

European Union-Funded Project Makes Significant Strides in Social Innovation and Smart Healthy Ageing

In a concerted effort to enhance social innovation within Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments (SHAFE), the SIRENE project, co-funded by the European Union, has marked a year and a half of groundbreaking achievements. SIRENE supports the growth of social innovation actors in eco-friendly and sustainable community-based services for SHAFE implementation in Europe, by providing a workable framework for investment.

Foundational Achievements and Collaborative Success

With the foundations laid for a comprehensive social innovation framework, SIRENE's journey began with the development of an innovators' manual and a blueprint of best practices. This initiative was further bolstered by identifying leading strategies within Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environment (SHAFE) ecosystems, and the proposition of a trans-national local-sphere model, aimed at embedding social innovation in age-friendly contexts among wider groups of stakeholders.

The project's strength lies in its collaborative spirit, uniting **51 experts from 26 EU and other European countries** such as Norway, Georgia, and Serbia. Through the Expert Hub, these professionals have joined forces to co-create and refine the social innovation framework, share their expertise spanning from policy making, social housing, to IT and architecture.

Innovative Platforms and Strategic Developments

SIRENE has successfully launched an [Expert Hub platform](#) to facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building among social innovation (SI) ecosystems. In addition, our community of experts actively contributes to [SIRENE repository](#), a cloud-based resource fostering eco-friendly and inclusive environments.

Through the Ecosystems Engagement Survey, series of webinars and training, SIRENE is conducting an analysis that will shape a three-level support plan for enhancing local and regional ecosystems, creates toolbox for social innovators and sustainability strategy to ensure the application of outputs even past the project's duration.

Expanding Horizons through Synergy and Engagement

SIRENE's influence has been magnified through synergies with seven distinct initiatives, such as the DHU, AFC Toolkit, and the SHAFE Foundation, showcasing the project's integrative approach to innovation. Participation in **over 20 events** has amplified SIRENE's vision, goals, and achievements, garnering widespread recognition and support.

An Invitation to Collaborate and Innovate

As SIRENE progresses into its next phase, we extend an open invitation to innovators, policymakers, and communities to join us in shaping the future of smart, healthy, and age-friendly living. **With your contribution, we can collectively enhance the well-being and inclusivity of environments across Europe.**

For those interested in contributing to this journey, more information on our progress, collaborations, and how to get involved is available through our platforms and initiatives.

Together, we can drive the change towards more sustainable, healthy, and inclusive societies.

About SIRENE

SIRENE project is co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

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