

A blurred background image showing a person's hands planting a small tree in a garden bed. The person is wearing a dark, textured top. The scene is outdoors with a concrete path and some greenery in the background.

# Taking the world a step forward



**Carina Dantas**

**European Experience on Promoting the Use of Digital Solutions and Assistive Technology in the Post COVID Era**

GIES2022 | 13 October 2022

# ABOUT US

SHINE 2Europe aims to promote inclusive communities to all citizens, by delivering research and support to the implementation of tech-Savvy, Healthy and Inclusive solutions (SHINE).



Societal growth, inclusiveness and fight against discrimination, health and wellbeing



Policy design and implementation, assessment of societal impacts and ethical behaviour



Fostering digital tools that empower citizens, are user friendly and ensure literacy and education to use them



Communication, networking and sharing of good practices

INCLUSIVE SOCIETY – ETHICS – SOCIAL INNOVATION – NETWORKING – DISSEMINATION – POLICY – RESEARCH

# PROJECTS

**NET4**  
Age-Friendly

**COST Action**  
Internat. Interdisciplinary  
Network on SHAPE

**STEP  
UP**  
STOP EPIDEMIC GROWTH  
THROUGH LEARNING

**Erasmus project**  
Stop Epidemic Growth  
through learning



**Erasmus project**  
Smart for Democracy  
and Diversity



**Erasmus project**  
Design for all methods to  
create age-friendly housing



**Erasmus project**  
Building Inclusive  
Environments for All  
Generations

**good  
brother**

**COST Action**  
Network on Privacy-  
Aware Applications



**Expert contract for  
CEN/CENELEC**  
Uninfo

**AAL**  
ACTIVE AND ASSISTED LIVING  
PROGRAMME

**Expert contract for  
the AAL Programme**

**UNION  
MIGRANTNET**

**E-communications  
managers**  
For ETUC



**How COVID19 changed  
the playing field for  
European SMEs**



**Entrepreneurs 50+**



**The response of CSOs  
to face the COVID19  
pandemic in Europe**

# PROJECTS

## Projects 2022: STARTED

## STARTING:

**COPE**

CAPABILITIES, OPPORTUNITIES,  
PLACES AND ENGAGEMENT

### *H2020 EaSI project*

Social Inclusion of Difficult to  
Reach Young People



### *Erasmus project*

Green and digital literacy to  
adults 55+



### *Erasmus project*

Combating ageism and  
discrimination towards  
older adults



### *Erasmus project*

Promoting social  
prescription of activities



**September 2022**

**HORIZON-HLTH-  
2021-DISEASE-04**

### **Senior Activation**



### *Erasmus project*

Promoting active ageing and  
empowerment

### **Expert Author of Meaningful & Ethical Communications**

### *Expert contract*

Enlightment 2.0 Programme |  
Joint Research Centre



### *Erasmus project*

Adult education on digital,  
health and data literacy for  
citizen empowerment



### **EIT HEI**

DISCO | Developing Innovative  
Sustainable Cooperation  
Opportunities

**November 2022**

**HORIZON-CL6-2022-  
GOVERNANCE-01-09**



# NETWORKS



**NET4Age-Friendly** | 2020-2024 | COST Action | 51 countries (~485 researchers) | health and well-being in an age-friendly digital world. Carina Dantas is Chair and Willeke van Staalduinen Vice-Chair and Grant Holder of the Action.



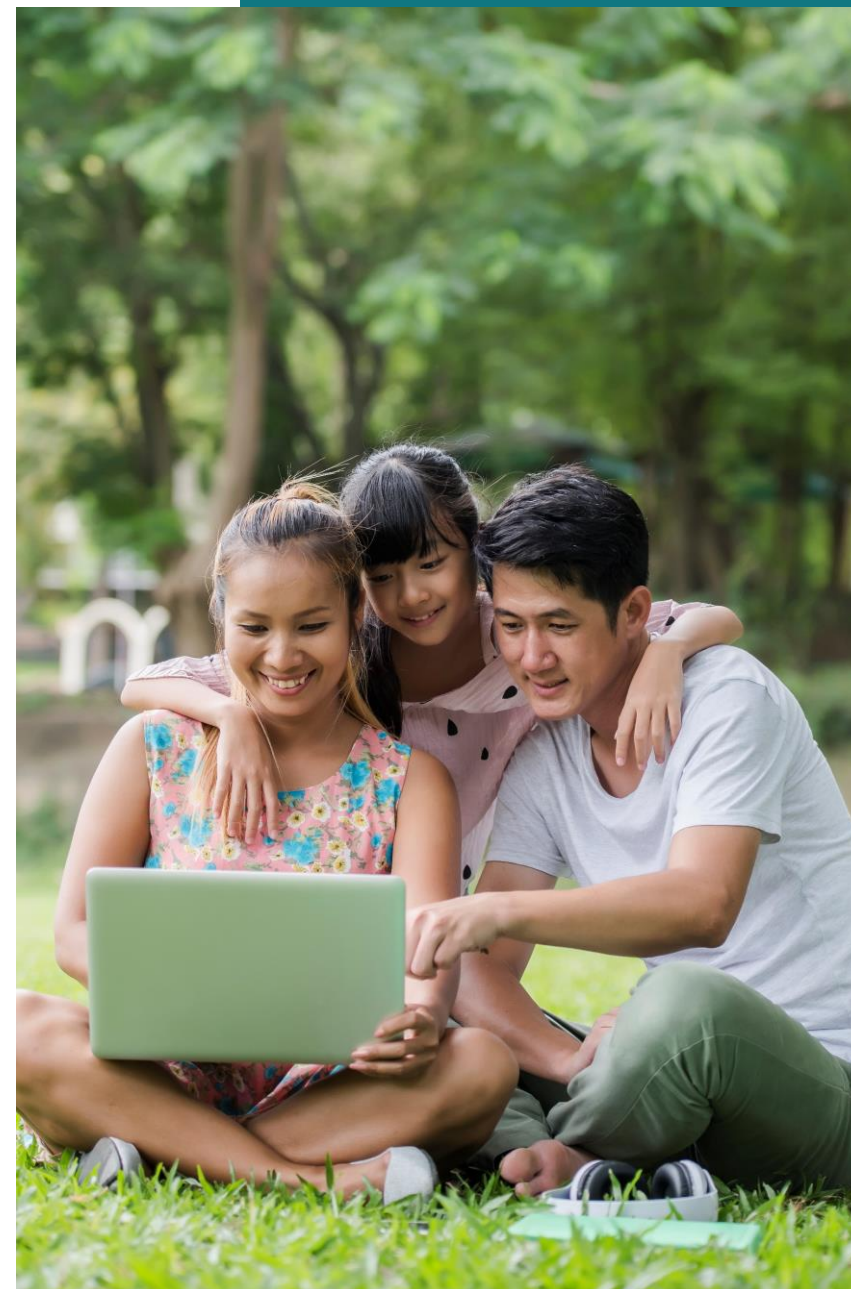
**SHAFE Foundation** | Stakeholders Network on Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments with over 170 partner organisations. Carina Dantas and Willeke van Staalduinen are the Directors.



**EU Covenant on Demographic Change** gathers ~160 European public authorities and other relevant stakeholders committed to develop environments that support AHA. Carina Dantas is Vice-President.



**Wellbeing Economy Alliance** is a global movement that aims to catalyse systems change for a Wellbeing Economy. SHINE is a member.

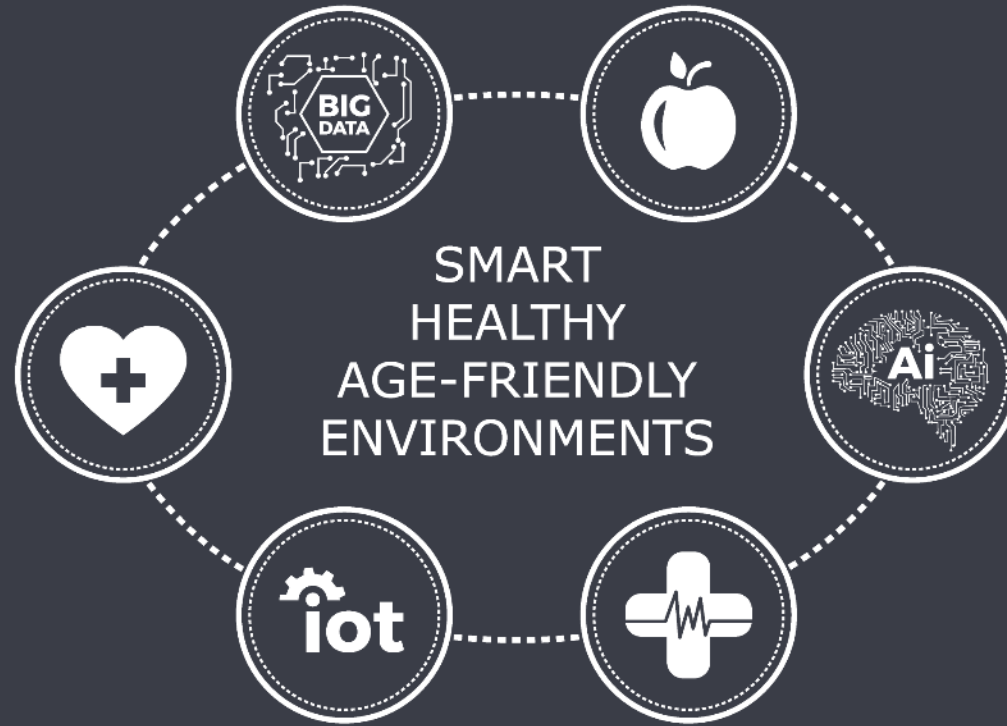




A photograph of a family on a boat. An older man with grey hair, wearing an orange life vest, is smiling and looking at a young girl. The girl is also wearing an orange life vest and a blue beanie, and is pointing towards the water. Another person wearing an orange life vest is partially visible on the right. The background shows a body of water and trees.

If people should live and age at their own homes, how to align **technological** development with the **building** industry for smart environments in terms of **POLICY** and **FUNDING**, reaching **better quality** for less investment?





STAKEHOLDERS NETWORK

**SHAFE**





## ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

## ~170 ORGANISATIONS



# JOINT STATEMENT ON SMART HEALTHY AGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS



**A SHARED VISION**



**NEEDS**



**FUNDING** / CONDITIONS  
FOR IMPLEMENTATION



**CITIZEN**  
EMPOWERMENT

**COOPERATION**  
COMMUNICATION



**RESEARCH** FOR  
PREDICTION / PREVENTION

# WHAT WAS IMPLEMENTED TO ADDRESS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

- Most EU countries have launched a national contact tracing app that can be used on a voluntary basis. However, differences between countries hardly influenced trust in the apps and further adoption.
- The EU Digital COVID Certificate, which came into effect in July 2021, is another example of cross-border digitalisation empowering EU citizens to move safely in the EU for work or tourism. The European Commission promoted this certificate as an EU-wide vaccine passport that proves that a person has been vaccinated against COVID-19. It can be hosted on mobile apps, along with the results of tests for those who are not vaccinated and/or other information relevant during the COVID-19 recovery.
- AI has also contributed to the delivery of response strategies in healthcare. Also, powerful European supercomputing centres are working on developing vaccines, treatments and diagnoses by comparing digital models and matching them against a database of thousands of existing drugs.
- A relevant example was the ability to create the first mRNA COVID-19 vaccine within two days of receiving the genetic code for COVID-19 by email. This demonstrates the overwhelming progress in both the speed and the effectiveness of new technology platforms.



# WHAT WAS IMPLEMENTED TO ADDRESS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the rise of digital health, namely teleconsultation, remote monitoring, connected devices, digital health platforms and health apps.

According to research, since the pandemic began more than half of EU countries have been using telemedicine to replace face-to-face consultations.

The diverse digital solutions that have been implemented include mobile applications, websites, chatbots, e-prescriptions, remote patient monitoring to diagnose COVID-19 patients in their homes, and screening in real time.

Technology has acted as a great enabler of continuity of care through remote consultation, ongoing monitoring and patient education by telephone and through videoconferencing.

Furthermore, videoconferencing has enabled patients to stay in touch with their families when hospitalised, including in intensive care. In addition, telemedicine has allowed medical professionals to collect new data from their patients and provide new services.

# WHAT AREAS ARE ADDRESSED?

## HEALTHY environments

Healthy environments support people to remain active and prevent from certain diseases. Healthy environments are safe and inviting, promote physical activity and participation in society.



### Healthy lifestyle

Food, physical activity, moderate use of alcohol and tobacco, relaxation, good mental health support wellbeing and health



### Medicines and therapies

Pharmaceutical treatment, physical activity therapy, music therapy, rehabilitation trainings support to recover or live with a disease or impairment



### Caretaking

Taking care of people who struggle with chronic diseases or impairments, such as dementia, Parkinson's disease, mobility problems, mental problems

# WHAT AREAS ARE ADDRESSED?

## SMART environments

Digital or ICT applications are everywhere. For example: smartphones, internet and WIFI at home, streaming services, and digital watches. The devices and software need to be user-friendly designed, safe to use, supportive to citizens and offer reliable data handling.



### Smartphones and tablets

Phones with iOS or Android and tablets provide many functionalities such as internet, data, social media, games.



### Smart home technology

WIFI, home sensors, internet: comfort, health advice and monitoring, independent living support



### Outdoor smart technology

Wearables, smart lighting, transport support orientation and an active lifestyle



# WHAT AREAS ARE ADDRESSED?

## BUILT environments

Built environments that are accessible, user-friendly and inclusive support individuals to live, to work, to recreate and relax, to love and promote their wellbeing



### Housing

Apartments and houses where people live support wellbeing and health



### Outdoor spaces and buildings

Public buildings, streets, pathways, motorways belong to outdoor spaces support social inclusion and health



### Mobility

Trains, buses, cars, bicycles are means of transport that are accessible and user-friendly

## WHAT AREAS ARE ADDRESSED?

### Age-friendly housing

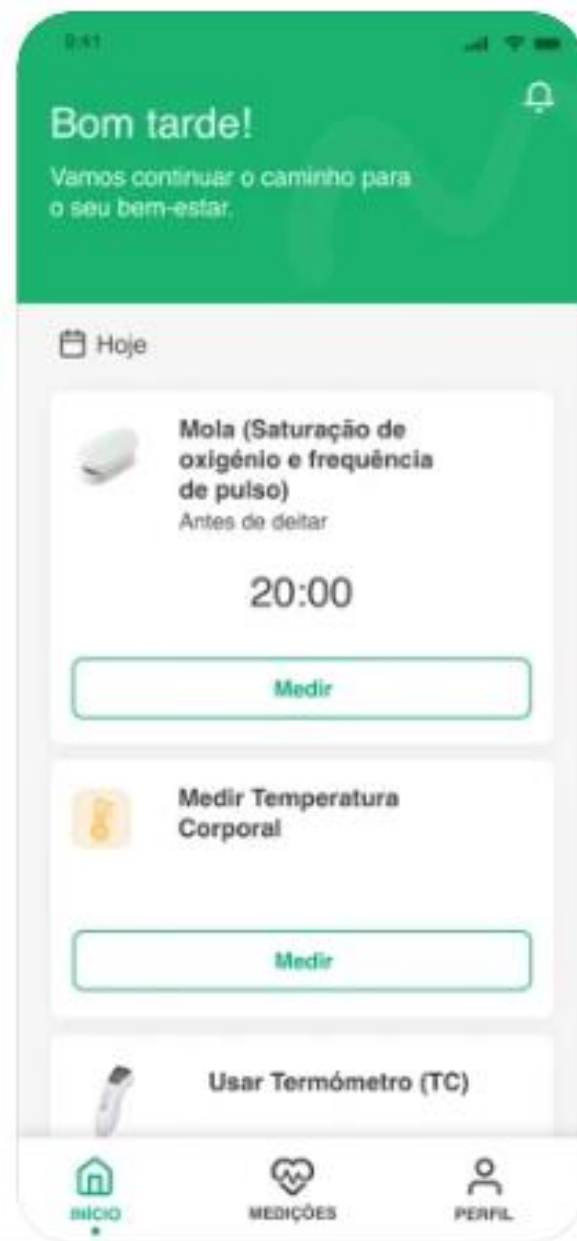
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Accessible age-friendly housing equipped with supportive digital solutions is being realised everywhere across Europe.

Some examples with more information:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bmHoX7lhoi4>
- [http://fekoor.com/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Fekoor\\_web\\_05\\_ETXEGOKI%20CATALOGO.pdf](http://fekoor.com/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Fekoor_web_05_ETXEGOKI%20CATALOGO.pdf)
- [www.wijenizi.nl](http://www.wijenizi.nl)









https://pt.euronews.com/2017/02/20/coimbra-testa-robos-para-ajudar-idosos



80%



euronews.

Europa

Mundo

Economia

Desporto

Cultura

Viagens

Vídeo

Programas ▾



Direto



Blackwood Homes Helenvale





CleverCogs during the Pandemic

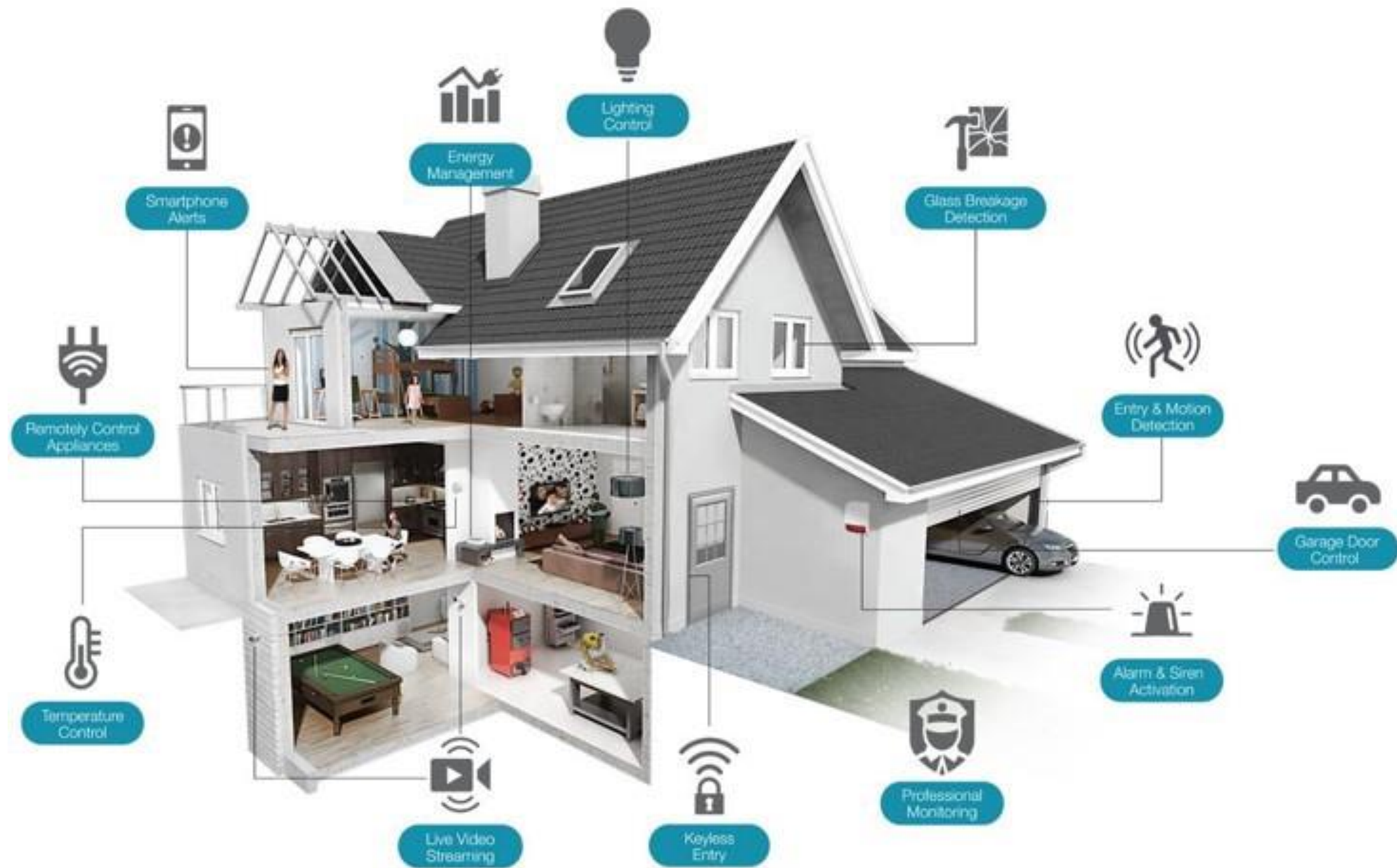
















## Homes4Life Vision

*"Imagine a society where your house is truly your home. A supportive, enabling environment that helps you realize your full personal and social potential. Imagine a society where such houses are within reach for Europeans of all ages, regardless of income, gender, race or ethnic background, sexual orientation, health status, or disability."*

**CERTIFIED SMART  
AND INTEGRATED  
LIVING ENVIRONMENTS  
FOR AGEING WELL**



## A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION FRAMEWORK DESIGNED AROUND 6 STRATEGIC CLUSTERS

The 6 clusters cover an in-depth and holistic analysis of what a home and its components need to fulfil to create and maintain an age-friendly environment that is enabling, fit for purpose, flexible and resilient.



### PHYSICAL

Personal safety - Comfort -  
Accessibility and orientation  
- Health and social care -  
Smart readiness



### SOCIAL

Social activity: ability to have  
social contact in home,  
proximity to activities and  
facilities, online connectivity;  
Employment: suitability of  
the home as a place to  
work, connection to a place  
of employment, etc.



### ECONOMIC

Affordable housing -  
Affordability for informal  
carers - Long-term security  
on cost of housing - Choice:  
availability of housing  
programmes and resources,  
etc.



### OUTDOOR ACCESS

Home and building -  
Immediate environment -  
Neighbourhood or village



### PERSONAL

Identity and emotional  
connectivity - Privacy and  
dignity



### MANAGEMENT

Commitment - Analysis of  
the site - Involvement of  
stakeholders - Surveys

## HOW ARE DIGITAL TOOLS BEING USED IN THE EU?

Internet has become increasingly important – and even more in 2020 and after, following the COVID-19 outbreak and the related confinement and social distancing measures.

In 2020, **88% of people aged 16-74** in the EU reported they had used the internet in the last 3 months; ranging from 70% in Bulgaria to 99% in Denmark.

Although very common among the young, internet use is not as habitual among the older generation:

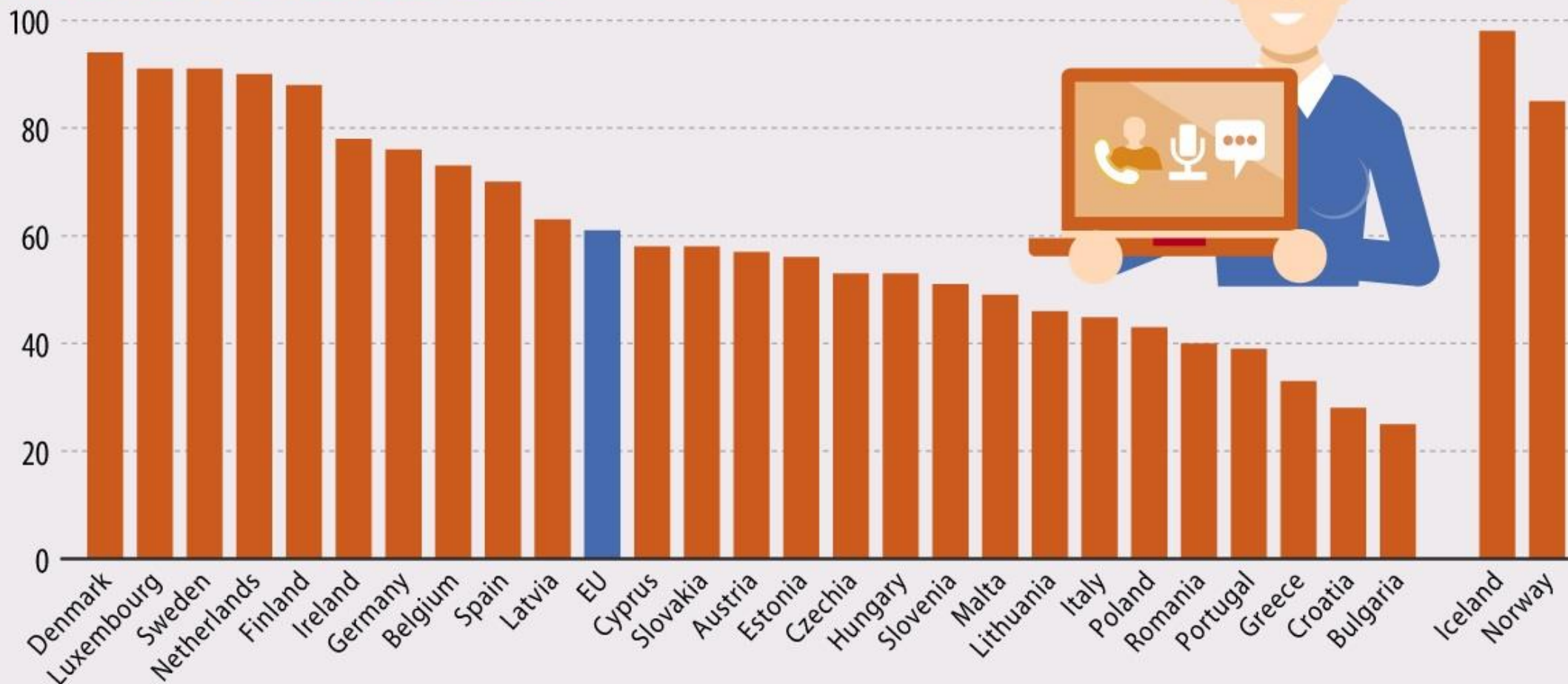
- **98% of those aged 16-24** used the internet in the last 3 months
- vs. **61% of those aged 65-74.**

While internet use remains high among the young across the EU, it varies greatly among the older age groups.



# ARE DIGITAL TOOLS BEING USED BY OLDER ADULTS?

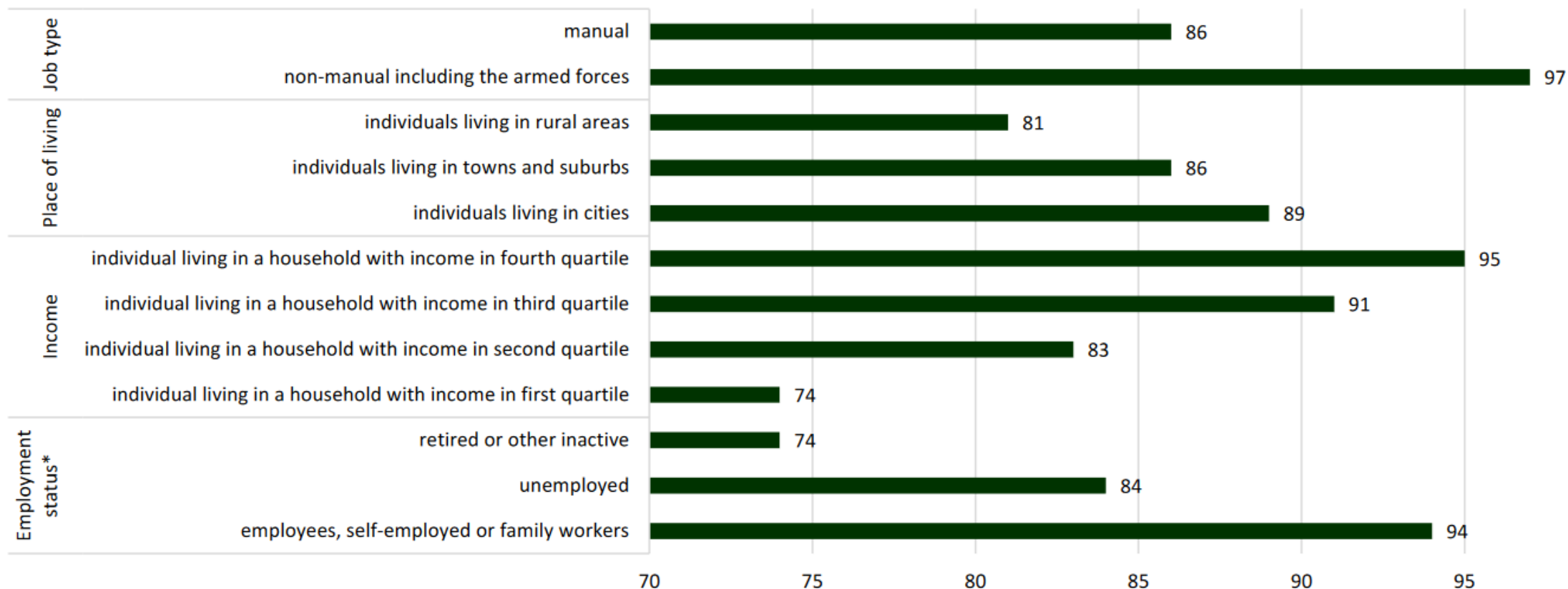
## Share of people aged 65 - 74 who used the internet in the last 3 months, 2020



France: 2020 data not available. As a result, the EU aggregate has been estimated.

# WHAT FACTORS INFLUENCE IT?

**Frequency of Internet use according to employment status, job type, income levels and place of living, EU-27, 2020**  
(% of the respective group, use of the Internet once a week (including every day))



Source: Eurostat, ISOC\_CI\_IFP\_FU (2021)

Note: data refers to individuals aged 25-64

## In the aftermath of the pandemic, what do we need for digital uptake?

### **CITIZENS** need to improve:

- digital skills
- health literacy
- engagement and democratic participation
- less inequalities on access

### **ENVIRONMENTS** have as major challenges:

- house retrofitting
- digital infrastructures
- public spaces & mobility
- climate neutral solutions

### and, finally, **HEALTH AND CARE** need:

- reliable accessible big data
- integrated and person-centered pathways
- long-term funding solutions/business models

**We acknowledge that all these challenges are interconnected  
and that a global approach is needed!**



# International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age-friendly Environments

With **researchers and  
stakeholders** from all sectors.

**NET4**  
Age-Friendly



**Chair**  
Carina Dantas

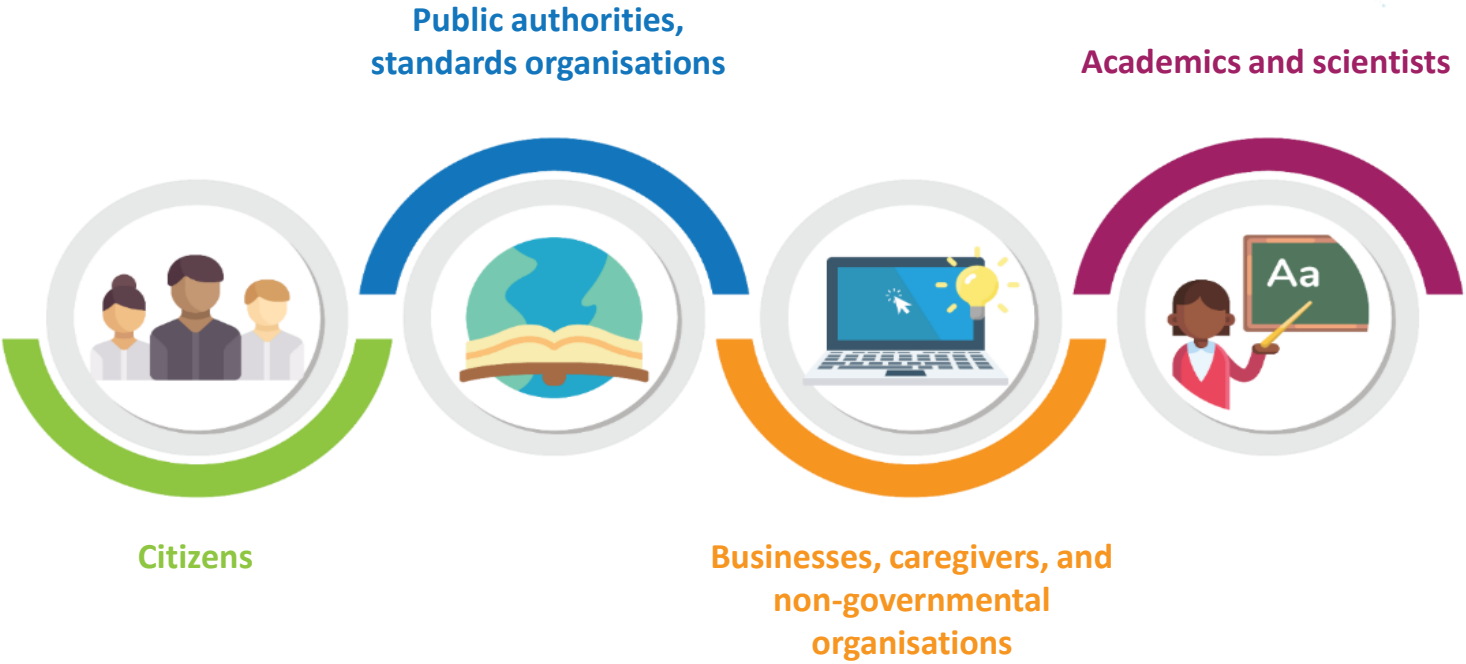


**Vice-Chair**  
Willeke van Staalduinen

 **cost**  
EUROPEAN COOPERATION  
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

 **Funded by  
the European Union**

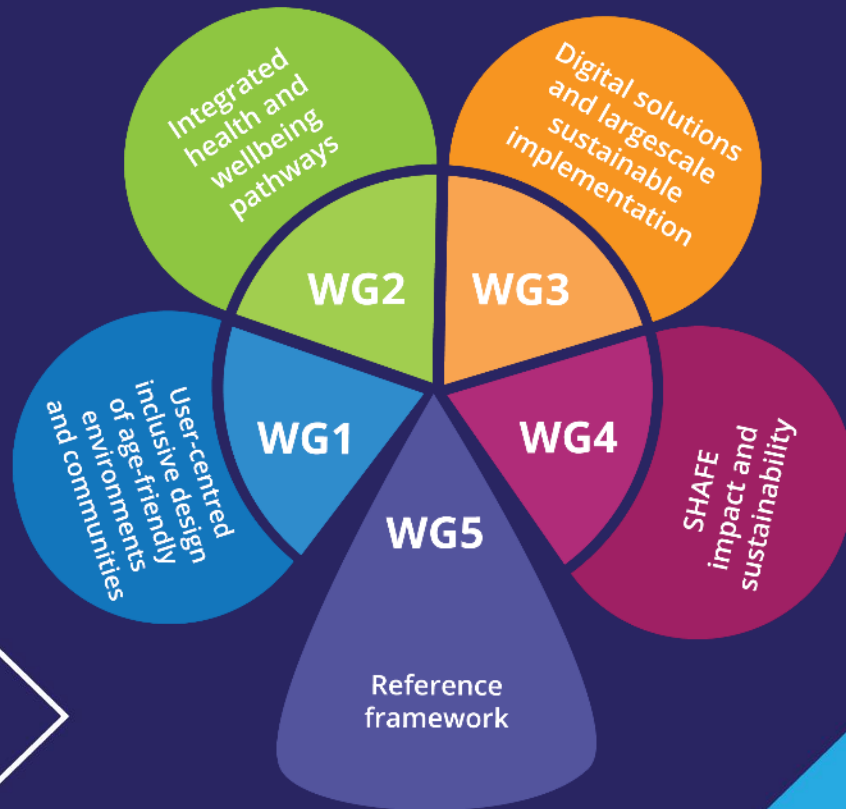
This COST Action main goal is to foster **awareness and support the creation and implementation of smart, healthy indoor and outdoor environments** for present and future generations.



MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE  
51 Countries  
FULL NETWORK  
~485 participants

Establishment of local or regional ecosystems to work on  
**health & wellbeing in an inclusive digital world.**

With citizens, public authorities, businesses, NGOs and researchers.  
They will be supported by 5 **Working Groups**.





To promote healthy and active ageing throughout the lifespan, **an integrated and holistic approach** on the physical and mental development of children and adults is crucial.

We recommend the **CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL, REGIONAL OR NATIONAL ECOSYSTEMS** in which all citizens, researchers, business, NGOs, health and social care professionals and authorities are enabled to cooperate with each other in a safe, learning and inclusive environment.

Training opportunities, joint learning of skills regarding healthy lifestyles for all ages, ICT usage, safe housing and independent living, maintained and safe outdoor spaces are all **KEY AREAS FOR ACTION**, along with financial security, online connectivity, accessibility and inclusiveness for all.

Social media, games, internet, connects everyone everywhere. **Technology is growing at a fast pace and technology is often not looked at through the lens of older adults or those with less capabilities.** Another trend are governmental and societal measures to create more efficiency in products and services provisions and to cut spending by turning them completely digital.

Looking at the future, a lifelong approach with **DIFFERENT AND TARGETED LITERACY MEASURES**, fit to different age ranges is needed. Grassroot organisations are the most adequate to provide them.

Traditional media could also be used, e.g. quizzes on television, or influencers (older adults) on national television to promote literacy and learning, because active citizenship is no longer possible without ICT tools.

We propose to stress the continuous **ADAPTABILITY AND PERSONALIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTS and ICT SERVICES** to the evolving needs of all people as they age.

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION** needs to be enabled as a valuable tool for continuous feedbacks and broader engagement in the use of ICT tools.

Beyond the issue of digital literacy we also need to look at the cost of digital connectivity. For people with low salaries or pensions below the average wage, the cost of broadband is often one bill too many.

A human-centred design approach is needed in policy making, bearing in mind that there are still many people lacking skills in using technology.

For older adults this is often a problem.

**But also, are we preparing younger people be tech-savvy for the technologies that will be available for active and healthy living in 20 years?**



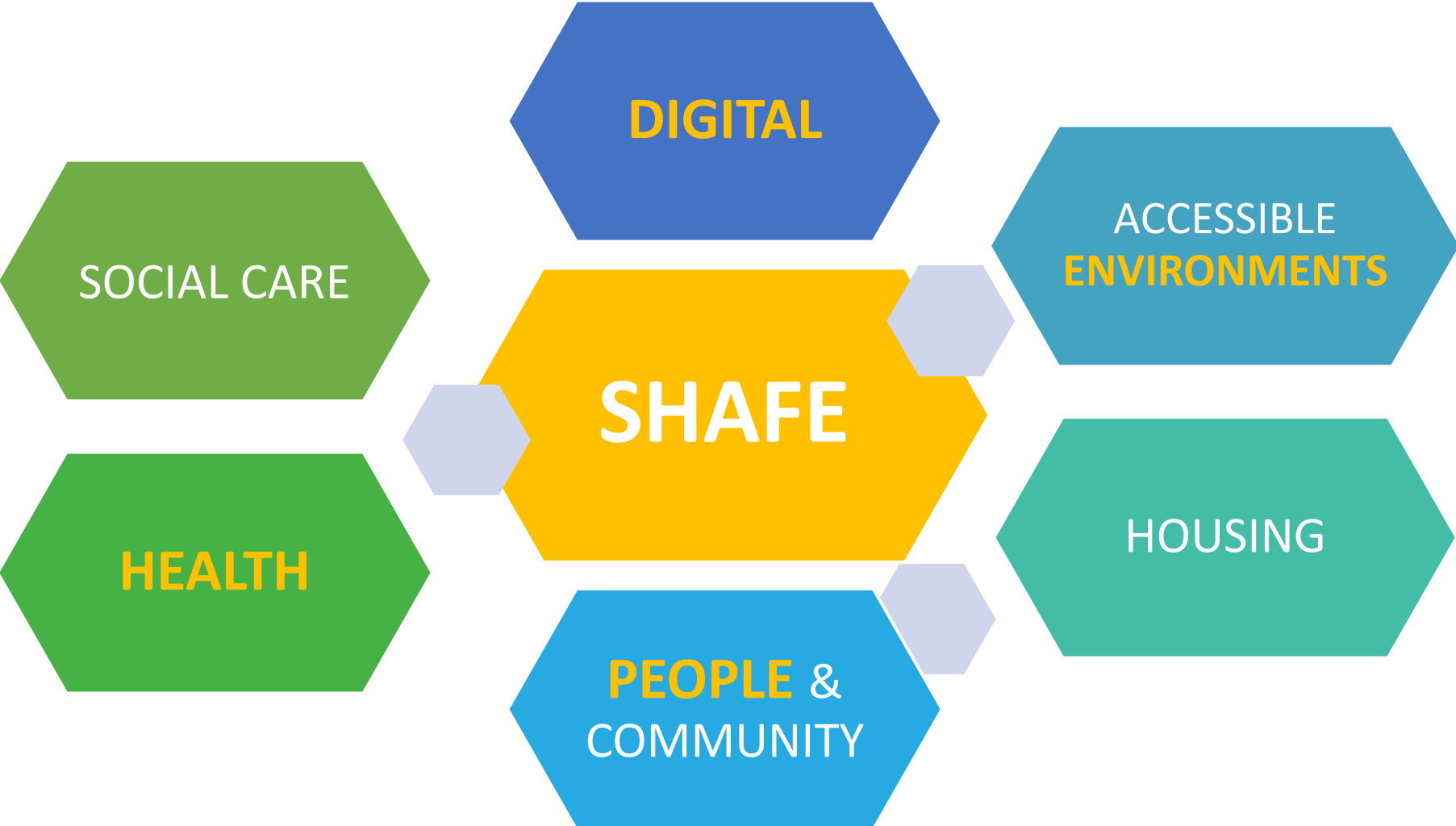
People should not need to adapt  
to environments or solutions



We advocate for solutions and  
environments that **include,  
adapt, grow, and respond to  
our personal needs, at any  
age or condition**

Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments





# IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE!







## Questions & Answers



**"Success is not final; failure is not fatal:  
It is the courage to continue that counts."**



**shine2.eu**



**shine2europe**



**Carina Dantas**



**[carinadantas@shine2.eu](mailto:carinadantas@shine2.eu)**



**+351 936 498 277**