



# ICAN SYSTEM: TESTING COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE SERVICE FOR OLDER ADULTS IN SMALL SCALE LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

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## INTRODUCTION

The number of older people is projected to double to 1.5 billion in 2050, and the needs of older adults will be increased. The iCan system is a platform that provides solutions to their every-day needs, with a main focus on community assistance services. This service covers the need for a companion, assistance with daily tasks, and other help that could be more expensive and difficult to find if they searched for it by themselves.

## METHODS

The platform was tested by 20 volunteers from Cyprus and 20 from Romania, while one volunteer from each country tested it on a small scale in a living environment for one week. Researchers assisted the participants-volunteers to become familiar with the iCan system and then they had free interaction with it. Later, a SUS questionnaire was administered to evaluate its usability.

## RESULTS

The overall score of the SUS was 65.7 points, which is considered OK and marginal according to the questionnaire's interpretation. The results showed that the platform was easy to use and would be helpful for the users. The opinions of the participants were affected by several aspects. Their habitation zone affected their opinion, as participants residing in urban areas rated the system usability the highest, with a score of 68.5 points, compared to users residing in semi-rural or rural areas, who rated it with 57.5 points. In addition, the highest average rate of 67.6 points for the system usability was given by those who have an income of between 1,200 and 2,000 RON (Cyprus: between 1,000 and 2,000 €). Participants with university educational background were rated the highest in the system usability as they had a total of 69.5 points compared to primary users who had only elementary school educational background and scored 47.5 points. 85% of Cypriot participants and 55% of Romanians stated that they were extremely likely to recommend the platform



## CONCLUSION

Overall results showed that the iCan system is a promising ICT product to assist everyday life activities among older adults, although, in accordance with recent literature (Murray, 2021), it may be more apprehensive to users with mod-high income, educational level and urban residence.

### REFERENCES:

MURRAY, K. M. (2021). ACHIEVING DIGITAL EQUITY IN ACCESS TO JUSTICE.

