



ERA AGE 2

European
Research
Area in
Ageing



**Project update 3
2011-2012**

Networking Activities

The ninth ERA-AGE Forum “Ageing Policy and Research in the New Member States” took place in Bucharest, Romania in November 2011. This was the first ERA-AGE Forum to be held in a New Member State (NMS) and was aimed at building research capacity. Hosted by ERA-AGE partner UEFISCDI, 66 attendees from 14 countries, including five Central and Eastern European countries and Albania, attended the event.

ERA-AGE partners in the NMS were asked to help shape the event to ensure that it addressed useful areas for the audience. The programme included a review of ageing policy in NMS, exchange of good practice, a panel with ERA-AGE 2 partners about capacity building and group discussions on future ageing priorities.

The tenth ERA-AGE Forum “ERA-AGE: from 2004 to 2020” took place in Brussels in September 2012 and represented the final ERA-AGE 2 conference. Over 150 participants from 28 countries in Europe and North America attended the event which reviewed the achievements of ERA-AGE from its inception in 2004, and looked forward to the ongoing European coordination activities in support of the goals of the Europe 2020 strategy.

The first half of the day included contributions from the ERA-AGE Coordinator, FLARE 1 and FLARE 2 Fellows as well as one of the funders of the Joint Call: Active and Health Ageing, to celebrate the three ground-breaking calls launched by the consortium. During the afternoon representatives from other EU initiatives were asked to comment on future European coordination: JPI More Years, Better Lives; Horizon 2020 and the European Innovation Partnership Pilot for Active and Healthy Ageing.

ERA-AGE 2 website

During the final year of the project the refresh of the database of research centres, funders, programmes and projects was completed and all ERA-AGE 1 archives were uploaded to the website. The website will remain as an archive of all ERA-AGE activities over both Framework Programme 6 and 7 funding.

Joint Calls



The final FLARE Summer School – the fourth in the series took place in Galway, Ireland in August 2012. It was hosted by the most recent ERA-AGE Associate Partner, CARDI, and the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology at NUI Galway. The four Summer Schools have been well spread over Europe, taking place in Sweden, Bulgaria, Spain and Ireland.

In total 37 post-docs and speakers from 12 different countries in Europe gathered on Monday 6th August 2012 for the next three days. FLARE 1 Fellows, FLARE 2 Fellows/Associate Fellows and post-docs from other countries nominated by members of ERA-AGE attended along with speakers specially nominated by Fellows. The programme was a mix of themed and scientific presentations and reflected the varied speaker recommendations; the discussion groups were similar varied. All FLARE 2 (Associate) Fellows were particularly pleased at the opportunity to give short presentations of their research projects.

The Summer School was used to make the initial call for a “FLARE results” book, an initiative started and led by one of the FLARE 2 Fellows. All FLARE Fellows have been asked to contribute chapters to a book currently planned for publication in 2015, which will share the results generated from the FLARE call.



The Joint Call: Active and Healthy Ageing Across the Life Course was finalised during 2012. A two-stage process, the call was launched in June 2011 with a budget of €4.2 million from 12 funders from 9 countries: Canada, Finland, France, Sweden, Israel, Luxembourg, Latvia, Romania and Canada.

In total 35 applications were received to Stage One; of these 7 were ineligible for funding and 28 were taken to peer-review for December 2012. Twelve of these applications were invited to submit a Stage 2 application which were taken through peer-review by June 2012. Six of these applications have been recommended for funding, and final results will be announced in October 2012, when all funding agencies have completed their internal processes.

The quality of applications was so high that a number of funding agencies have agreed to increase their budget to accommodate additional projects; in some cases new funders are financing partners in consortia where other sources are not available.



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