INNOVCARE

Care-led Innovation: The Case of Eldercare in France and Japan

- Artificial Intelligence
- Care
- Digital
- Innovation
- Isolation
- Participative Research
- Remote Assistance
- Social Interactions
- Social Robotics

This project is supported by the Priority Research Program (PPR) Autonomy

INNOVCARE in Brief

L'ÉCOLE DES HAUTES ÉTUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES

INNOVCARE is an international project rooted in Franco-Japanese collaboration, exploring both technological and non-technological solutions for more tailored approaches to independent living.

Project Leader: Sébastien Lechevalier, Researcher in Economics.

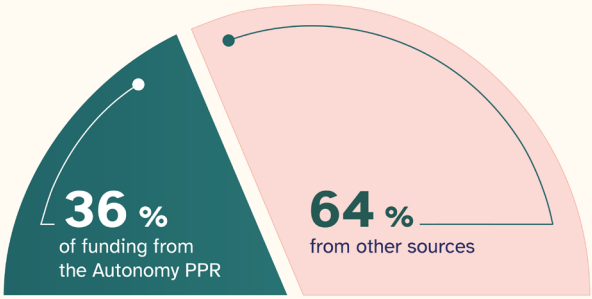
+60
researchers

A consortium of **18** partners, including **7** from Japan

4
PhD Students

8
postdoctoral researchers

5 years
of funding



Disciplines Involved

- Economics
- Engineering and Robotics
- Psychology
- Public Health and Health Sciences
- Sociology and Anthropology

INNOVCARE in Detail

Context

New technologies are increasingly mobilized to empower vulnerable populations, particularly in Japan. However, these technologies often fail to adopt a holistic approach, neglecting both individuals and their environment.

As population ageing drives investment and accelerates innovation in various fields, especially in the care sector, technological advancements are primarily economically driven. As a result, they often remain poorly adapted to the actual needs and behaviors of older adults, with limited integration into social policies addressing ageing.

Project's Objectives

1. Help to design technologies that enhance older adults' independence.
2. Bridge the gap between technological and social innovations.

The INNOVCARE project's aims to investigate and promote various forms of innovation – primarily technological - within the care sector.

By comparing and studying Japanese and French approaches, the project seeks to guide the development of tools and services tailored to ageing populations. It thus emphasizes independence as a social and relational concept rather than a purely functional one.

Work Program

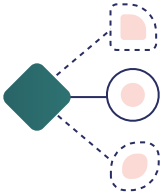
- Identify older adults' needs experiencing a decline in autonomy.
- Analyze and compare the evolution of care institutions in France and Japan.
- Critically assess technological innovations in elder care.
- Develop a methodology for designing independence-supportive technologies.
- Test and implement these technologies within the care sector.

Methodology

INNOVCARE's research teams adopts an international and comparative approach, focusing on technological assistance for ageing and older adults in France and Japan.

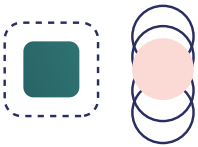
The project reframes autonomy beyond a purely functionalist approach, integrating social and relation dimensions. Quantitative analyses are complemented by qualitative data, including interviews, ethnographic observations, and grey literature reviews.

The project is also grounded in foresight policy and forward planning, using experimentation to ensure the most effective application of research findings.



International Comparison

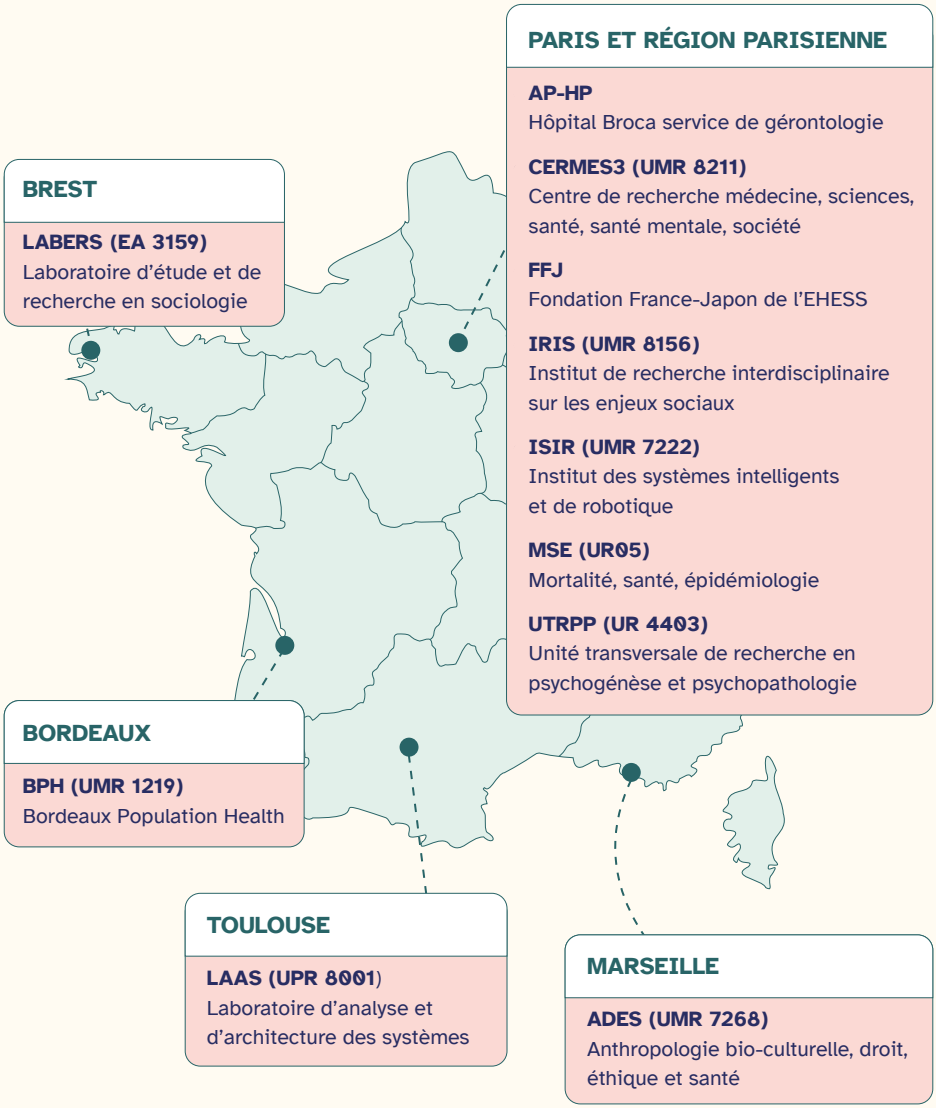
Economics and Social Robotics



Combined quantitative and qualitative methods

Partnerships

Academic Partners in France: Laboratories Involved



Academic and Institutional Partners:

Japan	Osaka University
Doshisha University	Sophia University
Hamamatsu University School of Medicine	Tokyo Institute of Technology
National Institute of Public Health	Toyo University

Other Partners

INNOVCARE collaborates with over 25 institutional and civil society partners, including

- Île-de-France Regional Health Agency (ARS)
- National Solidarity Fund for Autonomy (CNSA)
- Department of Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics (DREES)
- EHSIA
- The Red Cross Foundation & Red Social Innovation
- High Council on Family, Children and Age (HCFEA)
- OSO-AI
- PSInstitut
- French Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology
- Toyota Motor Corporation
- Union of France's Gerontopoles

Find Out More

If you are interested in the issues and challenges involved in the INNOVCARE project and would like to find out more, the project's teams have put together a reading list of the latest scientific literature.

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- Šabanović, S., Chang, W. L., Bennett, C. C., Piatt, J. A., & Hakken, D. (2015). A robot of my own: participatory design of socially assistive robots for independently living older adults diagnosed with depression. *In Human Aspects of IT for the Aged Population. Design for Aging: First International Conference, ITAP 2015, Held as Part of HCI International 2015, Los Angeles, CA, USA, August 2-7, 2015. Proceedings, Part I 1* (pp. 104-114). Springer International Publishing.

- Sauzéon, H., & Dupuy, L. (2022). Assistances numériques domiciliaires pour les personnes âgées fragiles : Etudes de conception et d'évaluation pilote d'une technologie ambiante d'assistance domiciliaire basée sur l'orchestration d'objets connectés. *Neuropsychologie Clinique et Technologies,* 480.

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Partners

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université de BORDEAUX

UBO université de bretagne occidentale

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Programme Prioritaire de Recherche

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