

FAIRICUBE – F.A.I.R. INFORMATION CUBES

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Table of Contents

| Do | Document Control Page 2 | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Dis | Disclaimer | | | | |
| Та | ble of Co | ntents4 | | | |
| Lis | t of Figui | res5 | | | |
| Lis | t of Table | es 6 | | | |
| 1 | Introdu | ction7 | | | |
| 2 | Overvie | w of validation activities in FAIRiCUBE | | | |
| | 2.1 | Validation of FAIRiCUBE10 | | | |
| | 2.2 | Validation of WP210 | | | |
| | 2.3 | Validation of WP312 | | | |
| | 2.4 | Validation of WP414 | | | |
| | 2.5 | Validation of WP518 | | | |
| | 2.6 | Validation of WP619 | | | |
| | 2.7 | Validation of WP720 | | | |
| 3 | Outlook | on validation services23 | | | |
| | 3.1 | System for validation23 | | | |
| | 3.2 | Searchable Interface23 | | | |
| | 3.3 | Linking Validation to Metadata23 | | | |
| 4 | Summa | ry24 | | | |





9

List of Figures

Figure 1 : FAIRiCUBE validation framework _____





List of Tables

| Table 1 : Overview of validation deliverables | 9 |
|---|----|
| Table 2 : Validation checks WP2 | 11 |
| Table 3 : Validation checks WP3 | 13 |
| Table 4 : Validation checks WP4 | 15 |
| Table 5 : Validation checks WP5 | 18 |
| Table 6 : Overview of communication and dissemination (WP6) KPI's | 20 |
| Table 7 : Validation checks WP6 (AI ethics assessment) | 21 |





1 Introduction

In today's data-driven world, data science has emerged as a critical field that leverages statistical techniques, machine learning algorithms, and computational tools to extract meaningful insights from vast amounts of data. Organisations across various sectors, including healthcare, finance, retail, and technology, rely heavily on data science to inform decision-making, optimize operations, and drive innovation. However, the reliability and effectiveness of data science projects hinge on robust validation processes that ensure the accuracy, consistency, and applicability of the developed models and analytical methods.

Validation is a crucial step in the data science lifecycle, encompassing a series of checks and assessments designed to confirm that the outputs of a data science project meet the desired objectives and perform well in real-world scenarios. Without rigorous validation, data science models and insights may lead to erroneous conclusions, suboptimal decisions, and potential financial or reputational damage. Validation helps to ensure the model's predictive performance and generalizability to new, unseen data. It detects and mitigates issues such as overfitting, bias, and variance, confirms the robustness and reliability of data preprocessing steps and feature engineering, and evaluates the impact of assumptions and methodological choices on the final outcomes.

Task 1.4 aims to track validation activities across work packages. This deliverable report (D1.2 Validation report) aims to provide a comprehensive and holistic framework for the validation of FAIRiCUBE. As there are several FAIRiCUBE deliverables addressing validation on various levels, D1.2 aims to provide an overarching hierarchy of all these activities and put them relation. Finally, an outlook is given how FAIRiCUBE is providing online guidelines and checklist as web services for documenting and communicating validation results effectively.





2 Overview of validation activities in FAIRiCUBE

FAIRiCUBE validation framework includes validation parts across FAIRiCUBE's work packages. Figure 1 provides a diagram on how the different validation deliveries link to each other. This report (D1.2 - Validation Report) provides a comprehensive overview of all validation activities within the FAIRiCUBE project, serving as a meta-analysis to ensure each component meets required standards. This report is crucial for demonstrating the robustness and reliability of the project's validation efforts, thereby supporting its overall integrity and success. Other key deliverables include:

- D2.5, which validates each Use Case at a thematic level, ensuring they align with project goals and user needs;
- D3.6 details validation for data processing and machine learning applications, emphasizing algorithm robustness and ethical considerations;
- D4.6 focuses on ensuring that the sharing components of the FAIRiCUBE Hub function correctly both individually and together;
- D5.3 outlines the validation checks for datasets ingested into the system, ensuring data integrity and quality;
- Lastly, D6.11 assesses the ethical use of AI, ensuring that AI applications are fair, transparent, and free from biases.

•

Together, these deliverables ensure comprehensive validation and ethical compliance across the FAIRiCUBE project. While the deliverables listed above, merely encompass the validation tasks, they establish dependencies and relationships across the project. The ethics assessment primarily affects data handling, processing, and use case (UC) work, rather than the Hub itself at this stage. The development of the Hub and the UCs serves as the foundation for outreach, communication, and dissemination activities. Furthermore, there is a hierarchical structure within the project, progressing from data collection and processing to addressing the research questions of the UCs, all performed on the FAIRiCUBE Hub.







Figure 1 : FAIRiCUBE validation framework

Table 1 summarises the validation parts that each deliverable across different Work Packages include.

| Table 1 : Overview of validation deliverable |
|--|
|--|

| Nr. | Title | Objective | | |
|------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| D1.2 | Validation report | Overview of all validation activities across FAIRiCUBE. | | |
| D2.5 | Validation of UC | Description of the validation process to be performed for each | | |
| | | Use Case at a thematic level. Covers both the Use Case | | |
| | | specification as well as wider User assessment & fit-for-purpose | | |
| | | checks. | | |
| D3.6 | Validation of processing and | Description of the validation process to be performed for each | | |
| | ML applications | Use Case at an analysis and processing level. Covers data | | |
| | | processing validation including algorithm implementation | | |
| | | validation, comprehensiveness of documentation and | | |
| | | benchmarking; machine learning validation; ethical and bias | | |
| | | validation. | | |
| D4.6 | Validation of sharing | Description of the validation process to ensure that the | | |
| | | components of FAIRiCUBE Hub on information, data, processing | | |
| | | and portrayal each function individually, as well as jointly. | | |
| D5.3 | Validation of ingestion | Description of the validation process to be performed for each | | |
| | | dataset ingested to FAIRiCUBE. Covers data validation checks | | |
| | | as well as statistical and spatial comparison of dataset | | |
| | | characteristics with source dataset. | | |



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| KPIs | Validation of communications | Description of the validation measures for communication and | | |
|-------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | dissemination through key performance indicators (KPIs) | | |
| | | proposed in the project. | | |
| D6.11 | AI ethics assessment | Description of the validation process to be performed for each | | |
| | | Use Case to assure relevant considerations pertaining to ethical | | |
| | | use of AI are met. | | |

2.1 Validation of FAIRiCUBE

An overview of the validation activities under FAIRiCUBE is provided under D1.2 within WP 1. This report provides a comprehensive overview of the validation activities conducted across the entire FAIRiCUBE project. It documents methodologies and approaches for validating data and models, provides guidelines and checklists for consistent documentation of validation results, and offers an overarching hierarchy of all validation activities to ensure coherence and integration across the project. It is crucial for demonstrating the robustness and reliability of the project's validation efforts, thereby supporting its overall integrity and success.

2.2 Validation of WP2

The validation of WP2 (Use Case) is summarised in delivery D2.5. This document outlines the thematic validation processes applied to each Use Case within FAIRiCUBE, ensuring they align with project goals and assessing their suitability and effectiveness. It defines validation criteria, conducts user assessments, and performs fit-for-purpose checks to ensure practical applicability. Additionally, it documents the validation process and outcomes and ensures effective communication of results to stakeholders. D2.5 is strongly linked to D3.6 (Validation of processing and ML applications) and D4.6 (Validation of sharing). Table 2 shows an overview of the validations to be performed in the deliverable. A wider perspective is provided by D2.5, where more detailed information is given.





Table 2 : Validation checks WP2

| Process | Check type | Characteristic | Description | |
|----------------|---|------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | Specific | The objective is clearly defined and addresses a precise problem. | |
| | | Measurable | The objective's success can be measured. | |
| | Clear Goal defined | Achievable | The objective is attainable given available resources. | |
| | | Realistic | The objective is practical and relevant. | |
| | | Time-bound | The objective has a clear deadline. | |
| | Required datasets | Relevant datasets | Identification of datasets that are most suitable for achieving goals. | |
| | identified | Resource estimation | Estimation of resources needed for acquiring and storing the datasets. | |
| specifications | Required ML/AI approaches identified | Suitable approaches | Identification of the best processing and ML/AI approaches to achieve the goals. | |
| | | Processing resources estimation | Estimation of the resources required for processing. | |
| | Worldow designed | Workflow outline | Detailed steps of applying processing and ML/AI resources to the datasets. | |
| | worknow designed | Documentation | Optimal documentation of the workflow using diagrams and regular updates. | |
| | Visualisation of outputs designed | | | |
| | Support the users' work | User assistance | Providing support for users to effectively utilize outcomes within their operational contexts. | |
| | Service orientation | Transparent service chain | Establishing a transparent service chain allowing users to trace all alterations applied to data. | |
| | Reliability | Method documentation | Public availability of production methods and complete metadata, independent QC of final products. | |
| User | Applicability | Fit-for-purpose | Ensuring products meet spatial, temporal, and quality requirements for user operational environments. | |
| for-purpose | Data systems stability, | Stable and interoperable systems | Maintaining stability, reliability, and interoperability of data systems used for product creation and sharing. | |
| | reliability, and interoperability | Standardised feedback collection | Formalised collection of user feedback through standardized questionnaires. | |





2.3 Validation of WP3

The validation of WP3 (ML processing) is summarised in delivery D3.6. This deliverable focuses on validating data processing and machine learning applications within each Use Case. It ensures algorithms are correctly implemented, documentation is thorough, and benchmarking is conducted. It describes the validation process for data processing workflows, including data cleaning, transformation, and integration, and outlines procedures for algorithm implementation and documentation. Additionally, it addresses the ethical implications and potential biases in machine learning models.





Table 3 : Validation checks WP3

| Process | Check type | Characteristic | Description |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | | Technical Robustness and safety | Ensuring robustness and safety of the implementation through e.g. unit tests that can verify that unit of codes behaves as expected in isolation (inc. individual components of our data processing pipeline and algorithms). |
| | Algorithm implementation | Assess the interactions | Conduct integration tests to assess the interactions between different components of the system, verifying that data flows smoothly between processing stages and that the overall pipeline functions correctly. |
| Data | validation | End-to-end testing | Assess the entire data processing workflow. This involves testing the complete pipeline with controlled (i.e. synthetic) but representative data to ensure that it produces the expected results. |
| processing | | Cross-validation | Cross-validation to assess the model's performance across different subsets of the data, ensuring it generalizes well to new, unseen data |
| Validation | | Monitor compute resources | Monitoring and storing the consumption of computational resources as defined and described in the FAIRiCUBE GitHub repository. |
| | Benchmarking | Re-run and compare | If performance is in question, re-run of an application can be advised. The monitoring results of a compute task can be compared with other similar tasks as listed in the FAIRiCUBE knowledge base (htts://fairicube-kb.dev.epsilon-italia.it/). |
| | Comprehensive documentation | Documentation and transparency | Document the rationale behind design choices, assumptions, and dependencies to allow transparency of the processing and ML application methods. |
| | | Meta-data | Update, complete, and maintain meta-data records associated to the data set. This applies to the FAIRiCUBE analysis / processing meta-data. |
| | | Dataset preparation for training | Create subsets of data separate for training, testing (and validation), check the selection method (random, by consecutive index). |
| | | Define appropriate validation metrics | Select and document appropriate metrics such as total accuracy, precision, recall, F1 score, area under the ROC curve to evaluate the performance of your ML method. Define expectations first, establish baseline methods to compare against. |
| Machine learning | | Prevent/Test overfitting and underfitting | Comparing performance / accuracy metrics from applying an ML model to different datasets which have not been included in the training of the ML model will give insights on over or underfitting. |
| validation | | Statistical bias validation | Checking the statistical distribution of the input feature both within one feature space and across features will avoid unwanted biases in the training of the ML model. Some ML methods require certain statistical distributions (Gaussian or even distribution, etc.), some other methods require scaling of the data features. |
| | | Human agency and oversight | Implementation of human oversight mechanisms such as human-in-the-loop, human-on-the-loop, and human-in-command approaches. At each step of the ML application, user feedback and interaction should be foreseen. |



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2.4 Validation of WP4

The validation of WP4 (Share) is summarised in delivery D4.6. This document describes the validation procedures for the sharing components of the FAIRiCUBE Hub, ensuring that information, data, processing, and portrayal modules work effectively both independently and together. It outlines the process for validating the interoperability and integration of different components, ensuring correct functionality of data sharing mechanisms and interfaces. Additionally, it documents any issues or improvements needed and assesses shared components to ensure they meet user requirements and project standards.





Table 4 : Validation checks WP4

| Component | Process | Check type | Characteristic | Description | |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| | | Findability | Findability of components | FAIRiCUBE Hub UI has clear navigation structure and section names; index of all components is up to date; a search function exists. | |
| | | Authentication | Authentication across components | Common, secure authentication method available across all components; standard authentication protocol implemented; user roles defined and documented. | |
| | | | Accessibility of datasets | Data resources can be retrieved for use from their metadata records; access modalities clearly described (e.g. local download, cloud APIs) | |
| | | | Accessibility of analysis/processing resources | A/p resources can be retrieved for use from their metadata records; access modalities clearly described (e.g. Jupyter notebook, Python library) | |
| Core | Hub | Interplay | Accessibility of linked datasets and a/p resources | Provenance data or a/p resources or derived data resources are described and accessible | |
| | | | Storage and accessibility of processing results | Processing results are securely stored and readily accessible for inspection and reuse by authenticated as well as unauthenticated users | |
| | | | Visualization of processing results | Visualization software for gridded and non-gridded data is an integral component of the Hub and available to users | |
| | | User support | User support/helpdesk | Users know how to ask for support in case of questions or technical problems; user support is conducted in a structured manner (e.g. ticketing system); enquiries are timely answered. | |
| Information | Documenta tion | Findability | Findability of required information | Information is organised and structured; consistent labeling of sections; search function is implemented | |
| | | Correctness | Correctness of available information | Periodic reviews of the content are conducted; information is kept up to date; broken hyperlinks are replaced | |
| | | Documenta tion | Completeness | Completeness of available information | All components/topics mapped to respective documentation/articles; external expert review mechanism is implemented |
| | | Usefulness | Usefulness of available information | Periodic reviews of the content are conducted; structured system for collecting user feedback is in place (e.g. comments, rating) | |
| | | Ease of Provision | Ease of provision of documentation | Regular maintenance of the system is scheduled; contribution methods are intuitive and documented | |
| | | Findability | Findability of required information | Information is organised and structured; consistent labeling of sections; search function is implemented | |
| | Knowledge Base | Correctness | Correctness of available information | Periodic reviews of the content are conducted; information is kept up to date; broken hyperlinks are replaced | |
| | | Completeness | Completeness of available information | All components/topics mapped to respective documentation/articles; external expert review mechanism is implemented | |
| | | Usefulness | Usefulness of available information | Periodic reviews of the content are conducted; structured system for collecting user feedback is in place (e.g. comments, rating) | |
| | | | Ease of Provision | Ease of provision of information for the KB | Regular maintenance of the system is scheduled; contribution methods are intuitive and documented |



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| | | Persistence | User input is persisted in static file | Ensure all values entered in the GUI are accurately saved in a JSON file. |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| | Metadata Editors | Alignment | Aligned metadata schema across project deliverables, Editor and metadata records | The Editor and the metadata records conform to the metadata schema documented in the project deliverable. |
| | | Findability | Code lists findable and complete, sorted | Code lists (implemented as dropdown lists) contain all necessary options alphabetically sorted; a dictionary is provided |
| | | Labeling | All labels in the GUI described | Every input field has a label and a clear description. |
| Data | | Errors | Human-readable error messages | Error messages are clear and provide actionable information. |
| | | Findability | Findability of required data based on search criteria | Users can efficiently locate datasets using specific search criteria. |
| | | Simple Search | Simple search | Basic search interface for quick dataset retrieval implemented. |
| | Data | Advanced Search | Advanced search | Detailed search interface to search across all metadata fields implemented. |
| | Catalog | Navigation | Ability to navigate to the identified dataset (either by link to original data download, when possible; or API endpoint with related API document for data access, e.g. endpoint for data in S3 bucket) | Data resources can be retrieved for use from their metadata records; access modalities clearly described (e.g. local download, cloud APIs) |
| | | Correct Response | Request returns correct responses in accordance with the WCS specification | Ensure all WCS requests return valid responses according to the specification. |
| | | Measure Types | Measure types from SWE Common used according to the original specification | Ensure measure types are used correctly as per the SWE Common specification. |
| | WCS | XML Validity | XML responses valid | Validate all XML responses against the relevant schemas. |
| | | Extent/Bbox | Extent/bbox information aligned with GML | Ensure extent and bounding box information follow GML standards. |
| | | Subset Accuracy | Data returned is for the requested subset of the original source data | Ensure data returned matches the specified subset criteria. |
| | | Format | Data is returned in the requested format | Ensure data is returned in the user-specified format. |
| | S3 | Pricing | Transparent pricing scheme for data access | The different pricing schemes for data access are clearly and transparently described |
| | | Optimisation | Data formats are optimized for cloud storage | Only cloud-optimized data formats (e.g. COG, zarr) are allowed on S3 |
| Data Access | | Authentication | Clear authentication requirements | Authentication options (e.g. external authentication) and requirements (e.g. subscription) are clearly and transparently described. |
| | Sentinel Hub | Pricing | Transparent pricing scheme for data access | The different pricing schemes for data access are clearly and transparently described |
| | | Authentication | Clear authentication requirements | Authentication options (e.g. external authentication) and requirements (e.g. subscription) are clearly and transparently described. |
| | GitHub | Repository Content Overview | Provide users with a clear understanding of the repository's contents and structure. | Include a detailed README file that outlines the purpose, components, structure, and usage instructions of the repository. |
| | | License | Clearly define the terms under which the repository's content can be used, modified, and shared. | Add a LICENSE file specifying the chosen open-source license (e.g., MIT, Apache 2.0). |
| | | Findability | Ensure the repository is easily discoverable by users searching for related content. | Use relevant keywords, tags, and topics in the repository's metadata to optimize discoverability. |
| | | Execution | Scripts and Jupyter NB can be executed without error | Jupyter Lab and Python is up to date; essential libraries are installed and up to date (e.g. ipykernel) |
| Processing | Lab | Libraries | Required libraries are available | Commonly used libraries for EO and ML are installed as part of the initial set up |
| - | | Library Addition | If libraries are missing, mechanism in place to add | Structured mechanism to request new libraries is implemented (e.g. through helpdesk) |





| | Scaling | Processing resources can be scaled to the requirements of a specific task | Ensure processing resources can be scaled as needed. |
|------|-----------------|---|---|
| | Backup | Backup mechanism in place | Data and configuration of the Lab is regularly backup; the backup mechanism is known to the user; users can request restoring older backups |
| | Activation | Requested services activated and correctly set up | Structured way to request activation of additional services implemented; activated services are tested before being made available |
| | Response | Request provides a correct response | Ensure the request provides a correct response. |
| | Subset Accuracy | Data returned is for the requested subset of the original source data | Ensure data returned matches the requested subset. |
| WCPS | Accuracy | Processing steps numerically accurate | Ensure numerical accuracy of processing steps. |
| | Format | Data is returned in the requested format | Ensure data is returned in the requested format. |
| | Integration | Code can be integrated as UDF | Ensure code can be integrated as User-Defined Functions (UDFs). |





2.5 Validation of WP5

Validation of WP5 (Ingest) is summarised in delivery D5.3. These deliverable details the validation checks performed on datasets ingested into the FAIRiCUBE system. This includes procedures for validating data integrity, quality, and comparing statistical and spatial characteristics with original sources for accuracy and consistency. The deliverable outlines procedures for ensuring data accuracy, completeness, and consistency, documenting the validation process and results to maintain data provenance and meet project standards. Any identified data issues are addressed to enhance reliability.

| Process | Check type | Characteristic | Description |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| | Data validation checks | Duplicates | Check for duplicate entries. |
| | | Date overlap | Check for overlaps in the date column, i.e., repeated dates with different values (only for timeseries). |
| | | Date gaps | Check for missing dates between start and end date (only for timeseries). |
| | | No data values | Verification of the correct use of no data. |
| Data Validation for Ingestion | | Value types | Check if data types are correct (string, integer, float, datetime format). |
| | | Value encoding | Check if the encoding of the data is correct (e.g., character encoding is utf-8; point (.) is used as decimal separator). |
| | Statistical Comparison of Characteristics with Source Dataset | Completeness | Calculate and evaluate the ratio of not-NULL values. |
| | | Count of distinctive values | Count and evaluate the number of distinct values in the dataset. |
| | | Ratio of the most | Determine the number of occurrences for the most frequently |
| | | frequent value | repeated value, normalized by the batch size. |
| | | Maximum | Maximum value of the dataset |
| | | Mean | Mean value of the dataset |
| | | Minimum | Minimum value of the dataset |
| | | Standard deviation | Standard deviation of the dataset |
| | | Number of records | Number of rows in the dataset (e.g., number of polygons) |
| | | Date range | Start and end date (only for timeseries) |
| | Spatial Characteristic Comparison with Source Dataset | Grid boundaries | Top-left and bottom-right coordinates (only for gridded datasets) |
| | | Data completeness | Verify data set is complete (total area, total number of features or pixel) |
| | | Projection/CRS | Verify correct use of the projection/CRS. |
| | | Pixel size | Verify that the pixel size is correct |
| | | Number of bands | Verify all channels have been transmitted correctly. |

Table 5 : Validation checks WP5





| | | Number of | Verify all attributes of the table or vector dataset have been | |
|--|--------------------|--|---|--|
| | attributes | transmitted correctly. | | |
| | | | Check if the data type is OK. | |
| | | Data format | Check if the ingested data follows the desired standard format (e.g for raster, cloud optimized Geo Tiff) | |
| | Centre coordinates | For vector data, check if centre coordinates of polygons match (| | |
| | and total area | find shifted polygons or duplicate polygons) | | |

2.6 Validation of WP6

In WP 6 there is no formal validation task or validation-related deliverable included, but for communication and dissemination we have a number of KPI's that can be seen as validation measures. In the project proposal we have been provided a number of communication and dissemination KPI's which are listed in Table 6. The progress of the KPI's is reported in the Midterm review report and in D6.4.





| | Table 6 : Overview of communication and dissen | nination (WP6) KPI's |
|--|--|----------------------|
|--|--|----------------------|

| Communication channel | KPIs | Description |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| EU policy | ~ 3 events | Participate by presenting and attending events which target EU policy makers |
| Domain specific events | ~ 5 events | Participate by presenting and attending domain specific events e.g. related to use cases or WP specific tasks |
| Newsletter | ~ 6 newsletters | Publish newsletters giving an overview of FAIRiCUBE related news items |
| Website | ~ 2K views - | Keeping the website up to date and attract |
| | > changed to 1K | viewers by using social media and newsletters to interest people for FAIRiCUBE |
| Social media | ~ 1K followers -> changed to 500 | Using Linkedin and X for posting to attract and update followers and to enthuse people to get to know FAIRiCUBE and invite them to FAIRiCUBE events. |
| Press releases and articles | ~ 5 articles | Publish articles to give more in-depth |
| published in | | information on a specific FAIRiCUBE topic. |
| national/regional/European online media | | |
| Innovation workshops | ~ 2 workshops | Organise workshops with the aim to |
| | | generate ideas on innovations in relation to |
| | | FAIRiCUBE to feed into the upscaling plan. |
| Trainings and master | ~ 3 training days | Organise training days and workshops for |
| workshop | | different stakeholders on FAIRiCUBE |
| | | related topics, such as online seminars |
| | | FAIRiCUBE Hub |
| Scientific papers | ~ 3 papers | Publish peer reviewed scientific papers on |
| | | FAIRiCUBE related topics |

2.7 Validation of WP7

Formally, deliverable is D6.11 (AI ethics assessment, Ethics board review report) is part of WP6 due to the initial project setup and the unforeseen requirement to include an AI ethics assessment in the FAIRiCUBE project. Thematically however, D7.1 (general description of ethics aspects considered in FAIRiCUBE) and D6.11 (approach and implementation of the AI ethics assessment) belongs to the *WP7 Ethics requirements* which is focusing on validating ethical considerations in AI applications across each Use Case. It defines criteria and standards for fairness, transparency, accountability, and social impact of AI technologies used in the project. The deliverable outlines assessment procedures to ensure fairness and absence of bias in AI models, emphasizing transparency in their development and deployment. It documents ethical considerations and validation outcomes, providing guidelines for the ethical implementation of AI throughout project activities.





Table 7 : Validation checks WP7 (AI ethics assessment)

| Component | Process | Check type | Characteristic | Description |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------|--|---|
| Ethics (Trustworthy AI) | Fundamental rights | Fundamental rights | Safety, health, non-discrimination, freedom of association | How are you dealing with the effect of the application on the rights to safety, health, non-discrimination, and freedom of association? |
| | Privacy and data protection | GDPR compliance | Personal data protection | How are you implementing the GDPR to safeguard the personal data protection rights of those you collect personal data from? |
| | Transparency rights | User rights | Notification, access, control, explanations, audit | Do you include the following user rights to: be notified that their data is being processed/collected, access information on which personal data are collected, control their data, access explanations of results produced by the system, be informed of who, when and how the system can be audited? |
| | Accessibility | Inclusivity | Demographics, language, disability, digital literacy, financial accessibility | Can your app/system/resource be used by all regardless of demographics, language, disability, digital literacy, and financial accessibility? |
| | Education and tutorials | User capability | Information, correct use | Do you ensure that users are informed and capable of using the system correctly? |
| | Data management | Data minimization | Local and temporary storage, encryption, necessity | Do you comply with the data-minimization principle, i.e., usage of local and temporary storage and encryption, based on principles of data protection by design? Do you ensure that only strictly necessary data are captured and processed? |
| | Security | User authentication | Access, modification, disclosure, identifiers | Do you have user authentication in place to prevent risks such as access, modification, or disclosure of the data? Do you use unique and pseudo-random identifiers, renewed regularly and cryptographically strong? |
| | Ease to deactivate/remove | System removal | Deactivation, removal ease | How easy is it to deactivate or remove the system and data once users are no longer interested or need the system? |
| | Ease to access services without using the AI system | Service alternatives | Non-system alternatives | In the case of AI systems aimed to replace or complement (public) services, are there full non-system alternatives? |





| | Open-source code | Development access | Participatory, multidisciplinary | Is the development participatory and multidisciplinary? What kind of access to the code and development is there? |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Ownership | Resource clarity | Clear ownership | Is the ownership of the resource clear? |
| | Openness about Data governance | Data sharing | Open data license | How open is Data governance? Do you have a policy and actions to share data under an open data license? |
| | Legislation and Policy | Relevant policies | Legislation, other policies | Are there explicit legislation and/or other policies relevant to your system/resource? |
| | Design Impact Assessment and Open Development Process | Process transparency | Design process accessibility | How publicly accessible is the information about the design process leading to this resource? |
| | Right to contest/liability | User rights | Contest decisions, human intervention | How are users able to contest decisions/actions or demand human intervention? |
| | List of data | Data types | Processed data types | List the types of data you will process in your pilot |
| GDPR applicability | Personal data | Data processing | Personal data definition | Will personal data be processed for the proposed pilot? Personal data is understood as data that may directly or indirectly identify a natural person. |





3 Outlook on validation services

The section provides a high-level overview of the planned validation process. By taking a flexible and pragmatic approach, the team aims to implement a validation system that is both effective and adaptable to future needs. The exact details of the implementation will be refined over time, ensuring that the system evolves to meet the project's requirements and constraints.

The future steps and plans for the validation process, providing a tentative roadmap for gathering all validation information is covered below. The goal is to ensure that the process is both systematic and adaptable to evolving project requirements and resource constraints.

3.1 System for validation

The team has identified the need for a system where responsible parties can efficiently enter and manage validation checklists. The system should ideally support the automatic or semi-automatic entry of checklist items. One option being considered is using GitHub for forms, which would streamline the entry process, ensuring consistency and reducing manual errors. However, the specific tools and technologies to be used are still under discussion, and the implementation details remain to be determined.

3.2 Searchable Interface

It is essential that the validation system be searchable by other users. This functionality is desired to enable stakeholders and use cases to easily locate specific validation information based on keywords or predefined criteria. While the exact implementation details are yet to be decided, the goal is to enhance the accessibility and usability of the validation system, making it easier for users to find the information they need.

3.3 Linking Validation to Metadata

A critical aspect of the validation process is the aspiration to link checklists to metadata records. This linkage aims to provide a clear connection between the validation process and the specific data sets or processing resources being validated. The methods for achieving this linkage are still being explored and will be refined as the project progresses, ensuring that the system is effective and user-friendly.





4 Summary

The Validation Report (D1.2) of FAIRiCUBE consolidates and integrates validation activities across its diverse work packages. This report serves as a comprehensive framework outlining validation processes for ensuring the accuracy, consistency, and applicability of data science models and methodologies. Key deliverables such as D2.5, D3.6, D4.6, D5.3, and D6.11 address thematic validation of use cases, data processing and machine learning applications, FAIRiCUBE Hub components, dataset integrity checks, and ethical considerations in AI applications. By documenting methodologies, tools, and outcomes, the report ensures coherence and reliability across all project components, supporting overall project integrity and success.

In conclusion, D1.2 underscores FAIRiCUBE's commitment to rigorous validation practices, essential for mitigating risks associated with data-driven decision-making and enhancing project impact. By establishing a structured approach to validation, FAIRiCUBE aims to uphold high standards of accuracy, ethical compliance, and operational effectiveness throughout its implementation.

