THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

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ERA-AGE Conference 11th September 2012
AGENDA:

- The Emergence and Development of European Coordination of Ageing Research
- Building a European Research area in Ageing
- The Future of Ageing Research in Europe
MILESTONES IN EUROPEANISATION OF AGEING RESEARCH

1991-93  European observatory on Ageing and Older People
1992      Eurobarometer
1993      European Year of Older People and Solidarity Between Generations
1999      UN Year of Older People (the society for all ages)
1998-2002 FP5 Key Action 6
2000      First European Forum on Ageing Research
2001      FORUM, SHARE
2004      ERA-AGE
2006      AAL
2007      LINK AGE, AGE-ACTION
2008      Why We Age, FP7 Road Map
2009      ERA-AGE2
2009      FUTURAGE
2010      JPI, EIPAHA
2011      ERA-AGE Joint Call, FP7 calls
2013      FP8
THE NEED FOR EUROPEAN COORDINATION

- No systematic connections between centres of scientific excellence
- No Systematic links between research funders
- No concerted European perspective

RESULTING IN:
- Duplication of effort
- Failure to exploit the potential of the European research laboratory
- Many missed opportunities
- Europe less effective than North America

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BUILDING A EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING
Workshop 1
9th September 2002
Quality of life for older people
In partnership with DZFA, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Workshop 2
24th October 2002
Health and care management for older people
In partnership with WHO Healthy Ageing Programme, Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark

Workshop 3
10/11 January 2003
Ageing, Genetics and Longevity
In partnership with the University of Bologna/Italian Research Centre for Ageing Bologna, Italy

First meeting of the European Forum
10th March 2003, Brussels

User Consultation
2nd June 2003
In partnership with AGE Brussels

Workshop 4
3/4 October 2003
Health and care management for older people
In partnership with the Institute for Postgraduate Medical Education, Prague, Czech Republic

Workshop 5
27/28 October 2003
Quality of life for older people
Novartis Foundation London, UK

Workshop 6
20/21 February 2004
Ageing, Genetics and Longevity
In partnership with the University of Bologna/Italian Research Centre for Ageing Bologna, Italy

Second meeting of the European Forum
14th June 2004, Brussels

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THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE) 2004-12

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THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

Key Elements:

The European Forum

ERA-AGE Consortium

European Scientists
Essential that ageing features prominently in Framework Programmes

Establish a European Institute on Ageing (virtual)

Promote multidisciplinary collaboration

Ensure commitment to user involvement

Build capacity: attract and support new generation of researchers to the ageing field
THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

OBJECTIVES

- To facilitate coordination of existing ageing research programmes
- To promote multidisciplinary research activities between countries
- To share good practice in coordination and management of ageing programmes
- To develop European ageing research programmes
- To help break down the barriers between ageing research and policy and practice

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# THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

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<th>Partner Countries:</th>
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MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO EUROPEAN AGEING RESEARCH

- Creation of national research forums in partner countries (based on the UK model)
- Databases of research programmes and centres
- Development of key research priorities
- Good practice guides in research management
- A key part of FUTURAGE
- Europe’s first post – doctoral fellowship scheme
- Europe’s first joint programme of ageing research
Future Leaders of Ageing Research in Europe
Flare 1

- 2007-2010
- 18 Fellows
- Funded by: Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Romania, Sweden and the UK

Flare 2

- 2011-2014
- 9 Fellows and 6 Associate Fellows
- Funded by: Austria, Finland, France, Israel, Luxembourg, Romania, and Sweden.
FUTURE LEADERS OF AGEING RESEARCH

- 3 Years Post-doctoral Programme
- 33 Fellows
- 2 Cohorts: 2007 and 2011
- 9 Countries: Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Luxembourg, Romania, Sweden, UK
- Total Funding: €5 million
- Both Geographical and Disciplinary Mobility
- 4 Summer Schools
Key Features:

- Focus on EIPAHA goal of extending healthy life years
- High quality science
- Multidisciplinarity
- Cross-national collaboration
- User/stakeholder engagement
- Knowledge transfer (the 3P’s)
ERA-AGE PROGRAMME ON ACTIVE AND HEALTHY AGEING

- Europe's first joint research programme in the ageing field
- Launched June 2011
- Budget 4.2 Million Euros
- 12 funders in 9 countries: UK, Canada, Finland, France, Sweden, Israel, Luxembourg, Latvia, Romania
  - 35 applications were received to Stage One
  - 28 of which were peer-reviewed (7 were ineligible).
  - 12 applications were invited to Stage 2
  - 6 applications recommended for funding

Final results expected Autumn 2012
THE FUTURE OF AGEING RESEARCH IN EUROPE
THE FUTURE OF AGEING RESEARCH

- The FUTURAGE Road Map
- The European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing
- The Joint Programme Initiative ‘More Years, Better Lives’
- FP7, FP8
- ESF Researcher Development Framework
THE DEFINITIVE ROAD MAP FOR AGEING RESEARCH IN EUROPE (FUTURAGE)

PARTICIPANTS

- 11 ERA-AGE partners
- University of Namur (Belgium)
- University of Heidelberg (Germany)
- Italian National Institute on Ageing
- Universities of Leicester and Sheffield (UK)
- University of Tampere (Finland)
- Research Users: European Older People’s Platform(AGE), Age UK
THE DEFINITIVE ROAD MAP FOR AGEING RESEARCH IN EUROPE (FUTURAGE)

NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS AT COUNTRY LEVEL (WP1)

WP2 Biomedicine
WP3 Socio-Economic Resources
WP4 Environment and Ageing
WP5 Healthy Ageing
WP6 User Agenda

1st Scientific Workshops

COUNCIL OF SCIENTISTS MEETING 1 (WP7)
STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS 1 (WP7)

WP2
WP3
WP4
WP5
WP6

2nd Scientific Workshops

COUNCIL OF SCIENTISTS MEETING 2 (WP7)
STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS 2 (WP7)

1st Users Workshop

2nd Users Workshop

THE ROAD MAP (WP8)

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DESIGNING THE ROAD MAP

Overarching Principles:

- An Holistic Person – environment Approach to Ageing (All Disciplines)
- A Life Course Perspective (Continuous Ageing)
- Multi-disciplinarity (The New Science of Ageing)
- User / Stakeholder Engagement (The Key Role of Older People)
- Knowledge Exchange (Impact on Policy, Practice, Product Development)
- Diversity, Cross-national, Cross-cultural (The European Research Area)
- Capacity Building (The Next Generations)
- Maximising Technological Innovation (EU Priority)
Major Research Themes

- Healthy Ageing for More Life in Years
- Maintaining and Regaining Mental Capacity
- Inclusion and Participation in the Community and Labour Market
- Social Protection: Quality and Sustainability
- Ageing Well at Home and in Community Environments
- Unequal Ageing and Age-related Inequalities
- Biogerontology
THE PRIORITY OF ACTIVE AGEING

Active Ageing Across the Life-course

- Mental Capital
- Healthy Ageing
- Home and Community
- Bio-gerontology
- Inclusion and Social Participation
- Social Protection
- Unequal Ageing

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Four Implementation Priorities

- Framework Programme Priority for Ageing Research
- Infrastructure: A Virtual European Institute
- Capacity Building: Multi-disciplinarity, New Member states and the Next Generations
- Funding for User Engagement / Knowledge Exchange
THE FUTURE OF AGEING RESEARCH

- More Multi-disciplinary
- More Diverse in Methods (e.g. Translational, Social and Biological, Longitudinal)
- More Holistic Approach to Ageing (Life Course, Diversity, Contextual)
- Closer Reference to End Users, Including Older People (from subjects to partners)
- Greater Emphasis on Impact (the 3p’s)
- Close Cooperation Between all Member States

More Responsive to the Grand Challenge

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“Ageing research is an area of great social, political and economic importance for the European Union... I want to re-focus research and innovation polices very clearly on developing a coherent strategic research agenda which will tackle the grand societal challenges, which include both the promotion of healthy living and healthy ageing... These challenges can only be confronted if innovative and multi-disciplinary approaches are taken.”

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn
Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
15 April 2010
'For example, the ‘Futurage’ initiative is an FP7 European project which aims to produce a definitive road map which will guide European research on ageing for the next ten years to come. The ‘Futurage’ programme is undertaking the most extensive consultation ever conducted in this field and it is mobilising stakeholders, including medical practitioners, policy makers, industry and representatives of older people to work out the terms of this road map…'

Máire Geoghegan-Quinn  
Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation  
15 April 2010
The FUTURE OF AGEING RESEARCH

- The FUTURAGE Road Map
- The European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing
- The Joint Programme Initiative ‘More Years, Better Lives’
- FP7, FP8
- ESF Researcher Development Framework
NEW FP7 PROJECTS

INNOVAGE
Social Innovations Promoting Active and Healthy Ageing
- Develop and evaluate social Innovations
- New Web Platform
- Emphasis on Knowledge exchange/ NMS

MOPACT
Mobilising the Potential of Active Ageing in Europe
- Map the steps required to realise active ageing
- Projections of healthy life expectancy
- Economic scenarios for labour market and pensions
- Potential for biogerontological breakthroughs
- Measures to enhance social participation

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- The Emergence and Development of European Coordination of Ageing Research
- Building a European Research area in Ageing
- The Future of Ageing Research in Europe
- Conclusion: ERA-AGE/ERA-AGE+?