I-STAY@HOME

ICT Solutions for an Ageing Society





Developments 2013

Foundation Smart Homes
European Territorial Cooperation
ICT Solutions for an Ageing Society EBZ Business School GmbH
European Regional Development Fund

State of France SAS

Germany
EFL European Federation for Living De Woonplaats
de ideale woning c.v.

France Strengthening Communities Joseph-Stiftung
Le Foyer Rémois
Staedion HABINTEG Housing Association Ltd
SOPHIA living network

THE TASKS

The project will run from 2012 till 2015. During this time, the partners will together deliver four phases of work:

- Identify and consider the core concerns of older and disabled people in terms of their ongoing independence at home (2012).
- Make a pre-selection of affordable ICT based products and services that are currently available (2013).
- Live test the selected solutions in about 200 homes of tenants from the participating housing organizations (2014).
- Publish details of the products and services via a database platform to make them better available for the elderly tenants and housing providers.

THE MISSION

People across Europe are living longer now than ever before and the distinct needs and concerns of older and disabled people as members of society is an increasingly important topic for governments and service planners.

I-stay@home (ICT SoluTions for an Ageing societY) involves housing providers as well as technical partners from North West Europe and aims to identify, select and test a range of affordable ICT (information communications technology) solutions that can help older people to continue living independently in their homes.

The consortium partners are emphasizing aspects such as safety, health and comfort when evaluating products and services, in addition to energy consumption and communication.

The project partners believe that a being supported at home should be possible for all, irrespective of income or economic background. Affordability is therefore another important criteria for all devices, services and solutions that are chosen for testing.



PROGRESS 2013

BEST PRACTICE PRODUCTS - ICT SOLUTIONS AND SERVICES

In 2013, the I-stay@home partnership contacted numerous suppliers and service providers of ICT-based support solutions. The aim of the exercise was to obtain information on market-ready products and services to examine their suitability for elderly and disabled tenants as they look to live longer in their own homes.

In total, 114 companies completed a request for information across five of the participating countries. Products were then categorised, evaluated, and organised into a product catalogue with schematic illustrations. The most important categories are therefore provided below. Details about the individual products can be found online in the I-stay@home wiki-style catalogue.

DAILY LIFE ORGANISATION

Products falling under this category deal with interacting communication systems, giving clients greater access to a wider range of services from the comfort of their home and allowing them to more easily organise their lives.

SPECIAL SENSOR TECHNOLOGY

This category deals with products that would use a sensor to monitor tenants' behaviour, in order to help and protect them. A mattress sensor, for example, would monitor if the client leaves their bed at night and would trigger an alarm if they fall from it.

SAFETY

Products in this category are evaluated in terms of monitoring clients' behaviour, recognising danger, and setting up a nurse-call. Some of the products also deal with GPS data in order to locate a client's whereabouts.

TELEMEDICINE

Products are placed under this category if a client's medical data would be monitored or transferred in any way; for example, for personal monitoring purposes, or to be passed on to a medical professional for interpretation and advice.

ACCESSIBILITY

This category includes all products that would help clients to cope with some kind of disability, for instance products like toilet- or stair-lifts, portable ramps, accessible bathroom tools and door control systems.

WELLNESS ASPECTS

This category includes all products that are "good to have" but might not be necessary in everyone's everyday life. Some examples of such technology are day/night clocks, pill reminders, and item locator devices.



HOME AUTOMATION

Products in this category are concerned with automating tasks that clients would normally have to carry out themselves. Examples from this product category would be wireless door openers, voice-activated environmental controls, robotic cleaners or products concerned with energy efficiency.

HELP FOR LIMITED MOTOR SKILLS

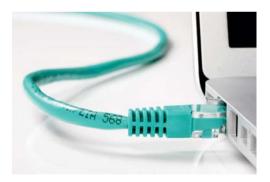
This category includes products that help clients to cope with limited motor skills, like special care beds, page-turning machines, or rehabilitation products.

OTHER

This category contains products that would not fit in any of the above categories. Examples would be staff-protection alarms and an online magazine for elderly people.



CHOICE OF BEST PRACTICE PRODUCTS



Once all the products were categorised, a thorough evaluation of each was carried out. The evaluation process included live tests by social workers and a determination of the extent to which each product met the needs of tenants and housing organisations. All products were rated using a point scale, which resulted in a ranking of products; high ranking products covering many desired aspects.

The project's technical partners then made a pre-selection of desired technologies based on technical

information of the ICT products and the potential to have them integrated into the IT platform.

After the evaluation, 31 products and services were selected. These met most of the requirements of the project and were primarily in the categories of home automation, daily life organization, telecare, sensors, and wellness technologies. The final decision about the products to be implemented in tenant homes will be taken at the Reims conference in November 2013.

The selected products will be installed in tenants' homes in early 2014. Results emanating from the pilot will be shared with partners at the

Next I-stay@home event: September 2014 in the Netherlands

AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE: THE I-STAY@HOME WIKI

When tenants were asked to highlight the types of technological solutions that would assist them in maintaining more independent lives, most were not able to think of any solutions. This indicates only a very basic awareness of the availability of technological solutions.

The I-stay@home Wiki aims to raise awareness amongst tenants and to easily inform them about the ICT solutions that are available across the European market. The Wiki also includes an independent evaluation of each product.

The online catalogue is available in English, French, German, and Dutch. Readers can sort by several criteria, for example by individual need or by product category. Additionally, products that qualified for the testing phase can also be found separately. At the end of the project, this will be replaced by a listing of all identified best-practice products.



THE PARTNERS

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EBZ Business School, Bochum, Germany

Foundation Smart Homes, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

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The project is observed by: European Federation for Living

