

## Housing and Health in Very Old Europeans: Findings from the ENABLE-AGE Project

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The objective of the inter-disciplinary ENABLE-AGE project was to examine the home environment as a determinant for autonomy, participation, and well-being in very old age over time, involving five countries – Sweden, Germany, the United Kingdom, Hungary and Latvia. The WHO's conceptual framework on disability and functioning (ICF) and Lawton's ecological model on ageing constituted our theoretical framework. A specific characteristic of the project was the very detailed instrumentation on objective and perceived aspects of housing, including the Housing Enabler instrument for detailed assessment of accessibility. In the ENABLE-AGE Survey Study, a wide range of well-proven measurements was administered at home-visits with 1,918 very old people who lived alone in their private homes, in urban areas. Initially, the follow-up design comprised two measurement points with a one-year interval, reaching 1,356 persons at follow-up. In the qualitative ENABLE-AGE In-depth Study, 189 participants were interviewed at home, focusing on e.g. health and participation and how such concepts are related to aspects of home in very old age. Since then, participants in Sweden, Germany and Latvia have been followed during a 10-year period. To date, 30 original papers, five PhD theses and several book chapters have been published based on the project. This presentation gives an overview of empirical results nurturing the knowledge development needed for development of evidence-based individual housing solutions as well as for housing provision at large.