

Newsletter Nº4

**Fundación Canaria Parque Científico
Tecnológico de la Universidad de
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Focus on Active Ageing

Definition: Active ageing means helping people stay in charge of their own lives for as long as possible as they age and, where possible, to contribute to the economy and society.

The EU population, like those of most other world regions, is living longer and in better health. Since 1960, life expectancy has climbed by eight years, and demographic projections foresee a further five-year increase over the next forty years. This is an historic achievement. It means however that, together with the low birth rates of the past decades, Europe's population is ageing fast, something that is happening all over the world with the exception of the poorest countries. The European Statistical Office projects that by 2060 there will be only two people of working age (15-64) in the EU for every person aged over 65, compared to a ratio of four to one today. The strongest push in this direction is expected to occur during the period 2015-35 when the baby boomers, who were born in the two decades after World-War II, start to retire.

Ageing is perceived by many as a threat instead of one of our greatest achievements. The growing number of older people is seen as a burden on the working-age population. These fears neglect, however, the fact that a growing number of older people are in good health, have valuable skills and experience and are willing to make a significant contribution to society, a contribution from which young people can strongly benefit. Allowing people to stay active as they grow older and to continue contributing to society is key to tackling the challenge of demographic ageing.

Active ageing is not just about the participation of older workers in the labour market, it's about their active contribution to society through voluntary work, notably as family carers, or the possibility to live independently thanks to adapted housing and infrastructure.

The Active Ageing Index

The index measures the extent to which older people can realise their full potential in terms of employment, participation in social and cultural life and independent living. It also measures the extent to which the environment they live in enables seniors to lead an active life.

The newly developed wiki is an easy way to access all information relevant to the AAI and will be continuously updated with the latest information available. It includes a special introductory [policy brief](#), information on the AAI conceptual framework, methodology and results. It also provides potential users with access to an excel file that contains detailed data sets on the AAI for the EU Member States.

The AAI is a product of a joint project undertaken in 2012 by the European Commission Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion together with the Population Unit of the UNECE and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna.

To access the Active Ageing Index wiki please [click here](#).

European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing

With the Innovation Union strategy the European Commission aims to enhance European competitiveness and tackle societal challenges through research and innovation.

One way in which this is to be achieved is with Innovation Partnerships. Their unique strength is that they will address weaknesses in the European research and innovation system (notably, under-investment, conditions which are not sufficiently innovation-friendly, and fragmentation and duplication), which considerably complicate the discovery or exploitation of knowledge and, in many cases, ultimately prevent the entry of innovations into the market place.

The European Commission has identified active and healthy ageing as a major societal challenge common to all European countries, and an area which presents considerable potential for Europe to lead the world in providing innovative responses to this challenge.

The European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing will pursue a triple win for Europe:

1. enabling EU citizens to lead healthy, active and independent lives while ageing;
2. improving the sustainability and efficiency of social and health care systems;
3. boosting and improving the competitiveness of the markets for innovative products and services, responding to the ageing challenge at both EU and global level, thus creating new opportunities for businesses.

This will be realised in the three areas of prevention and health promotion, care and cure, and active and independent living of elderly people. The overarching target of this partnership will be to increase the average healthy lifespan by two years by 2020.

The Partnership aims to achieve this by bringing together key stakeholders (end users, public authorities, industry); all actors in the innovation cycle, from research to adoption (adaptation), along with those engaged in standardisation and regulation. The partnership provides these actors with a forum in which they can cooperate, united around a common vision that values older people and their contribution to society, identify and overcome potential innovations barriers and mobilise instruments.

The Partnership aims at improving the framework conditions for uptake of innovation, leveraging financing and investments in innovation and improve coordination and coherence between funding for research and innovation at European, national and regional level in Europe.

This altogether will foster innovation in products, processes and services, and in parallel facilitate the innovation chain and reduce the time to market for innovative solutions. Ultimately this will produce benefits for innovation's final users – the older people and care providers.

European Scaling-up Strategy in Active and Healthy Ageing

Health and care services in Europe are undergoing changes to adapt systems to a growing demand caused by ageing and the expansion of chronic diseases. This restructuring, which

combines health and social care resources, involves the developing and testing of innovative solutions and eventually the large-scale implementation of the most successful practices. The multitude of good examples developed throughout the EU has led to a realisation that a comprehensive scaling-up strategy is needed at European level. The European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing ("EIP AHA" or "Partnership") which brings together key stakeholders in this policy area, and supports the good practices and References Sites developed by its partners, can act as a catalyst to foster scaling-up across regions and countries. Click [here](#) to read the whole strategy.

Documentation

- [-The Commission's Communication "Taking forward the Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing"](#).
- [Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing](#)
- [Guidance paper for the the pilot European innovation partnership on active and healthy ageing](#)
- [Conclusions of the Competitiveness Council on the Pilot Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing](#)
- [European Council Conclusions on the Innovation Union](#)
- [Report on the public consultation on the Pilot European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing](#)
- http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_378_en.pdf

News from Brussels

News on the focus theme

European Summit on Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing

The European Summit of Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing took place in Brussels on March 9 and 10. Over [1200 visitors](#) swamped the Brussels Square meeting centre, took part in over 32 sessions, workshops, sandpits and the Pioneer Village with its 20 exhibition booths. The summit attracted new categories of partners: investors, including social investors, but also representatives of the construction and tourism sector as well as designers joined the event to seize the European potential of the [Silver Economy](#).

To access all presentations, posters, and photos from the seminar, please click [here](#).

Building an evidence base for active ageing policies: Active Ageing Index and its potential

The international seminar about active ageing policies took place in Brussels on 16th and 17th April 2015. The seminar brought together 150 participants including researchers, policymakers and civil society representatives from all around the world.

To access all presentations, posters, and photos from the seminar, please click [here](#).

Latest news

President Juncker welcomes world-leading scientists, discusses role of science in competitiveness and announces new mechanism for scientific advice

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker hosted on 13th May a working lunch for a group of eminent, internationally awarded scientists: Sir Paul Nurse, Jules Hoffmann, Serge Haroche, László Lovász, Jean Tirole and Edvard Ingjald Moser. They will be joined by Vice-President Jyrki Katainen, responsible for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness; and Commissioner Moedas, responsible for Research, Science and Innovation. The exchange of views focused on how to ensure Europe remains a centre of excellence for science, foster innovative ideas that are brought to market, and ensure that EU policy benefits from the best scientific advice. Click [here](#) for full article.

Managing migration better in all aspects: A European Agenda on Migration

The European Commission presented a European Agenda on Migration outlining the immediate measures that will be taken in order to respond to the crisis situation in the Mediterranean as well as the steps to be taken in the coming years to better manage migration in all its aspects. The plight of thousands of migrants putting their lives in peril to cross the Mediterranean has shocked and it has become clear that no Member State can or should be left alone to address huge migratory pressures. This Agenda sets out a European response, combining internal and external policies, making best use of EU agencies and tools,

and involving all actors: Member States, EU institutions, International Organisations, civil society, local authorities and third countries. Click [here](#) for full article.

Unleash innovation to spur growth in Europe

Improving Europe's capacity to innovate and be globally competitive requires further efforts to encourage disruptive ideas and foster their commercial up-take. These are some of the conclusions to be drawn from the latest ranking of innovation performance across Europe.

The European Commission's Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015 reveals that the EU's overall level of innovation has remained stable. However, the crisis has left an impact on the private sector's innovative activity: the number of innovative firms is in decline, as are SMEs' innovations, patent applications, exports of high-tech products, venture capital investments and sales of innovative products. While there have been improvements in human resources, business investments in research and development and the quality of science, these are not enough to result in a stronger innovation performance. Click [here](#) for full article.

EU proposes new Joint Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy

Human rights will remain the compass in the EU's foreign policy and its relations with other institutions and civil society. This week the European Commission and the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs Security Policy adopted a joint Communication on an EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy which will cover the period 2015-2019. Click [here](#) for full article.

EU sets out path for ambitious European cooperation in defence and security

The European Commission and the High Representative have just given new impetus to making Europe a stronger actor in security and defence matters. Click [here](#) for full article.

Findings from the EU 2020 mid-term review

After the first years of implementation of the EU 2020 strategy, halfway to its 2020 horizon the Commission launched a public consultation to take stock of the delivery on the strategy's objectives so far. The fact that the first years of the Europe 2020 strategy coincided with a severe financial and economic crisis had a significant impact on progress towards the goals of the strategy. It has also meant that short-term policy considerations often inevitably prevailed over longer-term approaches.

For a full view of the findings from the consultation please follow [this link](#) to EC's report on the findings from the EU 2020 consultation.

You may also wish to consult [this report](#) on the state of play of the Europe 2020 strategy.

Summary of past events

INTERREG EUROPE Launching Event

Brussels, 15/04/2015

The Interreg Europe programme, financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), aims at improving the implementation of regional development policies and

programmes, in particular programmes for Investment for Growth and Jobs and [European Territorial Cooperation](#) (ETC) programmes.

By co-financing **projects** and four **thematic platforms**, it allows regional, local public authorities and other players of regional relevance across Europe to exchange practices and ideas on the way public policies work, and thereby find solutions to improve their strategies for their own citizens.

The event presented the novelties which the programme introduced and aimed at solving the doubts of the participants and the afternoon workshop mostly dealt with potential project proposals presented by the regions in 5 topics: Energy, ICT-supported healthcare, Tourism, Transport, SME competitiveness. As general information it is important to underline that the proposal to be submitted under INTERREG EUROPE should be strictly related with the Smart Specialization strategies of the regions and the partnership should include:

- At least 3 member states
- Local authorities
- Regional authorities
- No profit organizations

The funding rate will be at 85% and the call will be launched at the end of June or beginning of July.

For a detailed report please contact claudia.deluca@consulta-europa.com.

RIM PLUS Launching Event (29/04/2015)

Brussels, 29/04/2015

The newly planned activities within the RIM Plus 2015-2016 create a unique opportunity to explore the possibilities of cross-border activities and unleash the potential of advanced manufacturing across European regions. They aim to facilitate the development of open innovation collaboration spaces in selected areas where regions are committed to leading the development of new industrial value chains, which is in line with the new vision of RIM Plus to become more thematically focused and drive change in close cooperation with regional stakeholders and other relevant initiatives. This event is the first in a series of eight RIM Plus workshops to be organised during the period 2015-2016 and aims to explore the possibilities of further enhancing cooperation on concrete thematic areas (of advanced manufacturing) between stakeholders from different European regions. Recently, there have been important policy changes at the EC level in the area concerning the development of European industry and SMEs. Based on the work carried out by the Task Force on Advanced Manufacturing, the 2014 Communication on Industrial Renaissance confirmed that the Commission will pursue among others the priority of advanced manufacturing.

In particular Consulta Europa followed the workshop on Bio-economy presenting the issues and the opportunities for Canary Islands in this sector.

For a detailed report please contact claudia.deluca@consulta-europa.com.

Delivering a successful tourism economy for Europe: Partnerships, events and the visitor experience

Brussels, 07/05/2015

The event aimed at sharing the successful initiatives that fostered tourism in European regions where such business had recently increased; the initiative was also an occasion to discuss and analyze the most likely future trends of the tourism market, which is one of the few growing economies in the next decade. The main speakers of the event were the CEOs of two national tourism boards – VisitFlanders and VisitScotland - as well as the CEO of “Trajectory”, a consulting agency expert in analyzing and forecasting social and consumer trends.

The key points shared by the Scottish and the Flemish representatives were focused on the idea of collaboration and partnership between the private and the public world, as a way to increase visibility and reach a wider range of customers, on events, as a method to promote properly the local activities and on the capacity to be present and efficient both online and “offline”, in the real world, which is more and more organized through online platforms, social networks and apps.

As far as the trends are concerned, the tourism market has to be ready to deal efficiently with the always-increasing Asian market, as well as with more and more elderly tourists from one side, and with young customers who demand to find information fast and efficiently through online channels. The tourism and travels’ market is likely to see a 3.3% average growth from now to 2030.

For a detailed report please contact claudia.deluca@consulta-europa.com.

Calls for proposals

Calls on the focus theme

Call Identifier	Title	Theme	Topics	Deadline
AAL	Living actively and independently at home	Support older adults in their homes with the contribution of ICT based solutions	Society, ICT, innovation, active ageing.	28/05/2015
VP/2015/001	Support For Social Dialogue	EU employment and social policy challenges	Labour market, youth employment, health and safety at work, reconciliation of work and family life, gender equality, anti-discrimination, active ageing , healthier and longer working lives, active inclusion and decent work.	15/06/2015

Calls from the H2020 Research and Innovation Programme

Call Identifier	Title	Theme	Topics	Deadline
H2020-GERI-2015-1	CALL FOR PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION	The activities of this Call will aim at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Encouraging girls to study science and female students to further embrace a career in research; · Analysing the impact of gender diversity in research teams on research and innovation outcomes; 	Society; Research.	16/09/2015

		· Developing a framework to evaluate national initiatives to promote gender equality in research policy and organisations;		
H2020-ISSI-2015-1	CALL FOR INTEGRATING SOCIETY IN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION	ISSI-1-2015: Pan-European public outreach: exhibitions and science cafés engaging citizens in science; ISSI-3-2015: Knowledge Sharing Platform; ISSI-4-2015: On-line mechanisms for knowledge-based policy advice; ISSI-5-2015: Supporting structural change in research organisations to promote Responsible Research and Innovation.	Society; Research.	16/09/2015
H2020-SEAC-2015-1	CALL FOR MAKING SCIENCE EDUCATION AND CAREERS ATTRACTIVE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	This call will aim at: · Developing scientific citizenship by promoting innovative pedagogies in science education, attracting more young people towards science, with a special emphasis on girls, and addressing the challenges faced by young people, in pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and innovation;	Society; Research.	16/09/2015

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Developing Responsible Research and Innovation in Higher Education Curricula; · Easing the access to scientific careers by increasing the service level of the EURAXESS Services Network. 		
H2020-MG-2015-Singlestage-B	MOBILITY FOR GROWTH 2014-2015	<p>The ‘Mobility for Growth’ call is structured as follows:</p> <p>Areas addressing mode challenges (technical and socio-economic) 1. Aviation 2. Rail 3. Road 4. Waterborne;</p> <p>Areas addressing transport integration challenges (technical and socio-economic) 5. Urban 6. Logistics 7. Intelligent Transport Systems 8. Infrastructure; Areas addressing cross-cutting issues 9. Socio-economic and behavioural research and forward looking activities for policy making.</p>	Transports; Research; ICT; Innovation.	15/10/2015
H2020-GV-2015	GREEN VEHICLES 2015	<p>This call of the Transport Challenge represents an essential component of road transport research and innovation. It includes research,</p>	Transports; Research; Environment; Innovation.	15/10/2015

		technological developments, innovation and demonstration in support of improvements in energy efficiency of road transport vehicles and the use of new types of non-conventional energies in road transport such as electricity, CNG and LNG, renewable and tailored fuels.		
H2020-FTIPilot-2015-1	FAST TRACK TO INNOVATION PILOT	The Fast Track to Innovation (FTI) pilot is testing a new approach to give the development of innovations the last push needed before their introduction to the market. It is the only fully bottom-up measure in Horizon 2020 promoting close-to-market innovation activities and open to all types of participants.	Research, Innovation, Commercialisation	01/12/2015

Calls from other financing programmes

Call Identifier	Title	Theme	Topics	Deadline
EUROSTARS 2	EUROSTARS 2	Support research-performing SMEs which develop innovative products	Innovation, Research, Development	17/09/2015

Events

In this section, events of interest taking place in Brussels are reported. **Please mention the ones for which you want our Project Manager to attend and prepare a report.**



Economy



Tourism



Environment



Innovation



Cooperation



Education



Research

Events related to the focus theme

Conference Innovative Financing Opportunities for Active & Healthy Ageing

When: 3rd June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The DG SANTE is organising this event. The Conference will look at the issue of how to practically leverage public and private financial instruments and maximise synergies in the area of active & healthy ageing. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).

AAL Forum 2015

When: 22-25th September 2015, Ghent, Belgium

This event aims at offering the participants high interactivity and hands on experience on the ultimate technology that the AAL world can offer today. It will combine interactive sessions and workshops with an interesting exhibition area. Initiatives from the Flanders care sectors and care living labs will be showcased while end users will be heavily involved. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).

Other events



Growing a sustainable EU economy through SMEs: boosting jobs, growth and entrepreneurship

When: 27th May 2015, Brussels

The second GreenEcoNet Annual Conference will discuss the impact of SMEs to growing a sustainable EU economy and will address issues such as the contribution of SMEs to developing green jobs as well as the growth and job opportunities arising from using resources more efficiently. The discussion will start with a presentation of the GreenEcoNet platform for SMEs, demonstrating its contribution to a sustainable EU economy. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).



A Europe of talents: giving new impetus to skills acquisition through mobility for apprentices

When: 2nd June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

This high-level conference, jointly organized by the European Parliament and the Labour Market Observatory will be dedicated to the topic of the apprenticeship and the mobility of apprentices. Building on the great success of the Erasmus mobility for university students, the aim of the event will be to see how the participation of students and recent graduates of the Vocational education and training (VET) systems in apprenticeships abroad can be further facilitated and supported. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).



Green week in Brussels

When: 3rd, 4th and 5th June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

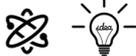
The 2015 edition of Green Week, the biggest annual conference on European environment policy, will be focused on nature and biodiversity. Nature is vital for our health and our wealth. We depend on it for the food, energy, raw materials, air and water that make life possible and drive the economy. We share this planet with an extraordinary natural diversity which is a source of inspiration, learning and recreation; part of our cultural heritage and contributing to our quality of life. Protecting nature and maintaining Europe's competitiveness must go hand-in-hand as nature and biodiversity policy can play a key role in creating jobs and stimulating investment. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).



Reactive nitrogen - Towards an integrated approach to protecting biodiversity - Green week side event

When: 3rd June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

In January 2015 the German Advisory Council on the Environment published a report entitled “Nitrogen – Strategies for Resolving an Urgent Problem” and now they organise this event to present the key messages of the report which will be followed by statements from relevant stakeholders. The main focus of this report lies on the impacts of reactive nitrogen compounds on biodiversity. It calls for an integrated policy approach, which mobilizes the synergies between water, clean-air, soil, nature, climate and agricultural policies and improves the public visibility of this persistent and systemic challenge. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).



European companies innovating across borders: Eureka and global cooperation

When: 16th June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The conference will include a key note on present trends for European industries in the global market, and two successive panel discussions presenting the views of the industry and the public sector on the topic of access to global markets for innovative European companies. As the centre of gravity of the global economy shifts away from Europe, it affects the innovation landscape, and makes international collaboration a necessity. Building up on a large consensus on the question within its Network, EUREKA accompanies this change by helping European companies to internationalise their activities. This event is meant to play an essential part in this process. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).



Innovative Strategies for Sustainable Coastal and Island Tourism

When: 16th June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The aim of this event is to discuss the findings of our on-going study on the sustainable development of coastal and maritime tourism in Europe. It is also an occasion to exchange best practices, to network, and to meet the various stakeholders from the field of tourism, including representatives from several European Commission directorates. This study is promoted by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).



Overcoming the Innovation Divide in Europe: perspectives and possibilities

When: 17th June 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The seminar aims to address and raise new insights on the growing political concern over the increasing disparity in knowledge and innovation transfer capabilities between Europe's regions and Member States. Accessing all of Europe's markets, human resources and innovation potential remains crucial for its global competitiveness, with Horizon 2020 being a key opportunity to serve this goal and foster European R&D-collaboration in all of its regions. To know more, consult the [webpage](#).