



## CLOSING MESSAGE

Dear NET4Age-Friendly Participants, Partners, and Friends,

As we bring this extraordinary four-year journey to a close, we would like to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for the incredible dedication, passion, and collaboration that each of you has contributed to this COST Action. Together, over 775 participants from 50 countries came together to form a truly international and interdisciplinary network, working across borders, cultures, and sectors with a shared vision.

Our collective mission—to create Smart, Healthy, and Inclusive Environments for both present and future generations—could not have been achieved without your tireless efforts. Your contributions have not only fostered greater awareness of the importance of age-friendly environments but have also laid the groundwork for meaningful and lasting impact in communities around the world. The diversity of thought, innovation, and commitment we have witnessed throughout this Action has been nothing short of inspiring.

To all of you—researchers, policymakers, practitioners, advocates and citizens—thank you for your trust in this vision and for your invaluable contributions. This network has become more than a collaborative platform; it has become a testament to what we can achieve when we work together with shared purpose and passion.

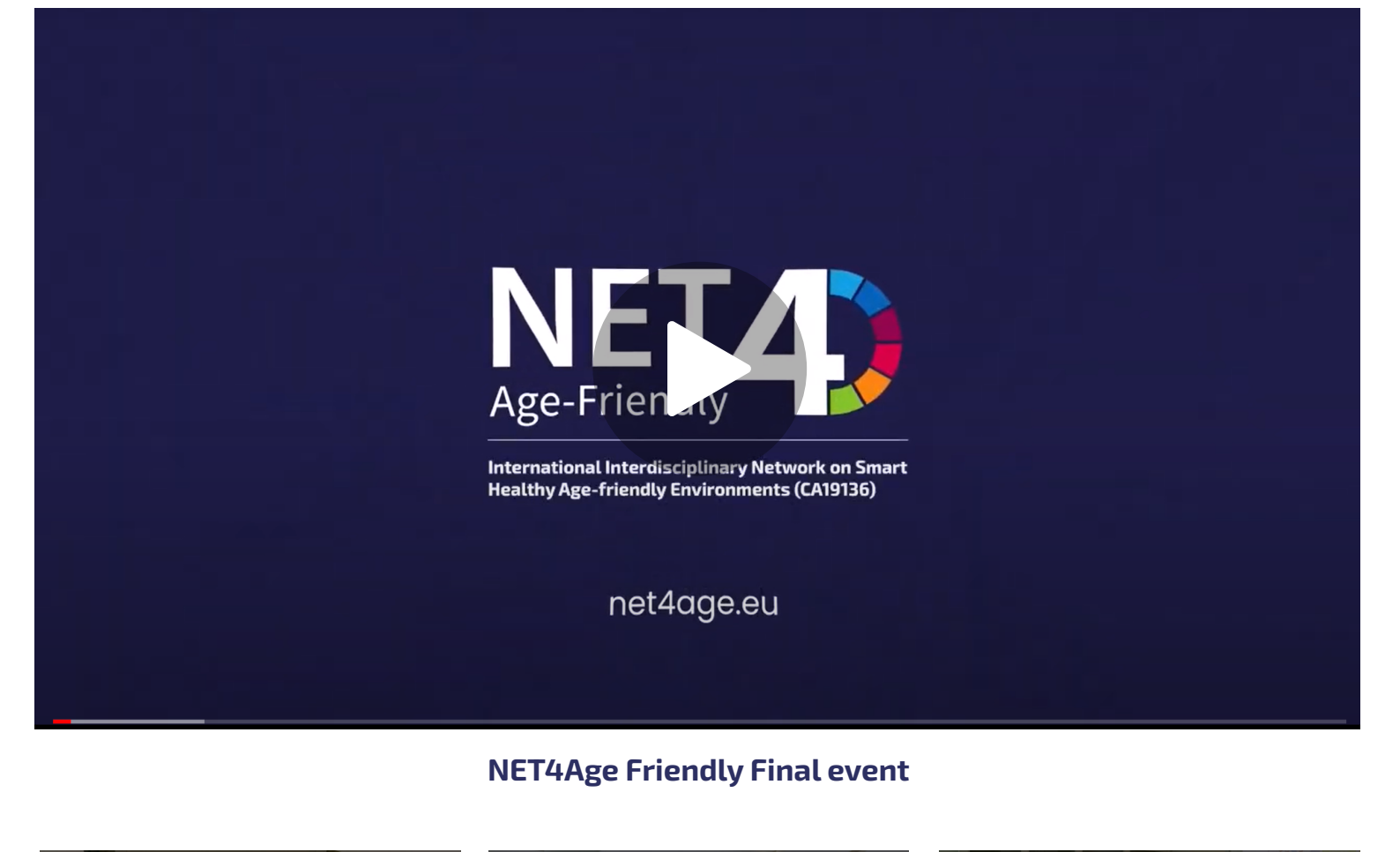
As we look ahead, we are filled with pride in what we have accomplished and hope for what lies ahead. Though this phase has come to an end, the work continues, and the SHAFÉ Foundation is getting ready to support future generations in shaping healthier and more inclusive spaces for all.

With heartfelt appreciation,  
Carina Dantas, Chair of NET4Age-Friendly  
Willeke van Staalduinen, Vice-Chair of NET4Age-Friendly



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### EU WEEK FOR SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES: THE FUTURE IS SHAFÉ



#### NET4Age Friendly Final event



#### Day 1: Opening of the Final Event

#### Day 2: Committee of the Regions

#### Day 3: The closing day of our Final Event

#### Day 1 Opening of the Final Event

The EU Week for Sustainable and Inclusive Communities kicked off in Brussels, at Odyssee University, with a packed room full of enthusiastic participants. The opening event, titled "The Future is SHAFÉ," showcased advancements in creating smart, healthy, and inclusive environments for all generations. For those unable to attend in person, an online link was provided, promoting digital inclusion for all interested parties.

#### Day 2 Committee of the Regions

The second day of the EU Week for Sustainable and Inclusive Communities, kicked off with an opening session led by Carina Dantas and Willeke van Staalduinen, the chair and vice-chair of the COST Action NET4Age-Friendly. This was also the day of the handover of NET4Age-Friendly, with a symbolic event where the main achievement of these projects were delivered to regional representatives.

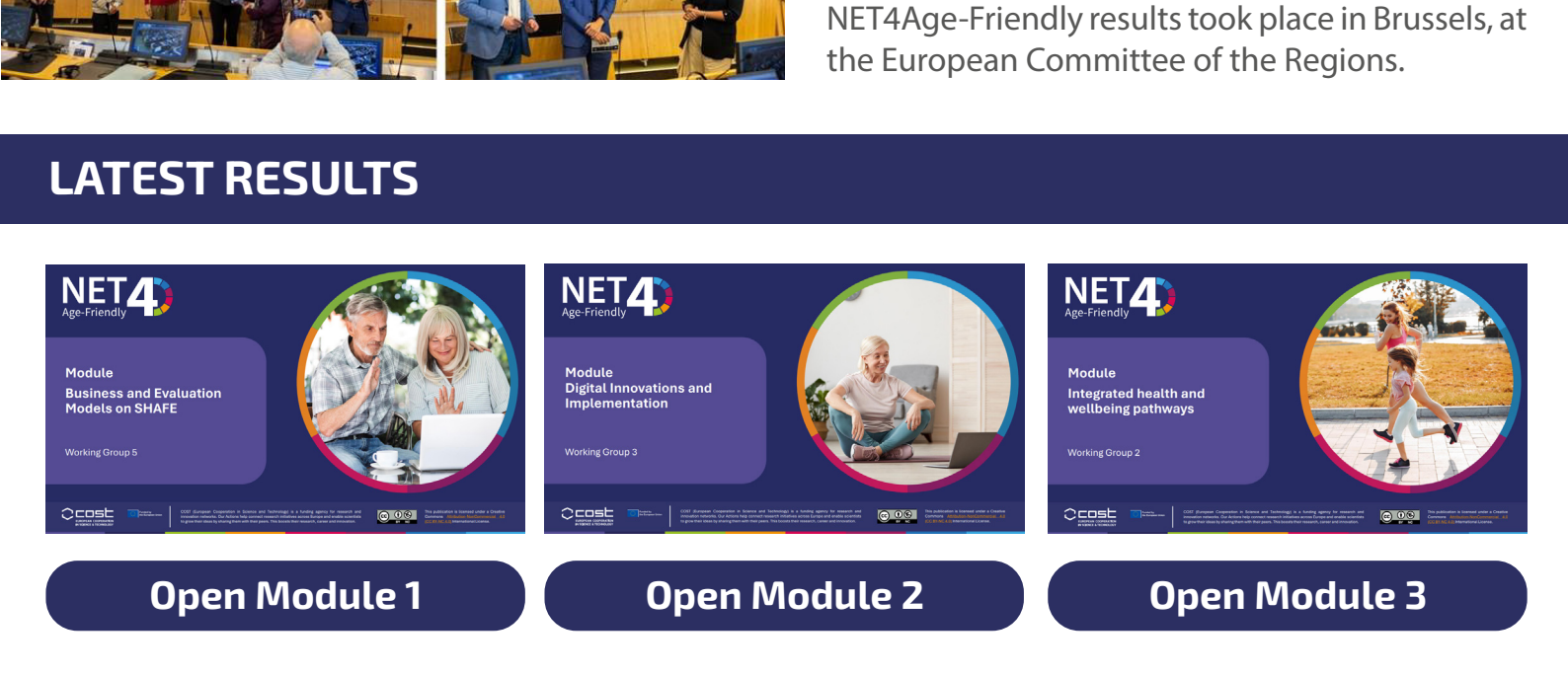
#### The closing day of our Final Event

On the third day of the EU Week on Sustainable and Inclusive Communities: the Future is SHAFÉ, the NET4Age-Friendly network contributed significantly to the discussions, reinforcing its mission to create smart, healthy, and inclusive environments.

#### NET4Age-Friendly and SIRENE results delivered at the Committee of the Regions, in Brussels

On October 2, 2024, as part of the EU Week for Sustainable and Inclusive Communities: the Future is SHAFÉ, the handover of SIRENE and NET4Age-Friendly results took place in Brussels, at the European Committee of the Regions.

#### LATEST RESULTS



#### WHAT'S NEXT?

#### Do you want to further collaborate with this network and foster SHAFÉ environments?

You can continue doing so through the SHAFÉ Foundation!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

And we will contact you in the following weeks with more information and follow-up activities.

## TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE

#### NET4Age-Friendly Training School Tackles AI, Ethics, and Medical Applications

From September 10-12, the NET4Age-Friendly Training School took place in Prague, Czech Republic, bringing together 30 students and expert speakers to explore the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI), ethics, and medical applications.

#### NET4Age-Friendly Training School in Croatia was a great success

The NET4Age-Friendly Training School on Value-Based Health Care Model implementation in Age-Friendly care services, was held from July 1-3, 2024, at the University of Rijeka's Faculty of Medicine in Croatia.

#### Workshop for young researchers and innovators on SHAFÉ frameworks

As part of the International Conference on Using Social Innovation to Implement Inclusive Environments and SHAFÉ Communities in EU Regions, young researchers and innovators were invited to participate in a focused workshop on Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments (SHAFÉ) frameworks.

#### Book chapter on SHAFÉ highlights NET4Age-Friendly's impact

A new book chapter on Smart Health Age-Friendly Environments (SHAFÉ) is now available, emphasizing the effectiveness of digital solutions in improving quality of life (QoL) and health outcomes.

#### NET4Age and the Sustainable Development Goals

NET4Age was invited to participate in the COST Connect event on the Sustainability Development Goals (SDG) on 9-10 October 2024. Only COST Actions working to achieve the SDG Goals of the United Nations were invited.

#### NET4Age-Friendly presented at PAAR-NET Knowledge Exchange in Frankfurt

On September 6, Willeke Van Staalduinen, Vice Chair of the NET4Age-Friendly, presented the work of our COST Action at the PAAR-NET (Participatory Approaches Older Adults) Knowledge Exchange, held at Goethe University in Frankfurt.

#### NET4Age presented at the Gerontology Days

On October 11th 2024, vice-chair Willeke van Staalduinen presented the Reference Framework of the COST Action and the Social Innovation Framework of SIRENE at the Gerontological Days 2024 International Scientific Conference. The presentation took place at the Session of the Association for Women's Career Development In Hungary.

#### FOLLOW US & FIND OUT MORE

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