

# MOBILITY SCOUTS

ENGAGING OLDER PEOPLE IN  
CREATING AN AGE-FRIENDLY  
ENVIRONMENT

European Final Event  
Brussels, 5 June 2018

On behalf of the  
*Mobility Scouts* partnership  
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## ***Mobility Scouts:*** **5 countries – 5 different frameworks & settings**

Zutphen,  
the Netherlands:  
47,300  
inhabitants,  
rural eastern  
part of NL

Hanau,  
Germany:  
95,000  
inhabitants, near  
Frankfurt/Main



Kaunas, Lithuania:  
292,000 inhabitants,  
2<sup>nd</sup> largest city

Vienna, Austria:  
1.8 million inhabitants

Rome, Italy  
Municipality I & XII:  
345,000 inhabitants



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MOBILITY  SCOUTS

## What is *Mobility Scouts* about? (1)

*“Leefplezier” – “Growing old pleasantly”*

Prof. Joris Slaets



## What is *Mobility Scouts* about? (2)

- Acknowledgement and valuing capacities, strengths and abilities of older people
- Empowering them to speak up
- Recognising older people as experts of their needs
- Shaping living environments to improve well-being and age-friendliness



## What do we mean by *age-friendliness*?

What do older people say about  
age-friendliness?



## Age-friendliness basically means... (1)

- Accessible and available services and environments
- Public spaces, where people feel safe and that invite you to linger



## Age-friendliness basically means... (2)

- Public transportation that considers the needs of older people
- Accessible information



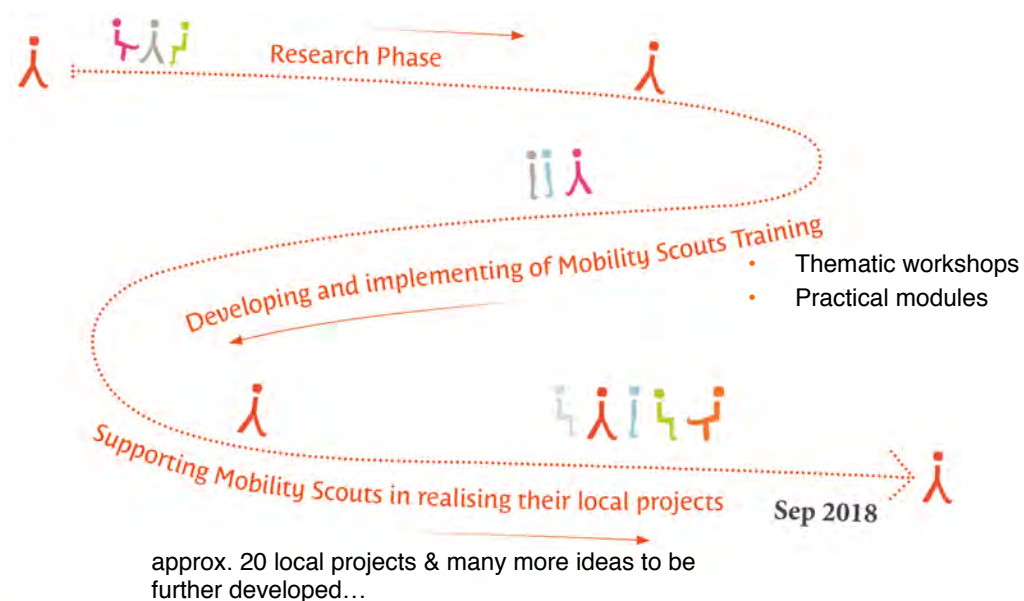


## Age-friendliness basically means... (3)

- Opportunities for social participation
- Respect



## Engaging older people in creating age-friendly environments, but how?





*'For me the training has resulted in a new perspective: I have learned to view my living environment through age-friendly glasses'.*

*'In the training I learned how to start with an idea and develop a concrete project'.*

Mobility Scouts



## Mobility Scouts ...

- are familiar with issues, such as accessibility and age-friendly environments
- can 'nudge' and 'motivate' other people
- are networkers, who bring people together
- feel empowered to become active in different roles and fields and at different levels...

**-> it is about shaping the living environment!**



## Roles and activities of *Mobility Scouts*



### Explore & Tell

- Act as intermediaries
- Collect feedback of older people
- Forward comments to relevant institutions



Round table for better public transport in Kaunas



## Train & Communicate

- Pass on their perspectives and knowledge to relevant groups



Seniors' mobility at a primary school in Rome



## Co-design & support

- Support organisations and municipalities in (further) developing services & activities
- Function as contact persons for older customers



Electronic hop-on/  
hop-off bus, Zutphen





## Inspire & motivate

- Organise activities to raise awareness, create a social basis & participation



Small-scale public workshops in districts, Zutphen



Photo Project 'Old age on the move', Hanau



**Everyone connected  
to the city**

inhabitant  
father, mother  
people from all  
kind of  
background  
Municipal worker  
.....  
visitor

inventing  
teaching  
designing  
playing  
working  
building  
dreaming  
talking  
....

**WE**

**MAKE**

**THE CITY**

**Urban living is  
everywhere...**

**City is all actions of  
all people  
combined...**

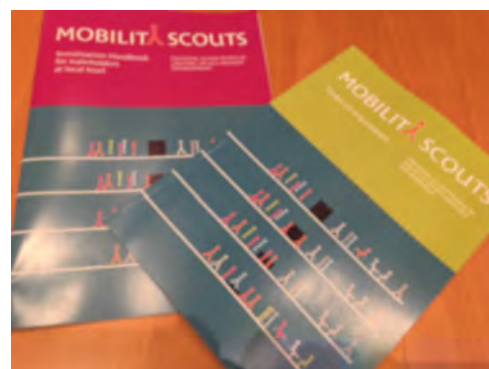
**Cities are made  
by everyone**





## Mobility Scouts: What's next?

- Summarizing our experiences in publications
  - Sensitisation Handbook for stakeholders at local level
  - Toolkit for Practitioners
  - Online Training
- Follow ups



## Mobility Scouts Partners

queraum. cultural and social research (Austria)

ISIS Sozialforschung / Sozialplanung / Politikberatung (Germany)

Lunaria (Italia)

OVN-NL, Oudere Vrouwen Netwerk – Nederland (Netherlands)

Seniors Initiatives Center (Lithuania)

At EU level: AGE Platform Europe



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