



# Older Persons in Vulnerable Situations

Dr Emma Maun

Institute of Gerontology, King's College London

Picture credit: Centre for Ageing Better

# Vulnerable situations

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- Specific periods of time
- Events or changes in circumstances
- Risk overwhelming coping resources
- Affect 1+ areas of life
- Potential negative impacts

(Levasseur et al., 2022;  
Schroder-Butterfill and Marianti, 2006)



Picture credit: Centre for Ageing Better

# Older persons and vulnerable situations

- Many older persons are not vulnerable but they may:
  - Be at greater risk of exposure
  - Face different challenges
  - Have fewer resources for coping
- Older persons can move in and out of vulnerable situations
- Ireland Standards in adult safeguarding

(Grundy, 2006; WHO, 2021)



Picture credit: Centre for Ageing Better

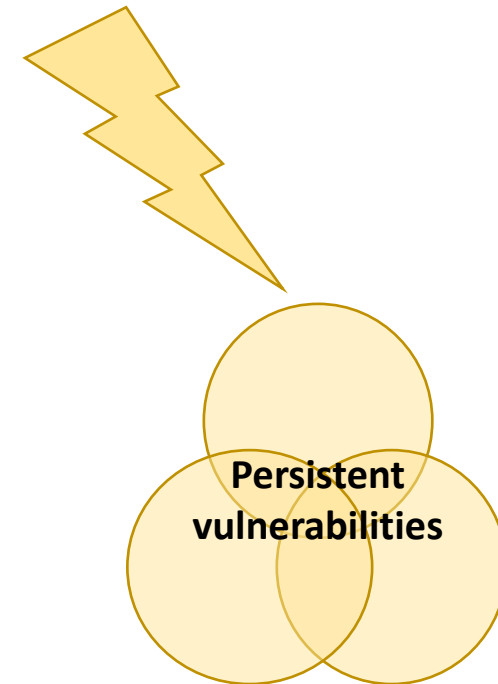
# Wider events and changes in circumstances

- Societal and environmental events
  - May affect almost everyone
  - Unequal impact due to existing vulnerabilities; intersecting disadvantages and discrimination
- Changes to personal circumstances
  - Health, financial, housing, social

## ➤ Moldova Safe Spaces

(Hewitt and Kapadia, 2021; UN, 2020)

Wider events and  
changes in personal  
circumstances



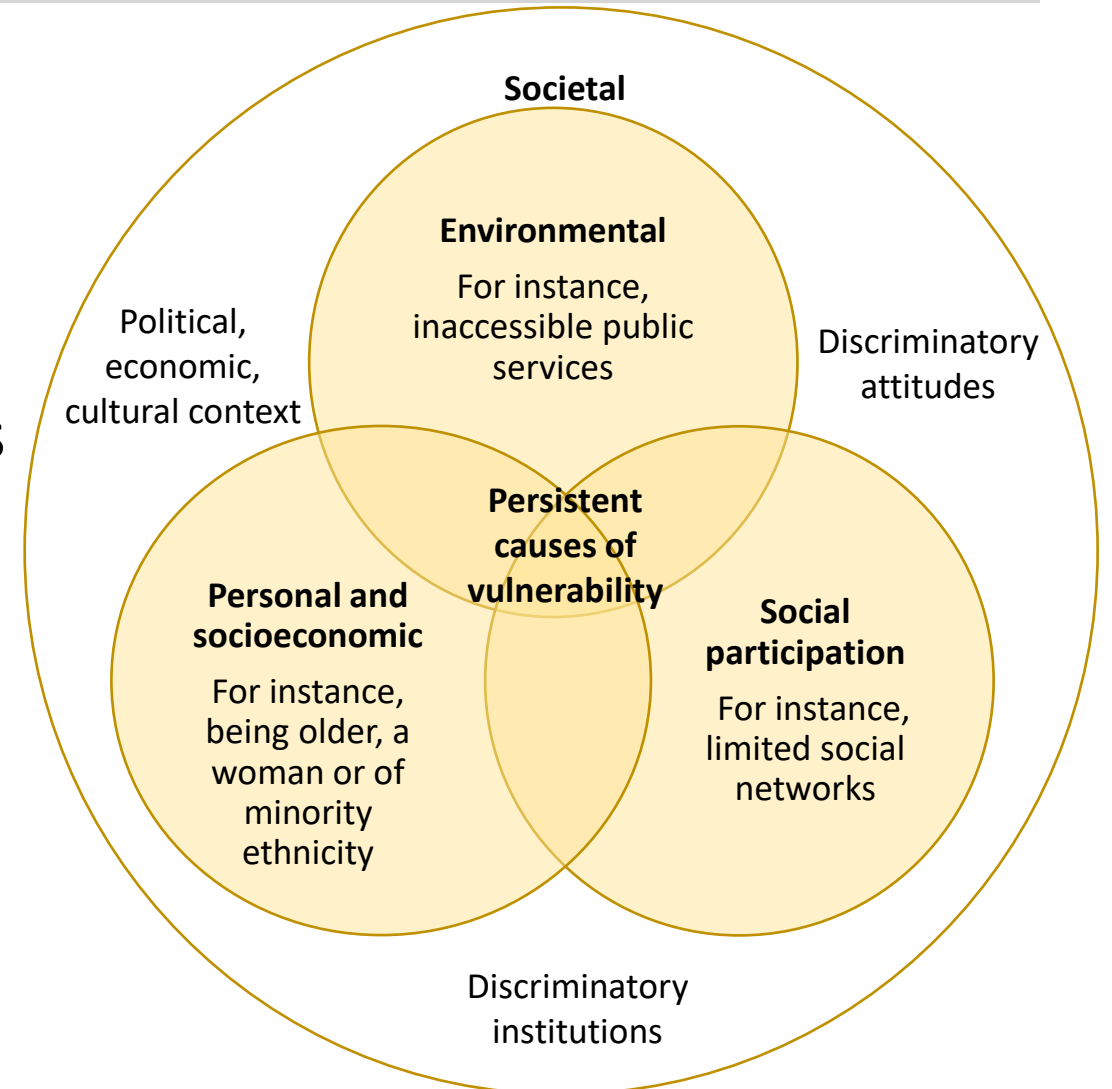
Societal context creating vulnerability

# Persistent causes of vulnerability

- Increase the possibility of negative consequences when a shock occurs
- Result from societal systems and discrimination
- Accumulate over life and generations
- Create complex layers

➤ Netherland Sociaal Vitaal

(Bowleg, 2012; Levasseur et al., 2021; UN, 2023)



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