Silver Economy According to the New Circular Model of Economy

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We live in a time where the prevailing model of economy suffered a sharp variation from the linear to the circular model. This was due to three factors:

- Increase of world population and consequently of the request of raw materials.
- Uncontrolled increase of waste production.
- Beginning of a time where some essential elements begin to run short.

The new model involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, recycling of existing materials and products for as long as possible. In this way, the life of the product is extended, and the waste is reduced to a minimum.

Silver economy is on its side related too to the ageing of population. How do the two new coordinates of economy interact? Due to the ageing of population, we need a new social organization compared to the actual model starting from the institution of a Minister of the Seniors and related interministerial committees.

Actually, only seven countries have instituted such a Minister (Australia, Canada, Ireland, Malta, New Zealand, Scotland, Wales). These institutions could make it easier to have a holistic approach to the Silver Economy and to the problems of the 3rd Age. Silver Economy does not represent one of the markets but a traversal economy to which so the principles of the new circular model have to be applied. The materials consumption due to the prolonged life increases and at the same time the request of new resources increases too so that circularity becomes a need to survive.

This obliges to consider with attention the new actions related to reuse and recycle in the case of seniors in order that they too are put into the conditions to follow these actions and so to contribute to save precious materials and to minimize wastes and scraps. A quality is requested to satisfy this need, creativity, continuously solicited by the changing reality due to social, technical and economic transformations. So, the merceological compartments are obliged to interknit and the wastes of one become the raw material of another.

Links

Silver Age – Silver Economy. Luigi Campanella, Dept of Chemistry, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy. The Bulletin of the European Association of Professors Emeriti, 24.12.2022; 91-92.

Interlinking Silver Economy Websites. Dr. Jože Gričar, Professor Emeritus, University of Maribor. Professors Emeriti Network, November 16, 2022.

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Developing the Silver Economy and Related Government Resources for Seniors. A Position Paper. <u>Global Network of Associations & Networks: Retirees Developing Silver Economy</u>, September 19, 2022.