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European Projects, Programmes & Partnerships from the field:

**Be The Change**
Boosting entrepreneurship through intergenerational exchange

Being 65+ and a successful entrepreneur represents a great source of knowledge, experience and wisdom. But how can NEETs—young people not in education and not in employment—become successful entrepreneurs too?

The Be The Change project, financed by Erasmus + programme, is based on an Intergenerational Learning methodology and aims at developing trainings, materials and guidelines for the validation of entrepreneurial competencies acquired in non-formal educational settings. The target group is older adults with entrepreneurial experience and young people Not in Education, Employment and Training paths (NEETs). The project will develop a methodology, consisting of a training structure, contents and guidelines, addressed to both target groups to serve as a base for non-formal education.

All modules will be presented in the languages of the participating countries: Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta and Slovenia). Training contents will be provided to elders to help them train young people, while addressing NEETs will help them acquire the skills needed to foster entrepreneurship. The e-learning platform containing open and free access modules in the partners’ languages will be a holistic approach to later-life needs, supporting both elderly people and NEETs in coping with life changes.

To learn more about this project, please contact the Project Coordinator – Sara Santini (INRCA - National Institute of Health and Science on Aging) s.santini2@inrca.it

**TOY PLUS – Together Old & Young: Practitioners Learning and Upscaling Skills**

A new blogpost from TOY - Nurturing the deep roots of intergenerational relationships in everyday life, across the globe

Intergenerational relationships across the globe: two vignettes from India and the Netherlands, written by Shanti George. This post, emphasizes how important it is to appreciate and nurture existing intergenerational connections, wherever they are able to persist – whether the tradition of bringing infants to visit senior relatives or the support provided by grandparents to young families under pressure — and to build on these and reinforce them with varied and creative initiatives such as those within the Together Old and Young (TOY) programme. To learn more, visit the TOY PLUS website

**The Intergenerational School Breakfast Program**

The intergenerational School Breakfast Program, an initiative of New Jersey’s Departments of Health and Senior Services, Agriculture and Education, pairs older adult volunteers with young children, (pre-kindergarten through the third grade), during the school breakfast program. Older volunteers serve as role models, reading storybooks to the children and teaching them about the importance of good nutrition and eating breakfast. Click here to learn more.
SPARKLING GREY - Innovative human resources management strategies for age & multigenerational issues

The Sparkling Grey project, supported by Erasmus+ programme, provide SMEs of textile and metal sectors with adjusted and innovative human resources management strategies that address age and multi-generational issues while supporting career management skills specifically targeted to senior workers.

The consortium, consisting of 8 entities from 5 EU member states (PT, ES, FR, DE, HU) that represent different organisations and institutions that aim to provide:

- A report on the current scenario of existing human resources management strategies addressing age, multi-generational issues and tools targeted to senior workers.
- An assessment tool for SMEs supporting the identification of the suitable strategies adjusted to an aged and multi-generational workforce.
- A toolkit for enterprises supporting the effective integration Human Resources strategies for age and multi-generational work environments.
- An on-the-job guide for practical activities promoting age friendly and multi-generational interactions and knowledge transference inside the SMEs.
- A train-the-trainer package supporting the exploitation and utilization of the project results, guiding trainers and counsellors on how to support SMEs to adopt human resources management strategies addressing age and multi-generational issues.

For more information, please visit Sparkling Grey website or contact the project manager.

Learning from intergenerational housing projects in the USA

Emma Garland, Policy Officer at Ongo Homes, is embarking on a 4 week trip to the US in October to research intergenerational housing projects. The trip, funded by a 2016 Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship, provides a unique opportunity for British citizens to travel overseas to bring back fresh ideas and new solutions to today’s issues, for the benefit of others in the UK.

Emma’s application was in the category ‘New Approaches to Social and Affordable Housing’. Housing is something Emma is passionate about: “The reason I put an application in about intergenerational housing was because we have a rapidly aging population with limited tenure choices and, at the same time, young people are finding it increasingly difficult to get their own place.” Emma sees intergenerational housing as a solution that can bring benefits to both generations. “I really want the trip to be of practical use so I’d encourage people to check out my blog for further information about the places I’ll be visiting and to let me know what sort of things you’d like me to find out.” Emma will compile a final report at the end of her research which will be freely available.

To find out more about Emma’s trip or ask any questions, visit her blog or you e-mail her: emma.garland@ongo.co.uk

Journal of Intergenerational Relationships welcomes your papers. You can make a contribution to the intergenerational field by submitting your original work for publication as a scholarly paper or as a From the Field submission (Program Profile or Reflections from the Field). Click here for more information.
Intergenerational News & Events

On March 8th 2017, Generations Working Together (GWT) hosted its National Conference in Scotland. The theme of Embed and Sustain were chosen to reflect the achievements being made across Scotland’s local authorities, adopting and Intergenerational practice, not only at a grass roots level but in a more strategic context. An array of presenters and workshop facilitators gave an inspiring insight into Intergenerational work taking place across the UK and also Spain.

Key note speakers included: Mariano Sanchez, University of Granada, Tom Peterson - Oxford Academy, who reported on their successful Old School project; Richard Leckerman & Ellen Donnelly (Alzheimer Scotland) highlighted how intergenerational approaches benefit dementia friendly communities; Stuart Miller (the Food Train) discussed the Meal Makers project which brings together those who love to cook and share food, with older people.

This year’s conference celebrated the 10th anniversary of GWT (previously The Scottish Centre of Intergenerational Practice). To recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements across the country, an annual recognition awards ceremony was held. It is important to spend time to reflect, celebrate and grow within your practice, regardless your field of expertise. For those that were unable to attend this year’s event, presentations can be viewed online.

registración Now!

Homeshare International and Solidarios para el desarrollo de Madrid are pleased to invite you to the 5th World Homeshare Congress.

Homeshare is the exchange of housing for help. Typically an older person, or somebody with disability, is enabled to remain in their own home by providing accommodation for a younger, fitter individual who provides help in exchange for their home. All this, facilitated by an external organisation - a homeshare programme.

If you are running a homeshare programme, this is THE CONFERENCE for you! If you are thinking about setting up a homeshare programme, or commissioning another agency to a homeshare matching service in your area, you can’t miss this opportunity to network with others already engaged in Homeshare elsewhere in the world.

The venue is the stunning Palacio de Cibeles, the Madrid Town Hall, right in the centre of Madrid. This building is the former communications centre and is a major landmark in Madrid.

For more information: www.hiworldcongressmadrid2017.org

2017 Global Intergenerational Conference
June 13 – 16, 2017 Milwaukee, US
Generation United’s 19th biennial conference, co-hosted by St Ann Centre for Intergenerational Care, will feature four days of new releases in intergenerational research, policies and practices. Key topics include: Grandfamilies & Kinship Care Technology Linking Generations, Intergenerational Communities, Lifelong Learning & Education, Health and Wellness. Click here to learn more about the conference’s program of events.
Intergenerational linkages in the family: Findings of Families and Societies

Families and Societies is a European project investigating changes in family formation and structures in the broader context of societal changes. After four years running, the project is now coming to an end. Among the activities of Families and Societies, AGE has followed with special interest the research on “Intergenerational linkages in the family: the organisation of caring and financial responsibilities”. A report recently published sums up the main findings:

1. Intergenerational co-residence: conditions under which co-residence is a preferred or a defaults living arrangement
2. Transfers up and down family lines – the “sandwich generation”
3. Norms of family obligation regarding care and financial support
4. Implications of policies for inequalities in and between families
5. The impact of the economic crisis on intergenerational dependencies in families.

More information about these findings can be viewed on the Families and Societies website.

FROM THE PAST TO THE FUTURE A NEW VIEW OF LIFE by Amaia Eiguren Munitis

Intergenerational projects seek to find ways to improve relationships within society. As a result of the economic, social and political situation that we are living through, the welfare state is struggling to ensure that the most disadvantaged groups receive the support they need. With intergenerational projects, we seek to connect two groups of people with the intention of promoting healthy relations between them, looking for positive results and underlining the importance of belonging. Visit the EMIL website to read the article or email the author: amaiaeigu@gmail.com

New book - "Intergenerational Pathways to a Sustainable Society"

This book, written by M. Sanchez, M. Kaplan and J. Hoffman, explores intergenerational practices and their impact on social sustainability, with an emphasis on developing programmatic efforts to address profound social challenges such as underperforming educational and work-related systems for dependent or vulnerable populations, and community renewal and regeneration efforts. The core argument is to present issues related to age, aging and generations, not only as problems, but as catalysts to help improve quality of life for all generations.

For societies to be sustainable, all generations must coexist at any given time and across time. This book presents intergenerational sustainability as both a conceptual tool and as a call for action. Intergenerational pathways are introduced as strategies for improving health and well-being across the lifespan, strengthening families, improving under-performing educations and work-related systems and helping to build more cohesive, caring communities. Reviewing the historical factors and developments influencing intergenerational studies, as well as presenting regional case studies and comparative research, this book presents successful models that may be applied to everyday multigenerational practices in institutions such as education, family life, housing, healthcare, employment and community development. The result is an accessible resource for students, academics, policy makers, community leaders and citizens concerned with creating opportunities amidst challenging demographic and social changes. To find out more, click here.


This book shows that global population ageing is an opportunity to improve the quality of human life rather than a threat to economic competitiveness and stability. It describes the concept of the creative ageing policy as a mix of the silver economy, the creative economy, and the social and solidarity economy for older people. The 2nd volume of “Economic Foundations for Creative Ageing Policy” focuses on the public policy and management concepts related to the use of the opportunities that are created by population ageing. Each chapter includes exercises and assignments for both students and those who are likely to apply the presented concepts in practice. To learn more about these publications, click here.