

Background

The site of my design is located in the Chinese Loess Plateau. Just like other places in the world, this ancient land is facing the problem of aging population. Apart from the common challenges, there are some special characteristics in the area.

Climate:

The China loess Plateau is the biggest loess plateau in the world. It was covered by vegetation until the last millennium. But now, the plateau has been already totally bald. As the result, the people living there are faced with great soil-water erosion and decreased rainfall at the same time.

Urbanization:

Different from the situation in the developed countries, China still has many young labours by now. However, as the process of urbanization is accelerated in China, the youth are gathering in the burgeoning cities for better jobs. As the consequence, the people left in village are almost all the old men who cannot fit in the city-life. Take the Yan'an District for example. There were 1507 natural villages 30 years ago, but now, more than 300 were totally disappeared, while the rest are all the so called *empty nest village*, where the elder live lonely, being abandoned with the long history of the local civilization.

Birth Control Policy:

As the government forces all the citizens to obey the birth control policy, the age structure of Chinese has been extremely awful. We can see that the population of China would decline sharply in the near future. At that time, the society need to be activated, compensating the lost vitality of the youth. While new ways to keep prosper economy are waiting to be raised, as the elder may not be as ample as today.