



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE BOARD

The ASTAHG Project Partners

Recognising jointly that:

Demographic ageing is a major challenge in Europe, and the average population age is particularly high in the Alpine Space, especially in the mountain areas (Eurostat, 2013). This challenge requires systematic transnational cooperation both at horizontal level (policymakers of health, social care, transport, culture, tourism) and at vertical level (regions, provinces, municipalities), together with the involvement of the public and private sectors (R&I, local communities, social business). The aim is to support innovation for active ageing, through actions tailored to the specific context of the AS region, but also through capitalizing from the particular strengths of this geographic area in Europe.

Taking note that:

The overall objective of the ASTAHG Project is to foster innovations in public administration and relevant public authorities which tackle the challenges arising from population ageing in the Alpine Space:

- by improving the public authorities' capacity to coordinate efforts from different sectors and at different levels;
- by responding with tailored initiatives to alpine territorial needs;
- by developing common strategies, a portfolio of good practices and an observatory of innovations to tackle the challenge of population ageing through setting up a working group of Alpine Space policymakers and stakeholders; and ultimately
- by enhancing transnational, cross-sectorial and multilevel cooperation with the involvement of organisations from the public and private sector.

Considering that:

The ASTAHG project stipulates to set up a Transnational Governance Board (Output OT1.1) with the aim to gather public/private actors from different levels/sectors/territorial specificities who impact on the AHA of AS population;

The target groups of the Transnational Governance Board are: AHA policy makers and actuators from different territorial levels (Local/regional/national) and different sectors (healthcare/social care/culture/mobility/...); public/private providers of (innovative) services, technologies and products for AHA services targeting older people; interest groups, e.g. associations of older people; Universities, innovators and researchers; business support organisation; promoters of silver economy.



The main scope of the Transnational Governance Board should be bringing together 4helix actors of AHA and coordinating AHA governance policies at the Alpine Space level.

Looking forward to the results of the surveys and analyses already developed and carried out in the context of the ASTAHG project, including structured analysis of governance models and AHA stakeholders, the signing Parties agree to capitalize the project results in the best possible way in order to feed the upcoming work of the Transnational Governance Board with recommendations and ideas, to be shared also with the responsible authorities, decision and policy makers in participating countries in order facilitate the of transnational co-operation in AS on AHA issues;

In this context, the signing ASTAHG Project partners and the other signing organizations, conscious of the need for a collaborative approach to addressing the challenges of an ageing population in the AS area, agree on the following:

- To set up a Transnational Governance Board (TGB) on Active and Healthy Ageing;
- To undertake to work jointly in the Transnational Governance Board to facilitate knowledge sharing and joint action in promoting and transferring best practice and in supporting the development and scaling up of solutions into strategies, policies and services delivery models in the Alpine Space area;
- The initial duration of the TGB is three year after the end of the project, with possible further extension;
- For the first three years Friuli Venezia Giulia Region will act as Transnational Governance Board coordinator; any decision on further roles and responsibilities will be taken by the Managing Committee of the Board.
- A initial description of composition and rules of the TGB is agreed and included as Annex; further definition of rules and roles will be decided by the Managing Committee of the Board.



ANNEX
to the Memorandum of Understanding for the
TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE BOARD

Agreement on composition and rules

Legal form

The Transnational Governance Board (TGB) is an open network and the participation of Members is free of charge and voluntarily. All ASTAHG partners are considered as founding members of the TGB (Managing Committee); all other interested organisations and stakeholders may apply to join at any time.

Term

The Transnational Governance Board will be set up for a three-years term after the end of the project. After three years, the duration may be extended by decision of the Managing Committee. The Board shall acquire the official composition from the date of signature of the agreement by (at least) all ASTAHG partners.

Purpose

The Board's main objective is to promote an "Age-friendly" Alpine Space Area creating synergies between interested stakeholders and governance levels and helping the Alpine Space local, regional and national authorities and other stakeholders to collaborate in promoting innovative solutions that address the needs of the ageing population.

The Board aims in particular to:

- support cities and regions in the Alpine Space area to develop, implement and evaluate initiatives (policies, services, projects) with the aim to answer to the challenges of an ageing society
- promote networking and knowledge sharing among its members;
- build synergies with existing initiatives (such as the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, the 2013 Dublin Declaration on age-friendly Cities and the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing).

Composition

Based on the 4Helix approach, the Transnational Governance Board is a network of members such as public authorities at different levels of government, research centres and universities, associations, industries, individual firms, civil society organisations.

The Members must be legally established in the Alpine Space Programme Area. Existing transnational and/or thematic organisations on Active and Healthy Ageing, although based outside the Alpine Space area, are eligible.

There are two categories of Members: Full Members and Observers. Full members have full rights and duties, **Observers** have no responsibilities in the TGB management, and day to day operational roles, and they don't have the right to vote the decision of the TGB..

Applicants may request to enter the category of their choice provided they fulfill the eligibility criteria of the chosen category. ASTAHG Project Partners and other founding organisations are considered Full Members.



The admission of new members is approved by the Managing Committee, that can also set additional eligibility criteria.

Potential situation of conflict of interest will be checked during the admission process of a new member.

At any time, a Member may resign from the Board by notifying the Managing Committee in writing. The resignation takes effect immediately.

Organisation of the TGB

The Bodies of the TGB are:

- The TGB Managing Committee
- The TGB Coordinator
- The TGB General Assembly
- The Working Groups
- The Coordinators of WGs
- The evaluation expert group

The roles of the Bodies are as follows:

- Transnational Governance Board Managing Committee: the managing committee is in charge for the strategic decisions and the overall management; the Managing Committee executes in particular the following duties: implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly, debate on topical issues for members, adoption of positions and decisions related also to evaluation of AHA practices submitted to the TGB, preparation of the meetings of the General Assembly, preparation of the work programme and decision on membership applications; for the first three years the Managing Committee is composed by one representatives of each ASTAHG partner, and Friuli Venezia Giulia Region will act as TGB Coordinator.
- Transnational Governance Board Assembly: the assembly is composed by one representative of each organisation that has joined the Board. It is in charge of the operational soundness of the Board, it serves to identify and discuss projects, ideas and proposals as well as their further planning and implementation .
- Working groups: the TGB includes thematic working groups that are formed by members committed to address specific topics of AHA; each member organisation can decide to join a WG during the admission process or later with a written communication to the Managing Team; WG members are representatives of the organisations that have joined a thematic activity.
- Working group coordinators: the working group coordinators are nominated by the WG members and they will support the implementation and monitoring of the thematic activities within the TGB according to the mutually agreed plans; they report



to the Managing Team; WG coordinators nominate a synergy leader who is a member of the managing team in charge of the supervision and synergy of working groups' activities and results.

- Evaluation expert group: a small number of experts can be appointed by the Managing Committee to evaluate initiatives and projects proposed and developed by members.

Rules and procedures of the Transnational Board

Meetings

An Annual General Meeting shall be held. Other types of meeting could be organised based on the needs of the TGB's bodies.

Till the end of the ASTAHG project the meetings of the TGB will be held during the Project Consortium meeting. After the end of the project any meeting - of the Managing Committee or the Assembly or the WGs or the coordinators - can be held physically or online - by conference call or video conference or any other means of telecommunication -, at any time the interest of the Board so requires. Each member shall decide to participate physically or online depending on the financial resources.

The Annual General Meeting shall be set up by the Managing Committee and the Assembly meeting shall be convened by the Managing Committee. The agenda of these meetings is set by the Managing Committee.

The WGs meeting shall be set up by the coordinators.

Decision making process

The Managing Committee can validly decide if more than half of the committee members are present or represented at the meeting. Each member has one vote.

The decision of the Committee shall be adopted by a simple majority of the vote of the members. Decisions can be taken also by a simply written communication procedure (via email). In case of a tie-vote, the Coordinator will have a casting vote.



Organisations that have signed the MoU as founding members:

Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (IT)
Area Science Park (IT)
Autonomous Province of Trento (IT)
Local Health Authority n.1 Dolomiti (IT)
The Centre for Ethics and Poverty Research at University of Salzburg (AT)
European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (AT)
Professional network of home care service providers in Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur (FR)
National Institute of Public Health (SI)
Geneva International Network on Ageing (CH)
Funka Nu AB (SE)