



OVERVIEW

SILVER (Supporting Independent LiVing for the Elderly through Robotics) is a development project funded by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme for research and technological development (FP7). The project started in January 2012 and will run for 51 months.

As people get older, they face increasing risk of some severe condition that will affect their ability to continue living independently at home.

The SILVER project searches for new technologies to assist elderly people in their everyday lives. By the use of robotics or other related technologies, the elderly can continue independent living at home even if they have physical or cognitive disabilities.

The new technologies and solutions are sought by using a Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) process. In Europe, the PCP has so far been an under-utilised tool for promoting innovation. One of the aims of this project is to demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach to address societal and governmental needs.

OBJECTIVES

The first objective of the project is to *establish, and execute, an agreed PCP process* to run a cross-border PCP call for tender. This generic process should also form a basis for national PCP calls designed outside of the SILVER project.

The aim is that in the future public organisations in the participating countries and in the EU be familiar with the Pre-Commercial Procurement process and tools and use them to meet their needs.

The second objective is to use the PCP process developed in the project *to identify new technologies and services to support the independent living of the elderly*.

By 2020 new solutions implemented in elderly care are expected to make it possible to care for 10 % more care recipients with the same number of care givers. The aim is also to increase the quality of life for the elderly by making them more independent and improving their health.

METHODOLOGY

The project starts by developing a generic PCP process and documentation. Later the generic process will be used as a basis for a specific call for Independent Living.

The actual PCP process is executed in three phases. The first phase is a feasibility study of the selected technologies and proposals. The most promising ideas will be developed into well-defined prototypes in phase two. The third phase aims to verify and compare the first real end products or services in real-life situations.



WORK PACKAGES

The SILVER project is divided into seven work packages (WP), each one having a responsible leader.

- WP1** Project management
- WP2** Creation of generic PCP process
- WP3** Creation of specific call for independent living
- WP4** Administration of the competition and monitoring pilots
- WP5** Reviews and recommendations
- WP6** Dissemination and exploitation of project results
- WP7** Pilots running

PARTNERS

SILVER has partners in Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden and United Kingdom. The consortium includes research institutions and public sector organizations.

- Region of Southern Denmark – Denmark
- City of Odense – Denmark
- Aalto University – Finland
- Forum Virium Helsinki – Finland
- City of Oulu – Finland
- City of Vantaa – Finland
- Brainport Development NV – The Netherlands
- NL Agency – The Netherlands
- VINNOVA – Sweden
- City of Västerås – Sweden
- Technology Strategy Board – United Kingdom

FURTHER INFORMATION

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