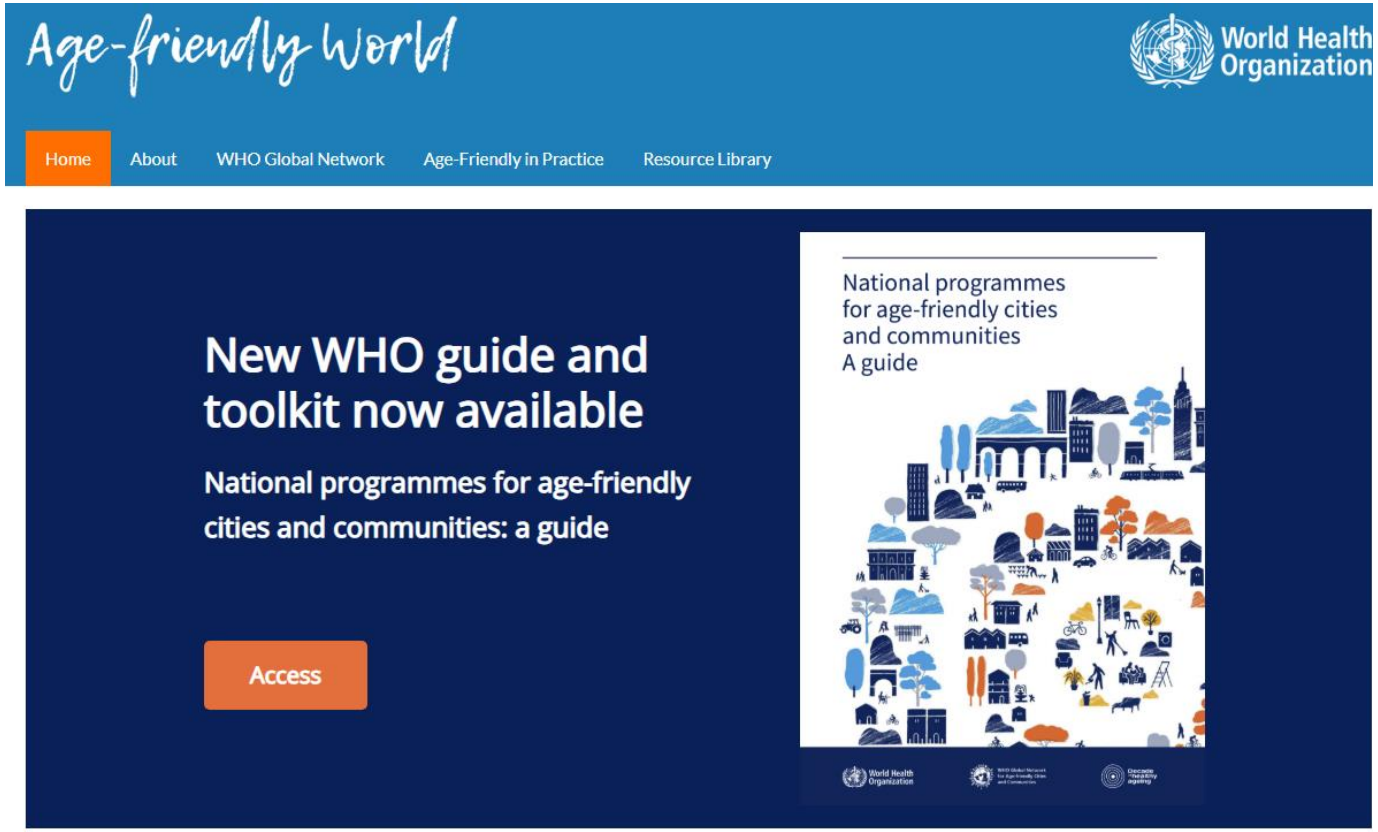
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

COMPLEX SYSTEMS AND NETWORK SCIENCE FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

A WHO COLLABORATING CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING

WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/



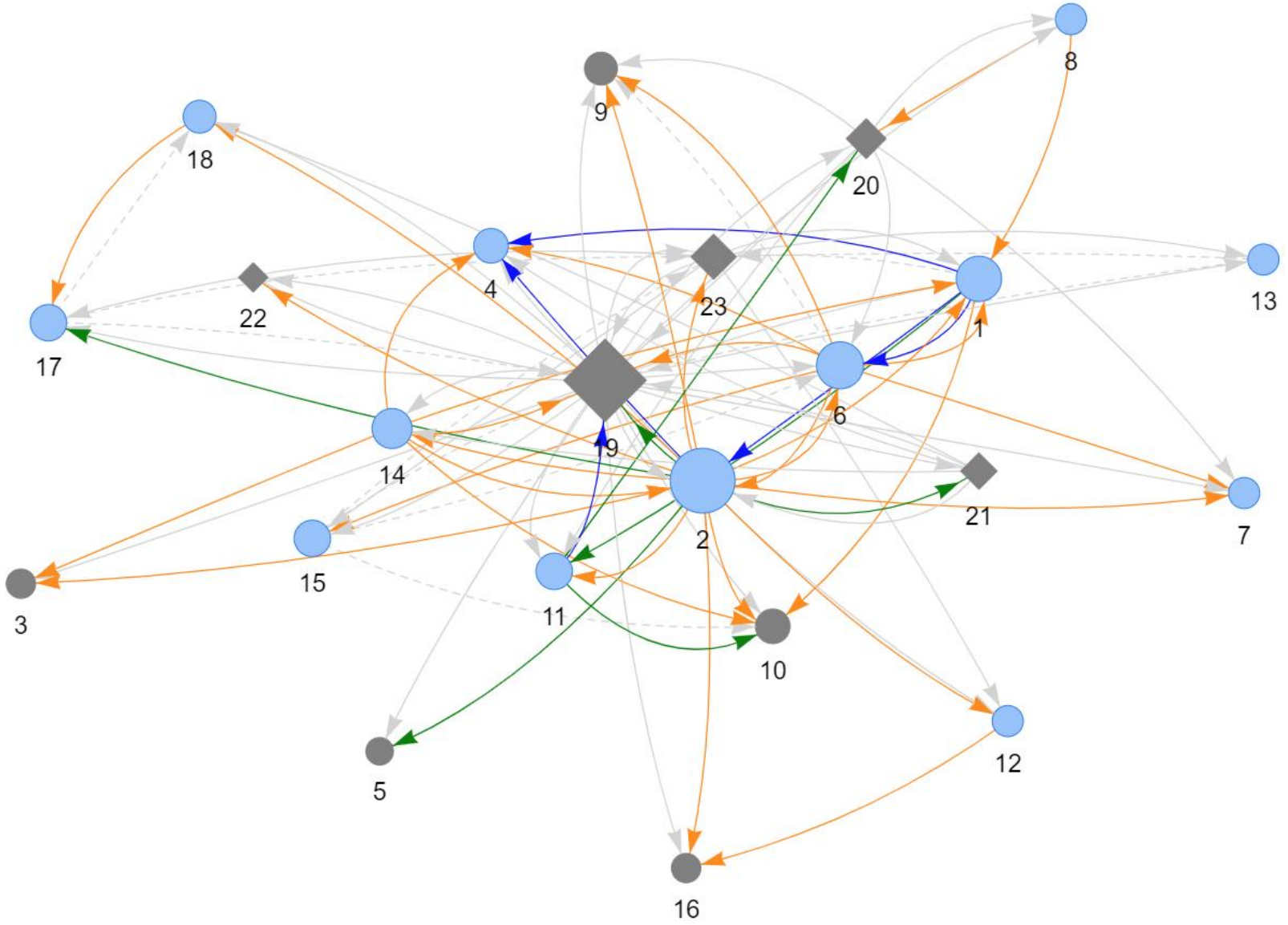
Purpose

- To map and analyse the WHO GNAFCC Members and Affiliates network characteristics

- Commissioned by WHO to inform GNAFCC expansion and strengthening

Methods

- Online survey questionnaire using Stakeholder.Net
  - Reasons for being part of the GNAFCC
  - Barriers to engage with other GNAFCC Affiliates
  - Nomination of Affiliates with whom they engaged in the past year, including purpose and level of engagement
- Data collected in September and October 2022
- Network analysis



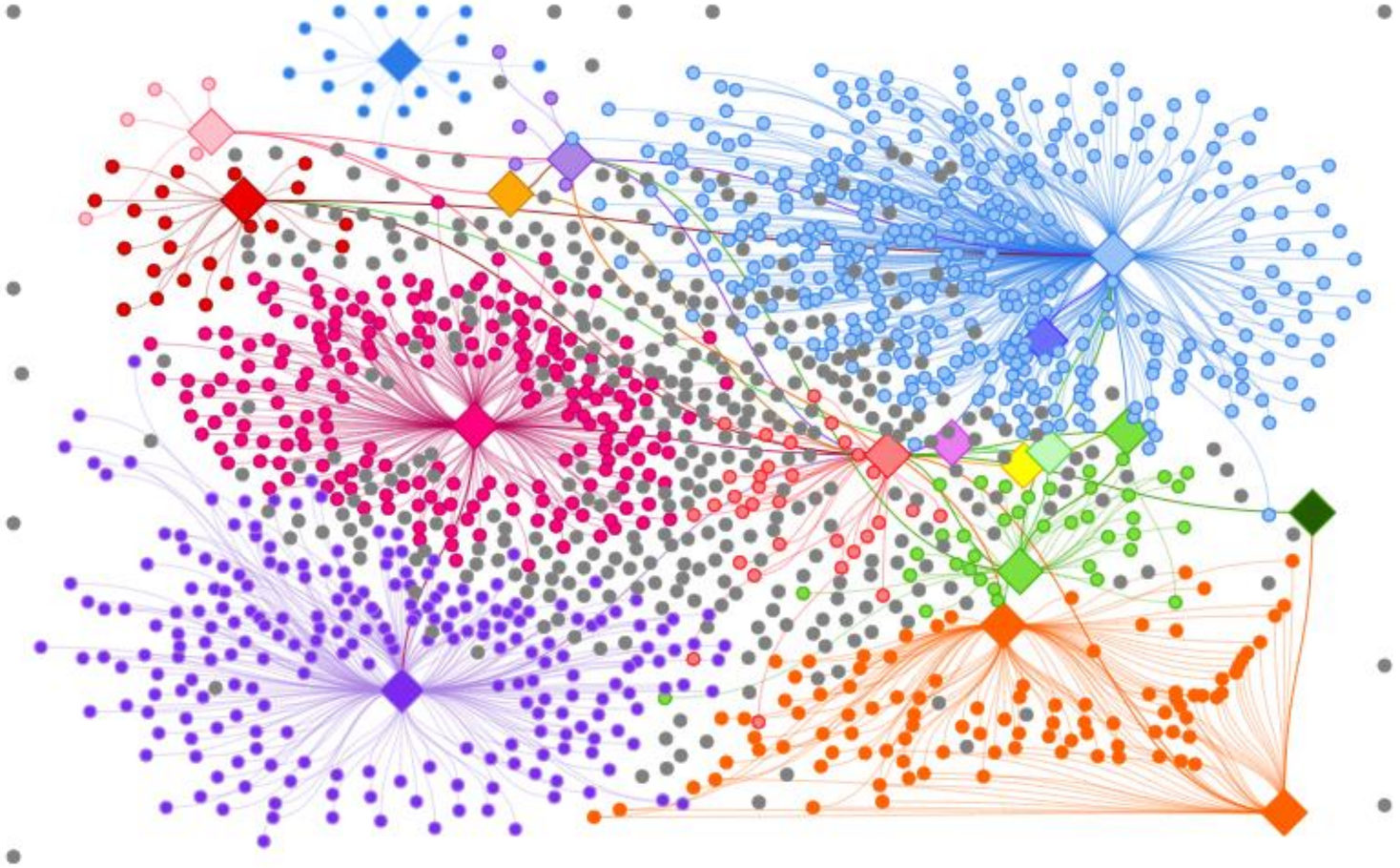
Blue nodes: Affiliates that responded the survey. **Grey nodes:** Affiliates (and WHO Offices) that did not respond the survey but were nominated by respondents. **Diamonds:** WHO Offices. **Arrows:** orange – communication only; blue – share resources; green – joint programming; light grey – joint programming (reported by WHO Offices); dashed light grey – type of collaboration not informed.

Size of node scales with the number of total (incoming + outgoing) connections.

Key results and findings

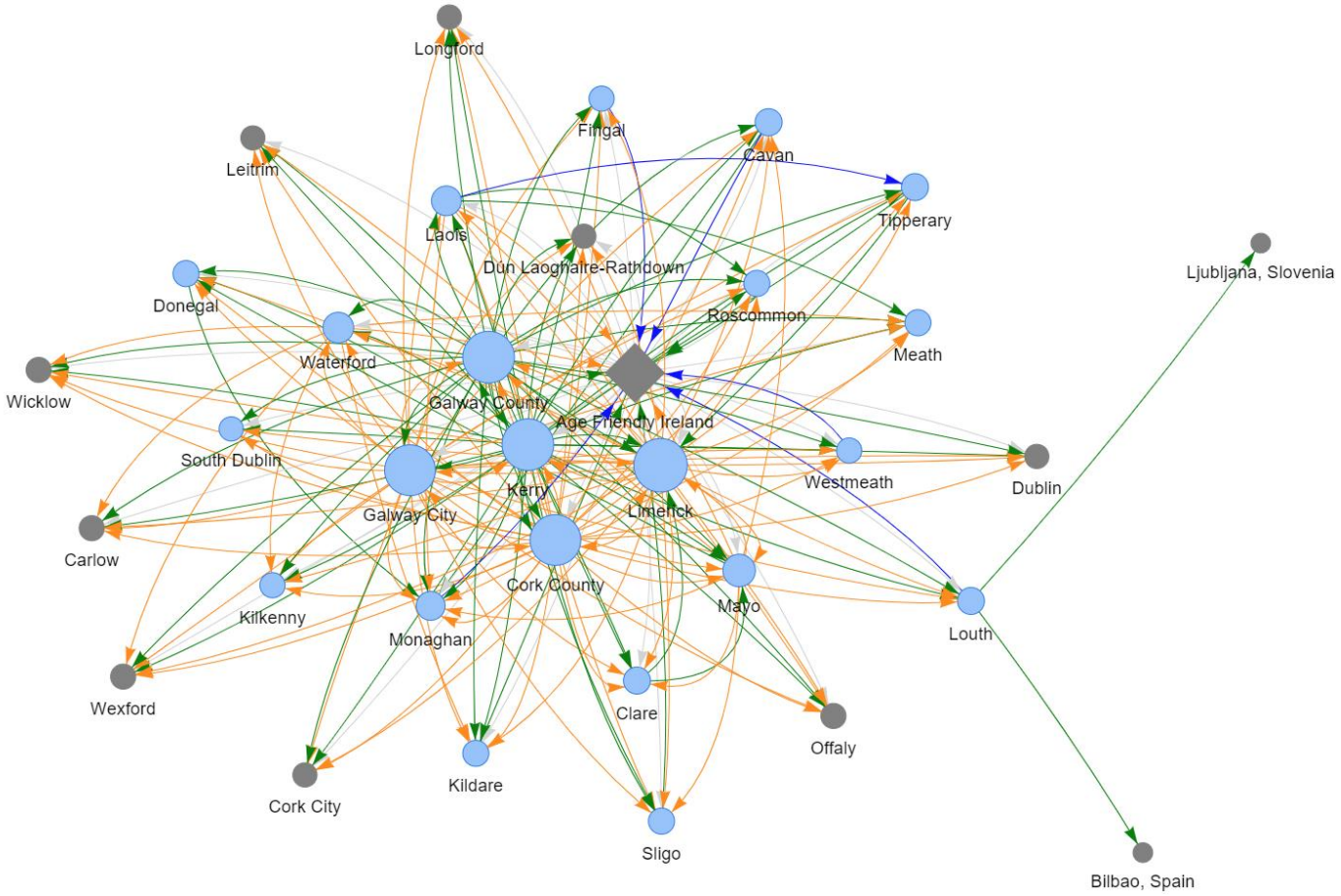
- 13/18 (72%) of Affiliates responded the survey
- 54 connections reported (94 if including those originating from WHO offices)
  - 7 for joint programming, 5 for sharing resources, and 31 for communication only (purpose not reported for 11 connections)
- The statistics show that the WHO GNAFCC Affiliates network is “healthy”: good density of connections, several groups of three or more Affiliates connected, and at least 50% of reciprocity
- Some asymmetry between those who want to be inspired (12/13) and inspire (8/13)
- Main barriers to be part of the WHO GNAFCC are lack of time (10/13) and of human resources or technical capacity (6/13)

Network of WHO GNAFCC members



Dots represent GNAFCC members and diamonds GNAFCC affiliates. Each community (i.e., affiliate and its members) is represented by a unique colour. Affiliates with members in common (e.g. a national and a subnational programme) form one community and are indicated in the same colour. Grey dots represent members not linked to any affiliate. Connections among members and names were omitted to facilitate visualization.

Age Friendly Ireland Network



Blue nodes: AFI members that responded the survey. **Grey nodes:** AFI members (except for Bilbao and Ljubljana) that did not respond the survey but were nominated by respondents. **Diamond:** AFI Programme.
Arrows: orange – communication only; blue – share resources; green – joint programming; light grey – joint programming (reported by the AFI Programme).
Size of node scales with the number of total (incoming + outgoing) connections.

WHO GNAFCC guide and toolkit

https://www.who.int/teams/social-determinants-of-health/demographic-change-and-healthy-ageing/age-friendly-environments/national-programmes-afcc

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19 APRIL 2023

National programmes for age-friendly cities and communities: a guide

Developing age-friendly cities and communities (AFCC) is a proven way to create more age-friendly environments – for everyone. This guide provides direction to national authorities and stakeholders responsible for or involved in forming or sustaining national programmes for AFCC.

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Toolkit

The WHO guide to developing national programmes for age-friendly cities and communities is supported by a continuously updated toolkit to help you put the guide to action. Whether you are looking to sustain a national programme on age-friendly cities and communities or to advocate for such a programme, we are here to support you on your age-friendly journey.

You can access the individual components of the toolkit on this hub, or request for a link to download the toolkit as a full package. To download the toolkit package, please tell us a little bit about yourself and what you aim to do using the button below. We will use the information to tailor our support to best meet your needs.

Access the full toolkit

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