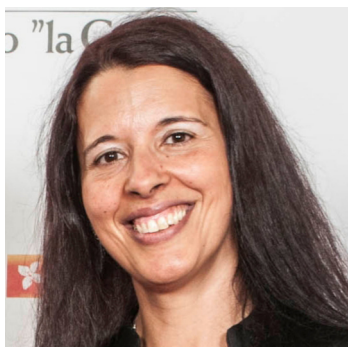


STAKEHOLDERS NETWORK POSITION PAPER

COORDINATORS FOREWORD



Carina Dantas



Willeke van Staalduinen



We started the journey of SHAFE (Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments) with the naivest enthusiasm, as all small things start.

Thanks to so many committed organisations and individuals in Europe, a very small conviction and dream has grown into a solid movement.

And even into a new word: SHAFE.

This only happens when ideas make sense and come in the right historic time.

We would like to express our gratitude and sincere thanks to the many committed organisations and individuals in and across Europe who have collaborated and worked tirelessly to ensure this dream has come to fruition.

The meaning and notion of SHAFE as a holistic approach that promotes the alignment of policies and strategies is a unique roadmap for the implementation in and across Europe.

When we acknowledge the serious challenges especially those related to demographic change and the COVID-19 pandemic, it is not possible anymore to still work in silos or to keep positions for individual interest. Before any other role, we all are citizens and we have a duty as researchers, academics, policy makers, practitioners, industry and business to work together in a bid for a better world.

SHAFE will aim to continue providing its contributions, most of all to maintain and continue to collate and collaborate the innovative contributions from its partners with the view of a shared vision: to implement Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments around Europe - and promoting happier and healthier people in all communities.

September 2020

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OVERVIEW



OVERVIEW

Moving age-related topics to the big umbrella themes of Health and the Digital Single Market is a vital process to pursue the societal scope of a Europe prepared to provide quality of life and well-being through the whole life cycle. This implies high-level crossover discussion between different groups, networks, Directorates General, European Innovation Partnerships and international organisations, understanding the symbiotic interdependence of these subjects towards a Healthy and Competitive social Europe.

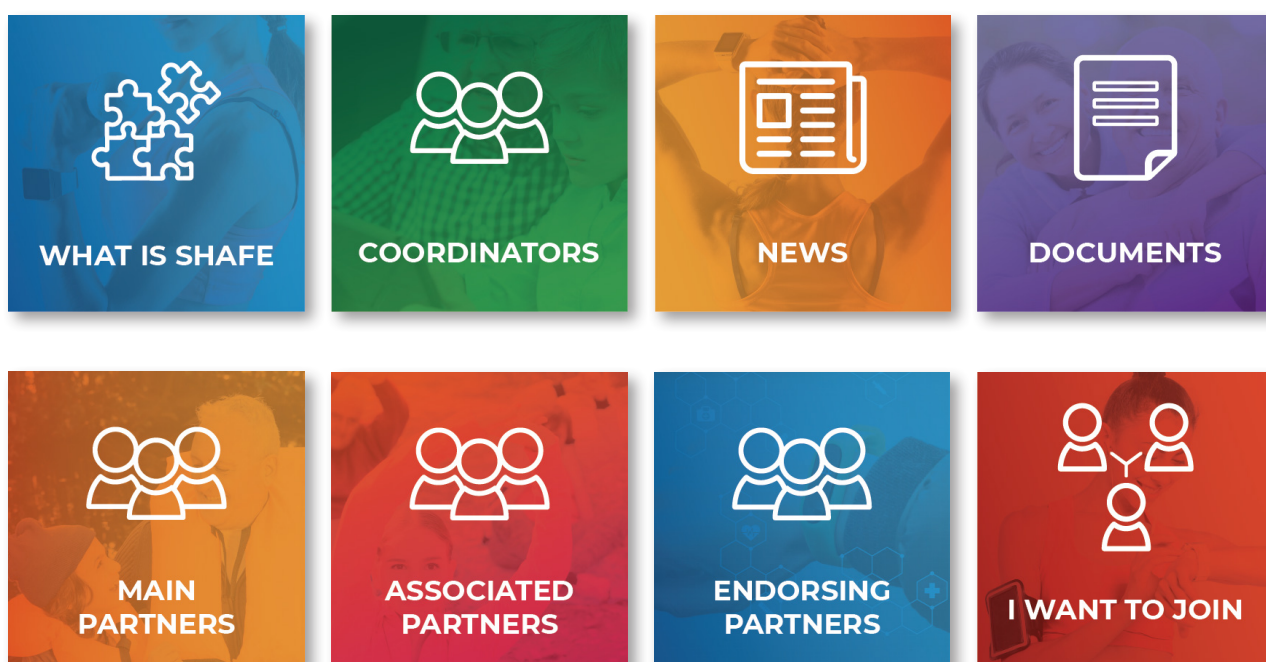
In 2018, Cáritas Diocesana de Coimbra and AFEdeMy launched, in close cooperation with several European organisations, the concept of SHAFE (Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments). SHAFE was born as a Thematic Network, approved by the European Commission to build and deliver a Joint Statement (a Framing Paper and a Call to Action) in 2018.

After this, SHAFE evolved by taking its more than 160 partner organisations to a European Stakeholders Network, which is currently working to deliver this Position Paper, focused on cooperation and implementation.

SHAFE is now integrated in several ongoing initiatives, as an objective and methodology of work, e. g. in the Action Plan of Group D4 of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing and as methodological and conceptual basis for several European funded projects (e.g. EU_SHAFE – Interreg Europe; Hands-on-SHAFE - Erasmus +; NET4AGE-FRIENDLY - COST) .

Meanwhile, Europe and the rest of the world are confronted with the pandemic, started in February 2020. This virus outbreak will certainly lead to a post-pandemic economic crisis and contain a new order of daily life, such as social distancing, personal protection measures and remote work and activities. It will also bring economic repercussions and a new debate that is needed on health and wellbeing. This new reality has been considered in this Position Paper on SHAFE.

A shared agenda for SHAFE



The Challenge

To live and participate in society as a citizen, worker or volunteer, it is necessary that working and living environments are functional usable, accessible, affordable, protective and reachable. No matter if someone walks, drives, uses a walker or wheelchair, or is having hearing or vision problems.

With the ongoing digitization of society, new opportunities arise to foster these living and working environments. Digital solutions can assist citizens to live and promote a healthy, and independent life, with limited/free from non-communicable diseases, with the opportunities to work into later life, and ensuring positive health and wellbeing. Digital solutions can play the role of offering solutions and bridge social connectiveness and warnings in case of virus outbreaks.

However, single digital solutions are not the panacea to all issues and challenges within society. Citizens across different age groups also need personal human contacts, to meet, to talk to each other, to hug and to love. Digitalization cannot replace this human need but can be a powerful vehicle to support people to cover life necessities. The pandemic scenario during 2020 is an opportunity for the digital revolution to be well thought and implemented, if all the adequate challenges are well considered and tackled.

The Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments Network will thus focus on the narrative, debate, disclosure and knowledge translation of smart digital solutions and of solutions to optimize the physical and social environments of individuals in a concerted manner, bringing together also the domains of health and social care.

SHAFE will focus on the following areas:

CITIZENS

- To be digitally skilled
- To be aware and understand the benefits and challenges on the sharing of their data
- To be engaged in healthier lifestyles (including through increased health literacy)
- To participate and engage (in the democratic life)
- To maintain or improve as much as possible their social networks and relationships

ENVIRONMENTS

- To retrofit and adapt the housing stock
- To foster accessible and adapted public spaces and transport
- To implement climate neutral solutions
- To promote health & wellbeing in the workplace

HEALTH AND CARE

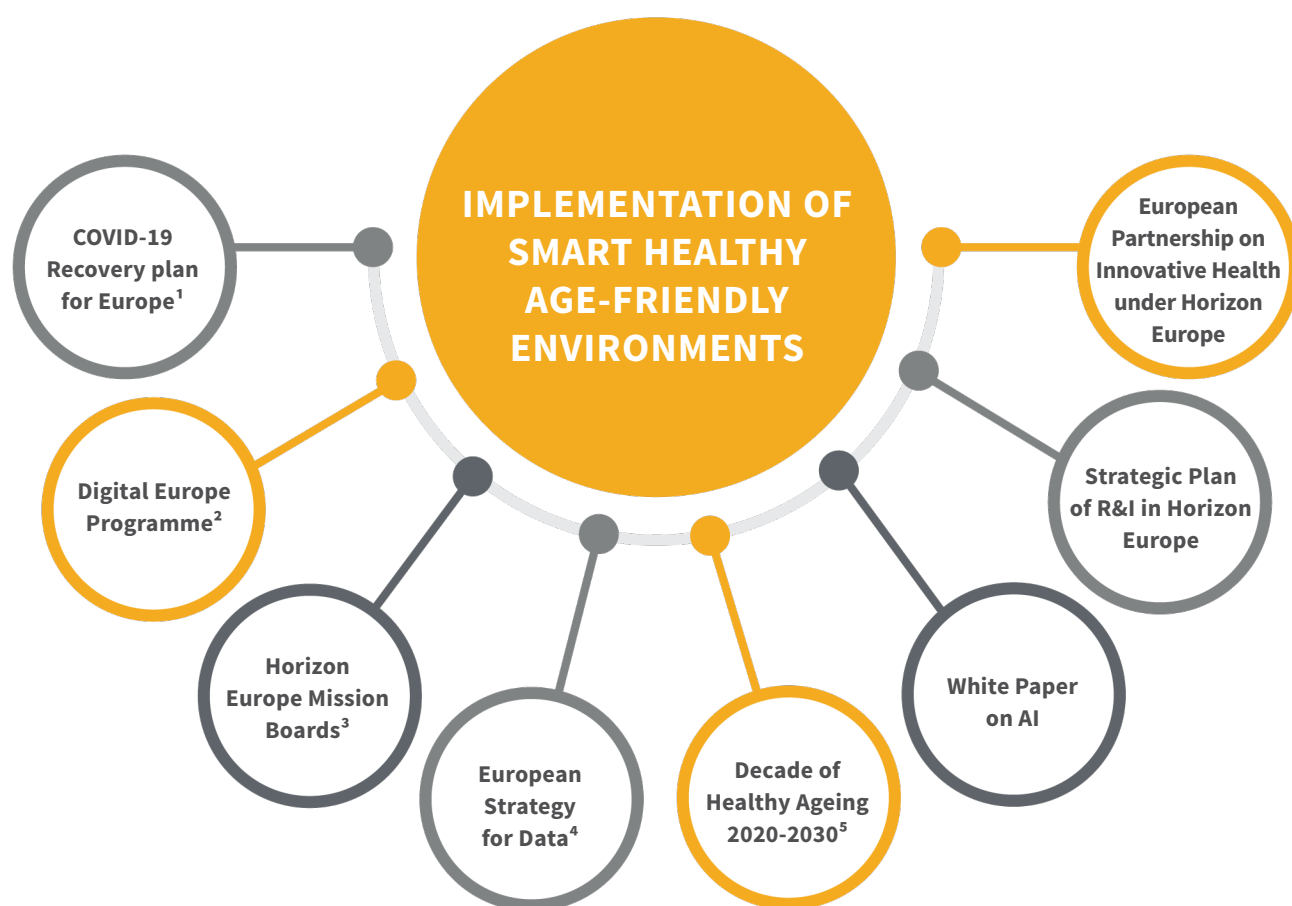
- To promote reliable, safe and accessible big data
- To implement robust and interoperable digital infrastructures
- To foster integrated, personalized, affordable and person-centered solutions (new pathways)
- To implement guidelines and long-term funding solutions/business models
- To train care professionals on digital skills

We acknowledge that all these challenges are interconnected and that a global approach is needed!

This was already the path we followed when conceptualizing and delivering the [Joint Statement on SHAPE – Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments](#), in 2018.

The Approach

The key message surrounding the various EU policy priorities are interwoven and SHAPE is currently engaged and/or participating in several major consultations concerning the themes addressed, through its different partner organisations:



Cáritas Coimbra, AFEdemy and several other SHAPE members are coordinators or partners in national and European partnerships, initiatives and relevant EU projects, within relevant topics for this Network.

This is a major enabler of a wide SHAPE contribution in different areas and the harmonisation of key messages among different and multiple stakeholders.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response_en

² <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/europe-investing-digital-digital-europe-programme>

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/help-us-shape-horizon-europe-mission>

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/shaping-europes-digital-future-commission-presents-strategies-data-and-artificial-intelligence>

⁵ [https://www.who.int/initiatives/decade-of-healthy-ageing#:~:text=The%20Decade%20of%20Healthy%20Ageing%20\(2020%2D2030\)%20is%20an,people%2C%20their%20families%2C%20and%20the](https://www.who.int/initiatives/decade-of-healthy-ageing#:~:text=The%20Decade%20of%20Healthy%20Ageing%20(2020%2D2030)%20is%20an,people%2C%20their%20families%2C%20and%20the)

The Main Goals

By 2022, the Stakeholders Network on SHAFE aims to achieve mainly **COORDINATION and IMPLEMENTATION of SHAFE solutions including dealing with public health emergencies such as pandemic outbreaks**, specifically the following higher-level goals:

- Promote training of formal and informal caregivers (communities) on SHAFE, creating a toolkit and implementing training actions in multiple countries (building on the Erasmus+ project hands-on-SHAFE main outputs);
- Raise awareness on the need to enhance prevention, social care, building infrastructure and environment conditions in order to move Health and Wellbeing provision to the home and towards community and personalized prevention – to a Health and Wellbeing value-based approach (through COST Action NET4AGE-FRIENDLY);
- Jointly develop sustainable business cases with insurance companies and investors and support public authorities and health and social care providers on implementing SHAFE, especially regarding building or restructuring the built environment to include ICT solutions with integrated health and care provision and safe human interrelations, to foster future investments on smart healthy environments (building on the EIPonAHA Innovation to Market⁶ (I2M) and DigitalHealthEurope project⁷ findings, through the ECHAlliance⁸);
- Organise education and raise awareness of urban planners, architects and ICT-developers in general to focus on PEOPLE and PLACES and focus research on lifelong learning, evidence-based design, smart healthy environments and empowerment, and social distancing (with SHAFE and EIPonAHA stakeholders);

⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/innovation-market-i2m_en

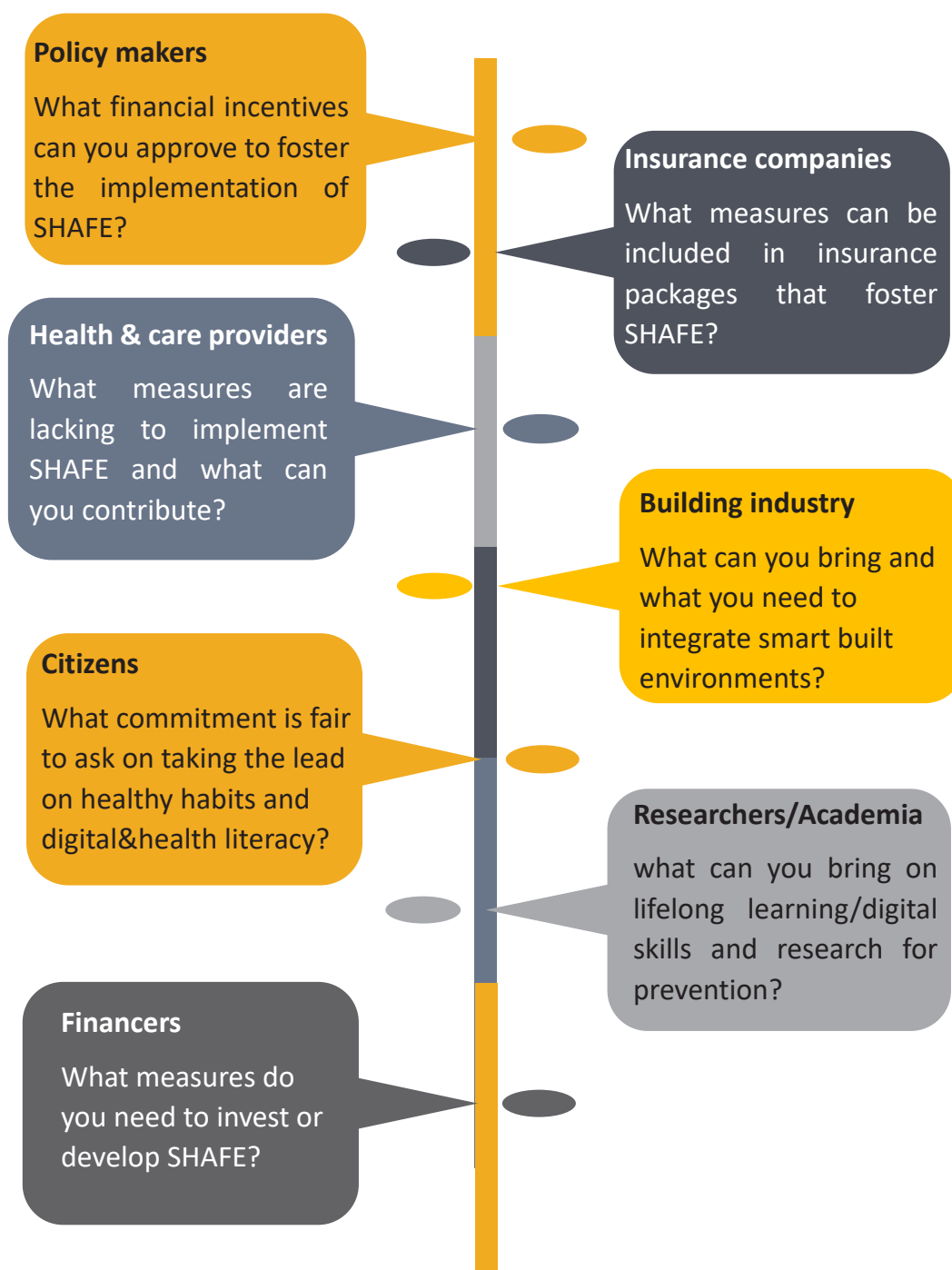
⁷ <https://digitalhealtheurope.eu/>

⁸ <https://echalliance.com/>

The Solution

HOW TO SCALE UP AND IMPLEMENT SHAFE?

7 POLITICAL MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT IN REGIONS / MUNICIPALITIES



CHAPTER ONE

A FRAMEWORK FOR OPPORTUNITY AND STRENGTH



CHAPTER ONE

A FRAMEWORK FOR OPPORTUNITY AND STRENGTH

Aims of SHAFE and this Position Paper

To live and participate in society, it is necessary that working and living environments are healthy, usable, accessible, protective, affordable and reachable for all people, who either walk, drive, use a walker or wheelchair, or have hearing or vision problems. People with all levels of skills, (digital) literacy, education and income must be enabled to use respective environments.

To achieve these goals of healthy living, social inclusion and participation, the SHAFE Network wants to draw the attention of policy makers, organisations and citizens to better align ICT with the built environments and to establish safe and positive human interaction. This alignment must focus on an enhancement of the major concept areas of People (e.g. citizenship, long-life learning, social interaction) and Places (as houses, built environments, community spaces and outdoor facilities).

To achieve this, SHAFE launches a pledge **to involve (end)users from the beginning in any solutions, products and services, by adopting a co-creation, co-development and co-production methodology and recognise living and social environments as key building-blocks of any initiative**

From conception, SHAFE was holistically formed from the age-friendly environments concept, developed by the World Health Organization in 2007. However, further development is now needed to reflect the new era of digitalization, health and wellbeing. This joint approach can assist to improve and prevent citizens from noncommunicable diseases, promote independent living, enhance and support health and wellbeing.

This Position Paper will handle the issues of coordination and implementation, ensuring a user-centred approach. This will provide indicators to measure progress and success on the realisation of safe and social SHAFE. Partners of the SHAFE Network and the COST Action NET4AGE-FRIENDLY had the opportunity to express their commitments with this Position Paper and to indicate their contribution, alignment and contributions. The logos of the partners are at the rear end of the Position Paper.

Sustainable Development Goals

Europe is considered as the most ageing continent in the world and this challenge has raised many initiatives during the last decade. Age-friendly environments became one of the six Action Groups of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIPonAHA), the first created in 2011. As a follow-up of this activity and in close cooperation with the WHO, the Covenant on Demographic Change: towards an age-friendly Europe was launched in 2015. The EIPonAHA and the Covenant gathered local, regional and national authorities, civil society organisations, universities, and businesses that commit to cooperate and implement evidence based solutions as a comprehensive answer and solution(s) to Europe's demographic challenge.

The United Nations stated in 2015, with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - in particular with Goal 3 related to health and wellbeing and Goal 11 focused on cities and human settlements, that sustainable age-friendly environments represent the baseline for guaranteeing a better future for the whole population and for addressing most of the growing ageing population issues.

Lastly, in 2018 the European Commission approved the Thematic Network on Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments that delivered a Framing Paper and a Joint Statement to the EC and Member States which has evolved into this Stakeholders Network with nearly 200 partner organisations.

Given the increased number of partnerships and activities developed in Europe these overarching initiatives among institutions, stakeholders and citizens are essential to jointly foster implementation, connecting countries, citizens, and cultures for developing appropriate solutions for healthy, independent living and participation in society.



Figure 1. Sustainable Development Goals

1. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

CHAPTER TWO

MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITIES IN A GLOBALISED WORLD



CHAPTER TWO

MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITIES IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

Global positioning of SHAFE

EU policy priorities 2019-2024

The European Commission (EC) under The Presidency of Ms. Ursula Von der Leyen presented 6 Commission priorities for 2019-24. SHAFE is aligned with the EC priority 'A Europe fit for the digital age'⁹ and the Green Deal¹⁰ on sustainability.

To realize SHAFE, it is crucial to be able to make use of the benefits that Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) and other technologies can offer. In return, these technologies must safeguard privacy, be secure from misuse and always put PEOPLE in the first place. Ensuring that **citizens and businesses can take full advantages of digitalisation starts with the promotion of digital skills in Europe and this is one central action for SHAFE.**

Also, to further contribute to the realisation of the Green Deal, SHAFE focuses on the sustainability of housing and built environments that offer lifelong usage, no waste and are energy saving.

The European Commission also presented twelve priorities focusing on health: six of them regard food safety and animal and plant health, and the other six focus on protecting and promoting public health.

Top of the list of health priorities is the access to (affordable) medicines and the implementation of the new regulatory framework for medical devices for eHealth. The Health portfolio also contains the creation of a European Health Data Space as part of an agenda to expand the use of eHealth, and with addressing three key public health challenges: antimicrobial resistance, vaccine skepticism and the fight against cancer.

Europe's Beating Cancer Plan focuses on prevention by a horizontal approach which addresses key determinants, such as tobacco consumption, alcohol abuse, physical exercise and healthy diets.

SHAFE contributes to these aims, especially by focusing on participation, trust and accessible data governance and accessible areas for exercise and healthier lifestyles.

However, current events ask for direct action from the European Commission, international organisations and Member States. The coronavirus pandemic has claimed thousands of lives and placed health systems under enormous strain. The immediate priorities concerning fighting the virus and mitigating the socio-economic consequences of the pandemic.

At the same time, it is essential to start looking ahead, for the measures that may be adjusted to the new settings and reality and to revitalise societies and economy without losing the best possible care for human lives.

Although there is no one-size-fits-all approach to a gradual, science-based and effective organisation of containment measures, a highly coordinated way forward is a matter of common European interest.

SHAFE will collect and widely disseminate the different viewpoints and policy, leveraging on its network and stakeholders involved.

At the European level, the European Commission is focusing on the high-level, regulatory challenges that are raised in the current landscape, especially those connected to digitalization and fighting the pandemic, such as the ones referred to on eHealth or Data. However, there are several difficulties referred at the regional and local levels, when stakeholders are consulted. SHAFE collected some of this feedback and brainstormed with stakeholders from multiple areas of knowledge and interest and summarized some of the biggest challenges that are still to be addressed for true implementation at scale in Europe:

1 - Housing / Built Environments

In the field of Housing / Built Environments (urban and rural), unequal conditions of living highlight the importance of providing housing with the necessary conditions for all people to stay in their homes as they age, namely through:

- ▶ Access to adapted residences or financial and technical support for adaptation and requalification works;
- ▶ A sufficient supply of adaptable housing;
- ▶ Increased energy efficiency of housing and equipment;
- ▶ Introduction of eco-psychological perspectives of planning and managing built environments;
- ▶ Prioritising and pointing out people in social and financial needs, promoting more favourable environments.

In this area, the emerging needs and requirements of retrofitting existing buildings adds to the building demands of new housing structures with climate change resilience. To this, the creation of support infrastructures for all citizens, including older people in the face of extreme climate phenomena, and the promotion of a landscape architecture of urban space that allows a higher life quality for citizens must also be added.

Outdoor spaces and buildings, such as meeting places, shops, public transport and restaurants have to be accessible, affordable and safe to enable people to meet each other and socialise, to travel or to buy their daily shopping. The coronavirus outbreak brings the society to think of new and innovative building concepts in which safe social distancing and social meetings still can take place.

Simultaneously, the houses need to be considered as a potential space for work and life 24 hours a day. This can be the perfect storm to organize new building standards and retrofitting programmes that will allow also for a better ageing at home and in the community.

2 - Social Participation

In the field of Social Participation, the challenges refer often to:

- ▶ Attracting new residents to low density territories, especially those unbalanced in terms of ageing and demography;
- ▶ Enhancing mid-level professions essential for training caregivers and workers in social care;
- ▶ Reorganisation of vocational education and training according to current and future territorial needs;
- ▶ Promotion of the civic participation and advocacy of potentially vulnerable groups, such as older adults, socially and economically disadvantaged, migrants and refugees, amongst others.

Social participation is a right that should be promoted and protected but also a duty of citizens to promote social cohesion, a more participatory democracy and the development of adequate societal transformation.

It is essential to engage a broader range of European population in policy decisions, including the adequate use of resources and the definition of the priorities of investment.

To this aim, also more territorial balance is needed; adequate training and literacy enhancement are some of the most relevant activities to progress. awareness raising and intergenerational initiatives can also boost a more participatory engagement.

3 - Communication and Information

In the field of Communication and Information, expressed needs are associated with:

- ▶ Effective appropriation of information by all types of target audiences, regardless of their age, educational background, training, level of literacy or possible difficulties and disabilities.
- ▶ Citizens having access to “good Information” through the most appropriate means or tools.
- ▶ Quality health promotion, namely through cognitive stimulation, as well as increased digital literacy.

This also implies that it is necessary to gain greater understanding of various topics including, 1) the effects of increased use of social media, 2) take a critical assessment on the societal mission of journalism and 3) understand the poor use of information.

These areas are of high societal relevance and need to be addressed because to promote health and healthy behaviour, adequate (governmental) information supply is crucial.

4 - Health and Community Services

In the area of Health and Community Services several needs exist, namely the:

- ▶ Humanisation of health services, in particular the increase of medical appointments duration, better interaction between patient and professional, good adherence habits and more human and equipment resources;

- ▶ New healthcare delivery concepts that prevent isolation and lack of access, namely those that are sustainable and of high-quality; promote physical activity; that can provide solutions for pandemic or emergency situations; and reduce virus spreading to staff and other patients;
- ▶ The reinforcement of workers and services in general, and in the area of mental health in particular, especially for children and the ageing population;
- ▶ Further integration of citizen-centred care;
- ▶ Integration of SHAFE key elements in built healthcare assets;
- ▶ Person-centred life-course approach of health promotion.

The urgency to promote better and greater articulation between primary and community care partners must be addressed. This is specifically aimed towards greater prevention for less treatment. At the level of challenges, greater innovation has been proposed at the home care level, with the introduction of differentiated services. However, there is still a road to go through regarding palliative and long-term care, with a view to facilitating the adequate environment with less waiting lists. Additionally, there is still a need for greater articulation of health and social policy agendas. Furthermore, there is a need for flexibility in the delivery of services and cooperation agreements that allow innovation to engage.

In summary:

In many cases, local, regional and national public authorities can and have the potential to coordinate and facilitate the planning and design of SHAFE. Authorities are key parties to cover the SHAFE domains by engaging with quintuple-helix stakeholders to prepare and offer integrated solutions. While working on the realisation of SHAFE practices in SMART, BUILT and HEALTHY environments, many constraints and challenges occur that have to be solved during the process such as regulation, funding, willingness of stakeholders. To overcome these issues, this engagement and connection between health and social care, local and regional organisations, housing companies and the building sector, ICT companies, third sector organisations and citizens needs to be coordinated and is the cornerstone of true transformation.

From the consultation to SHAFE network organisations, the main challenges and opportunities arose:

Challenges and solutions

- ▶ Lack of knowledge on how to install and use safe and secure ICT, to adapt built (living) environments, and how to lead a healthier life can be solved by offering trainings, creating toolkits or handbooks and provide (online) training actions in multiple locations.
- ▶ Digital illiteracy in Europe is still widespread due to weak prioritisation, lack of resources, skills, awareness, acceptance and interest. Trainings and facilitations (e.g. internet cafes) are crucial to improve the literacy.
- ▶ Many health and wellbeing provisions are only available in expensive institutionalised locations and the focus is on treatment mainly; it is necessary to move health and wellbeing to the home and towards prevention and a value-based approach. Nevertheless, long-term care and palliative care need improvement, facilitating the adequate environment with reduced waiting lists.

CHAPTER TWO | MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITIES IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

- ▶ Increase the coordination between health and social policy agendas, increasing flexibility of services and cooperation agreements that allow innovation to enter the market.
- ▶ Better and greater articulation between primary care and community partners must be addressed, in particular towards greater prevention for less treatment.
- ▶ Lack of solid business cases or return on investment plans from insurance companies and investors to foster future investments on smart healthy environments.
- ▶ Education of urban planners, architects and ICT-developers needs to be modernised to focus on PEOPLE and PLACES and focus research on lifelong learning, evidence-based design, smart healthy environments and empowerment.
- ▶ Improved cooperation between authorities and countries to jointly focus on the establishment of smart healthy age-friendly environments.

The opportunities

Where can SHAFE grow when we look at the new main areas of European interest and the most recent policy strategies that will inform this decade?

1 - Technological change

The European Union is undergoing a digital transition that is changing our societies and economies at an unprecedented speed. More than 33 zettabytes (ZB) ($\times 10^{21}$) of data was generated worldwide in 2018, a number that is set to grow to 175 ZB by 2025.

This creates an extraordinary opportunity for Europe to use this enormous amount of data yet to be created and lead the data revolution on the world stage. It will deeply transform the way we communicate, live and work. It will be used to train the artificial intelligence (AI) of the future. Its insights will make us lead longer and healthier lives, develop more efficient solutions to tackle climate change, improve business operations and reduce energy consumption: the list is endless.

2 - People, cities and environments

More than half of the world's population now lives in urban areas. This is expected to reach 80% by 2050. Cities and metropolitan areas are centres of economic activity, knowledge generation, innovation and new technologies.

They impact upon the quality of life of citizens who live and/or work in them and they are major contributors to global challenges.

A smart city is a place where traditional networks and services are made more efficient with the use of digital and telecommunication technologies for the benefit of its inhabitants and business. A smart city goes beyond the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) for better resource use and less emissions. It means smarter urban transport networks, upgraded water supply and waste disposal facilities and more efficient ways to light and heat buildings. It also means a more interactive and responsive city administration, safer public spaces and meeting the needs of an ageing population.¹¹

The Commission's strategy for smart cities can be successfully aligned with the immediate priority of fighting the virus and mitigating the socio-economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic. Action should be based on science and have public health at its centre, while balancing social and economic remedies, namely targeting populations at higher risk. The capacity and resilience of health care systems needs to be increased but this is not sufficient and reconsidering many societal arrangements such as public buildings concepts, travel and transport arrangements (train, and flights), social meeting places such as restaurants, cultural activities and social participation are also key elements to consider.

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/horizon-europe-next-research-and-innovation-framework-programme/missions-horizon-europe/climate-neutral-and-smart-cities_en

3 - An environment under strain

To deliver the European Green Deal¹², there is a need to rethink policies for clean energy supply across the economy, industry, production and consumption, large-scale infrastructure, transport, food and agriculture, construction, taxation and social benefits. To achieve these aims, it is essential to increase the value given to protecting and restoring natural ecosystems, to the sustainable use of resources and to improving human health. This is where transformational change is most needed and potentially most beneficial for the EU economy, society and natural environment. The EU should also promote and invest in the necessary digital transformation and tools as these are essential enablers of the changes.

While all of these areas for action are strongly interlinked and mutually reinforcing, careful attention will have to be paid when there are potential trade-offs between economic, environmental and social objectives. The Green Deal will make consistent use of all policy levers: regulation and standardisation, investment and innovation, national reforms, dialogue with social partners and international cooperation. The European Pillar of Social Rights will guide action in ensuring that no one is left behind.

New measures on their own will not be enough to achieve the European Green Deal's objectives. In addition to launching new initiatives, the Commission will work with the Member States to step up the EU's efforts to ensure that current legislation and policies relevant to the Green Deal are enforced and effectively implemented.

¹² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1588580774040&uri=CELEX%3A52019DC0640>



CHAPTER THREE

A SHARED AGENDA FOR SHAFE



CHAPTER THREE

A SHARED AGENDA FOR SHAFE

SHAFE needs a multi-faceted approach and multiple stakeholders to become really implemented. Single players are not enough to realize social inclusion and healthy lives for all. Therefore, we involve a broad network of stakeholders: varying from older and younger citizens, to businesses, financiers, NGOs and public authorities. With the start of the Thematic Network in 2018, we already laid ground for the integral approach of multiple stakeholders; with this Paper and additional organisational and individual pledges we continue to grow the network.

Indicators

Until 2024, we aim to build on current state of the art and implementation state and progress exponentially. To have proof of this growth, SHAFE is proposing a set of indicators/KPIs, that will guide the actions of stakeholders:

1. SHAFE PROJECTS

2019: 3 projects

2024: SHAFE or SHAFE-related 10 projects

- ▶ **EU_SHAFE** (Interreg Europe - www.interregeurope.eu/eushafe): Through a ‘learning by sharing’ methodology, the project Consortium, composed by a well-balanced group of multi-disciplinary actors leaders in the field of demographic change and age friendly environments, will create a cooperative, inclusive ecosystem between public authorities, European networks and user’s associations, embedding their experience and skills with research & design knowledge from academia and SMEs for the growth of community-based services and “ageing at home” around Europe.
- ▶ **Hands-on SHAFE** (www.hands-on-shafe.eu): Erasmus+ project to provide learning experiences for every facilitator (private or business) who wants to realise smart healthy built environments in their local communities (2019-2022).
- ▶ **Portuguese network on SHAFE** (en.caritascoimbra.pt/project/rede-portuguesa-ambientes-saudaveis-inteligentes-e-amigaveis): Coordinated by Cáritas Coimbra and ESEnfC, the Portuguese Network on Smart, Healthy and Age-Friendly Environments brings together a wide range of Portuguese organizations committed to promoting a joint agenda for the implementation of Inclusive Environments for All Ages, with a particular focus on Health, Social Support, ICT and Building Environments. The Portuguese Network favors a quadruple helix participation and actively promotes the collaboration between research/academia, public authorities, companies and civil society /citizens, with the aim of finding common solutions to national challenges in this theme.
- ▶ **COST Action NET4AGE-FRIENDLY (CA19136), International Interdisciplinary Network on Smart Healthy Age-friendly Environments (2020-2023)**: The main approach of NET4AGE-FRIENDLY is the establishment of local or regional ecosystems in each COST country involved, to work on health and well-being in an age-friendly digital world. The ecosystems will consist of citizens, public authorities, businesses/NGOs and researchers. They will be supported by four thematic Working Groups (User-centred inclusive design in age-friendly environments and communities; Integrated health and well-being pathways; Digital solutions and large-scale sustainable implementation; Policy development, funding forecast and cost-benefit

evaluations). The outcomes of the thematic Working Groups will be integrated by a dedicated Working Group to create a synergised output as a Reference Framework. NET4AGE-FRIENDLY will be used as a connector for involving and hosting regular themed sessions with local and regional stakeholders and users' representatives from various countries and backgrounds, as well as for fostering the knowledge creation and sharing among researchers. Particular attention will be devoted to promoting the involvement of Early Career Investigators, entrepreneurs and participants from COST Inclusiveness Target Countries.

- **BIG: Educational Game: Building of inclusive environments for all generations (2020-2022):** This Erasmus+ project builds upon the SHAFE basis of good practices and adds to the previous efforts. It will be developed with the intention to make the results of the work done so far available as a playful learning experience to a broader target audience and thus spread knowledge and know-how on the creation of healthy and age-friendly environments at the greatest possible extent.

2. SHAFE GROWING STAKEHOLDERS NETWORK

2019: 166 stakeholders

2024: 450 stakeholders

Number of Policy makers (local, regional, national) and number of Financial incentives that can be approved to foster the implementation of SHAFE and the political commitment to integrate policy domains in favour of SHAFE:

- 2019: 10 public authorities/policy makers involved in EU_SHAFE and Hands-on SHAFE
- 2024: 55 public authorities/policy makers in Europe involved
- 2024: 25 local or regional funding/facilitating SHAFE programmes started

Health&Care providers

Incentives to contribute to SHAFE

- 2024: 60 health&care providers involved
- 2022: 50 training projects of formal and informal caregivers started, using Hands-on SHAFE toolkit

Citizens

Incentives to lead on healthy habits and digital& health literacy

- 2022: 300 citizens finished the Hands-on SHAFE learning experiences
- 2024: 35 advocacy organisations promote Hands-on SHAFE learning experiences

Financers

Measures needed to invest or develop SHAFE

- 2024: 10 financers from 10 EU countries provided information on measures to invest and develop SHAFE

CHAPTER THREE | A SHARED AGENDA FOR SHAFE

Insurance companies and national/regional health authorities

Measures to include in insurance packages to foster SHAFE

- 2024: 10 insurance companies or national/regional health authorities from 10 different EU countries provide information on necessary measures to involve SHAFE in insurance packages

Building industry and architects

Incentives to integrate smart built environments

- 2024: 25 building industries or architect bureaus made plans to integrate SHAFE (climate neutral) in their building plans

ICT-companies

Incentives to integrate smart built environments

- 2024: 110 ICT-companies in Europe started to cooperate with the building sector, public authorities and citizens

Researchers/Academia

Incentives to bring on lifelong learning/digital skills and to perform research for prevention

- 2022: 120 academic institutions in Europe provide education and research on lifelong learning, digital skills and integrated approach on prevention

CHAPTER FOUR

WORKING WITH PARTNERS AND LEVERAGING
OUR INFLUENCE



WORKING WITH PARTNERS AND LEVERAGING OUR INFLUENCE

Coordinators





**Caritas Diocesana
de COIMBRA**



AFEdeemy
age-friendly environments academy