

Deliverable 1.3 Report on Ethics Management

Revision: v1.0



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DELIVERABLE DETAILS

Due date: September 30th, 2023	
Actual submission date: September 30th, 2023	
Project start date: April 1st, 2023	
Duration: 48 months	
Work Package concerned: WP1	
Concerned work package leader: EUR	
Concerned work package co-leader: SfC	
Dissemination level:	
PU: Public (must be available on the website)	\boxtimes
CO : Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
Cl : Classified, as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC	

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Revision history:

revision	date	Author/ Contributor	Description
v0.1	22/07/2023	Charlotte Bruns (EUR), Emmy Hermans (EUR)	First Draft
v0.2	30/08/2023	Chiara Stenico (EUR), Gai Umali (EUR), Jason Pridmore (EUR), Simone Driessen (EUR)	Internal Review
v1.0	29/09/2023	Lucía Recio, Joana Magalhães, Rosa Arias (Science for Change)	Final Review

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.

DISCLAIMER

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SUMMARY

This document reports on the management of the ethical dimensions within the COALESCE project. It informs about the procedures and criteria to identify and protect research participants, the protection of personal data and the development of consent forms and other ethical implications of the research efforts.

About the COALESCE Project

COALESCE will consolidate, further develop, and mainstream generated knowledge and connections on science communication to build the European Competence Centre for Science Communication. To achieve measurable and sustainable long-term impact of the Centre, project objectives will pivot on co-creation and co-design building on cooperative relationships with multiple stakeholders including scientific and journalist networks, as well as university alliances. COALESCE operates in relation to international, national and regional hubs and builds on an interdisciplinary approach. It will demonstrate the means for rapid mobilisation of scicomm in times of crisis while fighting misinformation and engendering trust in science. Supporting all of this will be an accessible library of critical resources, toolkits, handbooks and training opportunities to R&I actors across the ERA.

The COALESCE project ensures the effectiveness of and best practices for science communication through a concerted and focused effort made by an experienced, knowledgeable, and well-connected consortium. We build on and add to already existing forms of excellence in science communication, public engagement, and co-creation practices developed from the joint efforts of the coordinators of all previous SwafS-19 calls and contributions from other key partners. COALESCE continues and strengthens connections between academic researchers and practitioners representing the state of the art of scicomm in Europe and defines and trains on best practices within Europe and beyond.

The consortium represents several key features to make it well positioned in relation to the call as it: 1. Integrates universities and higher education providers with SMEs; 2. Connects participatory engagement methodologies and journalism practices with new channels for scicomm; 3. Participates with agendas of national scientific bodies; and 4. Is supported by existing scicomm reference and university alliance networks.



Consortium partners

Partner organisation name	Acronym	Country
Erasmus University Rotterdam	EUR	NL
Science for Change, SL	SfC	ES
Venice International University	VIU	IT
The Provost, Fellows, Foundation Scholars & the Other Members of Board, of the College of the Holy & Undivided Trinity of Queen Elizabeth Near Dublin	TCD	IE
Lappeenrannan-Lahden Teknillinen Yliopisto Lut	LUT	FIN
Formicablu SRL	FB	IT
Universitat de Valencia	UVEG	ES
Stichting VU	VU	NL
Stickydot SRL	SD	BE
Fundacion Espanola Para La Cienciay La Tecnologia, F.S.P., FECYT	FECYT	ES
S.I.S.S.A. Medialab SRL	SML	IT
Tallinn University	TLU	EE
University of the West of England, Bristol	UWE	UK



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Acronyms and definitions

Acronym	Meaning
DMP	Data Management Plan
EC	European Commission
EUR	Erasmus University Rotterdam
FAIR	Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
WP(s)	Work Package(s)



1. Introduction

The COALESCE consortium members are aware that the research conducted in the COALESCE project has to be compliant with the ethical principles that govern all scientific research, namely Reliability, Honesty, Respect and Accountability, as laid out in the <u>European Code of Conduct for</u> <u>Research Integrity</u>. More specifically, following the <u>guidelines</u> on ethics for researchers as provided by the European Commission, the members of the COALESCE consortium will ensure that their research:

- Respect the integrity and dignity of persons (that this intrinsic worth protects them from being used for greater perceived benefits);
- Follows the "Do no harm" principle. Any risks must be clearly communicated to subjects involved;
- Recognises the rights of individuals to privacy, personal data protection and freedom of movement;
- Honours the requirement of informed consent and continuous dialogue with research subjects;
- Respects the principle of proportionality: not imposing more than is necessary on your subjects or going beyond stated objectives (mission creep);
- Treats societal concerns seriously a researcher's first obligation is to listen to the public and engage with them in constructive dialogue, transparently, honestly and with integrity;
- Tries to prevent being openly available for misuse or malignant dual use by terrorists or military organisations;
- Recognises the wholeness of an individual and that any modification (genetic or technological) does not interfere with this principle;
- Builds on the understanding that any benefits are for the good of society, and any widely shared expressions of concern about threats from your research must be considered (with the acceptance that perhaps certain research practices might have to be abandoned).



2. Addressing the ethical dimensions of the project

Preliminary statements

- Our project involves human participants.
- Our project does **not** involve the use of human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs), embryos, human tissue cells, or research animals and no biological samples or data are collected.

2.1 Assessment and Approval of Research Activities

All research activities in the COALESCE project will be subject to an ethical review process (performed by an ethics committee) concerning its ethical dimensions. The task leaders are responsible for applying for Research Ethics approval: In the case of a University Partner being a task leader, the ethics committee of that University will be approached for the review and approval. If the task leader does not have an Ethics Committee in place, the EUR ESHCC Research Ethics Review Committee will review the research efforts in the corresponding task.

The COALESCE project ensures that all ethical requirements are met and that the project is compliant with all ethical requirements and related data management and privacy provisions, by receiving official approval from ethics committees. The following table explains how the ethics review process is organised in each work package, the timeline of the approval, and which committee will be approached for the reviews of the specific research efforts.



WP	Research Effort	Related task	Lead	Ethics Committee	Date of Ethics Review		
WP1	Project management and coordin	ation					
	External Stakeholder Panel	1.3	EUR	EUR	M5-6		
WP2	Pro-active Knowledge Consolidation and Co-development						
	Analysis of secondary data,	2.1	VU	VU	M6-7		
	interviews						
	Co-creation workshops	2.2	TLU	TLU	M6-7		
	Interviews, workshops	2.3	EUR	EUR	M7-8		
	Co-creation workshops	2.4	VU	VU	M7-8		
	workshops	2.5	UVEG	UVEG	M7-8		
	Co-design workshops	2.6	EUR	EUR	M7-8		
NP3	COALESCE, the European Compete						
	Co-design workshops	3.1	SfC	EUR	M5-6		
	interviews	3.1	SfC	EUR	M6-7		
	Co-creation workshop	3.3	LUT	LUT	M16-17		
	hackathon						
WP4	COALESCE Community Engagemen	1		VIII	ME		
	Harvesting for Database	4.1	VIU	VIU	M5-6		
	Communities of Practice Co-creation activities, interviews	4.2	VU	VU	M16-17		
	Case Clinics / Workshops	4.2	SD	EUR	M7-8		
	Creating Database of Journalists	4.4	FB	EUR	M7-8		
	and Researchers for Matchmaking	4.4	гр	LUK	IVI / -O		
	Tool						
	Co-design Workshops, Summer	4.5	VIU	VIU	M7-8		
	schools	1.0	VIO	10			
WP5	COALESCE Impact pathways and s	ustainability					
			TCD	THER			
	Database of University Alliances,	5.1	TCD	TCD	M5-6		
	co-creation workshops						
	Database of key actors in Horizon	5.2	UVEG	UVEG	M9-10		
	EU Missions, Clusters, and wider						
	ERA activities. Database of						
	international networks of						
	researchers.						
	<u> </u>						
	Database National and regional	5.3	SfC	EUR	M5-6		
	hubs and their Communities of						
	Practice						
				FUD			
	Co-creation workshops	5.4	SfC	EUR	M5-6		
NP6	Mainstreaming the European Con	petence Centre	for Science Co	mmunication			
	Database of communication	6.3	UWE	UWE	M5-6		
	officers of partners' institutions						
	such as N&R Hub						
	List of participants to the	6.4	UWE	UWE	M5-6		
rigin: R ·	COALESCE events						

Table 1: Summary of Research Efforts with Ethical Requirements



2.2 Ethical Dimensions

There are several ethical dimensions that are underlying the project's ethics protocol. The following dimensions are taken into consideration:

Informed consent

Participation in activities led by the COALESCE project is **entirely voluntary**. Participants' informed consent will be obtained in advance, via informed consent forms and detailed information sheets, written in a language and in terms understandable for non-experts. These forms are approved by the involved ethics committee. Participation in the project does not involve any risks in terms of use of personal data, emotional and physical harm, and **participants may withdraw** their participation at any time. Anyone has the right to refuse to participate or to withdraw their participation or data at any time — without any consequences. Our activities do not foresee the involvement of the participation of non-adults or of **vulnerable groups**. This will be reconsidered on a regular basis due to the fact that vulnerability has to be understood in context and as dependent on the topics that are addressed in the research. Thus, additional attention will be paid to the possibility that vulnerable groups may be involved and this aspect will then be reconsidered by the researcher and ethics committee of the concerned research effort.

All documents shared with and approved by the ethics committees can be **provided on request**. **If changes occur** to the initially approved ethics protocol, **amendments** will be filed and reviewed by the relevant ethics committee.

Our **informed consent forms** describe the aims, methods and implications of the project activity and the nature of the participation. Specific informed consent forms are developed for specific methodologies: One form will be used for labs and workshops, and another one will be developed for interviews with the general public and expert interviews.

These have been gathered in Annex 1 both for online and face-to-face activities.

Recruitment of participants

Different strategies are used to recruit participants for interviews, co-creation sessions and other activities, depending on the design of the study and the research aim. Recruitment can take place e.g. via the project's SEPS and CoPs, but also through online calls for participation on social media and the project's website, and through snowball sampling. This will be outlined under Task 1.3 and the CoPs Action Plan (Task 4.1) and D6.1 Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan.

Co-Creation

The main research method of the project is co-creation workshops and labs. Before starting such activities, the researchers involved reflect on **reciprocal ways** of handling the results of these co-creation sessions. Compensation for the workload that the participants put into the activities on a voluntary basis will be considered in terms of **benefit sharing**.



Personal Data

When registering for participation at a workshop or co-creation lab, personal data (like name, age, profession) will be collected. For specific information on the management of these personal data, see deliverable 1.2: **Data Management Plan**.

Conflicts of interest

Due to the aims of the project of co-creating the EU Competence Centre for Science Communication, a variety of partners, stakeholders and other science communication professionals will be involved in the project. The consortium members are aware of the possibility of emerging conflicts of interest and are therefore encouraged to regularly **reflect** on this when cooperating with external partners. As the consortium consists of a diverse range of partners, a **Joint Controller Agreement** (JCA) will be established in order to regulate mutual relations between the parties involved.



3. Data management and Ethics

A **Data Management Plan** (DMP) has been developed to foster responsible data management on the basis of transparency, responsibility, confidentiality and anonymity.

All data that are gathered within the COALESCE project will be **anonymised**.

Personal data of participants who interact with the COALESCE project will be stored in accordance with **GDPR regulations**, with the option to rectify or delete at request. Data will be managed and stored in a protected institutional environment in accordance with procedures for responsible data management and in consultation with the data stewards, such as SURF Research Drive. Access to the data is limited to the researchers involved in the COALESCE project.

If any privacy risk arises during the project, EUR **Privacy Officer** can be consulted to help reduce or remove them.

The following list of the data that will be collected gives indications on types, formats, sizes, origins and data access.

WP	Туре	Formats	Size	Origin	Data Access		
WP 1	Project management and coordination						
	Contact details consortium	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA		
	members						
	Contact details external	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA		
	stakeholders						
WP 2	Pro-active Knowledge Consolida	tion and Co-	developme	nt			
	EU-funded project	.pdf, .docx	<10 GB	R	NA		
	documentation, policy						
	documents, secondary datasets						
	Interviews, transcripts	.mp3,	<10 GB	G	R		
		.mp4,					
		.docx	.10 CD	G			
	Workshops (recordings, notes,	.jpeg,	<10 GB	G	R		
	minutes, images, contact details)	.docx, .mp3					
WP 3	COALESCE, the European Compe		for Science	e Communica	tion		
	open source code	tba	<10 GB	G	0		
	secondary data from previously	.pdf, .docx	<10 GB	R	R		
	funded EU-projects	· p · · · , · · · · · · ·					
	Contact details external	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA		
	stakeholders						
WP 4	COALESCE Community Engagement and Capacity Building						
	Database Communities of	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA		
	Practice						
	Case Clinics / Workshops	.jpeg,	<10 GB	G	R		
	(recordings, notes, minutes,	.docx,					
	images, contact details)	.mp3					
	Interviews, transcripts	.mp3,	<10 GB	G	R		
		.mp4,					
		.docx					
WP 5	COALESCE Impact pathways and sustainability						

Table 2: Data Summary



	Database of involved University Alliances	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA	
	Database of key actors in Horizon EU Missions, Clusters, and wider ERA activities. Database of international networks of researchers.	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA	
	Database National and regional hubs and their Communities of Practice	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA	
WP6	Mainstreaming the European Competence Centre for Science Communication					
	Database of communication officers of partners' institutions such as N&R Hub	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA	
	List of participants to the COALESCE events	.xlsx	<1 GB	G	NA	

Origin: R – reuse, G – generate, *Data Access*: O – Open, R – Restricted, TBU – to be updated, NA – not applicable, A/A – as above



4. Annex

INFORMATION SHEET TEMPLATES

This file contains examples for information sheets that can be used for different activities within the COALESCE project. The document is organised in the following order:

- 1. Online informative event (webinar, panel discussion)
- 2. Online participative/co-creation workshop/activity where the consortium gathers participants ideas and insights in a shared document, Miro board, Jam Board etc.
- 3. Offline informative event (seminar, talk, etc.)
- 4. Offline participative/co-creation workshop/activity where the consortium gathers participants ideas and insights
- 5. Offline Training session

In each document, areas that are <mark>highlighted in yellow</mark> need to be replaced with text that describes the activity.

Instructions are in *purple and italics*, please don't include them in the information sheet that is handed out.



INFORMATION SHEET - [Online informative event]

Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.

You are invited to take part in the event [Event]. This event is part of the project titled "COALESCE" which is funded through the European Union's Horizon Europe Programme and runs from April 2023 to March 2027. We are a consortium of academic institutions and public interest organisations who are doing this research to learn, help people, and contribute to society. We process your personal data exclusively for research on the basis of public interest.

COALESCE will consolidate, further develop, and mainstream generated knowledge and connections on science communication to build up the European Competence Centre for Science Communication (SciComm). To achieve measurable and sustainable long-term impact of the Centre, project objectives will pivot on co-creation and co-design building on cooperative relationships with multiple stakeholders including scientific and journalist networks, as well as university alliances. COALESCE operates in relation to international, national and regional hubs and builds on an interdisciplinary approach. It will demonstrate the means for rapid mobilisation of SciComm in times of crisis while fighting misinformation and engendering trust in science. Supporting all of this will be an accessible library of critical resources, toolkits, handbooks and training opportunities to R&I actors across the European Research Area (ERA).

The event that you are participating is part of the project's activities to [describe]. Your participation is voluntary. You can withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without it affecting any benefits that you are entitled to.

For this event [Event], the following personal data shall be collected and processed:

Please select:

First name and last name, gender, age, affiliation, occupation, address, and email address.

During the course of the event, your personal data will be collected by means of observations and group discussions. Your personal data will be handled and used in accordance with EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Your data will be used exclusively for the following purposes:

- -To send you information on the event, before and after the event.
- -To register participation in this event
- -To report participation in this event (personal data will be anonymised for that)

The event will be recorded. You will be informed before the start of the session prior to any recording taking place. The audio and video records allow us to share our events. The recording could contain:

- video images if you enable your video device during the event
- audio recordings if you enable your audio device during the event. This could include your opinions.



Information about data handling: The personal data you provide will be transmitted to and stored by [organisation] The data collected will remain in the COALESCE Consortium and will not be passed on to third parties. The data shall not be used for automated decision-making or profiling. The data is processed using electronic means. In doing so, the event organiser(s) comply with security standards to protect your privacy and the risk of access to this data by unauthorised persons. Selected anonymised data excerpts will be published in the event documentation and reporting. However, these will no longer contain any personal data. If the data collected should be processed further for a purpose other than indicated above, we will notify you in advance and ask for your consent. The data will be deleted as soon as it is no longer required to achieve the purposes for which it was collected.

Your data will be retained for a minimum of 10 years. We retain the data so that other researchers have the opportunity to verify that our research was conducted correctly.

You have the following rights regarding your personal data:

- Right to access the information you provided to the event organiser(s), as well as all processing and usage purposes presented in this information

- Right to correction, deletion or restriction of the processing of your personal data, insofar as this does not conflict with any legal requirements.

- Right to request the return of your data in a structured, common and machine-readable format.

To assert your rights, please contact us in writing, stating your name and email address, at:

[name and contact details of the controller], [organiser@organisation]

If you wish to know more about your rights or request action in relation to your rights, please contact the Data Protection Officer (fg@eur.nl) or visit <u>www.autoriteitpersoonsgegevens.nl</u> (T: 088 - 1805250)

If you have any questions about this event please contact [organiser@organisation]

Please include the necessary elements:

Check the boxes below if you consent to this.

I confirm that I have read and understood that my personal data will be processed in the specific manner and specific purposes described above.

I confirm that I am 18 years of age or older.

I consent to the collection, use and retention of the following data for this research:

15

[Select if relevant: ethnicity, political opinions, religious beliefs, ideological beliefs, union membership, sexual behaviour, sexual orientation, genetic data, biometric data and/or data of a criminal nature].

If applicable: Audio **recording** I consent to [the interview] being audio recorded.

If applicable: **Visual recording** I consent to [the interview] being filmed.

I consent to the sharing of my data with [name of organisation] in [country].

Optional (ask now or after the research)

My answers in the article

I give permission for my answers to be used in papers, such as an article in a journal or book. My name will not be included.

My answers in the article with my name

I give permission for my name to be used with my answers in an article.

New research

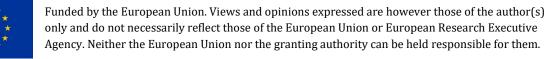
I give permission to be contacted again for new research.

Name of participant:

Participant's signature:

Optional: You will receive a copy of the complete information and consent form.

It is recommended to provide at least information about where the results will be published as well as contact information (e.g., a website).



Date:

















INFORMATION SHEET - [Online participative/co-creation workshop]

Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.

You are invited to take part in the event [Event]. This event is part of the project titled "COALESCE" which is funded through the European Union's Horizon Europe Programme and runs from April 2023 to March 2027. We are a consortium of academic institutions and public interest organisations who are doing this research to learn, help people, and contribute to society. We process your personal data exclusively for research on the basis of public interest.

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The event that you are participating in is part of the project's activities to [describe]. Your participation is voluntary. You can withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without it affecting any benefits that you are entitled to.

For this event [Event], the following personal data shall be collected and processed:

Please select:

First name and last name, gender, age, affiliation, occupation, address, email address.

During the course of the event, your personal data will be collected by means of observations and group discussions. Your personal data will be handled and used in accordance with EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Your data will be used exclusively for the following purposes:

- -To send you information on the event, before and after the event.
- -To register participation in this event
- -To report participation in this event (personal data will be anonymised for that)

The event will be recorded. You will be informed before the start of the session prior to any recording taking place. The audio and video records allow us to share our events. The recording could contain:

- video images if you enable your video device during the event

- audio recordings if you enable your audio device during the event. This could include your opinions.

Information about data handling: The personal data you provide will be transmitted to and stored by [organisation] The data collected will remain in the COALESCE Consortium and will not be passed on to third



parties. The data shall not be used for automated decision-making or profiling. The data is processed using electronic means. In doing so, the event organiser(s) comply with security standards to protect your privacy and the risk of access to this data by unauthorised persons. Selected anonymised data excerpts will be published in the event documentation and reporting. However, these will no longer contain any personal data. If the data collected should be processed further for a purpose other than indicated above, we will notify you in advance and ask for your consent. The data will be deleted as soon as it is no longer required to achieve the purposes for which it was collected.

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Please include the necessary elements:

Check the boxes below if you consent to this.

I confirm that I have read and understood that my personal data will be processed in the specific manner and specific purposes described above.

I confirm that I am 18 years of age or older.

I consent to the collection, use and retention of the following data for this research:

[Select if relevant: ethnicity, political opinions, religious beliefs, ideological beliefs, union membership, sexual behaviour, sexual orientation, genetic data, biometric data and/or data of a criminal nature].







If applicable: Audio **recording** I consent to [the interview] being audio recorded.

If applicable: **Visual recording** I consent to [the interview] being filmed.

I consent to the sharing of my data with [name of organisation] in [country].

Optional (ask now or after the research)

My answers in the article

I give permission for my answers to be used in papers, such as an article in a journal or book. My name will not be included.

My answers in the article with my name

I give permission for my name to be used with my answers in an article.

New research

I give permission to be contacted again for new research.

Name of participant:

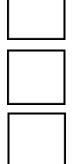
Participant's signature:

Optional: You will receive a copy of the complete information and consent form.

It is recommended to provide at least information about where the results will be published as well as contact information (e.g., a website).

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.









Date:



INFORMATION SHEET - [Offline informative event (seminar, talk, etc.)]

Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.

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Please include the necessary elements:

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If applicable: Audio recording I consent to [the interview] being audio recorded.

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I consent to the sharing of my data with [name of organisation] in [country].

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My answers in the article

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I give permission to be contacted again for new research.

Name of participant:

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Date:















INFORMATION SHEET - [Offline participative/co-creation workshop]

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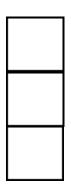
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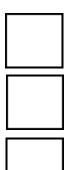
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INFORMATION SHEET - [Training Session]

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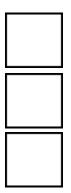
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