

# HEREDITARY

HetERogeneous sEmantic Data integration for the guT-bRain interplay

**Deliverable 8.4**

**Project website release**

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No GA 101137074. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



**Funded by  
the European Union**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The "D8.4 Project Website Release" document for the HEREDITARY project details the creation and functionality of the project's website, aimed at facilitating dissemination and communication of the project's objectives and achievements. As a key component of the project's communication strategy, the website serves as a central hub for information, accessible to both the general public and experts in the field.

Structured using WordPress and the DIVI Builder Pro editor, the website includes sections such as project overview, objectives, partners, use cases, resources, news, events, and contact information. It is designed to be responsive, ensuring optimal viewing on desktops, tablets, and smartphones.

The website is managed by FEUGA, the lead partner responsible for its construction and maintenance. It features frequent updates with new content including publications, deliverables, promotional materials, news, and events. This ensures continuous engagement with stakeholders and the wider public, fostering transparency and accessibility of the project's progress and outcomes.

To measure the website's effectiveness, Google Analytics is used to track and evaluate visitor metrics, providing insights into user engagement and the most popular sections of the site.



## DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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## REVISION HISTORY

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Document history/approvals</b>
<b>V0.1</b>	29/04/2024	Carlos Iglesias	Layout preparation
<b>V0.2</b>	01/05/2024	Carlos Iglesias	Initial drafting
<b>V0.3</b>	10/05/2024	Carlos Iglesias	Added graphical content
<b>V0.4</b>	16/05/2024	Carlos Iglesias	Expand information to make it more comprehensive
<b>V0.5</b>	24/05/2024	Carlos Iglesias	Index figures and different sections of the document
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<b>V0.7</b>	31/05/2024	Carlos Iglesias	First version shared with reviewers
<b>V0.8</b>	31/05/2024	Gianmaria Silvello	First revision of the deliverable
<b>V1.0</b>	26/06/2024	Carlos Iglesias	New version incorporating revisions

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

HEREDITARY's website (<https://hereditary-project.eu/>) has already been created and is available online since May 2024. The website was structured and designed as the vehicle for dissemination of the work, both to the general public and to the experts in the field. The website is the meeting place for all stakeholders, media and general public interested in the project. Dissemination and communication strategies and campaigns developed online and offline will be complementary and will aim to attract visitors to the website.

The website includes detailed information about the HEREDITARY project objectives and activities and will be frequently updated to keep the visitor informed of the progress and achievements made. The intended use is for public dissemination. The objective will be that this website will be constantly updated with material such as upcoming meetings, participations in events, dissemination actions, conferences, publications, newsletters, news, photos, etc. It will be a key enabler for communications between project partners, stakeholders and the wider public to share project outcomes. It will be open to the general public and will be viewable by anyone with access to Internet.

As the work package leader, FEUGA was the partner in charge of the webpage construction, and it will be responsible of its maintenance. The website has been designed aiming to follow the main work package objective, which is: defining and implementing the overall strategy to maximize the impact of HEREDITARY project (communication, dissemination and exploitation) following project results and facilitating the participation and dialogue with stakeholders and existing networks.

The website will play a key role in the project, acting as HEREDITARY showcase. Its content will be fed not only with records of information about technical aspects of the project, but also news, videos, and photos. It must be social and communicative. All partners will be requested to deliver content for the website. All contents will be relayed through the HEREDITARY communication channels to further support active user engagement. Apart from HEREDITARY's own website, the partners will be also engaged to disseminate the project through their official websites.

It was designed responsively, which means that the content of the different pages can adapt to all devices (desktops, tablets or smartphones). Also, responsive Web Design is about using HTML and CSS to resize, hide, shrink, enlarge, or move the content to provide a consistent appearance across screens of different sizes.

## 2 THE HEREDITARY WEBSITE STRUCTURE

The website has been built using WordPress and the DIVI Builder Pro editor, which facilitates updating by the project management team over the duration of the project. All sections of the website have on top the HEREDITARY logo and on the bottom a reference to the Horizon Europe funding by the European Union.



*Figure 1 Footer*

At the top, there are six labels, three of them with a drop-down menu, that point to the various sections available. At the top right, all the links to HEREDITARY social media are presented.



*Figure 2 Header*

This is the sitemap of HEREDITARY website, with the different pages that form the menu of the site:

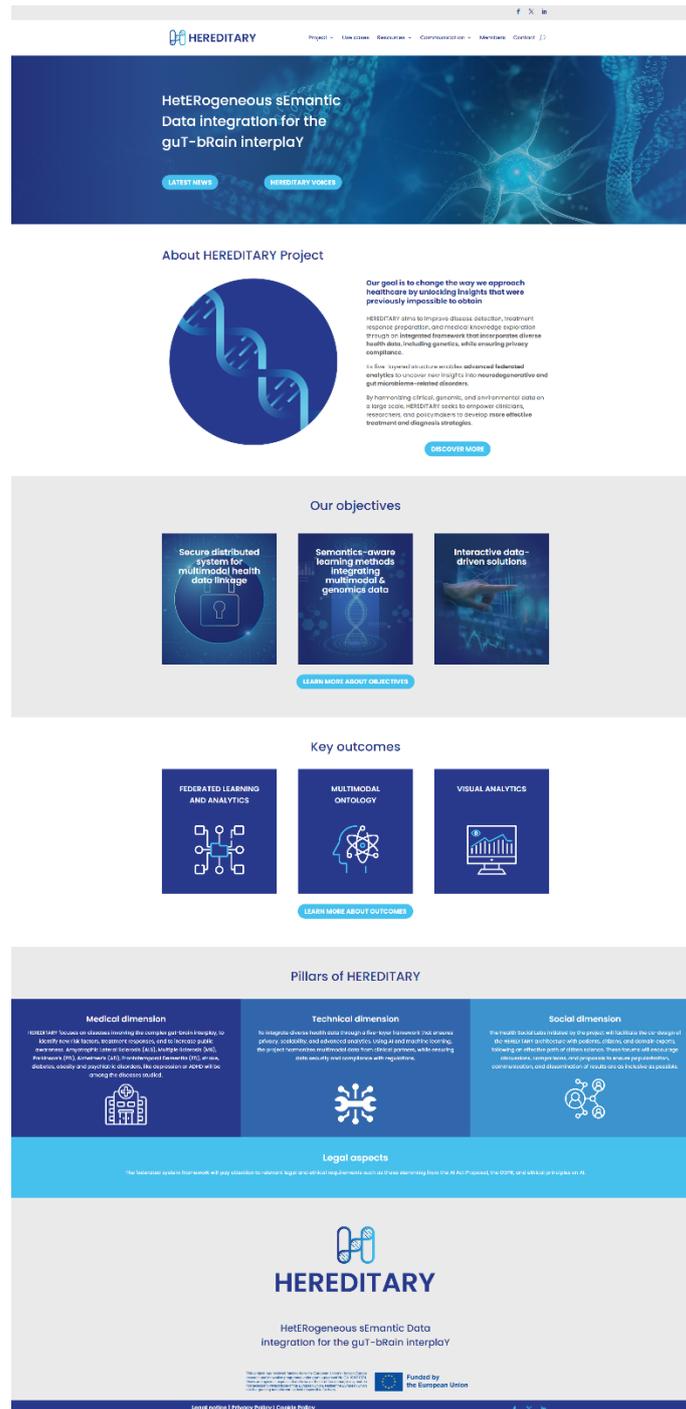
- **Project**
  - Overview
  - Partners
  - Objectives
  - Work Packages
  - Impact
- **Use Cases**
- **Resources**
  - Publications
  - Deliverables
  - Materials
- **Communication**
  - News
  - Events
  - HEREDITARY voices
- **Members**
- **Contact**

Among other contents, the website information includes/will include:

- Main information about the project (project overview, work packages, objectives, and expected impact).
- Information about the consortium and the advisory board of the project.
- Links to the project social networks targeted to stakeholders (Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube).
- A communication and resources section containing publications, conference proceedings, and journal articles to consult and be downloaded. The project's promotional materials will be also included in this section. All deliverables marked as public will be available to be downloaded also in this section of the website.
- News section: it will be regularly updated - in collaboration with partners - with the project progress, interaction with other networks, general news, etc.
- A direct link to the HEREDITARY Collaborative Platform, for facilitating the access of the members of the project.
- A contact section, so that stakeholders can contact the consortium to obtain further information on the project.

## 2.1 HOME

The main page presents the HEREDITARY project at a glance, explaining the main objectives, outcomes and pillars of the project. At the top of the page the most recent news and HEREDITARY voices display in a button format, so the website visitors can immediately be informed about the latest actions within the project.



The screenshot shows the home page of the HEREDITARY website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Project, Use cases, Resources, Communication, Milestones, and Contact. The main header features the project title "HetERogeneous sEMantic Data integration for the gUT-bRain interplaY" and buttons for "LATEST NEWS" and "HEREDITARY VOICES".

The "About HEREDITARY Project" section includes a circular DNA icon and a text block stating: "Our goal is to change the way we approach healthcare by unlocking insights that were previously impossible to obtain." It describes the project's aim to integrate diverse health data (genetics, pathology, etc.) to uncover new insights into neurodegenerative and gastrointestinal-related disorders. A "DISCOVER MORE" button is located below this section.

The "Our objectives" section contains three cards: "Secure distributed system for multimodal health data linkage", "Semantics-aware learning methods integrating multimodal & genomics data", and "Interactive data-driven solutions". A "LEARN MORE ABOUT OBJECTIVES" button is positioned below these cards.

The "Key outcomes" section features three cards: "FEDERATED LEARNING AND ANALYTICS", "MULTIMODAL ONTOLOGY", and "VISUAL ANALYTICS". A "LEARN MORE ABOUT OUTCOMES" button is located below these cards.

The "Pillars of HEREDITARY" section is divided into three columns: "Medical dimension", "Technical dimension", and "Social dimension". Each column contains a brief description of the pillar's focus and a corresponding icon. Below this section is a "Legal aspects" section with a small text block.

The footer of the page includes the HEREDITARY logo, the full project title, a list of partners (University of Cambridge, University of Edinburgh, etc.), the European Union funding logo, and a "Legal notice | Privacy Policy | Cookies Policy" link.

Figure 3 Home page of the HEREDITARY Website

## 2.2 PROJECT

The menu includes all key messages and quick links to different sections related to overview, partners, objectives, work packages and impact.

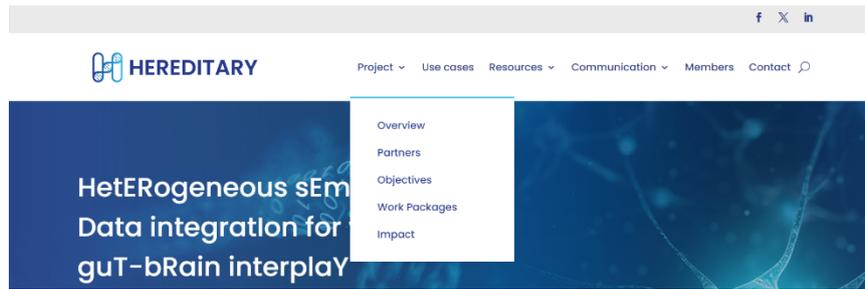
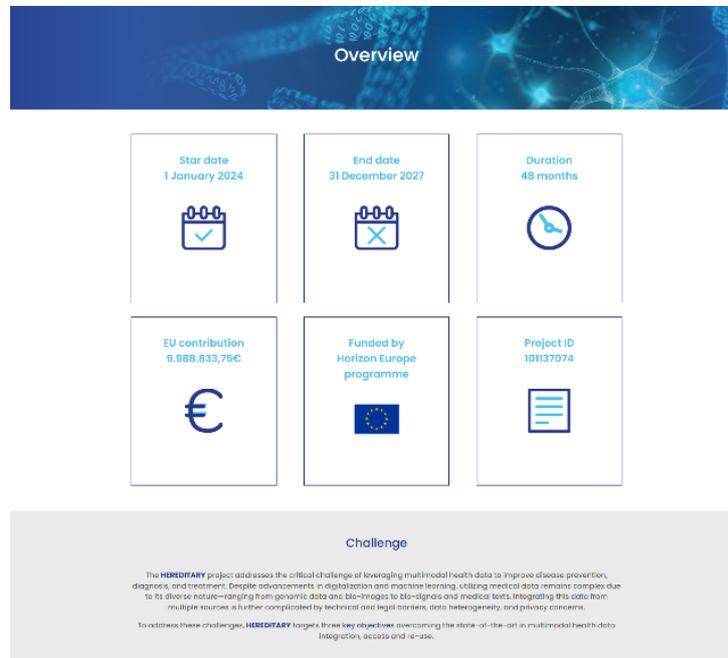


Figure 4 Project menu

### 2.2.1 OVERVIEW

Contains a short description about the project duration, budget, reference to the Horizon Europe funding by the European Union and the project ID. The challenges and the methodology used are also explained in this section.



**Methodology**

The **HEREDITARY** methodology is structured into five interconnected layers:

- Federated Networking Infrastructure:** This layer ensures secure and collaborative machine learning across different locations without transferring raw data, by using secure edge-computer environments. HEREDITARY maintains data privacy and complies with regulations like GDPR, enabling data-centric and model-centric federated learning.
- Clinical Use Cases and Open Data:** This layer focuses on collecting, preprocessing, and preparing clinical, genomic, and environmental data for federated analysis, ensuring high-quality data, its legitimacy and medical facts. Integrating this data from multiple sources is further complicated by technical and legal barriers, data heterogeneity, and privacy concerns.
- Multimodal Semantic Integration Platform:** The platform integrates diverse data types using a polybase system, harmonizing access to public and private data. Employing Ontology-based Data Access (OBDA), it enables seamless querying and analysis of clinical, genomic, imaging, and environmental data.
- Multimodal Analytics and Learning Platform:** This layer uses advanced AI and machine learning techniques to analyze multimodal data. It supports disease detection, treatment response preparation, risk factor identification, and evidence-based decision-making, handling the complexity and heterogeneity of healthcare data.
- Visual Analytics and Interaction:** Providing advanced visual analytics and interactive tools, this layer allows users to explore and analyze complex health data. It supports data exploration, hypothesis testing, and result presentation, enhancing transparency, explainability, and user engagement.



Figure 5 Overview page of the HEREDITARY website

## 2.2.2 PARTNERS

The “Partners” page has information on every institution, company or association that takes part on the HEREDITARY project. In an easy identifiable way, each partners’ logo holds its role in the project and its respective webpage, also accessible by clicking the logo.

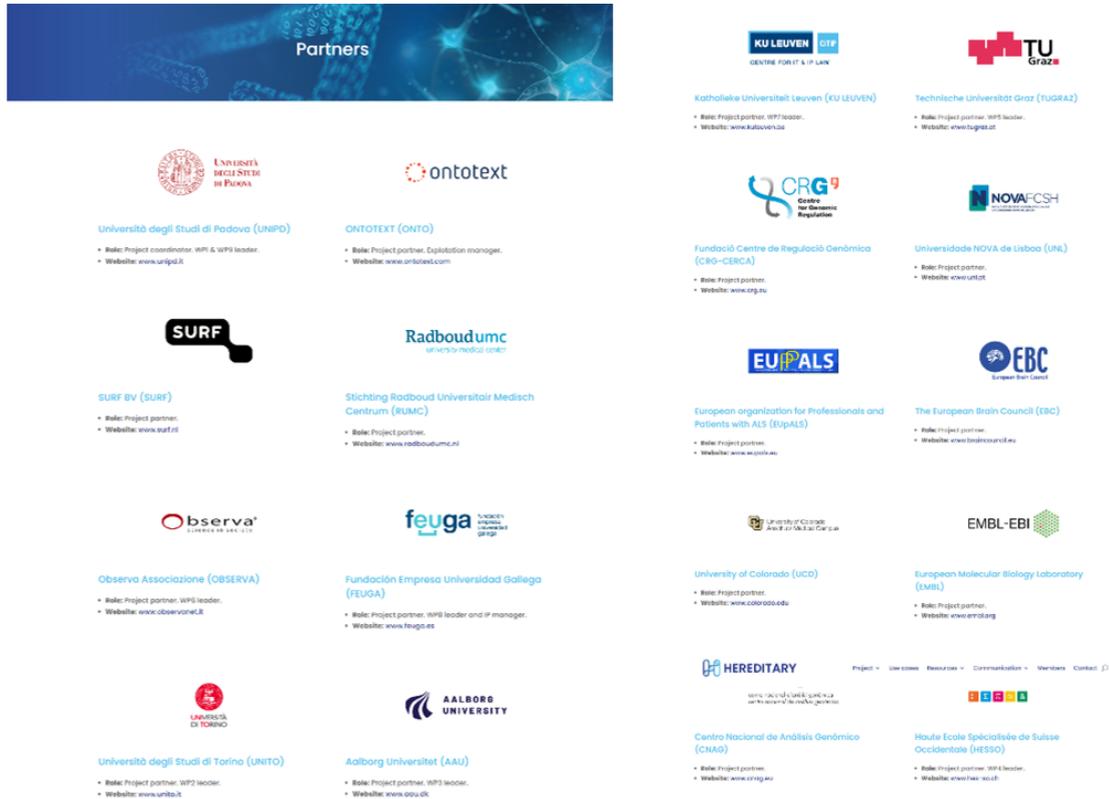


Figure 6 Partners page divided in two screenshots

## 2.2.3 OBJECTIVES

This section of the website elaborates on the specific objectives of the HEREDITARY project. An image related to the connections of each objective with WPs and outputs was included.



1

**Secure Distributed System for Multimodal Health Data Linkage**

The **HEREDITARY** project aims to create a secure and distributed system for linking multimodal health data. This system ensures that data from various sources, such as electronic health records, genomic data, medical imaging, and environmental data, can be securely integrated and accessed. The project's innovative approach involves using secure supercomputer environments to facilitate federated learning, where data remains localized but can be analyzed collaboratively. This method respects privacy and regulatory requirements, such as GDPR, ensuring that sensitive health data does not cross organizational boundaries. By providing a unified infrastructure, **HEREDITARY** enables the seamless linking and analysis of diverse health data, crucial for advancing medical research and improving patient outcomes.

2

**Semantics-Aware Learning Methods Integrating Multimodal & Genomics Data for Improving Health Outcomes**

**HEREDITARY** focuses on developing semantics-aware learning methods that integrate multimodal and genomics data to enhance health outcomes. By leveraging cutting-edge machine learning and AI techniques, the project aims to create comprehensive data representations that can inform disease detection, treatment, and prevention strategies. This involves the use of Ontology-Based Data Access (OBDA) to unify different data types and sources, enabling complex queries and predictive analytics. The project will employ advanced learning models, such as deep neural networks and self-supervised learning, to analyze data across various modalities, including text, images, and genomic sequences. These efforts will provide deeper insights into the gut-brain axis and its impact on neurodegenerative diseases and related disorders, ultimately leading to better personalized medicine and healthcare solutions.

3

**Interactive Data-Driven Solutions to Empower Decision-Making, Prevention, and Strengthen Citizen's Trust**

The **HEREDITARY** project aims to empower decision-making and strengthen citizen trust through interactive data-driven solutions. This involves the development of a visual analytics and interaction platform that allows researchers, clinicians, and policymakers to access and analyze complex health data easily. The platform integrates advanced visual analytics with interactive data visualization, facilitating data exploration, hypothesis testing, and presentation of findings. By providing transparent and explainable AI methods, **HEREDITARY** ensures that users can trust and understand the analytical processes and results. The project also emphasizes citizen engagement, involving patient organizations and the public in the research process to increase awareness and acceptance of the findings. These efforts aim to enhance public trust in data-driven healthcare innovations and promote informed decision-making for better health outcomes.

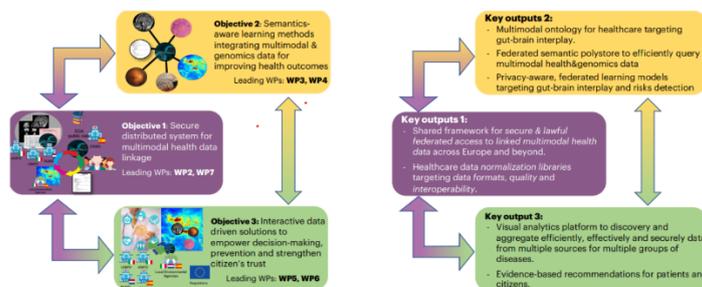


Figure 7 Objectives page of the HEREDITARY website

## 2.2.4 WORK PACKAGES

This section shows the project flow structured in 9 interrelated Work Packages, briefly described. An abstract image related to each WP will be specifically integrated to illustrate each WP.

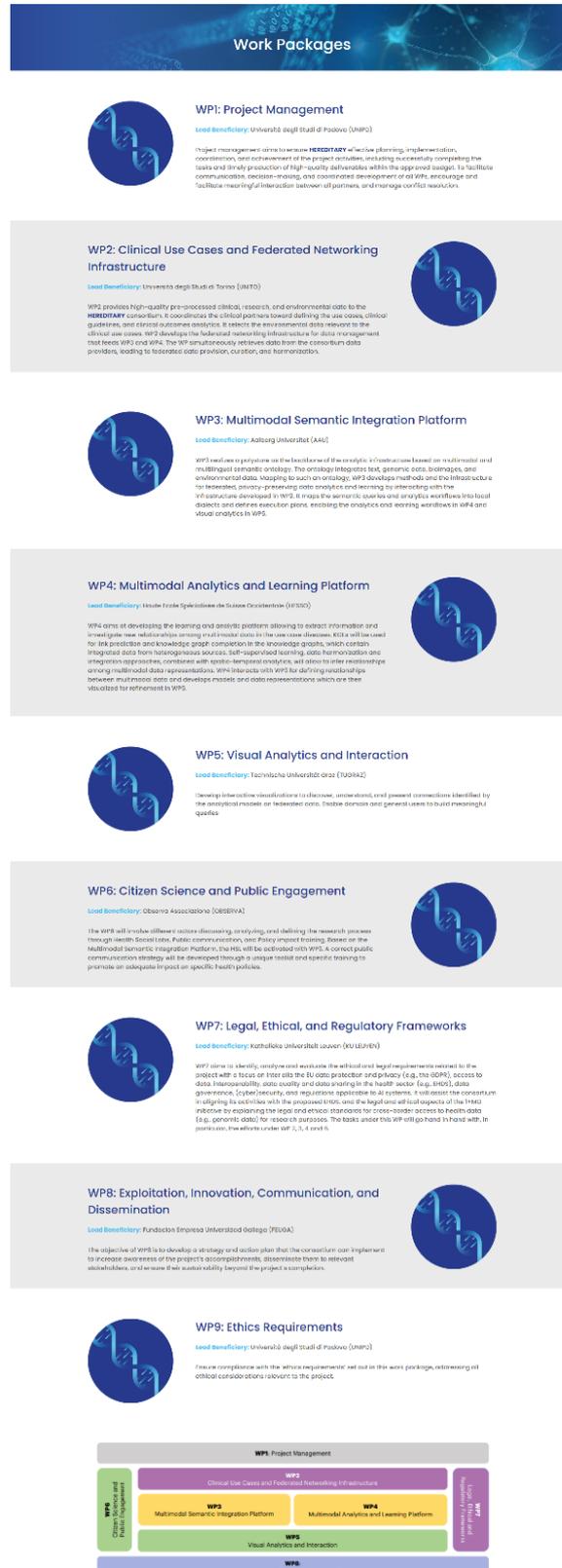


Figure 8 Work Packages page of the HEREDITARY website

## 2.2.5 IMPACT

Text describing the expected impact of the project HEREDITARY is provided in this section. It provides to the visitor an overview of the context of the project and the innovation level and added value, to make each topic more recognisable and to make the webpage more appealing and easier to assimilate.

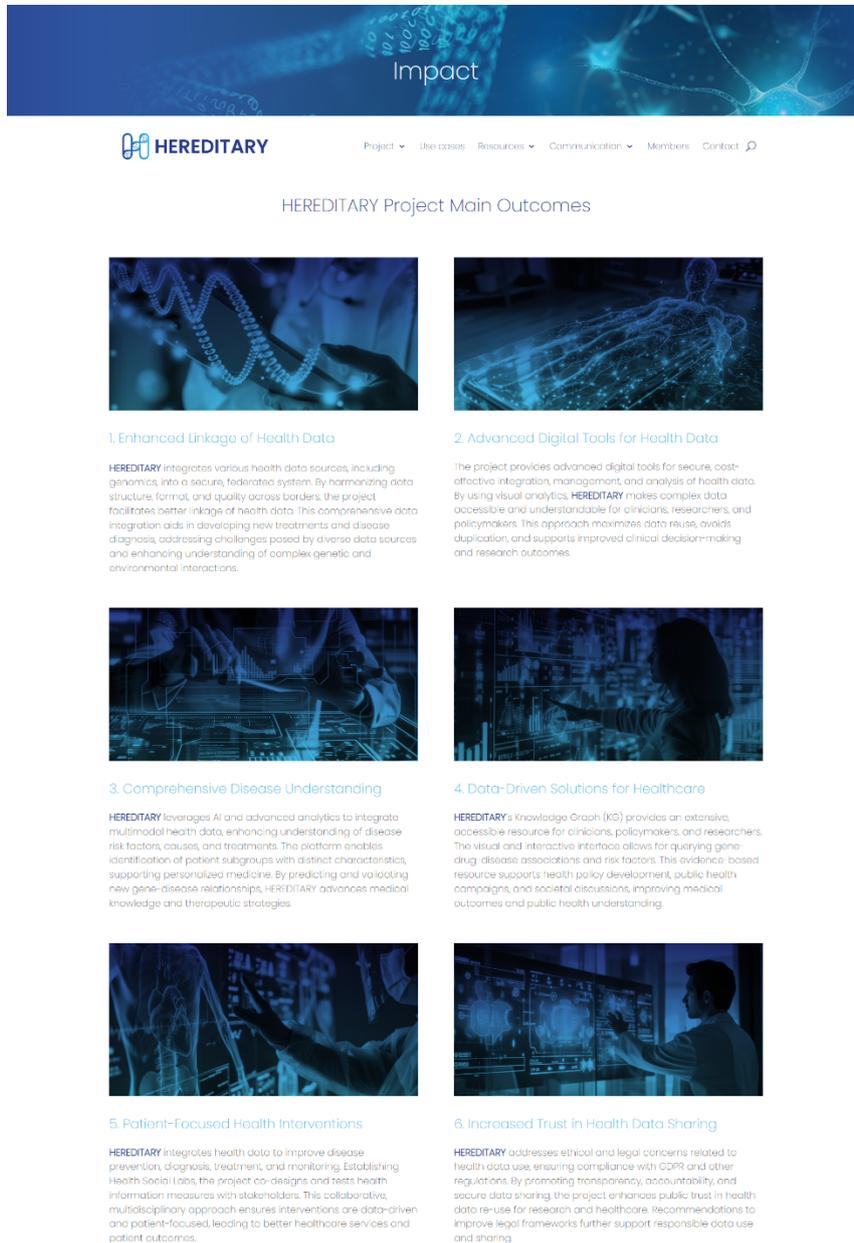


Figure 9 Impact page of the HEREDITARY website

## 2.3 USE CASES

The homepage includes the five use cases studied in HEREDITARY project. A brief description of the different diseases, data modalities and centers, scientific approach and example clinical outcome are included for each use cases.



## Use cases



### Use Case 1: Neurodegenerative Diseases Phenotyping & Prognosis Evaluation

- Disease:** Focus on ALS with potential application to other neurodegenerative diseases.
- Data Modalities and Centers:** Genetic, clinical, imaging, and laboratory data from UNIQ, UNPD, and public/open data.
- Scientific Approach:** Develop methods using horizontal federated learning and knowledge extraction to perform unsupervised learning from multimodal data across centers. Identify correlations and dependencies among genetic, clinical, imaging, and environmental variables.
- Example Clinical Outcome:** Cluster ALS patients into subgroups with specific genetic variants and phenotypes, identify environmental risk factors and improve patient stratification in clinical trials.

### Use Case 2: Next-Generation Diagnosis and Treatment Response for Neurodegenerative Diseases

- Group of Diseases:** Application to MS, FTD, and other neurodegenerative diseases.
- Data Modalities and Centers:** Clinical, imaging, genetic, and environmental data from UNIQ, UNPD, OIG, and public/open data.
- Scientific Approach:** Develop ontologies to integrate clinical diagnosis with genetic variants, functions. Validate the approach by investigating similarities between diseases like ALS and FTD. Apply unsupervised learning to MS data to identify patient clusters and optimize treatment strategies.
- Example Clinical Outcome:** Identify MS patient clusters and best-fitting treatments, improve management and quality of life by linking environmental exposures to disease progression.





### Use Case 3: Signs of Parkinson's Disease in Multimodal Data

- Group of Diseases:** Parkinson's and related diseases.
- Data Modalities and Centers:** imaging, fundus photographs, OGI, clinical notes from UCS and UNPD, clinical scales, neurophysiology (EEG), brain imaging (MRI/PET/SPECT), biofluids, genetic screening.
- Scientific Approach:** Identify PD patients using ophthalmic imaging. Build classifiers using deep learning feature extraction and foundations models. Explore associations between eye and brain biomarkers, and apply unsupervised learning to identify patient subgroups.
- Example Clinical Outcome:** Identify PD biomarkers in the eye, predict PD development, and explore associations between multimodal biomarkers.

### Use Case 4: Phenotyping of the Gut-Brain Axis in Healthy Individuals

- Group of Diseases:** Diabetes, obesity, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome.
- Data Modalities and Centers:** Genetic, text, microbiome, neuroimaging from RUMC, UNPD, and public/open data.
- Scientific Approach:** Analyze gut microbiota from fecal samples and associate it with brain structure and function using a deeply phenotyped healthy population. Evaluate associations between gut microbiota, environmental factors, and health outcomes.
- Example Clinical Outcome:** Identify relationships between gut microbiome alterations and health-related data, potentially linking specific bacterial genera to brain functions and behaviors.





### Use Case 5: Gut-Brain Linkage and Disease Relevance

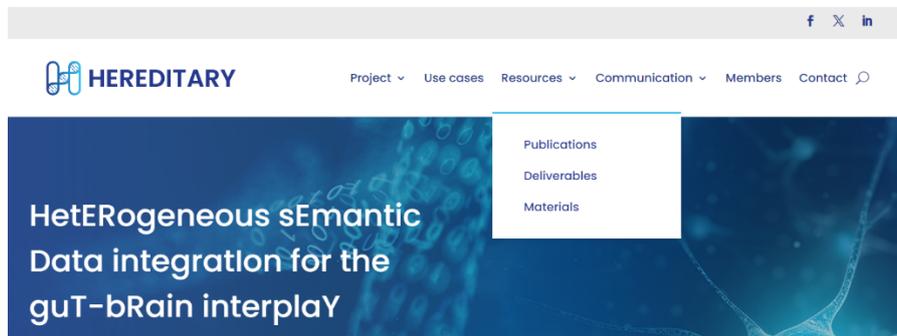
- Group of Diseases:** Neurological, stress-related, neurodevelopmental disorders (PD, depression, ADHD, anxiety, autism).
- Data Modalities and Centers:** Genetic, text, microbiome, clinical, neuroimaging, and digital pathology samples from RUMC, UNPD, UNIQ, and public/open data.
- Scientific Approach:** Apply methods from Use Case 4 to clinical disorder samples. Characterize gut microbiota in relation to disease populations and clinical parameters using deep learning.
- Example Clinical Outcome:** Evaluate the relationship between gut microbiome alterations and clinical data in stress-related and neurodevelopmental disorders. Identify relevant probiotic treatments based on symptom clusters.

*Figure 10 Use cases page of the HEREDITARY Website*

## 2.4 RESOURCES

In this section various types of documents will be stored: scientific publications, deliverables and graphical materials such as brochures, roll-up, the logo and so on. The purpose is to have a centralised window for rapid access to the work being developed by the HEREDITARY consortium in pursuit of the project's objectives. Public documents

will be accessible, and confidential documents will also be listed and redirected to the source.



*Figure 11 Resources menu*

### 2.4.1 PUBLICATIONS

The “Publications” page has the objective to provide the source of all the material as a result of the research activity of the project excluding confidential information. This page will be constantly updated with the material as long as it is produced by the project, and we plan to divide them into two big categories: “Health/medical perspective” or “Tools/models”.



## Publications

### Scientific publications

This section contains all scientific publications produced by the project.

HEALTH / MEDICAL PERSPECTIVE
TOOLS / MODELS

Title

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Title

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Title

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*Figure 12 Publications page of the HEREDITARY Website*

## 2.4.2 DELIVERABLES

A list of all HEREDITARY project deliverables, already generated and to be generated, is displayed in this section. All public deliverables will be accessible to download on PDF as soon as they are approved by the reviewers and the Commission.



Deliverables of the project are documents describing the research process, results and conclusions, prepared at distinct stages of the project. Public deliverables of **HEREDITARY** project will be available for download as soon as they are approved by the funding agency.



**Deliverable 1**

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Curabitur mi neque, sollicitudin eu venenatis efficitur, tempor sit amet tellus. Nam sagittis diam in ligula facilisis laoreet eget eu risus. Nunc scelerisque orci et metus dignissim rutrum. Mauris ac posuere ante. Pellentesque eros nunc, mattis ac elementum id, facilisis eget purus. Aenean nisi neque, interdum at lectus maximus, placerat tristique lacus. Duis sit amet consequat quam.

[DOWNLOAD](#)



**Deliverable 1**

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[DOWNLOAD](#)

*Figure 13 Deliverables page of the HEREDITARY Website*

### 2.4.3 MATERIALS

To be well represented on media appearances, conferences, etc. HEREDITARY has prepared two logo versions, easily downloadable, to guarantee the quality of the images. This page will be updated with brochures, posters or any other publicity materials the project may find interesting to share.



**HEREDITARY** will design materials that reflect on its goals, events, actions and progress. Here you can read and download the material released throughout the duration of the project!



Logo

[DOWNLOAD](#)



Roll up

[DOWNLOAD](#)

*Figure 14 Materials page of the HEREDITARY Website*

## 2.5 COMMUNICATION

The homepage includes all key messages and quick links to different sections related to news, events and HEREDITARY voices.

**DELIVERABLE 8.4**  
28/06/2024, V1.0

GA 101137074 20 | 25

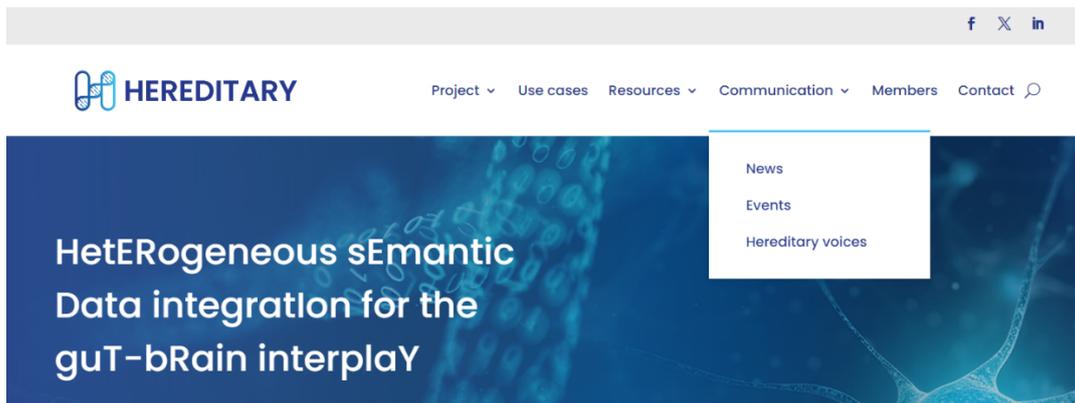


Figure 15 Communication menu

### 2.5.1 NEWS

The “News” page is intended to present the latest updates related to the activity of the Project in order to get a quick refresh on what happened on the recent period. This page will be constantly updated with the latest material such as upcoming meetings, participations in events, dissemination actions, conferences, etc.

To keep the website attractive for external users, all partners are requested to report to FEUGA any potential news related to the project that could be added to this section.

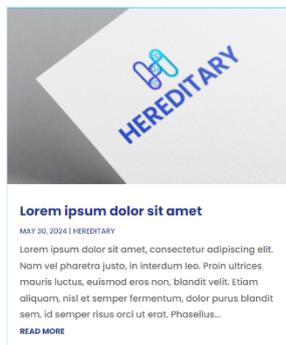


Figure 16 News page of the HEREDITARY Website

### 2.5.2 EVENTS

The events organized by the project as well as relevant events related with the project will be posted in this section to facilitate the access and registration to the event and to serve as a point of information about them.

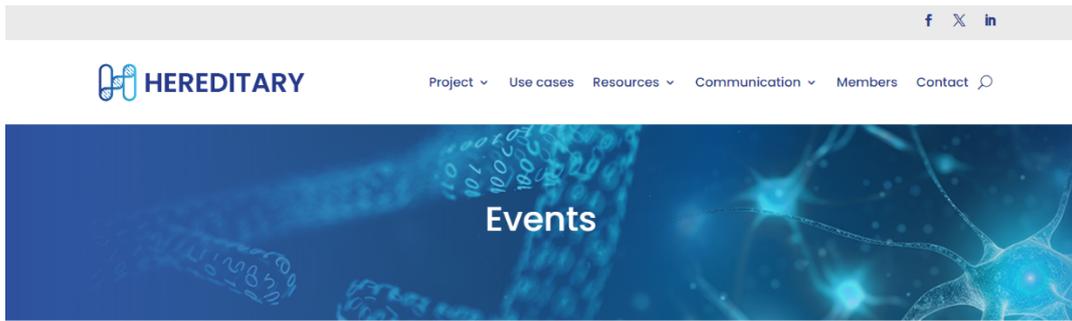


Figure 17 Events page. A calendar will be available soon.

### 2.5.3 HEREDITARY VOICES

This section has interviews with project participants to learn about their roles, insights, and contributions to improving healthcare by data integration and federated learning.

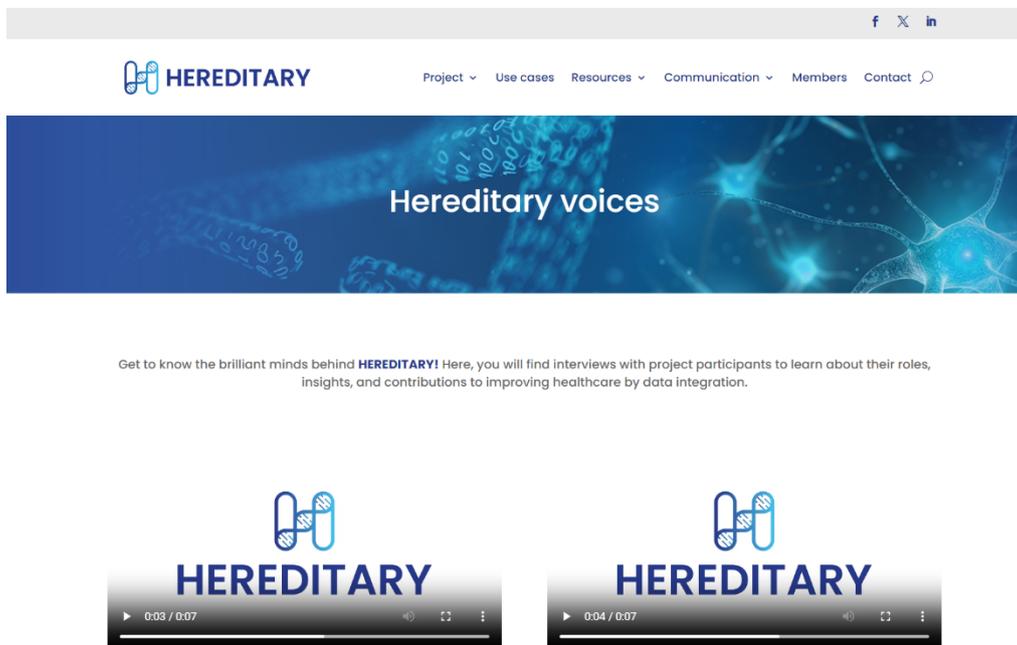


Figure 18 Hereditary voices page of the HEREDITARY Website

### 2.6 MEMBERS

A specific access to the HEREDITARY collaborative platform for partners is included in this section.

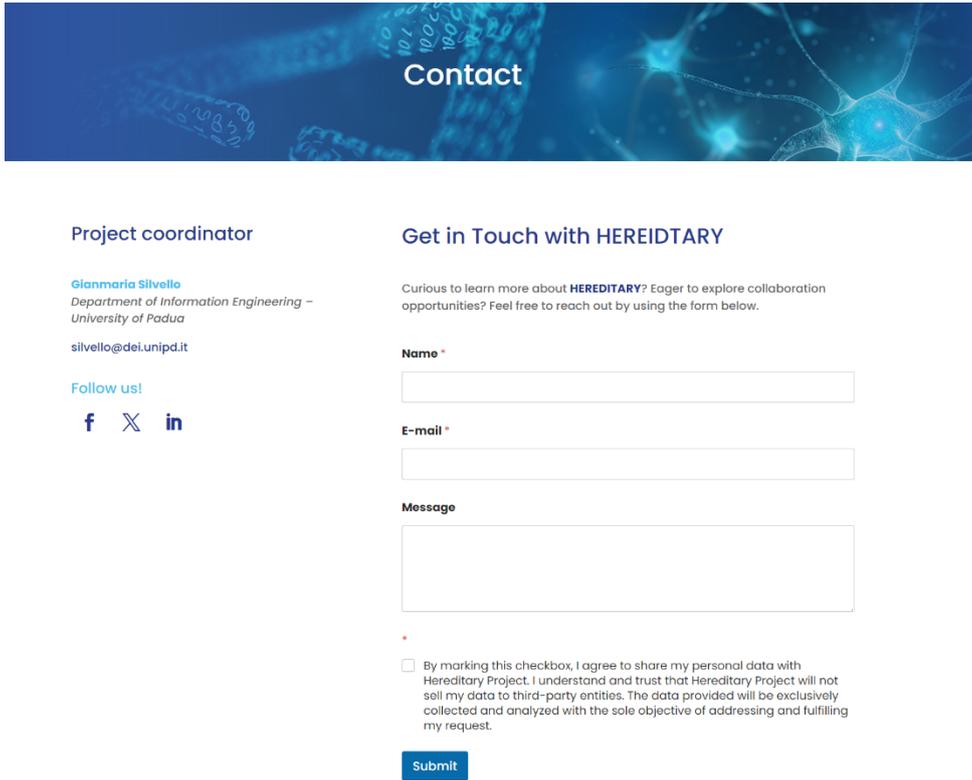


Figure 19 Access button to the HEREDITARY collaborative platform

## 2.7 CONTACT

A contact form is available on the HEREDITARY website. It requires the name, email address, and a message. Once the message is sent, it arrives directly to the FEUGA's communication team, who will be in charge of distributing the message to the appropriate recipient among the partners.

In a line with the website's privacy policy, the email address of the visitor is required in order to send feedback.



The image shows a screenshot of the HEREDITARY website's contact page. At the top, there is a blue banner with the word "Contact" in white. Below the banner, the page is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "Project coordinator" and features the name "Gianmaria Silvello" in blue, followed by his affiliation: "Department of Information Engineering - University of Padua" and his email address "silvello@dei.unipd.it". Below this, it says "Follow us!" and shows icons for Facebook, X, and LinkedIn. The right column is titled "Get in Touch with HEREDITARY" and contains a short introductory text: "Curious to learn more about HEREDITARY? Eager to explore collaboration opportunities? Feel free to reach out by using the form below." This is followed by three input fields: "Name \*", "E-mail \*", and "Message". Below the message field is a small red asterisk and a checkbox with the following text: "By marking this checkbox, I agree to share my personal data with Hereditary Project. I understand and trust that Hereditary Project will not sell my data to third-party entities. The data provided will be exclusively collected and analyzed with the sole objective of addressing and fulfilling my request." At the bottom of the form is a blue "Submit" button.

*Figure 20 Contact page of the HEREDITARY Website*

### 3 MEASURING RESULTS

Visits to the website will be measured and evaluated with the use of statistics integrated with Google Analytics. This is the best tool for personalised views and graphs about type of users, geographical location, origin of web traffic, most visited sections, most demanded materials, etc.

Google Analytics give a wealth of information about HEREDITARY website performance metrics, but in a very simply put way. It shows us the following:

1. How much traffic is coming to the site.
2. Where the traffic is coming from.
3. What visitors are doing once they are on the site.

Analytics works by tracking 'tags', which are a small piece of JavaScript code that are installed on every page of the website to work properly. This data is then collated and shown in a 'report' page in the Google Analytics' admin interface.

## 4 Milestone verification

**Milestone 2 *Webpage and social media*** of the HEREDITARY project Description of Action is verified by the availability of the public website in the following link: <https://hereditary-project.eu/>. It was launched, with all the different pages described above in this deliverable, in May 2024, and this verifies the successful achievement of the Milestone 2.