



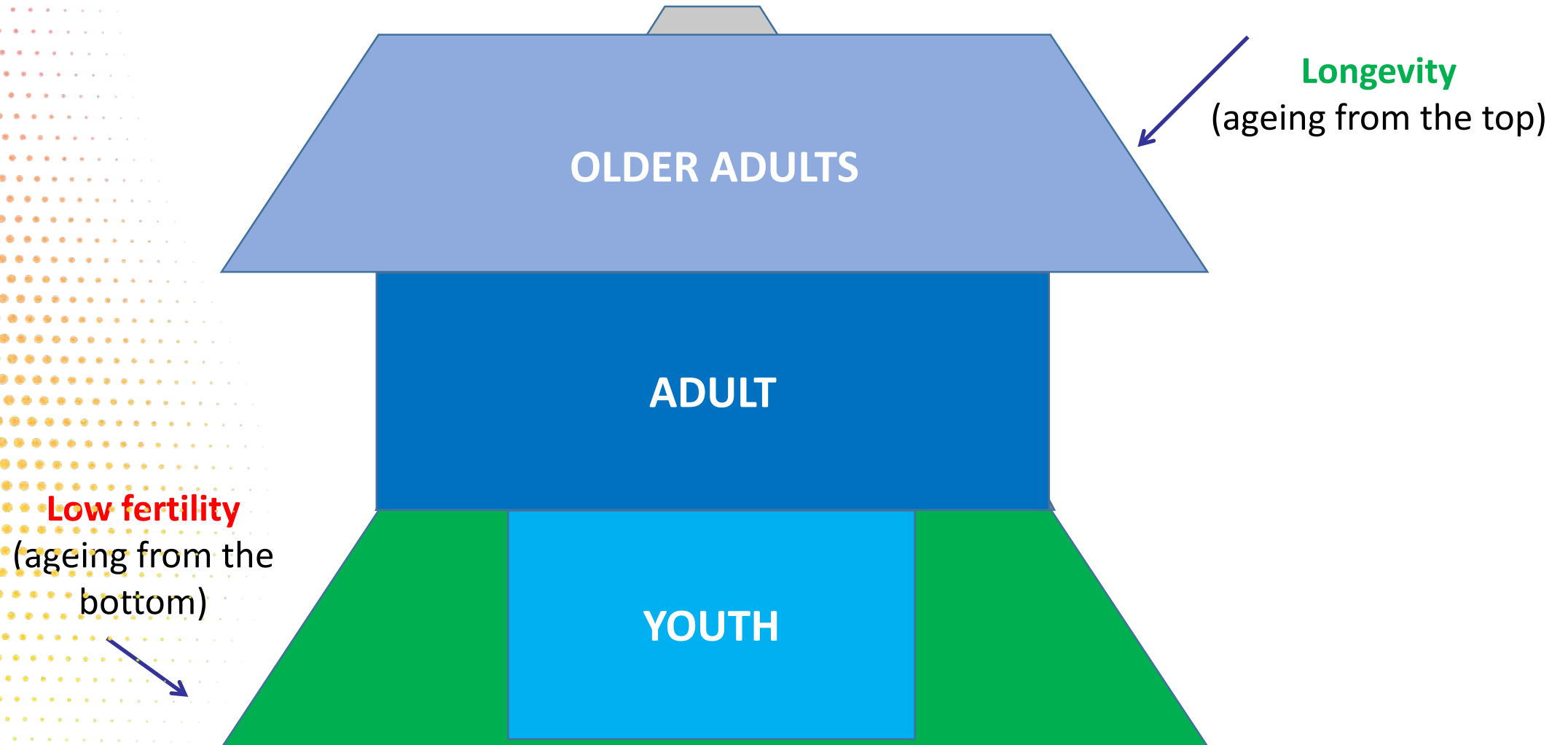
A novel public-private alliance to generate socioeconomic, biomedical and technological solutions for an inclusive Italian ageing society

Daniele Vignoli

Scientific Coordinator Age-It

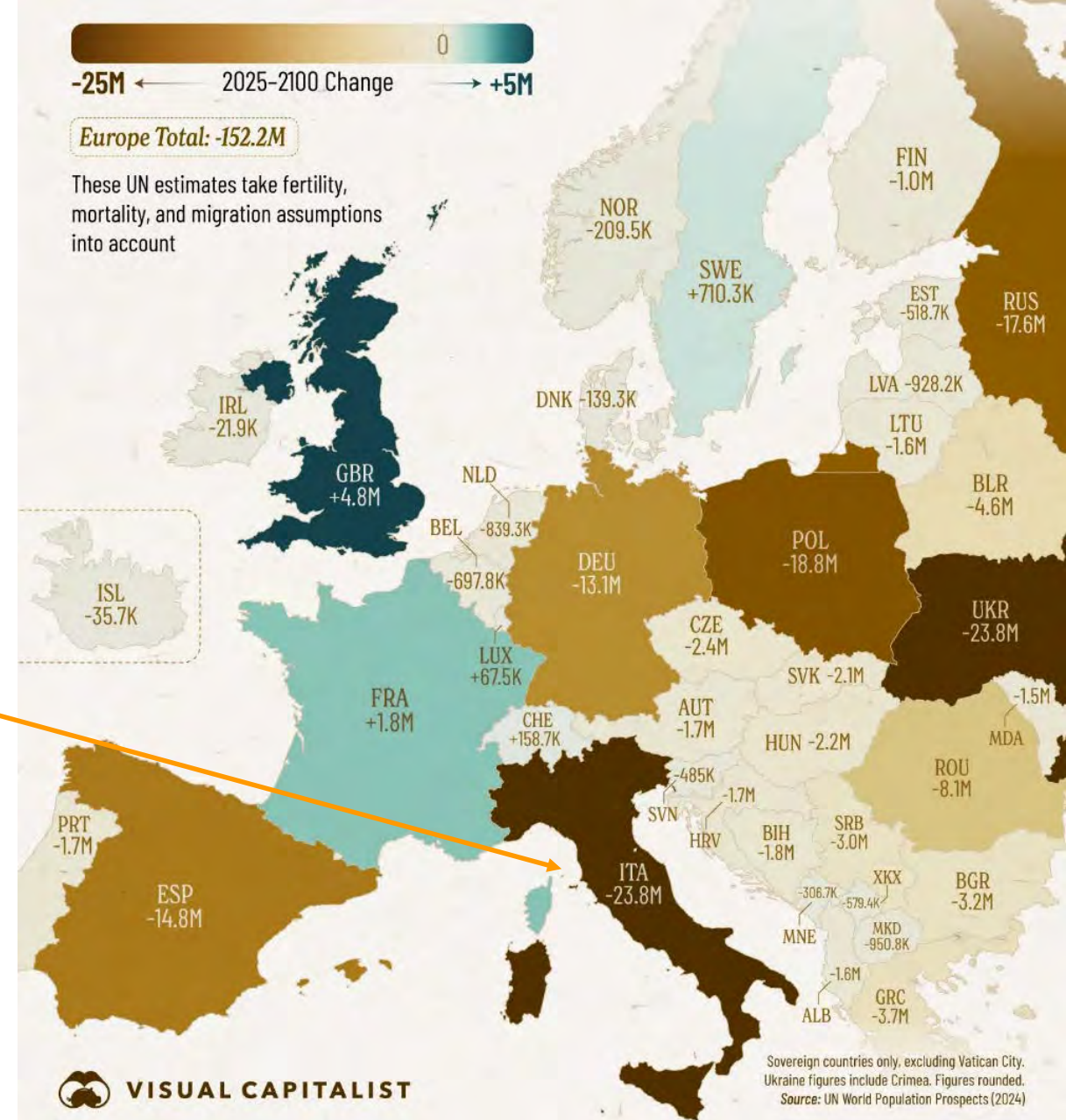


# THE DEMOGRAPHY OF AGEING



# ITALY: A COUNTRY WITH EXCEPTIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

*-23.8 million inhabitants  
UN Projections for 2100*



## AN UNPRECEDENTED SCENARIO

- **Italy is leading global ageing:** years of longevity growth and low fertility have created an exceptional demographic scenario
- By 2040, individuals over 50 years will be majority, and those over 75 will constitute 20% of the total
- This is an **unprecedented scenario** in human history: never before have societies had at their core **post-parenting** and **post-retirement** individuals

# A PREVAILING NEGATIVE VIEW

la Repubblica

Inverno demografico: come arginare il calo delle nascite? Il convegno del Forum delle Associazioni Familiari

FONDAZIONE NORD EST  
forum economico del nord est

CHI SIAMO NOTE DELLA FONDAZIONE EVENTI BLOG PUBBLICAZIONI

Note della Fondazione

Nota 1/2024. Glaciazione Demografica - 1/4

GLACIAZIONE DEMOGRAFICA, NEL NORD ITALIA -2,3 MILIONI DI ABITANTI IN 17 ANNI: DATI REGIONALI E GLI EFFETTI ECONOMICI. Senza migrazioni, in tutto il Nord un calo

Radiò24

Palinsesto Programmi Podcast

L'inverno demografico - Cosa c'è da sapere

di Mauro Meazza e Michela Finizio

AVVIA ULTIMO EPISODIO

Includi Aggiungi ai Preferiti

The Guardian

Sat 7 Oct 2023 09:00 BST

The battle for births: how the far right are exploiting Italy's 'demographic winter'

il Giornale

Inverno demografico. La solitudine dei "senza famiglia"



Ministero  
dell'Università  
e della Ricerca



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Age-It  
Ageing well in an ageing society

# Demographic WINTER

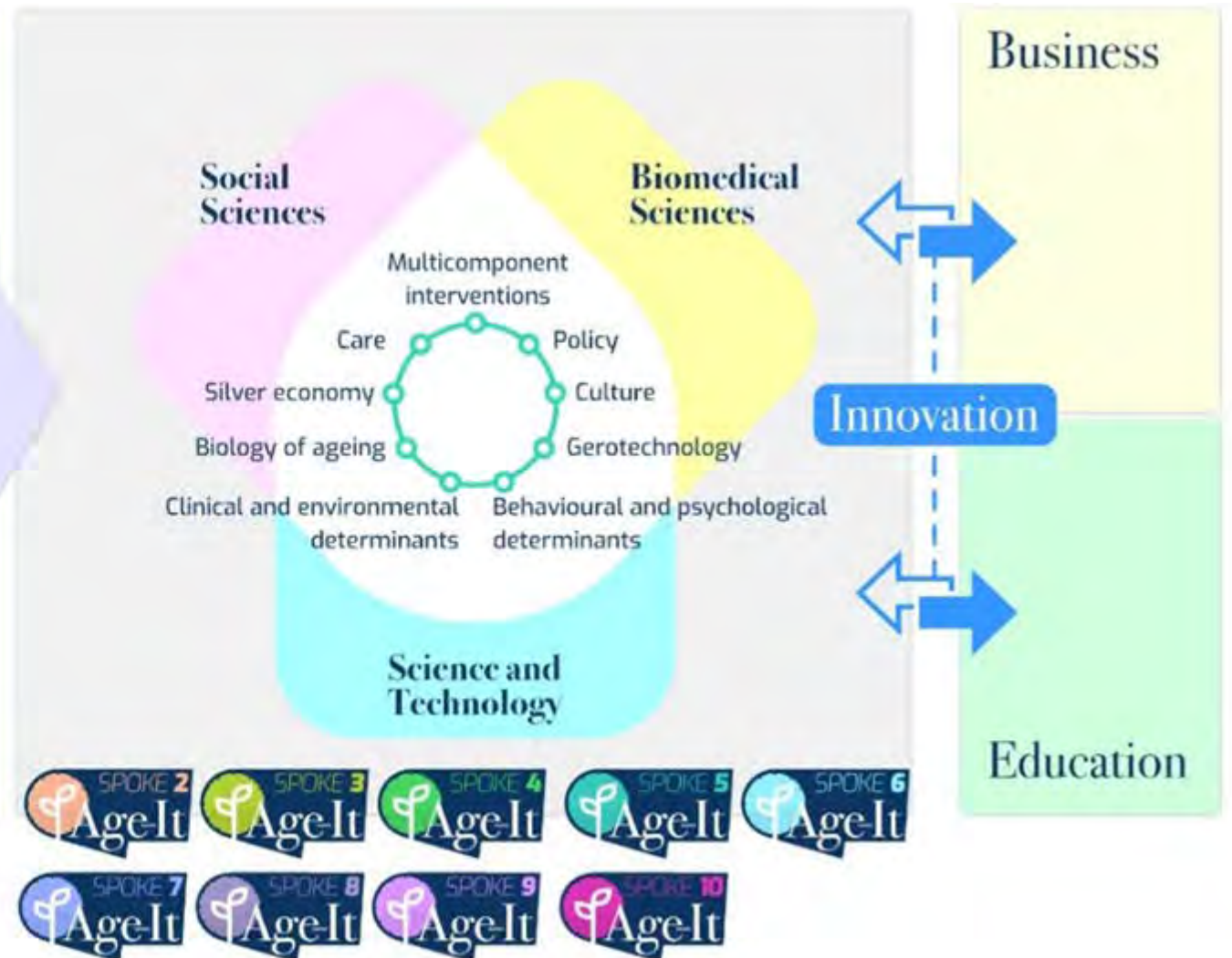
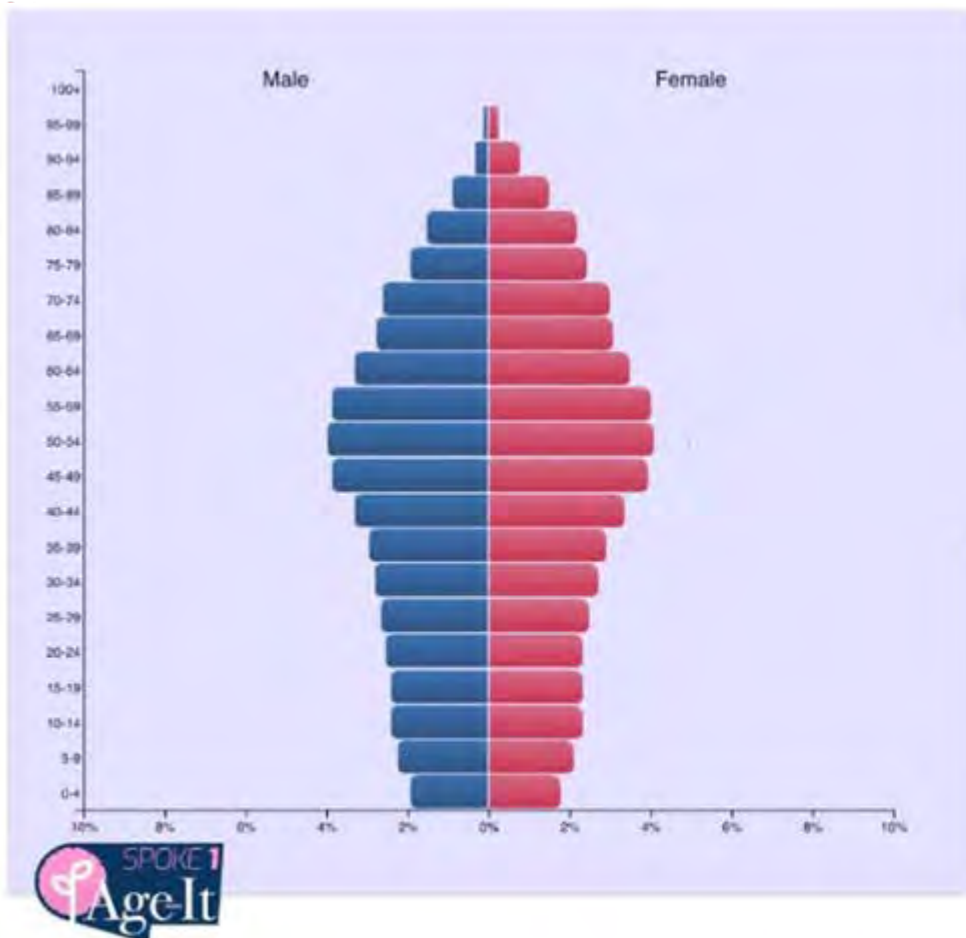
the decline of the human family



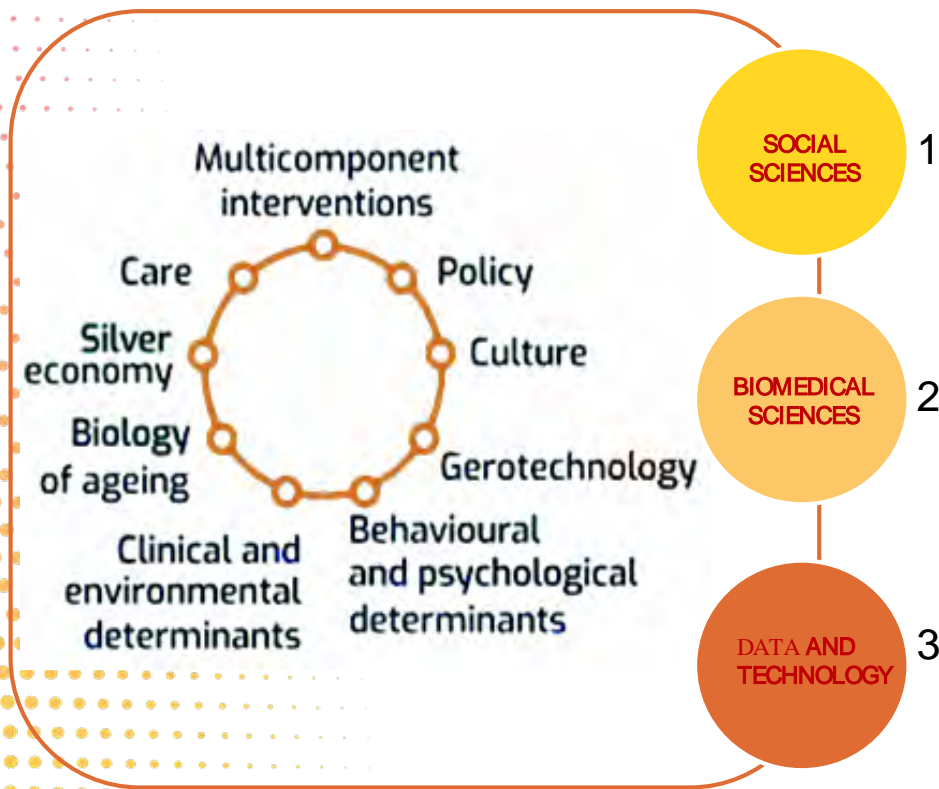
## POSITIVE DEMOGRAPHY

- **Positive Demography** does not mean ignoring or downplaying challenges
- **Positive Demography** signifies a **shift in perspective**, recognizing that Italy's demography is transitioning into a **qualitatively distinct new phase**—neither better nor worse
- **Positive Demography** focuses on viewing demographic changes through a lens that highlights the **positive aspects of contemporary population dynamics** while simultaneously **proposing proactive solutions** to address the challenges they present

# THE AGE-IT RESEARCH PROGRAM



# THE AGE-IT RESEARCH PROGRAM



- **114 million euros funding**
- **10 spokes**, 96 interdisciplinary lines of activity
- **800 researchers** involved (including 140 newly recruited), about **20% are young scholars**
- **50% women**
- **50% women** in leadership position
- **€16.5 million** in funding granted to **43 new research projects** through cascade calls
- Over **100 stakeholders** involved in research activities
- More than **600 publications** in scientific journals
- New **National PhD Programme** in Life Course Research
- **16 ongoing pilot projects**
- Scientific dissemination through more than **120 in-person events** and **20,000 participants**

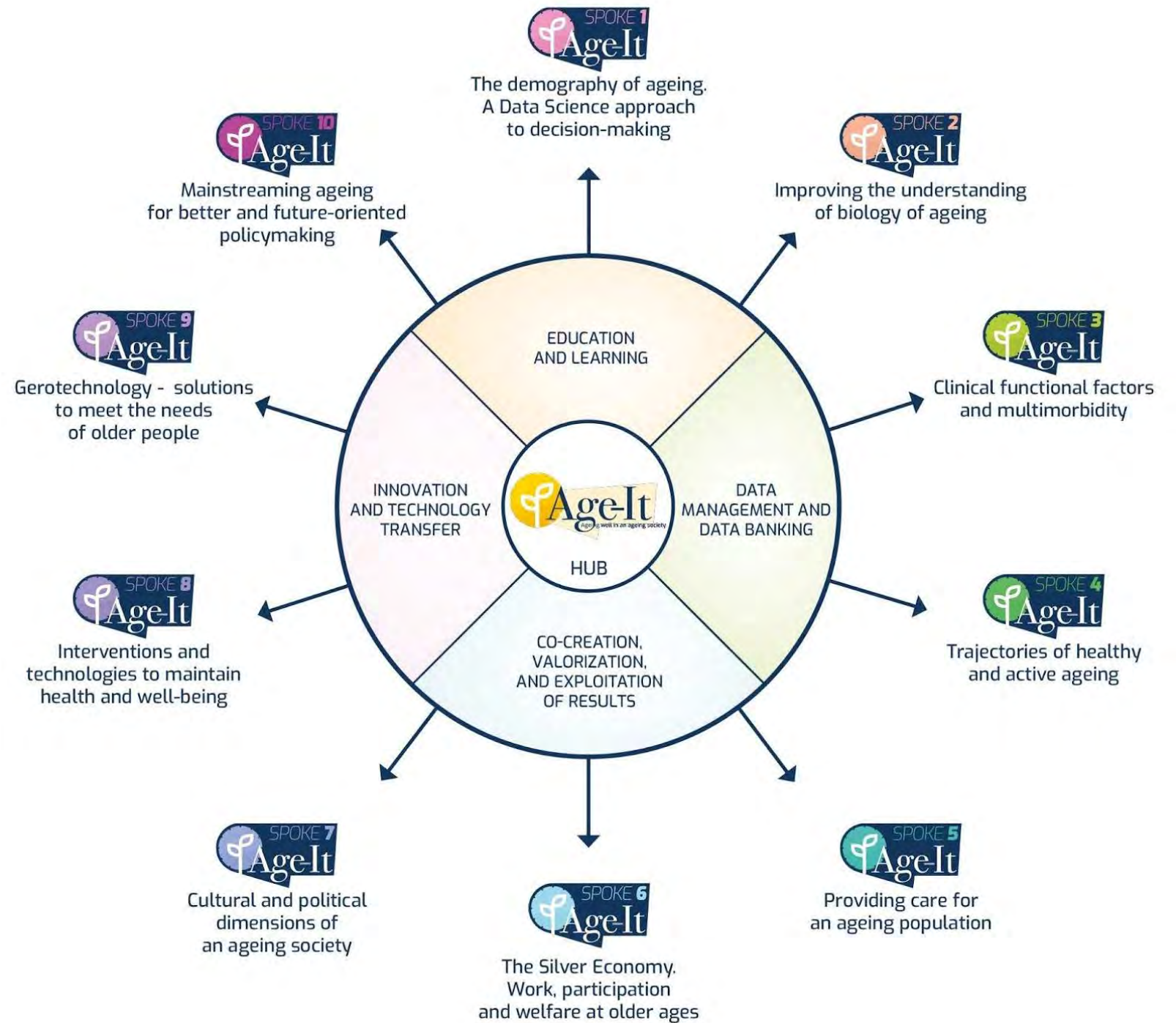
# AN ENLARGED PARTNERSHIP...



# ...GROWING FURTHER THROUGH CASCADE CALLS



# 10 RESEARCH CENTERS, 10 SPOKES



# 10 RESEARCH CENTERS, 10 SPOKES

## The 10 Challenges of Age-It

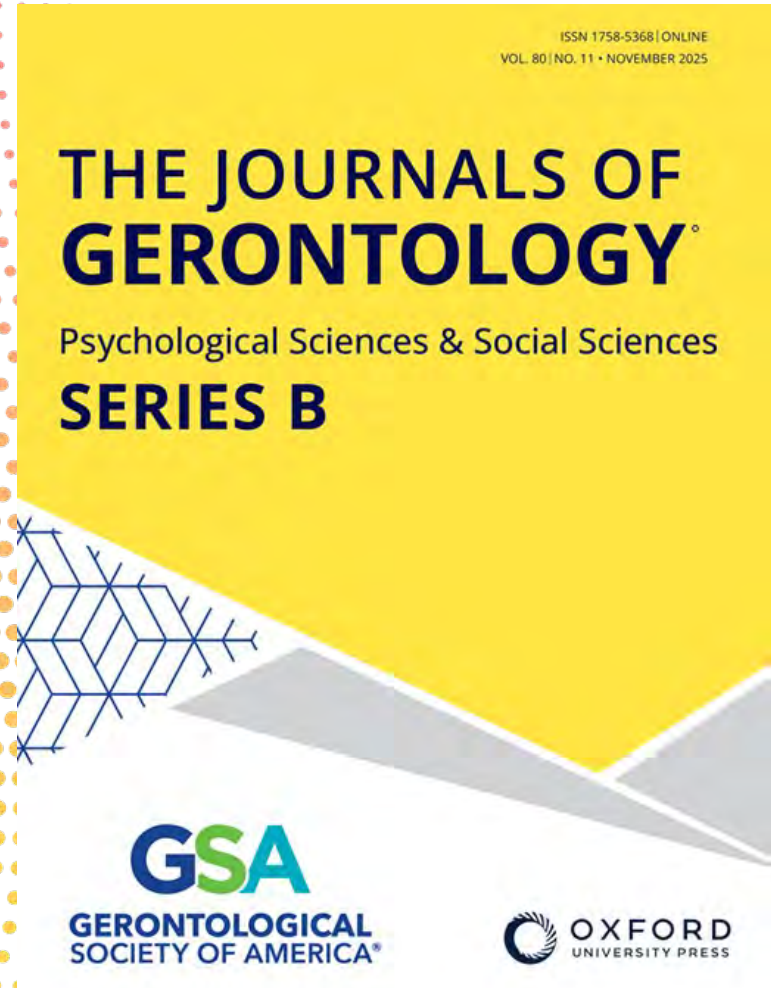
Thematic (horizontal) challenges

- Improving the understanding of biology of ageing **SPOKE 2**
- Clinical and environmental factors, functional status and multimorbidity **SPOKE 3**
- Trajectories of healthy and active ageing **SPOKE 4**
- Care sustainability in an ageing society **SPOKE 5**
- The Silver Economy. Work, Participation and welfare at older ages **SPOKE 6**
- Cultural and political dimensions of an ageing society **SPOKE 7**

## Cross-integration (vertical) challenges



# THE JOURNALS OF GERONTOLOGY, SERIES B AGE-IT SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUE



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<https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gba219>  
Supplement: Aging Well in an Aging Society: Italy at the Forefront of Population Aging:  
Introductory Article

**GSA**  
GERONTOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA®

OXFORD

## Aging well in an aging society: Italy at the forefront of global aging and the Age-It Research Program

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# THE JOURNALS OF GERONTOLOGY, SERIES B AGE-IT SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUE

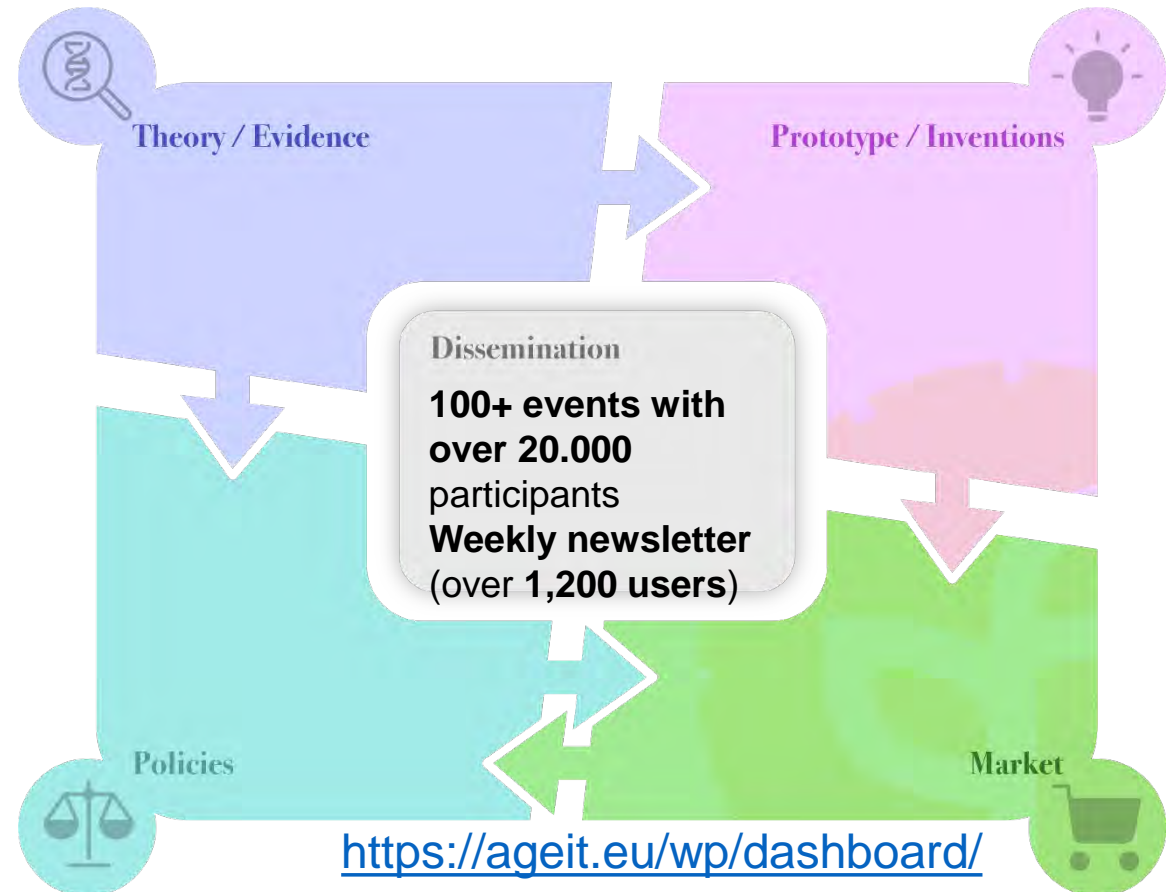
1. **Aging Well in an Aging Society: Italy at the Forefront of Global Aging**
2. **Positive Demography: Changing the Perspective on Population Aging**
3. **Improving Our Understanding of the Biology of Ageing**
4. **Clinical and Environmental Factors, Functional Status, and Multimorbidity**
5. **Multidimensional Determinants of Active and Healthy Ageing Trajectories**
6. **Caring in the 21st Century: Mapping Challenges and Developing Solutions**
7. **An Index of Intergenerational Justice: Main Concepts and Preliminary Evidence**
8. **Multicomponent Interventions and Technologies to Reduce Frailty and Decline**
9. **Leveraging Human–Robot Interaction and Virtual Reality for Diagnostics and Rehabilitation**
10. **Clarifying Healthy Ageing: Building a Common Language for Policy Innovation**
11. **Participatory Approach, Dissemination and Implementation of Research on Aging**
12. **Education and Learning for Active Aging**
13. **Aging in Aging Societies: The Transformation of Life Courses**

# INTERMEDIATED OUTPUT INDICATORS

## 600 scientific outputs

- papers on international journal & conference abstracts & books & book chapters
- **JoG Supplemental Issue**

At least 16 large ongoing experimental protocols



- **25 Policy Briefs**
- **4 large stakeholders engagement meetings**
- **100 institutional stakeholders onboard**

- **New National PhD on Ageing**
- **New clinical guidelines**
- **Working on the creation of the Ageing research data space**





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Ageing well in an ageing society

# LIFE COURSE RESEARCH

PhD program



## PhD PROGRAM IN LIFE COURSE RESEARCH

- The PhD program in **Life Course Research** fosters the study of life courses and the significant events that shape them from a **holistic and interdisciplinary perspective**
- The program establishes an alliance among scholars from the **biomedical, psychological, and socio-demographic fields**
- The PhD program in **Life Course Research** will train a new generation of highly skilled scholars relying on an **evidence-based approach**, with a strong emphasis on **quantitative methods and data analysis**

# PhD PROGRAM IN LIFE COURSE RESEARCH



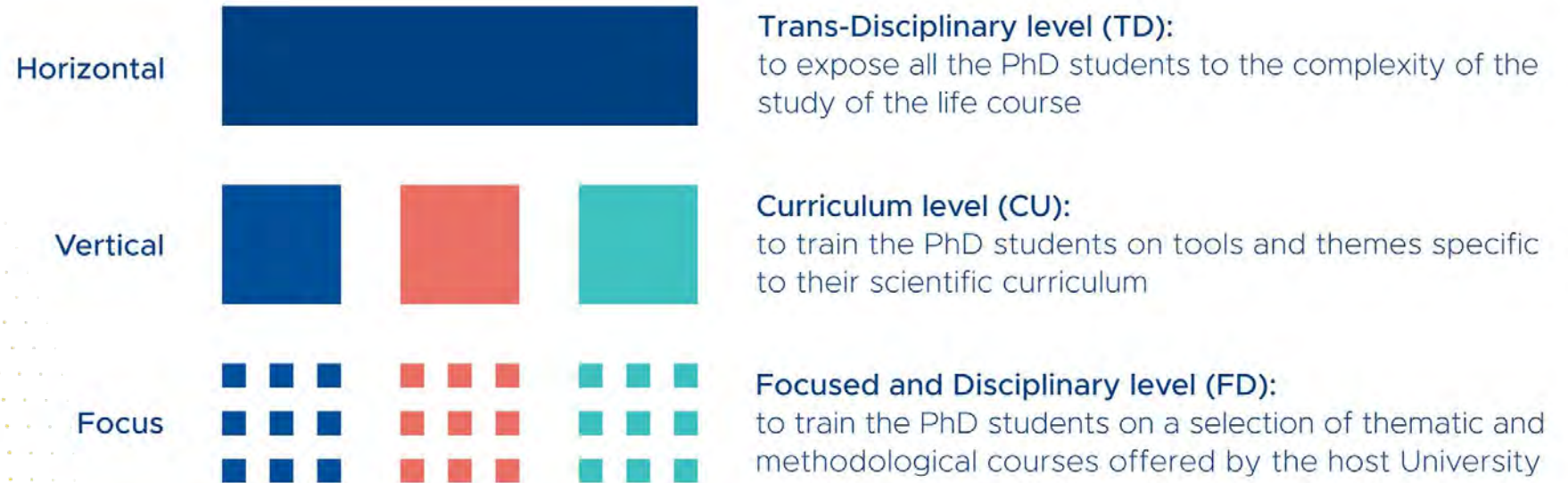
## PhD PROGRAM IN LIFE COURSE RESEARCH

- **Super-departmental** and **super-regional** nature of the Consortium to overcome the fragmentation of local approaches
- **Sharing** of resources and infrastructure within the Consortium
- Development of a **National School** in Life Course Research

## PhD PROGRAM IN LIFE COURSE RESEARCH

- **Biomedical** – to study **biomedical aspects related to the critical ages of life from birth to death**
- **Psychological** – to study **the processes of continuity and discontinuity in development from conception to death**
- **Socio-demographic** – to study the **causes and consequences of key sociodemographic transitions in the life course of individuals**

# PhD PROGRAM IN LIFE COURSE RESEARCH



# AGE-IT, A NEW APPROACH TO POPULATION AGEING

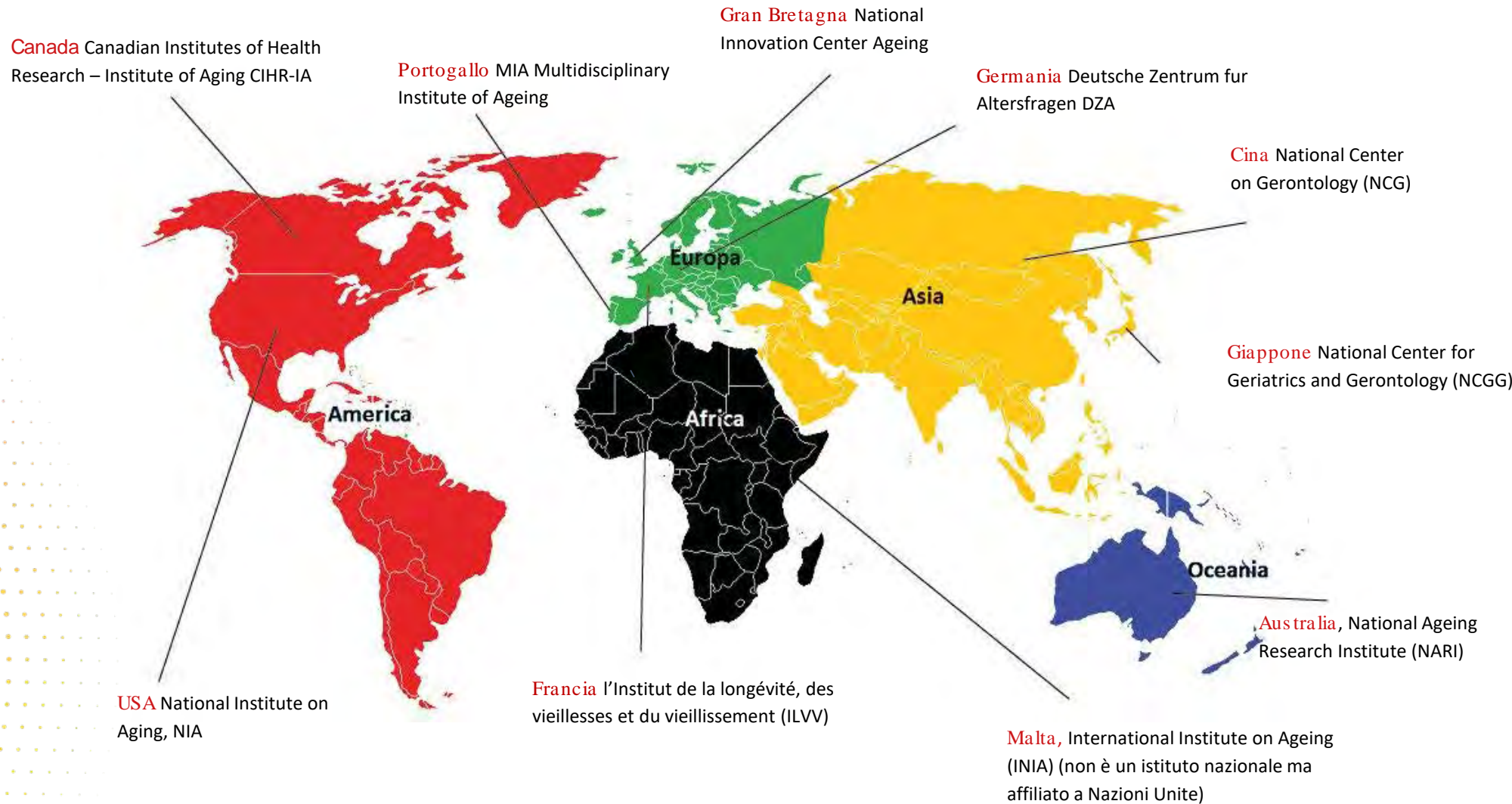
- The focus on the negative—at times depicted as catastrophic—consequences of population ageing has overshadowed **more optimistic stances**
- **Concerns are natural**, as we acknowledge that old age inevitably brings illness, limitations, loss, and loneliness
- Instead of pessimistic views, which offer little value, a **Positive Demography approach** emphasizes the importance of **policy innovation**, structural **support for youth**, and **leveraging migration** to navigate population changes

## AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN GENERATIONS

- **New value of old age:** Acknowledge a **geriatric revolution**; **combat ageism** across workplaces, institutions, and health systems; invest in **lifelong learning**; and recognize **evolving family trajectories** by strengthening support systems in later life
- **Life course and the young:** Empower **younger generations for the long future ahead** by ensuring economic independence and sustainable work–family balance, without resorting to demographic targets and pro-natalist approaches



# NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGEING WORLDWIDE



# ISTITUTO ITALIANO SULL'INVECCHIAMENTO





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