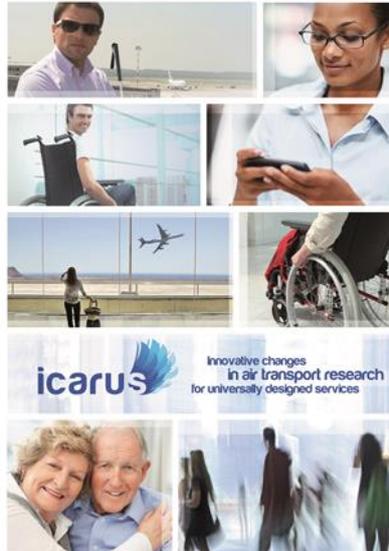


## ICARUS - Improving Access to Air Transportation for Disabled and Older People



### Keywords

Accessibility, Accessibility Solutions, Airport, Aircraft, Air travel, Disabilities, Freedom of movement, Mobility, Older, People with disabilities, People with reduced mobility, Solution areas, Validation with stakeholders, User's needs, user's preferences, accessibility barriers, Recommendations, user's experience, observation in real-life environments, accessibility chain, legislation, standardization, European added value.

### What is I.C.A.R.U.S?

Freedom of movement is a right preserved under EU treaties and it is also aligned with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. However, regarding accessibility to air transport for disabled people and the older, these basic rights are currently not fully realized, thus creating social exclusion.

To achieve this objective, the ICARUS consortium has gathered organizations with the knowledge, expertise and network of contacts required to produce planned project outcomes, results and impacts.

ICARUS' work plan strategy has been based on proven ex-ante evaluation methodologies. Firstly, ICARUS' researchers have identified the nature and scale of the problem, the involved process and activities, and the technologies and existing solutions. Afterwards, they've analysed needs and preferences through the users', stakeholders' and experts' perspective, including real-life observations. Then, the gap between the current situation and the needs has been assessed and a preliminary list of solution areas has been identified. After that, researchers have defined the R&D

fields and innovative solutions and best practices. Finally, a socio-economic analysis has been conducted, providing recommendations following the principles of economy, cost-effectiveness, and European Added Value.

## Objective

The main objective of ICARUS has been to identify, characterize, justify and prioritize research and analysis approaches towards improving access to air transportation for people with disabilities and older people.

According to the general objective of the Project mentions above, the specific objectives of ICARUS has been:

- O1. Establish the current situation in terms of stakeholders, problem, needs, accessibility chain and solution areas.
- O2. Establish the base line in terms of how the current implementation of the existing solutions meets the different needs of the various target population subgroups.
- O3. Identify solution areas with the greatest achievable contribution to the EC's stated objective of ensuring access for people with disabilities to transportation, among other facilities and services.
- O4. Characterize these solution areas in terms of effectiveness, cost, risks, bottlenecks and technical and social obstacles.
- O5. Propose and justify appropriate research and analysis approaches for the most promising solution areas considering all of the above as well as the Added Value of Community involvement.
- O6. Contribute to initiating actual change, specifically through awareness and knowledge dissemination among the main players in the accessibility chain that fosters adoption of effective solutions.



## Partners

The partners that have made up the Consortium of the Project have been:

1. FUNDACION ONCE PARA LA COOPERACION E INCLUSION SOCIAL DE PERSONAS CON DISCAPACIDAD. (Spain). (LEADER)
2. UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID. (Spain).
3. AEROCONSEIL SAS. (France).
4. ALITALIA Compagnia Aerea Italiana S.p.A. (Italy).
5. FUNDOSA TECHNOSITE S.A. (Currently ILUNION AEP). (Spain).
6. FUNDOSA ACCESIBILIDAD S.A. (Currently ILUNION AEP). (Spain).



Supported by an Advisory Committee: AGE, EDF and AENA.



## Results & Recommendations

Final Results and Expected impact: As a Support Action, ICARUS aimed at providing insights and recommendations on the most promising R&D areas that may positively contribute to alleviating the problem of air transportation accessibility.

ICARUS outcomes expects to initiate a set of impacts, starting at highlighting the paths for R&D, which in turn would lead to the development of innovative solutions and ultimately to mainstreaming accessibility, being all end-users benefited by a more inclusive air travel environment in the medium-long term.

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The screenshot shows the homepage of the icarus project website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Presentation, Consortium, Dissemination, Stakeholders Network, and Private area. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- what is icarus?**: A section explaining the project's focus on improving air management for disabled people and the elderly, involving researchers, industry, and technical solutions.
- news**: A section with two news items: "10/10/2012 Air Berlin denies boarding to a group of passengers on wheelchairs" and "05/10/2012 Navigating in airports can be a frustrating experience for elderly travelers".
- consortium**: A section describing the consortium, which is selected on the basis of experience and is led by Fundación ONCE.
- icoflet**: A section offering a short presentation of the project, its main goals, and the consortium members.
- Accessibility chain**: A diagram showing the flow from "Building" to "Access services" to "Airplane information" to "Boarding" to "Airplane" to "Passenger" to "Baggage" to "Check-in" to "Boarding" to "Airplane" to "Passenger".
- Take part go to blog**: A button linking to the project's blog.
- LinkedIn group join us**: A button linking to the project's LinkedIn group.
- Join to us as a Stakeholder**: A button for stakeholders to join the project.
- Events see latest events**: A button linking to the latest events.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the following information:

- Funded by EU's FP7
- Led by Fundación ONCE
- Contact | Accessibility | Legal notice | Site map
- RSS Feeds
- Follow us! (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn icons)