

Artificial intelligence, Data and Robotics ecosystem

<https://adra-e.eu/>

**Call: A human-centred and ethical development of digital and
industrial technologies 2021**

Topic: Horizon-CL4-2021-Human-01

Type of action: Coordination and Support actions

Grant agreement N°: 101070336

WP N°7: Management

**Deliverable N°7.7: Advisory Board
Recommendations 3**

Lead partner: Inria

Version N°: 1.0

Date: 30/06/2025

Dissemination level¹: PU

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



Document information	
Deliverable N° and title:	D7.7 – Advisory Board recommendations 3
Version N°:	1.0
Lead beneficiary:	Inria
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Submission date:	30/06/2025
Due date:	30/06/2025
Type2:	R
Dissemination level3:	PU

Document history			
Date	Version	Author(s)	Comments
30/04/2025	Outline	Maëllys Richard-Lechat	
28/05/2025	Draft V1	Elizabeth El Haddad	Shared with WP leaders for QA Review
30/06/2025	Final	Elizabeth El Haddad	Following QA Review

This document contains description of the Adra-e work and findings.

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Adra-e has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe under grant agreement 101070336.



Document summary

The third and final meeting of the Advisory Board of Adra-e allowed an assessment by high-level experts of the activities undertaken from M28-M35 (September 2024 – May 2025) of the project as well as reflections and recommendations to achieve further impact and contribute to Adra's sustainability following project end in June 2025.

1. Introduction

WP7 relates to the management of project Adra-e. As this project is a Coordination and Support action, this WP is central to ensuring the correct implementation of the project and building bridges between WPs to ensure coherence.

T7.2 Advisory Board and Reference Committee is in particular responsible for chairing, facilitating, and supporting the Advisory Board.

Deliverable D7.7 Advisory Board recommendations is the third iteration of the recommendations received by the Advisory Board (AB) members. The objective of the third AB meeting and this deliverable D7.7 was to provide the AB members with an overview of project highlights during the last nine months of project, to share examples of *Adra-e products* covering a wide range of project activities, notably: the Awareness Centre, the Communication Suite, the Partnership Events, Initiatives and Ecosystem, and the SRIDA methodology, to present the Adra sustainability strategy, and to receive Advisory Board members recommendations and answer any questions or provide clarifications.

2. Presentation of Adra-e's Advisory Board

2.1 Advisory Board's mission

The grant agreement states that the Advisory Board “performs an annual general assessment of the progress made by Adra-e and provides recommendations to improve the efficiency and excellence of its activities. It is composed of highly recognized worldwide experts (i.e., not limited to Europe) of the three disciplines, but also on the legal, ethical, entrepreneurial and political domains who have shown scientific openness to another. A global balance regarding gender and geography should be respected.”

2.2 Advisory Board's composition

Adra-e's Advisory Board is composed of 8 high-level experts from around the world. They specialize in different fields from AI, Data and Robotics to economy and ethics.

Name	Organisation
Mr Richard Benjamins	OdiselA ⁴ , Spain
Mr Rodolphe Gelin	Renault , France
Ms Yuko Harayama	GPAI Tokyo Expert Support Center ⁵ , Japan
Ms Dongheui Lee	TU Wien, Austria
Ms Juliette Mattioli	Thalès, France
Mr Adegboyega Ojo	Carleton University, Canada
Mr Amedeo Santosuosso	IUSS, University of Pavia, Italy
Ms Carme Torras	CSIC-UPC, Spain

4 Mr. Benjamins left Telefonica in March 2024 to co-found the Spanish observatory for ethical and social impacts of AI (OdiselA). He currently serves as CEO at OdiselA and remains a member of the Advisory Board.

5 Ms. Yuko Harayama, previously at the OECD, is now part of the GPAI Tokyo Expert Support Center and remains a member of the Advisory Board.



3. Recommendations of the Advisory Board

The third online meeting of the Advisory Board took place on the 19 May 2025 from 13:00 to 15:00 CET. Six of the AB members were in attendance: Mr. Benjamins, Mr. Gelin, Ms. Harayama, Ms. Mattioli, Mr. Ojo and Ms. Torras.

Agenda :

Time	Item	Presenter
13:00	Welcome and Adra-e updates, including recommendations from previous AB meeting	Marc Schoenauer, Inria
Adra-e products followed by Q&A		
13:15	SRIDA methodology Partnership Events Awareness Centre Initiatives and Ecosystem Communication suite	Katerina Linden, LiU Joost Geurts, Inria Fateme Ahmadi Zeleti, NUIG Andrey Girenko, DFKI Niccolo Zazzeri, Trust-IT
14:00	Adra sustainability overview	Philip Piatkiewicz, Adra
14:20	Discussions and recommendations	AB Members
14:55	Wrap-up and meeting end	

3.1 General recommendations

The objective of the meeting was to gather input and feedback on the Adra-e products presented as well as the proposed plan for Adra sustainability. In addition to project highlights and how the recommendations from the previous AB meeting were addressed, the meeting was structured around presentations of the *Adra-e products*. For each Adra-e product, the presenters provided answers to the following questions:

- Why should this product continue after the end of Adra-e?
- How will it be sustainable (i.e. what is needed in terms of resources and support)?
- Who will take it over (Adra / Topic Groups / the community...)?
- What is the future potential and impact?

The presentations concluded with an overview of the Adra sustainability strategy after the project finishes in June 2025. The Advisory Board members welcomed the clear presentations and appreciated the change in approach; following a recommendation from the previous AB meeting to move away from the format of Work Package updates. Each presentation was followed by a round of questions and discussions which were very useful for the consortium and for Adra. Both AB members and project partners appreciated the constructive exchanges and mutual engagement.

3.2 Specific recommendations by Adra-e product

Adra-e Product #1: Strategic Research and Innovation Development Agenda (SRIDA) Methodology

Questions to AB from presentation :

- How often and when should the SRIDA be updated?
- What's the best way to balance a long-term vision with short-term roadmaps?



- Is the SRIDA alone sufficient, or are there other documents/formats we should consider ?

Recommendations

- While the advisors agreed with Adra-e's objective to provide Adra with the SRIDA methodology and not its content, they would have liked it to be presented with the main outcomes in order to determine whether the methodology is solid.
- At the same time, the methodology behind the SRIDA is almost more important than the roadmapping exercise itself, as the landscape is constantly changing. Adra should continue to find ways to set up the methodology for the SRIDA and other roadmap exercises so that it is fully agile. Having frequent communication and a communal editing approach has helped the SRIDA editors, the Adra Topic Group & those involved in the methodology within Adra-e to achieve this agility.
- In future iterations of the SRIDA, consider how to align with different European countries and their challenges. Think about how each country / ecosystem contributions could be monitored. Keep the business model fully open and transparent so that anyone can register and contribute. Even if Widening countries are contributing, the member states with strong existing networks are still the most visible and involved in SRIDA to date.
- Metrics are important to determine the reach and impact of all Adra and Adra-e activities including the SRIDA. Share downloads, access, distribution information (Adra website, mailing lists, AI-on-Demand platform...) with the Advisory Board to give them an idea of its impact, and also with Adra for increased reach.

Adra-e Product #2: Partnership Events: Community and Outreach Events

Questions to AB members:

In general, rendering the Events sustainable in terms of human and financial requires support/collaboration with partners (Adra members, EU Associations, projects, ...).

- Considering the objectives of the partnership, and the limited resources available to Adra
- We would like your feedback on the typology and your guidance/suggestions on how to optimize and/or prioritize

Recommendations

- Consider if the organisational playbook could be used by anyone, or whether it should remain a resource for the ADR community. Similarly, while the publicly available deliverables were mostly written for Adra and the partnership, think about how their recommendations could be more generic for the entire research community. *Response: WP1 leader, Joost Guerts, mentioned that while some of the playbook could be applied to other types of communities, the type of event would have to be similar i.e. the AI, Data and Robotics Forum (ADRF) focuses on community workshops with an important exhibition component.*
- Adra should think about how to not only effectively utilize the playbook and guidelines, but also the experiences. Which type of event worked best for ADR convergence and which type of event responds most effectively to different ADR community objectives?
- Community events are an integral part of community building and they should evolve over time. They are complementary to the outreach events and help Adra gain an external view of itself.

- The internal events for stakeholders and projects are effective for the existing community. Creating awareness may be more important for outreach and larger community events. Consider hiring professional event management organisations who can provide help with securing sponsors. Higher quality will achieve better impact. In addition, professional companies have experience getting sponsors, which will help Adra have the monetary resources to achieve high impact.
- Include how the events have evolved from the beginning to the end of the project in the methodology.

Adra-e Product #3: Awareness Centre

Recommendations

- The repository content as well as its validation process is very well thought out and of high quality. Reflect on how to ensure the Awareness Centre is not redundant with other repositories and tools in existence. *Response from Fatemeh Ahmadi Zeleti, WP3 Leader: the biggest advantage of the Awareness Centre is that all documentation and educational resources are linked to SRIDA.*
—> Advisors encouraged Adra-e to then make this explicit on the website.
- Technical matter: Continue to develop a dynamic process for adding content to the Awareness Centre and ensure that it can evolve with the advancements in the field.
- Technical suggestions related to the repository and online content:
 - Measure the awareness created (times downloaded, visited,...).
 - Create surveys to see what the community values related to the Awareness Centre content and offerings, format and layout,...
 - Include a duration indication (i.e. average reading time: 15 minutes) for each item so readers know how long they will spend on each item.
 - As the Adra-e website recently closed and all content was migrated to Adra, the Awareness Centre is not well referenced on the internet / easy to find. Even if the redirect on Google will eventually resolve this issue, the project should do what it can to speed up this process.

Adra-e product #4 – ADR Initiatives and Ecosystem

Recommendations

- While this was not an objective of the project, Adra should consider mapping not only the ecosystem itself but also to find a way to measure the health of the ecosystem. Think about how can it be grown, how things are going, and how to define KPIs for ecosystem health. As the project does not have a formal methodology to measure health, the AB recommends to start with the structure and find what's missing from the current ecosystem. Adra can then reach out and facilitate interactions with those missing components to ensure the system is complete, which will already increase ecosystem health. All actors should be reached and then a methodology can be developed.

Adra-e Product #5 – Communication suite

Recommendations

- Consider a new functionality for EU funding which will be beneficial for the research community. They want to know which calls apply to them and it would be good for Adra to have some sort of matchmaking between members for EU calls.
- As previously mentioned for other Adra-e products, it would be helpful for the AB to see statistics on the communication suite to understand its reach (number of subscriptions, page views, newsletter,...).

General recommendations for Adra uptake and sustainability

Recommendations:

- Create an *Environmental Impact on AI* Topic Group. This has been a topic at the first ECS and there was a community WS on the SDGs, so it should be taken up by Adra. The Energy TG is not addressing the same issues.
- Send all final DLs to AB at project end.

4. Conclusion

As the Adra-e project will finish six weeks following the final Advisory Board meeting, the recommendations were primarily for Adra to uptake as part of their sustainability plan. To conclude this final round of recommendations from the Advisory Board and give a more complete overview of the project and its results, the Adra-e partners will provide further metrics as well as final versions of the deliverables by the end of the project.

As relates to Adra, their Secretary General Philip Piatkiewicz, also a partner in the Adra-e project and WP6 leader, was present at the meeting. He responded positively to the recommendations and will bring them to the Adra Board of Directors for consideration. These recommendations (full versions can be found in section 3 of this document) include:

- Consider how the SRIDA can better align with the diversity of all European countries and their challenges
- Reflect upon the experiences of the different partnership events and which events achieve desired impact and outreach
- Creation of a methodology to measure ADR ecosystem health
- Creation of an Environmental impact of AI Topic Group
- Consider a new functionality related to EU funding and matchmaking between Adra members

In conclusion and on behalf of the Adra-e partners, Inria as the Adra-e Coordinator would like to thank the Advisory Board for their time spent and for their precious insights and recommendations with the aim to improve the efficiency and excellence of the project over the past three years.