RI SCALE

D6.1

Communication, Dissemination, Exploitation and Capacity Building (CDEC) Plan

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Abstract	
Key words	Communications, Dissemination, Training, Exploitation, Innovation

The CDEC strategy supports RI-SCALE's core objectives, which include co-designing and developing Data Exploitation Platform (DEP) prototypes, increasing AI-based data exploitation capacity in Research Infrastructures (RIs), validating AI-powered DEPs through real-world use cases across environmental, life and health sciences, engaging SMEs, spin-offs, and academic innovators, and facilitating uptake and sustainability through training and competence centres. Key Exploitable Results (KERs), such as the DEP prototype, AI frameworks, pilot deployments, an engagement framework for innovators, and a Competence Centre, are explicitly supported by tailored CDEC pathways. Expected impacts span scientific, economic, societal, environmental, and educational dimensions, aiming to enhance research efficiency, catalyze new markets, promote ethical AI, reduce environmental footprint, and address AI skills gaps within RIs. The plan details objectives, key messages, and a comprehensive set of communication and dissemination channels and tools, including a project website, social media, press outreach, event participation, and strategic content contributions, all while adhering to open science principles and EU visibility guidelines. Ultimately, the CDEC strategy is central to translating RI-SCALE's technical innovations into tangible, sustainable, and impactful outcomes aligned with European research and digital transformation priorities.

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Terminology / Acronyms	
Term/Acronym	Definition
CDEC	Communication, Dissemination, Exploitation, and Capacity Building
DEPs	Data Exploitation Platforms
DoA	Description of Action
FAIR	Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable
GA	General Assembly
GEP	Gender Equality Plan
HRP	Horizon Results Platform
KERs	Key Exploitable Results
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
RIs	Research Infrastructures
RI-SCALE	(Project Acronym)
SoMe	Social Media
TTOs	Technology Transfer Offices
WP	Work Package

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Executive Summary

The RI-SCALE Communication, Dissemination, Exploitation, and Community (CDEC) Strategy is a core component of the project's mission to unlock the full potential of Research Infrastructures (RIs) through scalable AI and data tools. The strategy is designed to ensure broad uptake, long-term sustainability, and strategic impact of the RI-SCALE Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs), by engaging a diverse ecosystem of stakeholders - from core RI partners and user communities to compute providers, companies, innovation networks, and policy influencers. CDEC activities are embedded in the project architecture, supporting:

- The co-design and validation of DEP tools and services with key RI communities;

- The training and capacity building for sustainable adoption of AI and data services;

- The targeted communication and exploitation of results to amplify visibility and influence policy and practice.

This strategy is dynamic and responsive, integrating traditional and digital communication channels, stakeholder-specific messaging, and a clear commitment to open science, FAIR principles, and cross-sectoral collaboration.

1.Overview of the CDEC Strategy and its Alignment with RI-SCALE Objectives

1.1. RI-SCALE Objectives

1. Co-design and develop a DEP prototype:
   a. A software platform for scalable, AI-ready compute on RI datasets.
   b. Built collaboratively via a Competence Centre to support validation and reproducibility of research at scale.

2. Increase the AI-based data exploitation capacity of RIs:
   a. Integrate AI frameworks and models into DEPs.
   b. Serve foundation and community models to RIs for reuse, training, and data quality improvement.

3. Validate AI-powered DEPs through real-world use cases:
   a. 12 Use cases span technological and environmental / health sciences, involving 4 core RIs and several compute/data space providers.
   b. Demonstrate impact across different data ecosystems (e.g., DestinE, EUCAIM, Copernicus).

4. Engage SMEs, spin-offs, and academic innovators:
   a. Set up a multi-tier engagement framework targeting the startup and innovation ecosystem.
   b. Support DEP adoption and AI model co-development across academic and industrial users.

5. Facilitate uptake and sustainability through training and competence centres:
   a. Offer workshops, consultancy, and onboarding for RIs and SMEs.
   b. Build skills for scalable AI and data analytics to reduce long-term barriers.

1.2. Key Exploitable Results (KERs)

KER	Description
KER#1	DEP prototype: scalable, cloud/HPC-hosted, AI-ready analytics environment.
KER#2	AI frameworks and models: integrated with DEPs, using domain-specific and foundation models.
KER#3	DEP pilot deployments: validated across environmental and health domains.
KER#4	Engagement framework for startups, SMEs, and university spin-offs.
KER#5	Competence Centre: collaborative environment for co-design, testing, and training on scalable AI/DEP challenges.

1.3. Expected Impact

The RI-SCALE project is expected to deliver wide-ranging impacts across scientific, economic, societal, environmental, and educational dimensions. Scientifically and technologically, it will enhance the capacities of RIs to conduct AI-powered, data-intensive research, while fostering greater interoperability and collaboration across disciplines. Economically, the project aims to catalyse the creation of new markets, startups, and services through the deployment of DEP tools and AI applications. On a societal level, RI-SCALE will contribute to key European policy priorities, particularly in climate and health, and promote the adoption of ethical and inclusive AI practices. Environmentally, it will support energy-efficient computing practices to reduce the environmental footprint of digital research. Finally, from an educational perspective, the project will address the AI skills gap across RIs by delivering targeted training and capacity-building activities, empowering researchers and technical staff to fully exploit data and emerging technologies.

1.4. How the CDEC Strategy Supports RI-SCALE's Objectives and Results

The CDEC strategy is integral to achieving RI-SCALE's vision and translating its technical innovation into real-world impact. It plays a central role in both driving engagement during the project lifecycle and ensuring long-term sustainability and adoption of its results.

To support the co-design and development of the DEP, the CDEC strategy establishes direct channels between developers and core user communities through coordinated Competence Centre activities, including workshops, hackathons, and webinars. These engagements are designed not only to raise awareness but also to collect structured feedback that feeds into iterative improvements of the DEP and its features.

To increase AI-based data exploitation capacity across RIs, the strategy includes targeted dissemination of AI workflow templates, use case demonstrations, and training modules. These are promoted through tailored communication campaigns that reach technical stakeholders – data managers, developers, and infrastructure staff – via partners and trusted external dissemination and communication channels.

For validating DEPs in real-world use cases, CDEC will ensure visibility and replication by capturing success stories, producing video explainers, and disseminating outcomes through high-profile events, social media campaigns, and community newsletters. This dissemination ensures that lessons learned are shared beyond the core partners and can inform other RIs and domain communities.

The strategy also directly contributes to the engagement of SMEs, spin-offs, and academic innovators through its community-building framework. This includes co-creation sessions with industry actors and amplified campaigns through relevant networks like BDVA, DIHs, AI-on-Demand Platform, etc. By surfacing concrete collaboration opportunities, CDEC enables the exploitation of project results in commercial and applied settings.

Furthermore, to support training and sustainability, the CDEC strategy delivers a preliminary training plan and training assets. These will be hosted on the project website and promoted through different channels, ensuring access across widening countries and to early-career researchers.

Each Key Exploitable Result (KER) is supported by tailored communication, engagement, and exploitation pathways:

- KER#1 and KER#2 (DEP prototype and AI frameworks) are promoted through events, demo sessions and integration guides.

- KER#3 (use case validation) is showcased to demonstrate credibility and scalability.

- KER#4 and KER#5 (engagement framework and Competence Centre) are supported through stakeholder-driven events and training activities to ensure DEP's broad applicability and continuity beyond the project.

Ultimately, the CDEC strategy is a vehicle for delivering RI-SCALE's expected impact by fostering technical excellence, accelerating adoption, enabling cross-sectoral collaboration, promoting sustainable innovation, and aligning outcomes with European priorities in open science, green tech, and digital sovereignty.

2. Introduction

2.1. Purpose and Scope of the Plan

The CDEC Plan defines how RI-SCALE will engage its diverse stakeholders, communicate its results, promote uptake, and build long-term capacity around its Data Exploitation Platform (DEP) and associated tools and services. This plan serves as a strategic roadmap to guide all outreach, engagement, and sustainability-related activities throughout the project lifecycle.

It ensures that project outcomes are not only visible, but also actionable and impactful - supporting their adoption across research communities, infrastructures, policy, and industry. The CDEC plan is built around a lifecycle approach: from early awareness and co-design, to training, validation, policy integration, and long-term sustainability.

2.2. How CDEC Supports RI-SCALE's Mission and Sustainability

The CDEC strategy ensures RI-SCALE's impact is sustained and scalable beyond the project lifecycle. While Section 1.4 outlines how CDEC actions directly support each objective and result, this section focuses on the broader mechanisms that will ensure long-term adoption, policy integration, and alignment with European initiatives. Through stakeholder co-design, targeted capacity building, strategic dissemination, and strong positioning, CDEC transforms technical outputs into lasting assets for Europe's data and AI ecosystem.

It contributes to RI-SCALE's mission and sustainability through the following:

- Stakeholder co-design: Actively involving user communities, infrastructure providers, and technology developers in shaping the DEP through iterative feedback and engagement.

- Capacity building: Developing and disseminating reusable training materials, onboarding guides, and learning formats to foster skills and adoption.

- Exploitation pathways: Supporting strategic uptake across research infrastructures, industry, and policy through tailored content, engagement frameworks, and targeted dissemination.

- Visibility and positioning: Establishing RI-SCALE as a European initiative crucial for the field of scalable, AI-ready data platforms by amplifying its results across trusted networks and aligning with EOSC, EuroHPC, and open science priorities.

Through these integrated efforts, the CDEC approach ensures that the tools, services, and insights developed by RI-SCALE are not only impactful during the project but also remain accessible, valuable, and scalable well beyond its duration.

2.3. Structure of the Document

This plan is structured into the following main sections:

- **Stakeholder mapping and analysis**: Identification and segmentation of key stakeholders, their relevance to RI-SCALE, and engagement priorities.

- **Communication and dissemination strategy**: Strategic objectives, messages, tools, and channels used to reach target audiences.

- **Exploitation strategy**: Identification of key results, uptake mechanisms, and sustainability pathways for long-term impact.

- **Capacity building and training plan**: Competence Centre activities and training formats tailored to stakeholder needs.

- **Work plan and coordination**: Roles and responsibilities for implementing CDEC actions, including monitoring and evaluation methods.

3. Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis

3.1. Objectives and Methodology

Using a combination of insights from the kickoff workshop, proposal commitments, and partner inputs, stakeholders have been systematically mapped based on their role, relevance, influence, and potential for engagement. This Stakeholder Engagement Matrix guides the content, tone, timing, and choice of communication tools and methods to ensure targeted and effective collaboration throughout the RI-SCALE project.

Each stakeholder group is defined by its role and contribution to the project, which enables us to tailor engagement activities that maximise their input and impact on project outcomes. Stakeholders are prioritized according to criteria including strategic importance, potential influence on project success, and readiness to engage, classified as High, Medium, or Low priority.

To ensure continuous improvement, we will establish feedback loops—using surveys, workshops, pilot evaluations, and other interactive formats - to collect, analyse, and incorporate stakeholder input into ongoing engagement planning.

The following categories summarise the stakeholder groups, their roles, and how we plan to engage them. A detailed analysis of each stakeholder group, including key contacts, specific engagement tactics, and communication channels, is provided in Annex 1.

3.1.1. Stakeholder Categories

- **Research Communities & Users**: Core users of Research Infrastructures (RIs); central to pilot validation, feedback, and adoption of solutions.

- **Research Infrastructures (RIs)**: Primary collaborators and early adopters providing data, infrastructure, and integration expertise.

- **Compute/Data Centres**: Infrastructure enablers responsible for scalable deployment of Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs).

- **Technology Providers**: Co-developers and ecosystem connectors who develop and integrate AI and data management frameworks.

- **Industry & Innovation Actors**: Early adopters, co-creators, and commercial amplifiers of DEP services.

- **Strategic Initiatives & Networks**: Facilitate dissemination, foster synergies, and ensure alignment with broader European research and technology agendas.

- **Policy Makers, Funders & Public**: Influence long-term sustainability, funding, and societal acceptance of the project's outputs.

3.1.2. Interest, Influence, and Engagement Level
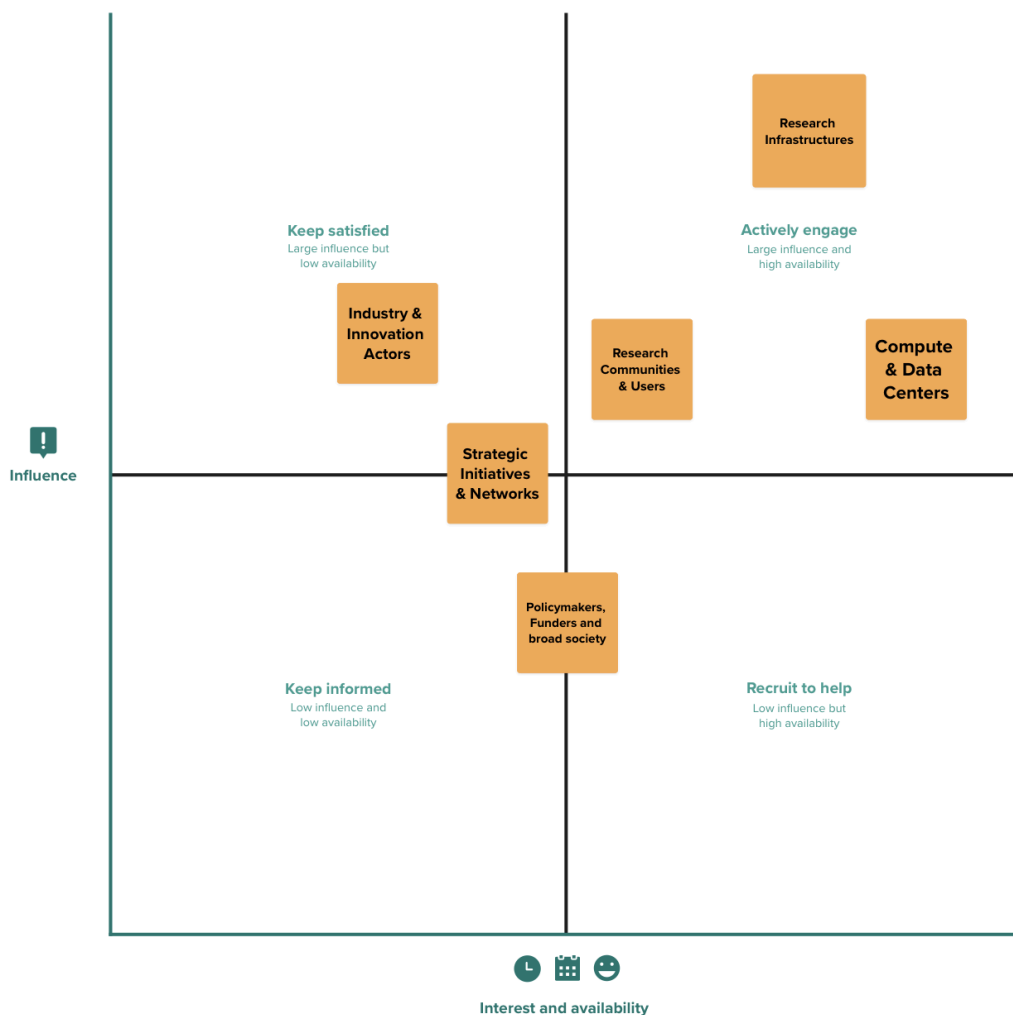
Figure 1: Interest, Influence, and Engagement Level

3.1.3. Stakeholder Engagement Matrix

Stakeholder Group	Role / Contribution	Relevance to RI-SCALE	Engagement Strategy	Communication Tools / Channels	Priority
Research Communities / DEP Users (e.g. end-users, model developers, operators)	Provide feedback, co-design tools, validate pilots, adopt solutions	Core users and broader research community for pilots, feedback, validation, and adoption	Co-design, training, awareness raising, feedback collection	Competence Centre, Workshops, webinars, surveys, newsletters, Social Media (SoMe), events	High

Research Infrastructures (RIs)	Provide data, infrastructure, integration expertise, pilot hosts	Central contributors to use cases, pilot implementation, data integration, sustainability	Close collaboration, training, advocacy, documentation	Competence Centre, Internal comms, newsletters, partner channels, RI events	High
Compute / Data Centres	Provide scalable compute/storage infrastructure for DEPs	Provide infrastructure for scalable DEP deployment and AI workflows	Onboarding, technical workshops, pilot participation	Competence Centre, Websites, national networks, EOSC channels, newsletters	High
Industry & Innovation Stakeholders	Test and scale DEP services, provide feedback, co-create solutions	Support digital transformation, pilot use, DEP validation, and scaling	Workshops, co-creation sessions, outreach	Competence Centre, Industry mailing lists, events, newsletters, SoMe	High
Strategic Initiatives & Networks	Promote interoperability, federated access, joint training and demos	Facilitate interoperability, federated access, AI ecosystem, data standards, and RI alignment	Joint events, policy briefs, training, demos	Competence Centre, Newsletters, webinars, project portals, EOSC channels	High/Medium
Policy Makers, Funders & Society	Provide policy direction, funding, societal acceptance and awareness	Influence policies, provide funding, and increase societal awareness of AI and science benefits	Policy briefs, stakeholder roundtables, storytelling	Competence Centre, Policy forums, project blogs, press releases, social media	Medium / Low

3.2. Implications for Communication, Training, and Exploitation

Using a combination of kickoff workshop insights, proposal commitments, and partner inputs, stakeholders have been mapped according to their relevance, influence, and engagement potential. This comprehensive mapping informs the content, tone, timing, and tools of our communication and engagement strategy, ensuring targeted and effective outreach across diverse stakeholder groups.

Particular attention has been paid to entrepreneurial stakeholders, including Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs), university spin-offs, and innovation ecosystems. These groups play a critical role in accelerating the adoption, commercialisation, and sustainable exploitation of DEPs. The detailed Industry Engagement Plan outlined in Section 5 expands on this strategic focus, describing dedicated actions to foster collaborations with innovation actors and entrepreneurial support structures within the RI ecosystem.

3.3. Collecting Feedback Methodology

This section outlines the methodology that will be employed to collect structured stakeholder feedback to support the validation and prioritization of the RI-SCALE platform requirements. The objective is to obtain targeted input from relevant actors across the research infrastructure landscape, focusing on the perceived importance, relevance, and completeness of the collected requirements. This feedback will be used to inform priority assignments, support planning of the 1st and 2nd DEP release cycles and complement the requirement consolidation and validation process designed in WP5.

Questionnaire Design Approach

A single unified questionnaire will be developed, structured into thematic sections reflecting the project's three core technical work packages:

- WP2 – Data Lifecycle Management
- WP3 – Scalable AI Solutions
- WP4 – Access Management Technologies

Each thematic section will contain a focused set of questions designed to elicit stakeholder feedback on requirements relevant to that domain. The questions will be abstract enough to allow engagement from non-developer stakeholders, while internally mapped to specific accepted requirements. This ensures that input can be traced back to individual requirements without exposing implementation complexity to respondents.

The first part of the questionnaire will serve as a stakeholder profiling module, identifying:

- Stakeholder category (e.g. RI operator, infrastructure provider, scientific user, external domain expert).
- Affiliation with one or more of the RI-SCALE use cases or technical components.
- Expected interaction with the DEP (e.g. data provider, platform user, AI model developer).

This metadata will be used to contextualize responses and support weighted analysis per stakeholder role and project relevance.

Distribution Strategy

The primary distribution mechanism will be through Competence Centres, which are already embedded in RI communities and offer a structured outreach channel across national and domain-specific nodes. This will be complemented by dissemination via project-dedicated mailing lists.

Mapping and Analysis

Each questionnaire item will be internally linked to one or more requirements. This linking will be based on:

- Overlap in described functionality.

- Common technological components or submodules.

- Alignment with requirement type (functional or non-functional).

Collected responses will be aggregated per requirement and used to support:

- Priority reassessment using MoSCoW categories (Must, Should, Could, Won't).

- Release targeting, whether the requirement is included in the 1st or 2nd DEP release.

Integration into the Requirements Workflow

All accepted requirements in RI-SCALE are managed as structured Jira issues, forming a continuously updated, traceable system for tracking technical development and stakeholder alignment. This setup allows requirements to be refined, reprioritized, or reassigned across releases based on new insights, regardless of the timing of formal consolidation cycles. The flexibility of this living requirement base is a key strength of the project's engineering process, supporting sustained responsiveness to stakeholder input and technical evolution over time.

To ensure relevance to platform development, the collection of stakeholder feedback will be strategically aligned with the RI-SCALE implementation roadmap. Specifically, input gathered through the questionnaire will be analysed prior to the 1st DEP release, in order to inform development priorities and refine planned features where appropriate. Following the first release, feedback will be used to assess the perceived value and usability of implemented components, and to guide any corrective actions or reprioritizations needed for the planning of the 2nd DEP release.

4. Communication and Dissemination Strategy

The communication and dissemination strategy in RI-SCALE plays a vital role in amplifying the project's visibility, ensuring the uptake of its results, and reinforcing its strategic positioning within the European Research Infrastructure and AI data ecosystem. This strategy is designed to foster cross-sectoral engagement, enable onboarding, promote the use of the DEP and its tools, and support long-term sustainability.

It operates in close coordination with the exploitation, training, and stakeholder engagement activities in WP6, and aligns with European Union priorities on open science, FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, re-usable) data, digital transformation, and innovation for research infrastructures.

4.1. Objectives and Key Messages

The communication and dissemination efforts under RI-SCALE aim to:

- Raise visibility and awareness of the project's vision, activities, results, and services among core stakeholders and the broader research and innovation landscape.

- Promote the DEP concept as a scalable, AI-ready infrastructure aligned with EOSC, EuroHPC, and FAIR principles.

- Showcase the scientific, operational, and policy impact of real-world use cases across environmental and health domains.

- Engage RIs, compute centres, academic innovators and SMEs outside the project consortium in co-design, testing, and validation of AI-powered services.

- Facilitate training, onboarding, and community building, ensuring capacity development and long-term DEP adoption.

- Strengthen industrial engagement by supporting active industry participation in open calls, validation pilots, and collaborative workshops, thus boosting technology transfer and exploitation potential.

- Enable two-way knowledge transfer by encouraging industry feedback and co-creation to shape DEP services and AI tools that address market needs.

4.2. Communications & Dissemination Channels and Tools

To support the exploitation and dissemination of the project results, this part specifies an initial set of strategic and targeted activities and tools to inform the project stakeholders about the project activities and developments. These activities will be regularly monitored and reviewed to assess the quality of the message, appropriateness of the channels and their visibility amongst the foreseen target groups.

RI-SCALE relies heavily on the ambassadorship of the partners, who are experts in the field. Throughout the project, they will be encouraged to disseminate the project opportunities and outputs amongst their peers, who represent many of our key stakeholders. Therefore, several measures are taken at the project level to ensure they have solid ground to stand on. The first measure is to establish a relevant mailing list and website quickly, including partner profiles and social media.

Initial Resources (M1–6):

- Project Website: The RI-SCALE website acts as the project's central digital hub. Beyond serving as a repository of updates, news, and deliverables, it plays a functional role in stakeholder engagement, community building, and resource sharing.

- Media Center page: Provides access to branding resources, digital materials and instructions for anyone who wishes to communicate with or about the project.

- LinkedIn Account: Serves as our main social media platform to inform about the project, promote its services and engage audiences in conversation.

- Bluesky Account: Based on the trajectory of the X platform, we decided to explore the emerging Bluesky account instead, where many research organisations and RIs have recently moved from X. Since the platform is still evolving and has a limited user base, we will closely monitor its development to assess the value of maintaining an active presence there.

- RI-SCALE Brand guide: A collection of guidelines ensuring proper use of our logo, colours, fonts, etc. to ensure the consistency of the RI-SCALE brand.

- Presentation and Document Templates: Provides a unified format for project presentations and documents. The templates are accessible to project partners on the project's Confluence space.

- Dissemination activity tracking (through a page on Confluence): Allows tracking of all dissemination activities.

- Database with information from the RI-SCALE partners: The contact list of the communications managers and links to the website and social media were collected from all the partners, to utilise them as one of our key dissemination channels.

Effective external communication is vital to the success of the RI-SCALE project. By using the appropriate tools, we can broaden our reach, strengthen stakeholder engagement, and showcase the project's achievements. This section outlines the key external communication tools that will support our strategic goals.

4.2.1. EC Acknowledgment

At the outset, it is important to highlight that all beneficiaries of EU funding are required to clearly display the EU flag and the relevant funding statement ("Funded by the European Union" or "Co-funded by the European Union") in all communication and dissemination activities, as well as on any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies, or major results funded by the grant.

The EU flag and funding statement "RI-SCALE is funded by the European Union Grant Agreement Number 101188168" must be clearly visible and prominently displayed to the public. Acknowledgement of EU funding is also mandatory in all types of public outputs, including patent applications, standardisation efforts, media engagements, and public statements.

The official versions of the EU flag and funding statement can be found in the Grant Agreement and on the Europa website[1].

4.2.2. Project Branding

The project branding was completed by the end of Month (M) 04. The communication toolkit contains details about the project colour scheme, font, logos, and information about EC acknowledgement. All this information is bundled in a clear and visually appealing brand guide[2].

4.2.3. Templates

The communication toolkit contains links to a slide deck, including some generic slides with project information and graphics that can be reused. Project partners can make their own copies and adapt them for their project presentations. Various design options are available to adapt the slide deck according to the presenters' needs.

A document template is available in Google Docs format, as well as a template for deliverables.

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[1] https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/symbols/european-flag_en
[2] https://cdn.riscale.eu/app/uploads/2025/07/ri-scale-brandguide-2025.pdf

4.2.4. Videos

Video content will be an essential part of RI-SCALE's external communication strategy, helping to promote the project's objectives, showcase DEP functionalities, and engage a broad range of stakeholders. The following types of video content are foreseen:

- **Project Overview Video**

    A high-level promotional video introducing RI-SCALE, its vision, DEP concept and key technologies, and its relevance to AI- and data-driven science.

    Applications: Project website homepage, social media, EU events, training sessions, and RI conferences.

- **Short Clips**

    Short videos that explain and demonstrate the goals of the project and the benefits of services offered via RI-SCALE's DEP instances for various scientific domains and sectors.

    Applications: Dedicated service pages, thematic campaigns, newsletters, and presentations to RI partners and industry.

- **Use Case Explainers**

    Animated or recorded walkthroughs of selected technical and scientific use cases demonstrating how DEP technology enables real-world applications, developed together with participating RIs.

    Applications: Website resource section, YouTube channel, social media series, stakeholder briefings.

- **Training & Tutorial Videos**

    Instructional content was developed in collaboration with the training team and relevant work packages. These videos will guide users through DEP architecture, functionalities, onboarding, AI workflows, and other project tools.

    Applications: Competence Center resource hub, onboarding packages, training events.

- **Webinar Recordings**

    RI-SCALE will record and share relevant webinars and training sessions, especially those targeting the uptake of AI technologies by RIs and their communities. Webinars and short explainer videos for TTOs and incubators will also be developed.

    Applications: Resource library on the website, follow-up for event attendees, and reuse in future training.

Each video will follow EU visibility guidelines and include the required EU emblem and funding acknowledgement.

4.2.5. Materials and Hand-outs

As of M4, the project has created the following materials: flyer, postcard, poster, keyrings, stickers, and social media carousel campaigns (see Annex 1). In the future, we will develop several versions of the flyer focusing on different target groups and calls to action specific to those groups.

4.2.6. Key Messages

RI-SCALE has formulated a couple of key messages (See Annex 3) that convey the essence of the project towards its main stakeholders. These messages will be diversified to reflect the stakeholders' interests as the project progresses.

4.2.7. Project Website

The RI-SCALE project website, www.riscale.eu, was launched in Month 1 and fully finalised by M3, and serves as the central digital platform for all project information, materials and engagement activities. The site is hosted and maintained by the EGI Foundation.

In its initial phase, the website follows a clean and modular layout based on EGI's standard template. However, further customisation is planned to reflect RI-SCALE's distinctive visual identity and thematic focus on AI-powered data services for research infrastructures. The project news section will be regularly updated by WP6, with contributions from partners highlighting use cases, technical milestones, events, and success stories.

4.2.8. Social Media

The primary social media platforms for RI-SCALE are LinkedIn[3], Bluesky[4] and YouTube[5], chosen for their strong reach across research infrastructures, policy makers, and innovation stakeholders.

These channels are used to:

- Explain the project, DEP concept and why it is relevant.
- Engage different stakeholders to create a collaborative ecosystem to shape the future of AI-powered data exploitation in research.
- Announce project milestones and events.
- Promote training sessions, webinars, and materials.
- Share visual stories from the scientific and technical use cases and pilots.
- Highlight alignment and synergies with projects, initiatives and EU AI/data strategies.

[3] https://www.linkedin.com/company/ri-scale
[4] https://bsky.app/profile/ri-scale.bsky.social
[5] https://www.youtube.com/@RI-SCALE

While LinkedIn remains the core platform for us, RI-SCALE is also present on Bluesky, an emerging decentralised social media platform. Although its current user base is limited, we are closely monitoring its development and potential for reaching technical and open science communities.

In addition, the project maintains a YouTube channel to host training videos, recorded webinars, and visual explainers, supporting asynchronous learning and wider dissemination of project content.

All channels will be monitored using analytics tools to assess engagement, reach, and relevance. These insights will feed into quarterly content reviews to optimise communication efforts and adapt the platform mix as needed.

4.2.9. Press and Media Outreach

A press release was prepared and shared among partners at the start of the RI-SCALE project in March 2025, and publicly issued during the Kick-off Meeting held in Amsterdam. Subsequent press releases will coincide with major milestones, particularly each release of the Data Exploitation Platform (DEP):

- 1st release – M12
- 2nd release – M24
- DEP Adoption plan - M36

Each release will include a communication package for partner dissemination — offering reusable visuals, quotes, key messages, and media-ready summaries. These kits will support amplification across institutional channels, media partners, and thematic networks.

4.2.10. Newsletter

RI-SCALE will not produce a standalone project newsletter. Instead, the project will strategically leverage existing, well-established communication channels — most notably the EGI newsletter, which reaches a broad and relevant subscriber base of over 3,000 stakeholders across the European research infrastructure, data, and open science communities.

This decision is based on two key factors:

- Efficiency: Building and maintaining a dedicated newsletter subscriber base is resource-intensive and time-consuming. Given RI-SCALE's limited 36-month timeframe, it is more effective to utilise established, high-impact channels.

- Reach: EGI's newsletter, as well as those of partner RIs and other partner organisations, already target many of the stakeholder groups RI-SCALE aims to engage – such as technical staff, policy makers, service developers, other RIs, industry and data providers.

To ensure consistent and targeted visibility, RI-SCALE will:

- Contribute content regularly to the EGI newsletter, particularly around DEP releases and other important milestones, open calls, training events, and use case updates.

- Provide ready-made content blocks (blurbs, visuals, links) for partners to include in their own institutional or RI newsletters, enabling wider and decentralised dissemination.

- Provide content to external newsletters such as dedicated innovation newsletters.

- Monitor performance through partner reports and analytics from EGI and other hosts.

4.2.11. Paid Advertising and Strategic Promotion

To support strategic visibility and outreach to niche audiences, RI-SCALE will explore the selective use of paid advertising, particularly during:

- Open calls for new partners for co-design and validation, reviewers, or contributors;

- DEP service launches;

- Dissemination of the final results

Potential channels include LinkedIn Ads to target RI technical staff, AI developers, relevant industry partners, and infrastructure managers.

4.2.12 Event Participation and Promotion

RI-SCALE will maintain a strategic and coordinated presence at relevant scientific, technical, policy, and industry events throughout the project lifecycle. Upcoming events will be initially identified and flagged during the Activity Management Board (AMB), Innovation and Exploitation Group and General Assembly (GA) meetings, with follow-up planning and decisions made within WP6 in collaboration with the Project Management Team.

To streamline event coordination, a shared table on the Confluence platform will act as a centralised calendar where all partners can flag potential dissemination opportunities and upcoming deadlines. This approach helps ensure that RI-SCALE takes advantage of relevant engagement windows across sectors and domains. Past event participation will also be logged via this channel for internal reporting and lesson-sharing.

To support impactful presence at events, WP6 will coordinate the development of visual and promotional materials, including flyers, roll-ups, presentation templates, a short introductory video, and branded booth kits. These assets will support partners representing RI-SCALE at external events, either as standalone representatives or through joint booths with related projects or RI initiatives.

As an example of an external event, it is anticipated that RI-SCALE will be represented at the Privacy Symposium International Conference, of which AS is an organising partner. Taking place from April 20-24/2026, RI SCALE's objectives and latest updates will be disseminated in the conference exhibition area. During the 2025 edition, the conference featured 495 speakers and close to 1000

attendants, bringing together authorities, experts in data compliance -including national authorities, European institutions, and international organisations - as well as practitioners and the research community. In line with the stakeholder mapping, the Privacy Symposium constitutes a great opportunity to engage with the stakeholder groups identified as relevant for the RI-SCALE project with regard to data governance, regulatory compliance and innovative technologies (such as AI), leveraging on the visual and promotional materials developed in the context of WP6.

In addition to external event participation, RI-SCALE will also host its own competence centre events, such as workshops and webinars - including training events, hackathons, co-design workshops, and DEP onboarding sessions. These will be promoted via partner channels, EOSC and RI platforms, and aligned with service delivery milestones.

4.2.12.1. Scientific, Industry, and Policy Events

Event engagement in the first project year focuses on building recognition and awareness of RI-SCALE and its DEP concept. Initial visibility activities will include flyer distribution, side events, splinter sessions, and booth presence. As the project matures, the focus will shift toward presenting results, recruiting adopters, and collecting feedback on service iterations.

WP6 will maintain a rolling priority list of targeted events, including but not limited to EGU, ICRI, EOSC Symposium, BDVF, Data Space Symposium, EGI Conference, domain-specific events such as BioTechX Europe, ELMI, EMIM, I2K, MICCAI, EGU and more. Specific attention will be given to participation in relevant industry forums, fairs, and innovation summits to present RI-SCALE services and recruit adopters, such as at EIT Digital Summit and UIIN.

Dedicated events will bring together industry stakeholders, RIs, and technology providers for joint development and validation activities.

4.2.12.2. One-on-One Meetings and Informal Outreach

Given RI-SCALE's technical and strategic focus, informal and one-on-one stakeholder interactions will play a significant role - especially in early adoption and engagement of additional actors to participate in the co-design and validation activities. Proactive outreach through informal meetings and targeted contacts encourages industry feedback, partnership formation, and pilot co-development. Concerning industry engagement, outreach via university innovation directories and one-on-one meetings at tech transfer conferences (e.g., ASTP, UIIN) are foreseen. All partners are encouraged to document relevant stakeholder interactions and share brief summaries with WP6, ensuring the broader project benefits from decentralised outreach efforts.

4.2.13. Project Partner Channels

RI-SCALE leverages the existing networks and communication channels of its participating RIs and consortium members. To ensure broad dissemination across domains and geographies, each partner is encouraged to:

- Share project updates via their institutional newsletters, blogs, and social media channels.

- Repost RI-SCALE campaigns using the provided SoMe kits and visuals.

- Identify domain-specific outreach opportunities (e.g. community Slack groups, RI user forums).

A central contact list of partner communications focal points has been compiled to support cross-channel messaging coordination and ensure timely campaign rollouts.

4.2.14. Collaboration Networks and Sister Projects

4.2.14.1. Cross-Project Collaboration

RI-SCALE will coordinate with other Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020 projects – particularly those working on RI integration, AI, data infrastructures, and environmental/health domains. Collaboration with these projects enhances impact, avoids duplication, and promotes knowledge sharing. This work is going to be facilitated by T6.2.

Key collaboration objectives include:

- Joint visibility campaigns and cross-promotion during key events (e.g., webinars, joint booths, etc.)

- Training cooperation, including co-hosted onboarding events or knowledge exchange sessions

- Alignment with standardisation efforts

Key collaborations include EOSC and EOSC-Beyond (service integration and procurement alignment), AI-on-Demand (model and training dissemination), Destination Earth and interTwin (DEP validation on EuroHPC and Digital Twin data), and Data Spaces initiatives such as DSSC and EUCAIM (interoperability and architecture coordination). The project also reuses models, repositories, and training assets from AI4Life, BioMedAI, and EuCanImage, and incorporates scalable AI methods from CoE RAISE and DaFab. Environmental sustainability practices are supported via GreenDIGIT, while capacity building and SME engagement benefit from EuroCC2 and INPROCAP. RI-SCALE will actively contribute to shared communication, training, and dissemination activities across these initiatives. With respect to industry engagement, the project will collaborate with relevant networks such as EU Knowledge Valorisation Platform and BDVA.

4.2.15. Repositories and Open Access

All public deliverables, training content, presentations, and scientific outputs will be deposited in the RI-SCALE Community on Zenodo[6]. The platform allows persistent storage, open access, and usage tracking via analytics dashboards.

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[6] https://zenodo.org/communities/ri-scale/records?q=&l=list&p=1&s=10&sort=newest

DOIs will be included in all citations, and metadata will align with FAIR principles.

4.2.16. Publications

4.2.16.1. Project Publications

Project brochures, flyers, public deliverables, and onboarding toolkits will be published on the RI-SCALE website and Zenodo, and shared through partner and community channels.

4.2.16.2 Scientific Publications

Partners are encouraged to publish scientific outputs resulting from RI-SCALE use cases, methodologies, or technical components in open-access journals. All publications should include the following acknowledgment:

"This work was supported by the RI-SCALE project, funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement No. 101188168."

Publications will be added to the RI-SCALE Zenodo community and linked via the project website and GitHub documentation where appropriate.

4.2.17. Email Communications

RI-SCALE will use targeted email communication as an important tool for outreach and stakeholder engagement. While the project will not maintain a dedicated newsletter, it will:

- Use MailerLite for mailing list management and campaign distribution;

- Send event invitations, training announcements, and open call alerts;

- Share success stories and use case summaries through email briefings to RIs, user groups, and other stakeholders.

Whenever possible, RI-SCALE will segment its email communication to target specific audiences, improving relevance and engagement.

5. Industry Engagement

RI-SCALE is committed to the support of innovation, enhancing the exploitation and uptake of DEPs by entrepreneurial stakeholders. This section describes a comprehensive Industry Engagement Plan focused on establishing collaboration agreements with spin-off and Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of European universities and innovation ecosystems around the RI of the project.

5.1. Objective

The main objective is to establish structured collaborations with Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) and spin-off support offices at European universities to:

- Foster DEP adoption among early-stage tech ventures.

- Facilitate technology transfer of project outputs via academia-based startups.

- Support commercialisation pathways aligned with open science and FAIR principles.

- Engage the industry through the competence center activities.

5.2. Target Stakeholders

To ensure effective technology transfer and commercial exploitation of the RI-SCALE DEP, the project must engage strategically with actors who play a pivotal role in transforming academic research into market-ready innovations. RI ecosystems facilitate the collaboration of RI with (in most cases, regional-based) companies, while University-based spin-off offices and Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs)act as gateways to entrepreneurial ecosystems, providing access to startups, researchers, investors, and regional innovation networks.

Building relationships with these networks is essential to stimulate early adoption of DEP tools, foster co-development opportunities, and support long-term sustainability through real-world application in a scalable manner.

The industry stakeholder mapping is detailed in Annex 1.

5.3. Agreements to Establish

- Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) will be signed with selected TTOs and start-up incubators to promote DEP tools in their spin-off pipelines, facilitate the use of RI-SCALE platforms in validation/test environments and define joint exploitation opportunities if possible.

- Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) may be signed for early-stage collaboration on sensitive spin-off data or business plans.

- Pilot Collaboration Agreements, to define limited-term access to RI-SCALE infrastructure and AI tools for proof-of-concept or demonstration activities.

6. Capacity Building and Training Plan

6.1. Objectives and Strategic Approach, Competence Centre Definition

The primary objective of the capacity building and training plan is to empower RI professionals, researchers, and industry actors with the skills and expertise needed to effectively adopt and implement advanced AI technologies and scalable DEPs. This will strengthen the overall capability of the European research ecosystem and contribute to the long-term sustainability and exploitation of RI-SCALE results.

A central element of this strategy is the establishment of a dedicated Competence Centre, which will serve as a collaboration, engagement and knowledge hub. The Competence Centre supports co-design activities, facilitates training and consultancy, and promotes knowledge exchange among RIs, compute and data centers, e-infrastructures, SMEs, and academia. It will also act as a mechanism to ensure synergies between different use cases and provide a foundation for continuous innovation and co-development beyond the project lifetime.

6.2. Target Groups and Needs (based on Stakeholder Mapping)

The capacity building and training activities of RI-SCALE are tailored to the specific needs and priorities of well-defined stakeholder groups, as established in the project's stakeholder mapping. These groups represent the diversity of actors necessary for the effective adoption and exploitation of the DEPs and advanced AI tools developed within the project.

The following table provides an overview of planned training topics and formats designed to address the special needs of each target group.

Target Group	Training Topics	Formats
Core Research Communities & Users **(e.g., ENES, Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, EISCAT)**	• DEP functionalities and advanced data analysis • AI model integration and deployment • Workflow co-design and feedback methodologies	• Hands-on workshops and co-design sessions • On-demand self-paced learning resources • Webinars and hackathons

Broader Research Communities (biomedical, health, environmental researchers)	- Introduction to DEP and AI capabilities - Data Management, FAIRification and interoperability - Advanced analytics for domain-specific use cases	- Introductory webinars and online tutorials - On-demand self-paced learning resources - Hackathons and community challenges
Early Career Researchers & Students	- Foundational and advanced AI methods - Data science workflows in RI contexts - Innovation and entrepreneurship in data-driven science - Data management and FAIRification	- Mentoring and peer-learning groups - Mobility and exchange opportunities - On-demand self-paced learning resources
Researchers from Widening and Underserved Regions	- DEP adoption and basic AI concepts - Capacity building for local data infrastructure use - Participation in EU-level RI networks	- Regional webinars and events - Local workshops and train-the-trainer sessions - Tailored onboarding guides
RI Technical Staff & Data Managers	- DEP technical integration and data pipeline design - AI service maintenance and sustainability - Data governance and security best practices	- Competence Centre workshops - Technical documentation and API walkthroughs - Small-group consultancy and helpdesk support
RI Governance Bodies & Decision Makers	- Strategic value of DEP and AI adoption - Sustainability and funding models - Policy alignment and impact metrics	- Executive briefings and policy workshops - High-level webinars and roundtable discussions - Decision-maker toolkits and success stories - Presentations at relevant Governance Board meetings

Technology Providers & Compute Centres	• DEP architecture and integration • Federated deployment models • Performance and scalability tuning	• Technical co-development workshops • Pilot testing and internal demos • Joint architecture design sessions
Industry & Innovation Actors (SMEs, DIHs, large industry)	• DEP-enabled service opportunities • Data-driven innovation and business model development • AI application validation and scaling	• Co-creation workshops • Targeted webinars and use case showcases • Demo sessions and hackathons
Strategic Initiatives & Networks	• Interoperability standards and data sharing • Joint exploitation and cross-project synergies • AI tool reuse and co-development pathways	• Joint training events and hackathons • Cross-project workshops • Online community sessions and exchange forums

6.3. Training Formats

The RI-SCALE training and capacity building activities are designed to be flexible and accessible, accommodating the diverse needs and constraints of the identified stakeholder groups.

The main formats planned include:

- **Workshops and co-design sessions**: In-person or virtual workshops will be integrated with use case development and pilot activities, and may be co-located with RI-SCALE annual meetings. These sessions will allow participants to gain practical experience with DEP functionalities and AI tools, foster co-creation, and provide feedback on real data workflows.

- **Webinars and online presentations**: As a core component of the training offer, webinars will cover both introductory and advanced topics, addressing different user types, user levels and needs.

- **On-demand self-paced learning materials**: Presentations, online training materials and webinar recordings will be collected and made available on YouTube and Zenodo as downloadable or viewable resources. These materials will serve as valuable references for participants and support self-paced learning beyond the live training sessions.

- **Mentoring and consultancy sessions**: Targeted, small-group or one-on-one support will be provided to technical staff, data managers, and early adopters who require more hands-on guidance on specific integration or adoption challenges.

- **Mobility and exchange opportunities**: Where possible, staff exchanges and visits to other research infrastructures or competence centres will be encouraged to promote peer learning, strengthen cross-infrastructure collaboration, and support practical skills development. While such activities are strongly supported in principle, no direct financial support is available from the project budget, and participation will depend on the availability of external or institutional funding.

6.4. Training Calendar

A provisional training calendar will be established and regularly updated to align with the work package timelines, stakeholder needs, and project milestones. The training activities are structured in a phased approach to ensure effective knowledge transfer, progressive engagement, and practical uptake:

- **First phase – knowledge transfer**: This initial phase aligns with the RI-SCALE early development working packages (WP2-4) focused on framework design and foundational tool development. It includes requirements gathering, architecture design, and the creation of early prototypes of the Data Exploration Platform (DEP) and AI components. Training activities during this phase will focus on introducing RI-SCALE concepts, DEP functionalities, and AI tools to key technical stakeholders and early adopters. Planned activities include foundational webinars, introductory presentations, and initial mentoring sessions aimed at building baseline awareness and understanding.

- **Second phase – Competence Center co-design workshops and supports**: This phase supports co-design and pilot activities as the DEP prototype and AI components are implemented and initially validated. Building on the initial knowledge transfer, it will focus on practical engagement through co-design workshops and pilot implementation support. Participants will work directly on use cases, provide feedback, and actively contribute to improving tools and workflows.

- **Final phase – end user training and external events**: In the later stages of the project, aligned with the final deployment and scale-up, training efforts will focus on broader end-user communities and external stakeholders. Activities will include targeted webinars, hands-on sessions at external events, and promotion through strategic networks to support widespread adoption and long-term sustainability.

The following table provides an overview of the training activities planned for each phase.

Category	Phase 1: Knowledge Transfer	Phase 2: Co-design & Pilot Support	Phase 3: End-user & External Training
Timeframe	M1–M12	M13–M30	M31–M42/48
Key Objectives	● Build foundational awareness - Introduce DEP and AI concepts	● Enable hands-on engagement - Support pilot implementation - Collect feedback	● Empower end users - Promote adoption - Showcase results
Target Groups	● Technical staff - Early adopters - Core RI teams	● Pilot teams - Technical staff - Early adopters	● End users - Broader research communities - Industry & stakeholders
Planned Activities	● Introductory webinars - Presentations - Initial mentoring	● Co-design workshops - Pilot-focused sessions - Feedback roundtables	● Targeted webinars - External hands-on events - Final showcases
Expected Outputs	● Webinar recordings - Intro slides - FAQs	● Workshop reports - Feedback summaries - Updated guides	● Event recordings - User manuals - Success stories
Responsible Partners	● WP6 lead, technical WPs, RI partners	● WP6 lead, use case leaders, pilot RIs	● WP6 lead, dissemination team, external engagement WP

Planned activities include:

- At least 7 Competence Centre workshops (KPI#14).

- At least 10 webinars and training events (KPI#15).

- Participation in 20 external events through presentations and demos (KPI#16).

- Overall target of engaging 1,000 attendees at RI-SCALE events, with at least 300 researchers upskilled (KPIs #17 and #19).

Details on dates, formats, and topics will be published on the project website and promoted via partner communication channels

6.5. Synergies with Other RIs and Projects

RI-SCALE will leverage synergies with complementary projects and infrastructures such as EOSC, ESFRI RIs, Data Spaces, AI4Life, BioMedAI, CoE RAISE, and others. These collaborations will:

- Extend the reach of training activities to external RIs and scientific communities.

- Promote interoperability and shared standards.

- Ensure alignment with ongoing European and international initiatives in AI and data infrastructures.

- Enable shared resources, mutual learning, and coordinated development efforts.

6.6. Campaign Integration for Training Promotion

Training activities will be closely integrated into the overall communication and dissemination campaigns to maximise visibility and participation. This includes:

- Promotion through the project website, newsletters, and social media channels.

- Dedicated campaigns highlighting success stories and user testimonials.

- Coordination with partners to align training promotion with their communication activities and strategic events.

This integrated approach will strengthen stakeholder engagement and contribute to the sustainable impact of RI-SCALE's capacity-building efforts.

7. Success Indicators and Evaluation

The effectiveness of the communication and dissemination strategy will be systematically monitored and evaluated through a combination of quantitative and qualitative indicators, ensuring that efforts are aligned with project objectives and deliver a measurable impact.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- Website Analytics:
    - Number of unique visitors and page views to the RI-SCALE website.
    - Bounce rate and average session duration to indicate engagement with content.
    - Download statistics for training materials and other resources.
- Social Media Engagement:
    - Growth in followers on primary platforms (LinkedIn, Bluesky).
    - Number of impressions, likes, shares, and comments on posts.
    - Performance monitoring will be conducted using analytics tools for all channels.
- Event Participation and Outreach:
    - Number of external events where RI-SCALE is presented through presentations, demos, or booths (KPI#16: target of 20 external events).
    - Number of attendees at RI-SCALE-hosted events (workshops, webinars, hackathons, co-design sessions) (KPI#17: overall target of 1,000 attendees at RI-SCALE events).
    - Qualitative feedback from event participants on the clarity and usefulness of RI-SCALE information.
- Publications and Open Access:
    - Number of project brochures, flyers, public deliverables, and onboarding toolkits published on the RI-SCALE website and Zenodo.
    - Number of scientific publications acknowledging RI-SCALE funding and deposited in the Zenodo community.
    - Usage tracking of materials via Zenodo analytics dashboards.
    - Number of Deliverable views on Zenodo.
- Media and Press Coverage:
    - Number of press releases issued coinciding with major milestones, particularly DEP releases.
- Industry engagement:

- ○ Number of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) signed with TTO or spin-off programs at universities (10).

- ○ Number of industry partners, especially spin-offs, engaged in pilots and co-design workshops (8).

- ○ Attendance and participation rates of industry stakeholders at RI-SCALE events.

- ○ Feedback from industry participants on DEP services and training quality.

- ○ Number of industry-focused publications, case studies, and success stories.

- ○ Validation of DEP tools by industrial users beyond the consortium (5).

- Email Communication (where applicable):

  - ○ Open rates and click-through rates for event invitations, training announcements, and open call alerts.

The effectiveness and impact of capacity building and training activities will be systematically monitored and evaluated using defined indicators, including:

- Number of workshops, webinars, and training sessions held (KPIs #14 and #15).

- Number of participants and qualitative feedback (KPI #17).

- Number of RIs and researchers upskilled (KPIs #18 and #19).

- Uptake of DEP and AI tools among trained stakeholders.

- Continuous collection of participant feedback to refine training content and formats.

Evaluation Methods:

- Regular Monitoring and Reporting: WP6 will regularly update the project news section on the website and maintain a shared table on the Confluence platform to track dissemination activities and event participation.

- Analytics Tools: Utilise built-in analytics for the website and social media platforms to gather quantitative data on reach and engagement.

- Feedback Mechanisms: Collect qualitative feedback through surveys at events, during training sessions, and via direct interactions with stakeholders.

- Content Review: Quarterly content reviews will be conducted to optimise communication efforts and adapt the platform mix based on insights from monitoring and evaluation.

- Coordination with Partners: Leverage partner reports and analytics from external hosts (e.g., EGI newsletter) for broader dissemination efforts.

- For the training and capacity building activities, the evaluation methods include participant surveys, usage analytics of training materials, and impact assessment in collaboration with

WP leads. A periodic review process will ensure adaptive improvements throughout the project lifecycle.

Periodic Review and Adjustment: The CDEC strategy is dynamic and responsive, with a periodic review process ensuring adaptive improvements throughout the project lifecycle.

8. Innovation and Exploitation Management

The Innovation and Exploitation Management approach of the RI-Scale project derives itself

from the approach first developed in the EGI-ACE[7] project and improved upon and applied in iMagine[8], interTwin[9], ENVRI-Hub NEXT[10], EOSC Beyond[11], Aneris[12] and others. The core of this approach is rooted in the Technology Management Process[13] and ISO 56002:2019 Innovation management[14]. However, both these methodologies are geared towards organisations. So the elements from these approaches are modified to suit the requirements of a Horizon Europe project.

In general, Innovation and Exploitation management in a Horizon Europe project should cover processes and procedures to manage and plan IP, project results, exploitation and sustainability of KERs and capturing the project impact. Thereby, the Innovation Management and Exploitation System (IMES) will carry out the following process:

1. **Process 1 - Intellectual Asset Inventory Management** (**IAIM**): This process records and manages IP that existed before the project started (relevant to the execution and exploitation of the project and called Background IP) as well as IP generated during the project (which includes Sideground, Third-Party and Foreground IP).

2. **Process 2 - Results Management** (**RM**): This process records and manages the results generated during the project duration, with priority being given to the KER-related results.

3. **Process 3 - KERs Management** (**KERM**): This process records and manages all the information related to Key Exploitable Results, results which have a high potential for exploitation.

4. **Process 4 - Exploitation Management** (**EM**): This process defines exploitation opportunities that can be pursued during or after the project to increase its impact. Exploitation activities can include commercial exploitation, developing, creating, manufacturing and marketing products and processes, providing services, or standardising.

5. **Process 5 - KERs Sustainability Management** (**KERSM**): This process supports the development of sustainability plans for the project KERs.

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[7] https://www.egi.eu/project/egi-ace/
[8] https://www.imagine-ai.eu/
[9] https://www.intertwin.eu/
[10] https://envri.eu/envri-hub-next/
[11] https://www.eosc-beyond.eu/
[12] https://aneris.eu/
[13] Gregory, M.J. (1995), "Technology management: a process approach", Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Vol. 209, pp. 347-56.
[14] https://www.iso.org/standard/68221.html

6. **Process 6 - Impact Management** (**IM**): This process records information that will be used to assess the impact of the project.
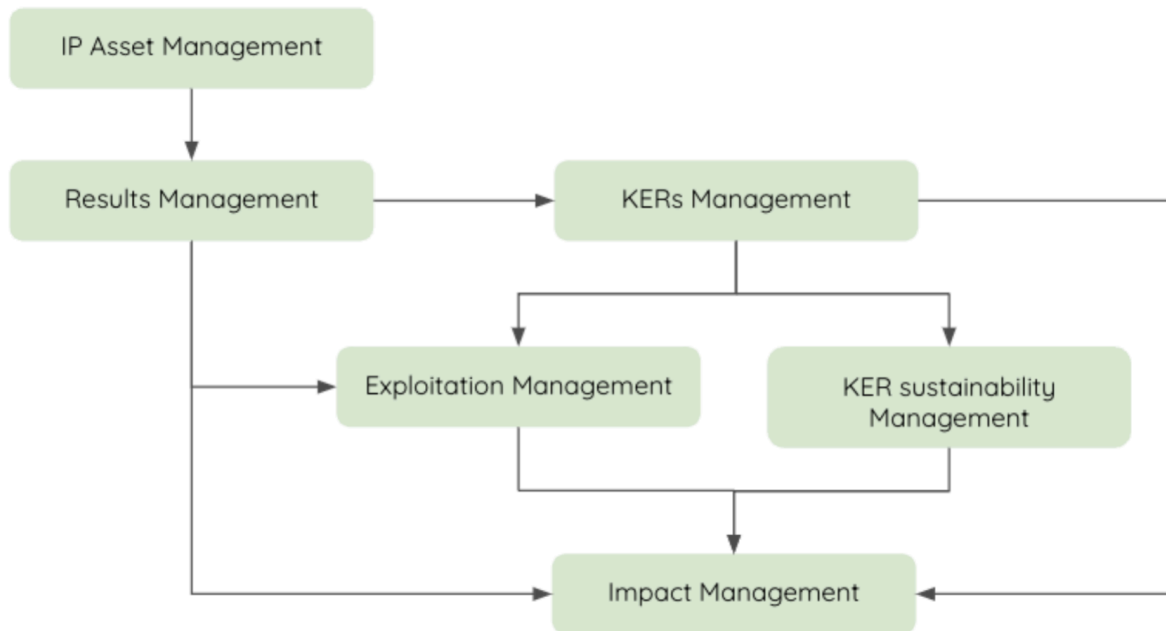
Figure 2: Innovation Management Processes and their Relationship to each other

8.1. Intellectual Asset Inventory Management (IAIM)

Description
This process records and manages Intellectual Property (IP) that existed before the project started (relevant to the execution and exploitation of the project and called Background IP) as well as IP generated during the project (which includes Sideground, Third-Party and Foreground IP).
Definitions
1. Background IP is knowledge/IP that is relevant to a collaborative project that is supplied by the partners at the start of the project. Background IP is generally identified as part of the Consortium Agreement writing phase before the project starts. 2. Sideground IP is knowledge/IP that is relevant to a collaborative project but produced outside the project by any of the partners during the project's tenure. Sideground IP is captured during the project execution phase with the collaboration of the partners. 3. Third-party IP is knowledge/IP that is relevant to a collaborative project but is supplied by third parties that are not part of the project consortium. Third-party IP is captured during the project execution phase with the collaboration of the partners. 4. Foreground IP is all the knowledge/IP produced within the collaborative project during the project's tenure.
Goals

- Identify and record Background IP, Third-party IP, Sideground IP, and Foreground IP.
- Make sure enough rights are in place for Background IP, Third-party IP, and Sideground IP.
- Utilise appropriate methods to protect the Foreground IP and contribute to the resolution of any IP conflicts that may arise.
- Develop any IP agreements related to the generated IP (e.g. joint ownership, licensing, etc.).

Inputs

- Work programme, Grant Agreement, DoA, Consortium Agreement.
- Deliverables, Milestones, Periodic Reports and WP reports.
- Discussions with WP leaders, task leaders, consortium members, and different project boards.
- Project results and Key Exploitable Results (KERs).

Outputs

- Templates and usage instructions for recording Background IP, Third-party IP, Sideground IP, and Foreground IP.
- List of project Background IP, Third-party IP, Sideground IP, and Foreground IP.
- Joint ownership and licensing agreements.

Templates

Intellectual Assets will be documented using the template presented in ANNEX 4 Intellectual Property Templates

8.2. Licensing of Foreground

With respect to the Foreground and choosing the appropriate license, the project will follow the Horizon Europe guidelines of "As open as possible, as closed as necessary". The project will strongly recommend open licensing. However, since the ownership of results within Horizon Europe lies with the organisation producing them, the decision to choose the license will be left to the respective organisations. To ensure that closed (or even open) licensing of a result does not hinder the exploitation of other results of the project, a collaboration or joint ownership agreement, if required, will be signed in accordance with the Consortium Agreement of the project.

8.3. Results Management (RM)

Description

This process records and manages all the results generated during the project duration, with a priority being given to the KER-related results.

Definitions

The results of a project may include tangible or intangible effects of the project, such as data, know-how, algorithms, prototypes, new products or services, roadmaps, policy recommendations, lessons learned, reports, publications, and other information, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to them, including intellectual property rights.

Goals

- Ensure that innovation developed or enhanced by the project is well-documented.
- Provide a strong source of information for all other Innovation Management processes.
- Identify, record, and manage project results in a template compatible with the Horizon Europe Results ownership list.

Inputs

- Grant Agreement, DoA, Consortium Agreement.
- Deliverables, Milestones, Periodic Reports and WP reports.
- Discussions with WP leaders, task leaders, consortium members, and different project boards.

Outputs

- Template to identify, record, and manage project results.
- List of project results.

Templates

Project Results will be documented using the template presented in ANNEX 5: Project Result Templates. The templates are on part based on the Result Ownership List as part of the Project Continuous Report.

8.4. KERs Management (KERM)

Description

This process records and manages all the information related to Key Exploitable Results (KERs), results which have a high potential for exploitation.

Definitions

A Key Exploitable Result (KER) is a project result or a group of similar project results with particularly high exploitation potential, i.e. use and benefits from something often for commercial purposes, public policymaking, or further research.

KER Ambassadors are individuals from the project who have the following roles:

1. They will act as an Ambassador for the KER - a primary spokesperson within the project, helping to encourage uptake, exploitation and dissemination of the KER.
2. They will provide the relevant data for the Horizon Result Platform template for their respective KERs.
3. They will support the development and exploitation plan, pointing to the relevant contact persons for the KER's technical, IP and other exploitation plan aspects.
4. They will take the lead in providing inputs on dissemination messaging.
5. They will also help bridge the gap between technical outputs and their practical implications by promoting uptake.

Goals

- Designate KERs ambassadors and lay out guidelines for collaboration.
- Identify, record, and manage KERs together with KERs ambassadors.

Inputs

- Grant Agreement, DoA, Consortium Agreement.
- Deliverables, Milestones, Periodic Reports and WP reports.
- Discussions with WP leaders, task leaders, consortium members, and different project boards.
- Project results.
- Intellectual Asset Inventory.

Outputs

- List of KER and KER Ambassadors
- Template to identify, record, and manage KERs

Templates

KERs will be documented using the template presented in Annex 6: KER Template. This template is based on the submission form of Horizon Results Platform[15].

The initial list of KERs as identified during the proposal phase is presented in Section 1.2. Key Exploitable Results (KERs). This list may be amended during the project implementation phase to better reflect the project outputs and achievements.

8.5. Exploitation Management (EM)

Description

This process develops and records the overall exploitation strategy of the project's KERs.

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[15] https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/horizon-results-platform

Definitions
Exploitation is the use of results in further research activities other than those covered by the action concerned, or in developing, creating and marketing a product or process, or in creating and providing a service, or in standardisation activities.

Goals
• Develop an overall exploitation strategy for the project. • Identify the value proposition or the Unique Selling Propositions (USPs) of the results. • Develop a format for the Letter of Intent that describes the fair intention of the partners to exploit results of the RI-Scale once the project has ended.

Inputs
• Project results. • KERs. • Discussions and Workshops with KERs ambassadors and project members.

Outputs
• Exploitation Strategy • Value Propositions for the project results • Signed Letter of Intent

Templates
To be developed in the second part of the project.

8.6. Exploitation Strategy

During the project proposal phase, an early exploitation strategy for the KERs was developed, which is listed below.

KER	Exploitation Strategy
KER#1	1. Adoption by RIs, large or small. 2. Components available as open source through GitHub. 3. Documentation is openly available through the project website and Zenodo. 4. Add visibility using the Horizon Results Platform (HRP). 5. Possibly onboarded as a new service in the EGI catalogue.
KER#2	1. Adoption by RIs, large or small. 2. Components available as open source through GitHub.

	3. Publish research findings in academic journals. 4. Documentation is openly available through the project website and Zenodo. 5. Add visibility using HRP.
KER#3	1. Adoption and maintenance by the involved RIs. 2. Publish research findings in academic journals. 3. Add visibility using HRP.
KER#4	1. Develop and maintain the community of startups, spin-offs and universities. 2. Documentation is openly available through the project website and Zenodo. 3. Add visibility using HRP.
KER#5	1. Public webinars and training with registration. 2. Recorded webinars and training on YouTube, the project website and also HRP.

8.7. KERs Sustainability Management (KERSM)

Description
This process identifies sustainability opportunities that can be pursued during or after the project to increase its impact.
Goals
• Develop coherent sustainability plans for the project results.
Inputs
• Work programme, Grant Agreement, DoA, Consortium Agreement.   • Deliverables, Milestones, Periodic Reports and WP reports.   • Key Exploitable Results (KERs).   • Discussions and Workshops with project partners.
Outputs
• Sustainability Plan

8.8. Impact Management (IM)

Description
This process records information that will be used to assess the impact of the project in accordance with Horizon Europe recommendations. Impact is considered from three complementary perspectives: scientific, societal and economic.

Definitions
Key Impact Pathways (KIPs) are a framework for understanding and communicating the expected impact of research and innovation (R&I) projects on society. They represent the logical progression from research inputs to societal outcomes, and ultimately, to the wider impacts that contribute to addressing global challenges and achieving policy objectives.

Goals
- Develop a methodology to document the impact of the project based on the Key Impact Pathways as defined in the Evidence Framework on monitoring and evaluation of Horizon Europe[16] and based on the Expected Impacts and Expected Outcomes as mentioned in the call.   - Develop an impact report.

Inputs
- Work programme, Grant Agreement, DoA, Consortium Agreement.   - Deliverables, Milestones, Periodic Reports and WP reports.   - Key Exploitable Results (KERs).   - Discussions and Workshops with project partners.

Outputs
Impact Report

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[16] https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-05/swd-2023-132-monitoring-evaluation-he.pdf

9. Work Plan and Responsibilities

9.1. Purpose of the Work Plan

This section provides an operational roadmap for the implementation of WP6: *Maximising the Impact*. It outlines the allocation of responsibilities across project partners, details the tasks, deliverables, and milestones, and sets the foundation for tracking progress. The plan is designed to ensure coordinated execution of CDEC activities across the project lifecycle.

9.2. Roles and Responsibilities by Task

Task	Task Title	Lead Partner	Contributing Partners	Planned Contributions by Partners (to be filled in)
6.1	Project Communication and Dissemination Strategy	EGI	AS	• EGI: Task Leadership, communications channels management, communications and dissemination campaigns, Development of communications tools, Branding, etc. • AS: coordination with the task leader and contribution to the development of communication materials, promotional content and dissemination activities, and implementation of communication campaigns.
6.2	Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement	EGI	Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI-ERIC, UNITN	• EGI: Task leadership, Stakeholder management, engagement activities, including organisation and contribution to events, synergies with relevant projects and networks • Euro-BioImaging: Stakeholder mapping; organisation of engagement activities with a focus on the Imaging, Life Science and Health Science communities, including contributions at key conferences and events such as ELMI and the Euro-BioImaging All-Hands-Nodes Meeting; facilitation of alignment and collaborations with European and global initiatives such as the EOSC LSR Node, Global BioImaging and

				other relevant projects, including AI4Life, founding GIDE and ERIC Forum • BBMRI-ERIC: Set up or contribute to outreach events and workshops to promote and facilitate online sessions, such as at the Europe Biobank Week Congress. • UNITN: facilitate workshops with companies at a regional level to disseminate the results of the project and identify companies willing to be involved in follow-up activities such as: co-designing new services/features, validating the DEP capabilities, and accessing service infrastructure. Although the workshops will be organised at a regional level, the aim is to derive general guidelines and best practices from these events to help shape a strategy for future industry-oriented engagement.
6.3	Industry Engagement and Community Building	EGI	EMBL, JNP	• EGI: Task Leadership, Community set up and engagement, spin-off agreements with universities • EMBL: Regular engagement with the Euro-BioImaging Industry Board, including one in-person event on exploiting cloud resources for Bioimaging. • JNP: Contribute to the coordination and distribution of stakeholder questionnaires through the Competence Centre, support stakeholder mapping and feedback collection prior to and after the first DEP release.
6.4	Capacity Building via Competence Centre	EGI	Juelich, CERN, GRNET, TUWIEN, TUBITAK, KTH, CMCC, BBMRI-ERIC, EMBL	• EGI: Task Leadership, organisation of the competence center workshops and other training activities • Juelich, CERN, GRNET, TUWIEN, TUBITAK, KTH, CMCC, BBMRI-ERIC, EMBL: Contribute to the planning and organisation of CC workshops and other training activities, deliver training/webinars according to their project activities

				• BBMRI-ERIC: Co-organise an RI-SCALE Hackathon
6.5	Exploitation Management and Sustainability Planning	EGI	BBMRI-ERIC, Euro-BioImaging, EISCAT, UNITN	• EGI: Task leadership, Innovation management, collaboration with KER Champions, Sustainability planning • BBMRI-ERIC: Contribute to the sustainability planning and innovation management • Euro-BioImaging: Contribute to the sustainability planning and innovation management • EISCAT: Contribute to the sustainability planning and innovation management • UNITN: Contribute to the sustainability planning and innovation management

9.3. Deliverables Timeline

Deliverable No.	Title	Lead	Due (Month)	Notes
D6.1	CDEC Strategy Plan	EGI	M6	Completed and updated periodically
D6.2–D6.3–D6.6	Policy Briefs (3 editions)	EGI	M12, M24, M34	To inform EU policy stakeholders
D6.4	Stakeholder & Competence Centre Summary	EGI	M34	Includes lessons learned and insights
D6.5	DEP Adoption Plan	EGI	M36	Synthesises consultation and adoption insights

9.4. Milestone Timeline

Milestone No.	Title	Due (Month)	Lead	Verification
M6.1–M6.5	5 Competence Centre Workshops	M2, M11, M17, M23, M29	EGI	Participant lists & reports

M6.6	Communication Package & Website	M4	EGI	Kit delivered & website launched
M6.7–M6.8	2 DEP Uptake Workshops (ESFRIs)	M15, M26	EGI	Attendance records & summaries
M6.9	Final DEP Adoption Workshop	M34	EGI	Evaluation & next steps captured

9.5. Next Steps (M6–M12)

Below are the immediate priorities for the next 6 months. Project partners are requested to align their internal planning accordingly:

Communication (**Task 6.1**)

- Finalise project pitch deck and visual templates
- Launch full project website (phase 2 updates)
- Develop a short intro video and infographics for DEP
- Organise participation in external events
- Promote the first project activities

Stakeholder Engagement (**Task 6.2**)

- Finalise the Stakeholder Database, including the internal contacts
- Schedule the 1st round of thematic engagement meetings focusing on different target groups (RIs, compute centres, SMEs)

Industry & Community (**Task 6.3**)

- Create the first spin-off agreements
- Launch co-design interest call for SMEs/spin-offs

Competence Centre (**Task 6.4**)

- Deliver the second Competence Centre Workshop
- Develop a training calendar
- Organise the first four online webinars

Exploitation Planning (**Task 6.5**)

- Review the draft list of KERs and exploitation approaches
- Appoint KER Ambassadors with the support of the ASB

- Organise first meetings with KER Ambassadors

- Organise meetings with use cases to develop a list of potential Foreground IP

Annex 1: Detailed Stakeholder Mapping

Research Communities/End-Users

Stakeholder Group	Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
User communities of ENES, Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, EISCAT	Core users involved in pilots, testing, feedback, and validation	ENES, Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, EISCAT AB	Co-design and validation of tools and services; pilot feedback; showcase outcomes	Competence Center activities (WSs, webinars, hackathons); feedback forms; surveys	RI newsletters, RI websites, webinars, project events, RI events, external events, RI SoMe Platforms	High
Broader Research Community (Biomedical / Health / Environmental researchers)	Potential adopters of tools and services; expands impact beyond core RIs	All partners via outreach	Awareness raising, training, and community building	Webinars, online demos, guides, hackathons	Project website, Amplifiers (EOSC channels, RI communications network), scientific conferences, SoMe	Medium
Early Career Researchers and Students	Long-term sustainability; open to innovation; training needs	CC Task lead, involved RIs' training units	Skills development, community engagement, fostering innovation culture	E-learning modules? Webinars, online demos, guides, hackathons	University networks, SoMe, academic networks	Medium

Users from Widening and Underserved Regions	Horizon Europe priority; improves adoption equity	CC Task lead, regional partners	Capacity building, Awareness raising	Webinars, Events	Regional networks, COST actions, policy newsletters, and Contribution to events	Low
Technical and e-infrastructure partners	Infrastructure providers for DEP Deployment, configuration and operation	EGI, SLICES, WP6	Technical co-design and system integration; support in scaling and sustainability	Deployment documentation, joint architecture reviews, operator training	Internal channels, competence centers	High
AI Technology providers and SMEs developing models	Co-develop and validate AI models for DEP integration	Tech providers, T6.3	Model development and training using RI data	Technical co-design sessions, Competence Centre, Community-building activities, Hackathons	Project website, Git repositories	Medium

Research Infrastructures (RIs)

Stakeholder Group	Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
Contributing RIs (Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI-ERIC, EISCAT, ENES)	Direct contributors to use cases, pilots, and data integration; central to DEP development	ENES, Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, EISCAT AB	Close collaboration through project work packages, Competence Centers, and pilot implementation	Workshops, demos, internal meetings, training, and success story documentation	Project-internal comms, RI newsletters, DEP showcases, partner comms channels	High
RI Data Managers and Technical Staff	Key actors for DEP integration and long-term sustainability; interface between tools and RI data/services	Same contacts above, plus the technical staff of participating RIs	Hands-on engagement & capacity building through CC, tool testing	Competence Center, helpdesks, documentation, API walkthroughs	CC workshops, outreach through participating RIs, project meetings, and RI events	High
Other ESFRI RIs	High potential for scaling results, shared challenges in data/AI/DEP integration	ERIC Forum, ESFRI SWG on Data, ENVRI Community, WP6	Engagement via pan-RI networks, peer exchange, and RI-wide dissemination	Co-dissemination via ERIC Forum, policy briefs, targeted sessions at ICRI, and EOSC Symposium	ERIC Forum website/newsletter, RI comms manager network, EOSC channels, events	High

Emerging RIs (including from Widening countries)	Opportunity for early adoption, capacity building, long-term sustainability; align with HE priorities	RI-SCALE regional or WP6 (Capacity Building) partners	Training and mentoring on AI/data tools, onboarding to DEPs, and regional peer-learning activities	Webinars, knowledge-sharing platforms, and onboarding guides	Regional RI networks (e.e, ASEAN), COST Actions, newsletters, dedicated webinars	Medium
RI Governance Bodies and Strategic Decision-makers	Influence strategic direction and uptake; necessary for sustainability planning	RI HQ/GAs, ESFRI Forum, RI Boards via partner contacts	High-level engagement: policy briefs, advocacy for funding and uptake, success stories	Executive summaries, success indicators, and decision-maker briefings	Executive summaries, stakeholder events	High
RI Communication Officers and Outreach Staff	Amplify visibility of results; crucial for wider uptake and impact	Network of RI Communications Managers, EGI Foundation	Co-design of outreach materials, coordination of joint campaigns, and use of trusted RI channels	Comms templates, success stories, infographics, event toolkits	RI newsletters, SoMe platforms, ERIC Forum media	High

Compute/Data Centres

Provider	Relevance / Opportunity to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
National Compute Centres	Provide key infrastructure for scalable deployment of Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs). Enable integration with national and institutional e-infrastructures. Contribute to use cases and the sustainability of AI workflows.	EGI Federation members (e.g., EGI.eu, EuroHPC partners, national centers such as CSC, DKRZ, etc.)	Engage as infrastructure providers in pilot deployments. Invite through open calls and targeted communication. Include in technical training, onboarding, and capacity building activities.	Onboarding documentation, DEP integration guides, tech workshops, open calls, helpdesk support, demos	EGI and RI-SCALE websites, national e-infra networks, EOSC channels, newsletters, events	High
Commercial Compute / Data Centres	Extend the reach of DEPs beyond public RIs; offer flexible, scalable compute/storage. May support sustainability through pay-per-use or partnership models.	T-Systems, Hypermeteo, and other industrial partners	Partnership-based engagement; explore co-development or hosting scenarios, including SLA-based models. Targeted consultations	Joint requirement workshops, tech matchmaking, business case briefs	Industry events, partner channels, Social Media, and project showcases	Medium

			and pilot participation.			
AI Factories / Exascale Facilities	Provide advanced AI/ML processing capacity for DEP pilots. Enable demonstration of AI at scale (e.g. EuroHPC machines).	EuroHPC JU partners, LUMI, Leonardo, etc.	Early engagement through WP4/DEP implementation. Align data formats and workflows for efficient offloading to HPC/AI environments.	Workshops, integration sprints, and AI-readiness assessments	HPC user group meetings, EGI/EuroHPC collaborations, DEP events	Medium

Technology Providers

Provider	Relevance / Opportunity to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
Contributing Technology Providers (Project Partners)	Internal alignment, development, and capacity building	WP leads / CC task leaders	Direct collaboration in project WPs; co-development of DEP components	Competence Centre workshops, technical meetings, documentation, internal demos	Internal project channels, WP meetings, and technical mailing lists	High
AI Framework Providers	Enable integration of AI model execution into DEP; ensure compatibility and	Tech task leads (WP3/WP4/WP5)	Monitor framework updates, test integration compatibility,			Medium

	performance across DEP deployments		and align with best practices in reproducible AI			
AI Model Repository Providers	Enable sharing and reuse of trained models; ensure discoverability and reproducibility	Tech task leads (WP3/WP4/WP5)	Define metadata, provenance, and interoperability guidelines for model publication and reuse within DEPs			Medium
Data Management System Providers	Provide storage and metadata layers for structured/unstructured data in DEPs; facilitate FAIR compliance	WP3/WP4 partners, ENVRI partners	Assess and adopt interoperable data management solutions, promote pilot use and community alignment			High
AI Framework Providers	Enable integration of AI model execution into DEP; ensure compatibility and performance across DEP deployments	Tech task leads (WP4/WP5); open source contributors	Monitor framework updates, test integration compatibility, and align with best practices in reproducible AI	Benchmarking suites, deployment templates, and AI environment containers	DEP documentation	High

| Commercial Cloud Providers | Explore federated DEP hosting models | T6.3 leads (e.g., T6.3 tech task leader) | Evaluate potential for integration, collaboration on secure, scalable deployments | Pilot deployments, case studies, and architecture blueprints | Cloud industry events | Medium |

Industry & Innovation Stakeholders

Company / Actor	Role / Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
ESA OSIP	Innovation Platform to collect emerging needs from the space sector for ESA.	ECMWF	Input on needs, promote DEP adoption among the space sector	Consultation rounds, software integration trials	Mailing list, targeted outreach, events	High
Euro-BioImaging Industry Board	Vendor and user group for imaging tools, microscope providers	Euro-Bioimaging ERIC	Input on integration needs, promote DEP adoption among suppliers	consultation rounds, software integration trials	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	High
Hypermeteo, Neuraspace, Fragmentix, Comprimato,	SMEs partners in RI-scale Exploitation and downstream data use.	Hypermeteo, Neuraspace, Fragmentix, Comprimato	Early adopter of DEP services; support visibility and scaling	CC activities, pilots	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	High

Company / Actor	Role / Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
University TTOs, spin-off offices and innovation departments	Support the Research - Industry collaboration and the creation and scale of research-based spin-offs and startups	EGI Foundation	Input on integration needs, promote DEP adoption among research-based startups MoU	consultation rounds, software integration trials	targeted outreach events	High
Other Spin-off incubators and accelerators related to research. (Amsterdam Scienpark, Whitecity Innovation District, etc)	Support the creation and scale of research-based spin-offs and startups	EGI Foundation	Input on integration needs, promote DEP adoption among research-based startups MoU	Consultation rounds, software integration trials	targeted outreach	High
AI-on-Demand Platform (AI4EU) and related projects (DeployAI and further projects)	Central EU platform for AI tools, users, and SMEs	AI4EU portal and community managers	Share DEP capabilities and call for participation in AI pilots	Marketplace listings, webinars, and events	Platform marketplace, newsletter	High

RI SCALE

Company / Actor	Role / Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
BDVA		BDVA SME Working Group	Invite SME members to test/use DEP and engage in co-design	SME pitch sessions, co-creation workshops	BDVA member mailing list, events	Medium
DIHs – Digital Innovation Hubs	Facilitate digital transformation for SMEs, linked to Horizon Europe.	DIH networks and supporting projects	Invite relevant DIHs to test and scale DEP services	Competence Centre, workshops	Targeted outreach, events	Medium
Amun AI	Uses RI data, DEP testbed for scaling AI/data tools	KTH	Involve in DEP validation and co-design, explore AI model testing	Competence Centre (CC), workshops	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	Medium
AlgoPath	Sectoral stakeholder, ENV pilot use case, user of DEP	Direct Contact	Pilot co-design, validation, feedback loop	Co-design workshops, feedback surveys, and test data access	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	Medium

Company / Actor	Role / Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
Confindustria Trentino / HIT	Innovation hub, connects local industry	UNITN	Promote opportunities and RI-SCALE call for collaboration	CC activities, locally organised Workshops	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	High
EV Automotive Manufacturers	Industrial reuse of climate/environmental data (e.g., for sensors, AI, energy)	TBD	Exploration of use cases, pilot validation	Briefings, co-creation sessions, and tailored outreach	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	Low
Jülich partners (e.g. NVIDIA, EVIDEN, PosTec, SiPEARL)	Vendors of infrastructure components, potential DEP enablers	FZ Jülich	Technical alignment, infrastructure deployment	Joint sessions, API specs, test deployments	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	Medium
Space Technologies and Applications cluster (si-Cluster)	Cluster of currently 100 space-focused entities (about half of them on EO) connecting the majority of space-related entities in Greece	JNP	Promote opportunities and RI-SCALE call for collaboration	Feedback surveys and tailored outreach	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	Medium

Company / Actor	Role / Relevance to RI-SCALE	Contact / Partner	Engagement Strategy	Engagement Tools	Communication Channels	Priority
Gaming and Creative Technologies & Applications cluster (gi-Cluster)	Cluster of currently 60 entities related to Digital Creative Industries in Greece, with a focus on gamification software and tools.	JNP	Promote opportunities and RI-SCALE call for collaboration	Feedback surveys and tailored outreach	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	Low
European Space Agency Business Incubation Centre (ESA BIC) Greece	Support the creation and scaleup of space startups in Greece. Currently 25 space-focused startups (about half of them on EO)	JNP	Promote opportunities and RI-SCALE call for collaboration	Feedback surveys and tailored outreach	Industry mailing list, targeted outreach, events	High

Strategic Initiatives & Networks

Group / Initiative	Purpose	Partners	Engagement Strategy	Communication Channels	Priority
AAI & Federation (AARC-TREE, EOSC, Gaia-X, SIMPL)	AAI compliance, federated access, trust, cloud-to-edge federation	EGI, GRNET, CERN, INFN, UKRI, T-Systems, SURF, MU	Align AAI architecture, join WGs, and adopt middleware	EOSC newsletters, events, and mailing lists	High
AI Ecosystem (AI4Life, AI-on-Demand, CoE RAISE, BioMedAI)	Reuse AI models, promote DEP, AI training & scaling	EMBL, KTH, Euro-BioImaging, EGI, Juelich, MU, MUG, TUBITAK, CMCC, UPV, UNITN	Connect use cases, joint training, and model sharing	AIoD platform, hackathons, project GitHub, training portals	High

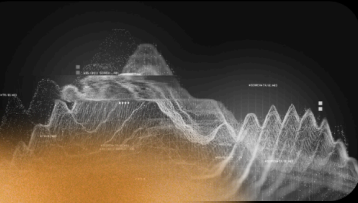| Group / Initiative	Purpose	Partners	Engagement Strategy	Communication Channels	Priority
Data Spaces & Standards (DSSC, GREAT, EUCAIM, foundingGIDE, RDA)	Interoperability, FAIR data, annotation & exchange standards	EGI, MUG, BBMRI, T-Systems, EMBL, Euro-BioImaging, TUW, SURF, AS	Joint standards events, policy briefs, showcase interoperability	RDA WGs, Data Spaces events, EUCAIM forum, Privacy Symposium conference	High
Digital Twins & EuroHPC (Destination Earth, interTwin, DaFab)	Validate large-scale DTs, compute on EuroHPC, and promote DEP engine	ECMWF, CERN, INFN, CMCC, EGI, Juelich, UNITN, UPV	Technical validation, joint demos, and reuse tools	DestinE webinars, EuroHPC sessions, Tech workshops	High
RI Alignment & Outreach (ESFRI, EOSC-Beyond, EuroCC2, global RI networks such as Global BioImaging and the Earth System Grid Federation)	Disseminate to RIs, competence alignment	Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, CERN, EGI, TUW, EISCAT, SLICES, UNITN	Targeted RI dissemination, training alignment	ERIC Forum, ESFRI roadmap updates, and EOSC comms	High
Health, Ethics & Sensitive Data (EuCanImage, EVOLVE, INPROCAP)	Enable ethical AI, secure data access, and connect SMEs	BBMRI, MUG, EISCAT	Showcase secure AI, GDPR compliance, and SME outreach	Health data webinars	Medium
Sustainability & Green Tech (GreenDIGIT, ExaDigit)	Eco-friendly digital RI ops	EGI, UNITN	Co-promote green metrics, evaluate environmental impact	GreenTech webinars, metrics dashboard	Medium
Imaging & Visualisation (EuCanmage, iMagine, VisA/SDL, AI4Life, foundingGIDE)	Image-based AI, EO pipelines, domain standards	Euro-BioImaging, BBMRI, LTU, TUBITAK, CMCC	Share AI methods, EO visualisation use cases	Imaging newsletters, EO events, and visual blogs	Medium

Policy Makers, Funders & Society Actions

Group	Interest	Engagement Strategy	Communication Channels	Engagement Tools	Priority
Policy Makers	Tech implications, societal use cases	Policy briefs, position papers, executive summaries	Policy roundtables, EU Digital Policy Forums, EU Green Deal WG	Policy brief templates, impact snapshots	High
Funders	Return on investment, project impact	Showcase success stories, KPIs, and alignment with EU priorities	Reports to funders, Horizon Results Platform, project dashboards	Impact dashboards, KPIs toolkit, and ROI storytelling slides	High
Media / Public	Societal relevance, benefits of AI & science	Storytelling, press, public webinars, visibility at targeted conferences	Project blog, press releases, media briefings, R&I Days	Website, social media	Medium
Citizen Scientists	Public engagement and societal impact; transparency; some use cases (e.g., environment, health) may be relevant	As relevant – e.g., BBMRI (public health), ENES (climate), project comms WP	Low-barrier access to select tools/data; awareness raising	Citizen science pilots, simplified interfaces, and visual dashboards	Low

Annex 2: Handout Materials

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**Funded by
the European Union**

Why RI-SCALE?

Scientific discoveries increasingly rely on data and AI.

Research Infrastructures generate vast amounts of valuable data, but a lack of technical expertise, computational resources, and AI-ready platforms limits its effective use in scientific research.

The EU-funded RI-SCALE project addresses this by developing scalable Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs) that connect RIs to powerful external compute systems. By replicating data holdings to these remote environments, RI-SCALE enables RIs to offer advanced analysis capabilities without requiring users to download large datasets or manage complex software setups. This opens the door for broader uptake and reuse of RI data by the scientific community.

Gergely Sipos
Project Coordinator

RI SCALE

Unlocking Research Infrastructure Potential with Scalable AI and Data

About Us

RI-SCALE equips Research Infrastructures with the tools to make their data accessible and usable—supporting widespread uptake by the broader user community for scientific analysis.

The project develops scalable Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs) that allow Research Infrastructures to extend their services with powerful computational environments and preconfigured AI applications. These platforms will help researchers and Research Infrastructure operators analyse, improve, and reuse complex datasets more effectively.

Coordinator	EGI Foundation
Partners	29 partners representing 4 RIs, technology providers, data spaces and commercial entities.
Budget	The project totals €10,528,328 of which the EC funds €9,984,328.
Period	RI-SCALE will run for 36 months from 1 March 2025 until 29 February 2028.

Key Features of RI-SCALE

Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs)
Cloud and HPC environments to host and process large datasets, unlocking the full potential of research infrastructure data.

AI-Integrated Compute Services
Scalable compute resources and pre-configured AI frameworks for data analysis, enabling AI-based solutions for research across multiple fields.

Advanced Data Management
Trusted data replication, lifecycle management, and energy-efficient processes across compute, transfer, and storage pipelines.

Cross-Platform Interoperability
Seamless integration of RI data holdings with Data Spaces, e-infrastructures, and initiatives like Copernicus, Destion Earth, and EUCAIM.

Sustainable and Scalable Operations
Creating long-term, sustainable models for large-scale DEP operations, ensuring continued collaboration between research, industry, and commercial entities.

Expected Outcomes

1 DEP Technology Prototype

2 AI-Enhanced Data Exploitation

3 Use Case Demonstration

4 Industry & Academia Collaboration

5 Capacity Building & Training

6 Sustainable Operations

Call for Partners

RI-SCALE is inviting new partners to help shape and test its DEPs. We're looking for:

- Research Infrastructures that face challenges such as limited on-site compute, large data downloads, and complex software environments.
- Compute Centres interested in offering AI-ready platforms for scientific data analysis.

Partners can take part in technology specification, validation, and early adoption using their own data, repositories, and compute systems.

Join us! Visit www.riscale.eu

RI SCALE

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Research infrastructures Generate Big Data — But Can It Be Fully Used?
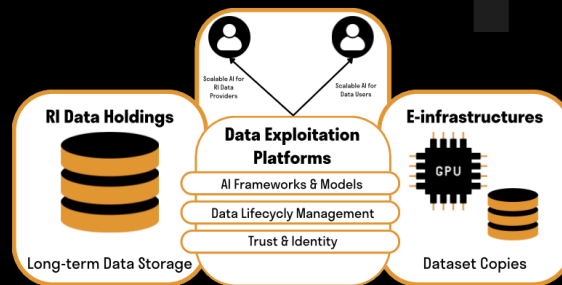
Research infrastructures are producing increasingly large and complex datasets. Yet, three persistent challenges limit their reuse:

1 Limited local computing resources slow down processing and analysis.

2 Data access and transfer can be cumbersome — especially at scale.

3 Tool setup and integration pose high technical barriers for researchers and RI operators.

Data Exploitation Platforms - DEPS

A Scalable, Open Platform for Scientific Data Valorisation

The Data Exploitation Platform (DEP) is a modular, open-source platform that helps RIs and their users make better use of existing data.

RI Data Holdings
Long-term Data Storage

Data Exploitation Platforms
AI Frameworks & Models
Data Lifecycly Management
Trust & Identity

Scalable AI for RI Data Providers
Scalable AI for Data Users

E-infrastructures
GPU
Dataset Copies

1 ✔ On-demand data orchestration to bring RI data closer to powerful compute resources.

2 ✔ Pre-integrated AI tools in containerised environments for scalable analysis and model training.

3 ✔ Federated access and trust management to ensure appropriate data use.

4 ✔ Support for PaaS/SaaS use cases, enabling broader user engagement.

RI-SCALE

GET TO KNOW RI-SCALE

Unlocking research Infrastructure potential with Scalable AI and Data

THE CHALLENGE

Research Infrastructures generate vast amounts of valuable data, but the lack of technical expertise, computational resources, and AI-ready platforms limits the effective use of this data in scientific research.

HOW RI-SCALE SOLVES THE CHALLENGE

RI-SCALE will design, prototype and validate scalable Data Exploitation Platforms (DEPs) to bridge the gap between research data and advanced computational resources, enabling seamless access, analysis, and AI-driven insights.

KEY FEATURES OF RI-SCALE

DATA EXPLOITATION PLATFORMS (DEPS)
Cloud and HPC environments to host and process large datasets, unlocking the full potential of research infrastructure data.

AI-INTEGRATED COMPUTE SERVICES
Scalable compute resources and pre-configured AI frameworks for data analysis, enabling AI-based solutions for research across multiple fields.

ADVANCED DATA MANAGEMENT
Trusted data replication, lifecycle management, and energy-efficient processes across compute, transfer, and storage pipelines.

CROSS-PLATFORM INTEROPERABILITY
Seamless integration of RI data holdings with Data Spaces, e-infrastructures, and initiatives like Copernicus, Destion Earth, and EUCAIM.

SUSTAINABLE AND SCALABLE OPERATIONS
Creating long-term, sustainable models for large-scale DEP operations, ensuring continued collaboration between research, industry, and commercial entities.

COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

RI-SCALE brings together 29 partners, including Earth system and Biomedical research infrastructures, technology providers, companies and data spaces, co-designing solutions for effective data exploitation and AI integration.

Research Infrastructures
BBMRI
ENES
EISCAT
EURO-BIOIMAGING

Technology Providers
EGI
TU Wien
TUBITAK

Data Spaces
Copernicus
DestinationE
EU-CAIM

FOLLOW RI-SCALE'S JOURNEY

Stay up to date with the progress of RI-SCALE and learn how we are shaping the future of data-driven research.
www.riscale.eu

Funded by the European Union

Annex 3: Key Messages

Stakeholder Group	Key Messages
All Stakeholders	• RI-SCALE empowers AI-ready data services across Europe's Research Infrastructures. • Co-designed solutions, tested in real-world pilots, aligned with EU priorities.
Research Infrastructures (RIs)	• Integrate scalable AI workflows into your services. • Join DEP pilots to co-develop tools. • Benefit from onboarding and capacity building
Compute/Data Centres	• DEP is designed for federated deployment across cloud, HPC, and institutional platforms. • Join pilot deployments to showcase capacity and scalability.
Industry & Innovators (SMEs)	• Use RI-SCALE as a sandbox for testing data/AI services. • Engage through co-design, validation, and targeted onboarding.
Strategic Projects & Networks	• RI-SCALE complements initiatives like EOSC, DestinE, DSSC, and AI4EU. • We promote FAIR, reusable tools and shared training activities.
Policy Makers & Funders	• RI-SCALE contributes to Europe's AI, open science, and data space goals. • Demonstrates impact through innovation, reuse, and sustainability.
Broader Research Community	• Access data, reusable tools, AI models, and training via the DEP. • Join co-design workshops and learn how to scale your data-driven research.

Annex 4: Intellectual Property Templates

This template is intended for collecting information for the various IPs as described in Intellectual Asset Inventory Management (IAIM). The template is based partly on the Results questionnaire that is part of both Continuous and Periodic Reports to all Horizon Europe types of action, and it is included in the technical part (Part A) of the relevant Periodic Report (PDF).

Background IP Template

Name	Name of the Intellectual Property asset
Short Description	Short 1-2 sentence description of the asset.
IP Owner(s)	Organisations that own the asset
Partner(s) involved in the project	Organisation(s) involved in the project that have claimed this asset as part of their background.
Type of IP protection and licensing used	Form of protection used for this asset (Copyright, Patent, Trademark, Registered Design, Utility Models, Shape of the product, Trade Secret, etc.)
IP protection or license used	More details on the IP protection and license used (patent number, license name, etc.)
Access to implementation	Conditions defining the access rights to the asset so that partners may carry out their work during the project.
Access to exploitation	Conditions defining the access rights to the asset so that partners may carry out the exploitation of the project results.

Foreground IP Template

Name	Name of the Intellectual Property asset.
Short Description	Short 1-2 sentence description of the asset.
IP Owner(s)	Organisations that generated the asset
Confidential Information	Choose one ▾
Embargo Date	The date on which the asset will be made publicly available, if ever.
IPR Conflict	Indicate if any IPR issues are foreseen that may limit the use.

Type of IP protection and licensing used	Form of protection used for this asset (Copyright, Patent, Trademark, Registered Design, Utility Models, Shape of the product, Trade Secret, etc.)
IP protection or license used	More details on the IP protection and license used (patent number, license name, etc.)
Joint Ownership Agreement	Indicate whether a Joint Ownership agreement is required, and if yes, if it has been signed along with details for it.

Sideground IP Template

Name	Name of the Intellectual Property asset.
Short Description	Short 1-2 sentence description of the asset.
IP Owner(s)	Organisations that own the asset
Partner(s) involved in the project	Organisation(s) involved in the project that have claimed this asset as part of their background.
Type of IP protection and licensing used	Form of protection used for this asset (Copyright, Patent, Trademark, Registered Design, Utility Models, Shape of the product, Trade Secret, etc.)
IP protection or license used	More details on the IP protection and license used (patent number, license name, etc.)

Third-Party IP Template

Name	Name of the Intellectual Property asset.
Short Description	Short 1-2 sentence description of the asset.
IP Owner(s)	Organisations that own the asset
Partner(s) involved in the project	Organisation(s) involved in the project that have claimed this asset as part of their background.
Type of IP protection and licensing used	Form of protection used for this asset (Copyright, Patent, Trademark, Registered Design, Utility Models, Shape of the product, Trade Secret, etc.)
IP protection or license used	More details on the IP protection and license used (patent number, license name, etc.)

Annex 5: Project Result Template

General Information	
Name of the Result	A short 2-3 word name for the project result.
Description	Brief description (2-3 sentences) of the project result.
Result Type	Choose 1 ▾
Exploitation	
Target Group	Choose 1 ▾
Exploitation Potential	Choose 1 ▾
Describe Potential in Brief	
Market Maturity	Choose 1 ▾
Steps Undertaken towards Exploitation	☐ Prototyping in a Laboratory Environment ☐ Prototyping in Production Environment ☐ Pilot, Demonstration, or Testing ☐ Intellectual Property Management ☐ Licensing to Third Party ☐ Complying with Regulatory Framework ☐ Contribution to Standards ☐ Feasibility Study ☐ Market Study ☐ Business Plan ☐ Other
Ownership	
Result Owner	Partner(s) who own the result.
Related KER	Any KER that might be connected to this result.
Intellectual Property Management	
Potential IP issues and resolution plans	Are there IPR issues that will limit foreseen use?
Background IP	List of Background IP related to this result.
Sideground IP	List of Sideground IP related to this result.
Third-party IP	List of Third-party IP related to this result.
Foreground IP	List of Foreground IP related to this result.
Joint Ownership Agreement	Explain if a JoA was signed for this result and add a link to it.
Related Materials	
URL	Any relevant URLs

Annex 6: KER Template

Result Information	
Title of the Result (120 characters)	Provide a short, descriptive name for your result.
Problem Description	Why was the innovation needed? - articulated or unarticulated needs and problems the KER addresses.
Result Description (1200 characters)	A detailed description of the result, freeform. Describe what the result is and what benefit it brings. Avoid using extensive jargon and focus on simplifying.
Result Type	Choose One ▾
EU missions	Choose one ▾
Video/Image	Upload an image or add a link to a YouTube/Vimeo video.
Key Value Proposition	A single short, catchy sentence describing the main value proposition of the result.
Business Sector(s)/ Policy Area(s)	Select max 3 Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾
Main project	The EC-funded project that was the main contributor
Other related projects	Related projects to this result. Optional – won't be visible in the entry
Result Contributors	The partners who contributed to the result.
Owners for exploitation	Which entity(ies) (among the "Result contributors") will have rights to the exploitation of the Intellectual Property?
Tags/ Keywords	Use keywords to describe the technology, science, sector, content, or nature of the result, and very importantly, keywords to denote potential uses or applications of your result.
Stakeholders and Users	
What type of customers/ users do you have?	Categories under which the target user groups fall, Choose Multiple ▾
Are you targeting geographical markets?	Choose one ▾
Which Business Sectors do your customers mainly come from?	Select max 3 Choose One ▾ Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾

Message/ Teaser to the potential user (1000 characters)	Please state what your result is, what it is for, what makes it special in terms of adding value or knowledge, what is your purpose for making it public, and what is your target audience.
Do you already have customers for this result?	Choose one ▾
Number of existing customers	Choose One ▾
Other Stakeholders and Benefits	List all the other stakeholders (grouped and not individually) associated with the result and the key benefits for each of them.
Target Audience and Needs	
Target Audience	It should be noted that this is not necessarily the user group or stakeholders. This is about whom you want the horizon result entry to be targeted at. You can choose up to 3 Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾
Our needs are	Please enter more specific details in terms of which audience you are targeting and what your precise needs are. Choices available here depend on the target audience selected. Select a maximum of three, Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾
We specifically need/ are looking for (600 words)	Specifically, articulate what you are looking for from the target audience, expanding on the choices made in the earlier field.
What level of investment (EUR) are you currently looking for?	Explain the levels of funding sought: if a € sum is chosen, additional tick boxes explain what potential investors would receive.
I can provide the following upon a request by an interested party	Choose multiple ▾
Result Maturity and Exploitation Outlook	
Result Maturity	TRL Level of the result
Current Stage and Next Steps	Explain what is available and what the plans are for the near future
Is your result replicable?	Replicability refers to the ability of your product, service, or business to be replicated and sold and delivered consistently and reliably, to serve (theoretically) infinite customers (multiple markets) the exact same service or product, to the same standard, every time. Choose one ▾

Please elaborate on the Replicability	Justification for a claim for replicability
Start-up created for further exploitation.	Choose one ▾
Logo	Not applicable unless there's a startup in the works

Business Model and Sustainability	
Do you have a scalable business model?	Explain why you think or do not think this is a scalable business model.
Is your result and your business model sustainable in the long term?	Choose one ▾
Please elaborate on the Sustainability	Justification to claim the solution is sustainable.

Auxiliary Contributions	
Contribution to UN Sustainable Development Goals	Select up to 3 Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾ Choose one ▾ For background, see: Sustainable Development Goals
Radical Innovation Breakthrough?	100 radical innovation breakthroughs for the future[17]
Are you a member of the 'World Alliance for 1000 Solutions'?	Choose one ▾
Has your result had or do you expect it to have a significant influence on policy-making?	Choose one ▾

Other Background Information	
Testimonials/References	Here, you could provide the links to references from your peers, customers, or partners, your certifications, honorary memberships, awards, related newspaper or journal articles, or any references and credentials to make your profile more credible and attractive. You can add multiple entries in this section. ● Title of the success stories, testimonials, or reviews ● URL
Find Us On	You can add multiple entries in this section. Consider adding the home page of the result, if any, the home page of the project, marketplace entries, etc. ● Description of the link ● URL

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[17] https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/3e2e92d6-1647-11ea-8c1f-01aa75ed71a1/language-en

Other information to share	You can add multiple entries in this section. Consider adding links to deliverables, publications, presentations, webinars, other dissemination materials, or any other relevant information related to the result. • Description of the link • URL
Other information	Use this section to capture any information related to the result that has not been captured in earlier sections.