

A new #HorizonEurope project was kick-started on October 7th, in a hybrid meeting held in Coimbra.

SIRENE | Social Innovation Responsive Environments Network aims to support the **growth of social innovation ecosystems** delivering **eco-friendly and sustainable community-based services for SHAFE** (Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments) implementation in Europe, by providing a workable **framework for investment** and the broad adoption of **high-quality smart living solutions**, combining the **housing sector and ICT** infrastructure.



Social innovation can be understood as innovation in social relations, in power dynamics and in governance transformations, and includes institutional and systems transformations. In order to support this needed transformation, six organisations form the consortium:

- **SHINE 2Europe Lda** (Portugal) | Coordinator
- **AFEdemy**, Academy on Age-Friendly Environments in Europe BV (The Netherlands)
- **ECHALLIANCE** Company Limited by Guarantee (Ireland)

- **F6S** Network Ireland Limited (Ireland)
- **ISRAA** - Istituto per Servizi di Ricovero e Assistenza Agli Anziani (Italy)
- Fundacion **Tecnalia** Research & Innovation (Spain).

There have been several initiatives aiming to promote innovation and support stakeholders to increase investments in relevant societal areas. However, their impact often runs short in the mid- and long-term. SIRENE identifies as a winning approach to **connect stakeholders by having them working together towards a Social Innovation framework and supporting tools**, claiming that this joint collaborative and co-creative work will increase awareness on social innovation, create alliances and synergies between stakeholders and ensure that business actors have access to social innovation and entrepreneurial knowledge.

For the next 2 years, SIRENE will thus **connect experts and ecosystems in all 27 EU countries** and co-create a workable social innovation framework for promoting **large-scale investment** in building, retrofitting and adaptation of the housing market.

Through a set of support activities and tools, SIRENE will also develop a **sustainability strategy** to enable the framework implementation and access to funding, by harnessing the potential of smart technologies to support inclusive, eco-friendly and independent living.

The SIRENE project will leverage on the networks and outcomes of the SHAFE Network and COST Action 19136 NET4Age-Friendly (SHINE and AFEdemy coordination) the ECTP and Homes4Life (Tecnalia), the Thematic Innovation Ecosystem on Housing and Health (ECHA and ISRAA), as well as the F6S business community.

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CONTACT:

Carina Dantas

CEO SHINE 2Europe and SIRENE Project Coordinator

carinadantas@shine2.eu | +351936498277