

# D 8.2 - DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION PLAN AND PERIODIC D&C PROGRESS REPORTS

**Project 101091536**



**SIGNIFIKANT**



**MASARYK  
UNIVERSITY**



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## D8.2 - Dissemination and Communication Plan and periodic D&C progress reports

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<b>MU</b>	Masaryk University
<b>KTH</b>	Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan
<b>TUC</b>	Technical University of Chemnitz
<b>ULFS</b>	University of Ljubljana
<b>IDE</b>	IDENER Research & Development AIE
<b>IRIS</b>	IRIS Technology Solutions
<b>SIG</b>	Signifikant Svenska AB
<b>C-ECO</b>	Circular Economy Solutions GmbH
<b>GOR</b>	Gorenje gospodinjski aparati, d.o.o.
<b>ARCE</b>	Arcelik
<b>LEX</b>	Lexmark
<b>CHX</b>	Crowdhelix
<b>APRA</b>	Automotive Parts Remanufacturers Association, Europe
<b>ERC</b>	European Reman Council
<b>D&amp;C</b>	Dissemination and Communication
<b>DCP</b>	Dissemination and Communication Plan
<b>WP</b>	Work Package
<b>CVM</b>	Circular Value Model
<b>ML</b>	Machine Learning
<b>IoT</b>	Internet of Thing
<b>KPI</b>	Key Performance Indicators
<b>WP</b>	Work Package
<b>WPL</b>	Work Package Leader
<b>DiCiM</b>	Digitalised Value Management for unlocking the potential of the Circular Manufacturing Systems with integrated digital solutions
<b>CB</b>	Collaboration Board
<b>M365</b>	Microsoft 365
<b>IPR</b>	Intellectual Property Rights
<b>D</b>	Deliverable
<b>CVM</b>	Circular Value Model
<b>HaDEA</b>	Health and Digital Executive Agency
<b>APC</b>	Article Publishing Charges

## BACKGROUND: ABOUT THE DiCiM PROJECT

DiCiM is a four-year EU-funded project aiming to develop digital solutions to boost new circular economy business models based on value recovery activities to sustain and encourage remanufacturing throughout Europe.

When a household appliance such as a washing machine breaks down, the cost of repair is often too high and not worth the fuss. The right to repair, however, is important in the circular economy. Therefore, the DiCiM project revolves around the value use and value recovery phases of the Circular Value Model (CVM) with the specific data, technology and the management needed to support its implementation. In particular, it focuses on integrated digital solutions to enable condition monitoring during the use phase, optimizing the reverse logistics, and achieving efficiency and responsiveness in the value recovery activities (i.e. collection, inspection, sorting, disassembly, testing and repairing/refurbishing/remanufacturing/recycling) to enable reuse of products, parts and materials.

DiCiM project will demonstrate integrated digital solutions in four use cases across three industrial sectors that represent over two thirds of the European Economy. They include whitegoods (i.e. refrigerators, washing machines), electronics (i.e. printers) and automotive. With important gains such as an increase in spare part recovery efficiency by 90% (which means 126 000 labour hours are saved for refrigerator demonstrator) and an increase in spare part recovery rate by 20% (about 2920 tons net material saving for washing machines and 6000 tons for automotive). A particular focus will be on increasing the recovery of spare parts.

DiCiM is an interdisciplinary, intersectoral and international consortium, formed by 12 partners from 8 countries, including 4 research organisations (Masaryk University; KTH; Technical University of Chemnitz; University of Ljubljana), 5 SMEs (Idener Scientific Computing; IRIS Technology; Crowdhelix; Signifikant Svenska AB; C-ECO), 3 large Industrial partners (Gorenje; Arcelik A.S; Lexmark), and 2 advisory bodies (APRA; European Remanufacturing Council).

All partners bring recognised expertise, experience, skills, resources, infrastructure, and knowledge to develop and demonstrate integrated digital solutions to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of recovery value activities.



# 1. Executive Summary

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This document is a deliverable of the DiCiM project, funded under HORIZON Europe Research and Innovation Actions under grant agreement No 101091536.

The aim of this document is to provide a detailed dissemination and communication strategy, as well as an engagement plan with other “sister” projects produced at M6 as part of WP8 Impact creation.

This is the second deliverable of WP8 and is a public deliverable. The main aim of the Dissemination and Communication Plan (DCP) is to proactively engage with the relevant stakeholders, tailor communication and dissemination activities of the project results, and obtain increased buy-in from the community.

To achieve this goal, the DCP will provide the DiCiM partners with guidelines on various communication and dissemination activities that are planned and their schedule, who are the partners responsible for each activity, what tools and channels are available for dissemination and what are the planned actions to enhance the impact of the project.

More specifically, in terms of dissemination and communication the DCP will:

- Propose a communication and dissemination policy, and define the objectives of the actions;
- Identify the target stakeholder(s) for each objective or main result;
- List the communication and dissemination channels to be used for the DiCiM project promotion;
- Present a schedule of the communication and dissemination actions throughout the project duration;
- Define and monitor a series of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to assess the success of the implementation (e.g., number of publications, size of the audience reached, number of visits on the website, feedback received from audiences at conferences, etc.) and update the plan according to the evolution of the project.



## 2. Introduction and Objectives

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The DiCiM Dissemination and Communication Plan (DCP) is a **living document** developed in collaboration with the consortium partners. The following communication and dissemination strategy will be built upon over the course of the project. The aim of this plan is to “answer” the questions: **WHO** (target audiences) will receive **WHAT** (key messages & activities), **HOW** (communication channels), and **WHEN** (implementation planner). The DCP also covers clustering activities with sister projects and other relevant initiatives, with particular focus in circular economy, circular manufacturing system and recycling. The DCP is structured to act as a practical working reference for all consortium team members when performing their tasks as it defines targets, protocols and projected schedules for DC activities.

The DCP is an integral part of the projects’ development processes, and while it is managed and administered in WP8, dissemination and communication activities arise across all WPs. As such D8.2 and in effect, WP8, is a transversal deliverable and work package integrating the results of all the WPs for the project’s dissemination, communication, and exploitation process. The transversal relationship with other work packages and the flow of information between them is illustrated in Figure 1.

The main objectives of WP8 are:

- To facilitate and drive exploitation of the project results, by strategically engaging and disseminating the results to the relevant stakeholders and target end-users, regulatory bodies, researchers, industry workers etc. We consider the Digital Helix (virtual community) hosted on Crowdhelix Open Innovation platform as a significant impact driver for the exploitation of the DiCiM project outputs.
- To guarantee strategic communication and dissemination of project benefits and potential applications.
- To ensure that the findings of the project are widely communicated to the general public.
- To carry out clustering activities with the sister projects and relevant EU initiatives.
- To document all dissemination and communication activities.



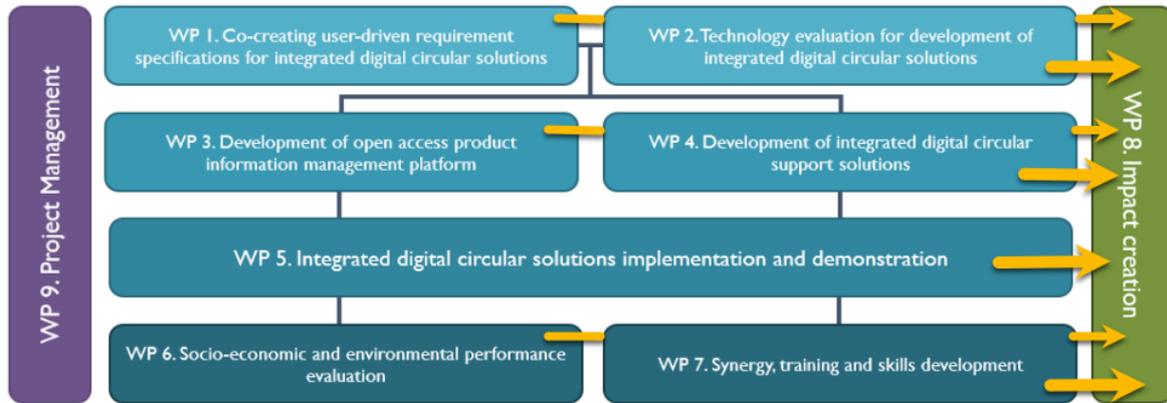


Figure 1 - Transversal nature of the WP8

DCP implementation began formally at project kick-off, while planning and preparatory activities have been actively taking place before the project term. This deliverable, therefore, represents the plan at M6 and a brief report on activities to date aligned to the tasks specified in WP8.

Interim dissemination and communications reports will be developed in M12 and M24 of the project for the consortium’s internal use. The updates will list the carried out as well as the upcoming dissemination activities in different channels. The results of the project activities and their expected results will also be listed. Any change in the Dissemination and Communication Plan will be included in the report. In M48, the final report on the dissemination and communication activities (D8.5) containing a repository of the events and conferences the consortium members attended, along with an archive of all presentations and materials presented, will be submitted.

## 2.1. Definitions and terminology

DiCiM adopts Horizon Europe guidelines to provide targeted information to multiple audiences in a strategic, coherent, and effective manner. Therefore, the project will implement Dissemination and Communication activities, which translate into different project objectives as set out below:

**Communication:** *Taking strategic and targeted measures for promoting the action itself and its results to a multitude of audiences, including the media and the public, and possibly engaging in a two-way exchange<sup>i</sup>.*

**Dissemination:** *the public disclosure of the results by any appropriate means (other than resulting from protecting or exploiting the results), including by scientific publications via any medium<sup>ii</sup>.*

It is worth highlighting that communication and dissemination are different activities than the exploitation of results;

**Exploitation:** *the use of results in further research activities other than those covered by the action concerned, or in developing, creating, and marketing a product or process, or in creating and providing a service, or in standardisation activities* <sup>iii</sup>.

The project's exploitation activities will be described in D8.7 - Exploitation strategy and plan report, due in M18.

## 2.2. Purpose and objectives of the DC Plan

An effective communication and dissemination plan supports outreach activities as well as exploitation pathways both during and after the project's lifespan. It is a key element in increasing the business outcomes from the project as well as its social awareness. This DCP will be addressing the diversity of the stakeholder groups by tailoring the project message and communication activities.

The underpinning purposes of the **communication and dissemination** activities are:

- Engage with stakeholders and end-users from the beginning of the project to raise awareness of the DiCiM project.
- Enhance awareness about the project's results and R&D activities for the development and uptake of new technologies.
- Support the use of DiCiM's achievements in the relevant contexts i.e.:
  - a. Communication to policymakers to increase the influence of the project and its results and in future policies.
  - b. Communication to the general public about efforts being made towards the recognition of refurbished and remanufactured products.
- Increase the impact of EU funding by fostering research collaboration with sister projects and with all the relevant initiatives.
- Identify and design activities to have an impact on the project audience/stakeholders (those that can contribute to the development, evaluation, uptake, and exploitation of the project outcomes).
- Develop a project identity, website and social media presence.
- Develop standard materials for the consortium partners to use in communications activities.



- Identify opportunities to multiply the effectiveness of communications, such as project clusters and networks.
- Analyse communications to identify stakeholder categories and groupings for targeted dissemination and exploitation.
- Disseminate project updates on social media, a semi-annual newsletter, press releases, leaflets and one professional videos on the project/consortium.
- Expansion of Digital Helix community on the Crowdhelix platform (see below).



## 3. Project Audiences

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The consortium has defined in the Grant Agreement<sup>iv</sup> six key audiences that have a direct interest in or influence on DiCiM and can be affected in some way by our progress and expected results. During M6, the project, taking into consideration the quadruple innovation helix framework, extended the analysis by identifying specific groups of stakeholders to be engaged in each helix (Business & Industry; Research and Education; Public Administration; Civil Society & Users).

The key audiences and groups will be targeted by DiCiM communication and dissemination activities. The specific messages to be delivered to each group, as well as the main communication channels used to facilitate the outreach are described below.

Stakeholder mapping activities will be led by CHX, with the collaboration of all partners. The stakeholder list will be compiled into a single dataset under WP8 folder in M365 which will be available only to consortium partners and will comply with the EU General Data Protection Regulation.

If relevant, the messaging that will be directed toward stakeholders will be updated in M12 and M24 of the project as part of the interim dissemination and communications reports. This process will continue throughout the project's lifespan, when groups may be further subdivided and refined by geographical area of operation or, for example, in specific interest within the circular economy domain.

### 3.1. Business and Industry

**Key audiences:** Industry players; Industry workers.

**Stakeholder groups:** Business & Industry Associations; Circular Value Chain (logistics, recycling, remanufacturing); Clusters & Networks; Complementary sectors; Component Suppliers; Digital Value Chain (IoT, ML, AI, AR, big data, image processing); Financial Institutions and Investors; Incubators and accelerators; Large manufacturing enterprises (Industry Leaders); Manufacturing Value Chain (white goods, electronics, automotive); Science Parks & Areas of Innovation; Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs); Startups.

**Messaging:**

- *Embrace DiCiM's integrated digital solutions to enhance operations, optimize resource utilization, and contribute to a more sustainable and circular economy.*



- *Collaborate with DiCiM to foster partnerships, knowledge sharing, and innovation across sectors, driving the adoption of circular economy practices.*
- *Unlock the value recovery potential in the circular value chain through DiCiM's innovative digital tools, optimizing logistics, recycling, and remanufacturing processes.*
- *Leverage DiCiM's integrated solutions to drive innovation, develop cutting-edge technologies, and create sustainable business models in the digital and circular value chain.*
- *Demonstrate leadership in sustainability by embracing DiCiM results, driving the adoption of circular economy practices, and positioning your company as an industry leader in the transition to a circular economy.*

**Key C&D channels:** Conferences and events; Website; Digital Helix; Scientific publications; Social media.

## 3.2. Research & Education

**Key audiences:** Academic Researchers and R&D organisations.

**Stakeholder groups:** Academic networks; Early-Stage Researchers; International R&I projects; Research and Technology Organisations; Researchers; Students; Think Tanks; Training and education centres; Universities.

### Messaging:

- *DiCiM project offers valuable opportunities for academic researchers and R&D organizations to contribute to the development and demonstration of integrated digital solutions for value recovery and circular economy.*
- *Engage with DiCiM to collaborate with international R&I projects and research networks, fostering knowledge exchange and advancing research in the fields of IoT, AI, Big Data, circular value chain, and more.*
- *DiCiM provides a platform for early-stage researchers, students, and technical schools to gain practical experience and enhance their skills in sustainable manufacturing and value recovery practices.*
- *Utilize DiCiM's training materials and resources to bridge the gap between academia and industry, fostering a knowledgeable workforce for the circular economy.*
- *Promote DiCiM through academic networks and dissemination channels to ensure broad awareness and participation within the research and education community.*

**Key C&D channels:** Scientific publications; Conferences and events; Digital Helix; Website; Newsletter.



### 3.3. Public Administration

**Key audiences:** Regulators, European Commission

**Stakeholder groups:** Environmental protection agencies; EU platforms; European Commission; Funding bodies; Local government; National Innovation Agencies; Policy Makers; Regulators; Standardization bodies; Waste management entities.

**Messaging:**

- *DiCiM project offers innovative solutions that can support regulators and policy makers in driving the adoption of circular economy principles and achieving environmental sustainability goals.*
- *Engage with DiCiM to foster cooperation and align policies for efficient value recovery practices.*
- *DiCiM's integrated digital solutions can provide insights and data for evidence-based decision-making, enabling regulators and the European Commission to develop effective strategies for sustainable resource management.*
- *DiCiM seeks to collaborate with funding bodies and national innovation agencies to secure support and funding for the implementation and scaling of circular economy initiatives.*
- *Promote DiCiM through EU platforms, policy forums, and communication channels to ensure awareness and engagement from public administration stakeholders.*

**Key C&D channels:** Scientific publications; Conferences and events; Website; Press releases; Non-scientific articles.

### 3.4. Civil Society

**Key audiences:** Public society

**Stakeholder groups:** Consumer associations; Environmental NGOs; EU Citizens interested in circular economy; EU media; General Public; Industry managers and executives; Industry workers (engineers, technicians, and operators); Local media.

**Messaging:**

- *DiCiM project empowers civil society by promoting sustainable consumption and engaging consumer associations and NGOs in the circular economy agenda.*
- *Raise awareness among the general public and EU citizens about the benefits of circular economy practices and how DiCiM's integrated digital solutions can contribute to a more sustainable future.*



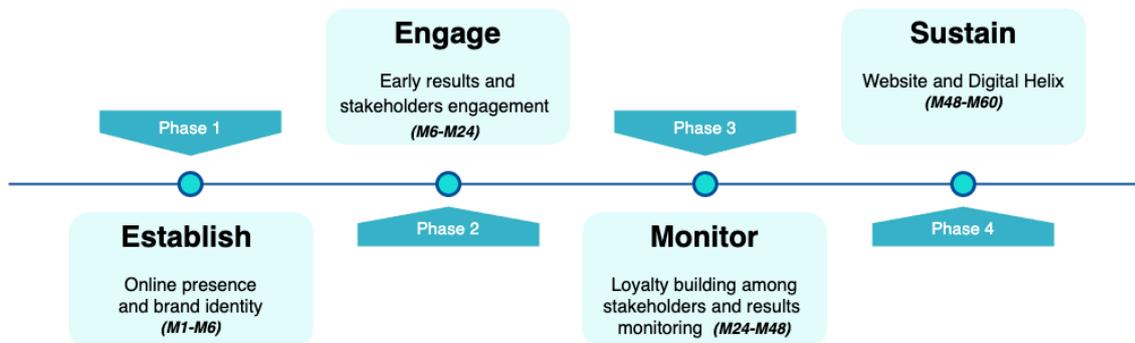
- *Highlight the role of industry managers, executives, and workers in driving the adoption of circular economy practices, positioning them as important stakeholders in the transition towards a more sustainable manufacturing sector.*
- *Collaborate with local media and EU media outlets to disseminate success stories and best practices enabled by DiCiM, showcasing the positive impact of value recovery and circular economy activities.*
- *Foster dialogue and collaboration between industry workers (engineers, technicians, and operators) and trade unions to ensure a just transition to a circular economy and promote the well-being of the workforce.*

**Key C&D channels:** Social media; Non-scientific articles; Project website; Video; Press releases.



## 4. Communication and Dissemination Strategy

To maximise impact, increase awareness and drive engagement, the DCP will be implemented over four phases to mirror the schedule of deliverables published in the grant agreement (Figure 2). To engage with key audiences and stakeholders, the project will leverage both traditional and digital marketing tools, project management, research methodologies and best practices. Messaging and delivery models will evolve throughout the funded term of the project before the project enters its final phase, where all content and channels are maintained as well as the Digital Helix. The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for DiCiM's communication and dissemination activities are outlined below in Table 1.



*Figure 2 - DiCiM DCP Implementation phases*

The first six months of the project focussed on developing a brand identity, building a website, establishing a social media presence and stakeholder mapping. During the project's second phase (M6-M18), attention will shift to raising awareness among key audiences and stakeholders, agreeing on strategies and monitoring impact. The beginning of the third phase will coincide with the submission of the second interim dissemination and communications report in M24.

Social media analytics and website data will enable the project to define its audience further and refine its messaging as it enters the third phase of the DCP. As described below, the first two phases of the DCP are centred around the creation of resources, the establishment of key messages and measuring early-stage impact before entering phase three.

- 1. Established an online presence and brand identity (M1-M6):** As recorded in deliverable D8.4, DiCiM website, logo and social media, the project's brand identity, were all established during the initial three months of the project. Between months 3-6, work was carried out to develop key messaging.
- 2. Early results and engagement (M6-M24):** Begin conveying project messaging on the DiCiM website, social media channels and newsletter. Reinforce messaging in promotional videos and press releases. Establish Digital Helix as a focal point for stakeholders.
- 3. Loyalty building among target groups and monitoring of results (M24-M48):** Refine messaging to meet the needs of key stakeholders. Newsletter, social media, videos and press releases to reflect those changes. Communication to begin prioritising engagement rather than reach.
- 4. Sustain (M48-M60):** Website to remain live for two years after project completion. Social media channels to cease publishing content. Maintain Digital Helix on the Crowdhelix platform.

It's worth noting that during the project, all partners need to track their C&D activities, using the C&D tracker available in the WP8 folder of M365. CHX will periodically remember the consortium about the relevance of updating the tracker, which will allow the precise interpretation of the project reach for the development of the interim, and final D&C reports. CHX will also be responsible for organising the C&D information provided by partners, and periodically including it in the continuous reporting of the project.



**Table 1 - DiCiM Communication and Dissemination KPIs**

<b>Track</b>	<b>M12</b>	<b>M24</b>	<b>M36</b>	<b>M48</b>	<b>Target KPIs (cumulative)</b>
<b>Social Media Campaigns</b>	Twitter	Twitter	Twitter	Twitter	Followers: 400
	LinkedIn	LinkedIn	LinkedIn	LinkedIn	Followers: 200
	Facebook	Facebook	Facebook	Facebook	Followers: 400
<b>Podcast</b>				6 episodes	Reproductions: 1200
<b>Project video</b>	1				Views: 2000
<b>Press release</b>	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	PR coverage: 500
<b>Scientific Publications</b>	2	4	6	12	Total publications: 24
<b>Articles</b>	5	10	10	10	Total articles: 35
<b>Industrial workshops</b>		1	2	4	Total attendees: 500
<b>Seminars</b>		5		5	Total attendees: 500
<b>Digital Helix</b>	50	50	50		Min new members: 150

## 5. Tools, Content and Implementation

### 5.1. Roles and Protocols

CHX has the general responsibility for managing communications activities.

1. Communication means talking to the outside world about the project, using information already in the public domain;
2. Compliance is governed by **Article 17 of the Grant Agreement**; partners must:
  - a. Acknowledge EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate) in all communication activities related to the DiCiM project, including media relations, conferences, seminars and information material such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc. in electronic form via traditional or social media;



*Figure 3 - Association of the EU emblem with the funding statement – Horizontal option*



*Figure 4 - Association of the EU emblem with the funding statement – Vertical option*

- b. The minimum height of the EU emblem must be 1 cm;
- c. The EU emblem must not be modified or merged with any other graphic element or text;

- d. If other logos are displayed in addition to the EU emblem, the latter must be at least as prominent as other logos, or at least the same size as the biggest of the other logos;
  - e. Apart from the EU emblem, no other visual identity or logo can be used to highlight the EU support;
  - f. The statement 'Funded by the European Union' must always be spelled out in full and placed next to the emblem. It should be translated into local languages, where appropriate;
  - g. Any information used in DiCiM communication or dissemination activities must be factually accurate and it must indicate the following disclaimer:
    - i. *"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 the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."*
  - h. In addition to the obligations set out in Article 17, communication and dissemination activities, and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant, must acknowledge EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate);
3. Presentation slides, poster designs for printing and videos will be provided to be used by the partners without needing further permission;
  4. To coordinate, promote and support compliance in communication activities, partners should notify CHX project manager as soon as a communication activity is planned;
  5. To multiply the benefit of individual activities, project partners are encouraged to take photos and videos which can be used for other content (e.g., newsletter, social media);
  6. Following the activity, partners are required to update or complete the project tracker on the project Microsoft 365 (M365) shared storage:
    - Add/confirm details including date, location, audience type and size;
    - Report social media campaigns (a significant post or series of posts clearly linked to the project on partners' own channel) as a single activity; ensuring that partners have access to the reach statistics;
  7. Partners are required to record specific costs related to these activities, as they will be requested with the financial report.



## 5.2. Identity and Support Materials

As highlighted in the deliverable report “D8.4 Visual identity and website”, a corporate identity has been designed for the DiCiM project.

The brand identity informed the design of the project logo, document template and PowerPoint slide deck. The slide deck has been provided to all project partners and is available in the project’s M365 shared storage so that it can be used without further additional permission. The slide deck will be maintained and updated as the DiCiM project progresses.

In addition, different sizes of web banners, social media banners and signature banners have been developed for partners to easily include the DiCiM project in their own channels.

To ensure a cohesive visual identity is used across all materials and by all project partners, a set of branding guidelines have been developed as a part of the D8.4 report. These guidelines will ensure that the logo is used consistently, creating a strong and cohesive visual identity. The brand guidelines provide guidance on colours and fonts to be used in all print and online materials (such as templates and flyers), in addition to the project website.

## 5.3. Project Website

The [DiCiM website](#) was published on 20 April 2023 and it serves to act as the main externally facing source of information related to the project. The website has been designed to act as a “living platform” and evolve as the project reaches its milestones. During the initiation phase of the project, the DiCiM website will display information about the project and its partners. As the project matures, the website’s messaging will be updated and refined to meet the content needs of DiCiM’s audiences. Further updates to the website will be detailed in the interim dissemination and communications report due in M12 and M24 of the project. The creation and updating of the website will be coordinated by CHX, with updates provided with the help of the project partners.

To attract visitors to the site, the project’s social media accounts post weekly updates that link to specific web pages. All outbound communications, such as newsletters, videos, and press releases, will also direct users to the website. Google Analytics will be used to measure the performance of the website. As the DCP moves into the sustaining phase, the website will also support the Digital Helix.



## 5.4. Social Media

CHX is responsible for leveraging DiCiM's Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook accounts to disseminate content and to engage with the key audiences and stakeholders.

-  Project Twitter handle - [DiCiMProject](#)
-  Project LinkedIn handle - [DiCiMProject](#)
-  Project Facebook handle - [DiCiMProject](#)

During DCP initiation, these channels will be used to engage with relevant accounts and share information with the primary intent of building a following. In later phases, the channels will be used for dissemination and as a stakeholder/community engagement facilitator.

A social media calendar (Figure 5) has been developed to ensure that engaging content will be published on the project's social media channels on a weekly basis. The social media calendar is located in the project's M365 under WP8 folder. The social media calendar should not act as a rigid device, it is intended to increase awareness of the project, visibility among stakeholders, and redirect users to the website. Any suggestions of content or feedback about the next posts can be sent directed to CHX via email.

To date, the project's LinkedIn account has secured 1,274 impressions, while its Twitter account has reached 135 unique accounts. This discrepancy reflects the social media preferences of the project's audiences and their desire to share posts that showcase the success of consortium members.

Successfully engaging with the project's audience on the appropriate platforms will help the project to create a community of researchers and industry professionals. To help build this community, consortium members are encouraged to share content published on the DiCiM social media accounts on their channels, either institutional or personal, to increase the reach and visibility of the project.

A social media plan will be developed and distributed among consortium partners to maximise reach whenever a **key project milestone** is reached. The plan will include a list of suggested social media posts that each member of the consortium can publish.

Publishing Date	Content	Social Media Post Twitter	Social Media Post LinkedIn	Social Post Facebook	Photo
06 June 2023	Consortium Spotlight	Expert researchers and innovators are collaborating on the #DiCiMProject. They will develop integrated #DigitalSolutions for #WtRecovery, #Electronics and #Manufacture with a focus on increasing the recovery of spare parts. Discover our partners: <a href="https://bit.ly/94cQz8L">https://bit.ly/94cQz8L</a>	Expert researchers and innovators are collaborating on the #DiCiMProject. They will develop integrated #DigitalSolutions for #WtRecovery, #Electronics and #Manufacture with a focus on increasing the recovery of spare parts. Discover our partners: <a href="https://bit.ly/94cQz8L">https://bit.ly/94cQz8L</a>	Expert researchers and innovators are collaborating on the #DiCiMProject. They will develop integrated #DigitalSolutions for #WtRecovery, #Electronics and #Manufacture with a focus on increasing the recovery of spare parts. Discover our partners: <a href="https://bit.ly/94cQz8L">https://bit.ly/94cQz8L</a>	
14 June 2023	About Project	In Europe, over 70K refrigerators are collected each year due to faults with only 30% being inspected for repairs due to capacity issues. The #DiCiMProject aims to use #AI image processing to expedite the inspection process, leading to less waste. <a href="https://bit.ly/3B8paq">https://bit.ly/3B8paq</a>	In Europe, over 70K refrigerators are collected each year due to faults with only 30% being inspected for repairs due to capacity issues. The #DiCiMProject aims to use #AI image processing to expedite the inspection process, leading to less waste. <a href="https://bit.ly/3B8paq">https://bit.ly/3B8paq</a>	In Europe, over 70K refrigerators are collected each year due to faults with only 30% being inspected for repairs due to capacity issues. The #DiCiMProject aims to use #AI image processing to expedite the inspection process, leading to less waste. <a href="https://bit.ly/3B8paq">https://bit.ly/3B8paq</a>	
19 June 2023	Partner Spotlight	Meet the Team: KTH Royal Institute of Technology With a large skillset across engineering and #Sustainability, researchers at @KTHUniversity are excited to contribute to the #DiCiMProject and empower its success. <a href="https://bit.ly/3M0X0y">https://bit.ly/3M0X0y</a>	Meet the Team: KTH Royal Institute of Technology With a large skillset across engineering and #Sustainability, researchers at @KTH Royal Institute of Technology are excited to contribute to the #DiCiMProject and empower its success. <a href="https://bit.ly/3M0X0y">https://bit.ly/3M0X0y</a>	Meet the Team: KTH Royal Institute of Technology With a large skillset across engineering and #Sustainability, researchers at @KTHUniversity are excited to contribute to the #DiCiMProject and empower its success. <a href="https://bit.ly/3M0X0y">https://bit.ly/3M0X0y</a>	
30 June 2023	DiCiM Objectives	The #DiCiMProject seeks to provide integrated #DigitalSolutions [1] This includes an open-access digital platform for lifecycle information management and solutions for #ValueRecovery activities such as collection, inspection, sorting, and disassembly. <a href="https://bit.ly/3L0gku">https://bit.ly/3L0gku</a>	The #DiCiMProject seeks to provide integrated #DigitalSolutions [1] This includes an open-access digital platform for lifecycle information management and solutions for #ValueRecovery activities such as collection, inspection, sorting, and disassembly. <a href="https://bit.ly/3L0gku">https://bit.ly/3L0gku</a>	The #DiCiMProject seeks to provide integrated #DigitalSolutions [1] This includes an open-access digital platform for lifecycle information management and solutions for #ValueRecovery activities such as collection, inspection, sorting, and disassembly. <a href="https://bit.ly/3L0gku">https://bit.ly/3L0gku</a>	

Figure 5 - An excerpt from DiCiM Social Media Calendar

### 5.5. Newsletter

CHX is responsible for the delivery of the project newsletter, with all partners contributing draft text and photographs where applicable. The project newsletter will be issued twice per year using Mailchimp to an assembled direct email list (with appropriate permissions obtained) and via social media. To build that mailing list, the project website invites users to subscribe to the newsletter. The project’s social media account will regularly invite followers to subscribe as the project progresses.

The newsletter's first edition is scheduled to be published on 30 June 2023, with the second to be issued in December 2023. The newsletter will follow this semi-annual sequence until the conclusion of the project.

Table 2 - DiCiM Newsletter Publication Schedule

Year	Summer Edition	Winter Edition
2023	June	January
2024	June	January
2025	June	January
2026	June	January

The DiCiM newsletter should include updates from Work Package Leaders detailing the progress of the project. The newsletter can also include interviews with the project team, videos, and press releases. CHX will track and record subscriber data, open rates, and click-throughs. Future editions of the newsletter will also include details of the 24 open-access high-impact scientific publications the project aims to publish, alongside synopses of any participation at talks, conferences, and tradeshow.

To ensure the timely publication of the project newsletter, the following process has been developed:

- **Identify Contributors:** Work Package Leaders to meet two months in advance of the publication date to identify potential contributors who can provide audience-led insights on the progress of the project. Work package leaders will also determine the medium in which content will be delivered (blog post, interview, video, infographic, press release), tone, style, word count and any other relevant details.
- **Create Content:** CHX will contact potential contributors and work with them to deliver the content in accordance with the style, medium and tone that has been agreed upon by work package leaders.

**Review Content:** Two weeks before the issue date, draft content is circulated among work package leaders for review. Work package leaders will provide feedback and suggest edits. CrowdHelix will work with contributors to make any necessary revisions.

- **Assemble and Test Newsletter:** Once all content has been collected and edited, the newsletter will be assembled using MailChimp. A completed draft will be circulated among work package leaders to ensure that links are working correctly, and the layout is operable across different platforms.

**Publish Newsletter:** CHX will distribute the newsletter among subscribers via email once the final checks have been completed. It will also publish individual news items on the project website.

- **Track Engagement and Measure Results:** Monitor newsletter engagement, including open rates, click-through rates, and read time to continually improve its content and format as the project progresses.



This process is illustrated in the figure below:

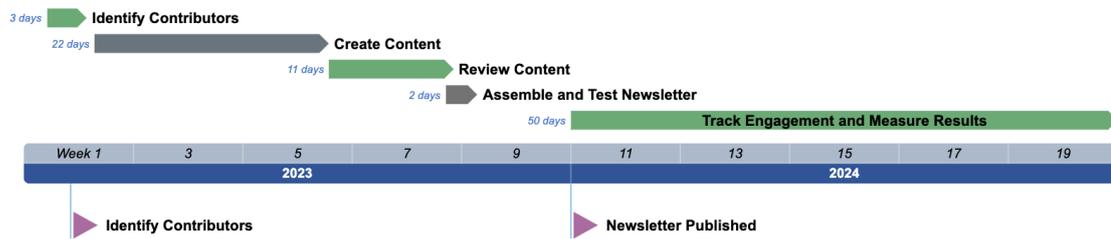


Figure 6 - DiCiM Newsletter Timeline

### 5.6. Press Releases

As per the grant agreement, the project is scheduled to issue one press releases per year, depending on the results and announcements to be made. An initial press release was issued to coincide with the project kick-off meeting. Further media releases should coincide with the publication of at least one of the project’s newsletters.

Work package leaders will scope press release content and identify target publications in advance of milestones and announcements. Target publications relevant to the project may include industry publications such as Lexmark Newsroom and popularised science publishing platforms such as Horizon Magazine, Innoradar or Innoboost may also be appropriate.

To ensure the timely publication of the project press releases, the following process has been developed.

- **Identify Theme, Contributors and Target Publications:** As part of the newsletter planning process, Work Package Leaders will meet two months in advance of the newsletter’s publication date to identify the theme of the press release, the contributors best placed to speak to that theme and to list target publications.
- **Draft Press Release:** CHX will contact contributors and work with them to deliver a draft press release.

- **Review Content:** One month before the issue date, the draft press release is circulated among work package leaders for review. Work package leaders will provide feedback and suggest edits. CrowdHelix will work with contributors to make any necessary revisions.
- **Issue Press Release:** Press release is to be distributed among target publications one week in advance of the project newsletter.
- **Publish Press Release:** Press release is to be published in the project newsletter and on the project website. Partners will be incentivized to share them within their own networks. Also, the documents will be shared with relevant EU R&I communication channels, such as Horizon Magazine and Innoradar.
- **Measure Results:** Monitor impact of press release among target publications.

## 5.7. Leaflets

As part of the Grant Agreement, DiCiM planned to commission two project leaflets. However, as part of our ongoing efforts to maximise the impact of DiCiM's DCP, Work Package Leaders will now review the value of commissioning project leaflets. Work Package Leaders will consider the needs of the project audiences to determine what format the leaflets might take, printed or digital, how they could be distributed, and whether key opinion leaders engage with leaflets more generally.

If Work Package Leaders decide to commission two project leaflets, CHX will work with them to scope the design, layout and content that will be included on the first project leaflet so that it speaks to the project target audiences.

Once Work Package Leaders have agreed on the design, layout, and content, CHX's graphic designer will create a draft leaflet that leans on the colour scheme that was developed as part of D8.4, DiCiM website, logo and social media. Additionally, any infographics created as part of that process will echo the style of those that have already been developed as part of the project slide deck.

If Work Package Leaders deem it worthwhile, a second project leaflet will be delivered in M36 of the project. The target audience will be identified to coincide with the delivery of the interim dissemination and communications report M24 of the project.



To ensure the timely publication of the project leaflets, the following process has been developed.

- **Scope the design, layout, and content of leaflet:** Until September 2023, Work Package Leaders will scope the design, layout and content to be featured on the leaflet, so that CHX can develop a design brief to hand over to the CHX graphic designer.
- **Draft leaflet:** Based on the design brief, the graphic designer will produce a draft leaflet for the Work Package Leaders to consider in October 2023.
- **Print/upload leaflet:** Once the final design has been agreed upon by Work Package Leaders, the leaflet will be uploaded to M365 so that members of the consortium can print and distribute it when necessary.

## 5.8. Video

CHX is responsible for the delivery of one project video due in M12. This video will provide an overview of the project objectives and the consortium partners. Work Package Leaders will contribute to the development of both video scripts and storyboards.

To ensure the timely publication of the project video, the following process has been developed.

- **Planning:** As part of the Executive Board meetings, Work Package Leaders will meet in August or early September 2023 to discuss and agree on the purpose and audience for the video and define the message and scope. After the meeting the CHX in-house videographer will draft a storyboard and script. Once agreed upon by Work Package Leaders, the videographer will work with the project team to develop the video and overcome any technical or logistical hurdles.
- **Production:** In September 2023, the videographer will begin the process of capturing footage, recording audio, and creating graphics or animations ahead of producing an early draft of the video.
- **Postproduction:** A draft of the video will be circulated among work package leaders ahead of October's Executive Board meeting, where any edits can be suggested and implemented by the CHX team.
- **Publication:** Work Package Leaders to agree on the launch date for the video ahead of the month 12 deadline.



## 5.9. Scientific Publications

Dissemination activities will also be carried out through the publication of 24 scientific publications in open-access high-impact research journals. In addition, members of the consortium will write at least one review publication or white paper on the technology and/or applications of the digital solutions for boosting new circular economy business models based on value recovery activities.

### 5.9.1. Open Access Strategy

Each partner is responsible for complying with FAIR ('findability', 'accessibility', 'interoperability' and 'reusability') and Open Access principles as part of the Horizon Europe grant. The [Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement<sup>v</sup>](#) states that the beneficiaries must ensure the following:

- *at the latest at the time of publication, a machine-readable electronic copy of the published version or the final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication, is deposited in a trusted repository for scientific publications;*
- *immediate open access is provided to the deposited publication via the repository, under the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International Public Licence (CC BY) or a licence with equivalent rights; for monographs and other long-text formats, the licence may exclude commercial uses and derivative works (e.g., CC BY-NC, CC BY-ND);*
- *information is given via the repository about any research output or any other tools and instruments needed to validate the conclusions of the scientific publication.*

As indicated in the Grant Agreement (Section 1.2.6 *Open Science practices*), scientific information refers to article pre-prints, peer-reviewed articles in scholarly journals, articles in conference proceedings, monographs, patents, and research data (data underlying publications, curated data and/or raw data).

Pre-print versions of all articles will be deposited into Zenodo, an open access repository that is fully compliant with the OpenAIRE Guidelines. Once published in a scholarly journal or a conference proceeding, the article's final version will be immediately posted into the institutional open repository. This repository will automatically feed OpenAIRE with articles to ensure the largest possible impact among researchers, policymakers, and businesses.



DiCiM consortium members will publish peer-reviewed scientific articles in gold open access journals listed by the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). Key partners have reserved a budget for article processing charges of gold open access publications. Each partner will ensure open access to the deposited publication (via the repository) within six months of publication, assuming an electronic version is available without extra charge via the publisher. The partners will also ensure access to the bibliographic metadata that identify the deposited publication (including terms under the grant agreement, the name of the action, acronym, and grant number; the publication date, and length of embargo period if applicable, and a persistent identifier).

All scientific peer-reviewed articles will be published under Creative Commons CC BY4.0 license. Thus, the authors retain all the copyright of the article. However, the partners will retain their copyright and grant adequate licenses to publishers based on Creative Commons licenses.

Consortium partners are strongly encouraged to use [Open Research Europe](#)<sup>vi</sup>: a scientific publishing platform available to Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe beneficiaries. Free of charge for EC projects, it has a rigorous peer review, and is fully open access compliant.

Additionally, the consortium members must respect **Consortium Agreement**<sup>vii</sup> terms, allowing time for partner notification and review before publication. As for all dissemination material, project funding shall be duly acknowledged as referred to Section 5.1. A persistent identifier must be assigned, and the DOI as well the repository link should be shared with the rest of the consortium upon publication.

## 5.10. Conferences and Events

The participation of consortium members in scientific conferences, business fairs, industrial workshops, and general events is crucial for disseminating the project's results and for networking purposes. To optimise this process, it is recommended that partners inform the entire consortium about events that they will participate or have an interest in participating. In this regard, each partner should include this information in the "**Event Planning**" tab of the Dissemination Tracker spreadsheet, which is available in M365 under WP8 folder.

Whenever DiCiM's attendance at an event is confirmed, the project's channels will publish content in line with the timeline set out below. The timeline can be adjusted to reflect the different needs and requirements of the event or participant.



**Communication BEFORE the event:**

- Event upload on the website;
- Event upload on social media;
- Publication in the newsletter (If applicable);
- Partner dissemination on social media.

**Timeline:**

**At least 1 month before the event:** Partners should inform CHX Comms Lead about the event, deciding on hashtags to be used, and start sharing content alongside.

**About 3 weeks in advance:** Creating web content and starting to promote it on Twitter and LinkedIn using the event hashtag; preparing a “social card” to share on social media.

**Prior the event:** Preparing a list of useful, relevant Twitter handles for participants to engage with before and during the event, such as event speakers and participants; creating a list of posts to tweet during the event.

**Communication DURING the event:**

- Live tweeting/posting with interesting pictures (photos and text to be shared via email to CHX), tagging/mentioning people, promoting the relevant hashtag and asking participants to join the conversation; tweeting related content, scientific studies, published papers, web content, always including relevant hashtags;
- Distribution of project leaflet.

**Communication AFTER the event:**

- During the days following the event, monitoring impact and retweeting relevant content, or tweet/post content with partners own hashtags (if applicable);
- Short news item uploaded to project website (photos, presentation title, brief summary, link to recordings if applicable);
- Social media posts;
- Publish news items in the project newsletter.

## 5.11. Podcasts

Podcasts have become a relevant communication channel due to their accessibility and convenience. They can be accessed on various devices, allowing people to listen anytime and anywhere. The flexibility of listening while multitasking makes podcasts a preferred choice for individuals with busy lifestyles. The long-form conversational format fosters in-depth discussions and storytelling, creating an intimate connection between hosts and listeners. The project will seek to integrate authenticity and foster genuine personal connections within its podcasts, thereby effectively showcasing the narrative of DiCiM in a simple and comprehensive manner.

DiCiM has the goal of developing or participating in 6 podcasts by M48. Therefore, CHX, together with the other consortium partners should consider any opportunities to collaborate with already established podcast channels (e.g. [The Circular Economy Show Podcast](#); [Circular Economy Podcast](#)). CHX will discuss with partners their interest in cooperating with these channels, mediating the contact and providing support where necessary. By M24, CHX will assess if opportunities of providing interviews were scarce. In this case, DiCiM will evaluate the need of creating its own podcast channel.

## 5.12. Non-scientific articles

Non-scientific articles intend to give updates about key developments of the project in a plain language. They are specifically tailored for non-experts and broader audiences. The consortium has an objective of publishing 35 short, descriptive articles on various aspects of DiCiM whether technical or non-technical. All partners are invited to contribute to this effort, to display all parts of the project. These articles will be distributed across DiCiM's communication channels, such as its website and newsletters. The content and format of the articles may vary to adapt to specific magazines or other external channels.

## 5.13. Digital Helix



The Digital Helix, hosted on the Crowdfunder Open Innovation platform, will provide robust support for the dissemination and communication activities of the DiCiM project. Established in 2013, the Digital Helix has grown into a thriving virtual community with over **1500 experts** from **370 member organizations** spanning across **58 countries**. Throughout the duration of the DiCiM project, the Digital Helix will expand its reach by including an additional 150 organizations consisting of new international, interdisciplinary, and



strategic members [M48]. This expansion will encompass not only DiCiM partners but also members from pertinent existing helixes such as Manufacturing, Materials, Raw Minerals, Circular Plastics Helixes, among others. Additionally, researchers, industry actors, policymakers, civil society representatives, participants from other relevant projects, and individuals connected to DiCiM's areas of influence will be actively engaged. These stakeholders will be kept informed about the research outputs of DiCiM through collaborative opportunities and the inclusion of events, project results and key announcements on the Digital Helix platform.

The Digital Helix serves as a central hub, aggregating crucial information related to the domains addressed by DiCiM. Even after the project's completion, the Digital Helix will persist as a self-sustaining community, committed to facilitating collaborative partnerships. Acting as a vital communication and dissemination channel, it enables consortium members to share their events, relevant resources, find potential partners, and form consortia to access funding opportunities. Moreover, the platform empowers DiCiM to publish its results, and reach niche stakeholders thereby facilitating the adoption of solutions and technologies developed.

CrowdHelix's recommender engine, which is embedded within all Helixes, holds significant value for DiCiM. This AI-powered matchmaking algorithm seamlessly connects posted opportunities with organizations and individuals possessing the required expertise. When an organization or platform user registers on the Digital Helix and highlights their areas of expertise, the platform's recommender engine assists the CrowdHelix team in identifying suitable opportunities within the Helix. This matchmaking algorithm can also facilitate connections with various stakeholders and aid in finding specific collaborators to meet the project's needs.

Responsibility for onboarding new members and maintaining an active community lies with CrowdHelix's Helix Manager. Direct feedback from partners regarding functionalities and improvement points for the Helix is highly incentivized. Deliverable 8.5, the Digital Helix ecosystem development, and clustering reports will comprehensively outline the achievements of this community.



## Digital

Information and Communications Technology Components & Systems

Leave

View Opportunities

The Digital Helix is an international Open Innovation community of specialists in digital solutions and related disciplines. It provides a space for international collaborators to carry out ICT-related research and innovation activities with a preliminary focus on the following themes:

- Internet of Things
- Machine Learning
- Artificial Intelligence
- Big Data
- Augmented Reality
- High-Performance Computing
- Connectivity, including 5G
- Implementation of digital solutions in circular manufacturing systems

Researchers, industry representatives, regulators, policy makers, civil society and participants of other relevant projects and relevant actors across the world are invited to join the Helix.

The Digital Helix is led by DiCiM (Digitalised Value Management for Unlocking the Potential of the Circular Manufacturing Systems), a Horizon Europe project that is focused on developing digital solutions to boost new circular economy business models. It aims to achieve efficiency and responsiveness in value recovery activities – ranging from inspection and disassembly to repairing, remanufacturing and recycling. Its objective is to optimise products, parts and materials' use and reuse. Specifically, DiCiM will demonstrate integrated digital solutions for whitegoods (refrigerators, washing machines), electronics (printers) and automotive.

Seeking collaborators for Digital projects?  
Post a new Opportunity in this Helix

New Post

1637 Experts

394 Organisations

62 Countries

**Caique de Carvalho Martines**  
Helix Manager

Message

FA

**Dr. Farazee Asif**  
Helix Leader

**Figure 7 - The Digital Helix and its numbers (as of June 2023)**

## 6. Clustering Plan

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The development of clustering activities is crucial to accelerate the impact of DiCiM by harnessing the collective efforts and capabilities of diverse individuals and organizations engaged in related research, development, and innovation.

As previously presented, the Digital Helix can be defined as a cluster engine, acting as a platform that fosters positive relationships among its members, facilitating collaboration and open innovation. However, it is important to note that the nature of this collaboration and its outcomes can take various forms.

Within the framework of Horizon Europe, clustering activities are understood as ***the strategic alignment between related projects and initiatives, which results in collaborative groups that can be geographically arranged either as consolidated or dispersed***. In practice, this strategic alignment can result in the development of clusters or networks.

**Clusters**, are classically defined as innovation environments characterized by geographic proximity, facilitating activities such as knowledge spillovers, face-to-face interactions, and resource sharing.

**Knowledge and Innovation Networks**, in turn, can rapidly disseminate specialised knowledge regardless of the geographic location of its members. As the results of DiCiM's clustering activities are not yet clear, both terms might be used to describe the collaborative network that is being conceptualised.

For the successful development of this network, it is essential to implement strategic actions that establish its stable growth and dynamic development, taking into consideration the need to encourage knowledge mobility, protect the appropriability of innovation, and ensure clear identification of common objectives among its members.

To guide DiCiM's clustering activities, it is crucial that all members involved embrace the **principles of horizontality, co-responsibility, and co-creation**, which are needed for fair participation, shared responsibilities, and the collaborative creation of knowledge and solutions. By aligning the specific objectives of DiCiM project with the feasible common objectives of the future collaborative network, it is possible to define the following common ambitions:



- Maximise cross-project communication, exchange knowledge and experiences and facilitate synergies and strategic partnering with other European organisations;
- Encourage partners to create interdisciplinary consortiums and develop new ideas for future funding opportunities and enable the development of new types of businesses;
- Facilitate industry agreements, standardisation and legislative advancements through data and knowledge exchange among value chain actors and policy feedback.

Thus, the DiCiM project, supported by tasks 8.3 - Developing the Digital Helix Community/Ecosystem and 8.6 - Clustering with other EU projects and initiatives, positions itself as a leader in this innovative process by taking the initiative to coordinate the strategy and facilitate the identification of potential synergies and opportunities within this network.

This facilitation process of collaborative relationships among projects and initiatives is a continuous and cyclical activity that, although strategically guided, can yield diverse outcomes and possibilities. Therefore, it is important to emphasize the organic nature of this process, which requires management through iterations of planning, action, analysis, and continuous improvement.

Consequently, the clustering plan will be divided into three main stages: **Collaboration Board**, **Joint Activities**, and the **Future Collaboration Plan**. It will be updated on M12, M24 and M36 to register its results and include a suitable approach for its second and third stages.

## 6.1. Collaboration Board

**The Collaboration Board (CB)** stage [M6-12] aims to identify key participants for clustering activities, and define the overall scope of collaboration, as well as protocols and specific objectives. In this stage, the focus will rely on designing the network, establishing consensus, and defining common activities.

### 6.1.1. Project Search

The first activity of the clustering plan involves mapping projects and initiatives with similar aims to DiCiM, to identify potential synergies and define the stakeholders to be involved in the clustering activities. This stage has already been completed, and its results can be found in Annex A. The mapping process took into consideration initiatives previously identified in DiCiM's Grant Agreement, as well as the analysis of projects funded by the European Union under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe frameworks.



### 6.1.2. Board

Based on the mapping conducted in the previous activity, it is up to DiCiM to analyse the potential strategic partnerships and define its internal perspectives for collaboration. For this purpose, it is proposed that the consortium appoint at least four partners to lead these discussions and be consulted regarding their respective topics. Their respective roles will be:

**Collaboration Manager (CHX):** Responsible for operationalising collaboration activities, including contacts, drafting texts, scheduling meetings, etc.

**Collaboration Leader:** Responsible for making strategic decisions regarding clustering activities, representing the consortium as needed.

**Research & Innovation Leader:** The R&I leader is responsible for guiding DiCiM's research and innovation interests, particularly in research and innovation activities. This includes suggesting joint research areas and working groups and providing support in identifying potential collaboration opportunities.

**IPR Leader:** The IPR leader will oversee guiding measures for intellectual property protection and knowledge transfer between DiCiM and the participants of the CB board. The collaborative work of these four leads, together with the other consortium partners, whenever necessary, will result in the definition of internal perspectives regarding:

- Initial vision of the network;
- Number of projects/initiatives to be addressed and the cooperation model;
- Development of an invitation letter for collaboration.

Initial contact has already been made with some projects for the DiCiM kick-off meeting invitation, but a formal approach is needed to present the formal collaboration proposal. It should be noted that the invitation letter will be validated by the entire consortium.

Once these aspects are defined, invitations for clustering activities will be sent to the identified projects and initiatives. External parties that confirmed their interest in collaborating will appoint a primary and substitute representative to join the CB.

The CB aims to guide the activities to be carried out among the projects and initiatives within the collaborative network. The initial interaction will occur through an invitation from DiCiM, where its clustering objectives will be presented, and feedback and suggestions will be collected from the CB.



The objectives will then undergo through a review process to reflect the common goals of the collaborative network, shared activities, and any other initial agreements. The outcome of this interaction will be defined in a memorandum of understanding. It is recommended that decisions within the CB be made through a simple majority, with the collaboration leader possessing the authority to veto if necessary.

It is important to note that, considering the cyclical nature of clustering activities, the collaboration model can be reviewed and adapted over time if necessary. Additional projects may or may not be included in the CB, depending on the interest of its founding members.

### **6.1.3. KPIs definition**

The KPIs for the collaborative network will be defined through an online meeting and subsequent digital interactions, if needed. These KPIs will consider the shared objectives of the founding members (CB) and prioritise their consensus. Continuous monitoring of the KPIs will be carried out by the Collaboration Manager (CHX), while periodic evaluations by the CB (every 6 months or one year) will measure the network's performance.

### **6.1.4. Means of contact**

During this activity the focus relies on defining means of formal and informal contact and information exchange in a fluent and frequent manner. Communication channels (email, meetings, Digital Helix, etc.) and their frequency will be established. It is important to consider basic measures for Intellectual Property protection and the definition of common repositories if necessary. The dissemination procedures defined by DiCiM in the present document can serve as a basis for the common dissemination measures.

### **6.1.5. Identity**

The creative process of defining a common visual identity for the collaborative network is emphasized during this stage. This will enable joint communication and dissemination activities, as well as create a sense of unity among participating organisations. It is also important to define texts that effectively describe the network initiative, targeting external audiences. The Collaboration Manager (CHX), in coordination with the Collaboration Leader, will gather suggestions for the name and visual identity of the network and present three logo options to the CB. DiCiM will create a dedicated page on its website to showcase the initiative, and it is suggested that other CB members do the same.

### 6.1.6. Joint Working Groups

Joint working groups will be designated to specifically address the operationalization of joint activities. These groups will be formed based on the areas of focus, objectives, and KPIs of the collaborative network. The initial groups will be defined by the CB, which will extend invitations to the respective members of their organizations. For example, groups can be segmented by study area (e.g., Machine Learning, Circular Value Chain) or by activities (e.g., Events, Knowledge Transfer activities). The Joint Working Groups should define specific goals for their activities. It should be noted that the number and collaboration model of the Joint Working Groups may vary based on the needs of the collaborative network.

## 6.2. Joint Activities

The second stage of the Clustering Plan consists of the operationalisation of **Joint Activities** [M12-48]. These will be conceptualised during the Collaboration Board stage, and more specifically defined in the Joint Working Groups phase. From DiCiM's perspective, the following activities are already foreseen:

- Promote and encourage collaborative activities, including regular meetings;
- Joint participation and attendance at scientific conferences and business tradeshows;
- Active participation in project social media sites;
- Development of joint scientific publications;
- Support the development of future legislation around digital tools.

It is worth mentioning that the possibilities for joint activities are vast, requiring the CB to carefully reflect on priorities and consider the feasibility of each joint commitment.

The plan for Joint Activities will be developed in close collaboration with the CB and the Joint Working Groups [M12].

## 6.3. Future collaboration Plan

The final stage of the collaboration plan [M36-48] aims to ensure its long-term sustainability through the definition of models for ongoing collaboration. While the network's financial sustainability is crucial, the registration and formalization of key collaboration activities (e.g., procedures, IPR, events, creation of companies, etc.) should be considered. To facilitate this process, a virtual workshop will be



organized by CHX involving the entire CB to promote the development of interdisciplinary consortia and identify target calls and opportunities aligned with their strengths. It is important to take into consideration that not only the Digital Helix will be available to support this stage, but also targeted interactions with other related Helixes should be considered.



## 7. Milestones and Performance Monitoring

*Table 3 - Performance measures, linked objectives, and targets for DC*

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Milestone / Schedule</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Responsible for Delivery</b>
<b>Project logo, website, and social media channels</b>	Develop a project logo and publish a website.	Month 3	All	Crowdhelix
<b>Dissemination and communication plan</b>	Establish a Dissemination and Communication plan for the project.	Month 6	EU Commission All	Crowdhelix
<b>Interim dissemination and communication report</b>	Deliver interim dissemination and communications report.	Month 12 Month 24	Consortium partners EU Commission	Crowdhelix
<b>Newsletters</b>	Share project activities, disseminate results, and encourage engagement from interested audiences via the project mailing list.	Biannual	Academic Researchers Industry Manufacturers Workers Public	Crowdhelix is responsible for delivery. Partners to contribute draft text and photographs.
<b>Press Releases</b>	Share project activities, multiply communications and calls to action, acknowledge funding sources.	Annual	Academic Researchers, Industry, SMEs and R&D Organisations Manufacturers Customer	Crowdhelix responsible for delivery. WP leaders to scope press release content and to identify target publications.
<b>Leaflets</b>	Share project activities & engage with stakeholders.	Months 12 and 36	Academic Researchers, Industry Manufacturers, SMEs and R&D Organisations, End users	WP leaders to review the value of commissioning project leaflets.  If deemed of value, Crowdhelix is responsible for delivery.

				WP leaders to scope design, layout, and content for leaflets.
<b>Video</b>	One professional video on project/consortium.	Months 12	Academic Researchers Industry	Crowdhelix to lead video production.  WP leaders to develop script and storyboard.
<b>Scientific Publications</b>	Publish 24 open-access high-impact scientific publications, Deliver posters/talks at scientific conferences and tradeshows and organising 4 seminars/workshops.	Throughout	Academic Researchers Industry, Manufacturers, Early-stage researchers SMEs and R&D Organisations	Crowdhelix to monitor that targets are met.  Partners to deliver publications and attend conferences and events.
<b>Digital Helix</b>	150 new organisations	Throughout	Academic Researchers Industry, Manufacturers, Early-stage researchers Investors	Crowdhelix to lead expansion and management of the helix.  Helix Leader and DiCiM partners to drive activities within the Helix i.e., posting and seek collaboration opportunities
<b>Final D&amp;C Results</b>	Publication of the project's Final D&C Results.	Month 48	EU Commission	Crowdhelix with inputs from all partners

## 8. Conclusions

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The DiCiM Dissemination and Communication Plan presented in this document aimed to outline the project's audiences, key messages, communication channels, roles and responsibilities and methods of communication to be used by answering the questions (WHO? WHAT? WHEN? HOW?).

A wide and sustained effort across the project lifetime will be required to maximise the awareness and increase the impact of the project, its activities, and the expected results. This document will help consortium members sustain these efforts as the project progresses.

The proposed activities, tools, and channels are calculated to reach the broadest audience possible. However, to ensure the quality of the communication and dissemination activities, KPIs and evaluation times were defined.

This document will be reviewed and updated during the project lifespan to adapt to the project implementation status and current information as well as considering potential new communication and dissemination pathways.



## 9. Annex A: List of projects and networks linked and relevant to DiCiM

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This annex is a result of the "project search" activity of the Clustering Plan. Therefore, a selection of 20 ongoing projects and initiatives that demonstrate significant potential for synergy with the DiCiM project is presented below.

### Horizon Europe & Horizon 2020 Projects

#### CircThread

**Full name:** Building the Digital Thread for Circular Economy Product, Resource & Service Management

**Duration:** June 2021 – May 2025

**Description (Cordis):** The CircThread project's main objective is to unlock access to data now in silo's and enhance it as decision information for actors across and outside the extended product life cycle. To do this CircThread will deliver a Circular Digital Thread methodology, a framework for facilitating information flow exchanges across the extended life cycle chain of Products, Components, their Materials and Chemicals data, and related Circularity, Environmental, Social and Economic Information. The core is to create data linkages between product chain, value chain, asset chain and life cycle chains based on a Product information Catalogue and enable information exchanges via data contracts governed by secure and reliable management standards. The project will implement the system in Cloud Platforms in 3 demonstration clusters in Italy, Slovenia and Spain rolled out across the entire extended life cycle chain of home appliances (incl. washing machines and dishwashers) and home energy systems (incl. boilers, solar-PV systems, and batteries) to test 7 circularity use cases and associated business models. The expected impact of the work programme is to enable improved decision taking accelerating Circularity and Carbon emissions reductions including: i) Enhanced life extensions of products by a better understanding of in-use failures and maintenance needs, ii) improved understanding of the quality of end-of-life products for spare parts buy-backs to support the right to repair, iii) improved assessment of circularity routes by waste management and recycling companies by delivering enhanced product composition data, iv) improved materials and chemicals tracing of products and components for safer products and identifying Critical Raw Materials cycles, v) Empowering decisions by citizens and citizen organisations by providing direct access to product performance information.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/958448>

**Website:** <https://circthread.com/>



## DigiPrime

**Full name:** Digital Platform for Circular Economy in Cross-sectorial Sustainable Value Networks

**Duration:** January 2020 – December 2023

**Description (Cordis):** DigiPrime has the mission to develop a new concept of Circular Economy digital platform overcoming current information asymmetry among value-chain stakeholders, in order to unlock new circular business models based on the data-enhanced recovery and re-use of functions and materials from high value-added post-use products with a cross-sectorial approach. DigiPrime will create and operate a federated model of digital platforms for cross-sector business in the Circular Economy. Nodes of the federation will offer interoperable functions and data, that can be accessed by other nodes, combined with local data and services, that are not exposed outside; connectors and open interfaces enable easy integration of new services, provided by third parties, that are not made accessible outside. Specific attention will be devoted to creating trustable data-sharing mechanisms, preserving the confidentiality of business-critical data. Security and sovereignty of information are guaranteed by IDSA (Industrial Data Space Association)-based solutions for on-demand and controlled sharing of data among organisations, regulated by smart contracts and tracked by blockchain. The services cover: i) the cross-sector value-Chains dimension (De- and remanufacturing oriented product information management, product co-creation, LCA-LCC for eco-design, demand-supply matching, sustainable value network and reverse logistics barriers identification and legislation support, etc.), ii) the operational dimension (reduction of product conditions, de-and remanufacturing decision support system, demand and supply forecasting, circular production planning and control, material testing and certification). DigiPrime will be thoroughly validated through 6 cross-sectorial pilots, further detailed in 20 use-cases covering 5 different European industrial sectors (automotive, renewable energy, electronics, textile, construction), and by additional pilots in new sectors, funded through an Open Call mechanism.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/873111>

**Website:** <https://www.digiprime.eu/>

## DENIM

**Full name:** Digital intelligence for collaborative ENergy management in Manufacturing

**Duration:** November 2020 – October 2024

**Description (Cordis):** DENiM develops an interoperable digital intelligence platform enabling a collaborative approach to industrial energy management. DENiM provides an integrated toolchain to provision advanced digital services including secure edge connectivity leveraging IoT, data analytics, digital twin, energy modelling and automation culminating in the delivery of continuous energy impact assessment, together with energy control and optimisation across existing production facilities, processes, and machines. DENiM identifies skills gaps and develops training to build competences to support energy sustainability in smart manufacturing processes through the seamless integration of digital technologies, education, and training activities. In view of considering the human factor, DENiM will consider existing and future regulations from a data protection, legal, ethical and energy policy perspectives, which informs the DENiM technological developments and pilot site interventions. In essence, DENiM accelerates energy efficiency transformation in manufacturing systems by enabling



the right information and right technology to be available at the right time and in the right form, made accessible to the right people, empowering smart energy-efficient decision-making within factories and across entire value chains. DENiM leverages the concept of process integration, taking a holistic approach to energy-efficient manufacturing systems management and considers the interactions between the business, technology, infrastructure, and the workforce through the use of engineered systems that integrate both operational technologies and information technologies to accurately identify and map energy flows across the complete manufacturing value chain facilitating the integration of energy efficiency into existing business processes through digitalisation. This will result in a significant reduction of energy across diverse industrial sectors with substantial cost savings derived from optimised operation.

**Cordis:** link <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/958339>

**Website:** <https://denim-fof.eu/>

## CE-RISE

**Full name:** Circular Economy Resource Information System

**Duration:** January 2023 – December 2025

**Description (Cordis):** The rising demand and limited supply of critical raw materials (CRMs) impair the ability to rapidly adopt technological change toward green and sustainable technologies, which directly affect the resilience of EU industries seeking to achieve Green Deal objectives for an equitable, zero-emission, and digitalized Europe. In response to these challenges, the European Commission aims to minimize the loss of secondary raw materials (SRM) and optimize their reuse across value chains. CE-RISE will develop and pilot an integrated framework and an ensuing resource information system to identify optimal solutions for the effective reuse, recovery, and/or recycling of materials by (a) defining a set of criteria (RE criteria) to evaluate the extent to which products and embedded components can be reused, repaired, refurbished and/or recycled; (b) incorporating information on RE criteria and material composition of products into the Digital product passport (DPP) to enable traceability of materials in the supply chain; (c) integrating DPP with information on the environmental footprint of products (PEF), socio-economic and environmental (SEE) impacts of RE processes; (d) enabling confidential and anonymized information sharing among actors throughout value chains; (e) providing open-access software application to disseminate information on the assessment of RE criteria, PEF and SEE impacts of products to all stakeholders including consumers and policymakers. The results will be piloted on four case studies. CE-RISE will contribute to bridging the digital divide in society by supplying affordable second-hand ICT devices and supporting access to digital education and job opportunities.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101092281>

**Website:** <http://www.ce-rise.eu>

## MODAPTO

**Full name:** Modular Manufacturing and Distributed Control via Interoperable Digital Twins

**Duration:** January 2023 – December 2025

**Description (Cordis):** MODAPTO envisions flexible industrial systems composed of modules enhanced by distributed intelligence via interoperable Digital Twins (DTs) based on industrial standards.



Moreover, it materializes enables collective intelligence within modular production schemes for effective module and production line design, reconfiguration, and decision support. Motivated by the six principles of Reconfigurable Manufacturing Systems, MODAPTO aims at materializing reconfigurability through the joint use of all principles and not by considering it as an isolated vision of each one. To that end, MODAPTO focuses on two technological pillars: 1. Distributed Intelligence & Control via Interoperable Digital Twins; 2. Modular Production Framework & Toolkit. Within MODAPTO, each production module is augmented by a DT offering additional distributed intelligence functionalities. MODAPTO standardizes the module's interface via AAS to enable coordination with other modules and systems. MODAPTO also proposes a framework for production design and reconfiguration supported by collective intelligence tools. MODAPTO will be implemented in 3 industrial UCs involving 4 manufacturers at 3 different levels to showcase its versatility and applicability. UC1 targets the development of production modules (robots) with novel sustainability capabilities, while UC2 production reconfiguration and optimization even for single lots. UC3 targets the timely set up of press shop lines and coordination with robots and AGVs to handle supply chain disruptions in collaboration with the producer of semi-finished product kits. MODAPTO aims at substantial KPI improvements related to efficiency, cost, quality, energy, and sustainability. Moreover, MODAPTO will develop business models facilitating its transferability to other sectors and the adoption of its industrial strategies, especially by SMEs, while supporting knowledge transfer via workforce and trainers' training activities.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101091996>

**Website:** <https://modapto.eu/>

## ONE4ALL

**Full name:** Agile and modular cyber-physical technologies supported by data-driven digital tools to reinforce manufacturing resilience

**Duration:** January 2023 – December 2026

**Description (Cordis):** ONE4ALL aims to boost manufacturing plants' transformation, especially SMEs, towards industry 5.0 (I5.0) reinforcing their resilience under unexpected changes in social needs. It is done through a human-and-sustainability-centred development of plug-and-produce reconfigurable cyber-physical production modules (RCPMs). Those will consist of self-reconfigurable mobile collaborative robots embedded with IIOT devices for real-time monitoring and interconnectivity. In addition, the physical modules and the processes addressed by those will be replicated digitally through data-driven digital twins and controlled by a self-learning AI-based distributed and multidisciplinary decision support system (DSS). In addition, the open-source approaches will be promoted throughout the whole project to ease the interoperability of the components. All in all, interconnected and efficiently managed by an intelligent orchestration platform, with defined modules interfaces for the RCPM, production, product quality, sustainability aspects, business model, DSS and help desk to involve the end-user in everything that is going on across the whole supply chain, improve the understanding and assess the decision making. An adaptive training programme for digital upskilling will be implemented over the entire project to prepare the workforce for the I5.0 transformation and fully exploit the potential of the technologies. The resilience of manufacturing operations will be enhanced by better anticipating the demand changes and providing more flexibility to act, thanks to the digital tools and modular and flexible structure integrated within the whole system. The potential of ONE4ALL will be demonstrated in two relevant environments from different



sectors (agri-food and pharmaceutical), both highly affected by disruption given their high and fluctuant demand and not fully impacted yet by I5.0 transformations. Consequently, it is expected to have a high impact and replicability opportunities.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101091877>

**Website:** <https://one4allproject.eu/>

## Rare2

**Full name:** Human-centred Rapid Reconfiguration of Production and Value Chain in Fast Changing Scenarios

**Duration:** January 2023 – December 2026

**Description (Cordis):** The global objective of RaRe2 project is to create a flexible and resilient Holistic Ecosystem Platform, enabled by the interaction among many European organizations cooperating in the fast reconfiguration of process chains, through collaborative systems and adaptable workforce upskilling. RaRe2 will help make the European manufacturing landscape sustainably robust to unexpected market change, sudden disruption, legal change, or every kind of crisis and changing scenario including climate and weather related. RaRe2 has set strategic and operational objectives, which include innovative digital solutions and knowledge about standards and methodologies, which can support the quickness in reconfiguration and certifications at early stages. RaRe2 will enable the generation of a green wave that will early detect an upcoming issue, alert the decision maker, quickly propose simulations about potential new destinations (adjacent reasonable sectors and products), new routes (how to produce it, with internal reconfiguration and supply chain involvement), the plan to put the change in place, the expected speed of each connected node of the new route, robustness. Key pillars: i) AI-based early detection of reconfiguration needs, from internal and external sources; ii) rapid adaptation of products, processes and supply chain to the changed situations; iii) empowering and upskilling humans, supporting decision makers to make fast and concrete decisions and quickly ramp up of the workforce. RaRe2 will be exploited to create a strong and reliable network of organizations interested in cooperating in rapid reconfiguration events, able to take into account social, market, legal, sustainability and economical factors. The consortium is based on 22 European partners, which will develop and validate the solution in four industrial pilots plus one value chain-oriented demonstrator. The International Cooperation is guaranteed by a pilot which has the main headquarter in Japan.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101092073>

**Website:** <https://raresquare.eu/>

## AUTO-TWIN

**Full name:** Data-driven method based on a process mining approach for Automated Digital Twin generation, operations, and maintenance in circular value chains

**Duration:** December 2022 – November 2025

**Description (Cordis):** Digital Twins availability is largely recognized as an accelerator and an enabler of Circular Economy in business and in production, but significant challenges are still standing in relation



to its development within the present technological framework, the needed skill sets, and the implementation costs. AUTO-TWIN addresses the technological shortcoming and economic liability of the current system-engineering model by 1) introducing a breakthrough method for automated process-aware discovery towards autonomous Digital Twins generation, to support trustworthy business processes in circular economies; 2) adopting an (International Data Space) IDS-based common data space, to promote and facilitate the secure and seamless exchange of manufacturing/product/business data within value-networks in a circular-economy ecosystem; 3) integrating novel hardware technologies into the digital thread, to create smart Green Gateways, empowering companies to perform data and digital twin enabled green decisions, and to unleash their full potential for actual zero-waste Circular Economy and reduced dependency from raw materials.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101092021>

**Website:** <https://www.auto-twin-project.eu/>

## DaCapo

**Full name:** Digital assets and tools for Circular value chains and manufacturing products

**Duration:** January 2023 – June 2026

**Description (Cordis):**

DaCapo aims at establishing a systematic approach enabling the creation of human-centric digital tools and services for improving the adoption of Circular Economy strategies along both manufacturing value chains and products lifecycles (design and engineering, manufacturing, use phase and End of Life). These tools and services, focused on the creation of new digital assets, AI-based systems and the application of process and product Digital Twins, will greatly improve sustainability, efficiency, and use of imported and CRM in manufacturing, towards digital-enabled industrial sustainability. The backbone of the project will be a new methodological approach supporting decision-making, considering business models, material flows and circular strategies along the manufacturing value chains. Digital Product Passports and a Circular Economy Decision Support System will be developed as high-level tools, facilitating the trustful exchange of assets, the selection of optimum circular stock management strategies and tools, and the definition of informed and coordinated products lifecycle management decisions in a safe, reliable and agile way. A modular Digital Thread concept will be developed as a normalized method for orchestrating the gathering and contextualization of data at different points of the product lifecycle, enhancing data availability for the definition of indicators and optimisation criteria.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101091780>

**Website:** <https://www.dacapo-project.eu/>

## SMARTHANDLE

**Full name:** Resilient manufacturing lines based on smart handling systems

**Duration:** January 2023 – December 2025

**Description (Cordis):** Manual and automated production lines must evolve to “produce more and diverse with less”, however, they need to address shortcomings such as high product variants requiring



tool level dexterity and resource level reconfigurability; lack of cognitive perception systems to allow autonomous reasoning and operation; absence of adaptable control to accurately handle a variety of workpieces and materials, and; inefficiency of planning systems in addressing holistically all hierarchical production levels. SMARTHANDLE will research technologies to address these needs and support European industry, by implementing a) intelligent, reconfigurable agents to provide dexterity in a range of handling applications, b) AI-based reasoning enablers to optimize the flexibility potential of these agents and c) Higher-level planning and coordination mechanism to allow the successful and scalable deployment of such solutions in real life use cases. SMARTHANDLE is a research and innovation action (RIA) nevertheless, it acknowledges that such technologies can be meaningful only if they lead to solutions that address real-life needs. Thus it has engaged 3 use cases from the consumer goods (MENICON-handling of deformable, delicate and high precision parts: contact lenses), Metal Industries (ALUMIL- packaging of large variable section materials: aluminium profiles) and automotive tier-1 suppliers (ABEE- disassembly of complex products: batteries) involving dexterous operations that are not possible to implement with the existing technologies.

**Cordis link:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101091780>

**Website:** <https://smarthandle-project.eu/>

## Networks & Other Initiatives

### EIT Manufacturing

**Description:** EIT Manufacturing was established in 2019 with a vision that global manufacturing will continue to be led by Europe, and contributing to make Europe and its manufacturing sector more competitive and sustainable. In doing so, EIT Manufacturing brings together a growing network of top-tier industrial partners, leading academic and research institutions from across the region and innovative startups, scaleups and SMEs.

A key way of transforming knowledge into value is by overcoming the fragmented nature of many innovation networks. In order to ensure that innovations reach the market, industry has the right talent and entrepreneurs can thrive; EIT Manufacturing connects and integrates the areas of education, innovation and business creation. Ultimately, EIT Manufacturing strives to accelerate faster innovation with the potential to improve everyday life globally, help meet Europe's ambitious climate goals, and ensure that its workforce is ready for tomorrow's challenges.

Website: <https://www.eitmanufacturing.eu/>

### EIT Digital

**Description:** EIT Digital embody the future of innovation by mobilizing a pan-European multi-stakeholder open-innovation ecosystem of top European corporations, SMEs, startups, universities

and research institutes, where students, researchers, engineers, business developers and investors address the technology, talent, skills, business and capital needs of digital entrepreneurship.

EIT Digital answers specific innovation needs by, for example, finding the right partners to bring technology to the market, supporting the scale-up of digital technology ventures, attracting talent and developing their digital knowledge and skills.

**Website:** <https://www.eitdigital.eu/>

## EFFRA

**Full name:** The European Factories of the Future Research Association

**Description:** The European Factories of the Future Research Association (EFFRA) is a non-for-profit, industry-driven association promoting the development of new and innovative production technologies. EFFRA has been representing the private side of the manufacturing partnership with the EU Commission. Named under Horizon 2020, Factories of the Future to become Made in Europe nowadays under Horizon Europe. The key objective of EFFRA is to promote pre-competitive research on production technologies within the European Research Area by engaging the European Commission through partnerships.

The Made in Europe partnership will be the voice and driver for sustainable manufacturing in Europe. It will boost European manufacturing ecosystems towards global leadership in technology, circular industries, and flexibility. The Partnership will contribute to a competitive, green, digital, resilient, and human-centric manufacturing industry. It will be at the centre of a twin ecological and digital transition, both a driver and subject to these changes.

**Website:** <https://www.eitdigital.eu/>

## S3P-Industry

**Full name:** Smart Specialisation Platform on Industrial Modernisation

**Description:** The regional Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) helps to prioritise and align efforts between public and private stakeholders in EU regions and allocate EU and regional funds in a focused and efficient way. At the same time, there are clear opportunities to engage in strategic interregional cooperation along shared S3 priorities to complement each other's competences, share infrastructure, and develop joint investment projects. Such interregional cooperation will allow scaling up towards larger impact and more effective collaboration along industrial value chains.

The Smart Specialisation Platform for Industrial Modernisation (S3P-Industry) aims to support EU regions committed to generate a pipeline of industrial investment projects following a bottom-up approach - implemented through interregional cooperation, cluster participation and industry involvement.

**Website:** <https://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/industrial-modernisation>



## EPLCA

**Full name:** European Platform on Life Cycle Assessment

**Description:** The EPLCA is the EU's knowledge base that responds to business and policy needs towards sustainable production and consumption. The EPLCA supports the methodological development of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) for the analysis of supply chains and end-of-life waste management. The EPLCA fosters LCA as an essential integrated environmental assessment in support to the EU policy making process and the ambition of Green Deal, and many other policy initiatives, with specific reference to the Circular Economy Action Plan, the Farm2Fork, the Biodiversity Strategy, the Chemical strategy, and many more.

**Website:** <https://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

## P4Planet

**Full name:** Processes4Planet Partnership

**Description:** The Processes4Planet (P4Planet) Partnership aim is to transform the European process industries to achieve circularity and overall climate neutrality at the EU level by 2050 while enhancing their global competitiveness. P4Planet is a European co-programmed public-private Partnership established between A.SPIRE – as the private entity – and the European Commission in the context of the Cluster 4 (Digital, Industry and Space) of Horizon Europe funding programme.

The systemic shift required to transition to a climate-neutral and circular society calls for more than technological innovation. The spirit of the Processes4Planet Partnership is to promote a holistic systemic socio-economic approach. The Partnership has strategic importance for the European industry, delivering impact on its global technical lead, as well as on the economic growth and creation of new high-skilled jobs.

**Website:** <https://www.aspire2050.eu/p4planet/about-p4planet>

## Gaia-X

**Full name:** Gaia-X European Association for Data and Cloud AISBL

**Description:** The Gaia-X European Association for Data and Cloud AISBL represents the core of the organisational structure. It is an international non-profit association under Belgian law (French: association internationale sans but lucratif, shortened to AISBL). It was founded to develop the technical framework and operate the Gaia-X Federation services.

Officially, the Association was founded by 22 companies and organisations in January 2021. Until today, over 340 members have joined and more are welcome. Its members are committed to upholding the values of data protection, transparency, openness, security, and respect for data rights. They are either companies with a provider or user background of data infrastructures, IT-start-ups, research institutions or business associations. The Association has no business interest of its own. It will develop federation cloud services within the existing cloud infrastructures. To achieve this and to ensure an open and transparent character the Association facilitates the development of an open software infrastructure.

**Website:** <https://gaia-x.eu/>



## CEN & CENELEC

**Full name:** European Committee for Standardization & European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization

**Description:** A variety of stakeholders are involved in CEN and CENELEC work, amongst others business, industry and commerce, service providers, public authorities, regulators, academia and research centres, European trade associations and interest groups representing environmentalists, consumers, trade unions as well as small and medium enterprises, and other public and private institutions.

European standards are driven by business and made through a transparent, balanced and consensus-based process in which relevant stakeholders are involved. We aim to produce high-quality standards for products and services that incorporate quality, safety, environmental, interoperability and accessibility requirements. We adapt proactively to new developments and support European competitiveness, the protection of the environment and sustainable growth for the well-being of citizens and the strengthening of the single market (European Economic Area).

We actively support international standardization and cooperate closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), in order to pursue the goal of ‘one standard, one test, accepted everywhere’.

**Website:** <https://www.cencenelec.eu/>

## EuroXR

**Description:** Founded in 2010 as a continuation of the work in the FP6 Network of Excellence INTUITION (2004 – 2008). EuroXR Association is an umbrella organization gathering not only individuals, but also national chapters and associations, large companies, small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs), as well as research institutions, universities, and laboratories. All of them with a keen interest in eXtended Reality (XR), the term that covers Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, and Mixed Reality (VR/AR/MR). EuroXR seeks to: gather relevant stakeholders from large industries, small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs), public bodies, research institutes, universities and individuals interested in VR/AR/MR to provide a common discussion forum; establish connections with national associations and chapters in relevant fields; support the creation of new national chapters in other countries; promote research excellence, and stimulate development and deployment of VR/AR/MR technologies in existing, new and emerging fields; facilitate the structuring and VR/AR/MR research integration in Europe.

**Website:** <https://www.euroxr-association.org/about-us/>

## EurAI

**Full name:** European Association for Artificial Intelligence

**Description:** The European Association for Artificial Intelligence EurAI (formerly ECCAI) was established in July 1982 as a representative body for the European Artificial Intelligence community. Its aim is to promote the study, research and application of Artificial Intelligence in Europe. The objectives of the Association, which is non-profit making, are: To promote the science and technology of artificial



intelligence in Europe; To promote the establishment of a European computer network; To encourage the teaching of artificial intelligence; To publish a European journal of information on artificial intelligence; To sponsor a biennial conference organized by one or more of the member societies.

**Website:** <https://www.eurai.org/>



## 10. References

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<sup>i</sup> [Dissemination & Exploitation Communication measures – EC Info, Funding & Tenders.](#)

<sup>ii</sup> [EC IP Helpdesk Glossary](#)

<sup>iii</sup> [EC IP Helpdesk Glossary](#)

<sup>iv</sup> DiCiM Grant Agreement

<sup>v</sup> [Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement](#)

<sup>vi</sup> [Open Research Europe](#)

<sup>vii</sup> DiCiM Consortium Agreement

