THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE IS AT HOME
INNOVAGE PROJECT

“INNOVAge (Improvement of the effectiveness of regional development policies in eco-independent living for the elderly) is a Regional Initiative Project funded by the INTERREG Programme. The goal of the project is to increase and improve regional development policies for eco-independent living for the elderly through networking, mentoring and clustering activities at both regional and inter-regional levels.

INNOVAge project aims to help older people to live independently for longer in their own homes by increasing their autonomy and by emerging of new ‘technological supply chains’ associated with new developments like independent living and eco-innovation, with a valuable contribution to minimize environmental impact of elderly daily life activities. The INNOVAge project focuses on:

INNOVAge PROJECT

Eco-innovation applied to Smart and Sustainable Home

Encouraging the adoption of smart solutions, homes become more accessible and comfortable for the elderly, with a valuable contribution to minimize the environmental impact of daily life.

Independent Living

Helping elderly people to live independently for longer in their homes, increasing their autonomy and assisting them in carrying out their daily activities.
INNOVAGE WORKING MODEL

INNOVAGE PROJECT: Matching more innovative partners *(Mentoring Group)* with less innovative *(Learning Group)* to take advantage of the potential of independent living and relative eco-innovation solutions in each region.

15 Good Practices were identified at the beginning of the INNOVAGE project. Some of them were chosen to be transferred into the learning group regions through the Pilot Actions of the project. The INNOVAGE Mentoring Group has supported the Learning Group during this transfer process, built on the basis of several study visits, workshops and training sessions, among other activities.
9 Pilot Actions have been developed during the INNOVAGE Project:

1. **IT.** Innovation Voucher based on a Demand Map and opened to local SMEs
2. **BG.** Preparation and Testing of Telecare within Social Patronage Service in Sofia Municipality
3. **EL.** Preparation of the Active Ageing Innovation Vouchers Programme
4. **ES.** Castilla y León research and innovation driven cluster set up in the independent living field and mentoring actions to support its first operations and activities
5. **CY.** Support Health Services for Daily Care in a Period After Operation in a Smart Home
6. **SI.** E-social platform for elderly (Advanced Interactive Home System)
7. **LT.** Creating a smart home eco-system in Lithuania
8. **CZ.** Evaluation of the possibility of establishing a cluster of social services in the South Bohemian Region
9. **PL.** Create a “demonstration house” for active ageing, Eco-innovation and independent living

**OTHER RESULTS**

- Good Practice Catalogue
- 6 Workshops open to key innovation stakeholders
- 5 Study Visits to the mentor group organizations to directly know a cluster and to capitalize their organization in the learning group countries.
- 3 Training Sessions to support policymakers to better understand their requirements and facilitating the transfer of good practices.
- 15 Innohubs have been strategically located at the INNOVAge partners’ headquarters to coordinate stakeholders and actions related to eco innovation applied to elderly independent living and smart home.
"an opportunity to work together with different stakeholders in the field of independent living and eco-innovation at an European level."

"...the portal to innovative ideas for the independent living of the elderly in the Region"

"...instrumental to update policies to incorporate smart ageing home technology"

"...meeting point to exchange the necessary knowledge to improve our Social Patronage Service"

"...a real opportunity to bring together policy makers, researchers, industrials, end users and offer them the possibility to share and work together to address the issue of independent living of elderly not only at an organizational level but also at an operational level."

"...a significant opportunity to analyze in deep how to develop innovative solutions engaging all the territorial stakeholders to foster AAL and the eco-smart house sector meet the needs of the elderly"

"...a tool for different geographical areas to join in efforts concerning eco- sustainable smart homes for elderly sharing solutions and building competences and communities together."

"...a tremendous success in Lithuania. Being a part of the InnovAge Project has brought an exciting, creative focus to new developments for independent living and cluster support initiatives in Lithuania."

"...a great opportunity for The Heart of Slovenia area, because it has strengthen intergenerational cooperation and encourages the integration of various stakeholders in clusters for developing and implementing innovative solutions for elderly."

"...a great contribution to emerging discussions on the one hand about old / traditional concepts (active ageing, innovation, clusters, triple helix model) and on the other hand about new concepts such as independent living, smart homes, eco-innovation, research driven clusters, quadruple helix model, in the South Bohemian Region and even in the Czech Republic, and to the combination of these concepts together. We had possibility to investigate the current state of art in the region from the point of view of these concepts, and we could transmit knowledge about these concepts to different stakeholders from the region in order to support the regional development policy focused on increasing the quality of life of ageing people."

"...an interregional instrument to create a "demonstration house" for active ageing, Eco-innovation and independent living."

"...fruitful experience based on knowledge exchange that has allowed us to build on the basis of other European mature clusters' experiences a regional cluster (SIVI). This cluster operates as a catalyzer for research and innovation actions on innovative solutions for independent living."
“…build on lessons learned especially in the area of cluster set up and cluster management in the given field”

SE
Blekinge Institute of Technology

“…join efforts for sustainable socio-technical platforms meeting the demographic and environmental needs of tomorrow”

LT
Lithuanian Innovation Centre

“…uptake the new practices for effective and efficient cluster support as well as to find policy initiatives that will help to address the future needs of elderly people in Lithuania”

SI
Development Centre Litija

“…become the best practice for other regions in Slovenia because of the understanding and providing friendly conditions for active aging, which will improve the quality of life for all generations”

PL
Rzeszow Regional Development Agency

“…foster a regional network of cooperation in the field of eco-innovation and independent living”

BG
Sofia Municipality

“…develop more innovative social services at home in our region”

FR
MEDIC@LPS

“…involve Rhône Alpes stakeholders in actions identified in the regional implementation plan and connect them at an EU level using the INNOVATION HUB network set up”

THANKS TO INNOVAGE

PROJECT WE ARE READY TO…
“…increase the capacity of public and private system to attract additional resources for research and innovation and focus investment in AAL and eco-smart house sector, raise the quality and the quantity of the networks between companies and universities/research centers, develop new smart services and products for the local communities to address demographic challenges”

“…share our knowledge to improve other regional policies in the field of independent living.”

“…move forward with enhanced cooperation among local stakeholders and increased know-how for the development of new regional policies for the independent living of the elderly.”

“…share our knowledge in a sustainable way across Europe with valued partners.”

“…foster in the near future an innovative market that will address the needs coming from an ageing society, from a regional to a European perspective.”

“…expand our InnoHub network and collaborate in future AAL projects and synergies.”

“…direct members of the SEHTA cluster towards market development, product development and funding opportunities.”
Good practices
Identifying and analysing successful experiences of innovation driven cluster, of planning policies in cluster development and local strategic partnership coordination.

Clustering
Creating a European network of companies and associated institutions (business-private-research sectors) sharing similar interests regarding innovation policies and independent living of the elderly.

InnoHubs
Launching 14 regional innovation offices aiming to strengthen the knowledge and cooperation activities between actors focusing on eco-innovation and smart home for the elderly.

Policy strategies
Addressing ageing issues and devising new policy strategies that are capable of significantly improving the lives of the elderly.

This project is co-financed by ERDF and made possible by the INTERREG IVC Programme

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