

TAAFE project towards alpine age-friendly environment, Final Conference and project main outcomes

The final event of the TAAFE project (Treviso, Italy, 31 May - 1 June) was an opportunity to illustrate the concrete results achieved by the project and to meet in person among project partners, TRIO members and seniors who have worked in the five pilot cities of Feldbach (Austria), Marseille (France) Mössingen (Germany), Treviso (Italy) and Žiri (Slovenia). The TAAFE model, a participatory framework for developing an age-friendly environment that can be adopted by the public authorities of the Alpine Space, was tested in the five pilot sites of the project. The activities carried out in the TAAFE area clearly demonstrated the importance of building age-friendly environments fostering long-term participation, inclusiveness, and recognition of senior citizens.

Participation and concreteness, which are two of the pillars of the TAAFE Model, have been fully achieved and are visible in the pilot cities and in the attitude of the people and communities involved.

The two years of evaluation activities in the TAAFE project presented a precise picture of the key areas for intervention to promote active and healthy ageing to support all stakeholders involved in the five TAAFE pilot sites. The evaluation model was developed by the Central European Initiative, leader of the evaluation activities, and it was based on the 8 dimensions of the WHO Age-friendly Cities Guide.

With the adoption of this multidimensional approach to age-friendly environments and by using methodologies integrating qualitative and quantitative tools, the evaluation provided clear insight on the benefits of adapting the TAAFE Model to the local specificities of each region, fostering and guiding future initiatives to improve the life of older people.

In order to provide a comprehensive assessment of the results of the project activities, a "pre and post" analysis was carried out to measure the impact of the participatory methodology in each pilot site. In addition, a social impact evaluation was carried out to recognize strengths and weaknesses of the pilot actions and to highlight the changes created by the project.

Some examples of relevant activities indicated by the participants include the training of volunteers for quality ageing, courses for informal caregivers, the creation of a weekly meeting called "Digital Café" and the organization of digital support activities. Among the related changes, respondents indicated more intergenerational cooperation, increased access to online services, better knowledge of institutional functioning and better cooperation between citizens and the municipalities.

To know more about the project and the concrete results achieved in the pilot sites visit the project website and have a look at the newly released project video!

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nfOB9uBM5yz3XCkjkqkrbP4AwTYnSqlX>

