

2019 AAL Impact Assessment

The AAL programme has been running for ten years and the first wave of funded projects, 153 in total, were launched between 2008-2013. The 2019 AAL Impact Assessment explored what impacts are emerging from these projects. Project participants were sent a survey questionnaire in Spring 2019 and data was collected for 52 projects (70 respondents).

The AAL programme has been a pioneering programme in Europe. Its goal is to improve the quality of life of older adults through innovative digital solutions and by doing so it created momentum in a challenging and fragmented market environment. The main highlights of the Programme have been:

- Introducing multi-disciplinary and participatory approaches in the co-design, testing, and commercialisation strategy of innovative solutions for improving the quality of life of older adults and their carers directly with the end users.
- Supporting knowledge sharing, building confidence and trust, and creating value networks across stakeholder groups and industry sectors.
- Raising profile for AAL solutions in the investor community via the organisation of pitching events.

Designing securer homes

19 of the 52 surveyed projects have launched a solution (product/service) or a component on the market

- The types of solutions brought to market include innovative devices for use in the home (e.g., a fall sensor or a communication system) and platforms designed to bring different communities together, including a collaboration platform for formal carers, a collaboration platform for informal carers, and a collaboration platform for the wider community.

Paving the way to market

The AAL programme helped overcome barriers to market and offered project participants an international network for collaboration

- 76% of the survey respondents that have launched a solution on the market stated that without AAL funding they could not have brought this to market.

- 90% of survey respondents indicated that the AAL programme promoted collaboration and networking across the EU and helped companies access the right skills markets.
- 55% of survey respondents found that the learning and experiences they acquired through the projects were relevant to other regions and countries in the EU.

Creating value

The solutions developed deliver value in multiple areas of life

As illustrated by means of the figure below, proactive end-user involvement throughout the life of the projects (from design to testing) helped bring solutions to market that address the needs of users. The AAL programme has helped lay the foundation for new market segments that are inclusive of the needs of older people.

