INNOVAGE: User-driven Housing for Older People

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A computer-based tool to assess housing accessibility

This innovation will be developed by INNOVAGE, a three year European research project which started in March 2013.

Aim:

- To support older people to compare housing options with regard to accessibility issues.

How?

- The computer-based tool will empower senior citizens to describe their accessibility needs and identify suitable housing options. The tool will be based on the Housing Enabler methodology.
The Housing Enabler

Rating form for assessment of functional limitations and dependence on mobility aids

Part of rating form for assessment of environmental barriers
The social innovation process

1. Identification of seniors’ needs and consultation of stakeholders (RESEARCH CIRCLES AND STAKEHOLDER FORA)

2. Assessment of the environmental barriers in the housing sector (USE OF THE HOUSING ENABLERO METHODOLOGY)

3. Development of the computer-based tool which will be tested by older people

4. Scaling up of the social innovation
Why is this social innovation meaningful?

- It is an answer to the increasing **need** of assessing housing accessibility due to ageing population.
- It **involves users and other relevant actors** using a **bottom-up approach** (research circles at local level and Stakeholder Fora).
- It goes **beyond technological innovation**, empowering older people to express and assess their needs.
- Thanks to the involvement of European platforms and partners from different countries, it takes into account different contexts (**potential for up-scaling**).
- Thanks to AGE Platform Europe and its members, it will **inform policy makers** on the lessons learned from the innovation project.
Thanks a lot for your attention!
INNOVAGE Project
http://www.innovage.group.shef.ac.uk/wp2.html

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