

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



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

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**

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

THE EMERGENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN COORDINATION OF AGEING RESEARCH

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
	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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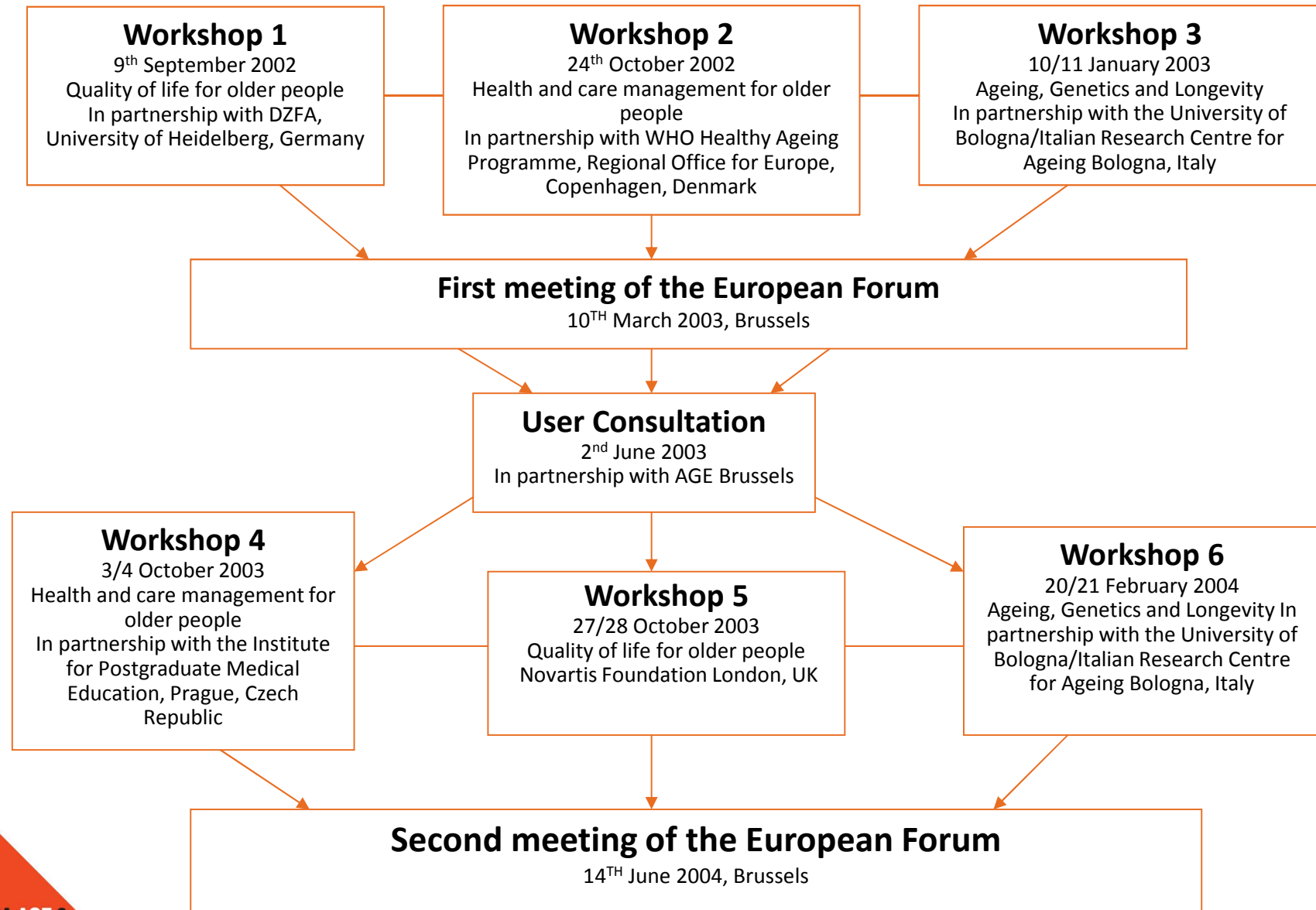
BUILDING A EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING

THE EUROPEAN FORUM 2002-4



www.ageingresearch.group.shef.ac.uk

European Forum on Population Ageing Research: Timeline of Events



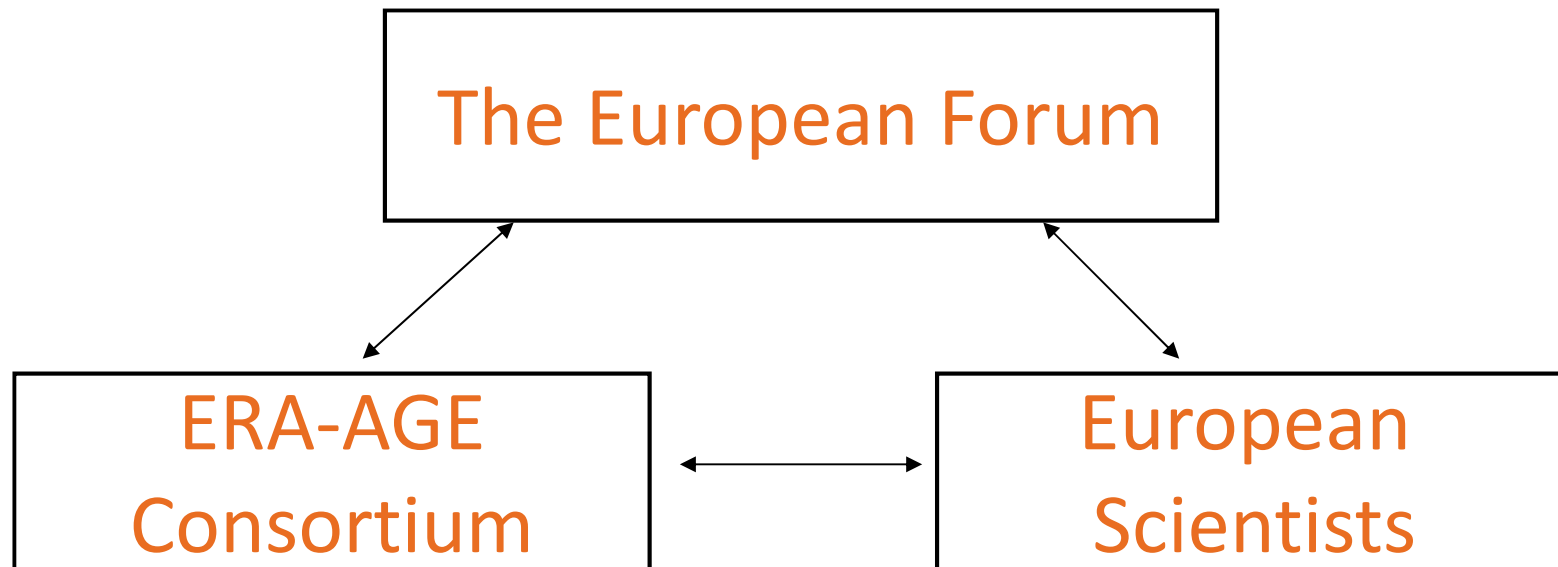
THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE) 2004-12



www.era-age.group.shef.ac.uk

THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

Key Elements:



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EUROPEAN FORUMS

- **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**

THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

Partner Countries:		Associate Partners:
Austria	Luxembourg	Canada
Bulgaria	Romania	Czech Republic
Finland	Spain	Lithuania
France	Sweden	Saxony (Germany)
Israel	United Kingdom (Coordinator)	Quebec (Canada)
Italy		Lower Silesia (Poland)
Latvia		Ireland

THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

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**



THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA IN AGEING (ERA-AGE)

Future Leaders of Ageing Research in Europe

THE FLARE POST – DOCTORAL PROGRAMME



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**



ERA-AGE JOINT RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Key Features:

- **Focus on EIPAA 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

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THE FUTURE OF AGEING RESEARCH IN EUROPE

THE FUTURE OF AGEING RESEARCH

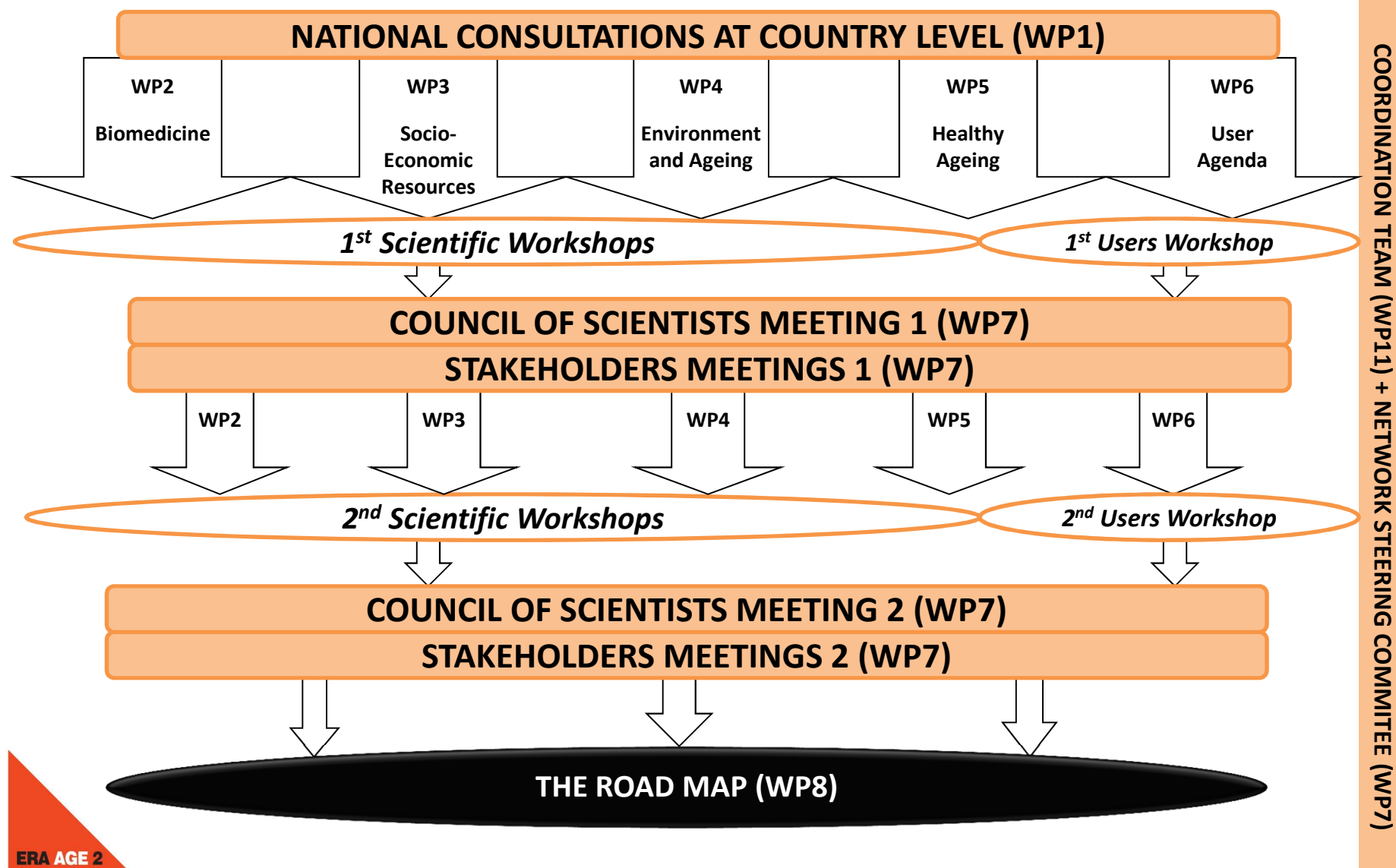
- **The FUTURAGE Road Map**
- **The European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing**
- **The Joint Programme Initiative ‘More Years, Better Lives’**
- **FP7, FP8**
- **ESF Researcher Development Framework**

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)



DESIGNING THE ROAD MAP

Overarching Principles:

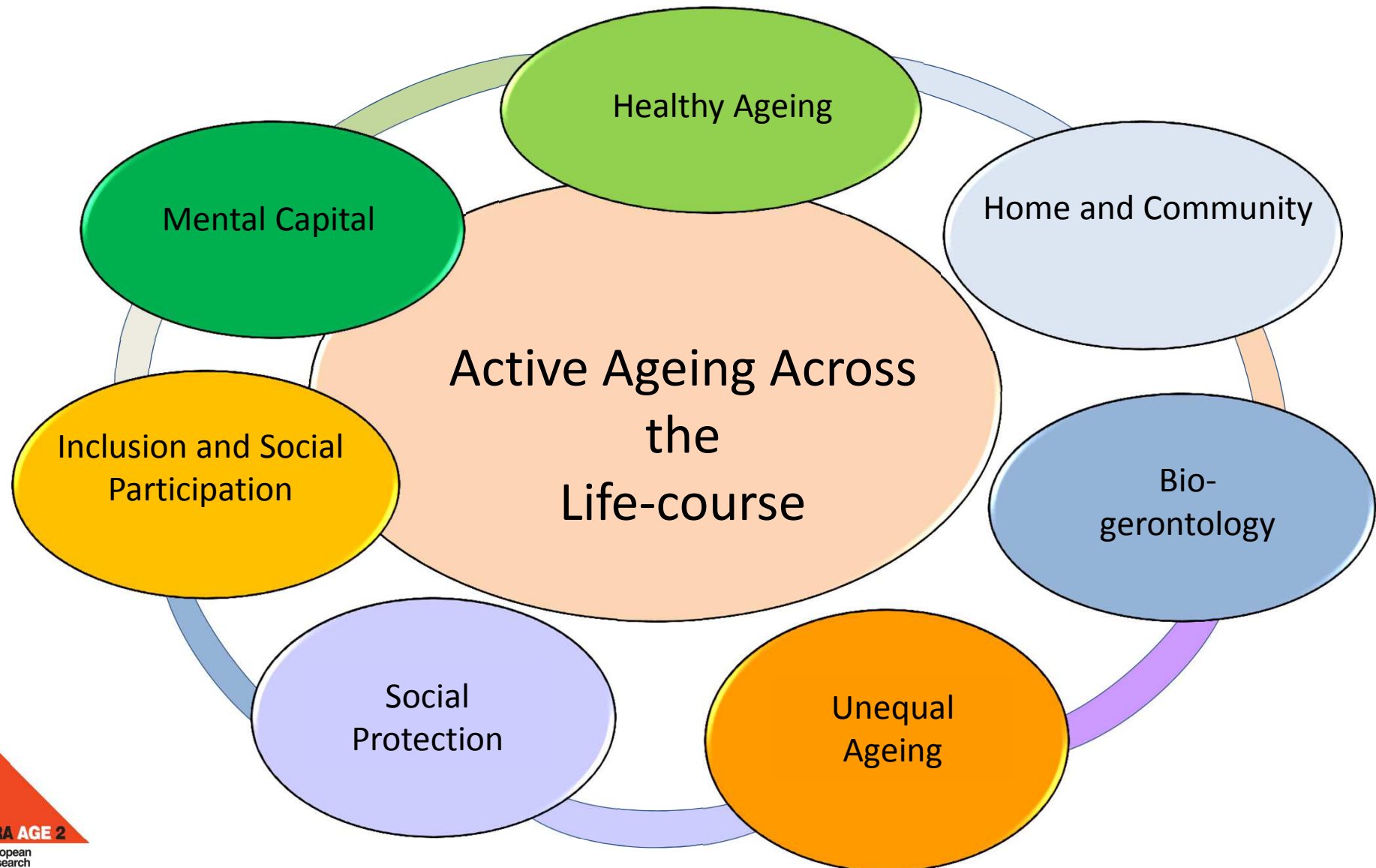
- **An Holistic Person – environment Approach to Ageing (All Disciplines)**
- **A Life Course Perspective (Continuous Ageing)**
- **Multi-disciplinarity (The New Science of Ageing)**
- **User / Stakeholder Engagement (The Key Role of Older People)**
- **Knowledge Exchange (Impact on Policy, Practice,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

DESIGNING THE ROAD MAP

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



THE FUTURAGE ROAD MAP

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

POLITICAL SUPPORT

“Ageing research is an area of great social, political and economic importance for the European Union... I want to re-focus research and innovation policies 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

POLITICAL SUPPORT

‘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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- **Building a European Research area in Ageing**
- **The Future of Ageing Research in Europe**
- **Conclusion: ERA-AGE/ERA-AGE+?**