



**Value and Impact through Synergy, Interaction and coOperation of
Networks of AI Excellence Centres**

GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 952070

Deliverable D4.3 Report

Industrial outreach, Industrial Innovation Management and
Industrial Visibility Plan

Project title	VISION - Value and Impact through Synergy, Interaction and coOperation of Networks of AI Excellence Centres
Grant Agreement number	952070
Funding scheme	Horizon 2020
Start date of the project and duration	1 September 2020, 36 months
Project coordinator name	Holger Hoos, ULEI - UNIVERSITEIT LEIDEN
Deliverable number	D4.3
Title of the deliverable	Industrial outreach, Industrial Innovation Management and Industrial Visibility Plan
WP contributing to the deliverable	Work package WP 4 Academia-Industry Joint AI Forces, Task 4.3 Innovation Management and Industrial visibility
Deliverable type	R - Report
Dissemination level	Public
Due submission date	28/02/2021
Actual submission date	
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Internal reviewers	Giovanna Galasso (PwC), Costanza Bersani (PwC) – formal review
Final validation (Executive Board)	

Disclaimer

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 952070. This document has been prepared for the European Commission, however, it reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein

History of changes		
When	Who	Comments
19/02/2021	Eric Poiseau - INRIA	V0 to kick-off the T4.3 task
02/03/2021	PwC	V0.1 Internal Review
02/03/2021	Eric Poiseau - INRIA	V0.2 Added executive summary, processed review comments
03/03/2021	Eric Poiseau - INRIA	V0.3 Clean version for technical review
22/03/2021	Eric Poiseau - INRIA	V0.4 Additions following review by board

Confidentiality	
Does this report contain confidential information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the report restricted to a specific group?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>If yes, please precise the list of authorised recipients:</i>

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Executive summary

This document is a deliverable of Work Package 4 “Academia-Industry Joint AI Forces” within the EU ICT-48 Coordination and Support Action “VISION”. The report is provided in a form of a document gathering relevant information in order to promote the work of the Networks of Excellence (NoEs) resulting from the ICT-48-2020 call and stimulate cross network synergies.

1 Introduction

This deliverable leverages on the innovation work undertaken in each of the granted Networks of Excellence (NoEs) resulting from the ICT-48-2020 call. It reports on the coordination and support work undertaken within the VISION project in order to establish a cross-network perspective.

The aim of VISION is to encourage the NoEs to share best practices, to coordinate efforts to prevent duplication in order to support innovation and transfer of AI technology in and across the NoEs. The nature of this activity is naturally broad and agile, but we include a specific focus on targeting the on-demand platform.

VISION is also supporting the scouting for innovative ideas and technology with industrial and societal relevance with the goal to share them with relevant stakeholders for best socio-economic impact.

This deliverable kicks-off the efforts in Month 6 and will be updated throughout the life of the VISION project. In its version 0, the deliverable will focus on defining the objectives, the methodology and the plan to achieve the objectives as defined in the description of work. Version 0 presents the network of excellence in the scope of the deliverable. It then describes the strategy used in order to reach out to the networks. Finally, in the subsequent updates of the deliverable scheduled at M12, M24 and M36, the various activities will be reported.

The deliverable is a report of the activities we plan to do and we have undertaken, and it includes the analysis of the results.

2 Objectives/Scope

The objective of the deliverable is to provide, throughout the Vision project, a report of the activities undertaken to stimulate transfer and innovation within a European context. The report is provided in a form of a document gathering relevant information in order to promote the work of the NoEs, stimulate cross network synergies.

While our activities naturally focus on the ICT-48 4 NoEs, namely AI4Media¹, ELISE², HumanE-AI-Net³ and Tailor⁴, others possible relevant stakeholders such as BDVA⁵, CLAIRE⁶, DIH⁷, EIT⁸, ELLIS⁹, EurAI¹⁰, euRobotics¹¹ will be considered as well when relevant.

Furthermore, and aligned to the European Commission Coordinated Action Plan on AI¹², other projects that are focusing on parts of innovation will be approached to see whether the value proposition of

¹ AI4Media, <https://ai4media.eu>, A Centre of Excellence delivering next generation AI Research and Training at the service of Media, Society and Democracy.

² ELISE, <https://www.elise-ai.eu>, European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems

³ HumanE-AI-Net, <https://www.humane-ai.eu/>, European Network Of Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence

⁴ Tailor, <https://tailor-network.eu>, Trustworthy AI - Integrating Learning, Optimisation and Reasoning

⁵ BDVA, <https://www.bdva.eu/>, Big Data Value Association

⁶ CLAIRE, <https://claire-ai.org/>, Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe

⁷ DIH, <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/digital-innovation-hubs-dihs-europe>, Digital Innovation Hubs,

⁸ EIT, <https://eit.europa.eu>, European Institute of Innovation and Technology

⁹ ELLIS, <https://ellis.eu/>, European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems

¹⁰ EurAI, <https://eurai.org>, European Association for Artificial Intelligence

¹¹ euRobotics, <https://eu-robotics.net>, eu Robotics aisbl

¹² https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/publication/coordinated-plan-artificial-intelligence-com2018-795-final_en

the Networks of Excellence can provide engagement actions. Foremost among these are ICT-38 on AI for manufacturing, from a trustworthy and human centric AI perspective, or any of the ICT-49 as innovation actions that, together with the AI on demand platform, aim to provide an environment for SMEs and low-tech SMEs to grow around several market verticals – energy, cyber physical systems, earth observation, etc.

The overall plan to structure the work in this task can be then summarized in 3 words: “Gather, Digest, Share”, executed in iterative cycles. These will be detailed in the subsequent sections

3 Planning and methodology overview

For each of the NoE in the scope of the project, we will identify point of contacts in order to gather information about the Network roadmap, digest it and share it with the community.

We will identify list of events involving the NoEs, identify communications means to and from the NoEs, gather information and compile it into reports available to the NoEs.

M6-M10:

- Information gathering
 - Identify contact points in the different NoEs
 - Gather NoEs innovation roadmap
 - Gather plans on on-demand platform
 - Gather agenda of events
 - Theme Development workshops
 - Hackathon
 - Challenges
 - Congresses
 - Other meetings
 - Participation to events
- Communication
 - Identify and initiate cross NoEs communication channels
 - Mattermost
 - AI4EU
 - Others

M10-M12:

- Information gathering continued
- Report
 - Consolidated gathered information in order to report on best practices
 - Support to innovation
 - Support to transfer
 - On-demand platform
 - Sharing report with NoEs

M13-M18:

- Gather feedback on first report in order to improve next reports

- Continue information gathering
- Update and consolidate report based on the semester new information
- Share updated report with NoEs

M19-M24 and following semesters repeat the cycle.

The next versions of this deliverable will be updated with the outcome of the tasks described above. The reports will feed content to the next section.

4 Overview of Report Structure

This section is to be updated in the next version of this document planned for M12, M24 and M36 and share with the various stakeholders described in section 2.

4.1 NoEs Strategic Roadmap

4.1.1 Collaboration

Industry shaping fundamental research to develop new (disruptive) products.

4.1.2 Technology

4.1.3 Innovation

4.2 Calendars of events

This section will report on events relevant to innovation in AI, besides the event organized by the NoEs and the relevant organizations listed in section 2, the following events will also be taken into consideration:

- European Research and Innovation Days¹³
- European AI Alliance Assembly¹⁴

4.2.1 Theme Development Workshops

4.2.2 Tailor Challenges and Hackathon

4.2.3 Scientific Events

4.3 Sharing Best Practices

4.3.1 Actions to support innovation

4.3.2 Actions to support transfer

4.3.3 On-demand-platforms

4.4 Scouting for novel ideas

The document *Innovation Management and the knowledge-driven economy*¹⁵, provides some guidelines, tooling and techniques on how to manage innovation. We plan to use those techniques in order to identify, leverage and report the innovative ideas and technologies gathered from the NoEs.

¹³ <https://research-innovation-days.ec.europa.eu>

¹⁴ <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/european-ai-alliance>

¹⁵ *Innovation Management and the knowledge-driven economy*¹⁵, European Commission (2004). Luxembourg: Directorate-general for Enterprise <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/dd46213f-89e1-4c20-ad21-f3adca0b0f7f>

4.4.1 Creativity, Idea generation

Theme development workshops, Hackathon, Challenge

4.4.2 Opportunity Discovery

Theme development workshops

4.4.3 Knowledge Acquisition

Hackathon, Education, Doctoral program

4.4.4 Concept Investigation

Hackathon, Challenges, On demand platform

4.4.5 Solution Generation

Hackathon, PPP

4.4.6 Portfolio Management

Platforms (AI4EU,..)

4.5 Industry - Academia

5 Conclusion

This deliverable leverages on the innovation work undertaken in each of the granted NoEs resulting from the ICT-48-2020 call. It reports on the coordination and support work undertaken within the VISION project in order to stimulate synergies and avoid duplication of work. This version 0 of the document presents the plan and methodology for our coordination and support activity in this context.