

# DIDA RESEARCH WEEK



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
FIRENZE

## ADA Home Adaptation for the Autonomy

### Funded by

Regione Toscana

### Years

2014 ongoing

### Scientific coordinator

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Regione Toscana  
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e Informazione  
sull'Accessibilità -  
CRID)

### CNR

(Istituto di Scienza  
e Tecnologie per  
l'informazione "A.  
Faedo", Pisa)

### Description

The ADA Project is an action-research project promoted and funded by Regione Toscana that aims to ameliorate the quality of living in the home environment of people with severe disability and their caregivers. The project proposes and funds highly personalized interventions of home adaptation and home automation, to overcome or reduce the people-environment conflicts.

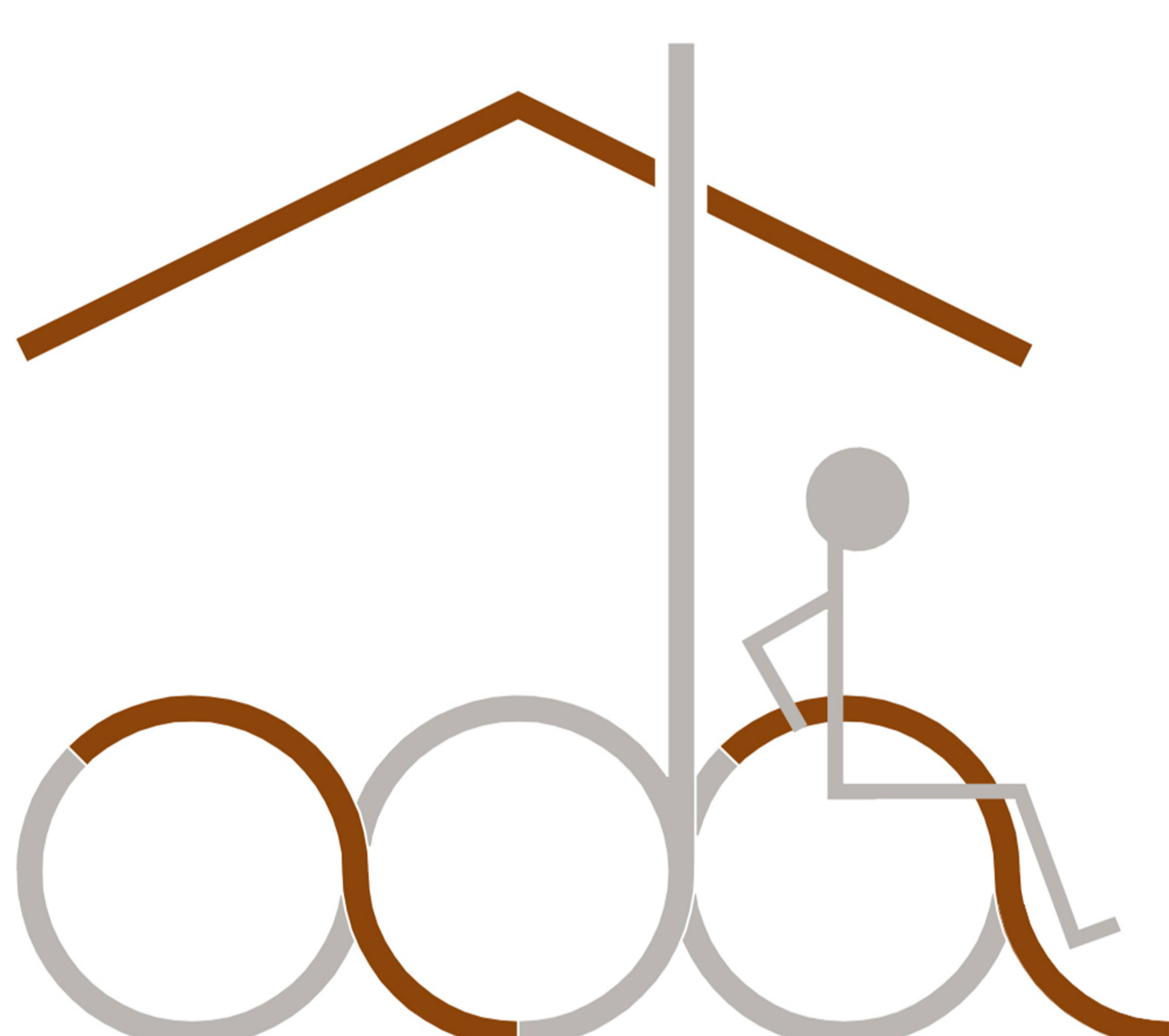
The ADA Project can be seen as a "Common" that promotes collective social wellbeing, through the activation of cultural processes and its high social and educational impact. This impact can be perceived considering that the ADA Project so far has involved 362 people with severe disability, all their families and more than a hundred other people (i.e. physicians, social workers, sociologists, architects, physical therapists, experts in assistive and home automation technologies, and administrative staff) from three public institutions: Regione Toscana, University of Florence (DIDA) and the National Research Council CNR - Istituto di Scienza e Tecnologie per l'Informazione of Pisa.

The ADA Project developed in two phases: a pilot phase (2014-2016), performed in two Tuscan Health Areas (Società della Salute "Fiorentina Nord Ovest" and "Pratese"); and a second phase, still ongoing, in all the 34 Tuscan Health Areas.

The three main operative stages of the ADA Project are:

- the *Interdisciplinary Survey*, that takes place at the homes of the participants, to define their specific health, social and environmental condition;
- the *Technical Consultancy*, to suggest personalized home adaptations;
- the *Evaluation of each case*, to allow the comparison of very different conditions in order to orient the distribution of the regional funds to support the home adaptation interventions.

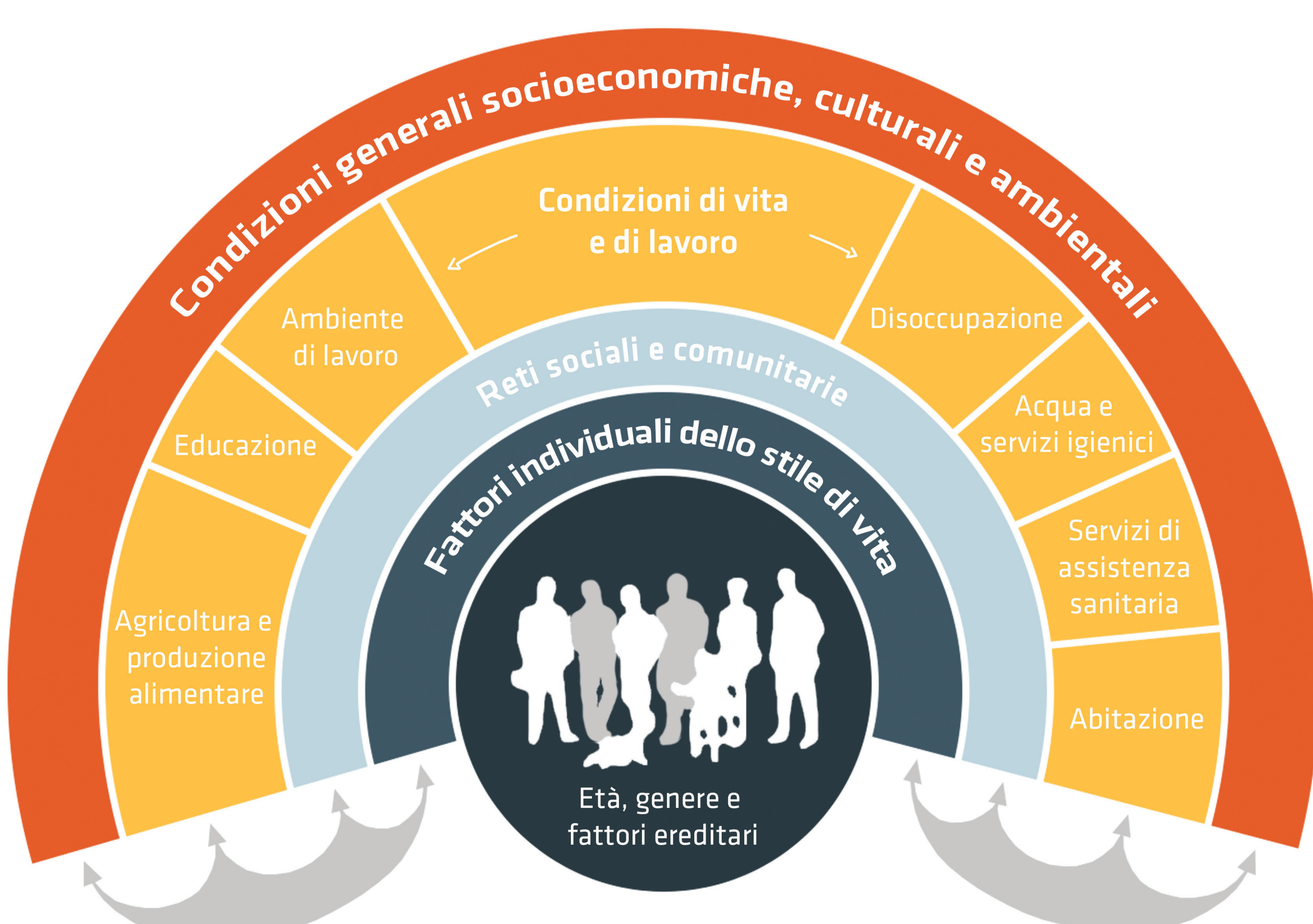
The main areas of intervention of the Florence Accessibility Lab to the ADA Project are the development of the general methodological framework of the project, the creations of all its operative tools, and the support to the interdisciplinary activities of the project with its scientific knowledge about accessibility.



The book *Il Progetto ADA. Un modello di intervento per l'autonomia domestica delle persone disabili* (Milano: Franco Angeli, 2017, pp. 320) covers the ADA Project in all its main aspects.

The book is made of three parts. The first part addresses the general framework of the project and the various aspects of the people-environment relationship: the characteristics and the specific conditions of the main subject of the project, the persons with severe disability; the evolution of the concepts of "disability", "personal autonomy" and "independent life"; the relationship between home adaptation and the activities performed by the persons with disability and their caregivers. The second part of the book shows the pilot phase of the ADA Project, analyzing its goals, the final users, the procedures, the methodological tools, and the various actors involved in the project and the relationship among them; this part also addresses the outcomes of the project, highlighting its successes but also its main limits and some proposals to overcome (or reduce) them. At last, the third part of the book illustrates the development of the ADA Project from its pilot phase to the extension to the entire Tuscan region, addressing how the procedures and operative tools have been adapted to the new goals and challenges of the project and to its wider scope.

## RESEARCH PROJECT



19 - 23 FEBBRAIO

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