



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

GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 952070

Deliverable D1.4
Final meeting minutes

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

Project title	Value and Impact through Synergy, Interaction and coOperation of Networks of AI Excellence Centres
Grant Agreement number	952070
Funding scheme	H2020-ICT-2018-20
Start date of the project and duration	1 September 2020, 4 years (amended)
Project coordinator name	Holger H. Hoos (ULEI - UNIVERSITEIT LEIDEN)
Deliverable number	D1.4
Title of the deliverable	Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece
WP contributing to the deliverable	WP1
Deliverable type	R - Report
Dissemination level	Public
Due submission date	31 August 2024
Actual submission date	23 July 2024
Partner(s)/Author(s)	Wendy Aartsen (ULEI)
Internal reviewers	
Final approval (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.

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

History of changes		
When	Who	Comments
23.07.2024	Wendy Aartsen	First version

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

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

Table of Contents

Consortium meeting agenda	5
Minutes	5
VISION highlights and celebration	6
Lessons learned and room for improvement	8
Sustainability VISION elements	10
Loose ends	14

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

Consortium meeting agenda

The last face-to-face consortium meeting occurred in Thessaloniki, Greece in conjunction with the 4th Community Workshop. The 4th Community Workshop was organised jointly by the Organising Committee with a natural lead of both Myrra Carstens (ULEI, VISION) and the hosting institution CERTH-ITI, Filareti Tsalakanidou (CERTH-ITI, AI4MEDIA)

At the meeting, we discussed the results of the World Cafe held the previous day and organised by Long Pham (UCC, VISION) to obtain input on the sustainability plan from all present networks. The results have been gathered in a document and a sustainability [slide deck](#), see Appendix I. Next to the World Cafe, all members of the networks were asked to complete the sustainability survey. Both inputs were used in the presentation to the EC on the last day of the conference. The task of VISION was to present a joint response and position towards sustainable joint elements of the networks. On top of that, each network has its sustainability plan for its consortium results.

The Highlights slide deck was prepared jointly by the VISION team - the design, structure, and flow by Myrra Carstens (ULEI, VISION) and Eva Dolezalova (CIIRC, VISION) to provide guidance to the input of all NoEs, while presenting to the EC.

ICT-48 VISION consortium meeting

Agenda

Date: 27-06-2024

Time: Hybrid meeting, Thessaloniki and online 9:00 - 11:00

NEW LINK:

<https://rwth.zoom-x.de/j/65344482360?pwd=c3lvV21BUWhiNXhnUjhjZ2dMWGI6UT09>

Theme - sustainability, loose ends and celebrating highlights

Agenda



- 09:00 - 09:10 Highlights
- 09:10 - 09:20 Celebrations
- 09:20 - 09:30 Break
- 09:30 - 10:30 Sustainability
- 10:30 - 10:50 Lessons-learned
- 10:50 - 11:00 Final loose ends

Minutes

Attendees:

Wendy (ULEI)	Holger (ULEI)	Irene (FBK) online	
Myrra (ULEI)	Eva (CIIRC)	Joachim (TNO)	Janina (DFKI) online
Barry (UCC)	Long Pham (UCC)	Joost (INRIA)	Philipp (DFKI)
Luis Quesada (UCC)	Vit (CIIRC)	Danilo (FBK),	Edward-Benedict (Thales) online
Anna Tahovska(CIIRC)	Beatrice (Intellera)	Marc (INRIA)	Claudio (TNO)
Geraud Guilloud (TNO)	Matteo (FBK)	Elizabeth (INRIA)	David Brunelleschi (Intellera)
Katharina Franke (AIM/ULEI)	Kristina (TNO)	Anastasiia Korotun (Intellera)	Alexa Kodde (CLAIRE)

(Those shown in bold were present) Absent: see NOT bold

[Minutes](#) meeting last time have been approved

VISION highlights and celebration

Earlier during the 4th community workshop programme in Thessaloniki, the [slide deck](#) on the highlights of all currently connected networks was presented (organised with Claudio Lazo (TNO) and Long Pham (UCC), TNO in the lead). Apart from the joint effort VISION has put into the organisation

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

of the workshop, also the joint preparation of the highlight slides was a VISION output. Notably, the slide deck represents not only the ICT-48 networks but also the new networks and the AI on Demand platform, all presented under the common identity.

VISION is proud to have established a wider network than its original assignment. As such, within our internal consortium meeting, we celebrated this by naming those who contributed to our small team output and explicitly thanked everybody for their commitment and dedication.

The key slides representing the VISION project are presented below.

EU Horizon2020: ICT-48-2020 Call



Goal: Make Europe a research powerhouse in human-centred, trustworthy AI!

- 50M EUR over 4 years
- “Seed funding” for larger investment into AI Research in Europe
- 4 Networks of Centres of Excellence in AI
 - + 1 coordination and support mandate (VISION)
- Strongly leverage existing networks:
 - CLAIRE, ELLIS, HumanE AI, ...

EU Horizon2020: ICT-48-2020 Call



Make Europe a research powerhouse in human-centred, trustworthy AI!

- **V**alue and **I**mpact through **S**ynergy, **I**nteraction, and co**O**peration of **N**etworks of **AI Excellence Centres**
- 4-year Coordination and Support Action (CSA)
- 4 □ 6 □ **9 Networks** of Centres of Excellence in AI
- Strongly leveraging existing networks:
 - CLAIRE, ELLIS, HumanE AI, ...

European AI Ecosystem



VISION Mechanisms / Instruments



- Exchange of **best practices & expertise across networks** and beyond
- Creation / strengthening of links between academia & industry
- Cross-disciplinary AI training initiatives & curricula
- Integrated roadmapping
- Development of **European AI vision and brand**
- Connection and **complementarity with other initiatives**
(AI4EU, DIHs, industry networks, PPPs, ...)
- Mapping of competencies in the European AI ecosystem



Lessons-learned and room for improvement

Without the physical meetings at the start of the project due to COVID-19, it was especially hard for the CSA to gain traction and build the much needed interpersonal connections as the foundations of a growing community. VISION learned that reaching out to key stakeholders is not enough, but that a continuous effort in showing interest in the work of the whole community and offering services as an incentive for people to work together is key in establishing a community.

Comments from all the present VISION team members, in general:

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

- Group dynamics matter tremendously for the joint work; in-person meetings play an important role in creating cohesion across the consortium
- The relatively small consortium size helped
- Amazing follow-through on the initial promise to go "above and beyond" what the EU-granted resources allowed us to do (thanks to key partners for this!)
- Feedback mechanisms are needed for continuously reflecting, adapting, and improving the efforts
- Joint activities (on a regular basis), preferably together in physical locations, are really important for community building and creating a 'sense of belonging' amongst NoE members and other individuals within the community
- For community building, the involvement of all (or at least a critical mass of) partners is essential. Growing a community is a matter of dedication and listening to what is driving the community. Finding a common starting point might be a struggle in the beginning. They need to see that it is beneficial for them to contribute to the community so that they can gain something from the joint effort and find benefits for themselves in working together. Establishing mutual trust and openness is essential (which takes time...) to achieve this
- Lessons learned within a community are not well documented or harvested as part of a built-in process, meaning that every time you start a new project (NoE) you need to reinvent the wheel unless you create a coordinated learning environment
- Engaging with external partners is complex and requires careful planning and communication (i.e. industry actors)
- The role of an accountable leader who coordinates/facilitates these joint efforts is very important
- Important to have a common understanding of the individual needs of the participating NoEs
- EC tends (or at least in this case: tended) to change its mind on what should be done and how; this creates challenges and opportunities. This can be stressful, but VISION dealt with it mostly gracefully and effectively.
- Micro-management by the EC can be unhelpful / reduce the effectiveness of project work; to provide effective guidance at a fine level of detail, EC colleagues would need to know much more about what happens inside the community/communities, which would require interacting more, and more directly, with the community and giving more precise indications with respect to their expectations from the Project.
- Delays and misunderstandings from the EC can have a strong impact on the correct Project management of the project
- Joining the community one-sidedly by only taking from the community whatever you need for your own agenda is disrespectful. The unwritten rule for community building is to give and take.

Comments from all the present VISION team members, on the joint activities:

- The original plan (according to the description of work) was to organize two "collaborative workshops" with about 20-25 participants in total, with a limited scope (focus on training and lessons learned). Due to both success and a wish/need for broader community building, this grew into the organisation of four community workshops with a much broader scope and participants, which was highly valued by the community.
- The community workshops were milestones in the progress of the NoEs, deciding together on strategic subjects such as the common visual identity, joint SRA, and the ecosystem mapping.
- A physical workshop made a big difference in bringing together the NoEs. The CWs were a great success, focused get-together for the NoEs and therefore a welcome addition to the

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

larger conferences and fora where the individuals also meet (e.g. EBDVF, ADRF, scientific conferences)

- With the fourth community workshop, organised by a cross-NoE committee and local chair, the format became 'by the community, for the community'
- Identifying joint topics/goals helps to organise joint events/activities with the cross-NoEs involvement where each NoEs can contribute with content/speaker and are also engaged in communication and dissemination broadly
- The shared organisation and archiving of files, documents and presentations helped to better coordinate activities and retrieve relevant information.
- Organisation between VISION partners to coordinate efforts to receive feedback from NoEs (notably within WP6) helped get better responses and participation rates

From the world cafe on the 26th of July:

- Benefits of dedicated CSA, especially for project managers, communication (this takes time, effort, resources)
- CSA helped projects to be able to be better organised, focus on research
- The effort and benefits of the CSA might not have reached every researcher involved in the NoEs. A well-functioning system often goes unnoticed and will be taken for granted.
- coordination and the CSA helped the new NoEs come up to speed
- The coordination level between the NoEs of the first generation is highly appreciated by newer NoEs.
- New NoEs find it hard to keep the same level of coordination, without a CSA in place. It would be likely down to the coordinator to dedicate effort and resources.
- how can the old NoEs be kept in the loop? long-term continuity and maintainability is important, e.g., for assets such as software
- concern: continuity
- round-robin between coordinators of new NoEs would be possible for some tasks, but efficiency will be lower, and continuity more difficult to achieve.
- AloD platform: further standardize AI assets persisting across transitions / show an evolution
- Adra (via resources from Adra-e, new resources); leverage foundation organisation
- AI4Europe (beyond AloD - Problem: distraction from their core mission)

Sustainability VISION elements

Next steps/Plans for Year 4 Sustainability and impact



- 
- Coordinate closely with NoEs (including new ones)
 - Coordinate with AI4Europe
 - Coordinate with ADRA + FOs (esp. CLAIRE, ELLIS, EurAI)
 - Foster synergies within the community and facilitate alignment, e.g., on joint SRA
 - Identify ways to continue other cross-NoE groups / activities
 - Work with EC to find mechanisms to maintain AIDA, ecosystem map, 'AI made in Europe', ...



What is important to sustain?



Process


- Initial discussions and coordination with NoEs
 - Initial discussions held between NoE coordinators (Jan 2024)
 - Calls for discussion and idea collection with EC representatives (March)
 - Coordination calls with the VISION consortium, NoE managers and coordinators (March-August)
- Information gathering and prioritisation
 - Survey circulated within the NoEs leadership to collect information on the various activities to be sustained, incl. current and potential future activity information (May-July)
 - Survey circulated within the NoEs community to prioritise these activities in terms of most desired to be sustained (June-August)
 - Sensitive data, such as names and email addresses, are given voluntarily
- Deliverable D2.5 (August)

Next to the World Cafe, VISION launched the sustainability survey among all community members. The results have been discussed at the consortium meeting before the preparation of the VISION elements to sustain. The conclusion is that important elements to sustain have been identified and more input from community members is wanted so the survey will be promoted via the PMs to all networks and stay open until the beginning of August.

VISION SURVEY: Community Sustainability NoE Activity Prioritisation by Community

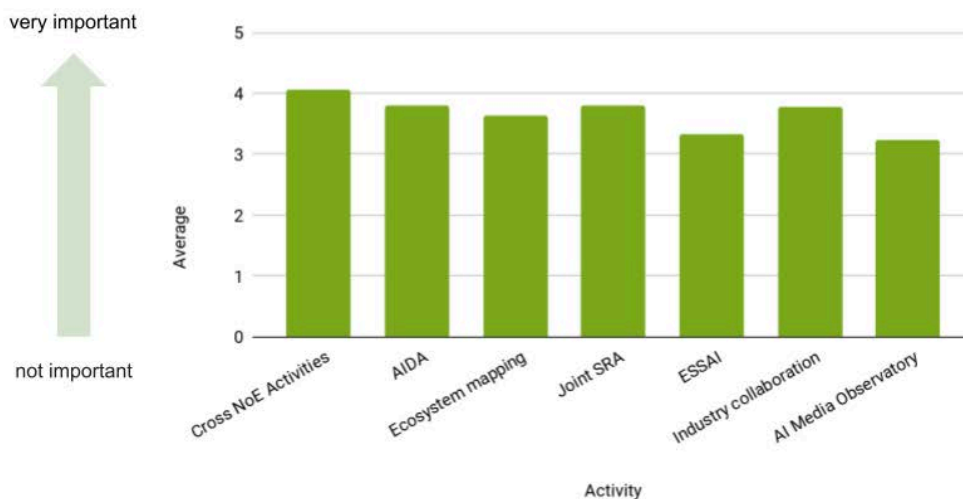
- serves to generate a prioritised list of the NoEs' activities that the community wants to sustain beyond ICT-48



What is important to sustain?



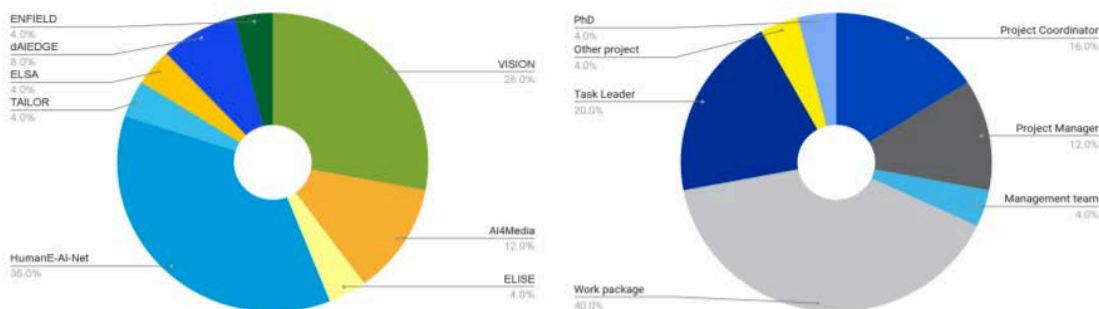
Community Activity Priority



What is important to sustain?



Survey respondents

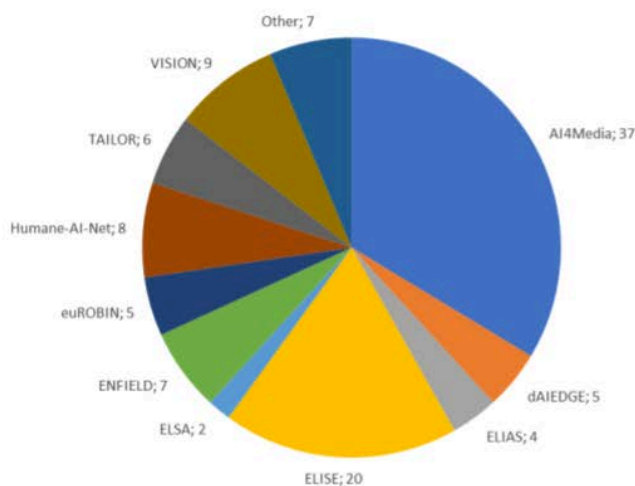


Sustainability Community Session



Onsite participants NoE sustainability session

- 75 participants
- Each NoE represented



To prepare VISION's part for the presentation to the EC, we dedicated considerable time in the consortium meeting to this part of the agenda; all input has been summarised in the sustainability slide deck, see Appendix 1. During the meeting, we focussed on the Cross-NoE activities and communication and, during the last weeks of the project a final report on sustainability will be delivered with the final results of the survey and the recommendations for sustainability of the ICT-48 outcomes.

Cross NoE activities coordination



Activity	LEAD	NEXT LEAD	Mechanism
Communication Club	VISION - CIIRC Eva	-	Role of a leader of these efforts is very important - accountability
Joint PM meetings	VISION - H4G Wendy/Myrra	-	Role of a leader of these efforts is very important - accountability
Brand "AI made in Europe" (branding, materials)- transfer branding to other party	VISION - CIIRC Eva	-	
Community workshops , AI open days, community meetings	VISION - CIIRC Eva	-	
Vision and sustainability (funding) plan for a consolidation across all AI-related assets in Europe (ADRA, AIOD, NOEs, AIDA, etc.)	VISION	-	

Cross NoE activities coordination



- Benefits of dedicated CSA, especially for project managers, communication (this takes time, effort, resources)
- CSA helped projects to be able to be better organised, focus on research
- for some people only involved on the research side, the CSA was not too visible, which means everything worked well
- coordination and the CSA helped the new NoEs come up to speed
- The coordination level between the NoEs of the first generation is highly appreciated by newer NoEs.
- New NoEs find it hard to keep the same level of coordination, without a CSA in place. It would be likely down to the coordinator to dedicate effort and resources.
- how can the old NoEs be kept in the loop? long-term continuity and maintainability is important, e.g., for assets such as software
- concern: continuity
- round-robin between coordinators of new NoEs would be possible for some tasks, but efficiency will be lower, continuity more difficult to achieve.
- AIoD platform: further standardize AI assets persisting across transitions / show an evolution
- Adra (via resources from Adra-e, new resources); leverage foundation organisation
- AI4Europe (beyond AIoD - Problem: distraction from their core mission)

Communication



- Regular Communication Club meetings
- Community events - networking and in-person meetings are crucial
- Common visual identity and the story behind it - continue to support the brand of AI NoEs will help to position also particular projects
- Joint activities with common topics - representatives of NoEs can build an impactful content of specific/expert oriented events on particular topics (or topics that are of common interest to all, for example societal and environmental impacts) - such activities can be much easier disseminated on a distributed way through the NoEs involved (and can help the common branding as well)

Loose ends

The process to be followed in the last weeks before the end of the project and during the reporting period has been discussed. Final review meeting has been planned for the 8th of November 2024

As the closure of VISION and the final reporting start during the holiday season, we appointed deputies for the executive board members to help reviewing the final deliverables. Without this back-up in place, we fear we will not make the deadline and especially not the deadline of the review meeting. The 8th of November means that all deliverables and the final report need to be completed and presented to the reviewers by the 25th of October, which is before the contractual deadline for the final reporting which is the 31st of October.

Beatrice Bozzao (Intellera, risk manager VISION) offered to help Wendy Aartsen (ULEI, project manager VISION) with tracking the process and quality control during this last period of the project, which is highly appreciated. Consortium meetings will continue during the holiday season with the people who can be present and try to keep momentum by email in the meantime. A tracker has been generated containing the information from the table below and the information on the holidays of all team members as support for the final reporting.

WP	no	No	Title	Lead	Due date	Status/Notes
WP1	D1.4	D7	Final Meeting minutes	ULEI	31 Aug 2024	

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

WP2	D2.3	D10	AI-on-demand (AIOD) Platform Ecosystem Services Plan	UCC		submitted
WP2	D2.5	D12	Report on sustainability and strategic directions of the NoEs and VISION activities	ULEI	31 Aug 2024	
WP2	D2.7	D32	Evaluation of the AIOD Ecosystem Services Plan	UCC	29 Feb 2024	
WP3	D3.2	D15	Lesson learned FSTP	FBK	31 Aug 2024	
WP3	D3.3	D16	Observations from the interaction and mentoring activities and lessons learned	TNO	31 Aug 2024	In progress, expected to deliver in time (Claudio)
WP4	D4.4	D20	European AI Trend Radar	DFKI	30 Apr 2024	Under final review
WP5	D5.3	D23	European AI PhD Curriculum Impact Assessment	UCC	31 Aug 2024	
WP6	D6.3	D28	Enhancing the European Strategic Research & Innovation AI Dialogue Report	INRIA	31 Aug 2024	
WP6	D6.6	D35	Updated International Outreach Report	FBK	31 Aug 2024	

KPIs

WP No	KPI	Target Value	Means of verification	Status M36
WP2	Number of joint working meetings and other interactions with ICT-48 NoEs management	40 (16 of them f2f meetings, other – teleconf.)	Meeting minutes and other internal project records, D2.2	30
WP2	Number of joint Working Groups created	4	progress report	4
WP2	Number of roadmapping/ecosystem mapping consultation of VISION with the NoEs and external stakeholders	8	D2.4	6 to be checked (TNO)
WP2	Number of the AI-on-demand platform evaluation survey participants	80	D2.2	? (UCC)
WP2	Number of stakeholders exposed to the AI4EU Deployment Prize Call for Participation	500	D2.2	Irrelevant after Am. 2
WP2	Number of VISION Hackathon participants	100	D2.2, D2.3	Irrelevant after Am. 2
WP3	Number of documentation items (templates, recommendations, etc.) developed for NoEs	10	D3.1	7

Final meeting minutes - VISION consortium meeting 27th of June 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece

WP3	Number of best practice and lessons-learned cases collected and generalised	20	D3.2	?
WP3	Number of participants of the inter-NoE workshops organized by VISION	40	D3.3	100
WP4	Number of academic / industrial participants in Theme Development Workshops	40 / 40	D4.4	329/150
WP4	Number of industrial stakeholders exposed to the results of TDW	50	D4.4	Due M48
WP4	Number of participants of the VISION mapping survey on relations between DIHs and NoEs	70	D4.2	74
WP5	Number of AI education and training modules developed and validated by experienced AI researchers/professors	12	D5.3	9 courses, 14 short courses, 5 lecture series
WP5	Number of participants of the European AI education and training activities, e.g. AIDA	200	D5.3	543
WP6	Number of media echos	15	Media monitoring report incl. full quotation of the media source	3
WP6	Number of electronic newsletters	12	Distribution list and links to online appearance of the bulletins (D6.1)	7
WP6	Number of participants of AI Open Days	500	Attendance lists, photos, incl. online participants (no. of views)	2022: 40 in person; streaming/video with panel discussion: 52 000 views 2023: 40 in person; streaming/video with panel discussion: 260 views

Related KPIs - put as an item on the agenda how to track this better

1. Number of joint working meetings and other interactions with ICT-48 NoEs management (n=40)
2. Number of joint Working Groups created (n=4)
3. Number of documentation items (templates, recommendations, etc.) developed for NoEs (n=10)
4. Number of roadmapping consultations of the VISION WG with the NoEs and external stakeholders (n=8)
5. Number of media echos

Due to the unfortunate timing of the project closure, the consortium needs to deliver an additional effort to get all deliverables documented and reviewed during the holiday season. This is also the cause for planning the final consortium meeting is 2 months before the end of the project. Thanks to this small and well-organised team we consider it an achievable job, but we might foresee some delays outside our influence e.g. financial statements.

Appendix I



ICT-48 sustainability VISION

Value and Impact through Synergy, Interaction
& coOperation of Networks of AI Excellence Centres
Coordination & Support Action

January 2024



EU Horizon2020: ICT-48-2020 Call



Goal: Make Europe a research powerhouse in human-centred, trustworthy AI!

- 50M EUR over 4 years
 - “Seed funding” for larger investment into AI Research in Europe
 - 4 Networks of Centres of Excellence in AI
+ 1 coordination and support mandate (VISION)
 - Strongly leverage existing networks:
CLAIRE, ELLIS, HumanE AI, ...
-

VISION Coordination and Support Action



AIM: Reinforce, interconnect and mobilise Europe's AI community, and to orchestrate and accelerate Europe's transition to a world-leading position in the research, development and deployment of AI technologies.

Objectives

- Mobilise the European AI community
- Strengthen the synergies between Europe's AI networks of excellence
 - ICT-48 NoEs: [AI4Media](#), [Elise](#), [Humane-AI-Net](#), [TAILOR](#)
 - From Sept 2022: [ELSA](#), [EuRobin](#),
 - From Sept 2023: [ELIAS](#), [dAIEDGE](#), [ENFIELD](#)
- Foster strong connections between academia and industry
- Develop a European approach to AI skills education
- Promote the EU as an attractive environment for AI research and researchers

VISION Mechanisms / Instruments



- Exchange of best practices & expertise across networks and beyond
- Creation / strengthening of links between academia & industry
- Cross-disciplinary AI training initiatives & curricula
- Integrated roadmapping
- Development of European AI vision and brand
- Connection and complementarity with other initiatives (AI4EU, DIHs, industry networks, PPPs, ...)
- Mapping of competencies in the European AI ecosystem

Next steps/Plans for Year 4 (slide M36 review)

Sustainability and impact



- Coordinate closely with NoEs (including new ones)
- Coordinate with AI4Europe
- Coordinate with ADRA + FOs (esp. CLAIRE, ELLIS, EurAI)
- Foster synergies within the community and facilitate alignment, e.g., on joint SRA
- Identify ways to continue other cross-NoE groups / activities
- Work with EC to find mechanisms to maintain AIDA, ecosystem map, 'AI made in Europe', ...

Next steps/Plans for Year 4 (slide M36 review)

Sustainability and impact



Challenges identified by the community:

- Infrastructure that supports and enables collaborative research
- Value of NoEs in connecting researchers to other initiatives
- Speed of development and call for ambition from policy makers
- Informing efforts of the NoEs by connections to AI community at large



Grant Agreement

Task description from the project proposal on sustainability:



Work Package 2 (ULEI, CIIRC, DFKI, UCC, INRIA, TNO, THALES):

Task T2.6: Sustainability of NoEs and Support Mechanisms (M12-M48) Leader:ULEI

This task is concerned with ensuring the sustainability of the NoEs and VISION mechanisms for supporting them, as well as the AI community at large, beyond the funding period. Specifically, we will explore mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of all activities of VISION supported by the AI-on-demand platform beyond the funding period of the CSA project in cooperation with the AI4EU foundation. We will also explore mechanisms for ensuring the sustainability of other VISION activities, such as the EU AI ecosystem map and Theme Development Workshops, in collaboration with CLAIRE, EurAI and ELLIS. Finally, we will take a higher-level view of the longer-term sustainability of the NoEs. Different services and governance mechanisms, as well as strategies to grow the network, will be first identified by the VISION consortium. Selected ideas will then be elaborated on and reported in a concise document that will support the future development of the network (D2.5).

Deliverable D2.5 Report on sustainability and strategic directions of the NoEs and VISION activities (M48)

Concise document outlining the mechanisms for ensuring the sustainability of the mechanisms and activities of VISION beyond the funding period of the CSA project.

What is important to sustain?



Priority	Item	Actions for sustaining	Lead
High	Ecosystem map - maintenance + growth	Transfer maintenance to other party - need financial support; Adra topic group on ecosystem mapping, initiated by TNO, UCC (AI4EU) and UTwente (Adra-e); CLAIRE has an interest; AI4Europe could play a role; cost is relatively high - at least initially	TNO/ULEI
	Brand "AI made in Europe" (branding, materials)	Transfer branding to other party - need financial support (CIIRC CTU has been active in facilitating the AI NoEs brand so far)	
High	Strategic research planning - Joint SRA	CLAIRE + ELLIS + EurAI, perhaps with some involvement with Adra; it would really be best to have a new CSA as long as there are ≥ 3 NoEs; will need some financial support from VISION; cost is medium	ULEI/Inria
High	AIDA	Plans are in place (AIDA organisation); high cost on an ongoing basis (300-500k / year)	UCC

What is important to sustain?



Priority	Item	Actions for sustaining	Lead
	Ecosystem/NoE network as such	Some kind of structure to maintain the created network (the NoE's? Adding AI4Europe, but also ICT 49, (E)DIHs?, others Link to sustainable structure(s) (CLAIRE)	
	Communication channels + www.vision4ai.eu	Need financial support Note: CIIRC CTU has been hosting and administrating the website so far (and is open to be active further)	(CIIRC CTU)
	Industry collaboration; Theme Development workshops	One more event (in SB) funded by TAILOR 7-8 May; might inform future EU projects / mechanisms; TDWs through CLAIRE + other interested partners (Adra, ...) - more deep-dives, significant interest from industry	DFKI+F BK

What is important to sustain?



Priority	Item	Actions for sustaining	Lead
High	Joint events - eg community workshops , AI open days, community meetings	The community workshop is a valuable event for cross-coordination and social interaction across NoEs. 4th community workshop co-organized by the NoEs, ask an NoE to be local chair on a round-robin basis (4th CW is hosted by AI4Media in Thessaloniki). We could make a preliminary schedule for the next years 2023: Siena (TAILOR) 2024: Thessaloniki (AI4Media) 2025: ... (ELIAS) 2026: ... (dAIEDGE) 2027: ... (ENFIELD) 2028: ... To keep this going, this requires the NoEs to agree on a schedule, and for each NoE to commit to collaborating on the organization of the event and allocating budget to do so (in discussion with their PO)	TNO/(ULEI?) Maintain via CIIRC? (in ELIAS)

What is important to sustain?



Priority	Item	Actions for sustaining	Lead
High	ESSAI	EurAI+CLAIRE (EC support would make a big difference, but will likely be sustained anyway); seems to have high impact, closely related to talent / HQP training	
High	AI on demand	Not our worry - AI4Europe and many other projects; UCC to write paragraph or two on this(?)	UCC (BarryOS)
Medium-High	Joint communications on output - Highlights slide deck , publications, press releases	Needs medium resources; EC should invest in it if they think it is important - ideally through a new instrument (CSA, ...); synergy with ecosystem mapping; might go beyond NoEs (long-term impact)	

What is important to sustain?



Priority	Item	Actions for sustaining	Lead
	Regular meetings of Communication persons (Communication Club)	CIIRC CTU has been facilitating the meetings so far (and is consortium partner in ELIAS and euROBIN as well)	
High	Regular meetings of cross-NoE groups (coordinators, PMs, communications club)	Need financial support - to increase PMs for current WP in particular project such as ELIAS or other that would take the lead - or dedicated sources for joint meetings with CLAIRE / ELLIS / Adra? relatively low cost; want mechanism to keep the ex-NoEs involved (needs further discussion/elaboration) - could be one "pool"	
	Vision and sustainability (funding) plan for a consolidation		

Strategic directions - VISIONs vision on the future

