FUTURAGE
A Road Map for Ageing Research

Funded by the European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme
FP7-HEALTH-2007-318236

Shaping the future of European ageing research
FUTURAGE is a two-year project funded by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme, to create the definitive Road Map for ageing research in Europe for the next 10-15 years.

Drawing on experts and other key stakeholders from Europe and beyond, the Road Map will represent the most extensive consultation ever conducted in this field and identify the main priorities on ageing and health from a multi-disciplinary perspective.

Through a series of events, academic and non-academic stakeholders will engage in a state-of-the-art assessment of research priorities, emerging fields and methods to build consensus on the research priorities in ageing until 2025.

FUTURAGE brings together 23 partners from across Europe to collaborate on the Road Map. Embodying a range of disciplinary and non-academic specialisms, all partners are committed to securing the future of ageing research in Europe.

Members of the European Research Area in Ageing (ERA-AGE 2) are the major partners in FUTURAGE.

The project is being co-ordinated by the University of Sheffield, and is supported by a Steering Committee and a Council of Scientists.

The project runs for 24 months from September 2009 to August 2011.
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The project runs for 24 months from September 2009 to August 2011.
The specific objectives of the project are:
1. To promote state-of-the-art assessments of research priorities, newly emerging fields and methods including user involvement for the next 10–15 years. These will form the basis for the Road Map document.
2. To engage Europe’s leading scientists, from the main disciplinary groups relevant to healthy ageing, well being and quality of life, in a collective endeavour to prioritise ageing research.
3. To also engage the key stakeholders in ageing research – funders, policy makers, practitioners, product producers (especially SMEs) and older people – in this process so that the final Road Map commands widespread support and is of lasting relevance.
4. To help to close the gap between science and society by informing the public about ageing research and its importance. This communication will be done chiefly via the project website and newsletters.
5. To successfully launch the definitive Road Map in a high profile European event.

Activities:
To achieve the objectives of FUTURAGE, a series of consultations are planned. To create the Road Map the project will identify the main priorities for research on ageing based on the widest possible consensus between key stakeholders ranging from policy makers to product producers and retailers. A key principle is the close involvement of older people in this process.

Key stages of the project
1. National consultations will be conducted in the 11 countries that form the European Research Area in Ageing (ERA-AGE 2)
2. A set of interactive workshops with scientists and stakeholders for each of the four scientific themes, and the user engagement theme
3. A stakeholder meeting of high level research funders, policy makers and practitioners in the ageing fields and representatives of older people
4. A review of project outputs by the Council of Scientists
5. A second set of scientific and user engagement workshops will take place, developing and refining the outputs from the first stage of work.
6. A second stakeholder meeting will take place to provide high level insight into the developing Road Map
7. The Council of Scientists will review outputs from the second round of workshops and stakeholder meeting
8. The creation of the final Road Map and launch at a conference in summer 2011

A partnership approach
FUTURAGE is a broad partnership between the main coordinated actions under FP5 and FP6 (FORUM, LINKAGE and AGE-ACTION); major integrated and other projects under FP7; the WiMiAge consortium; representatives of older people, and; the existing ERA-AGE consortium.
The Council of Scientists are drawn from project leaders of these major European ageing research projects, and they will provide advice to ensure the Road Map delivers a viable and realistic strategy.

Introducing our partners:

**Austria**
- Austrian Academy of Sciences

**Belgium**
- University of Namur
- Carlos von Bonhert - Consultant

**Bulgaria**
- Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

**European Union**
- AGE Platform Europe

**Finland**
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- University of Tampere

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- Laboratorio di scienze della cittadinanza

**Latvia**
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**Spain**
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**UK**
- University of Leicester
- Age UK
- The University of Sheffield, UK (Co-ordinator)

**Coordination Team:**
- Professor Alan Walker (Director)
- Juliet Craig (Senior Research Manager)
- Anouska Kettle (Research Manager)
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- Zoe Nwosu (Financial Administrator)
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3. To also engage the key stakeholders in ageing research – funders, policy makers, practitioners, product producers (especially SMEs) and older people – in this process so that the final Road Map commands widespread support and is of lasting relevance.

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1. National consultations will be conducted in the 11 countries that form the European Research Area in Ageing (ERA-AGE 2)

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3. A stakeholder meeting of high-level representatives of older people and representatives of the ageing field

4. A review of project outputs by the Council of Scientists

5. A second set of scientific and user engagement workshops will take place, developing and refining the outputs from the first stage of work.

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8. The creation of the final Road Map and launch at a conference in summer 2011

Theme areas:

FUTURAGE is structured around four broad scientific themes:

• Biogerontology: including biology, biomedicine, genetics and molecular biogerontology

• Social and economic resources: sociology, economics, care science, social policy, philosophy and ethics

• Environments of ageing: psychology, occupational therapy, and transport planning, engineering, architecture, social geography, urban planning, health and social policy, technology, sociology, and design.

• Healthy ageing (physical and mental): health sciences, psychology, clinical sciences, geriatrics and general practice.

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Key stages of the project

1. National consultations will be conducted in the 11 countries that form the European Research Area in Ageing (ERA-AGE 2).
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3. A stakeholder meeting of high-level representatives of older people.
4. A review of project outputs by the Coordination Team.
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Thematic areas:

- Healthy ageing (physical and mental): health sciences, psychology, clinical sciences, geriatrics and general practice.
- Biogerontology: including biology, biomedicine, genetics and molecular biogerontology.
- Social and economic resources: sociology, economics, care science, social policy, and ethics.
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The project runs from September 2009 to August 2011.

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Funded by the European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme
FP7-HEALTH-2007-8/No 223679