

## Press Release

### EFID takes on dementia with an inclusive community approach

Dementia is one of the biggest challenges to European societies. More than 9 million people live with dementia in Europe, growing to 20 million in 2050. In the absence of a cure, other methods of addressing the challenges the condition presents must be implemented.

The European Foundations' Initiative on Dementia (EFID) is convinced that the answer to managing the challenges of dementia lies in the community. Changing attitudes and perceptions of dementia in communities will not only allow people living with dementia to live well in the place they call home, but will enable them to take part in society as active citizens.

In the well-known 'dementia friendly' Valle Pellice (Italy), EFID will host the conference "Valuing the expertise of people living with dementia in the community". The event will take place on 4-5 December in Turin, co-organised with Rifugio Re Carlo Alberto, one of the organisations of the EFID network.

Going further than just capacity development, the event will bring together different actors in the field to learn from one another and enable participants to figure out how best communities can be inclusive for all and value the lived experience of their citizens, with and without dementia.

At the event, a new toolkit to reflect, share and measure the impact of dementia-friendly initiatives will be piloted. The toolkit has been co-produced with the EFID network organisations and aims to support the monitoring and evaluation of dementia-related projects.

EFID is the most significant pan-European programme that promotes social inclusion through a Europe-wide awards scheme. Over the past years, EFID has made awards to local projects in various European countries that work on improving the life of people with dementia and their carers. 35 representatives of the organisations that received an EFID award will attend the conference, as well as people with dementia, key stakeholders and representatives of the foundations engaged in EFID (the Fondation Médéric Alzheimer, the King Baudouin Foundation, the Robert Bosch Stiftung and Porticus).

As envisaged by the WHO Europe, by 2025 we should live in "a world in which dementia is prevented and people with dementia and their carers live well and receive the care and support they need to fulfil their potential with dignity, respect, autonomy and equality" (Global Action Plan on the public health response to dementia 2017-2025).

Visit [www.efid.info](http://www.efid.info) to know more about the conference and the EFID initiatives.

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