**PRESS RELEASE**

**12th June 2017, Ljubljana**

**Slovenia hosted third International thematic workshop on home care**

More than 100 participants attended 2-day **International Thematic Workshop** of HoCare project which took place in Ljubljana and Litija (Slovenia) between 7th and 8th June 2017, organized by Development Centre of the Heart of Slovenia. The focus of the workshop was on **bringing innovative home care solutions quicker to the market** by using quadruple-helix approach. Besides project partners and stakeholders from **Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania**, **Portugal and Romania,** many **Slovenian** actors from the field of innovative solutions for home care attended the event.

The workshop in Slovenia was the third in a row of HoCare thematic workshops each focusing on a specific thematic. First and second thematic workshop took place in **Madeira** and in **Budapest**. More than **260 participants** in total from businesses sector, research institutions, public authorities and representatives of end users attended all **three thematic workshops.** Within HoCare partners from 8 above mentioned European countries cooperate with a goal to elaborate policy recommendations and action plans for generation of innovative solutions and services in the field of home care.

As a Slovenian good practice a new service **E-Care** was presented at the thematic workshop by **Telekom Slovenije**, communications service provider in Slovenia. **Peter** **Pustatičnik** and **Suzana Leben** from Telekom Slovenije explained that E-care is a modular solution that effectively supports the quality living of elderly, people with disabilities, patients with chronic diseases and persons with dementia for more independent stay in their home. The service helps prevent the premature departure in institutional care.

Representatives of national public authorities and institutions attended the event at Telekom Slovenije in Ljubljana on the first day and participated in the discussion about home care in Slovenia: **Andreja** **Črnak** **Meglič** from Office of Slovenian Prime Minister, **Tatjana Buzeti** from Ministry of Health, **Davor** **Dominkuš** from Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, **Marjan** **Sušelj** from The Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia and **Dominika** **Oroszy** from University Medical Centre Ljubljana.

The second day the event took place in Litija moderated by **Ladeja** **Godina** **Košir** and **Igor Košir**. Director of Development Centre of the Heart of Slovenia **Aleksandra** **Gradišek** and Mayor of Litija Municipality **Franci** **Rokavec** welcomed the participants in **Intergenerational Centre Šmelc**. **Vesna Dolničar** from Faculty of Social Sciences, **Peter Pustatičnik** from Telekom Slovenije, **Vida Lukač** from Home for Elderly Tisje and **Simon Rener** from Institute Oreli participated in the discussion about the accesibility to quality services of home care.

Later that afternoon participants attended **4** **interactive working groups** each focusing on different good practice from Slovenia, Hungary and Portugal. The workshop discussions focused on methods and ways of boosting innovations in healthcare and bringing innovative home care solutions quicker to the market. Third International thematic workshop on home care organized in Slovenia offered many opportunities to exchange experiences and good practices in the field of innovative solutions for home care among participants from different European regions. There will be **27 good practices identified** during the HoCare project which will be transferable to other regions.

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