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	Abstract: This document describes the 9th National Event promoted under the project AgeingWell – Network for the Market Uptake of ICT for Ageing Well. The national event was organized in Cyprus, by CITARD and took place on the 4th of April 2014, at the premises of the University of Cyprus (UCY), in conjunction with the Co-Living Project. The theme of the event was “Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly” with special focus on the opportunities and impacts for ICT & Ageing technologies. The initiative gathered 20 participants with representatives from Industry, User Organizations, Public Authorities, R&D organizations, Insurance Companies and ICT Solution Providers, operating in Cyprus. The aim of the event was to give to the participants the opportunity to exchange knowledge and practical experiences and to discuss topics related to the challenges and opportunities underlying the demographic changes that Cyprus and Europe are facing, to provide them information and notify them about networking activities that will help them to benefit from the Financial Investors, and also to raise awareness and contribute to the establishment of a mutual trust atmosphere between the national community of the ICT & Ageing stakeholders.	

Revision History:

Revision	Date	Author	Organisation	Description
V.01	23/04/2014	Christophoros Christophorou Eleni Christodoulou	CiTARD	First draft of the deliverable

Statement of Originality

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The aim of the AgeingWell Network **is to build and animate a European network focused on improving the quality of life of Elderly People by promoting the market uptake of ICT solutions for Ageing Well.**

To achieve its aim, the following five **main objectives** of the AgeingWell project are:

- **Develop** guidelines for deployment and sharing of best practice between key competence centres;
- **Build** an ICT for Ageing Knowledge Centre with the aim to share the results with the Ageing Well Community;
- **Develop** an ICT for Ageing Society Strategic Agenda, with the aim of providing a study on options for future structure and implementation of EU innovation funding;
- **Promote** the European innovation reinforcement between innovative ICT industries & Ageing (in particular SMEs) and Venture Capital firms, Business Angels and other;
- **Raise awareness** within the European community of ICT & Ageing stakeholders through web-based communication, and the organization of 3 international events and 11 national events.

1.2 Summary

This document describes the 9th National Event promoted under the project **AgeingWell** – Network for the Market Uptake of ICT for Ageing Well. The promotion of this event, under the AgeingWell project, is to intensify the network activity and common knowledge in the field of ICT & Ageing.

The national event was organized in Cyprus, on the morning of the 4th of April 2014, by CITARD Services Ltd (CITARD) with the support of INOVAMAIS - Serviços de Consultadoria em Inovação (INOVA+), TECPITCH, Engenharia e Inovação, Unipessoal Lda (TcP) and Fundatia Ana Aslan International (AAIF). The theme of the event was “Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly” with special focus on the opportunities and impacts for ICT & Ageing technologies aiming also to raise awareness and contribute to the establishment of a mutual trust atmosphere between the national community of the ICT & Ageing stakeholders.

2 Agenda

The agenda of the event is provided below.



Network for the Market uptake of ICT for
AgeingWell & **Co-Living** Workshop

Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly
4th of April 2014

Program

The AgeingWell Network Dr. Christophoros Christophorou	09:30 – 10:00
Co-Living: Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly Prof. George Samaras	10:00 – 10:30
SoCo-net: Social Care Community Network for Elderly People Dr. Panayiotis Andreou	10:30 – 11:00
Coffee Break	11:00 – 11:30
ICT Based Services for Independent Living and Elderly Care Dr. Dimosthenis Georgiadis	11:30 – 12:00
Social Networks and ICT based Services in Robotic Systems Dr. Christophoros Christophorou	12:00 – 12:30
Break and Discussion	12:30 – 13:00

CITARD Services Ltd  **Πανεπιστήμιο Κύπρου**
University of Cyprus

3 Summary of the event

3.1 Introduction

The 9th National Event promoted under the project **AgeingWell** – Network for the Market Uptake of ICT for Ageing Well was organized in Cyprus, by CITARD with the support of INOVA+, TcP and AAIF.

The event took place in the morning of the 4th of April 2014 (from 09:30 – 13:00), at the premises of the University of Cyprus (UCY), in conjunction with the Co-Living event, organized by the Computer Science Department of the University of Cyprus. The theme of the event was “**Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly**” with special focus on the opportunities and impacts for ICT & Ageing technologies. The initiative gathered 20 participants with representatives from Industry, User Organizations, Public Authorities, R&D organizations, Insurance Companies and ICT Solution Providers.

The aim of the event was to give to the participants the opportunity to exchange knowledge and practical experiences and to discuss topics related to the challenges and opportunities underlying the demographic changes that Cyprus and Europe are facing, to provide them information and notify them about networking activities that will help them to benefit from the Financial Investors, and also to raise awareness and contribute to the establishment of a mutual trust atmosphere between the national community of the ICT & Ageing stakeholders.

The event was widely disseminated via CITARD, UCY and **AgeingWell**'s websites and press. Also invitations and information related to the event was distributed through emails to all related ICT & Ageing stakeholders in Cyprus.

3.2 Progress of the Event

Dr. Christophorou Christophoros, the R&D Manager of CiTARD Services Ltd, and Prof. George Samaras, Professor at the Department of Computer Science of the University of Cyprus, opened the event and welcomed the participants. Dr. Christophoros Christophorou presented the event's program and also referred to the challenges that society and healthcare sector will face in the years to come. Professor George Samaras emphasized more on the important role that Information and Communication Technologies can play on addressing these challenges.

The first presentation of the event was presented by Dr. Christophoros Christophorou, describing the project “**AgeingWell** - Network for the Market uptake of ICT for Ageing Well”. He briefly introduced the audience to the **AgeingWell** network, emphasizing both the EU geographical coverage, covering 11 European countries, as well as, the diversity of the network founding members, composed by entities from industry, user organizations, investors, housing and insurance companies and ICT solutions providers. This network has as the main driver “to build and animate a European network focus on improving the quality of life of Elderly People by promoting the market uptake of ICT solutions for Ageing Well”.

As Dr. Christophoros Christophorou stated, the European population is rapidly ageing, however living longer does not necessarily mean living a healthier, more active and independent life. He explained how ICT solutions have demonstrated great potential for improving quality of life and sustainability of care for the ageing population and, therefore, how they can contribute to mitigate the social and economic impact of ageing in nowadays societies.

He also referred to the major objectives of the Ageing Well network which are:

- To build a practical guide that can be used by all kind of organizations from the ICT & Ageing field, that is, ICT solution providers, service providers, insurance companies, regions/municipalities etc. It intends to be a working tool that supports their decision in developing solutions for the ageing sector, contributing to minimize the market uptake risks.
- Build an ICT for Ageing knowledge Centre with a view to share the results with the AgeingWell Community.
- Develop an ICT for Ageing Society Strategic Agenda, with the aim of providing a study on options for future structure and implementation of EU innovation funding.
- Bridge the gap between innovative SMEs and Venture Capital firms, Business Angels and other private equity firms, and contributes to exploit the innovation potential of SMEs by providing information and networking activities that will help them to benefit from the Financial Investors, while contributing to the establishment of a mutual trust atmosphere.
- Raise awareness to European community of ICT & Ageing stakeholders through web-based communication, international events and national events.

He concluded by explaining to the related stakeholders who can become an associate member, what are the benefits of becoming an associate member of this network and also the process that should be followed to achieve this.

The second presentation was made by Professor George Samaras. The title of this presentation was “Co-Living: Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly”. During this presentation, Prof. George Samaras emphasized on the Co-Living Project and the role and impact of the ICT technologies on Active Living, social interaction and wellbeing.

He stated that Co-Living places the elderly in the centre of the services and its main goal was the development of an ICT-based Virtual Collaborative Social Living Community for Elderly people, aiming to stimulate and prolong their independent and active living in an outward environment through an advancement in elderly people social interaction, contributing thus positively to their wellbeing. The Co-Living solution intends to provide close interpersonal, meaningful, and positive social relationships and contexts in the society as they age, preventing thus, or reducing the risk, of psychosocial deterioration and societal exclusion. The Co-Living team was comprised of 9 experienced and committed partners representing 5 AAL European partner States (Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Portugal and Cyprus), covering thus the end user and market needs in the field, in a wide European context.

At the end of the presentation, Prof. George Samaras was mainly focused on the Trials and Evaluation of the Co-Living system and discussed about the two pilots, in the Netherlands and Norway, representing the two different use cases. These two pilots were carried out to assess and validate the Co-Living solution in its social, economic and psychological dimensions. The Netherlands’ pilot run in the very innovative Elderly Living Village setup of the ORBIS care provider and involved elderly people making use of the setup. In Norway, the use case was the neighborhood of the Municipality of Trondheim, operated by the Information Centre for Seniors, involving elderly citizens that live in their home and use their neighbourhood for outward activities. Participants, in both trial locations, considered the Co-Living solution as a useful, easy to use, self-supportive tool. Also the

results showed that the sense of perceived usefulness and ease of use of the system increased over time. According to the results, 84% of the elderly and 100% of the care professionals state the solution can significantly improve their quality of life.

The third presentation, with title “SoCo-net: Social Care Community Network for Elderly People”, was presented by Dr. Panayiotis Andreou, Post-doctoral Researcher at the Department of Computer Science of the University of Cyprus. During this presentation, Dr. Panayiotis Andreou presented the Social Community Network architecture and functionalities, describing also the motivation behind its implementation. As he said, SoCo-net, is an elderly centric Virtual Collaborative Social care Community network that enables the effective administration and coordination of the user profiles as well as the effective management and collaboration of social care teams around the elderly. Such teams are virtual (since they assist and provide care to the elderly without being together physically), dynamic (as the teams are dynamically adjusted, due to availability, preferences and status of the users) and collaborative (as the members of the virtual care teams can combine their knowledge, collaborate and actively communicate with the elderly to provide them effective care and improve their daily life in an ad hoc and informal way). SoCo-net offers services with the following main functionalities:

- Builds and enables the effective management and collaboration of virtual social care teams around the elderly for continuous care provision.
- Ensures that the elderly will have a unique personalized profile of disabilities and abilities, special needs, preferences, etc., promoting thus personalized care provision..
- Monitors the elderly parameters (Activities, Location, etc.)
- Integrates external components like the Behavior Analysis component, able to identify changes in the elderly daily activities as they age and adapt their social relationships, preferences and capabilities accordingly, and the Education and Feedback to the Elderly component, able to stimulate and support elderly to retain interest in making use of the provided services.

He concluded his presentation by referring to the future steps regarding the SoCo-net system. The future plans are:

- Service Enhancement so as to satisfy more end of the end user needs (new service/component integration) and cultivate a more complete/mature product
- Infrastructure Enhancements by moving to the cloud and eliminate any scalability problems
- R&D on new trends and technologies.

After a 30 minutes break, Dr. Dimosthenis Georgiadis, a Post-doctoral Researcher at the Department of Computer Science of the University of Cyprus, continued with the fourth presentation titled “ICT Based Services for Independent Living and Elderly Care”. At the beginning of his presentation he referred to the very important role that the ICT solutions in Ageing Well and also that is the trigger for the “Positive Ageing”. He described the areas where ICT solutions can significantly benefit the elderly in a more active and independent living improving thus their wellbeing. Then he discussed in more technical depth about the ICT solutions, focusing mostly on the Co-Living system and the three main ICT-service categories supported by the system:

- Care & Wellness
- Guidance
- Mobility Monitoring

At the end of his presentation he concluded by stating that ICT for Ageing is not only a social necessity but also an economic opportunity. The older population has a large buying power and ageing is becoming a global phenomenon as the demand for health and social services will grow with the increase of the number of very old and frail people (the group of over 80 year olds will almost double by 2050). While the financial sustainability of such services is already of great concern, ICT enables more efficient management and delivery of formal and informal care.

The fifth and last presentation was presented by Dr. Christophoros Christophorou. The title of this presentation was “Social Networks and ICT based Services in Robotic Systems (The SocialRobot Solution)”. As he stated in the beginning of his presentation, robotic systems in Ageing Well, and more specifically the SocialRobot solution, are among those initiatives offering functionality related to the support of independent living, monitoring and maintaining safety or enhancement of health and psychological well-being of elders by providing companionship. The SocialRobot solution focuses on bringing together the Robotic and Computer Science fields by integrating state of the art Robotic technologies, ICT-based Care & Wellness services and virtual Social care Community networks (SoCo-net), to provide solutions to key issues of relevance for improved independent living and quality of life of elderly people and efficiency of care.

Then he discussed in more technical depth about how SoCo-net and ICT-base services can be integrated with the Robotic technologies, both hardware and Software, using the ROS (Robot Operating System). He also emphasized on the technical innovation of the SocialRobot solution compared to previous ICT solutions and what are the additional features that SoCo-net and ICT-based services can provide, by describing in detail different use case scenarios.

He concluded his presentation by stating that SocialRobot focuses in the growing high potential elderly care market in Europe, and beyond, tackling initially the area of preventive care at an early stage of the ageing process. The system will be introduced early enough in the life of the elderly when the first signs of physical to cognitive disabilities appear providing thus initially for simple essential personalized functionality covering daily care needs. This will ensure that the elderly will be given enough time to become acquainted and increase acceptance of more complex robot care functionality introduced gradually to address further ageing capabilities degradation. SocialRobot is expected to launch the final product onto the market two years after the project end; in 2017.

After this presentation, a 30 minutes break was followed. During this time, the presenters and the audience took the opportunity to exchange knowledge and practical experiences and to discuss topics related to the challenges and opportunities underlying the demographic changes that Cyprus and Europe are facing, and also meet with each other hoping for a mutual trust atmosphere establishment between the national community of the ICT & Ageing stakeholders and also future fruitful collaborations.

3.3 Conclusions

By 2050, the number of people in the EU aged 65 and above is expected to grow by 70% and the number of people aged over 80 by 170%. This raises important challenges for the 21st century as we have to meet the higher demand for healthcare and thus we must consider how we can adapt the health systems to the needs of an ageing population while keeping them sustainable in societies with smaller work force.

Living longer does not necessarily mean living a healthier, more active and independent life. All the participants agreed that Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Virtual Social Collaborative Networks promoting collaboration between the elderly and his/her social network are the trigger for the 'Positive Ageing' and the means for increasing the healthy years of the elderly life. Achieving an increase in the number of healthy years significantly benefiting EU as this will enable the EU citizens to lead healthy, active and independent lives until old age, it will improve the sustainability and efficiency of social and health care systems and will promote the development and take up of innovative ICT solutions, thus fostering competitiveness and market growth.

The event counted with an audience of 20 participants, representatives from R & D Organizations, Public Authorities, User Organizations, ICT Solution providers, Industries and Insurance Companies operating in Cyprus.

Based on the comments received by the participants, the event was very well organized and it fully met their expectations. They also stated that the usefulness of the discussed themes were of significant important as it gave them the opportunity to be informed about the latest news in the fields of ICT and Ageing Well. Also it gave them the opportunity to exchange knowledge and practical experiences that can be applicable and beneficial for their organizations. It also gave them the opportunity to meet other ICT & Ageing stakeholders operating in Cyprus, who did not know about, and establish network connections for future and fruitful collaborations.

3.4 Feedback from Stakeholders

CiTARD, as member responsible for the organisation of this event, contacted participants to collect their statement about their participation at this event, but also about the **AgeingWell** Network. From the contacts made, it has been possible to gather three statements which are presented next.


"Thank you very much for inviting us to this event. The event was very well organized and all the topics discussed were very interesting. Moreover, attending to this event it was very beneficial for my company as it gave us the opportunity to meet with other people and companies working in the same area of us, exchange ideas and also establish new collaborations for future projects."

"The usefulness of the topics discussed were of significant importance as it gave us the opportunity to be informed about the latest news in the fields of ICT and Ageing Well and also to exchange knowledge and practical experiences that can be applicable and beneficial for our organizations. Meeting also other ICT & Ageing stakeholders operating in Cyprus, allowed us to establish new network connections for future and fruitful collaborations."



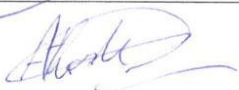


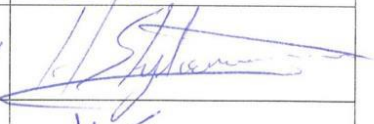


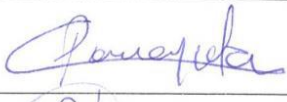
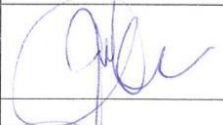
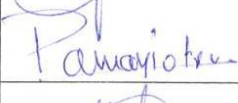

"First of all I would like to express my appreciation of inviting us to this event. The event was an excellent opportunity for us to obtain new knowledge in the ICT and Ambient Assisted Living sectors and establish new business and research collaborations with other parties working in the same area of us. All the speakers were great and willing to address all of our questions. Thank you again for all the effort provided to organize this event."


All statements highlighted the benefit of having met, at this event, other stakeholders operating in the same field with which future opportunities of collaboration can be envisaged. Besides, learning about initiatives in the ICT and Ambient Assisted Living sectors was seen as added-value of participating at the event, which was considered well organized and with interesting speakers.

4 List of Participants



 Network for the Market uptake of ICT for Ageing Well


List of Participants		
Organisation	Representative person	Signature
University of Cyprus	Prof. Andreas Pitsillides	
University of Cyprus	Prof. Constantinos Patsichis	
Melathron Cyprus Leukosias	Athos Matsas	
Cyprus University of Technology	Dr. Andreas Maloupas	
Social Services of Agios Dimitrios	Elena Throubolida	
Cosmos Consultants LTD	Haviris Stylianides	
PREPA Consulting LTD	Marios Belk	
P.A. MobHealth LTD	Pantelis Angelides	
KIDS Research Centre	Dr. Christos Panayiotou	
Frederic University	Dr. Andreas Konstantinides	
European University of Cyprus Research Centre LTD	Dr. George Panayiotou	
Cyprus Telecommunications Authority (CYTA)	Alexis Piperides	



AgeingWell

Network for the Market uptake of ICT for Ageing Well

Grant: Agreement no. 297298





List of Participants		
Organisation	Representative person	Signature
A.P. Energy	Filippos Kiriakou	
A.P. Energy	Andreas Pervides	
PA S & A *	Barbara Pitsillides	
Planning Bureau	Anna Stavrinou	
Metathron Agoristi ΕΘΝΑ	Aggelos Aggelopoulos	
Trust Insurance Cyprus LTD	Christa Christalou	
General Insurance of Cyprus	Isolia Pafitis	
Universal Life Insurance LTD	Kypros Mounthis	



5 Photos

