

INNOVATING HOUSING FOR OLDER ADULTS AND SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

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PROBLEM STATEMENT SET-UP

1 AGEING POPULATION

- Belgium, 2019
- 25.3% of the population > 60
 - 5.7% of the population > 80
- Belgium, 2050
- 32.9 % of the population > 60
 - 10.5% of the population > 80

3 HETEROGENEITY OF THE AGEING POPULATION IS NOT REFLECTED IN A DIVERSITY OF HOUSING OPTIONS

- Inadequate housing stock for older people
- 'older people' often considered as one homogenous target group
- 'One size fits nobody' or 'One size fits all'?
- Focus on current and future older people

2 RAPID CHANGES IN SOCIETY

- Increased longevity
 - Migration
 - Changing family structures
- People with different backgrounds, expectations, experiences and needs

4 LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ON THE INFLUENCE OF HOUSING PARAMETERS ON OLDER ADULTS' SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

- From 'Ageing in place' to 'Ageing well in the right place'
- Objective versus subjective wellbeing
- Importance of the neighbourhood

CONTEXT

- Timing: December 2021 – November 2025
- Strategic Basic Research (SBO) program from Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), focuses on developing innovative research which creates prospects for societal applications.

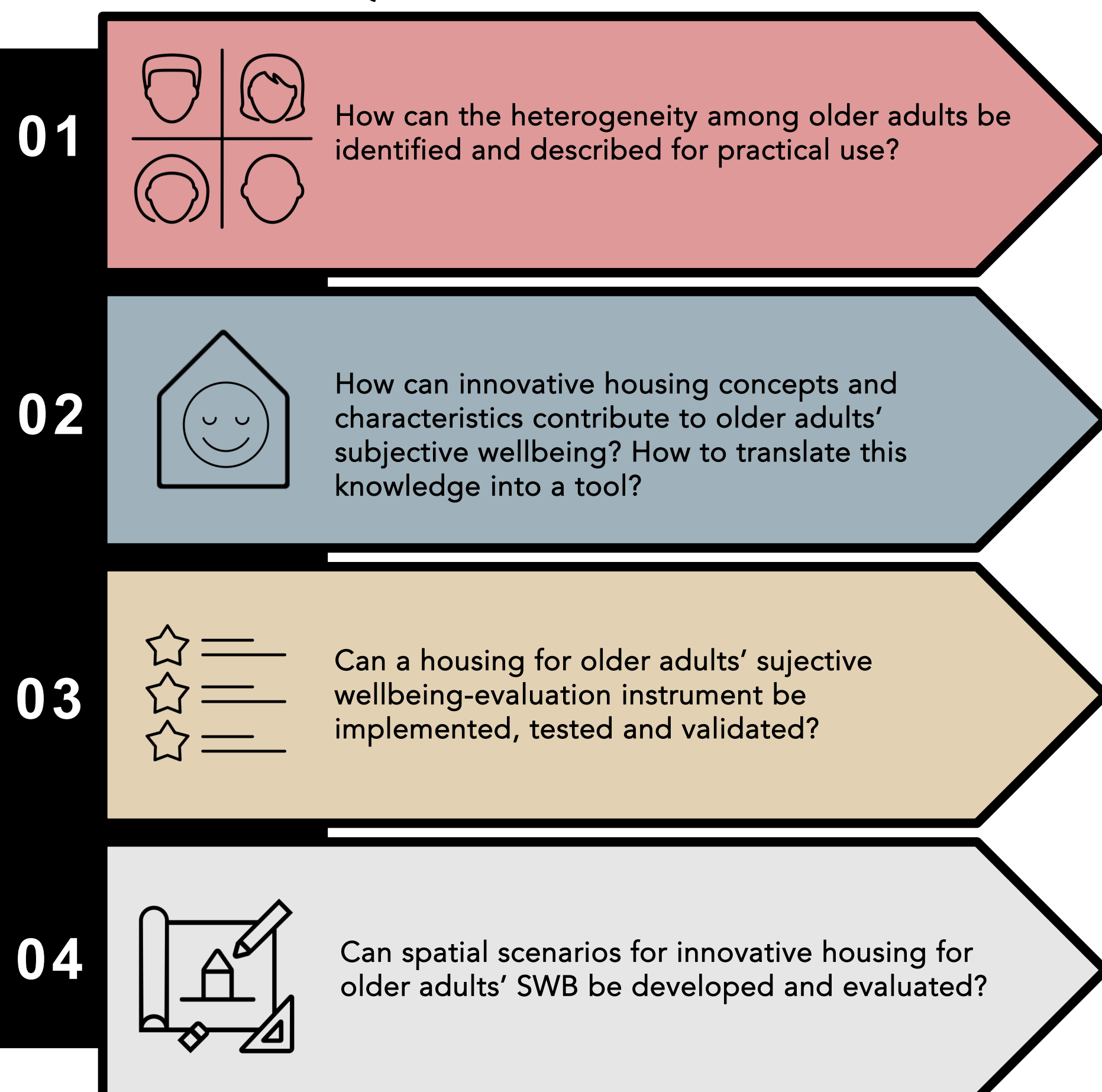
A BROAD ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

- Interdisciplinary research team from three knowledge institutes.
- The target audience of the project is represented in the advisory committee with stakeholders on a micro (e.g., informal carers, older people), meso (e.g., care professionals, architects, building contractors), and macro level (e.g., local and Flemish government, expertise centres).
- Co-design together with a panel of engaged older people.
- Research and valorisation are closely linked in order to develop efficient and effective tools for practice.

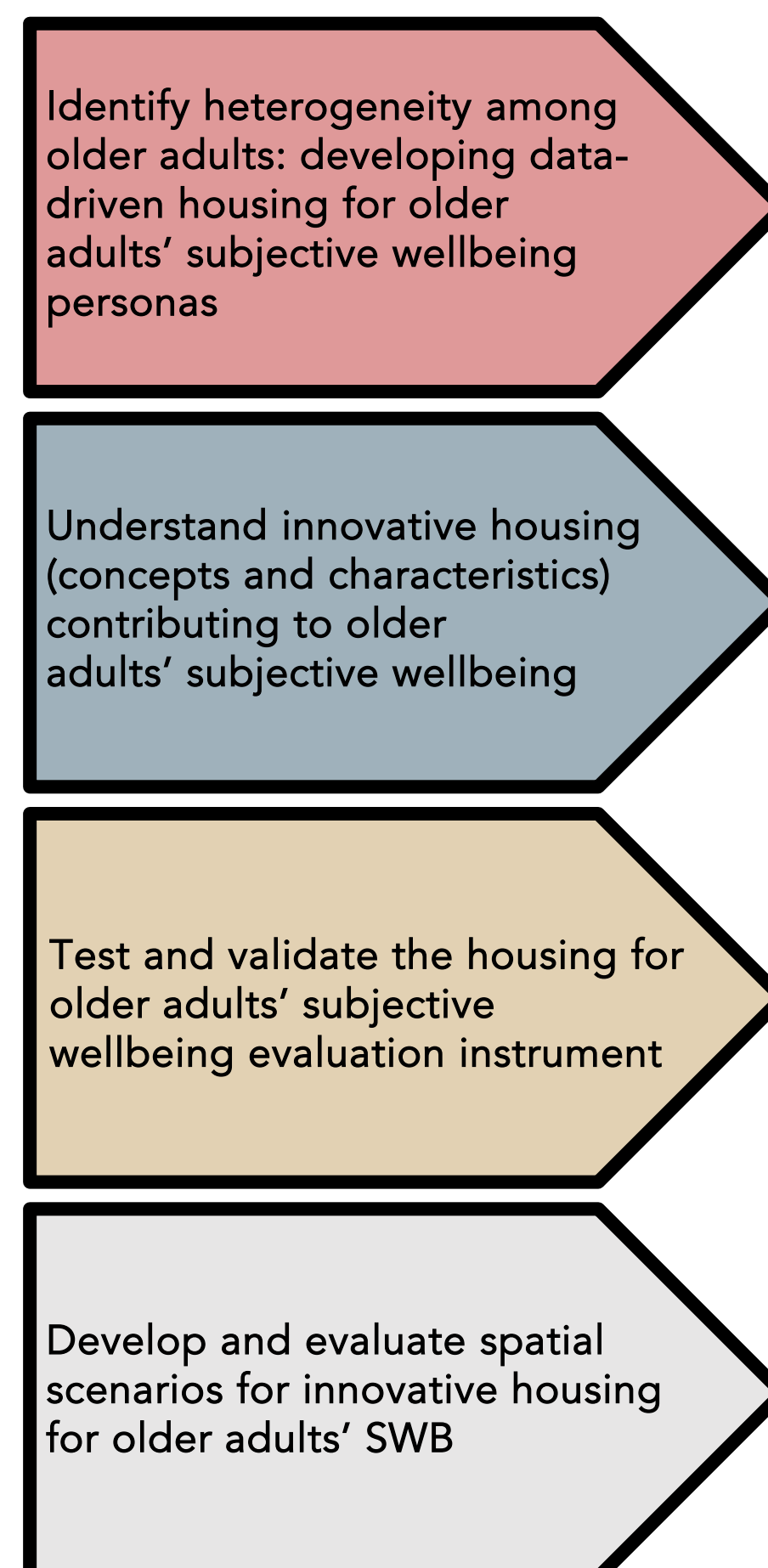
HYPOTHESIS

Housing and neighbourhood design have a key role to play in the subjective wellbeing of current and future generations of older people.

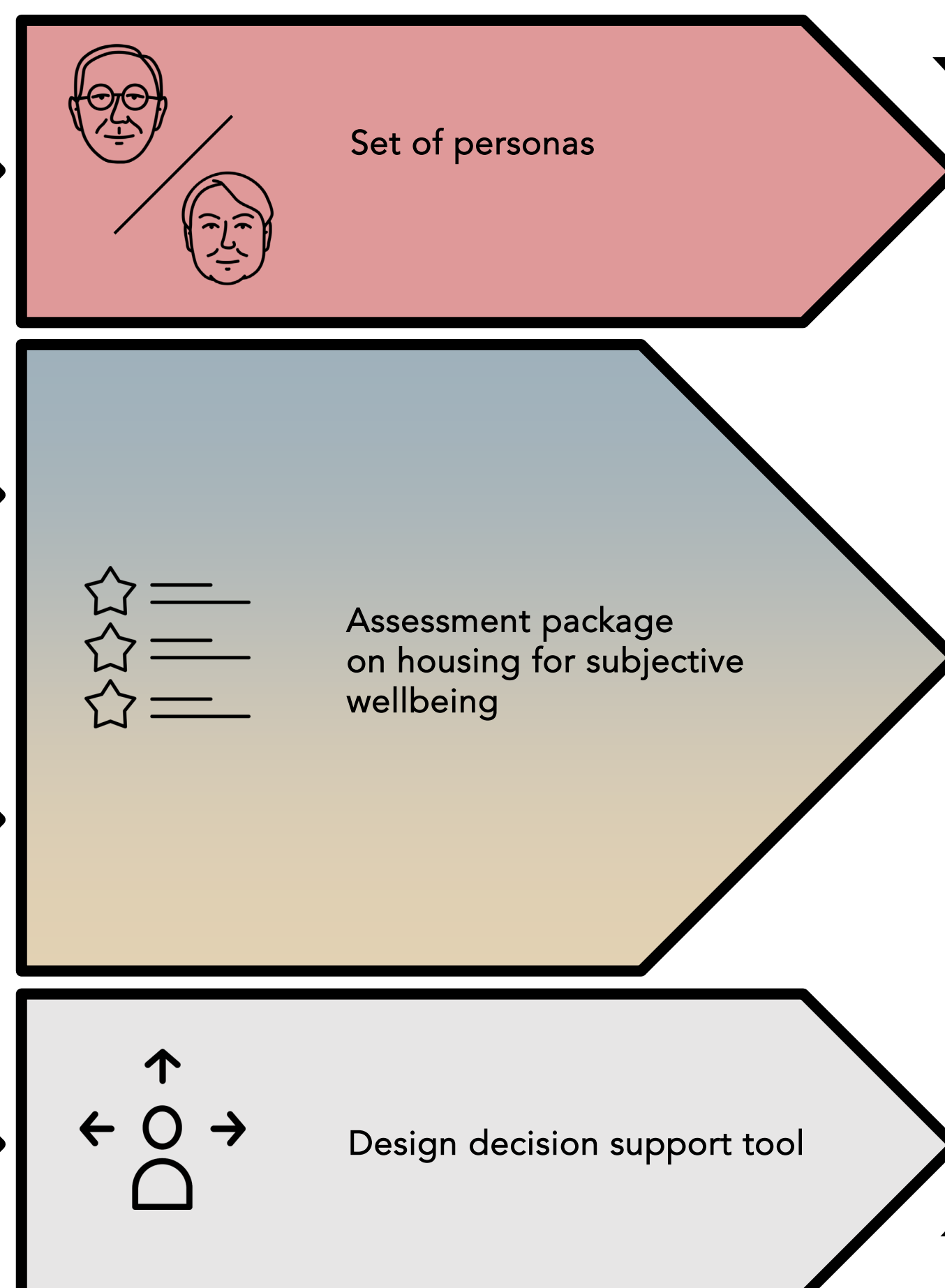
RESEARCH QUESTIONS



OBJECTIVES



VALORISATION



Dissemination

WORK PACKAGE 01

DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAS FOR OLDER ADULTS' SUBJECTIVE WELLBEING

- Hybrid personas with quantitative and qualitative data.
- Data collection: Belgian Ageing Studies dataset:
 - Flemish survey among community-dwelling people aged 60 years and older – 80,000 resp. – 185 municipalities
 - Peer-research method
- Data-analysis: Latent Class Analyses (LCA)

LITERATURE REVIEW ON SCREENING TOOLS

- A review of academic and grey literature
- Focus on content, methods and practical use of screening tools for housing

WORK PACKAGE 02

LITERATURE REVIEW

- Review of housing characteristics contributing to older adults' subjective wellbeing
- State-of-the-art range of national and international examples of innovative housing concepts relevant for older people.
- Analysis of policy documents on innovative housing

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS

- 25 current and 25 future older people
 - Photovoice method
- 25 experts (care professionals, designers, and policymakers)
 - Challenges, barriers and opportunities for innovative housing

WORK PACKAGE 03

QUANTITATIVE STUDY: QUESTIONNAIRE

- 750 respondents (375 current and 375 future older adults)
- Peer methodology
 - Voluntary older adults
 - Details of housing typologies, housing determinants for subjective wellbeing...

DATA-ANALYSIS

- Multiple Group Analyses using SPSS / AMOS

WORK PACKAGE 04

RESEARCH BY DESIGN (RbD)

- Explore and investigate spatial design scenarios
- Design students (interior)architecture and 3 architectural offices

EVALUATING SPATIAL DESIGN SCENARIOS

- 3 focus groups with older adults, industry and policy makers
- Output from Research by Design will be discussed and evaluated

TEST AND EVALUATION OF 2 REAL-LIFE MOCK-UP DEMO PROJECTS

- Concrete housing demonstration project
- 2 focus groups with older adults, industry and policy makers

DEVELOPMENT OF A DESIGN DECISION-SUPPORT TOOL

- This tool supports private and professional informed decision-making
- Architects and housing developers



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