



ELDICARE

Matching Skills in a Growing European Silver Economy

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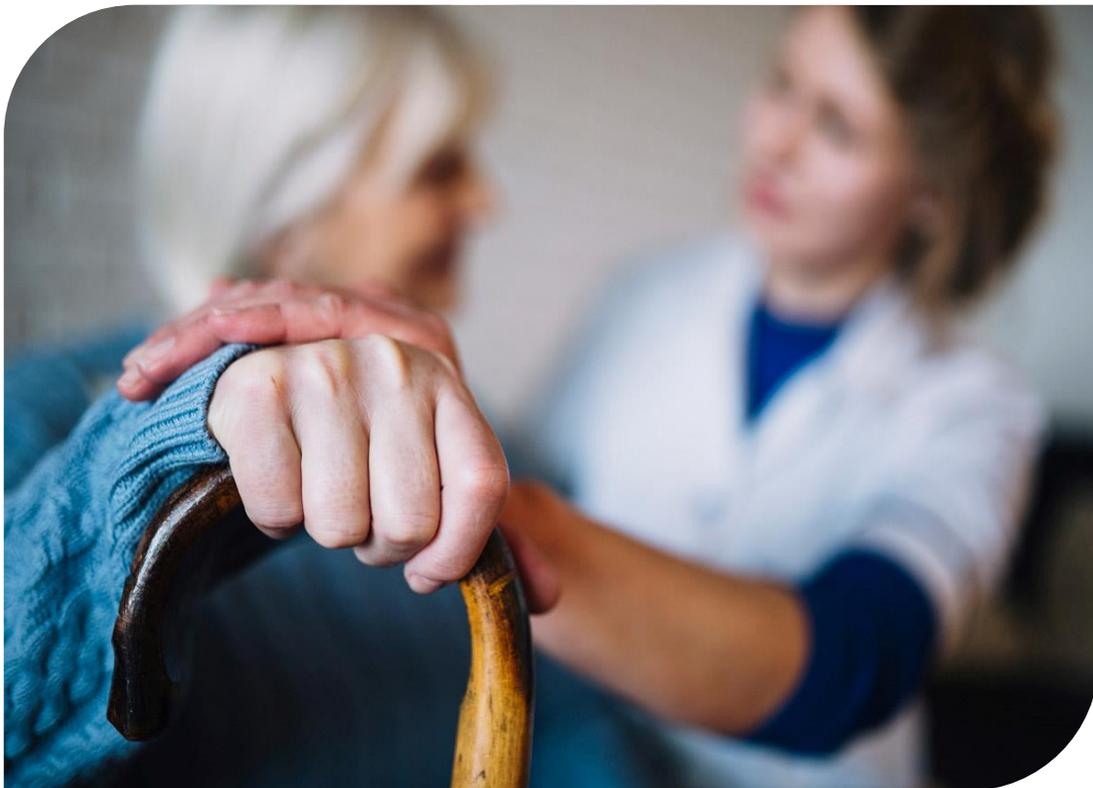
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Eldicare Project: Professionalising the Elderly-Care Sector

The ageing of Europe is generating the need to professionalize the care-giving sector: **projections show that one third of the European population will be above the age of 65 by 2080.**

Adaptation to an ageing society requires enhanced efforts from all to maintain older people sustained social inclusion. It also requires creating age friendly environments, including the mainstreaming of accessibility, products and services that can be used by all. ICT is also essential as it enables integrated person-centered care, with more focus on prevention, early detection and independent living.





The Eldicare Project aims at **rethinking and rebranding the elderly-care sector**, featuring more elderly-driven soft skills and a more tech-oriented and innovative approach. Moreover, it aims at offering a **pathway out of the grey market** for atypical/undeclared elderly care givers, through education and training in ICT & health applications, modernizing the way elderly care is provided. The Project's expected impact is going to change drastically the realities of both beneficiaries and stakeholders by facing their challenges with clarity and offering realistic and innovative solutions.

To these ends, the Project will develop **two training curricula** responding to the needs of this special demographics group and their families and closed ones. Eldicare will analyse which training needs are required for a caretaker professional profile, establish a value chain among partners and **provide participants with a certification**.

Eldicare is a "Sector Skills Alliance" funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme. **Eldicare Project will last 24 months and it brings together 12 partners from 5 Countries:** Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, and the UK. The Consortium is composed by practitioners of elderly-care sector, Universities, NGOs.





Eldicare: Scoping Analysis and State of the Art Review

Partners of Eldicare Project are currently involved in the development of “**Scoping Analysis and State of the Art Review**” which aims to develop a complete and updated knowledge base for the Eldicare curricula development and delivery.



The Consortium aims to go deeper into the sub-sector in focus, namely the atypical elderly care givers and focus in the undeclared service provision both across Europe and more specifically in the participating countries. Partners are collaboratively building a sound, coherent and clear needs analysis for the Project **drawing on the combined strength of partners’ experience, expertise and reputation in the field.**



Staffordshire University – in charge of this task – prepared the Methodological framework for all partners to follow in terms of the qualitative and quantitative research. The theoretical framework and the methodology will **ensure scientifically sound and practically coherent and interpretable results and findings**. Moreover, Staffordshire University carried out Skype interviews with the partners in regards to the current needs of the sector and shaped their opinion.



<http://www.staffs.ac.uk/>

Within its capacity as a research institute, Staffordshire University conducted a European wide consultation. All partners will contribute as participants in the research exercises and facilitate dissemination of questionnaires and survey through their contacts and network both nationally and at European level. **The questionnaire indicates the current training needs of the elder caregivers and it is running via the Eldicare Project website**, with Staffordshire University overseeing its progress.

https://staffordshire.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3UioJTH0LSxtMIR



At the same time, the University of Malaga (UMA) conducted a desk-based literature review to **identify emerging common themes and trends** in the five participating countries and guide the development of focus group and survey questions. The desk research was based on relevant publications, such as the 2015 European Commission background paper “*Growing the European Silver Economy*”, CEDEFOP resources on the assessment and anticipation of skills needs for the elderly care sector (12/2016) and the thematic reports of ESPN looking at the changing operating and employment environments in Europe in the elderly care sector sectors.



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<https://www.uma.es/>

Presenting the results of this desk research, UMA highlighted the **importance of the provision of technologically updates services to the elders** and the necessity to overcome major issues identified in the care-giving sector such as the mistreatment of elders by their care givers.

The University of Malaga will extend its research in further aspects of the elder care-giving profession, while all partners committed to provide UMA with information on the certification process in each of the countries in order to include it to the literature review.

Eldicare: Next Steps and Actions

During next months the Eldicare Consortium will be involved in **conducting validation of findings** both in the countries involved in the project and at European level. Those activities will be implemented by country partners which have either previous experience in research or expert sector knowledge within their capacity as social partners. This will be done through:

- **Interviews and focus groups in each country** with the National Stakeholder Committee (including all country partners) on the exploration of skills' needs. Recognized practitioners or profession specific experts may additionally be called on to participate in the focus groups.
- **On line (workforce) survey** for the collection of information from professionals working in the targeted professions or related roles.





Furthermore, a **significant level of targeted consultation** will be achieved with selected key stakeholders at European level – first and foremost stakeholders sitting in our Stakeholder Advisory Board, the Coordinator, other European Elderly Care Organizations and ageing networks, employers and employees associations as well as other European wide organizations with expertise in the field – to **extend relevance of the scoping study and gain a broader insight much beyond the national level.**

This part of the study will also aim to bring together a selected number of case studies of innovative pedagogy, training practices and access to the sector training strategies and schemes across Europe to **increase understanding of weaknesses and gaps from a very practical case-study perspective.**



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Partners



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