The design
challenge
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APPLICATION GUIDE

SUSTAINABLE USER-ORIENTED HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

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The growing challenges of aging demographics in Europe, combined with the global call for sustainable development, have brought the question of elderly housing to the forefront of architectural, urban, and educational research and design. Decisions made today can significantly influence ecological, social, and economic sustainability in the future. This special issue of the Serbian Architecture Journal (SAJ) focuses on how user-centered design, systems thinking, and agile development can be effectively applied to create innovative housing solutions that meet the evolving needs of aging populations. Sustainable housing for the elderly ensures safety, dignity, community connection, and adaptability in the face of environmental and social change.

The Erasmus+ project "sUser – Introducing User-driven design and agile development skills in the case of sustainable service housing for elderly" introduces a multidisciplinary approach to the development of new educational methods and tools that support sustainable housing design. The project brings together higher education institutions from Finland, Austria, the Netherlands, and Serbia, and aims to foster new models of collaboration between educators, researchers, and design professionals. This special issue gathers contributions from members of the sUser research network and other experts working at the intersection of architecture, design, urban planning, and education. The contributing articles will address the challenges, innovations, and pedagogical strategies involved in sustainable housing design for the elderly.

Topics:
- User-centered approaches and agile methodologies in housing design
- Sustainable technologies and adaptable living environments
- Community-based models of care and housing
- Participatory design and co-creation with the elderly
- Educational tools and interdisciplinary teaching practices
- Case studies and research methodologies

More information about the sUser project is available at: https://suserproject.org/
Instructions for authors can be found on the SAJ website https://saj-journal.org/.

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