

# Artificial intelligence, Data and Robotics ecosystem

# https://adra-e.eu/

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<sup>1</sup> **PU:** Public; **CO:** Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)





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Author(s):	Eloísa Villar (ATOS IT), Katrina Linden (LiU). Philip	
	Piatkiewicz (Adra)	
Reviewers:	Belén Gallego (ATOS SPAIN), Jozef Geurst (INRIA)	
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R: Report, **DEC**: Websites, patent filling, videos; **DEM**: Demonstrator, pilot, prototype; **OTHER**: Software Tools

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> PU: Public; CO: Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)



# **Document summary**

This deliverable outlines the strategies and activities implemented under Task 1.2 of the Adra-e CSA to support the engagement, visibility, and collaboration of Horizon Europe R&D projects funded within the AI, Data, and Robotics (ADR) Partnership. It details how Adra-e contributed to building a cohesive, knowledge-sharing community through the Address Book that was established as a central coordination tool and how outreach efforts and event orchestration fostered connections across waves of funded projects. The document highlights key milestones such as the "Future-Ready" event, the first and second Launch Events and the Birds-of-a-Feather workshops and provides practical insights into ensuring ongoing alignment and contribution from funded projects toward a shared European innovation ecosystem. Finally, the document outlines some recommendations for the sustainability of the partnership through the continuity of these activities.



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## 1. Introduction

The primary objective of Task 1.2 of the ADRA-e project is to promote collaboration between EC-funded projects within the Artificial Intelligence, Data and Robotics (ADR) ecosystem. This involves encouraging the creation of synergies, facilitating the exchange of best practice, and consolidating results within sustainable structures, such as the Adra Topic Groups. This task directly contributes to the objectives of Work Package 1 (WP1) by supporting the convergence of communities and strengthening the collaborative network around the ADRA partnership.

Led by INRIA, the overarching objective of WP1 is to support the European ADR community and facilitate the implementation and updating of the SRIDA. This involves creating spaces for dialogue and coordination, promoting joint actions across disciplines and sectors, and providing strategic recommendations. WP1 acts as a catalyst between the project's strategic objectives and the operational communities responsible for carrying them out, providing cohesion and direction to the various initiatives involved.

Within this framework, this deliverable aims to document the activities developed within Task 1.2, reporting on concrete actions carried out to stimulate synergies between projects, facilitate practical collaboration and identify common challenges for the future evolution of the ADR ecosystem.

Therefore, this report presents:

- An introduction to the general context of the project and Task 1.2.
- A description of the activities carried out (e.g. events, webinars, meetings and coordination with other work packages).
- The results obtained, alongside impact indicators.
- Conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations; and
- Annexes with evidence, such as agendas, recordings, dissemination materials and strategic documents.



## 2. Activities carried out

The activities under the scope of T1.2 according to the DoA [1] since Atos took over the leadership<sup>4</sup>, were:

- Support Trust-IT on the organization of the Launch Events and production of their associated brochures
- Birds-of-a feather online workshops/webinars on specific topics to stimulate synergies between projects and sharing of results.
- Maintain a project address-book and high-level overview of project activity and clusters
- Support research and industry across disciplines, including start-ups, scale-ups and
  possibly unicorns to connect within the ADR partnership eco-system (e.g. projects, Adra
  topic groups, Al-on-demand platform, etc.) for example through organizing HEU info
  days in close liaison with T7.3.
- Coordination with T2.3 (Exhibition and Foresight Panel) to stimulate the participation of the projects.
- Organization of an Adra Topic Groups and ADR Projects meet-up to disseminate
  projects results and stimulate synergies with other projects as well as existing, or
  potentially new topic groups; consolidate expertise and know-how developed in the
  projects and sustain them in topic groups.
- Identify emerging challenges to take into consideration for the next iteration of the SRIDA (and the next round of projects)

The implementation of these commitments in practice has consisted of:

#### **Events:**

- √ 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd Launch Event for the new ADR Partnership Projects
- ✓ Birds of a Feather Webinar *Trustworthy AI: Landscaping Verifiable Robustness and Transparency*
- ✓ Future-Ready: On Demand Solutions with AI, Data, and Robotics

#### **Activities:**

✓ Project address-book creation and management

- ✓ Coordination with Task 2.3 (ADR Exhibition)
- ✓ Identification of challenges for the next iteration of the SRIDA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In the original proposal Adra, as private partner in the ADR partnership was meant to lead this task and support integration of the projects in the partnership. However, at the launch of project Adra didn't yet have a Secretary General, to nevertheless develop the activities of the task leadership was transferred to Atos.



# 2.1 Launch Events of the ADR Partnership Projects

1<sup>st</sup> Launch Event



Figure 1: First Launch event announcement Source: Adra-e website

Date: Monday 17 October 2022, 09:15 - 13:10

Duration: ~4h

Recording: YouTube link

The first Launch Event of the Artificial Intelligence, Data, and Robotics (ADR) Partnership was held on 17 October 2022. It was co-organised by the CSAs Adra-e and the Al4Europe at the special request of the European Commission.

As mentioned on the Adra-e website [2], the objective of the event was to introduce the newly funded R&I landscape and to identify common themes and challenges for future activities and collaboration with Al-on-demand Platform, ensuring all the newly funded projects were introduced and offering all of them to have their say through a two-minute pitch video presentation. After the event they were included in a joint catalogue<sup>5</sup> that was disseminated both online and offline

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 1st projects brochure



The event began with a Welcome and Introduction session led by Viviane Habert, the Inria Project Manager for Adra-e, and Tanvir Singh Badwal, the UCC Project Manager for Al4Europe. This introductory segment set the stage for the day's proceedings.

Following the introduction, Cecile Huet, the Head of Unit for Robotics & Artificial Intelligence Innovation and Excellence (Unit A1) at the European Commission, provided an Introduction of the EC. This session likely covered the Commission's role and initiatives in the field of AI and robotics.

The focus then shifted to the Networks of Excellence Centers with a presentation on euRobin and ELSA (European networks aimed at fostering excellence in robotics and AI, respectively). The session delved into their objectives and contributions to the European AI landscape.

Next there was a presentation on Adra by Marina Bill, the President at the time, and Rich Walker, the Chair of the Board. This segment likely highlighted Adra's mission and recent activities.

Marc Schoenauer, Research Director at Inria, outlined the presentation and objectives of Adra-e ant its scope, while Barry O'Sullivan and Gabriel González Castañé from the University College Cork, Ireland, presented the Al4Europe and the Al-on-demand Platform.

Matthias KUOM presented the European Digital Innovation Hubs and their role in supporting digital transformation across Europe.

After a break, the event resumed with a session on HORIZON-CL4-2021-HUMAN-01-01, focusing on Verifiable robustness, energy efficiency, and transparency for Trustworthy AI. This session highlighted projects such as AutoFair, ENEXA, EVENFLOW, REXASI-PRO, SAFEXPLAIN, SustainML, TALON, TUPLES, and ULTIMATE.

The next session addressed HORIZON-CL4-2021-HUMAN-01-24, which tackled gender, race, and other biases in Al. Projects AEQUITAS, BIAS, FINDHR, and MAMMOTH were presented.

Following this, the focus shifted to HORIZON-CL4-2021-DIGITAL-EMERGING-01-09, which explored AI, Data, and Robotics for the Green Deal. Projects ALCHIMIA, CLARUS, DARROW, DIGIFOREST, Grinner, RECLAIM, Romain, Smart Droplets, and TUBERS were outlined.

HORIZON-CL4-2021-DIGITAL-EMERGING-01-10 covered AI, Data, and Robotics at work, with projects EARASHI, FAIRWork, FEROX, GEYEDANCE, HACID, SIMAR, and SOFTCARE.

The final session before the closing remarks focused on HORIZON-CL4-2021-DIGITAL-EMERGING-01-11, which pushed the limit of robotics cognition. Projects AGIMUS, CONVINCE, CoreSense, HARIA, IntelliMan, MOZART, PILLAR-Robots, REGO, and Sestosenso were covered.

The event concluded with Feedback and Closing Remarks.



#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Launch Event

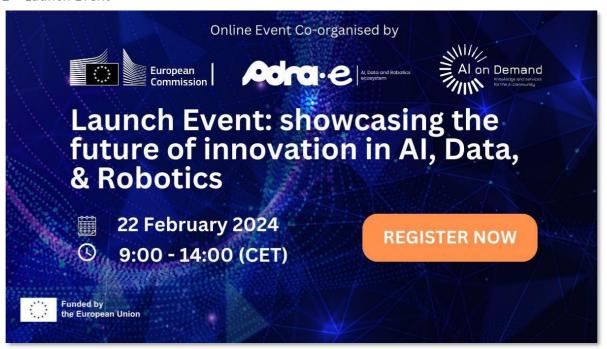


Figure 2: Second Launch Event announcement Source: Adra-e website

**Date:** Thursday 22 February 2024 at 9:00 am to 13:00

Duration: ~4h

Recording: YouTube link

The second Launch Event of the Artificial Intelligence, Data, and Robotics (ADR) Partnership was held on 22 February 2024. It was co-organised by the European Commission, Adra-e and the Al-on-Demand platform at the special request of the European Commission.

The objective of the event was to present the newly funded projects selected under several Horizon Europe calls from 2022 and 2023. These projects are expected to play a key role in advancing the strategic priorities of the ADR Partnership, contributing to European excellence, competitiveness, and trust in AI, data and robotics technologies.

The agenda included an introductory segment with speakers from the European Commission (Cécile Huet, Head of Unit A1 – Robotics and AI Innovation, DG CONNECT), Adra (Philip Piatkiewicz, Secretary General), Adra-e (Joost Geurts, INRIA, Director European Partnerships), AI4Europe (Barry O'Sullivan, UCC and Rafael Tolosana, Zaragoza University), and Deploy AI (Joachim Koehler, Fraunhofer IAIS and Ruurik Holm, Aalto University). The main part of the event consisted of a series of thematic blocks, each showcasing clusters of projects grouped by call topics. These covered areas such as networks of AI excellence, human-centered AI, natural language technologies, data governance, trustworthy and efficient AI, the cognitive computing continuum, robotics capabilities, and AI for industry optimisation and societal challenges.

In total, over 40 projects were presented. Each project was introduced via a short, pre-recorded video made available during the session and shared on public platforms afterwards.



**Table 1:** Projects presented at the 2nd ADR Projects launch event

Call ID	Title of the call	Project	Туре
HORIZON-CL4-2023- DATA-01-04	Cognitive Computing Continuum: Intelligence and	EMPYREAN	RIA
	automation for more efficient data processing.	ENACT	1
		HYPER-AI	
		INTEND	-
		MYRTUS	
		SWARMCHESTRATE	-
HORIZON-CL4-2023-	Novel paradigms and approaches, towards Al-driven	IRE	RIA
DIGITAL-EMERGING-01- 01	autonomous robots.	INVERSE	1
		ARISE	1
		RoboSapiens	-
HORIZON-CL4-2023-	Industrial leadership in AI, Data and Robotics –	ARISE	IA
DIGITAL-EMERGING-01- 02	advanced human robot interaction	FORTIS	
		JARVIS	1
HORIZON-CL4-2023- HUMAN-01-01	Efficient Trustworthy AI – Making the best of data	AI-DAPT,	RIA
		EXTRA-BRAIN,	-
		MANOLO	
		RAIDO	1
HORIZON-CL4-2023-	Large Scale Pilots on Trustworthy AI, Data and	AI4WORK	IA
HUMAN-01-02	Robotics addressing key societal challenges	FAITH	
		SHEREC	
HORIZON-CL4-2023-	Natural Language Understanding and Interaction in	ELOQUENCE	RIA
HUMAN-01-03	Advanced Language Technologies	MEETWEEN	-
		TrustLLM	1
HORIZON-CL4-2023-	Open Innovation: Addressing Grand Challenges in Al,	AI-BOOST	CSA
HUMAN-01-04	Data and Robotics		
HORIZON-CL4-2023- DATA-01-02	Integration of data life cycle, architectures and standards for complex data cycles and/or human factors, language.	CEDAR	RIA
		CyclOps	-
		DS2	
		NOUS	
		PLIADES	]
HORIZON-CL4-2022- DATA-01-04	Technologies and solutions for data trading, monetizing, exchange and interoperability	DATAMITE	IA
DATA-01-04	monetizing, exchange and interoperability	FAME	1
		PISTIS	1
		UPCAST	1



HORIZON-CL4-2022- DIGITAL-EMERGING-02- 05	AI, Data and Robotics for Industry optimisation (including production and services)	COROB  dAlry  EMERALD  PERKS  SeConRob  SoliDAIR	IA
HORIZON-CL4-2022- DIGITAL-EMERGING-02- 06	Pushing the limit of physical intelligence and performance.	MANIBOT PRIMI SPEAR SWAG	RIA
HORIZON-CL4-2022- DIGITAL-EMERGING-02- 07	Increased robotics capabilities demonstrated in key sectors.	AUTOASSESS  MAGICIAN  SOPRANO  TALOS	IA
HORIZON-CL4-2022- HUMAN-02-01	Al for Human Empowerment	Al4REALNET HumAine PEER TANGO THEMIS 5.0	RIA
HORIZON-CL4-2022- HUMAN-02-02	European Network of AI Excellence Centres: Expanding the European AI lighthouse.	dAIEDGE  ELIAS  ENFIELD	RIA

As leader of Task 1.2 in the Adra-e CSA, Atos was responsible for the coordination and logistical execution of the event on the side of the CSA. After a first request made by the EC to the projects, the work involved directly contacting each of the selected projects, collecting the required project descriptions, logos, and key information needed for visibility and dissemination. Atos and Adra-e dissemination partner TRUST-IT followed up with all consortia to request and validate their pre-recorded presentation videos and feed the European Commission with the necessary materials to compile the second official brochure<sup>6</sup>, which contains a summary of all funded projects. This required multiple rounds of reminders, content review, and gap-filling to ensure consistency and completeness of the final communication material.

The presentations gave voice to project coordinators and key researchers, providing a first glimpse of the scientific and technical ambitions of these initiatives, and helping the broader ADR ecosystem understand their thematic alignment and potential for collaboration. The event also highlighted crosscutting priorities such as open science, societal impact, and European strategic autonomy.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 2nd projects brochure



Thanks to these efforts, the event was not only an efficient launchpad for new projects but also a key milestone in strengthening the visibility and cohesion of the ADR ecosystem. Held online and made publicly accessible, the session facilitated wide participation and reinforced the partnership's role as a coordinated European response to the strategic challenges of AI, data and robotics.

The <u>full event recording</u> is available at the Adra-e channel on YouTube.

# 2.2 Birds of a Feather Webinar: Trustworthy AI: Landscaping Verifiable Robustness and Transparency.

The Birds of a Feather Webinar *Trustworthy AI: Landscaping Verifiable Robustness and Transparency* was co-hosted by ADRA-e and the Trustworthy AI Cluster.



Figure 3. Trustworthy AI BoF webinar invitation

Source: Adra-e website

Date: Wednesday 29 May 2024, at 10.00-12.00 CEST

Duration: ~2h

Recording: YouTube link

Detailed agenda: Link to the agenda

Conducted by Katerina Linden (Linköping University), the webinar aimed to showcase practices, tools, and frameworks from nine EU-funded projects under the HORIZON-CLA-2021-HUMAN-01 call, which form the *Trustworthy AI Cluster*. AutoFair, ENEXA, EVENFLOW, REXASI-PRO, SAFEXPLAIN, Sustain ML, TALON, TUPLES, and ULTIMATE. The event gathered representatives from the European Commission, the CSAs (AloD, DeployAI, ADRA-e), and project partners from academia and industry.





Trustworthy AI: Landscaping verifiable robustness & transparency

**Figure 4:** Trustworthy Al BoF webinar. Source: Adra-e's channel on YouTube

#### Some highlights:

- **EC perspective:** Evangelia Markidou (EC) emphasized the strategic priority of trustworthy AI in Europe, the relevance of the AI Act, and the need for cross-sector collaboration.
- **CSA insights:** Adra's Secretay General Philip Piatkiewicz stressed the role of SRIDA in aligning AI with EU values. Paul Lukowicz (AI4Europe) highlighted the AI-on-Demand platform as a trusted research hub. Ilkka Lakaniemi (Deploy AI) addressed industry adoption challenges and the business value of trust.
- **Cluster presentation:** Elena Galifianaki introduced the Trustworthy Al Cluster, focusing on shared goals, dissemination, and integration with Al-on-Demand.
- Project use cases: The nine projects presented diverse approaches to trustworthy AI, including formal validation, human-centric design, regulatory compliance, explainability, and neuro-symbolic techniques.

Common takeaways included the need to embed explainability, ethics, and verification from the design phase; the added value of clustering for policy alignment and impact; and a collective commitment to open-source contributions via GitHub, Al-on-Demand, and Zenodo platforms.



# 2.3 Future-Ready: On Demand Solutions with AI, Data, and Robotics

**Future-Ready: On Demand Solutions with AI, Data, and Robotics** was a high-level event held in Brussels on 18–19 February 2025. It brought together Horizon Europe projects, policymakers and experts to showcase results, strengthen the ADR ecosystem, and contribute to Europe's digital future in AI, data, and robotics, fostering collaboration across research and industry.



**Figure 5:** Future Ready's visual identity. Source: Future Ready's website

Date 18-19 February 2025

**Duration:** 2 days

Recordings: YouTube link

Detailed agenda: Link to the agenda

Organisation

The **Future-Ready** event was co-organised by the CSA projects **Adra-e** and **Al-on-Demand (AloD)**. Coordination responsibilities were shared by both projects, with **Atos (on behalf of Adra-e)** chairing the weekly organisational committee meetings held from **November 10, 2024**, until one week after the event. The committee included communication experts, dissemination leads, industry and academic representatives from both consortia, as well as the European Commission project officers.

The event organisation included full branding, email invitations, and presentation materials, some of them accessible on the official event website and others included as annexes to this document.

To further stimulate synergies between the ADR projects and the Adra topic groups it was decided to regroup the BoF sessions into this **on-site event** to foster greater interaction, visibility, and cross-project collaboration (originally, they were planned as a series of webinars). This decision enhanced the impact and coherence of the workshops, which were held in parallel tracks across the first day of the Future-Ready event, after the opening and welcome.

On behalf of Adra-e, Atos identified the most mature clusters of projects from the 2022 and 2023 ADR Partnership calls and contacted their relevant representatives, using the knowledge base developed through its **Address Book**, that started compiling for the project on early 2024 (see section 2.3 in this document). Selected project coordinators within the partnership were invited to design and lead a **Birds of a Feather** (BoF) workshop tailored to each cluster's thematic area.



Adra, on the other hand, organised the Topic Groups workshops to which Day 2 was dedicated. **More than 20 sessions** were held, including panel discussions, the BoF and the Topic Groups workshops and interactive exchanges.

The whole event aimed to disseminate results and encourage synergies between ADR projects, connect ongoing efforts with existing and potential **Adra Topic Groups**, identify emerging challenges to inform future iterations of the **SRIDA**, and promote project engagement on the **Al-on-Demand platform**.

Future Ready, hosted at the **Sparks Meeting**, welcomed a diverse **audience**: project coordinators and technical leads from Horizon Europe ADR-funded initiatives, Adra Topic Group members, policy officers from the European Commission, and new projects seeking collaboration and visibility.

The initiative reinforced Adra-e and AloD's support for methodological convergence and synergies among ADR projects, while showcasing the Al-on-Demand platform as a central dissemination and knowledge-sharing tool.









Figure 6: Future Ready Day 1 (1). Author: Future Ready's org. committee

#### Summary of Day 1

The first day began with a welcome session followed by an **opening keynote** titled *How to build a European Ecosystem of Excellence that serves European competitiveness, now and in the future?* Moderated by Marc Schoenauer and featuring interventions by Philip Piatkievicz and Barry O'Sullivan, the session set the tone for the conference by highlighting the need for coordinated European efforts in artificial intelligence and digital innovation to ensure long-term global competitiveness and resilience.



The morning continued with a series of parallel **Birds of a Feather (BoF) workshops**, in which a number of Partnership projects funded through **Horizon Europe** came together to explore shared challenges and showcase collaborative results.

**Table 2:** Projects. Birds of a Feather workshops at the Future Ready event

Cluster	Participant projects	Speakers	Highlights
Al Fairness cluster	AEQUITAS, BIAS, FINDHR, MAMMOth	Gea Meijers, Ilkka Penttinen, Joana Martinheira, Manios Krasanakis, Constantinos Karayiannis	Presented joint progress and discuss research gaps / future directions related to fairness, transparency, and bias mitigation in AI systems.
AI, Data & Robotics at Work	Softenable, FAIRWORK, EARASHI, GEYEDANCE, SIMAR, Intelliman, SESTOSENSO	Ganix Lasa Erle, Isabelle Dor, Florian Pokorny, Robert Woitsch, Maitane Mazmela, Gernot Kronreif, Miguel Ángel Trujillo, Roberto Meattini, Alessandro Albini	Discussed inclusive and ergonomic approaches to robotics, with a strong focus on real-world applications and human interaction
DataNEXUS	EXTRACT, EMERALDS, Graph-Massivizer, NEARDATA, SYCLOPS	Bahare Salehi, Xavier Palomo, Radu Prodan, Pedro García López, Eugenio Marinelli	Addressed the challenges of processing extreme data across the full compute continuum, from edge devices to high-performance computing infrastructures.
Trustworthy Al	ULTIMATE, TALON, CAOS, EVENFLOW	Michel Barreteau, Stylianos Trevlakis, Jaume Abella, Nikos Katzouris	Discussions focused on the integration of explainability and formal methods into AI systems, particularly in safety-critical and industrial.
AI for Human Empowerment	AI4REALNET, PEER, TANGO, HUMAINE, THEMIS	Ricardo Bessa, Ann Nowe, Mehrdad Asadi, Artur Bogucki, Vrettos Moulos, Prof. Dimitris Aspostoulou, Gregoris Mentzua, Bruno Lemetayer	Addressed integration of human feedback in AI design, with emphasis on societal impact and ethics and on the successful multidisciplinary collaboration across projects.
dAledge Network of Excellence	dAIEDGE	Jean-Marc Bonnefous, Mohamed Selim, Nuria Pazos	Introduced the dAledge-VLab as a decentralized collaboration tool for sharing edge AI resources, and discussed how to ensure interoperability with European platforms
Green Deal Cluster	ALCHIMIA, CLARUS, DARROW, RECLAIM, TUBERS	Carmen Perea, Bárbara Fernández, Francisco Fraile, Ludovica Miele, Luis V. Valcárcel, Abhimanyu Chakravorty Bart Engelen, Nikos Panagopoulos, Joel Vanden Bosch	Explored how green optimization enhances industrial sustainability and competitiveness, with practical solutions, sector challenges, and its strategic relevance across industries.
GreenData Bridge Cluster	MOBISPACES, GLACIATION, TRUSTEE, TANGO, and TEADAL	Matteo Falsetta, Aidan Omahony, Emmanouil Spanakis, Kaitai Liang, Boris Sedlak.	Explored how Green Data Spaces can drive sustainability; discussed innovations in data privacy, interoperability and energy efficiency.



After lunch, a session on **communicating European projects with impact** presented visibility, storytelling and dissemination strategies, particularly through Al-on-Demand services, as key elements in ensuring the long-term reach of research outcomes.

The day concluded with a 90-minute Town Hall session, where workshop leaders joined Cécile Huet, Marc Schoenauer (INRIA, Emeritus Principal Senior Researcher), Philip Piatkievicz and Barry O'Sullivan to reflect on the day's discussions, identify key challenges and propose next steps for the European AI, Data and Robotics ecosystem. The event then transitioned into an informal networking session, marking the end of a full and productive day of exchange, collaboration and alignment among stakeholders across research, industry and policy.









Figure 7: Future Ready Day 1 (2). Author: Future Ready's org. committee

#### Summary of Day 2:

The second day focused on the work performed by the **Adra Topic Groups**, key to fostering long-term strategic collaboration in the ADR ecosystem. The sessions gathered stakeholders from academia, industry, and policy to align on future priorities for the SRIDA.

The day opened with a keynote by **Philip Piatkievicz**, *Building Europe's AI Leadership*, reflecting on Day 1 outcomes and outlining Europe's AI strategy. A follow-up session, *AI-on-Demand: From Research to Market* led by **Barry O'Sullivan** and **Long Pham**, showcased how the AloD platform helps transition research into practical applications and boosts project visibility.

Morning parallel sessions covered four thematic areas: **Agriculture** (moderated by **Giovanni Scaramuzzo**), tackling smart farming challenges; **Innovation, Deployment and EMIR** (with **Iddo** 



Bante, Claudio Lazo and Maurits Butter), addressing impact scaling; Inspection, Maintenance & Energy (with Thomas Vögele, Ebert van Vonderen, Aksel A. Transeth and Ricardo Bessa) on infrastructure resilience; and Smart Urban Places & Mobility (chaired by Margriet Schijndel), exploring Al's urban potential.

In the afternoon, sessions explored **Digital Twin Automation and GenAl in Manufacturing (Iria Galines, Gema Antequera, Kosmas Alexopoulos); Healthcare (Francoise Siepel)** on Al in health systems; **Human-Technology Interaction (Paul Lukowicz, Passant Elagroudy)** on human-Al collaboration; and **Techno-Legal (Argyro Amidi, Mostafizur Rahman, Martin Serrano)** on trustworthy Al.

The day concluded with a panel, *From GenAl4EU to Apply AI Strategy*, moderated by **Emanuela Girardi**, linking EU initiatives with competitiveness and policy alignment. A networking dinner closed the day, fostering new collaborations among ADR stakeholders.









Figure 8: Future Ready Day 2. Author: Future Ready's org. committee

From this very first edition, the **Future-Ready: On Demand Solutions with AI, Data, and Robotics** event has successfully positioned itself as a key platform for advancing the European AI, Data, and Robotics ecosystem.

Table 3: Future Ready Event - Attendance

Participants on site	Participants online	Countries	Speakers
+150	170	30	70



#### 2.4 HEU info days



**Figure 9:** 1st Information and Brokerage event's announcement: Source: Event's website

On April 17, 2024, the AI, Data and Robotics Association (ADRA) and its partners hosted a broad Information and Brokerage Event in Brussels<sup>7</sup>. The primary goal was to provide a strategic overview of upcoming funding opportunities across multiple major initiatives, including the Horizon Europe Cluster 4, the Digital Europe programme, and the EIC accelerator.

The event was structured to foster high-level networking and partnership building, with a strong emphasis on pre-arranged face-to-face meetings. This allowed industry experts, researchers, and universities to connect, discuss potential business cases, and begin forming the consortia needed to address the wide range of forthcoming calls. Over 200 people attended in person, with almost 700 registering for the event in total (almost half of which joined from newly associated Canada), with a significant number of participants pitching their organisations and project ideas.

The following year, on May 16, 2025, a more focused, hybrid Info Day was held to provide a deep dive into the specific AI, Data, and Robotics topics within the 2025 Horizon Europe calls<sup>8</sup>. Complementing a general online session held a few days earlier by DG RTD; this event was highly action-oriented and focused on targeting critical, industry-focused calls for proposal. After the European Commission presented detailed information on the calls, the day was dominated by pitching and poster sessions. Potential proposers presented concrete project ideas or specific competencies in two parallel tracks covering topics like GenAl4EU, soft robotics, and AI for virtual worlds. This format was designed to directly facilitate the creation of project consortia by connecting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://ai-data-robotics-2024.b2match.io/

<sup>8</sup> https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/events/ai-data-robotics-info-day-and-brokerage-event



those with ideas to those with the expertise needed to execute them. Again, more than 200 people attended, with 500 attendees joining online, stimulating a great exchange of project ideas and collaborations in response to the actions under the ADR-partnership.

#### 2.5 Project address-book creation and management

Leveraging the momentum generated by the launch events—during which over 40 project coordinators from the first wave of projects, and 50 project coordinators from the second wave that remained attentive to Adra-e's communications—the task leaders established the ADR address book by reaching out to request contact details of dissemination leads and other relevant representatives that the CSA should include in its records. Following the Launch Event, a similar request was made to coordinators of the first wave of projects, listed in the first <a href="Partnership Project Brochure">Partnership Project Brochure</a>. Additionally, projects have been able to contact Adra-e at any time via the project website to make dissemination requests, which has provided another source of information for the database.

The contact data, stored in Adra-e's secure documentation system, was transferred to an Excel file that became the foundation of the address book described in the DoA. This file has been continuously updated and enriched over the past 18 months. Some projects, topics or calls related to ADR have been suggested by EC project officers to be added to the list of contacts in successive updates. The consortium has used the address book to invite projects to participate to ADRA-e and ADRA events, facilitate collaboration, connect them with each other, and involve them in key activities such as the SRIDA, the Awareness Centre, and the ADR Exhibition—also coordinated by Atos under WP2.

The address book enables filtering of entries by project name, call ID, funding wave, and contact role. It includes the following tabs: one for first-wave projects presented at the initial Launch Event (17/10/2022); one for the second wave; one combining both groups for mass yet personalised communication using mail merge (about 250 messages per dispatch); and a recently added tab for newly funded projects from subsequent ADR Partnership calls. Since a Launch Event has not yet been held for projects funded after the 2023 calls, this latest compilation was created by manually identifying relevant entries on CORDIS using the search term "AI, data and robotics partnership".

The address book has remained a living document, actively maintained throughout the project since Atos took the lead. To preserve the collaborative spirit of the ADR ecosystem, this updating process should continue beyond the project's lifetime. Furthermore, the wealth of contacts gathered should be leveraged to keep professionals from completed projects engaged—potentially through an alumni programme or similar mechanism—ensuring their continued contribution to the ADR community and to Adra's strategic mission.

Nowadays the Address Book contains 287 valid contacts of relevant people involved in EU funded projects belonging to the ADR partnership plus +60 of people involved in CSAs, DIHs, ERIs, and NoEs related to the partnership. It is kept under the custody of INRIA until the handover to Adra is completed.



#### 2.6 Coordination with Task 2.3

Since Atos took over the leadership of Task 1.2, its activities have been closely intertwined with those of Task 2.3, progressing in parallel due to operational, practical, and resource efficiency reasons—especially considering that Atos also leads Task 2.3. From month 13 onwards, ADR Partnership projects have been natural contributors to the ADR Exhibition, providing demonstrations of their results. For further details on this coordination, see Deliverable D2.7 – ADR Exhibition & Foresight Panel Report 2.

# 2.7 Strategic contribution to the SRIDA

The activities outlined in the previous sections have provided a substantial contribution to the SRIDA by creating valuable opportunities for projects to share knowledge, identify common challenges, and highlight future perspectives. These actions ensured that project-level insights could be systematically integrated into the SRIDA development process.

The Launch Events offered a foundational platform for mapping the scope and ambition of newly funded projects. The Address Book maintained active contact points with the projects, allowing to reach out for targeted input during the various stages of the SRIDA creation. BoF sessions provided deep thematic clustering around critical areas relevant to the SRIDA, such as Trustworthy AI, Green ADR, Human-Centric Robotics, and AI-on-Demand infrastructure. The Future-Ready event offered a unique opportunity for collaborative input, bringing together Adra Topic Groups and representatives from funded projects in a shared space for collective foresight and agenda-setting. The structured format of the event, which included forward-looking SRIDA-related Topic Groups workshops, generated direct inputs that were taken up in the iterative drafting of the SRIDA 2025–2027. Moreover, Adra-e has created a structured online project database<sup>9</sup> where all relevant Horizon Europe projects are categorised by project type, funding call, and by the SRIDA Big Ticket(s) to which they contribute. This resource helps ensure better visibility, coordination, and strategic alignment between project activities and SRIDA priorities.

This way, the activities of Task 1.2 serve not only as community engagement mechanisms but as channels for structured strategic co-creation, reinforcing SRIDA's legitimacy, methodological inclusiveness, and practical alignment with the evolving European ADR landscape. A detailed account of the SRIDA writing process, stakeholder roles, update mechanisms, and methodological principles is provided in Deliverable 1.8 [3], which offers a full overview of the SRIDA implementation framework.

# 2.8 Outreach and participation

The activities in which this task has been directly involved have implied:

#### Launch Event

- ✓ E-mails sent from Adra-e to projects: ≈ 200 (invitations, receipt acknowledgements, rounds of reminders).
- ✓ Number of projects committed with the event: 58
- ✓ Projects providing dissemination contacts after the event: 44
- ✓ People connected at the same time during the event (peak): ≈ 300

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> www.adr-association.eu/projects



✓ Views on Youtube: 465

#### Trustworthy AI BoF webinar

- ✓ Number of projects committed with the event: 12
- ✓ Registrations: +270
- ✓ Unique attendees: 169
- ✓ Views on Youtube: 70
- ✓ Numerous interactions on social media.

#### **Future Ready Event**

- ✓ E-mails sent from Adra-e to projects: more than 800 (1 invitation, 1 registration reminder and 1 agenda). Exchanges with BoF participants excluded.
- ✓ Participants on site: +150
- ✓ Participants online: 170
- ✓ Nationalities in the audience: 30
- ✓ Projects directly involved in sessions: 39
- ✓ Projects attending on site and online: 85
- ✓ Numerous interactions on social media

# 3. Adra-e products for sustainability.

## 3.1 Future Ready and BoF events

**Future Ready:** Combining project clusters and topic groups enabled progress to be made on methodological alignment, cross-sector collaboration, and preparing future SRIDA updates. With over 300 participants onsite and online, 70 speakers, and more than 20 sessions, the event showcased the maturity of the ADR Partnership. It reinforced the joint mission of ADRA-E and AloD to promote convergence, visibility, and sustainability in Europe's digital transformation. ADRA should continue to organise this event, focusing on bringing together EU-funded project managers and researchers from different projects for practical, hands-on sessions at least once a year.

**Birds of a Feather webinars/workshops:** As long as ADRA can encourage projects from the same calls to cluster together from the beginning of their lifetimes to work on their commonalities, this format should be easy to maintain. By simply providing contributions from its own topic group experts, the Birds of a Feather series could establish itself as a valuable event for partnership members to participate in, either online or onsite within the Future Ready event. The activities

# 3.2 Address book and alumni program

The address book is an extremely practical tool. Without it, maintaining contact, following up on projects and keeping up as we have been able to in recent months would have been impossible. Its development was laborious and slow at first, but good things take time. Months of 'chasing' coordinators for updates, searching Cordis and the internet have finally yielded this product, which should be straightforward, albeit time-consuming, to maintain.

It is worth remembering that the basis for this database was the coordinator contacts that the EC provided to Adra for working on the launch events. Provided the EC continues to facilitate this list of contacts for each successive call, regardless of whether the corresponding launch event takes place, Adra will be able to keep both the project area on its website and the address book up to date. This will be time-consuming, but we believe it is worthwhile.



However, as projects are completed, many of these contacts will need to be removed from Adra's project address book or associated with new projects, since researchers are usually reassigned but their contact details often remain the same. Since this information is difficult to obtain, we suggest that once Adra has the necessary capacity, it considers developing an alumni programme to enable this community to remain involved in the partnership's activities and/or association topic groups.

#### **Proposed plan for an Alumni Program**

- 1. Prepare the database:
  - List projects by end date
  - Classify contacts into two groups:
    - o from June, active in current projects and
    - o key persons outside active projects (add potential alumni as projects finish).
- 1. Document the process:
  - Create transition instructions (one page) explaining the database organization and steps to maintain it updated.
- 2. Set up a basic alumni structure:
  - Design a regular, specific communication format (e.g., its own newsletter, or a dedicated section in the Adra newsletter), and / or a basic communication channel, (e.g., LinkedIn group or mailing list) for alumni interactions.
- 3. Establish a regular update process:
  - Draft an annual update process with a simple confirmation form for alumni to update their information.
  - Design a feedback process for evaluating the relevance of alumni contacts for future projects.
- 4. Communicate with current participants:
  - Send a message to all the projects in the database explaining the transition to Adra and the alumni program's creation and purpose.

#### 4. Conclusion

To ensure the continuity and impact of the ADR ecosystem, it is essential to maintain long-term engagement with the projects funded under Horizon Europe. The partnership must not be perceived as a one-time collaboration, but as a living, evolving community of researchers, innovators, and policymakers. Adra, as the association coordinating the ecosystem's strategic direction, is now ideally positioned to keep project beneficiaries actively involved, continuity initiatives will help retain valuable expertise and further embed a culture of collaboration, commitment, and contribution within the ADR Partnership.

# 5. References

- [1] European Commission, Description of Action. Project 10107033 Adra-e. Grant Agreement, Annex 1, 2022.
- [2] Adra, ADRF24 Website (www.adra-e.eu).
- [3] Adra-e consortium, D1.8 Actionable recommendations and support for updating the SRIDA, 2025.