M. Huch. AAL: Ambient Assisted Living for Europe. Gerontechnology 2009;8(2):114; doi: 10.4017/gt.2009.08.02.019.00 The increasing occurrence of chronic conditions among the ageing population is one of the major challenges for the European Society and its healthcare systems. Prevention, early detection and efficient management of chronic long term conditions contribute to individual wellbeing and economic sustainability of social and healthcare systems. The foreseen paradigm shift in healthcare emphasizes (i) personalized and person-centric care processes, (ii) importance of ICT based solutions, and (iii) the role of the 'home as care environment' as well as (iv) self care and self-management of chronic conditions. Practical technological assistance is an essential ingredient. **Technical description** The AAL programme is a joint research and development (R&D) funding activity, implemented by 20 European Member States and 3 Associated States with the financial support of the European Community[1]. The Partner States commit their own funding on the basis of their respective national funding programmes. Basis of the programme is the European action plan for 'Ageing Well in the Information Society'[2]. **Projects** The 1st call for proposals, 'ICT based solutions for prevention and management of chronic conditions of elderly people', encompasses about 58 Mio€ of public funding. The first 23 projects were selected from 117 transnational project proposals with each at least partners from 3 AAL partner states, and start in July 2009 (*Table 1*). The 2nd call with a focus on advancing the level of social interaction of elderly people by means of ICT, had its deadline in May 2009. Evaluation and selection process is ongoing.

References

1. www.aal-europe.eu; retrieved June 3, 2009
2. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Ageing well in the Information Society - an i2010 Initiative - Action Plan on Information and Communication Technologies and Ageing; http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52007DC0332:EN:NOT; retrieved June 3, 2009

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Table 1: Preliminary list of projects selected for funding under the first AAL call

Name & Description

- A²E²: Adaptive Ambient Empowerment for the Elderly
- AGNES: User-sensitive home-based systems for successful AGeing in a NEtworked Society
- ALADDIN: A technology pLatform for the Assisted living of Dementia elDerly INdividuals and their carers
- AMICA: Autonomy, Motivation & Individual self-management for COPD patients
- BEDMOND: Behaviour pattern based assistant for Early Detection and Management Of Neurodegenerative Diseases
- CAP MOUSE: Development of a non-invasive CAPacitive sensor oral MOUSE interface for the disabled elderly
- CARE: Safe private homes for ederly persons
- CCE: Connected Care for Elderly persons suffering from dementia
- DOMEO: Domestic robot for elderly assistance
- eCaalyx: enhanced Complete Ambient Assisted experiment
- EMOTION-AAL: The EMOTIONnal village: Integrated preventive AAL concept for the rural aging society in Europe
- H@H: Health@Home
- HAPPY AGEING: a Home based APProach to the Years of AGEING
- HELP: Home-based Empowered Living for Parkinson's disease patients
- HERA: Home sERvices for specialised elderly Assisted living
- HMFM: Hear Me Feel Me - Compensating for eyesight with mobile technology
- HOPE: Smart HOme for the elderly PEople
- IS-ACTIVE: Inertial Sensing systems for advanced chronic condition monitoring and risk prevention
- PAMAP: Physical Activity Monitoring for Aging People
- REMOTE: Remote health and social care for independent living of isolated elderly with chronic conditions
- RGS: Rehabilitation Gaming System
- ROSETTA: Guidance and awareness services for independent living
- Softcare: Kit for elderly behaviour monitoring by localization recognition and remote sensing