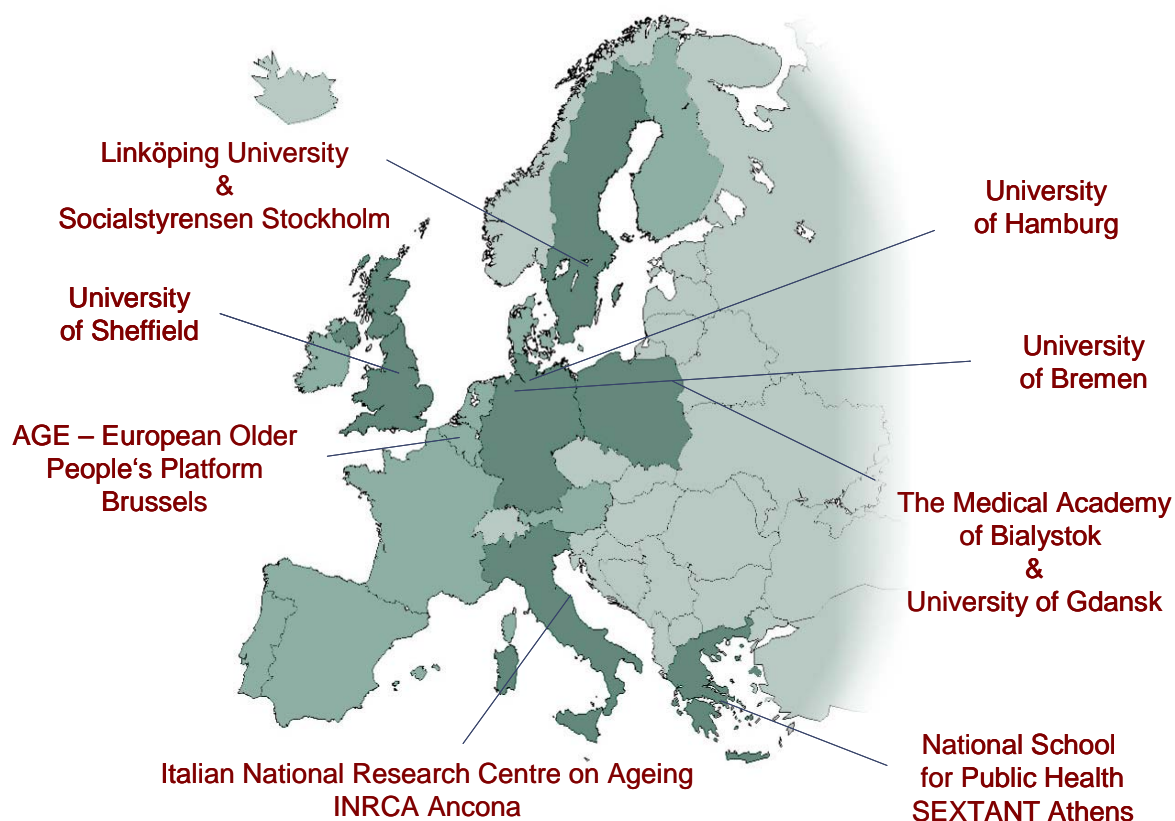


# EUROFAMCARE

Services for Supporting Family Carers of Elderly People in Europe: Characteristics, Coverage, and Usage



[www.uke.uni-hamburg.de/eurofamcare](http://www.uke.uni-hamburg.de/eurofamcare)



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## **Aims**

EUROFAMCARE aims to provide a European review of the situation of family carers of elderly people in relation to the existence, familiarity, availability, use and acceptability of supporting services.

## **Six-Country Study**

In the year 2003 six countries (Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom) have formed a trans-European group, systematically representing the different types of welfare-states in Europe and started a comparative study. Each country collected data from about 1,000 family carers who care at least four hours a week for their dependent elderly (65+) family members in different regional sites. The family carers were interviewed face-to-face at home using a joint family care assessment.

The views of potential service providers involved were obtained in the year 2004. Quantitative and qualitative data of these interviews were entered in National Data Sets and a European data base for cross-national analysis. A typology of care settings will be developed considering examples of good practice and beneficial and obstructive circumstances.

## **Pan-European Review**

Pan-European expertise, knowledge and background information about the support, relief and expertise of family carers recognising the variety of the different social-, health- and welfare systems in a future Europe have been achieved by reviews and expert interviews in the six project countries plus 17 further European countries.

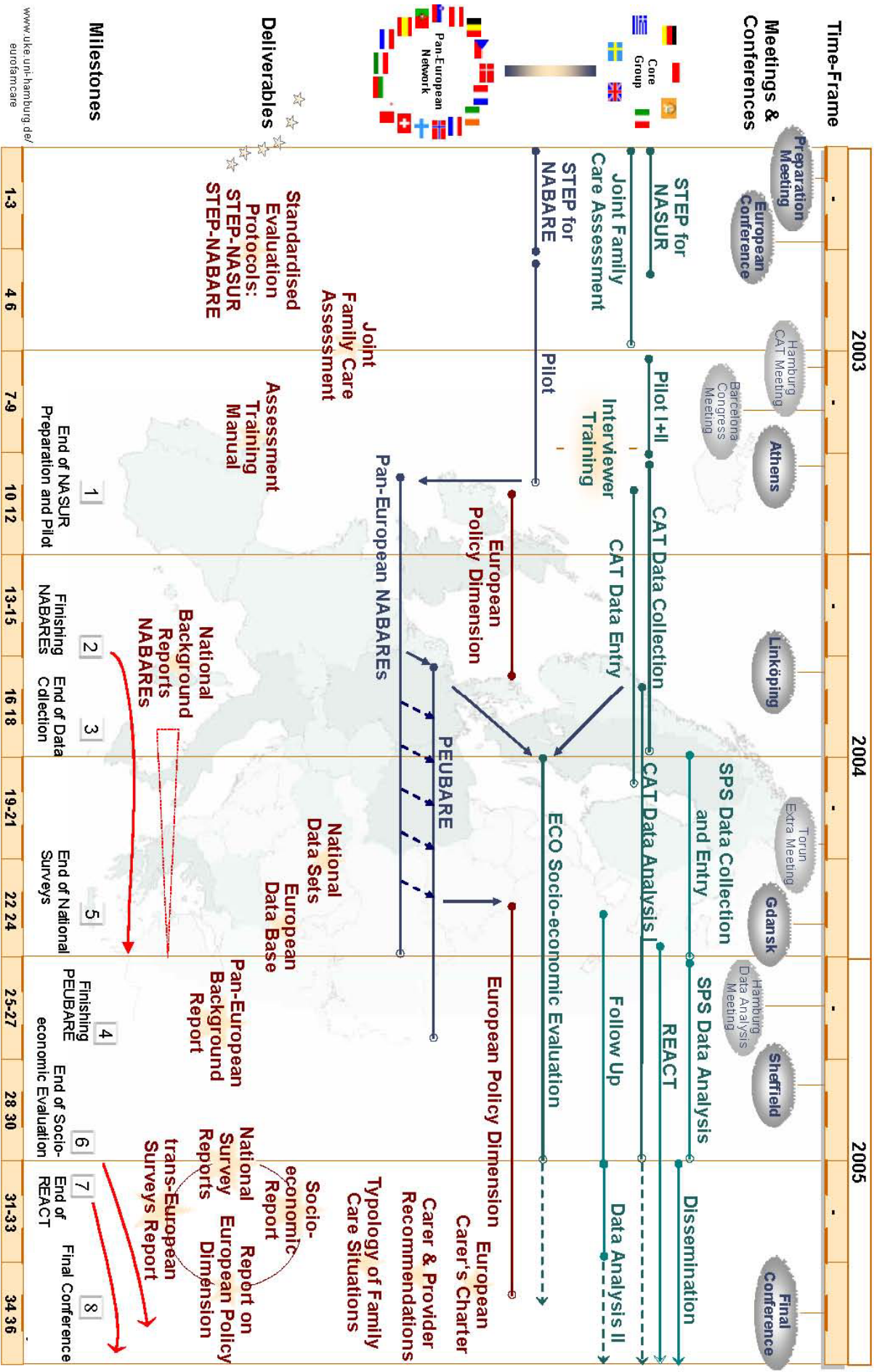
AGE – the European Older People's Platform – as a member of the consortium is contacting and informing policy makers and NGOs on the European level and measuring the development of action for family carers. AGE aims to raise more awareness about the issue of family care and to stimulate the political discourse.

## **Socio-Economics**

A socio-economic evaluation on the basis of the National Surveys and the pan-European background information will calculate the economic consequences from perceived quality of life to European-wide politico-economic implications.

## **Transfer and Dissemination**

The last step is a feedback research action phase based both on the study results and on the pan-European expertise. A European Carers' Charter in progress will be further developed by the new European network organisation EUROCARERS in order to stimulate further activities both on national and European policy levels.



## **Partners**

- **Germany:** University Hospital Hamburg-Eppendorf, Centre of Psychosocial Medicine, Social Gerontology, University of Hamburg (Coordination)
- **Germany:** Centre for Social Policy Research / Centre for Applied Nursing Research, University of Bremen
- **Greece:** SEXTANT Group, Social and Economic Research and Consultancy, Department of Health Services Management, National School for Public Health (NSPH), Athen
- **Italy:** INRCA Dipartimento Ricerche Gerontologiche, Ancona
- **Poland:** Department of Geriatrics, The Medical University of Bialystok; Institute of Social Economy, Warsaw School of Economics and Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, University of Gdansk
- **Sweden:** Department of Health and Society, Linköping University
- **United Kingdom:** SISA - Community Sciences Centre and School of Nursing & Midwifery, Northern General Hospital, University of Sheffield
- **AGE** - The European Older People's Platform, Brüssel, Belgien
- **Pan-European Group** (17 European countries)
- **National Advisory Groups**

## **International Advisory Board**

- **Robert Anderson**, European Foundation for Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, Dublin
- **Prof. Dr. Janet Askham**, King's College London, Institute of Gerontology, Age Concern, London
- **Dr. Stephane Jacobzone**, OECD, Social Policy Division, Paris
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