

## Sociocultural inclusion of elder persons in public space, case of Khemisti garden and floral garden, in Algiers, ALGERIA.\*



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**Abstract:** Sociocultural inclusion is a fundamental principle for sustainable and equitable urban development, aiming to ensure the participation of everyone in urban life regardless of age, origin, or status. Despite advances in urban planning, the meaningful inclusion of older people in public spaces remains a significant challenge. Due to reduced mobility and physical and social barriers, older people are often marginalized, limiting their access to services and social interaction. Public spaces play a vital role in promoting the integration of older people into urban life by offering accessible spaces for socialization, leisure activities, and inter-community connection. By fostering gatherings, civic engagement, and supporting physical and mental well-being, these spaces contribute to strengthening the social fabric and building an inclusive society for people of all ages. This study aims to provide answers to the issue of older people's participation in public spaces. Based on field studies of the Khemisti garden and flower garden in central Algiers, the study seeks to understand the elements that enable better inclusion of older people. An activity map based on field observations of activities and practices carried out by older people in this area has been prepared, and the results obtained have been used to understand the limitations faced by this age group. In response to these observations, various suggestions have been made to improve the participation of older people in public spaces. These suggestions include the application of universal design principles such as accessibility and comfort for all age groups, as well as the encouragement of intergenerational and social initiatives to strengthen social ties.

**Keywords:** Sociocultural inclusion; Elder persons; public space; Khemisti Garden and floral garden; Algiers; Algeria.

### Cezayir'deki Khemisti Bahçesi ve Çiçek Bahçesi Örneğinde Yaşlı Bireylerin Kamusal Alana Sosyokültürel Katılımı

**Özet:** Sosyokültürel kapsayıcılık, yaş, köken veya durumlarından bağımsız olarak herkesin kentsel yaşama katılımını sağlamayı amaçlayan, sürdürülebilir ve adil kentsel gelişim için temel bir ilkedir. Kentsel planlamadaki ilerlemelere rağmen, yaşlıların kamusal alanlara anlamlı bir şekilde dahil edilmesi hâlâ önemli bir zorluk teşkil etmektedir. Hareket kabiliyetlerinin azalması ve fiziksel ve sosyal engeller nedeniyle yaşlılar sıklıkla marjinalleştirilmekte, bu da hizmetlere erişimlerini ve sosyal etkileşimlerini sınırlamaktadır. Kamusal alanlar, sosyalleşme, boş zaman etkinlikleri ve topluluklar arası bağlantı için erişilebilir mekanlar sunarak yaşlıların kentsel yaşama entegrasyonunu teşvik etmek açısından hayati bir rol oynar. Buluşmaları, sivil katılımı ve fiziksel ve zihinsel refahı destekleyerek bu alanlar, sosyal dokunun güçlendirilmesine ve her yaşta insan için kapsayıcı bir toplumun oluşturulmasına katkıda bulunur. Bu çalışmayla, yaşlıların kamusal alanlara katılımı konusuna yanıtlar sunulması amaçlanmaktadır. Çalışma,

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Cezayir merkezindeki Khemisti bahçesi ve çiçek bahçesi alan çalışmalarına dayanarak, yaşlıların daha iyi bir şekilde dahil edilmesini sağlayan unsurları anlamaya çalışmaktadır. Yaşlıların bu alanda gerçekleştirdikleri faaliyet ve uygulamalara ilişkin saha gözlemlerine dayalı bir faaliyet haritası hazırlanmış, elde edilen sonuçlar ile, bu yaş grubunun karşılaştığı kısıtlamaların anlaşılmasına çalışılmıştır. Bu gözlemlere yanıt olarak, yaşlıların kamusal alanlara katılımını iyileştirmek için çeşitli önerilerde bulunulmuştur. Bu öneriler arasında, her yaş grubu için erişilebilirlik ve konfor gibi evrensel tasarım ilkelerinin uygulanmasının yanı sıra, toplumsal bağları güçlendirmek amacıyla kuşaklar arası ve sosyal girişimlerin teşvik edilmesi yer almaktadır.

**Anahtar kelimeler:** Sosyokültürel katılım; Yaşlılar; kamusal alan; Khemisti Bahçesi ve çiçek bahçesi; Cezayir; Cezayir.

## 1.INTRODUCTION

“The city that does not take older people into account is a city that does not take into account its own history and its future. » [1], Demographic aging is emerging as one of the major societal transformations of the 21st century, revealing a complex but unavoidable challenge for contemporary urban planners. In this context, the inclusion of older people in public spaces and gardens is of crucial importance for the creation of truly sustainable and equitable cities. Across the world, aging citizens face persistent challenges in their quest to actively participate in urban life [2]. Public spaces, often designed without taking into account the specific needs of seniors, become areas where physical, social and cultural inaccessibility is frequently observed.

In Algeria, a country undergoing rapid social and demographic change. According to the National Statistics Office (ONS) newsletter, Algeria counted in 2019, 11 million people aged of 60 years old and over, out of a global population of 43 million inhabitants.

Persons aged of 65 years old and over, presents an annual growth rate of 3.1%. the rate is higher than that of the entire population of the country, which is around 2.5%. the population of this category is concretely present total of 2.684 million people, 1.324 million men and 1.360 million women [3].

The aging of the population poses a crucial question about the way in which public spaces and gardens are designed and used by consequence. The inclusion of older people in these spaces is becoming an essential issue for societies willing honors its elders and aspires to inclusive urbanity [4]. However, gaps remain, requiring critical assessment to better understand the national specificities of this phenomenon.

Older persons, due to various age-related factors such as reduced mobility, health problems and changing needs, may face significant obstacles when interacting with urban space. The design of these spaces must therefore evolve to anticipate and adequately respond to these challenges, in order to create environments where older people can not only survive, but also thrive. Our research and our conceptual framework allowed us to formulate our research question. So, the question we want to answer is:

“How does the design of public spaces take into account the needs of older people and how can we improve urban planning to make it better adapted and more welcoming and functional for this age category? ”.

## 2.METHOD

Inclusion approach focuses on issues related to the accessibility of public spaces. It offers good practices in this area and is currently piloting the “City accessible to all” program [5]. This program aims to help urban stakeholders adopt a global approach to accessibility and take into account the needs of vulnerable users [6]. The applied method is firstly based on direct in site observations: Through an analysis grid, an

observation of approximately 1 hour on a living space. User behaviors are observed (travel, activities, etc.), their profiles (gender, age group, alone or in a group, etc.) but also the characteristics of the place (spatial organization, amenities, etc.).

Sidewalk microphones: Open questions are asked of anonymous users encountered in public spaces. This tool of work consists of following a pedestrian who crosses a space taking exactly the same path as him, in order to study his path and his behavior within the environment and to understand his practices.

Simultaneously space analysis is operated, the layout of public places and spaces provides keys to understanding the issues and responding to the specific needs of each audience (a hearing-impaired person does not have the same needs as an elderly person, for example, in terms of accessibility). Ensuring accessibility for all involves allowing travel as well as information and orientation for everyone in the city and in public places. This approach represents an opportunity to improve the quality of use of public spaces, by promoting movement for all.

The public space observation methodology in destination of older persons, combined with the activity mapping, is a systematic and rigorous process aimed at collecting comprehensive data on interactions with activities held the urban environment. This approach combines direct field observation and activity mapping to provide a holistic understanding of the dynamics of public space.

The methodology is based on a structured observation grid which identifies in advance specific parameters such as physical accessibility, security, condition of the location, use of space, comfort and layout. In addition, the activity mapping method consists of visually mapping the activities of users in general and of elderly people in particular over time and in the different part of public space.

The activity mapping method provides a graphical representation of older adults' movements and activities in space. This approach offers dynamic visualization of behaviors, social interactions and help in identifying preferred activity areas.

Interactions with users, particularly Elder persons, enrich the methodology by providing qualitative insights into their specific experiences and needs. The data collected is analyzed in depth to identify trends, strengths and weaknesses in public space. The temporal and spatial dimensions provided by the activity mapping method are integrated to provide a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of how older persons interact with public space.

### **3. CASE OF STUDY**

In order to evaluate the degree of elder people's inclusion in public spaces activities, the Khemisti and floral garden were taken as case study (figure 1). The Khemisti and the floral clock garden, used to be named the Glières garden during the French colonial period, is divided into 03 distinct parts, developed on a slopping field, the garden starts from a platform at 17 meter above the Mediterranean Sea level to reach the quote at 54 meter above the sea level. The configuration of the garden looks like an open-air theater open to the sea. The garden on the north-west limit is bordered by Colonel Amirouche boulevard (figure 2), at the south-east edge, is delimited by Cherif Saadan street (figure 2), the boulevard Mohamed Khemisti surround the garden from the east and west sides (figure 2). The immediate built environment of the garden is typically Haussmanian French style, where the ground floor of the building is reserved for commerce, the upper levels for housing, at the east side of the garden the large post office building momentarily take place, in lower part we found Sofia Park. The garden is crossed by the two avenues, to know avenue Pasteur (figure 2), and avenue el Khettabi Physical attributes of garden A, situated between 17-meter altitude to 24 meters:

Close to the garden A we found a metro station (Tafourah-grande poste). The garden is accessible through 5 entrances concretely materialized by 7 crosswalks. On the sidewalk, there are two signs where the name of the garden is mentioned. In terms of urban furniture, the garden is equipped with 50 benches which can hold two to three persons, made of concrete and marble, near each grouping area we found hanging trash cans. In the first platform of this garden, there is a 10-meter diameter water large pool, in the third, there are rectangular pools with smaller dimensions. In the lower part of the garden there is a status of a footballer surrounded by water pools.

A small kiosk selling tobacco and newspapers take place on the south-eastern corner of the garden, a cafeteria and fast-food kiosk with a small table space are as well located in the garden. The vegetal covert of the garden is dominated by palm trees and Ficus retusa trees.

Physical attributes of garden B, situated between 24m altitude to 39 meters:

Access to metro station (Tafourah-grande poste) are also available from this part of the garden. 6 sidewalks facilitate the access to the garden which is materialized by 4 entrances. On the sidewalk on the northeast side there is a large advertising panel, and on the northwest side there are two tobacco sales kiosks. Inside the garden we notice that the garden is subdivided into two sub-spaces, one dedicated to the stairs leading to the underground gallery and the other one is dedicated for vegetation and rest.

In term of urban furniture, the garden has only 2 benches integrated into the central vegetation zone, we can see the treatment of the edges of the other vegetation zones. For water features, there is a water fountain with a diameter of 06 meter. This part of the garden is richer than the previous one in term of vegetation, Ficus trees form a vegetal cap, palm trees harmoniously adhere to the landscape silhouette, shrubs and plants draw and trace the limit of the garden.

Physical attributes of garden C, formally named the floral clock garden situated between 39-meter altitude to 48 meter above sea level:

The garden of the floral clock is built on a slope, it is fenced by bars, only accessible by two gate one from Pasteur Avenue the other gate on the upper part on the doctor Cherif Saadane street, on the west and east sides the garden is delimited by outstanding urban stairs. Near the garden on the sidewalk, there are both a stop for taxis buses. On the same sidewalk, there is a single wooden bench, a sign bearing the name of the garden, and two tobacco kiosks.

Inside the garden, we notice a total absence of urban furniture. Installation of a floral clock at the entrance to the garden surrounded by ramps, there is also a decorative arrangement, then a dominant monument take place just after 04 steps. This garden is also rich in terms of vegetation; the dominant type of trees is palm trees and shrubs and Ficus trees.



Figure 1. Situation of Khemisti garden



Figure 2. Map of Khemisti and floral clock Garden

### Chronomorphological Development of Khemisti Garden

In the period from 1841 to 1850, the city of Algiers was under an operation of construction of a new enclosure by gates among them, Isly gate was built on the land of the actual large post office, in 1860 with two porticos decorated with columns and crowned with entablatures, thirty years later the isly gate was demolished in 1897.

The current land of the Khemisti garden and its surroundings was called park of Isly or sometimes the square of Isly, it was a place of rest and family entertainment, with shades with balsamic smells, it was also a place for meetings, games and walks. In depth, the garden went as far as rue Barthezène (actually rue Dr. Saadan), after which it was a jumble of thick vegetation: various trees, thick bushes which climbed the slope to stop at Telemly. A setback wooden fence separated the park from a wide sidewalk lined with trees and benches where old ladies, peaceful retirees, came to rest and share things.

In the early 1900s, Isly Park suffered destruction, where a new village was established, the start of Boulevard Laferrière, with the gardens of Square La Ferrière (figure 3). Their declassification was carried out in two stages: the land in the lower part was the first to be released, those in the upper part were released in the 1920's [7].

In 1919, the upper part of the garden (currently the floral clock) was equipped with a stele called "the Guynemer stele", in honor of Guynemer, a French pilot who died during the Second World War.

In 1928, the Guy Nemer stele was replaced by the statute (the grand Pavois), a monument sculpted by Paul Landowski (the sculptor of the Chris statute in Rio de Janeiro) to commemorate the 10,000 Algerian soldiers who died for France during the 1st world War (Figure 4).

In 1978, on the eve of the African Games, M'hamed Issiakhem was asked to revamp this stele recalling the French colonial period. The famous plastic I artist locked the Pavois in a concrete sarcophagus. He adorns the facade of this monument with a sculpture: two raised fists, breaking the chains of the colonial yoke.

The garden was always the central place of urban dynamic, the flood of thousands of citizens passes by every day, the strategic situation that occupy the garden, between Amir Abdelkader neighborhood (used to be named Isly neighborhood during the colonial period) and Maurice Audin neighborhood, lets him to be an excellent indicator for Algerian society transformation. In the late of 80's, in 1988 the place was the scene of civil protest, in the 90's the garden received many works of rehabilitation in context of city beautification works, in 31 October 2011, Algiers first metro line was inaugurated covering a distance of 9.5 km between Hai El Badr and Tafforah la grande poste close to the garden.



*Figure 3. les Glières garden (Khemisti actually) In 1900 [8]*



*Figure 4. Guy Nemer square (Khemisti actually) in 1928 [8]*

#### **4.RESULTS**

The result of the observation table for the second part of the garden (from 24m altitude to 39 meter) indicates that: In terms of accessibility, this part of the garden has an advantage regarding the pedestrian crossings that surround it, which guarantees safe and comfortable access to the garden. The garden in his flat part with presence of plantation and trees and urban furniture attract more the older person, the other part of the garden is occupied by steps to access to the underground galleries remains an untransmissible area for older person, here we understand that the topography of the land is an essential criterion to ease older person accessibility.

The visual appearance of the garden may be qualified as an efficient and relatively well adapted to elderly people needs. The presence of luminous elements such as street lamps. The presence of a medium-sized water fountain, the nature and diversity of plantation, trees, palm trees and shrubs, Plus, the presence of pigeons over the entire surface of the space offers a climate of tranquility for elder people. In this part of the garden, we noticed the lacks maintenance in many ways, especially in terms of floor paving, which can represent a serious danger for elders, also in relation to the pollution of the water fountain. We noticed as well a good maintenance of trees and plantation.

The signage at garden level is almost inexistent (the absence of indicators), this made elderly person feel lost in the space by consequence leads to a feeling of insecurity. Therefor the use of space is poorly thought out to meet the of the elderly. We note that the activities offered by the garden for this age group are limited to relaxation, discussion and walking. Activities intended for older adults are poorly implemented; there is a lack of comfortable benches which are suitable for this age group (figure 5). There is even a lack of provision for normal benches. This part of the garden offers an average level of comfort; it is justified by the absence of elements which guarantee the physical comfort of the elderly. However, thermal comfort is guaranteed by the shade generated by the planted trees.

The following table is elaborated in context of activities observation grid, and obtained information serve to establish a significant preliminary diagnosis about the inclusion of older person in the garden case of study, for this purpose parameter assessment was arrested.

Table 1. Evaluation grid according to socio-cultural inclusion criteria

Parameter	Criteria	Indicator	Configuration	Accessibilty for elder Person	VG	G	M	W	Ast
Accessibility	Orientation and signage	Direction signs	Sign close to the garden, (place de la grande poste).	Medium size text, color contrast (black and white)				x	
		GPS location	availability of routes via GPS		x				
		Visual guides	The vegetation and la grande poste, the port			x			
	Accessibility to transport	Accessibility to transport station	Underground station (Tafourah, grande poste)	Presence of pedestrian crossing near the metro stations. (figure 5)		x			
		Ground signage	Signage for pedestrian crossing				x		
	Exterior pedestrian crossing	The signage	Information panel	Presence of 7 pedestrian crosswalk	x				
		Presence of speed bumps	/						x
	Accessibility to space	Presence of access ramps	/	no consideration for people with reduced mobility (presence of steps)					x
	proximity to public facilities	Commerce	Commerce located at the ground floor of buildings	Easy access for elder person, distance doesn't exceed 20 meters	x				
		Sanitary equipment	blood analysis laboratory				x		
Administrative equipement		- Algérie ferries, la grande poste			x				
Aesthetic	Artificial appeal elements	Light elements	advertising board, lamp post of different shapes.	/ /	x				
		Presence of water	large pool of water 10-meter diameter, small pools 6-meter diameter		x				
	Natural appeal elements	The vegetation	Palm trees, ficus, shrubs		x				
		Bird feeding area	Located in the garden at 24 meter level					x	

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Site status	Landscape maintenance	General aspect	good maintenance of trees (pruned)	/	x				
		Maintenance of installations	dirty water pool				x		
	Maintenance of facilities	Condition of floor covering	deteriorated		Presence of tactile devices near the steps		x		
		Waste management	trash cans		installation of trash cans near benches		x		
		State of benches	/	/	/		x		
Topography	Ramp	présence of 3 urban platform		Absence of access ramps				x	
Signage	Visible signage	Ground signage	Signage for pedestrian crossing		Medium size text, color contrast (white and red)			x	
		Information signage	road signs (traffic lights and signs)			x			
		Pictograms	/					x	
Land use and operated activities	Passive recreation	relax	Relaxation and rest area	Accessible for the elderly			x		
		Discussion	Grouping space				x		
		Contemplation of nature	Landscaping			x			
	Active recreation	reading	Relaxation area	Participation of seniors in activities (reading, walking, consuming)			x		
		walking	Moving inside the garden			x			
		participation in temporary events	Cultural event				x		
		playing	Inside the garden					x	
Consumption	Restauration				x				
Activities materialization [9]	Furniture and fittings for passive recreation.	Benches and seats	Benches made of concrete and marble	Arrangement of benches in different points in space		x			
		Benches with armrests	/						x
		Number of seats	Around a hundred seats			x			
	Furniture and fittings for active recreation.	Games areas and tables	/	/					x
		Performance spaces	Arrangements of stands on the sidewalk				x		
		Street libraries	/						x
		Kiosks	Two kiosks (tobacco and fast food)			x			
Layout and comfort	Physical comfort	Public toilets	/						x
		Access ramps and handrails	/						x
		Ergonomic benches	/						x
	Visual comfort	Presence of vegetation	planting the space with different plants and trees			x			
		La pollution	Uncleanliness of some part the garden, and					x	

			water pool						
		Environnement	view of the port, contemplation of architecture			x			
	Thermal comfort	Sunshine	Presence of sunny and shaded areas thanks to vegetation		x				
		Shaded areas				x			
	Acoustic comfort	Noise	Traffic					x	
<b>Security</b>	Lighting	Spot Lightning	Presence of street lamps arranged in a uniform way [10]		x				
		diffuse Lightning				x			
		Spot on the ground				x			
	Natural monitoring	intense shadow area	/			x			
		Clear visibility			x				
		visual obstacles						x	
	Surveillance system	cameras	/						x
		Security personnel							x
		Alarm system							x
<b>Results</b>				<b>12</b>				<b>-12</b>	

Activity mapping:

After having achieved the observation assessment and producing evaluation tables, we pass to another stage of urban activities assessment, the operated work carried out in the space, consist on reporting and materializing activities held in group or individually, and specifying its nature and location exactly on the space. So the activity mapping process was operated on Saturday 11/25/2023 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., a sunny day 20°C. The results of this observation are synthesized in a map to better identify and understand each type of activity practiced by older persons. (figure 5)

On-site following to the observations on the garden A situated at 17-meter altitude, the results reveal that only 15.5% of the people present in the garden are elders. Among the 11 elder persons present in the first garden, 72.73% of them are resting and chatting (passive recreation), and 27.27% are sitting and reading (active recreation). Among the 11 elderly people observed, 5 of them are sitting alone (individual activity) (figure 6) and the others are grouped together (figure 7). the elders observed prefer sitting in sunny areas in front of water pools. Some of them prefer sit on the sidewalks at the limit of the garden.

The second garden situated at 24-meter altitude, the results reveal that 29.8% of the people present in the garden are elders. The rate is properly represented by 14 elderly person, all of them were resting and chatting which means that 100% of them are classified as passive recreation. The elders observed prefer have a rest in shaded areas facing the water fountain and sitting on the edges of the planting areas. The transition between the two situations photographed from a pedestrian's point of view reveals a co-variation of light, sound, temperature, and also kinetic factors.

Observations on site of the third garden situated at 39-meter altitude, that of the flower clock, reveal that this garden none of elder person were present in place and this is because of the land topography and the number of steps inside the garden.



*Figure 5. Activities mapping illustration*

## 5. DISCUSSION

The crossing process between the evaluation grid of the 03 parts of the garden and their respective mapping activities allow us to understand why and how and which one stands out or responds more to the needs of the elderly in terms of accessibility, layout, security, comfort... According to the cross-result between the evaluation grid and field observation we see that the second part of the public space is the most frequented by this age group and this is thanks to:

- accessibility: despite the sloping topography, this space does not have steps to access it (presence of ramps).
- natural potential: Shaded areas, water spaces, and vegetation, these elements contribute to creating an aesthetic environment, offering pleasant rest areas.
- the intimacy of the space: we feel that this part of the garden is characterized by a certain degree of intimacy and comfort, visual, thermal and acoustic comfort due to the presence of grouped trees.

Even if this space remains the most frequented by seniors, the layout of the latter remains limited and insufficient, which results in the lack of normal benches with armrests, the absence of public toilets, games tables, etc.

Analysis of the small square and garden reveals a gap between the space's potential and its actual capacity to comfortably accommodate older adults.

Observed activities demonstrate a certain connection to these spaces, embedded in daily routines and activities. However, this attachment alone is insufficient to guarantee an adequate response to the needs of older adults. While the spaces are indeed used, they are not truly adapted in terms of comfort, accessibility, autonomy, and diversity of use. Older adults' appropriation of public space depends on their personal adaptability rather than on the design itself. Therefore, the presence of older adults in these spaces cannot be equated with genuine functional suitability. Rather, it reveals an available use and existing potential. For these spaces to become truly accessible, it is necessary to go beyond mere landscape quality

or simply high usage, and to offer amenities that support usage, promote independence, and enhance daily comfort.

This includes considering postures and behaviors (sitting, standing, walking slowly, group gatherings).

The proposed recommendations aim to enhance the existing potential of public spaces through targeted interventions, developed based on the findings of the study.

They are structured around four complementary approaches, allowing action at different scales and across different dimensions of the space: The technical approach, which is the priority of the recommendations, encompasses interventions related to accessibility, safety, and user comfort to ensure independent use of the space by older adults.

The landscape approach aims to enhance existing potential in order to strengthen the sense of belonging.

The cultural and sporting approach seeks to diversify activities and encourage social interaction. The urban art approach contributes to the construction of an identity and a certain attachment to space.



*Figure 6. Passive individual recreation*



*Figure 7. Passive group recreation*

## **6.CONCLUSION**

As part of this study on the exclusion of elderly people in public spaces, several observations were noted throughout the work process, in particular through careful observation methods. The analysis of social and spatial dynamics revealed major obstacles to the inclusion of older people in these environments, highlighting significant challenges to promote their full participation in urban life. Based on these findings, several recommendations can be put forward to improve the inclusion of older people in public spaces. Firstly, it is essential to integrate universal design principles into the design of urban infrastructure, ensuring that spaces are accessible, comfortable and suitable for all ages and abilities. Furthermore, particular attention must be paid to the lighting and security of public spaces.

In conclusion, this study explored in depth the problem of the exclusion of elderly people in public spaces, highlighting the multiple challenges that this population faces when participating in the social life of the city. The study demonstrated that inadequate amenities and non-inclusive infrastructure can limit the access and participation of older people, thereby compromising their quality of life.

The research process led to the creation of a reference guide for the design of public spaces specifically intended to meet the needs and concerns of older people. This guide aims to be a practical and innovative tool for urban planners, architects and urban planning managers, offering clear guidelines and recommendations for the design of inclusive, accessible and user-friendly public spaces.

Ultimately, this reference guide represents a significant contribution to the field of urban planning by proposing concrete solutions to mitigate the exclusion of older people in public spaces, thus supporting the overall objective of creating sustainable, accessible and inclusive urban environments for all citizens. It is hoped that this research will serve as a solid foundation for future initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life of older adults within our urban communities.

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