

**CA19136 - International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age-friendly Environments
(NET4Age-Friendly)**

FIRST GRANTS CALL for 4TH GRANT PERIOD

OPEN CALL for VM grants application

Summary of the Action

NET4Age-Friendly is a COST Action that aims to establish an international and interdisciplinary network of researchers from all sectors, to foster awareness and to support the creation and implementation of smart, healthy indoor and outdoor environments for present and future generations. To promote social inclusion, independent living and active and healthy ageing in society, the NET4Age-Friendly COST Action establishes an international and interdisciplinary network of researchers and stakeholders from all sectors. Its aim is to foster awareness, and to support the creation and implementation of smart, healthy indoor and outdoor environments for present and future generations. NET4Age-Friendly further aims to overcome fragmentation and critical gaps at both conceptual and pragmatic innovation level on responsive, age-friendly and sustainable environments to address European research and policy challenges.

The main approach of NET4Age-Friendly is the establishment of local or regional ecosystems in each COST country involved, to work on health and well-being in an age-friendly digital world. The ecosystems consist of citizens, public authorities, businesses/NGOs and researchers. They are supported by four thematic Working Groups: User-centered inclusive design in age-friendly environments and communities, Integrated health and well-being pathways; Digital solutions and large-scale sustainable implementation; Policy development, funding forecast and cost-benefit evaluations.

More about Action can be found [here](#) and Action MoU can be found [here](#).

APPLY for VM!

- ✓ Interested in bringing expertise to your own professional development?
 - ☞ Apply for a VM within a Specific Area of NET4Age-Friendly Interest
 - ☞ Make your innovative proposal in line with current WG tasks
 - ☞ Make your case and GO!

IMPORTANT NOTE: ONLY VM GRANTS THAT ARE IN LINE WITH THIS CALL AND TASKS WILL BE GRANTED!

What is a VM?

Virtual mobility (VM) consists of a collaboration in virtual setting among researchers or innovators within the COST Action, to exchange knowledge, learn new techniques, etc. VMs should:

- support capacity building and transfer of knowledge through bilateral/multilateral collaborations;
- Support specific / general topic that can help achieving the Action MoU objectives and deliverables (research coordination);
- include flexible and inclusive networking activities crucial to establish new collaborations or reinforce existing collaborations across disciplines and different sectors

More info about rules available via [link](#).

Specific tasks to be accomplished

WG1

1. Synthesize and enhance the current state of knowledge and practices concerning the inclusive design of innovative solutions for Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments in line with **D6. WG final report on user-centered design of AFE**:
 - *Develop a list of evaluation criteria for solutions to be implemented and validate these criteria with the collaboration of the host and the task force,*
 - *Analyze each of the potential solutions and prepare Deliverable 6 within working subgroups, creating charts, tables, and diagrams to present the evaluations. This document will establish a benchmark for currently available technologies in terms of inclusion, accessibility, usability, and engagement, focusing on environmental, design, technology, and infrastructure design thinking. The host and the task force will provide assistance.*

☒ Main [contacts](#) and more about **WG1**: User-centred inclusive design of age-friendly environments and communities.

WG2

1. Synthesize and improve the state of the art and practices for the **D7. WG final report on integrated health and wellbeing pathways**:
 - *Desk research and report on scientific and scope literature about national implementations of integrated healthcare (characteristics, metadata, and comparison of different countries) for the people under age of 65. Write a chapter in the deliverable with the help of the host and the task force.*

☒ Main [contacts](#) and more about **WG2**: Integrated health and well-being pathways.

WG3

1. Synthesize and improve the state of the art and good practices for the **D8. WG final report on digital innovation and implementation**, contributing to the final Module on digital innovations and implementation for framework:
 - *Desk research and report on background and challenges, scope, purpose, targeting stakeholders, analyzing the existing knowledge base, and improving it with new data).*

☒ Main [contacts](#) and more about **WG3**: Digital solutions and large-scale sustainable implementation.

WG4

1. Evaluation modeling in SHAFE for the **D5. WG report on effective business and evaluation models**:
 - *topic modeling (insights into the underlying themes and concepts embedded in the D4 report and other relevant documents under investigation)*
 - *innovation modeling: to propose Roadmap for SHAFE innovative projects with a special focus on healthcare projects (with an overview of Funding Programs, Risk Analysis, Exploitation Strategies).*
 - *business models for architecture and nature-based solutions.*

☒ Main [contacts](#) and more about **WG4**: SHAFE impact and sustainability: policy development, funding forecast and cost benefit evaluations.

Deadlines

- Deadline for submission of applications: **December 10th, 2023**

*The applications will be evaluated on **the first come first served basis**, to ensure smooth process and avoid delays that could hamper finalizing the deliverables. Applicants will be informed within e-COST and application account. All VM grants should be dated and finished until January 4th.*

Applications should be made online at the [e-COST website](#). Your application will be considered by the Grant Awarding Committee for NET4Age-Friendly. Before filling out the application, please consult the VM rules provided. In case you have any questions about the application procedure or rules, please contact the **Grant Awarding Coordinator, Milica Solarević** at milica.solarevic@dgt.uns.ac.rs.

Grant awarding Committee

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