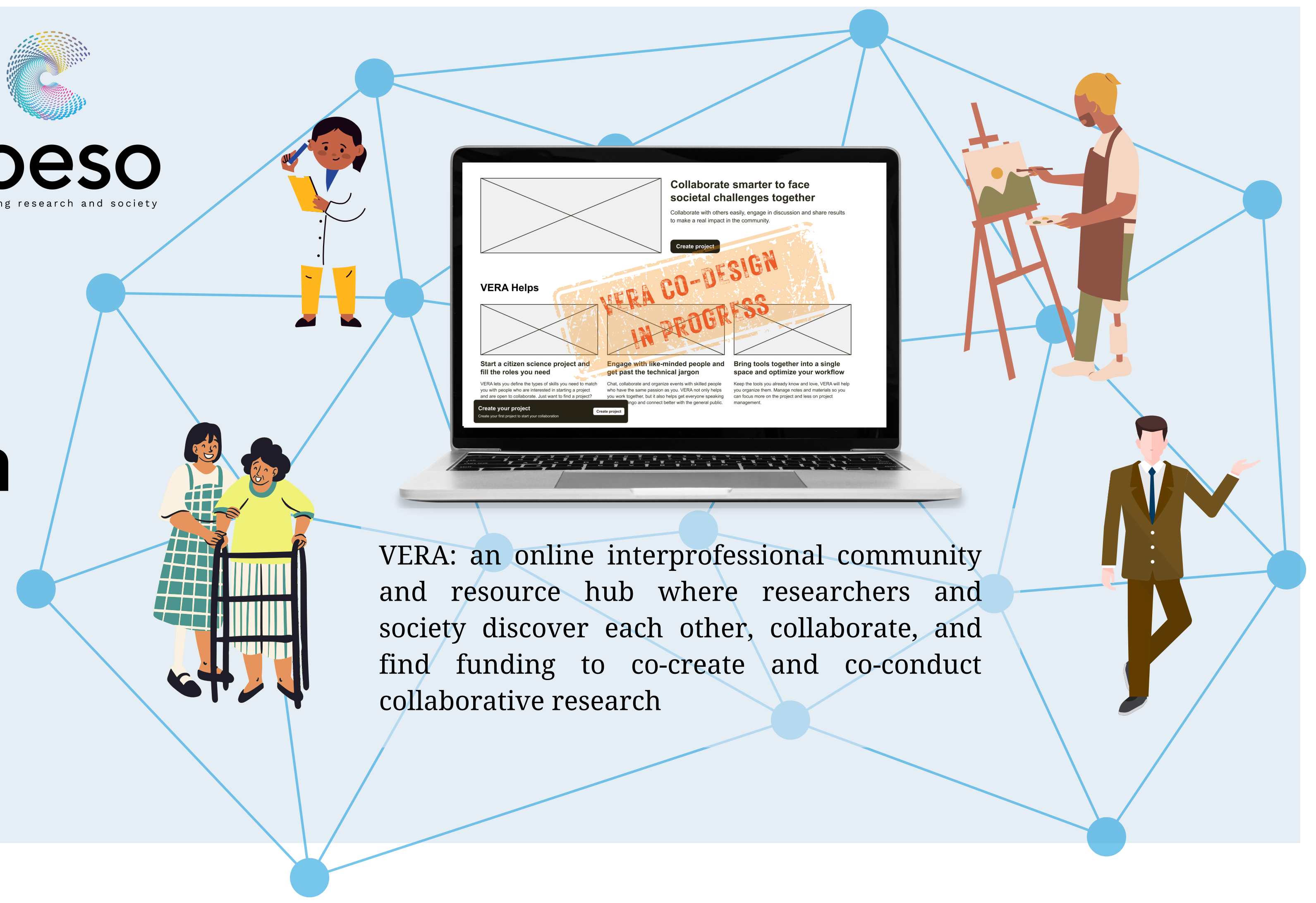


# Creating a digital "COLLABORATORY" for Participatory Research in Interdisciplinary Projects



VERA: an online inter-professional community and resource hub where researchers and society discover each other, collaborate, and find funding to co-create and co-conduct collaborative research

The VERA platform will sustain, support, facilitate, and showcase the contribution of SSH in citizen science

### COLLABORATIVE SSH RESEARCH

### ABOUT COESO

- 3-year project, funded by Horizon 2020
- Aim: develop and sustain **citizen science** research in the **social sciences and humanities**
- Mission: enable strong growth of citizen science projects in the social sciences and humanities and to support **collaborative research**
- funds/enables **10 diverse collaborative SSH research pilot projects**
- developing a "collaboratory" - an online platform called "VERA" for **finding each other, finding funding, and for co-creating and disseminating** new knowledge and solutions to society
- VERA will be enriched by an embedded "cooperation analytics" tool that provides stakeholders with reflective feedback on how they collaborate

COESO is co-designing the VERA platform with 10 pilot projects



#tourismobservatory  
Anthropology + Environmental NGO members



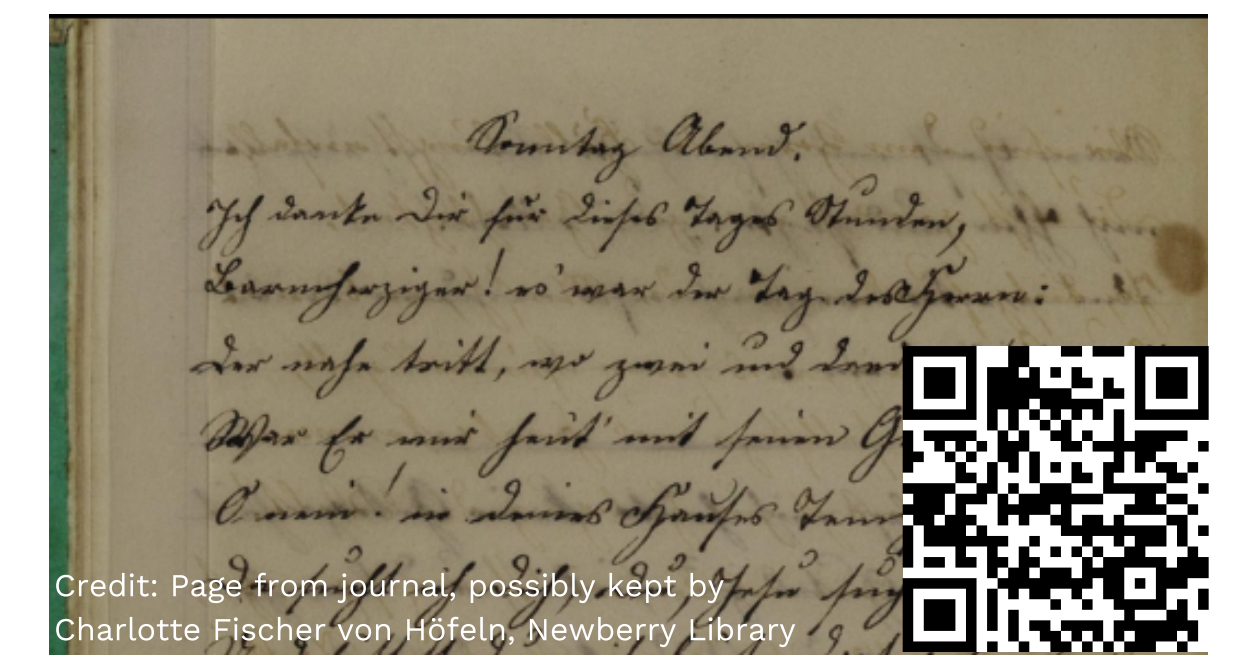
#dancingphilosophy  
Philosophy + Dance/Choreography



#solutionsjournalism  
Political Science + Journalism



#sensitivedatasharing  
Criminology + Journalism



#migrantknowledge  
History + Immigration

Pilot Projects #6, #7, #8, #9, and #10 were chosen through an open call process Nov 2021-April 2022. They will begin their research this summer.

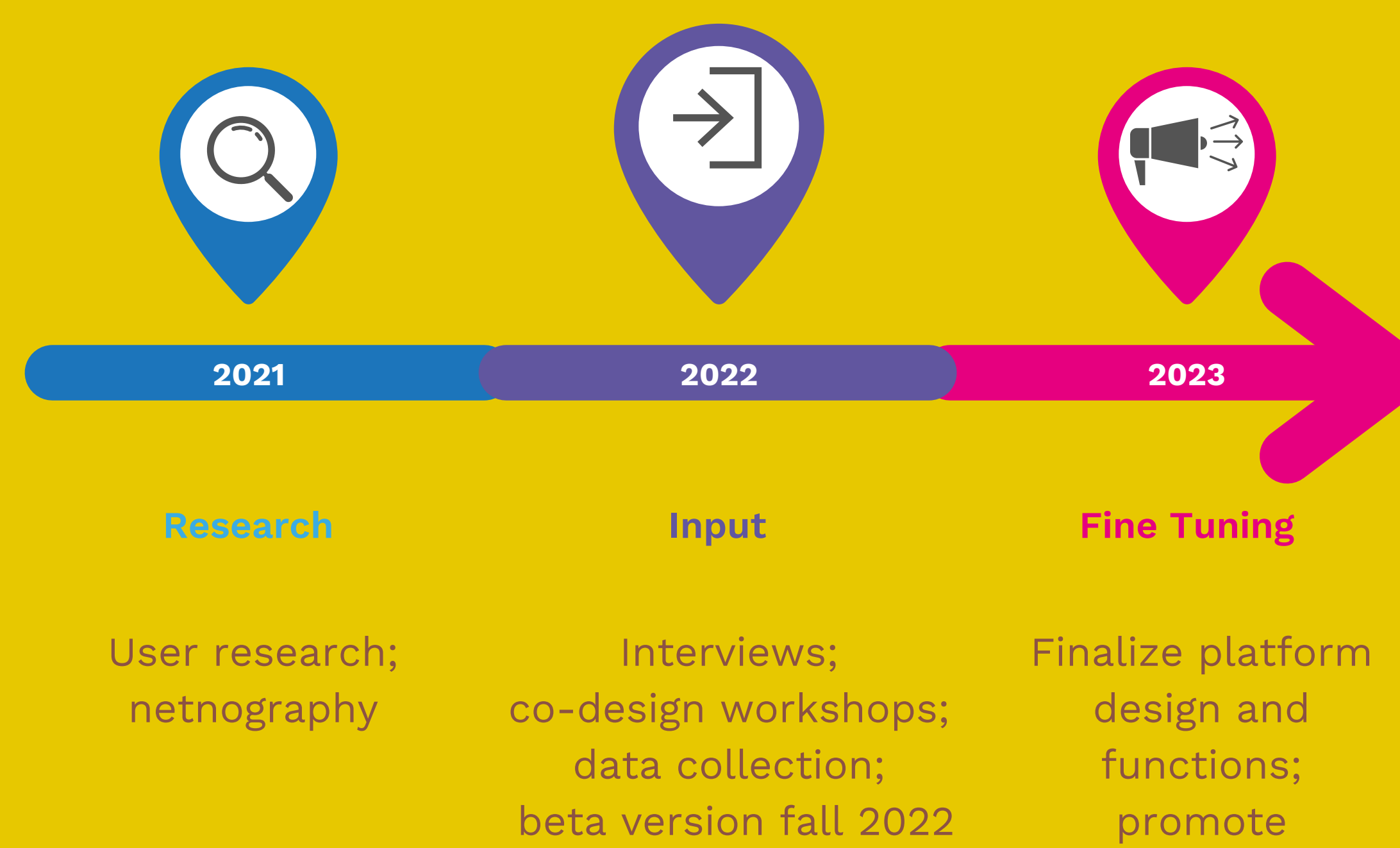
## VERA CO-DESIGN JOURNEY

### Role of the pilots

Citizen science projects within social sciences and humanities disciplines employ a wide range of methodologies and levels of citizen participation. Our 10 pilot projects represent a variety of SSH disciplines, research methodologies, and collaborative practices. By working together with our diverse pilot projects, COESO aims to ensure that the VERA platform design and functionalities will be suitable for many types of project collaborations. Pilot members participate in input gathering activities throughout the project, including:

- Mutual Learning Exercises (online and in-person)
- Interviews (as needed)
- User Design Workshops (as needed)
- Monthly group meetings (online)

### Timeline



### Collaboration needs

- Project partners need to stay **flexible** in regards to what kind of **outputs** to develop together and the journey of how to get there.
- Project partners need to set aside **extra time to get to know each other** and maintain relationships.
- All project partners should make an effort to acknowledge and brainstorm how the **expertise of each member** can be best utilized in the project.
- Each project partner should devote time to **connecting and sharing their collaborative research experiences** especially with their core professional or academic community (their own "peers")
- In collaborative research the process of **jointly determining the research problem** is a fundamental step to set the overall tone of collaboration.

## ASK US

- How does the VERA platform connect projects to funding?
- What is the difference between "crowdsourcing" and "collaborative research" in social sciences and humanities disciplines?
- How do COESO pilots communicate about research to diverse target audiences and why this is important?
- How does inter-professional collaboration pave the way for new practices within professions and academic disciplines?
- Why is the creation of a "community of practices" key to support stakeholders willing to engage in collaborative research?
- How does an academic blogging platform for SSH like Hypotheses.org help?

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