SEAMEO CENTRES POLICY RESEARCH NETWORK (CPRN) SUMMIT 2025

Building Bridges to a Sustainable Future: Inclusive Collaboration and Innovation in Education, Science, and Culture

SUSTAIN AN AGING NATION: A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION FROM THE UNIVERSITI BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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Introduction

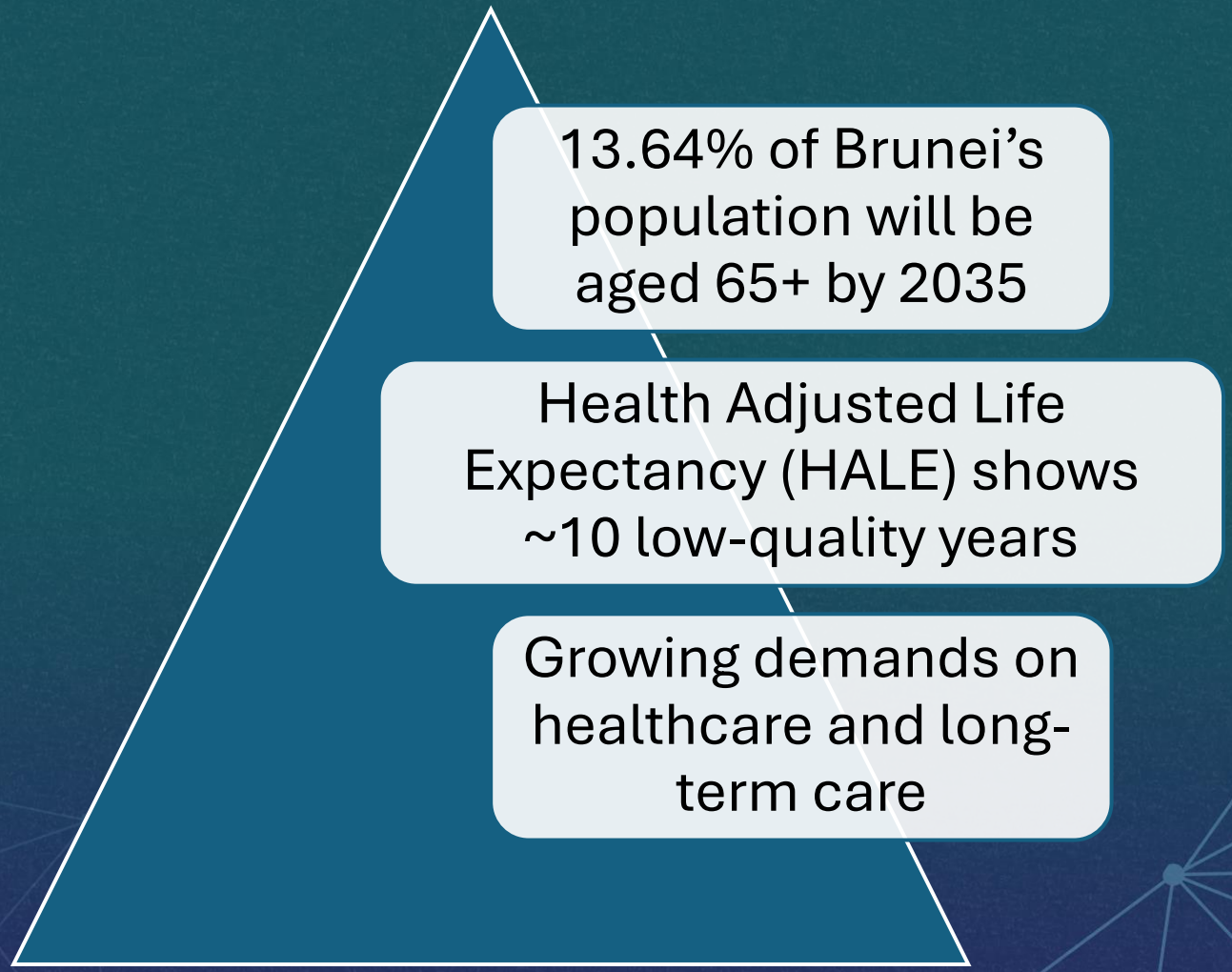
Global and ASEAN aging trends

Brunei's demographic shift

UBD as a National University

- "Aging is not tomorrow's problem-it's today's responsibility."

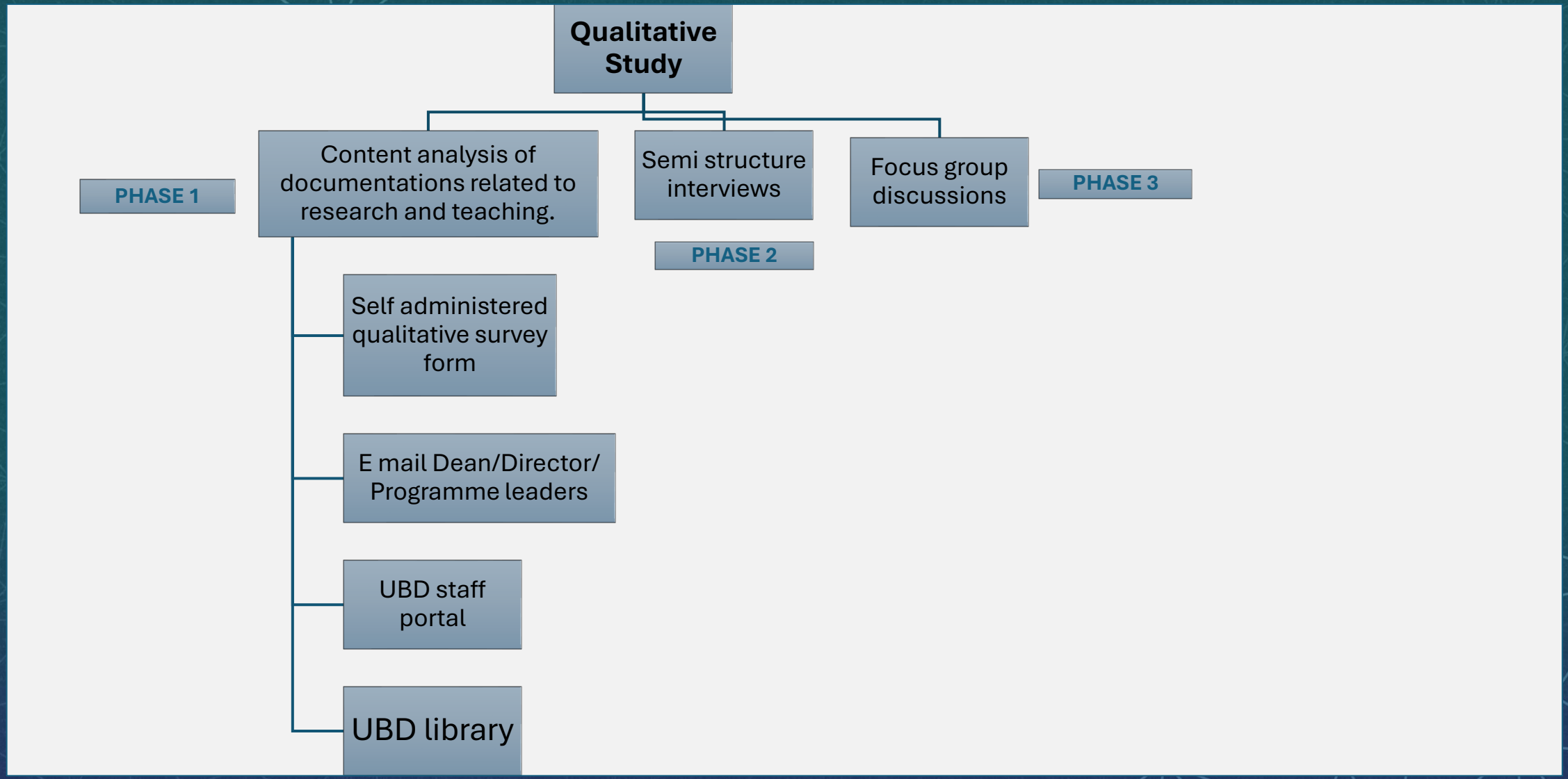
Why It Matters to Brunei



The development of research and training framework for a successful aging nation in Brunei Darussalam $14 434

Aim:

This study aims to explore the perceived contributions, knowledge gaps and opportunities of the Universiti Brunei Darussalam's (UBD) management, academic and research team members towards achieving Brunei Darussalam's national strategies and planning in addressing aging related issues


Qualitative Study
PHASE 1
Content analysis of documentations related to research and teaching.
Self administered qualitative survey form
E mail Dean/Director/ Programme leaders
UBD staff portal
UBD library
PHASE 2
Semi structure interviews
PHASE 3
Focus group discussions

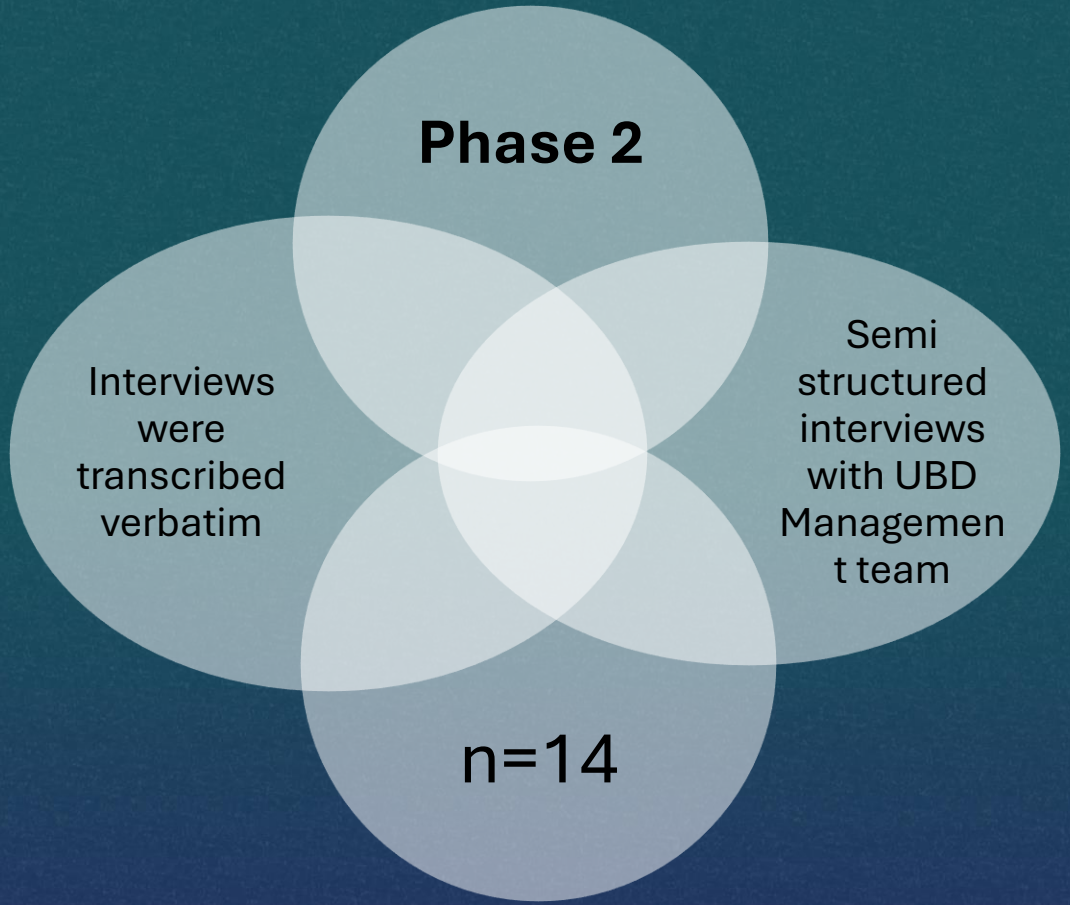
Methodology

Qualitative study using semi-structured interviews & FGDs

Participants: UBD management, academics, researchers (~150)

Analysis: Thematic coding (Nvivo), Braun & Clarke, Charmaz

Today's presentation



Key Preliminary Findings on ‘Aging’

Aging on Mute — The Priority Nobody Talks About

Aging isn’t one story — it’s a spectrum.

Gaps That Hurt

Too Many Silos, Not Enough Synergy

Key Preliminary Findings – 'About UBD'

Plenty of effort, but **no clear direction**.

Not Just a Catalyst — UBD Must Be the Compass.

Key challenges:

- **Curriculum is scattered** (41 mentions)
- **Community work is active** but fragmented (60 mentions)

UBD: From Catalyst to Driver of Change in Aging Research

What This Means for UBD

Rewire. Research. Rally.

Rewire the Curriculum – Embed aging across every discipline.

Fuel Aging Research Clusters – Build knowledge where it's missing most.

Rally Partnerships – Unite government, community, and industry into one purpose.

Strategic Implications

- Aligns with Wawasan 2035 & SDGs
- Builds:
  - skilled, compassionate workforce
  - Inclusive, data-driven policies
  - Age-friendly society

Conclusion

Unify research, reform training, engage communities

CARe to publish final framework to guide national strategy