

**NGOs and Older People in the Asia Pacific:  
Getting More Active and Growing Wiser With Age**

**Robert C. Salazar**

*Professor*

*Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University*

*Beppu, Japan*

**Abstract**

The study examined the activities and management of non-government organizations (NGOs) working for and with older people in the Asia-Pacific region. On the basis of interviews with NGO managers and an analysis of secondary data, the review noted an increasing number of NGOs, including senior citizens associations or older people's organizations. NGOs are engaged in diverse areas of service delivery, education, research, training, and advocacy. While some organizations are more focused on specific concerns, activities or groups, others are working simultaneously on several areas, e.g., service delivery and advocacy. In terms of management, NGOs were found to be taking innovative steps in managing their work, e.g., sharing or rotating leadership, making structural adjustments, professionalizing the staff, seeking accreditation, mobilizing support, engaging decision-makers, involving older people in advocacy, fostering multi-sectoral partnerships, and building coalitions.