

SA-0300533

DARING

Application Form Export

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A - Project identification

A.1 Project identification

Project id (automatically created)	SA-0300533
Name of the lead partner organisation (in original language)	Politecnico di Bari
Name of the lead partner organisation (in English)	Polytechnic University of Bari
Project title	Digital Advancement and Resilience In Neurodegenerative Healthcare through Innovation and SMEs
Project acronym	DARING
Programme priority	PA 1 - A smarter South Adriatic programme area, by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation
Specific objective	S.O.1.1: Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments
Project duration in months	30

A.2 Project summary

Please give a short overview of the project and describe:

- the common challenge of the programme area you are jointly tackling in your project;
- the overall objective of the project and the expected change your project will make to the current situation;
- the main outputs you will produce and those who will benefit from them;
- the approach you plan to take and why a cross-border/transnational/inter-regional approach is needed;
- what is new/original about the project.

The DARING project addresses the common challenge faced throughout the South Adriatic area regarding the gap between the actual needs of patients with neurodegenerative diseases, particularly Alzheimer's and dementia, and the offerings from SMEs. Patients do not solely seek diagnostic or treatment solutions; they also require services that help them maintain their autonomy and independence for as long as possible; this considerations extends to caregivers and family members who care for these patients, as they also need solutions that alleviate their burden and prevent caregiver overload. To address these challenges, DARING project aims to implement strategies that encourage SMEs to develop technological solutions that reflect the needs of patients. This will be achieved through the establishment of an Empowerment Program that features a Short Master, which, unlike others, includes sessions for direct interaction between entrepreneurs and patients, as well as their caregivers. The direct engagement is designed to foster meaningful dialogue between the two groups, allowing entrepreneurs to gain firsthand insights into the challenges faced by patients and caregivers. The theoretical training will cover both entrepreneurial topics and technological aspects, including relevant regulations, to ensure participants gain a comprehensive understanding of the overall landscape. Those participating in the short master course will have the opportunity to apply their acquired knowledge by taking part in a competitive hackathon, which will culminate in a challenge that offers winners access to a summer week designed as an incubation pathway. During this intensive week, participants will receive mentorship and support to refine their projects and bring their innovative ideas to fruition. Complementing these activities, an ICT platform will be implemented to serve as a repository for collecting information about SMEs operating in the healthcare sector, along with details about their products and target users, to facilitate access to valuable resources, foster collaboration among SMEs, and support the development of solutions tailored to the needs of patients and caregivers. To ensure the full adoption and effective utilization of SMEs solutions, a dedicated capacity-building program will also be implemented for public administrations, providing comprehensive guidelines aimed at facilitating the adoption of new technologies and services. The entire collaborative approach will foster a supportive environment for both SMEs and public authorities, ultimately leading to improved healthcare delivery and patient outcomes. The project will therefore be based on a Quadruple Helix method, applied at the cross-border level to ensure alignment among countries facing similar challenges both in entrepreneurial and healthcare sectors.

A.3 Project budget overview

Programme funding			Contribution					Total project budget
Funding source	Funding amount	Co-financing rate (%)	Automatic public contribution	Other public contribution	Total public contribution	Private contribution	Total contribution	
IPA III CBC	898.187,76	81,93%	134.792,95	23.125,93	157.918,88	40.229,86	198.148,74	1.096.336,50
Total EU funds	898.187,76	81,93%	134.792,95	23.125,93	157.918,88	40.229,86	198.148,74	1.096.336,50
Total project budget	898.187,76	81,93%	134.792,95	23.125,93	157.918,88	40.229,86	198.148,74	1.096.336,50

A.4 Project outputs and result overview

Programme Output Indicator	Aggregated value per Programme output indicator	Measurement Unit	Output	Output Title	Output target value	Programme result indicator	Baseline	Result indicator target value	Measurement unit
Strategies and action plans jointly developed	1,00	strategy /action plan	Output 3.1	CB Healthcare Innovation Action Plan	1,00				
						Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations	12,00	1,00	joint strategy /action plan

B - Project partners

Partners overview

Number	Status	Name of the organisation in english	Country	Organisation abbreviation	Partner role	Associated organisations	Partner total eligible budget
1	Active	Polytechnic University of Bari	Italia (IT)	POLIBA	LP		297.042,49
2	Active	Alzheimer Bari – ODV	Italia (IT)	Alzheimer Bari	PP		164.446,11
3	Active	Regional Development Agency of Molise Region – Sviluppo Italia Molise S.p.A	Italia (IT)	SIMOLISE	PP		212.476,06
4	Active	Clinical Center of Montenegro	Crna Gora (ME)	KCCG	PP		154.172,86
5	Active	Development Alternative Resource Centre	Shqipëria (AL)	DARC	PP		101.946,48
6	Active	Institute of Modern Technologies Montenegro	Crna Gora (ME)	IMTM	PP		166.252,50

B.1 Lead partner	
Partner number	1
Partner role	LP
Name of the organisation in original language	Politecnico di Bari
Name of the organisation in english	Polytechnic University of Bari
Organisation abbreviation	POLIBA
Department / unit / division	Department of Mechanical, Mathematics and Management
Partner main address	
Country	Italia (IT)
NUTS 2	Puglia (ITF4)
NUTS 3	Bari (ITF47)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Orabona 4 70126 Bari
Homepage	www.poliba.it
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)	
Country	Italia (IT)
NUTS 2	Puglia (ITF4)
NUTS 3	Bari (ITF47)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Orabona 4 70126 Bari
Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME: PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Type of partner	Higher education and research organisations
Legal status	Public
VAT number (if applicable)	04301530723
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No

Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)

Other identifier number

Official email (PEC Address compulsory only for italian Partners)

politecnico.di.bari@legalmail.it

PIC (from EC Participant Register) if available

999431159

Contact

Legal representative

Mr. Francesco Cupertino

Contact person

Mr. Antonio Messeni Petruzzelli

Email

antonio.messenipetruzzelli@poliba.it

Telephone no.

+390805963542

Motivation

**Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?
Description of the project team/staff and experts: Professional profiles and expertise/ Role/tasks**

Polytechnic University of Bari (Poliba) is one of the most important centers of technological excellence of the Apulia Region and is involved in different activities with direct impact on shaping, informing, and evaluating public policies at local and national levels. It plays a crucial role in policy development through research, expertise, and public engagement. The research activities of Polytechnic Universities of Bari are organized in five Departments and in different Research Centres. Special attention is paid to applied research and the study of systems and models for creating value for organizations and businesses.

The Department of Mechanics, Mathematics & Management (DMMM) is specialized in management and innovation. This includes the client-supplier chain, organization, project management, innovation management, knowledge management and the management of human resources. The research group in management has developed different competences and knowledge in the topic of the proposed project by participating in European and national funded project regarding the following topics: networking and coordination mechanisms; Social innovation and accountability; System dynamics modelling; Technology Entrepreneurship. Antonio Messeni Petruzzelli is Full Professor of Innovation Management and founder of the Innovation-Management Group at the Politecnico di Bari. Prof. Messeni Petruzzelli is also a member of the steering committee of the ESA Lab established between the Politecnico di Bari and the European Space Agency on the topic of space economy, as well as Rector's Delegate for Research Valorisation and President of the university's incubator and open innovation hub Boosting Innovation in Poliba (BINP). He currently serves as adjunct professor at the Beijing Normal University (Beijing, China). Prof. Messeni Petruzzelli is the author of more than 140 international publications and three international books on the topic of innovation management and technology strategy.

Motivation

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU co-financed projects or other international projects (ie. Experience in similar projects / actions) in the past 5 years, specifying per each one: Project title, Financing Organization / Programme, Dates (from mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy, Role in the partnership LP or PP, Objectives and results of the action (max 3 lines), Total cost of the action (EUR), Amount of the budget managed, % of spent funds in front of the assigned budget.

1. SunWater - SUSTAINable WATER supply networks in Mediterranean touristic areas

Interreg Greece-Italy 2014-2020,
apr-18 to apr-20

Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Igoumenitsa, the Municipal Water Supply and Sewerage Company of Zakynthos, the Polytechnic University of Bari and Acquedotto Pugliese S.p.A.
€ 873.000,00

SunWater project aims to improve the efficiency and the sustainability of Water Distribution Networks in urban touristic areas as a strategic asset to sustainable growth in the Programme area.

<https://2014-2020.greece-italy.eu/rlb-funded-projects/sunwater/>

2. Re-Water – Ecotechnologies for the waste water management

Interreg Greece-Italy 2014-2020,
mag-18 to mag-20

Acquedotto Pugliese S.P.A., the Municipality of Gallipoli, the Polytechnic University of Bari, Municipality of Patras, the Special Account for Research Grants of the University of Patras.

€ 818.059,92

The project main objective is to introduce sustainable technologies and processes to manage wastewater disposal, with the final aim of reducing marine pollution caused by the effluents derived from water treatment and improve the quality of the sewerage treatment plants.

3. Innonets – Innovative Networks for the Agrifood sector

Interreg Greece-Italy 2014-2020,
apr-18 to feb-21

Puglia Region – Department of Economic development, innovation, education, training and employment, ARTI – Apulia Region Agency for Technology and Innovation and InnovaPuglia, Region of Ionian Island (lead partner), Polytechnic University of Bari, Corfu Chamber of Commerce, Regional League of Cooperatives and Mutuality of Puglia.

€ 899.473,35

The project aims to promote Small and Medium Enterprises operating in the Agri-food sector. The aim is to connect the businesses of the Agri-food Sector which act into the Region of Ionian Islands and the one in Apulia Region and to create a network which will specialize the knowledge related to this sector by creating a new policy strategy and protocols.

4. YESS - Young Entrepreneurs Startup School

Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme 2014-2020
may-18 to dec-21

Politecnico di Bari, Universus CSEI, Chamber of Commerce of Bari, University of Ioannina and E.R.F.C..
€ 897.336,79

YESS project focuses on the promotion of innovative incubation services for micro and small enterprises in the sectors of e-health, design, blue growth and tourism.

Co-financing			
Source		Amount	Percentage
IPA III CBC		237.633,99	80,00%
Partner contribution		59.408,50	20,00%
Partner total eligible budget		297.042,49	100,00%
Origin of partner contribution			
Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
POLIBA	Public	0,00	0,00%
CIPESS Resolution	Automatic Public	59.408,50	20,00%
Total			
Sub-total public contribution		0,00	0,00%
Sub-total automatic public contribution		59.408,50	20,00%
Sub-total private contribution		0,00	0,00%
Total		59.408,50	20,00%
State Aid			
State aid criteria self-check			
Criterium I: Is the partner involved in economic activities through the project?			
1. Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?	No	No, the project applicant operates in the ETC with no aim of profit	
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?	No	All the activities implemented within the project are not market oriented	
Criterium II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?			
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No	The project partner will be supported by external expertise for the technical implementation of the project.	

Criterium II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?	
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	No Project partners will not implement economic activities. No revenues are foreseen. PPs will work without any economic objectives and no operators will direct benefit from project economic activities
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid
State aid relevant activities	
GBER scheme / de minimis	

B.1 Project Partner 2	
Partner number	2
Partner role	PP
Name of the organisation in original language	Alzheimer Bari – ODV
Name of the organisation in english	Alzheimer Bari – ODV
Organisation abbreviation	Alzheimer Bari
Department / unit / division	NA
Partner main address	
Country	Italia (IT)
NUTS 2	Puglia (ITF4)
NUTS 3	Bari (ITF47)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Papa Benedetto XIII 21 70124 Bari
Homepage	https://www.alzheimerbari.it/
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)	
Country	Italia (IT)
NUTS 2	Puglia (ITF4)
NUTS 3	Bari (ITF47)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Papa Benedetto XIII 21 70124 Bari
Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Type of partner	Interest groups including NGOs
Legal status	Private
VAT number (if applicable)	93270090728
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No
Other identifier number	

Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Official email (PEC Address compulsory only for italian Partners)	alzheimerbari@pec.libero.it
PIC (from EC Participant Register) if available	
Contact	
Legal representative	Dr. Pietro Schino
Contact person	Dr Pietro Schino
Email	alzheimerbari@libero.it
Telephone no.	+39805563647
Motivation	
Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project? Description of the project team/staff and experts: Professional profiles and expertise/ Role/tasks	
<p>Alzheimer Bari ODV brings to the DARING project a combination of specialized skills and a long experience in the field of care for people with dementia and Alzheimer's, with a holistic approach that integrates clinical, psychological and social aspects. The team is made up of qualified professionals who will contribute significantly to the achievement of the project's objectives. The project coordinator has extensive experience in the management of innovative projects in the social and health sector. With more than ten years of experience in project management, he will oversee the entire DARING project cycle, from planning to implementation, ensuring that the deadlines and objectives set are met. Its role will be crucial to maintain a constant dialogue between the project partners, coordinate activities and manage relations with stakeholders. The team also includes two experienced neuropsychologists, who are specialized in the evaluation and treatment of people with dementia. They both have gained specific skills in the management of innovative programs to support patients and their caregivers, with a particular focus on the use of new technologies to improve the quality of life. Their role in the project will be to conduct the assessment of patients' clinical and psychological needs, developing innovative activities that can be integrated with the digital solutions proposed by DARING. This mix of skills allows us to face the challenges of the project with a multidisciplinary approach, providing a decisive contribution in the development of effective digital solutions and in the empowerment of patients, their families and healthcare professionals.</p>	
If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU co-financed projects or other international projects (ie. Experience in similar projects / actions) in the past 5 years, specifying per each one: Project title, Financing Organization / Programme, Dates (from mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy, Role in the partnership LP or PP, Objectives and results of the action (max 3 lines), Total cost of the action (EUR), Amount of the budget managed, % of spent funds in front of the assigned budget.	

Motivation			
Alzheimer Bari ODV is a volunteer organization based in Puglia, specializing in assisting people with dementia and Alzheimer's, as well as supporting their family members and caregivers. For years we have been committed to offering assistance, training and consulting services in the social and health field, with the aim of improving the quality of life of patients and promoting the adoption of innovative solutions for their care. Alzheimer Bari ODV will be able to facilitate the adoption of innovative solutions among healthcare professionals and patients' families. Our contribution will focus on assessing specific needs related to dementia and participating in the co-creation of empowerment and training models targeting SMEs, healthcare professionals and public stakeholders.			
Co-financing			
Source		Amount	Percentage
IPA III CBC		131.556,88	80,00%
Partner contribution		32.889,23	20,00%
Partner total eligible budget		164.446,11	100,00%
Origin of partner contribution			
Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
Alzheimer Bari	Private	0,00	0,00%
CIPESS Resolution	Automatic Public	32.889,23	20,00%
Total			
Sub-total public contribution		0,00	0,00%
Sub-total automatic public contribution		32.889,23	20,00%
Sub-total private contribution		0,00	0,00%
Total		32.889,23	20,00%
State Aid			
State aid criteria self-check			
Criterion I: Is the partner involved in economic activities through the project?			
1. Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?		No	No, the project applicant operates in the ETC with no aim of profit
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?		No	All the activities implemented within the project are not market oriented

Criterion II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?	
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No The project partner will be supported by external expertise for the technical implementation of the project.
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	No Project partners will not implement economic activities. No revenues are foreseen. PPs will work without any economic objectives and no operators will direct benefit from project economic activities.
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid
State aid relevant activities	
GBER scheme / de minimis	

B.1 Project Partner 3	
Partner number	3
Partner role	PP
Name of the organisation in original language	Agenzia Regionale per lo Sviluppo del Molise – Sviluppo Italia Molise S.p.A.
Name of the organisation in english	Regional Development Agency of Molise Region – Sviluppo Italia Molise S.p.A
Organisation abbreviation	SIMOLISE
Department / unit / division	Tourism and International projects
Partner main address	
Country	Italia (IT)
NUTS 2	Molise (ITF2)
NUTS 3	Campobasso (ITF22)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Nazario Sauro 1 86100 Campobasso
Homepage	www.sviluppoitaliamolise.it
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)	
Country	Italia (IT)
NUTS 2	Molise (ITF2)
NUTS 3	Campobasso (ITF22)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Nazario Sauro 1 86100 Campobasso
Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Type of partner	Sectoral agency
Legal status	Body Governed by Public Law art.2(1)(4) 2014/24/UE
VAT number (if applicable)	00852240704

Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	Yes
Other identifier number	
Official email (PEC Address compulsory only for italian Partners)	sviluppoitaliamolise@legalmail.it
PIC (from EC Participant Register) if available	
Contact	
Legal representative	Mr. Fabio Sebastiano
Contact person	Mr. Fabio Sebastiano
Email	fspallone@sviluppoitaliamolise.it
Telephone no.	+390874011200
Motivation	
Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project? Description of the project team/staff and experts: Professional profiles and expertise/ Role/tasks	

Motivation

Sviluppo Italia Molise is the regional development agency of the Molise Region and works as in-house organization. It has enhanced the past experiences and competences specializing in services supporting territorial development, in creation and consolidation of business, in technical assistance to public administration, including the management of European, national and regional funds. The agency has always been known for operating by institutional approach, offering services to both citizens and businesses (promotion of self-employment, business incubator, etc.) and to the government (public customers, attracting investment, collaborations with the University). SI Molise has been working since 1996 in enterprise creation, in close collaboration with Invitalia, the national government institution for investment attraction and during its working activity has directly supported the creation of about 1.500 new enterprises in the region, through a process that starts from a first contact and ends when the new enterprises become strong enough to run on their own plans: orientation, training, business planning and building the start-up of new companies. SI Molise manages also a business incubator. The agency has been commissioned by the Managing Authority of the Molise Region to process the RIS 3 Strategy on R&I in close collaboration with administration and the local partnership. In particular, it offers support for the implementation of R&I strategies related to the European Programming 2021-2027 and operates as intermediate body in the management process of the ROP. The agency has had also an important role in the definition and management of the Reg. Strat. Plan for Tourism: the working experience related to the Plan has allowed to reinforce internal skills in a growing and highly competitive sector. It also allowed to test SIMolise relevant competences and experiences in citizen engagement and collaborative processes including civil society and private sector. The company can count on a selected team of resources specialized in economic development, territorial marketing, inward investment attraction, business plan analysis, mentoring, startup creation, sectorial analysis.

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU co-financed projects or other international projects (ie. Experience in similar projects / actions) in the past 5 years, specifying per each one: Project title, Financing Organization / Programme, Dates (from mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy, Role in the partnership LP or PP, Objectives and results of the action (max 3 lines), Total cost of the action (EUR), Amount of the budget managed, % of spent funds in front of the assigned budget.

Motivation

SI Molise has been participating for several years in European projects on various themes, with particular reference to business creation and the most innovative sectors. Through various projects, has been possible to strengthen its skills and realize experiences even in work integration, innovation in transports and in tourism sectors. Below there is a summary of the projects carried out mainly as partner:

INTERREG ITALIA-ALBANIA-MONTENEGRO (FRea, ILOFORDIGITAL, AMTECH): implementing from February 2024, in tourism (workation), digital skills and additive manufacturing. The total amount of the budget is respectively 200.000 €, 197.000 €, 195.000 € and SIMolise managed 57.000 €, 43.000 €, 36.000 € as project partner. Budget expenses have been fully finalized.

INTERREG ITALIA-ALBANIA-MONTENEGRO (SOLAR, LASTING): implemented in 2022-2023, in environmental (Co2 emissions in airports) and transport sector (ports' logistics). The total amount of the budget is respectively 688.500 €, 634.700 € and SIMolise managed 113.400 €, 64.000 €, as project partner. Budget expenses have been fully finalized.

INTERREG REGIONARTS (June 2018-May 2023), on behalf of the Molise Region: mapping of the ecosystem linked to art and ICT in the reference territories and elaboration of the regional Action Plan. Total budget of the project 1.635.670 €, SIMolise managed several tasks for about 50.000 €.

INTERREG SIE (SME Internationalization Exchange, April 2016-March 2021) in collaboration with the Molise Region and the project partners: elaboration of the case study on "Internationalization of local SMEs: Molise study" and the related Action Plan. Total budget of the project 1.140.361 €, SIMolise managed several tasks for about 50.000 €.

Co-financing

Source	Amount	Percentage
IPA III CBC	169.980,84	80,00%
Partner contribution	42.495,22	20,00%
Partner total eligible budget	212.476,06	100,00%

Origin of partner contribution

Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
SIMOLISE	Public	0,00	0,00%
CIPESS Resolution	Automatic Public	42.495,22	20,00%

Total

Sub-total public contribution	0,00	0,00%
Sub-total automatic public contribution	42.495,22	20,00%
Sub-total private contribution	0,00	0,00%
Total	42.495,22	20,00%

State Aid

State aid criteria self-check	
Criterion I: Is the partner involved in economic activities through the project?	
1. Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?	No No, the project applicant operates in the ETC with no aim of profit
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?	No All the activities implemented within the project are not market oriented
Criterion II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?	
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No The project partner will be supported by external expertise for the technical implementation of the project.
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	No Project partners will not implement economic activities. No revenues are foreseen. PPs will work without any economic objectives and no operators will direct benefit from project economic activities.
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid
State aid relevant activities	
GBER scheme / de minimis	

B.1 Project Partner 4	
Partner number	4
Partner role	PP
Name of the organisation in original language	Klinički centar Crne Gore
Name of the organisation in english	Clinical Center of Montenegro
Organisation abbreviation	KCCG
Department / unit / division	Neurology department
Partner main address	
Country	Crna Gora (ME)
NUTS 2	Crna Gora (ME00)
NUTS 3	Crna Gora (ME000)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Ljubljanska bb NA 81000 Podgorica
Homepage	www.kccg.me
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)	
Country	Crna Gora (ME)
NUTS 2	Crna Gora (ME00)
NUTS 3	Crna Gora (ME000)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Ljubljanska bb NA 81000 Podgorica
Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Type of partner	Hospitals and medical centres
Legal status	Public
VAT number (if applicable)	02015366
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No
Other identifier number	

Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)

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Motivation

**Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?
Description of the project team/staff and experts: Professional profiles and expertise/ Role/tasks**

The Clinical Center of Montenegro is a unique healthcare institution, offering tertiary healthcare services across Montenegro and functioning as a general hospital for the municipalities of Podgorica, Danilovgrad, and Kolašin at the secondary level. As a leading institution in Montenegrin healthcare, the center provides advanced diagnostics, treatment, and specialist consulting services. Additionally, it serves as a medical research hub and the teaching base for the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Montenegro, supporting undergraduate and postgraduate academic education, as well as professional training for practitioners and specialists. It also provides educational opportunities for students in general medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and nursing.

Over its long history, the Clinical Center has made significant strides in enhancing healthcare quality and incorporating new diagnostic and treatment technologies. To ensure optimal healthcare delivery, continuous development of professional expertise and technological capabilities is essential, along with the creation of a functional system centered on modern medical technologies. Investments in medical education and specialized training programs have substantially raised the overall knowledge and skill level, contributing to the development of the highly specialized medical services currently offered at the center. Keeping pace with technological advancements remains a priority, with the center's development objectives focusing on three key areas: introducing new medical technologies, enhancing staff training, and investing in modern medical equipment.

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU co-financed projects or other international projects (ie. Experience in similar projects / actions) in the past 5 years, specifying per each one: Project title, Financing Organization / Programme, Dates (from mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy, Role in the partnership LP or PP, Objectives and results of the action (max 3 lines), Total cost of the action (EUR), Amount of the budget managed, % of spent funds in front of the assigned budget.

Motivation			
<p>PHASE – Promoting eHealth in cb Area by Stimulating local Economies funded under the Strategic Call of Interreg Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020 Programme, from 2019 to 2022, as Project Partner. PHASE aims at developing the eHealth sector, for the benefit of citizens and MSMEs, through innovative electronic tools and procedures, applied in Italy, Albania and Montenegro. The project envisages the creation of n. 3 pilot eHealth systems: Infart.Net for heart attack support, platform for integrated care pathways in NDDs, platform for remote monitoring of chronic patients.</p> <p>Total cost: € 4.254.312.52 Amount of the budget managed: € 412.068,49</p>			
Co-financing			
Source		Amount	Percentage
IPA III CBC		131.046,93	85,00%
Partner contribution		23.125,93	15,00%
Partner total eligible budget		154.172,86	100,00%
Origin of partner contribution			
Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
KCCG	Public	23.125,93	15,00%
Total			
Sub-total public contribution		23.125,93	15,00%
Sub-total automatic public contribution		0,00	0,00%
Sub-total private contribution		0,00	0,00%
Total		23.125,93	15,00%
State Aid			
State aid criteria self-check			
Criterion I: Is the partner involved in economic activities through the project?			
1. Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?		No	No, the project applicant operates in the ETC with no aim of profit
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?		No	All the activities implemented within the project are not market oriented

Criterion II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?	
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No The project partner will be supported by external expertise for the technical implementation of the project.
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	No Project partners will not implement economic activities. No revenues are foreseen. PPs will work without any economic objectives and no operators will direct benefit from project economic activities.
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid
State aid relevant activities	
GBER scheme / de minimis	

B.1 Project Partner 5	
Partner number	5
Partner role	PP
Name of the organisation in original language	Qendra Burimore e Alternativave te Zhvillimit
Name of the organisation in english	Development Alternative Resource Centre
Organisation abbreviation	DARC
Department / unit / division	NA
Partner main address	
Country	Shqipëria (AL)
NUTS 2	Qender (AL02)
NUTS 3	Tiranë (AL022)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	St.Gjik Kuçali NA 1001 Tirana
Homepage	www.darc.org.al
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)	
Country	Shqipëria (AL)
NUTS 2	Qender (AL02)
NUTS 3	Tiranë (AL022)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	St.Gjik Kuçali NA 1001 Tirana
Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Type of partner	Interest groups including NGOs
Legal status	Private
VAT number (if applicable)	L52407452V
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No
Other identifier number	

Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)

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Motivation

**Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?
Description of the project team/staff and experts: Professional profiles and expertise/ Role/tasks**

The Development Alternative Resource Centre (DARC) is an independent, membership-based non-governmental organization dedicated to driving positive social and economic transformations in Albania. Operating as a non-profit entity, DARC focuses on generating and disseminating knowledge related to sustainable development and addressing regional and local issues. Its mission is to promote informed decision-making, foster sustainable development, and improve community well-being through innovative research, education, and active community engagement.

DARC undertakes a range of activities, including developing and implementing projects in areas such as human rights, social inclusion, employment, skills development, EU integration, statistics, local government, and decentralization. The organization conducts both qualitative and quantitative assessments and works to enhance the capacities of central and local institutions to monitor the implementation of gender and human rights approaches. Additionally, DARC provides support to public institutions and municipalities by offering analyses and capacity-building activities aimed at developing, implementing, and monitoring public service standards.

In collaboration with civil society organizations and local governments, DARC assists in preparing guidelines for community development, water management, civic participation, and gender-responsive policies. The organization actively participates in public awareness efforts by organizing conferences, seminars, and publishing materials on social and economic development, human rights, and social justice. It also engages in building the capacity of vulnerable groups, society organizations, and other interest groups, providing guidance and support when needed.

DARC has a history of working closely with public institutions and civil society to streamline structures and procedures for citizen services, with a special emphasis on youth and children. It has a strong track record in designing and implementing various quantitative and qualitative research projects to enhance citizen engagement and improve project outcomes. The organization's staff is well-regarded in the community development field in Albania, comprising highly skilled permanent members and collaborating with a network of external experts to meet the needs of specific projects. DARC operates from a fully equipped, spacious office located in downtown Tirana, offering all the necessary services to facilitate smooth operations.

Motivation

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU co-financed projects or other international projects (ie. Experience in similar projects / actions) in the past 5 years, specifying per each one: Project title, Financing Organization / Programme, Dates (from mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy, Role in the partnership LP or PP, Objectives and results of the action (max 3 lines), Total cost of the action (EUR), Amount of the budget managed, % of spent funds in front of the assigned budget.

- Advancing Gender Equality through Oversight and Reporting in Albania, Gender Alliance for Development Center Albania, EU funded project – period: 2024-2025 – Amount of € 26,800.00;
- Empowerment of youth for labour and Social Inclusion, "Studies and Development Center", EU-funded project – period: 2024-2025 – Amount of € 17,000.00;
- Student Monitor - The Engagement and Development of Youth as Community Leaders for Empowering Future Generations and Fostering Sustainable Community Growth for Municipality of Tirana – period: 2022-2023 – Amount of € 26,000.00;
- Qualitative Assessment and Inputs for the Design and Implementation Framework for Improving Access to Water Supply and Sanitation Services for Roma and Egyptian minorities in Albania for World Bank – period: 2022-2022 – Amount of € 35,000.00;
- Transparency and Accountability in Higher Education in Albania (Tirana and Durrës region) for Open Society Foundation for Albania – period: 2021-2022 – Amount of € 50,000.00;
- Citizen Report Card: A Methodology for Understanding and Addressing Discrimination and Community Issues for Agency for Civil Society, Albania – period: 2020-2021 – Amount of € 17,000.00;
- Monitoring and Evaluating Project Implementation through Local Government Partnerships: The Role of Civil Society Organization in the European Development Process for United Nations Development Programme – period: 2020 – Amount of € 52,000.00;
- Enhancing Citizen Participation in Local Decision-Making for Social Services through the Establishment and Operation of Monitoring Groups for Austrian Development Agency, Albania – period: 2020 – Amount of € 21,000.00.

Co-financing

Source	Amount	Percentage
IPA III CBC	86.654,50	85,00%
Partner contribution	15.291,98	15,00%
Partner total eligible budget	101.946,48	100,00%

Origin of partner contribution

Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
DARC	Private	15.291,98	15,00%

Total

Sub-total public contribution	0,00	0,00%
Sub-total automatic public contribution	0,00	0,00%

Total		
Sub-total private contribution		15.291,98 15,00%
Total		15.291,98 15,00%
State Aid		
State aid criteria self-check		
Criterium I: Is the partner involved in economic activities through the project?		
1. Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?	No	No, the project applicant operates in the ETC with no aim of profit
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?	No	All the activities implemented within the project are not market oriented
Criterium II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?		
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No	The project partner will be supported by external expertise for the technical implementation of the project.
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	No	Project partners will not implement economic activities. No revenues are foreseen. PPs will work without any economic objectives and no operators will direct benefit from project economic activities.
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid	
State aid relevant activities		
GBER scheme / de minimis		

B.1 Project Partner 6	
Partner number	6
Partner role	PP
Name of the organisation in original language	Institut savremenih tehnologija Crne Gore
Name of the organisation in english	Institute of Modern Technologies Montenegro
Organisation abbreviation	IMTM
Department / unit / division	NA
Partner main address	
Country	Crna Gora (ME)
NUTS 2	Crna Gora (ME00)
NUTS 3	Crna Gora (ME000)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Cetinjski put 46A/2 81000 Podgorica
Homepage	https://imtm.me/
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)	
Country	Crna Gora (ME)
NUTS 2	Crna Gora (ME00)
NUTS 3	Crna Gora (ME000)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Cetinjski put 46A/2 81000 Podgorica
Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)	
Type of partner	Higher education and research organisations
Legal status	Private
VAT number (if applicable)	02889854
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	Yes
Other identifier number	

Legal and financial information - in the "Identification Number" Section, please consider the following instruction (for IT: P.IVA "e.g. 02123456789" o se P.IVA non obbligatoria, Cod.Fisc. "e.g. 800123456789"); for AL: NUIS "e.g. K12345678B"; for ME:PIB "e.g. 12345678" (ako PIB nije obavezno, REG e.g. 1-23456789/012)

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Motivation

Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?
Description of the project team/staff and experts: Professional profiles and expertise/ Role/tasks

Motivation

Institute of Modern Technologies Montenegro (IMTM), established in 2012 in Montenegro, is a scientific and innovation institution with a wealth of experience in successfully implementing projects across various programs. Our primary focus lies in the application of innovative technologies to enhance and simplify operations in diverse sectors. Dominantly, we specialize in the integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) within the fields of tourism, health systems, and education.

Our dedicated team oversees the entire project lifecycle, beginning with a comprehensive analysis of the current situation. We progress through the development of innovative ideas, design, and development phases, and conclude with the final implementation and evaluation of the new system. This holistic approach ensures a seamless and effective transformation of operations within targeted sectors.

IMTM activities in the field of health informatics, started with Erasmus+ project "Enhancement of study programs in Public Health Law, Health Management, Health Economics and Health Informatics in Montenegro – PHELIM" in 2016, which resulted with learning platform for evidence-based education and training over public-health data in Montenegro. After that, the whole set of projects and activities were implemented, among which the most important is nomination of our research head, Prof. dr Ivana Ognjanovic for Board member and leader of Young WG in EFMI-European Federation for medical informatics. Finally, our spin-off company HEALIF is licensed as innovative by Ministry of Science and Innovations in 2022, due to its development of innovative personalized intelligent system for health status and lifestyle management.

Almost 10 years ago, IMTM has developed and implemented the Distance learning management systems and Information system of student advisory office at several faculties in Montenegro. After that, IMTM has leading roles in several projects aimed on developing different software solutions supporting education process, supporting its adoption to different learning and teaching methods and needs, all focused to modern technologies usage, like gamification, AI assistance etc.

Most recently, IMTM is part of the consortium awarded with Digital Europe funds for establishment of EDIH: Digital innovation hub for supporting the digital transformation of Montenegrin companies and the public sector.

IMTM staff member is a Montenegrin delegate in ESFRI- the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures is a strategic instrument to develop the scientific integration of Europe and to strengthen its international outreach. Also, IMTM scientific chair is the ex-president of the Centre of Young Scientists and Artists at the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts; thus bringing expertise and connections with the national ecosystem in the field of science and innovations.

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU co-financed projects or other international projects (ie. Experience in similar projects / actions) in the past 5 years, specifying per each one: Project title, Financing Organization / Programme, Dates (from mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy, Role in the partnership LP or PP, Objectives and results of the action (max 3 lines), Total cost of the action (EUR), Amount of the budget managed, % of spent funds in front of the assigned budget.

Motivation

IMTM has extensive experience in innovation development and capacity building, and therefore the following key areas are beneficial for the project:

1. Modern capacity building approaches, mainly implemented through technology enhanced distance learning, as well as implementation of gamification approaches in learning process;

Marie Curie Overcoming Digital Divide in Europe and Southeast Asia; Ref.no: 101086381; Nov 2022 – Oct2026; role: PP, Total cost: 1,352,400.00e, IMTM: 179,400.00e

Digital Europe- Digital innovation hub for supporting the digital transformation of Montenegrin companies and the public sector; awarded for funding, Jan 2025- Dec 2028; role: PP, Total cost: 1,999,878.15e, IMTM: 242,241.58e

2. Innovations development rooted in utilization of modern technologies, like IoT, AI, HPC; which is highly relevant for the project objectives. However, despite practical experience in developing and testing modern solutions, IMTM researchers are highly experienced in transferring knowledge and experience, organizing practical-based training sessions, leading and supervising teams of innovators etc.

InreReg ADRION: Applied Solutions for Monitoring Coastal Habitats and Quantifying Blue Carbon Storage: An Integrated Approach for Sustainable Ecosystem Management; Sept 2024- Aug 2027; role: PP, Total cost: 1.450.549,45Ke, IMTM: 145.190,00e

InterReg DANUBE: Harmonisation of Missions in the Danube region; Ref.no: 101086381; Jan2024 – June 2026; role: PP, Total cost: 1.717.140,85e, IMTM: 163.325,10e

EUREKA- Advanced development of hemodialysis system with predictive fluid balance in body for kids-LifeForKids; Dec 2019 – Dec 2022; role: PP, Total cost: 350.000,00e, IMTM: 87.500,00e

3. Cyber security as one of key issues in digital era, which is particularly important in aspects of ensuring confidentiality and truthfulness of data related to fires and potential fire hotspots. IMTM experience is in leading raising awareness campaigns, proper understanding and implementation of cyber security measures.

Erasmus+ capacity building HE: Straightening Up Cybersecurity Posture of Montenegrin Higher Education system, awarded for funding, Jan 2025-Dec 2027; role: PP, Total cost: 999,401.42e, IMTM: 58,280.76 €

4. Strong ecosystem with youth organizations, HEIs as well as business sector, which guarantees successful reaching of target groups and proper messages sent to the target audience

Erasmus+ capacity building of youth: Empowering mental health and well/being of youth in digital working and learning environment; Ref.no: 101052009; Jan 2022 – Dec 2023; role: PP, Total cost: 299 750.00e, IMTM: 52 715.00e

Supporting Female Youth from BiH and MNE in entrepreneurship, employment and leadership in ICT; Sept 2017 – June 2019; role: PP, Total cost: 137,095.21e, IMTM: app 20%

Co-financing

Source	Amount	Percentage
IPA III CBC	141.314,62	85,00%
Partner contribution	24.937,88	15,00%
Partner total eligible budget	166.252,50	100,00%

Origin of partner contribution			
Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
IMTM	Private	24.937,88	15,00%
Total			
Sub-total public contribution		0,00	0,00%
Sub-total automatic public contribution		0,00	0,00%
Sub-total private contribution		24.937,88	15,00%
Total		24.937,88	15,00%
State Aid			
State aid criteria self-check			
Criterium I: Is the partner involved in economic activities through the project?			
1. Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?	No	No, the project applicant operates in the ETC with no aim of profit	
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?	No	All the activities implemented within the project are not market oriented	
Criterium II: Does the partner receive an undue advantage in the framework of the project?			
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No	The project partner will be supported by external expertise for the technical implementation of the project.	
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	No	Project partners will not implement economic activities. No revenues are foreseen. PPs will work without any economic objectives and no operators will direct benefit from project economic activities.	
Result of State aid criteria self-check:		No risk of state aid	
State aid relevant activities			
GBER scheme / de minimis			

Associated organisations

No associated organisations

C - Project description

C.1 Project overall objective

Below, you can see the Programme priority specific objective your project will contribute to (chosen in section A.1.).

S.O.1.1: Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments

Project overall objective

Now think about your main objective – what do you aim to achieve by the end of your project? Remember your project needs to contribute to the programme’s objective.

Your objective should:

- be realistic and achievable by the end of the project, or shortly after;
- specify who needs project results and in which territory;
- be measurable – indicate the change you are aiming for.

To support the development of SMEs in the healthcare solutions sector and enhancing the adoption process to better align with the needs of patients affected by neurodegenerative diseases

C.2 Project relevance and context

C.2.1 What are the common territorial challenge(s) that will be tackled by the project?

Please describe why your project is needed in the programme area and the relevance of your project for the programme area, in terms of common challenges and opportunities addressed, including maritime dimension.

Neurodegenerative diseases (NDDs) represent one of the greatest health challenges in Europe. Around 165 million Europeans are living with brain disorders and it is estimated that 1 in 3 people will suffer from a neurological and/or mental disorders at some point in their lives; according to the European Commission, the global cost to healthcare system related to neurodegenerative diseases is estimated to be €800 billion per year. Among NDDs, the dementias are responsible for the greatest burden of disease, with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders; this figure is expected to double over 20 years as the population ages. In fact, currently 16% of the European population is over 65, and the percentage is expected to reach 25% by 2030: this aspect represents one of the leading medical and societal challenges faced by European society (EU Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research). Many of NDDs are highly debilitating and have no definitive cure, others can be managed but still have a wide-ranging effects on the quality of life of patients, their families and those who manage and care for them in everyday life. This type of disease, in fact, have a major impact at professional, social and family level of patients and can lead to a complete inability to carry out any type of every day activity, as patients may have: motor problems, breathing difficulties, cognitive problems and/or gradual memory loss (P. Batista et al). In response to this scenario, significant advancements have been made in ICT sector and digital technologies applied to healthcare. The eHealth approach offers the opportunity to improve the whole process of health problems, from prevention to diagnosis and treatment, also including monitoring and managing health, lifestyle and well-being. The adoption of these innovative systems are made possible thanks to the commitment of SMEs operating in the production of digital services: these companies play a crucial role in developing solutions that cover all phases of healthcare management. SMEs, through their adaptability and innovation, are able to create platforms and tools that enhance the efficiency of the healthcare system, optimizing clinical processes, and promoting a better quality of life for patients and all actors involved in their management and care process. Thanks to the growing demand for technological solutions and the increasing number of SMEs operating in the sector, the European digital health market was estimated to be worth around USD 66.2 billion in 2023, and it is expected to reach a CAGR of 22.3% by 2030 (Grand View Research). While the European digital health market shows promising growth, Italy, Albania, and Montenegro—countries not at the forefront of this market—continue to encounter substantial challenges. Various factors hinder the adoption of eHealth technologies include the policy barriers and the fragmented healthcare systems: the regulatory and policy framework represents one of the major obstacles, as there is often a lack of clear and standardized regulation for the adoption of digital solutions that can lead to difficulties in the development process and slow down the innovation process. Then, interoperability issues may make it difficult to harmonize new solutions with the existing ones. Finally, there is a lack of skills both in healthcare professionals and entrepreneurs and investors, which feels hindered in investing in the development of new solutions. The healthcare sector in the Molise region is heavily dominated by public services, facing challenges in integrating with private initiatives. Achieving a balance between different types of interventions can foster the development of entrepreneurial activities. This would be particularly beneficial if guided by a thorough analysis of the region's specific needs, especially as Molise is increasingly vulnerable to depopulation and a rising average age among its population. Addressing these factors is key to ensuring sustainable healthcare solutions and a more dynamic healthcare system.

DARING project aims to capitalize on the successes of the previous telemedicine cooperation

project, PHASE – Promoting eHealth in cb Area by Stimulating local Economies funded under the Strategic Call of Interreg Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020 Programme, by enhancing digital healthcare accessibility and innovation in the South Adriatic region. By harnessing the expertise of digital SMEs, including technology startups and healthcare professionals, it strives to advance state-of-the-art digital health competencies and solutions. In alignment with the strategic priorities of the IPA South Adriatic Programme and the European Health Data Space (EHDS) framework, the project focuses on promote innovation in healthcare sector through the empowerment of the relative private economic sector and Public Administration.

C.2.2 How does the project tackle identified common challenges and/or opportunities and what is new about the approach the project takes?

Please describe new solutions that will be developed during the project and/or existing solutions that will be adopted and implemented during the project lifetime. Describe also in what way the approach goes beyond existing practice in the sector/programme area/participating countries.

The primary challenges related to the development and the adoption of new digital health solution by Public Administration (PA) are: the lack of adequate training in new technologies, which slows down their adoption and effective use, the lack of knowledge of the regulatory framework for handling sensitive data and the limited knowledge of entrepreneurs regarding actual needs. DARING addresses these challenges by building on the approach previously implemented through the PHASE project (funded under the Strategic Call of Interreg Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020 Programme) and further expanding it. This involves creating a comprehensive DARING Empowerment Program targeted at multiple stakeholders, including SMEs and public administrations. The Empowerment Program will include: Short Master course, competition Hackathon, and Incubator Summer Week, and capacity building events targeting Public Administration for equip them with the knowledge necessary to understanding the mechanisms underlying the technology adaption process. What sets this approach apart from the one used in PHASE is the direct involvement of target patients and their caregivers. Dedicated discussion tables will be organized to facilitate open dialogue between these groups and the other stakeholders: this ensures the insights and experiences of patients and caregivers are placed at the center of the entire solutions development process, so that the true target is taken into account. The implementation of this collaborative mechanism ensures that the products are not merely the result of isolated development efforts; rather, they are rooted in the beneficial processes of co-design and co-development.

The products and services previously developed by individual SMEs, along with the outcomes of this collaborative approach, will be showcased through the participation of these companies in a virtual fair, that will serve as a repository developed on an ICT platform where SMEs can show their products and services categorized by type, target audience, technology, and region, ensuring visibility for all. This initiative will attract potential investors and facilitate the dissemination of results, providing opportunities to establish new partnerships aimed at creating particularly innovative and cutting-edge services. All the work presented will culminate in a new strategic Action Plan that will formalize the steps necessary to ensure the successful achievement of objectives aimed at defining key activities to accelerate the growth of digital healthcare SMEs at the cross-border level and facilitate the adoption of digital health solutions within public administrations. The innovative aspect of the DARING project lies in its adoption of the Quadruple Helix Model, which actively involves representatives from all sectors of society: public authorities, industry, academia, and citizens, particularly groups of patients. The quadruple helix approach ensures that diverse perspectives and expertise are brought together to solve, fostering the collaboration and co-creation to facilitate the smoother implementation of new solutions.

C.2.3 Why is cross-border/transnational/inter-regional cooperation needed to achieve the project's objectives and result?

Please explain why the project objectives cannot be efficiently reached acting only on a national/regional /local level and/or describe what benefits the project partners/target groups/ project area/programme area gain in taking a cross-border/transnational/inter-regional approach.

Cross-border cooperation is essential for achieving the project's objectives and results, since many challenges in the adoption of eHealth solutions are common to Italy, Albania and Montenegro. The benefits resulting from the eHealth are often thwarted by the fragmentation of the approaches used to adopt them. In fact, although many projects and initiatives have been conducted in the last years to facilitate the adoption of eHealth solutions, relying solely on cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness evaluations provides a limited perspective of these applications. On the other hand, SMEs that operate solely at the local, regional, or national level often lack the opportunity to consider the broader landscape, focusing instead on addressing local issues while overlooking the larger context associated with them. In fact, the value and the benefits of a eHealth services, both in development and adoption phase, increase proportionally with the scale of experiment, so that they can truly realize their potential only when adopted in a wider area, by using a systematic approach. This is even more evident when considering that the three countries in the program area are closely interconnected due to the phenomenon of healthcare tourism, which involves large flows of patients moving within the region. Examining experiences from other countries, alongside applying gap analysis techniques—both in terms of skills and technological capabilities—is a crucial aspect of European cooperation processes. These approaches enable the identification of areas for improvement and facilitate learning from successful best practices implemented in different contexts, fostering more effective collaboration and innovation across regions. The Molise region urgently needs to expand its international collaboration efforts, not only to address and improve its existing challenges but also to showcase the advancements that can be achieved through successful partnerships. Strengthening these collaborations can drive regional development and demonstrate the value of cooperative initiatives in overcoming critical issues.

By acting at cross-border level, DARING will promote the growth of SMEs by broadening their perspectives and ensuring that the adoption of solutions is effective, sustainable, and genuinely beneficial.

C.2.4 Who will benefit from your project outputs?

In the first column of each row, please select one of the pre-defined target groups from the drop-down list. In the second column explain in more detail exactly who will benefit from your project. For example, if you choose the category education, you need to explain which specific schools or groups of schools and in which territory.

Target Group	Specification
SME	<p>SMEs represent the main category of the target group, which will most benefit from the project. DARING will inspire SMEs, startups, young entrepreneurs to develop the necessary non-technical skills needed to bridge the market gap for their innovative products, allowing them to engage directly with those who will use these products to receive valuable advice that guides their decision. This exchange of views ensure that the solutions developed, once launched on the market, truly meets the users' need. Furthermore, the participation at the DARING Empowerment Model allows target group to participate in a knowledge exchange process that will further open pathways to new opportunities for innovation. The project will also facilitate the partnership between SMEs and institutions, which will also receive appropriate capacity building programs, to provide a tangible future for the solutions developed through specific tools that facilitate the adoption of new technologies at the Public Administration level</p>
Other	<p>Public Administration will be empowered to utilize tools such as Health Technology Assessment (HTA), Pre Commercial Procurement (PCP) and Public Procurement of Innovative Solutions (PPI), as well as the upcoming European legal frameworks that Member States are set to adopt, including EHDS, AI Act, Data Act. These findings will play a fundamental role in guiding policy decisions and resource allocation within the healthcare framework, as by using these tools to evaluate the digital health solutions Public Administration will be able to prioritize resources and optimize the overall effectiveness of the healthcare system, ensuring that investments in digital health yield benefits for both patients and providers.</p>
Hospitals and medical centres	<p>Thanks to DARING, hospital and medical centres will gain access to innovative digital health solutions that enhance patient care and operational efficiency, streamlining the processes. By participating in capacity-building activities, healthcare professionals will develop skills and knowledge related to the latest technologies and methodologies, enabling them to implement these solutions effectively. Furthermore, the project will facilitate collaboration between hospitals and SMEs, fostering partnerships that can lead to tailored solutions that meet specific healthcare needs.</p>
Other	<p>Patients affected by NDDs, particularly Alzheimer's disease and dementia, and their caregivers will be the end users of the entire process envisioned by the DARING project, which encompasses the empowerment program for SMEs and the public administration's efforts to create a common action plan. Through their active participation in the project's processes, the results achieved will allow patients to benefit from products and services that fully meet their needs. Particularly, the work of caregivers will be streamlined through the development of tailored solutions designed to facilitate patient monitoring and management, while patients will gain access to solutions that improve their care process and enhance the ability to manage daily activities more effectively.</p>

C.2.5 How does the project contribute to wider strategies and policies?

Please indicate to which strategies and policies your project will contribute. Then describe in what way you will contribute. The programme requires to describe if the project contributes to one of the topics of intervention of EUSAIR strategy and if applicable, Please specify the project contribution to EUSAIR goals, the precise EUSAIR actions of the action plan or flagship are going to be implemented, as well as how the EUSAIR stakeholders are involved, and the follow-up of the project. Additional points may be provided only if the reference to EUSAIR is precise and the link is evident (if written proof is available or equivalent evidence).

Strategy	Contribution
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region	The DARING project aligns with Pillar 1 of EUSAIR, "Blue Growth," as its activities emphasize a collaborative environment in the R&D and innovation sectors, along with knowledge sharing. This approach ensures that the methodologies developed can also be applied to areas beyond the project's immediate scope, including blue growth. By doing so, the project contributes to the specific objective 1 of Pillar 1: "To promote research, innovation, and business opportunities in blue economy sectors by facilitating the circulation of knowledge between research and business communities and enhancing their networking and clustering capabilities"
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region	The European Health Data Space (EHDS) is the first data common area in a specific field to emerge from the European Data Strategy, which represents the fundamental pillar of a strong European Health Union, in which all countries prepare and respond to health crises, have available, affordable, innovative and adequate medical supplies, and member countries work together to improve prevention, treatment and after care for diseases. DARING project is fully compliant with the EHDS, by promoting the establishment of a strong and resilient collaboration to address shared challenges and common diseases affecting the three member countries, while creating a growth environment for SMEs operating in the sector. This will enable them to benefit from innovation and incubation pathways that stimulate their development.
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region	The small and medium-sized enterprises strategy, in "A Europe Fit for the Digital Age", aims to create a sustainable and digital Europe, making Europe the most attractive place to start a small business, make it grow and scale up. The strategy is based on three pivotal points: capacity-building and support, reducing the regulatory burden and improving the market access, and improving access to financing. DARING project fully aligns with this strategy, as it aims to create pathways for specialization and capacity building targeted at SMEs. This initiative ensures that their products and services meet market demands while enabling them to refine their entrepreneurial ideas and explore opportunities for venture capital.

C.2.6 Which synergies with past or current EU and other projects or initiatives will the project make use of? Please specify relevant capitalization actions you planned, aimed also at building up synergies and avoiding overlapping with other projects, in terms of content, partners, location and initiatives already implemented within national-regional programmes and EU or transnational programmes (eg. ADRION, ROPs and National IPA programmes).

Project or Initiative	Synergy
PHASE Project (funded by INTERREG IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020)	The DARING project aims to build upon the successes of the previous telemedicine cooperation initiative, PHASE – Promoting eHealth in the cross-border area by stimulating local economies, which was funded under the Strategic Call of the Interreg Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020 Programme. Specifically, DARING will leverage the established strategic plan to create a cross-border network that enhances collaboration and knowledge sharing among regional stakeholders. A crucial element to be capitalized will be the capacity-building activities for SMEs, including various initiatives such as competitions aimed at fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in digital health, as well as interactive workshops. Additionally, the project will feature the development of a web portal designed to collect and share information about SMEs, further supporting their growth and connectivity within the digital health ecosystem.
YESS Project (funded by INTERREG Greece-Italy 2014-2020)	The DARING project will leverage the project YESS - Young Entrepreneurs Startup School, funded by INTERREG Greece-Italy 2014-2020. In detail, DARING project will leverage the incubator model used in YESS to promote the entrepreneurial spirit and the incubation of new companies, to encourage the development of the regions involved and the exchange of knowledge. The DARING project's objectives fully aligns with that of YESS project, so the development and incubation model will be transferred to the program area, leveraging the best practices learned.

C.2.7 How does the project build on available knowledge?

Please describe the experiences/lessons learned that the project draws on, and other available knowledge the project capitalises on.

The gap between patient needs and technological solutions in the eHealth sector is primarily related to issues of accessibility, personalization, and training. Many patients, particularly the elderly and those living in rural areas, struggle to access or effectively use digital health technologies due to a lack of infrastructure, digital skills, and adequate devices. Current eHealth solutions are often not sufficiently tailored to meet the diverse needs of patients, such as managing chronic conditions or multimorbidity, and can be too complex for everyday use. Additionally, limited training for both patients and healthcare providers further widens this gap, as many are unable to fully leverage the potential of the available technologies. To bridge this gap, it is essential to develop more intuitive, accessible, and patient-centered solutions, as well as to promote training programs to improve the adoption of digital technologies in healthcare. In the drafting of the regional planning documents for the 2021-2027 period, the report on the Smart Specialization Strategy (RIS3), developed in collaboration with Sviluppo Italia Molise, highlighted the key characteristics of the healthcare and life sciences sectors in the Molise region. The report identified several challenges and key indicators regarding the implementation of initiatives, including private ones, in the area. A significant weakness is the structural lack of research centers, particularly private ones focused on digital and medical innovation. Also Apulian territory is characterized by the same challenges, especially due to the aging of the population, that is a growing reality. The region faces an increase in patients suffering from neurodegenerative diseases, such as dementia and Alzheimer's, while access to digitized healthcare services and innovative solutions remains limited. Starting from these considerations, DARING project builds upon the foundations established by the PHASE project (Interreg Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020 Programme), which focused on promoting eHealth solutions for patients affected by neurodegenerative diseases (NDDs) in the cross-border area while stimulating local economies. By further advancing digital healthcare accessibility and innovation in the South Adriatic region, DARING aims to create a more integrated and responsive healthcare ecosystem. The project is particularly grounded in the expertise of PP2 regarding Alzheimer's disease and dementia, leveraging their in-depth knowledge to develop targeted interventions and the experience of the LP in promoting entrepreneurial projects and supporting start-ups plays a crucial role in fostering the growth of the SMEs ecosystem, together with the experience of PP3 in fostering the development of new businesses.

C.3 Project partnership

Describe the structure of your partnership and explain why these partners are needed to implement the project and to achieve project objectives. What is the contribution of each partner to the project?

Thanks to its central role as a technological center of excellence in Puglia and its significant experience in innovation, which has influenced the development and refinement of policies at both local and national levels, the Polytechnic of Bari (LP) will make its expertise available for the development of the empowerment module foreseen by the project. In particular, the DMMM Department, specialized in innovation management and project management, will contribute its know-how, providing innovative support in the creation of the DARING Empowerment Module, in compliance with all previous activities and the expertise of internal personnel. In this scenario, Associazione Alzheimer Bari (PP2) work consist in bringing together family members, doctors, psychologists, social and healthcare workers, and other professionals involved, in various capacities, in the care of Alzheimer's patients and support for their families. Its contribution within the DARING project will focus on the active inclusion of patients and caregivers in all activities requiring direct interaction, ensuring that their experiences and needs are considered and integrated into the decision-making and planning processes. Sviluppo Italia Molise (PP3), in its role as a regional development agency, will contribute to addressing and overcoming the technological and digital gaps in the healthcare sector within the region, with a specific focus on the target group identified in the project. PP3 will actively participate in initiatives aimed at encouraging young entrepreneurs to acquire the necessary non-technical skills that are essential for bridging the gap between market offerings and patient needs. PP3 will also coordinate the implementation of Virtual Fair platform, serving as a dynamic repository to showcase the products, services, and market sectors of SMEs. Through these activities, PP3 will help foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the healthcare field, ensuring a more effective alignment of solutions with patient demands. The Clinical Center of Montenegro (PP4), the largest public health institution in the country and a previous partner in the PHASE project that DARING seeks to build upon, will leverage its extensive experience by involving the experiences neurologists and neuropsychologists of the team in the project. DARC (PP5), dedicated to fostering sustainable community development through capacity building and the support of democratic institutions, will contribute to the co-creation of the Empowerment Module. Additionally, it will actively participate in all activities aimed at public stakeholders, providing guidance on methodologies for adopting and integrating new healthcare products and services into public administration processes. The Institute of Modern Technologies of Montenegro (PP6), a scientific and innovation institution specializing in the integration of ICT technologies within health systems, will play a key role in the DARING project. PP6 will oversee and actively contribute to the development of the Empowerment Module, supporting the creation and design of innovative ideas and systems. Its involvement will help drive the effective transformation of operations within the targeted healthcare sector, ensuring the integration of cutting-edge technologies to meet the project's objectives.

All partners involved in the DARING project have been carefully selected based on their expertise and capacity to make a tangible and meaningful contribution to the project's objectives. Each partner brings a unique set of skills, experiences, and resources that complement the overall strategy, ensuring a well-rounded and effective approach to address the specific challenges of the project, and achieve the desired outcomes in a concrete and impactful manner, enhancing the project's potential for long-term success and sustainability.

C.4 Project work plan

Number	Work package name
1	Strategic mapping for identifying gaps between patients' needs and industry offerings
2	Design and implementation of DARING Empowerment Program
3	Promotion activities for the adoption of new technologies in healthcare PA

Work package 1

Work package title

Strategic mapping for identifying gaps between patients' needs and industry offerings

Objectives

Your objectives should be:

- realistic and achievable by the end of the project;
- specific (who needs project outputs delivered in this work package, and in which territory);
- measurable – indicate the change you are aiming for.

Define one project specific objective that will be achieved when all activities in this work package are implemented and outputs delivered.

To map the needs of patients with neurodegenerative diseases and the technological offerings in the field, with a focus on identifying potential gaps between supply and demand

Think about the communication objective that will contribute to the achievement of the specific objective. Communication objectives aim at changes in a target audience's behaviour, knowledge or belief.

The communication objectives for DARING focus on promoting the project and engaging stakeholders through key activities. Led by the LP, a comprehensive Communication Plan will be developed, including an editorial plan to guide digital communication efforts. Throughout the project, communication materials will be created in line with the project's visual identity, including 1000 leaflets, and one poster and one roll-up per PP. A press release will also be issued to engage the public via social media.

Newsletters will be distributed at key stages of the project to announce its start, report on results, and outline follow-up actions. Each PP will organize a local participatory event to inform stakeholders and local communities about the project's goals. Additionally, all PPs will disseminate project information through their own communication channels, such as websites and social media, to ensure broad outreach to patients, patients' associations, healthcare professionals, SMEs, start-ups

Activities

Activity 1.1	
Title	Holistic Needs Assessment for Neurodegenerative Disease Patients and Caregivers (JMP)
Start period	Period 1, 1 - 6
End period	Period 1, 1 - 6

Activity 1.1	
Description	<p>This activity, under the responsibility of PP2, PP4 and PP5 led by PP2, is designed to comprehensively collect and analyze the clinical, social, and psychological needs of patients affected by neurodegenerative diseases, with a particular emphasis on dementia and Alzheimer's disease. The analysis will take a holistic approach, exploring the various dimensions of living with these conditions. This includes examining the physical, emotional, and practical challenges faced by patients and their families, with a strong focus on enabling autonomous and independent living across all stages of the disease.</p> <p>Special attention will be given to understanding the day-to-day needs that arise as the disease progresses, such as medical care, cognitive support, mobility, social engagement, and mental well-being. The study will also consider the caregiving burden on families, the availability and effectiveness of community resources, and the accessibility of assistive technologies. By addressing both immediate and long-term needs, the activity aims to identify gaps in current care models and opportunities for developing solutions that enhance the quality of life for patients and their caregivers. This comprehensive approach will ultimately guide the creation of patient-centered strategies and innovative interventions that align with the evolving needs of this population.</p>
Partner(s) involved	Alzheimer Bari , KCCG, DARC

Deliverables 1.1			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.1.1.1	Comprehensive Study Report on Holistic Needs Assessment	The report, developed by PP2 with the contributions of PP4 and PP6, will offer an in-depth analysis of the clinical and social needs of the target groups and their caregivers. The document will examine the multifaceted aspects of care and highlight key areas where improvements are necessary	Period 1 , 1 - 6

Activity 1.2	
Title	Local Mapping of SMEs in Healthcare Product Development and Service Provision (JMP)

Activity 1.2	
Start period	Period 1, 1 - 6
End period	Period 1, 1 - 6
Description	The activity, coordinated by LP and participated by all PPs, will involve the comprehensive local mapping of SMEs engaged in the creation of healthcare products and the provision of health and social services. The mapping will not only focus on identifying SMEs that develop medical devices, assistive technologies or digital health solutions in a broader sense, but also those that offer essential services in the care continuum, including home care, rehabilitation, mental health support, etc. The aim of the activity is to create a detailed inventory of key players in the healthcare sector, with a particular focus on those addressing the needs of patients with neurodegenerative diseases, particularly Alzheimer and dementia, also including an analysis of the range of products and services offered, the scale of operations, market reach, and the level of innovation. Alignment of SMEs with current patients and caregiver needs will be assessed, identifying potential gaps in the local ecosystem where demand is not being met.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 1.2			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.1.2.1	Comprehensive Mapping Report on SMEs in Healthcare Product Development and Service Provision	The deliverable, co-developed by LP, PP3, PP5, and PP6 under the coordination of LP, will be a report that provides a list of SMEs operating within the healthcare sector. The report will categorize these SMEs based on their geographical location and the specific products or services they provide	Period 1 , 1 - 6

Activity 1.3	
Title	Regulatory framework analysis (JMP)
Start period	Period 1, 1 - 6

Activity 1.3	
End period	Period 1, 1 - 6
Description	The analysis of the regulatory framework will be realized by all PPs under the coordination of PP3. It will focus on both national and European regulations about AI applications in healthcare, in order to understand the legal and ethical boundaries within which these technologies operate and ensure the compliance. Particular attention will be given to the study of recent European regulations, including the AI Act, the European Health Data Space (EHDS) and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 1.3			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.1.3.1	Regulatory Framework Study Report	The deliverable, drafted by PP3 together with the other PPs, will consist in a report providing a general overview of the positions of national governments and the European Union regarding the use of AI/ML in the healthcare domain	Period 1 , 1 - 6

Activity 1.4	
Title	CB Conference organization (JMP)
Start period	Period 1, 1 - 6
End period	Period 2, 7 - 12

Activity 1.4	
Description	Following the mapping of the needs of target groups and stakeholders, as well as the analysis of the regulatory framework, a cross-border conference will be organized to facilitate collaboration among partners. The main objective of the conference is to compare the insights gained from these preliminary activities, identifying commonalities, strengths, and weaknesses. Additionally, it will serve as a platform to discuss and refine the strategic approach to be adopted during the next phases of project implementation. The conference will be organized by PP3, with active participation from all other PPs, ensuring a collaborative effort in shaping the project's future direction.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 1.4			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.1.4.1	CB Conference report	A conference report will be prepared collaboratively by all PPs, with PP3 taking the lead. The report will provide information about the topics discussed, key issues and outcomes. It will also include supporting materials such as the agenda, minutes, photos and/or videos, and participants' logs	Period 2 , 7 - 12

Investments

Work package 2

Work package title

Design and implementation of DARING Empowerment Program

Objectives

Your objectives should be:

- realistic and achievable by the end of the project;
- specific (who needs project outputs delivered in this work package, and in which territory);
- measurable – indicate the change you are aiming for.

Define one project specific objective that will be achieved when all activities in this work package are implemented and outputs delivered.

To promote the growth and the competitiveness of SMEs by supporting the creation of innovative digital tools and services in the field of neurodegenerative diseases

Think about the communication objective that will contribute to the achievement of the specific objective. Communication objectives aim at changes in a target audience's behaviour, knowledge or belief.

The communication objectives are as follows:

- Launch a communication campaign to promote the public call targeting SMEs, using the project's and all partners' social media platforms and websites. The campaign will utilize the communication tools outlined in the Communication Plan to ensure wide-reaching and effective engagement.
- Promote the empowerment module by showcasing the tangible outcomes achieved through European cooperation. Tailored promotional materials will be developed for stakeholders and policymakers, highlighting the benefits of cross-border collaboration, while also informing the general public about the ongoing project activities.

Activities

Activity 2.1	
Title	Design of DARING Empowerment Model (JMP)
Start period	Period 2, 7 - 12
End period	Period 2, 7 - 12

Activity 2.1

Description	<p>The activity, conducted by all PPs under the coordination of PP3, will encompass the creation of a framework for the implementation of the DARING Empowerment Model. The activity will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Short master program delineation. After defining the participation criteria, the training modules that will make up the Short Master will be identified. For each module, the materials to be used for knowledge transfer will be defined, along with the individuals responsible for managing them. Lastly, metrics will be established to assess the improvement in knowledge before and after participation in the Short Master; - Hackathon organization. The participation criteria for the hackathon will be defined, and an internal regulation will be established to serve as the framework for the event's organization. Additionally, methodologies for participants to develop and present new ideas will be outlined, and mechanisms for evaluating these ideas will be determined; - Incubator summer week planning. The schedule for the entire Summer Week will be defined, detailing the specific events and activities to be held each day. For each event, designated responsible individuals or teams will be assigned to ensure smooth coordination and execution. <p>Together, these components will form a solid foundation on which to implement the subsequent activities as efficiently as possible.</p>
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 2.1

Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.2.1.1	Draft of the DARING Empowerment Model	A document will be produced by all PPs, under the coordination of PP3, which will consist of a comprehensive framework outlining the structure and the key points of the DARING Empowerment model	Period 2 , 7 - 12

Activity 2.2

Activity 2.2	
Title	Launch of the Public Call for the participation do DARING Empowerment Program (JMP)
Start period	Period 2, 7 - 12
End period	Period 3, 13 - 18
Description	The call will be drafted and published by LP, PP3, PP4, PP5 and PP6, leaded by PP3. The public call will target a diverse group of participants, including established SMEs, healthcare professionals, doctors, aspiring young entrepreneurs, researchers, and all of whom are encouraged to take part in the DARING Empowerment Program. The call will be widely promoted through various communication channels, including project's and partners' websites and social media platforms, ensuring maximum outreach.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 2.2			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.2.2.1	Draft of the Public Call model	The deliverable will be produced by PP3 and will consist in the text of the public call launched to reach participants to DARING Empowerment Program	Period 3 , 13 - 18

Activity 2.3	
Title	Short Master Organization (CBT)
Start period	Period 2, 7 - 12
End period	Period 4, 19 - 24

Activity 2.3	
Description	The implementation of n.4 short master's courses (in Italy and Montenegro), lasting each one 200 hours in total, and n.2 training courses (in Albania), lasting each one 100 hours, will take place over the implementation of the project. The program will include modules focused on eHealth and the application of AI in the treatment and management of neurodegenerative diseases, particularly dementia and Alzheimer's. A unique feature of the course will be the direct engagement with patients suffering from these conditions, with which face-to-face sessions will be organized. This will allow participants to gain firsthand insights into the challenges and needs of this population. These short master's and training courses will be conducted simultaneously in Italy, Albania, and Montenegro, ensuring a consistent and cross-border learning experience. The LP will be responsible for validating and certifying the courses and 20 trainees will be involved in each course.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 2.3			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.2.3.1	Empowerment materials	The deliverable will consist of a compilation of all the empowerment materials utilized by experts during all Short Master conducted. The materials provided by P5 from Albania and P4 from Montenegro will be collected in a single report by LP, who will integrate them with Italy courses' material	Period 4 , 19 - 24

Activity 2.4	
Title	Hackathon Organization (JMP)
Start period	Period 3, 13 - 18
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 2.4	
Description	Hackathon events will be organized after each Short Master/Training course, for a total of n.6 events during the project lifetime, taking place in Italy, Albania, and Montenegro. The events will be led by LP in Italy, P5 in Albania, and P6 in Montenegro, with support and contributions from the other PPs for their organization and implementation. The hackathon will focus on the co-design of services and technologies in the healthcare sector, specifically addressing neurodegenerative diseases, after a session of comparison with patients affected by these disorders. Access will be guaranteed to all the participants of the Short Masters and also open to new participants. At the conclusion of each hackathon, n.3 winners from each country will be selected to enter the incubation program.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 2.4			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.2.4.1	Hackathon Event Report	The report will include the report of all Hackathon events organized across Italy, Albania and Montenegro. The document provided by P5 for Albania and P6 for Montenegro will be collected by LP and integrated with report from events conducted in Italy in a single report	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Activity 2.5	
Title	Incubator Summer Week Organization (CBT)
Start period	Period 4, 19 - 24
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 2.5	
Description	Incubator Summer Weeks (ISW) will be organized taking place after each Hackathon, for a total of N.6 (ISW) during the project lifetime, conducted in Italy, Albania and Montenegro. The events will be organized by LP in Italy, P5 in Albania and P6 in Montenegro, while all the other PPs will support the organization and will contribute at the implementation. The Incubator Summer Week will include: incubation session with professionals in the sectors, specific capacity building events, interactive activities, sessions with possible investors, aimed at acquiring venture capitals. Access to the Summer Week will be guaranteed to all winners of Hackathon events. At least 3 users are expected to attend each Incubator Summer Week, and the costs of the Incubation services will be lower than 22.000€ for each user.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 2.5			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.2.5.1	Incubator Summer Week Event Report	The report will include the report of all Summer Week events organized in each country. The document provided by P5 for Albania and P6 for Montenegro will be collected by LP and integrated with report from events conducted in Italy in a single report	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Activity 2.6	
Title	Journalistic Interviews (JMP)
Start period	Period 2, 7 - 12
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 2.6	
Description	Professional journalists will conduct an in-depth interviews with the participants of DARING Empowerment Program, including the Short Master courses, the Hackathon events and the Summer Week events. The interviews will capture insights, experiences, and reflections from the participants, focusing on the impact of the Program on their professional growth, innovation journey, and the development of their projects in the healthcare and digital sectors. These interviews will be widely disseminated across multiple platforms, including the project's and partners' social media channels, official websites, and various local, national, and international media outlets. The multi-channel approach will maximize the reach of the content, raising awareness of the program's successes and promoting the importance of innovation and cooperation in addressing common challenges. The responsibility for conducting the interviews during the events and for their dissemination will be entrusted to: LP for Italy, PP5 for Albania and PP6 for Montenegro.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 2.6			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.2.6.1	Journalistic Interviews	The deliverable will consist in journalistic interviews collecting the impression of the DARING Empowerment Program's participants. It will be realized by PP6, which will integrate interviews from Montenegro with interviews from Italy, provided by LP, and Albania, provided by PP5.	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Investments

Work package 3

Work package title

Promotion activities for the adoption of new technologies in healthcare PA

Objectives

Your objectives should be:

- realistic and achievable by the end of the project;
- specific (who needs project outputs delivered in this work package, and in which territory);
- measurable – indicate the change you are aiming for.

Define one project specific objective that will be achieved when all activities in this work package are implemented and outputs delivered.

To promote the empowerment of PA in technology innovation field and define common guidelines for the adoption of new technologies in healthcare PA

Think about the communication objective that will contribute to the achievement of the specific objective. Communication objectives aim at changes in a target audience's behaviour, knowledge or belief.

The communication objectives, coordinated by the LP, are as follows:

- Engage Key Stakeholders, including institutions, government bodies, and other PA's relevant organizations, in the workshop and empowerment training planned. This will be accomplished through targeted social media campaigns and newsletters, emphasizing the significance of their participation;
- Promote the Virtual Fair, ensuring it reaches the intended audience: SMEs, entrepreneurs, venture capitals;
- Disseminate Project Results through dedicated social media channels and the websites of both the project and its partners. This will be carried out in alignment with the editorial plan, aiming to reach a broad audience and maximize visibility.

Activities

Activity 3.1	
Title	Virtual Fair Implementation (DSe)
Start period	Period 4, 19 - 24
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 3.1	
Description	<p>Following an initial co-design phase led collaboratively by all PPs, PP3 will take the lead in developing and implementing a Virtual Fair Platform. This platform will act as a dynamic repository, showcasing the products, services, and market sectors of participating SMEs, alongside other relevant business and sector information. The platform's primary function is to facilitate the exchange of innovative solutions, creating a space for SMEs, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders to connect, collaborate, and share knowledge. It will also serve as a hub for distributing empowerment materials, such as training resources, case studies, and best practices, supporting continuous learning and development.</p>
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 3.1			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.3.1.1	ICT Platform User Manual	The user manual for the ICT Platform will be drafted by PP3, providing comprehensive guidance on the platform's functionalities, navigation, and best practices for users	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Activity 3.2	
Title	Empowerment program for Public Administration organization (CBT)
Start period	Period 4, 19 - 24
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 3.2

Description

This activity consists in the organization of an empowerment program for public authorities, aimed at strengthening their ability to design and implement adoption plans for innovative technological solutions in the healthcare sector. The program will consist of a series of targeted modules designed to equip public authorities with the essential skills needed to manage complex innovation processes. The three core focus areas of the program will be:

- Health Technology Assessment (HTA): Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the HTA framework, enabling them to assess the effectiveness, cost, and overall value of emerging healthcare technologies;
- Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP): The program will showcase the benefits of PCP, providing training on how to stimulate innovation by procuring R&D services before products reach the commercial market;
- Public Procurement of Innovation (PPI): Public authorities will be trained in strategies to support the adoption of cutting-edge technologies through public procurement processes, ensuring the integration of innovative solutions into public services.

The program will be delivered through a series of Empowerment Seminars, with n.1 event organized by each PP in their respective country. The seminars will target public authorities operating in the healthcare sector as well as in other areas relevant to innovation and public service improvement. A common training program will be adopted by all partners to work jointly across the territories, ensuring a shared methodology and a coordinated approach to building innovation capacities. Overall, the program aims to engage at least 120 participants, equipping them with practical tools to foster the adoption of innovative solutions in public health services.

Partner(s) involved

POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 3.2			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.3.2.1	Empowerment events report	The deliverable will consist in a report, drafted by PP3 after integrating the contribution of all PPs, which will include the empowerment materials and the description of all activities carried out	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Activity 3.3	
Title	Development of a common Innovation Action Plan (JMP)
Start period	Period 5, 25 - 30
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30
Description	All PPs, led by PP3, will collaborate in the co-development of a common Innovation Action Plan aimed at defining key activities to accelerate the growth of the digital healthcare SMEs at the cross-border level and facilitate the adoption of digital health solutions provided within public administrations. Specifically, the plan will outline specific measures focusing on supporting SMEs in the digital health space by enhancing their access to funding, training, and resources, thereby strengthening their capacity to deliver innovation. Policy recommendations will also be drafted to help align cross-border regulations and facilitate the seamless adoption of these digital innovations in various regions. The Action Plan will serve as a roadmap to enhance collaboration between public and private stakeholders, stimulate innovation in the digital healthcare sector.
Partner(s) involved	POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 3.3			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period

Deliverables 3.3			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.3.3.1	Draft of the Action Plan	The deliverable will consist of the draft Action Plan, collaboratively developed by incorporating contributions from all project partners, with PP3 leading the coordination and finalization process.	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 3.4	
Title	CB Workshop Organization (JMP)
Start period	Period 5, 25 - 30
End period	Period 5, 25 - 30

Activity 3.4

Description

The activity, led by PP2 and involving all PPs which will organize and participate in, will centre on the organization of a cross border workshop aimed specifically at Public Administration stakeholders. This workshop will delve into innovative methodologies for the adoption and integration of new digital services within the public sector. The event will feature presentations by experts in digital innovation and public sector reform, who will share insights and case studies illustrating successful implementations of digital services in public administrations. In addition to these presentations, interactive workshops will provide participants with hands-on opportunities to apply these strategies and collaborate on developing actionable approaches tailored to their specific regional contexts. Participants will be introduced to cutting-edge strategies, allowing them to explore new approaches while engaging in discussions to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of each. As part of the workshop, the previously developed common Action Plan will be presented, offering it as a potential roadmap for public administrations to follow in achieving digital transformation. The Action Plan will serve as a foundation for discussions on how to implement innovative solutions and ensure a cohesive, cross-border approach to improving service delivery in the public sector. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by all PPs, formalizing the validation of the proposed project's model in all its parts and the PPs commitment to exploring the potential for future follow-up activities.

Partner(s) involved

POLIBA, Alzheimer Bari , SIMOLISE, KCCG, DARC, IMTM

Deliverables 3.4

Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.3.4.1	CB Workshop Report	The report, prepared by PP2, will include all the materials used during the workshop presentations, along with a detailed description of the activities conducted and the discussions held throughout the event. The document will capture the key insights, strategies, and outcomes from the workshop	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Deliverables 3.4			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.3.4.2	MoU signed	The MoU will be signed during the Final Event and will be provided by LP	Period 5 , 25 - 30

Outputs

Output 3.1	
Output Title	CB Healthcare Innovation Action Plan
Programme Output Indicator	1.3-83: Strategies and action plans jointly developed
Measurement Unit	strategy/action plan
Target Value	1,00
Delivery period	Period 5, 25 - 30
Output Description	The CB Healthcare Innovation Action Plan is a strategic framework aimed at promoting and accelerating healthcare innovation at the cross-border level, while facilitating the adoption of cutting-edge solutions. The plan focuses on three key areas: supporting SMEs in the digital healthcare sector, aligning regulatory frameworks across borders to remove barriers, and promoting the development and implementation of innovative healthcare technologies.

Investments

C.5 Project Results

What do you expect to change because of the activities you plan to implement and the outputs you plan to deliver? Please take a look at the programme result indicators and select those that you will contribute to. In accordance with the Programme/project Intervention Logic defined in the F.S.1.1 of the IPA S.A. 21-27 Programme Manual, it is recommended to select the Programme Result Indicator directly linked to its Programme output indicator, already chosen in the section C4.1 of the AF (ie. Each RCO is linked to only one RCR)

Result 1	
Programme result indicator	3.1-79: Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations
Measurement unit	joint strategy/action plan
Baseline	12,00
Target value	1,00
Delivery period	Period 5, 25 - 30
Result description	The result is the adoption of the Co-developed Action Plan by project partners and other stakeholders who join the network created through the Memorandum of Understandings. The actors who join the MoU will be committed to promote the strategies and solutions, based on their expertise, proposed in the Action Plan. Through this collaborative effort, the partners aim to equip public healthcare organizations with innovative strategies introduced by the plan. By actively driving these initiatives, the partners will help open the doors to innovation within the healthcare sector, fostering a more dynamic and responsive approach to managing neurogenerative diseases while strengthening the overall healthcare economy.

C.6 Project Time Plan

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	After End
WP1 Strategic mapping for identifying gaps ...	[Orange bar]					
A1.1 Holistic Needs Assessment for Neuro...	D1.1.1					
A1.2 Local Mapping of SMEs in Healthcare...	D1.2.1					
A1.3 Regulatory framework analysis (JMP)	D1.3.1					
A1.4 CB Conference organization (JMP)		D1.4.1				
WP2 Design and implementation of DARING Empo...		[Dark blue bar]				
A2.1 Design of DARING Empowerment Model ...		D2.1.1				
A2.2 Launch of the Public Call for the p...			D2.2.1			
A2.3 Short Master Organization (CBT)				D2.3.1		
A2.4 Hackathon Organization (JMP)					D2.4.1	
A2.5 Incubator Summer Week Organization ...					D2.5.1	
A2.6 Journalistic Interviews (JMP)					D2.6.1	
WP3 Promotion activities for the adoption of...				[Green bar]		
A3.1 Virtual Fair Implementation (DSe)					D3.1.1	
A3.2 Empowerment program for Public Admi...					D3.2.1	
A3.3 Development of a common Innovation ...					D3.3.1	
A3.4 CB Workshop Organization (JMP)					D3.4.1	
					D3.4.2	
1.3-83					O3.1	
Result indicator						
3.1-79					R1	

C.7 Project management

In addition to the thematic work you will do in your project, you will need time and resources for coordination and internal communication. Please describe below how you plan to organise yourself to ensure the project work runs smoothly.

C.7.1 How will you coordinate your project?

Who will be responsible for coordination? Will you have any other management structures (e.g., thematic groups, WP managers)? How will the internal communication work?

The DARING project will be managed through a structured management framework designed to ensure that objectives are met on time and within budget. The LP will oversee project management by employing the PM2 methodology, which involves dividing the project into phases continuously monitored and controlled, at the end of which a review will be conducted to assess progress and plan future steps. All PPs will play an active role in decision-making, adhering to principles of co-ownership and cooperation. To enhance coordination, each WP will have a coordinator and co-coordinator from different PPs who will develop detailed work plans, schedules, and task lists to align partner activities with project objectives. The LP will appoint a Project Manager (PM) and a Financial Manager (FM) to oversee the technical and financial aspects of the project, ensuring effective coordination and resource management. Additionally, each PP will designate a Local Project Manager (LPM) to manage internal activities, alongside a Communication Manager (CM) and Financial Manager (FM), providing updates on communication efforts, budget expenditures, and future financial projections to the PM and WP coordinators. A Management & Coordination Committee (MCC), comprising the PM and LPMs, will define operational guidelines and implement monitoring tools to ensure that project tasks and budgetary controls remain on track. Advanced project management tools, such as Gantt charts, Work Breakdown Structure, and Organizational Breakdown Structure, will be utilized for effective project management. Digital tools and cloud-based systems will facilitate real-time coordination, file sharing, and communication among all partners. A Monitoring and Quality Plan, developed by the LP with input from the PPs, will establish quality criteria and assessment procedures. An Evaluation Advisory Board will oversee quality monitoring and produce Evaluation Reports based on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). This plan will also address risk management and define procedures to ensure that the project meets all established standards. The Project Steering Committee (PSC), composed by representatives from each PP, will provide strategic direction, monitor progress, and plan corrective actions if needed. Decisions will be made either unanimously or by a two-thirds majority. Six PSC meetings will be scheduled over the 30-month lifespan of the project, with additional meetings convened as required. Regular communication will be maintained among partners through instant messaging, document-sharing platforms, and monthly video conferences to track progresses. Reporting will include monthly progress updates from the LPMs, detailing activities, expenditures, and projections for the upcoming period. These reports will provide essential data to adjust the project as necessary, ensuring it stays on course.

C.7.2 Which measures will you take to ensure quality in your project?

Describe specific approaches and processes and responsible partners. If you plan to have any type of project evaluation, please describe its purpose and scope here.

Specific tools and approach will be used during DARING project to ensure its successful implementation, in compliance with the management and coordination principles outlined in the PM2 methodology, starting from the selection of partners with complementary skills and expertise. Quality assurance will be emphasized through a systematic evaluation process managed by an appointed Advisor, ensuring that the project consistently meets high-quality standards throughout its implementation. Activities will be planned to avoid overlapping and ensure adherence to deadlines and timelines. A robust management structure will be created, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities, fostering shared accountability among all partners. Risk and quality management will be integral throughout the project's lifecycle. The LP will draft a comprehensive plan detailing quality criteria, procedures, and protocols and the evaluation advisory board will utilize this plan to monitor progress and conduct both mid-term and final evaluations, ensuring continuous quality control and alignment with the project's goals. A Coordination Management Plan (CMP) will be developed to outline the sub-actions, timelines, and potential risks associated with the project; the CMP will provide partners with a clear framework, enabling them to execute their responsibilities efficiently and respond swiftly to any arising issues. An external expert will be appointed to oversee project monitoring and quality control, providing objective assessments of progress and deliverables. Regular monitoring and reporting will include peer reviews, questionnaires, and thorough documentation to track coordination quality and adherence to established procedures as well as quantitative outcomes, including event attendance and media coverage. Financial performance will also be monitored to ensure that the project remains within budget. Mid-term and final evaluation reports will deliver in-depth assessments of the project's relevance, performance, and impact. These evaluations will provide valuable recommendations to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) for any improvements, ensuring that the project's outcomes align with its objectives and uphold the highest standards of quality assurance.

C.7.3 What will be the general approach you will follow to communicate about your project?

Who will coordinate project communication and how will he/she ensure the involvement of all partners? How will the communication function contribute to transfer your project results? Please note that all communication activities should be included in the work packages, as an integral part of your project. There is no need to repeat this information here.

DARING communication strategy will promote the collaborative approach between SMEs and target users proposed in the project as a solution to allow enterprises to develop products and services that fully meet the needs of individuals affected by NDDs. The strategy will also focus on disseminating the action plan designed to facilitate and standardized the guidelines for the adoption of the solutions by Public Administration. LP will coordinate the communication activities ensuring that key information about the project's objectives, results, achievements is disseminated among all stakeholders: SMEs, patients with their caregiver, patients' associations, healthcare facilities and public authorities. In particular, SMEs will be targeted to involve them in participating at DARING Empowerment model; Public Administration stakeholder and healthcare facilities will be targeted to promote their participation in CB Workshop. Patients, patients' associations and caregivers will be involved both during the Short Master course and Hackathon, so that they can offer their valuable contribution by expressing the needs to the creators of services and products and feel an active part of the entire creation process. The interviews of participants in the course published in the main local media will contribute strongly to raising awareness about the potential of territorial and European cooperation, without which it would be difficult to achieve any real concrete objectives.

The communication strategy will be conducted by using diverse communication channels, according to the specific communication target group; it will involve the use of social media channels, newsletters, project's and PPs' websites. The coherence of all communication activities will be maintained through a strong branding and project identity, which will be reflected in both digital communication efforts and the design of promotional materials, such as leaflets, booklets, and branded gadgets. Communication materials, both digitally and on recycled paper, will be distributed during the Info Days, organized by each PP, to engage stakeholders. Also a Kick-Off Meeting (KoM) and a Final event will be organized by LP to showcase the project's successes. All the materials used for communicate project identity will be made available on the DARING project website, serving as a repository for all project information, news, deliverables and outputs.

C.7.4 How do you foresee the financial management of the project and reporting procedures for activities and budget (within the partnership and towards the programme)?

Define responsibilities, deadlines in financial flows, reporting flows, project related transfers, reclaims, etc.

The financial management activities will be cross-cutting to all DARING activities and will be coordinated by LP, which will ensure the proper financial management of the project and keep all PPs periodically informed about the project's progresses. LP will appoint a Financial Manager and each PP will appoint a Local Financial Manager responsible for preparing financial claims and managing the expenditures. During the entire duration of the project, each PP will prepare and submit n.5 financial reports, one every six months, which will detail the financial activities and spending, highlighting the alignment with the project budget and milestones. Each PP will also prepare and submit n.5 progress reports at the same intervals, providing updates on technical and financial aspects. The technical aspects and documents of the project will be prepared following common guidelines established by LP. All project's documents, contracts, proof of payments, timesheets, and reports will be collected following audit trail requirements, ensuring a transparent management. A set of financial tools will be employed to ensure internal control and timely achievement of the project's milestones, by helping tasks organization. The partnership will ensure regular communication and updates about the technical and financial progress through monthly videoconferences, ensuring that all PPs are aligned.

C.7.5 Cooperation criteria

Please select all cooperation criteria that apply to your project and describe how you will fulfil them.

Cooperation criteria	Description
Joint development	Yes DARING project will fulfil the joint development criteria, as the collaboration between all PPs is the core of the project. In fact, all PPs shared the project concept idea and then actively collaborated in the project design and proposal drafting, by adopting a participative collaboration approach. This approach will also be applied to the subsequent phases of the project, throughout its life: PPs will remain connected through various channels (phone, videocalls, calls, meetings, and emails), in order to maintain and reinforce the collective efforts and joint decision-making process that underlies the project's success
Joint implementation	Yes All DARING implementation phases will follow the joint implementation criteria, so that the strong and collaborative working methodology is ensured. Each PP will be assigned specific responsibilities and tasks based on their expertise and background, paying attention to a balanced and fair distribution of the workload. A decision-making structure will be adopted to ensure the equal involvement of all PPs in every step of the project. This will leverage the strengths of each PP and allow for strong results to be achieved in a collaborative environment.
Joint staffing	Yes DARING project will fulfil the joint staffing criteria, as following an organizational structure outlined at project level, each PP will appoint a Project Manager (PM) and Financial Manager (FM) to oversee the implementation of all activities. Clear project management guidelines and protocols, together with internal communication systems, will be established to enhance the effectiveness of activities. These systems will encourage positive collaboration among staff from different PPs, paying attention to the respect of EU principles of equality and non-discrimination
Joint financing	Yes DARING project will respect the joint financing criteria. The budget distribution was collaboratively agreed by all PPs; the financial contributions established are aligned with each PP role, status and tasks assigned and each PP will contribute financially – both through public or private contributions - to the project in accordance with their structure. The adoption of this approach will ensure that the financial commitment reflects the collective ownership of the project's success across the partnership and that it is fair.

C.7.6 Horizontal principles

Please indicate which type of contribution to horizontal principles applies to the project, and justify your choice. Be aware that the horizontal principles shall be monitored during the project implementation.

Horizontal principles	Type of contribution	Description of contribution
Sustainable development as set out in Article 11 TFEU, taking into account the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and the "Do No Significant Harm" principle	positive effects	DARING project is fully compliant with the "Do Not Significant Harm" principle, by ensuring that project's activities will not cause any adverse environmental impact. On the other hand, the project positively contributes to the sustainable development as it supports the following SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Goal 8 - "Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all", with particular reference to target 8.3, as the development of new production activities and the creation of new jobs are both benefits of the project;- Goal 3 - "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages", by promoting a model for the development and adoption of new products and services for patients affected by DDNs that can easily be replicated by other target groups.
Equal opportunities and non-discrimination based on gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation	positive effects	DARING project will adopt a non-discrimination approach in all its activities, enhancing the inclusion of usually marginalized groups to foster a work environment safe and respectful for all people involved.
Equality between men and women, gender mainstreaming and the integration of a gender perspective	positive effects	DARING project will positive contribute to the equality between men and woman in SMEs sectors. In fact, usually the entrepreneurial sector has often been associated with the male figure, while the female one has always been under-represented. To eliminate such biases and follow the EU policies on gender equality, the project will provide access to the Empowerment Program and events for all companies without any form of discrimination between men and woman. It will actively promote the inclusion of women in leadership roles throughout the course, emphasizing the importance of gender equality in workplace.

C.8 Long-term plans

As a programme, we would like to support projects that have a long-lasting effect in the territory and those who will benefit from them. Please describe below what you will do to ensure this.

C.8.1 Ownership

Please describe who will ensure the financial and institutional support for the outputs/deliverables developed by the project (e.g., tools), and explain how these outputs/deliverables will be integrated in the work of each partner organisations.

The DARING Empowerment Program model developed as part of the project will be adopted by the LP, PP3, and PP6, who will integrate it into the training and incubation courses they provide to create a cohesive capacity-building experience that enhances the project's outcomes and impacts long after its conclusion. Each partner will tailor the materials to meet their specific needs. In particular, the DARING model will serve as a foundation for developing capacity-building and incubation pathways for SMEs operating in the healthcare sector. The content will be adapted based on the needs to be addressed and the target patient group considered, ensuring that the training is relevant and effective in meeting the demands of the healthcare landscape.

The neurodegenerative patients' needs and mapping of the sector's operating SMEs will be integrated into the work of all PPs, according their specific application sector. The document will serve as a starting point for gaining a deeper understanding of patients' needs and services offered by SMEs, allowing for a more nuanced analysis of their requirements. By closely examining the insights, partners can effectively tailor the solutions and services offered, ensuring they directly address existing gaps and allowing the patient-centered services' design.

The CB Healthcare Innovation Action Plan will be taken up by all PPs, who will implement it within their organizations to enhance their services. Additionally, due to its role, PP4 will bring the topic to discussion forums or events, presenting the project's outcomes and emphasizing the positive results that stem from the adoption of the Action Plan. This engagement will help raise awareness and encourage other stakeholders to consider similar approaches, ultimately fostering a culture of collaboration in the healthcare sector.

After the conclusion of the project, the ICT platform for the Virtual Fair, which serves as a repository, will be maintained by PP3. All project partners will commit to promoting the platform through their channels to ensure it remains active over time, providing real-time updates and resources in order to sustain the platform's relevance and utility for all stakeholders.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed by all project partners to serve as a formal declaration of their collective commitment to continue supporting the project's outputs, even after its conclusion, without assuming mutual financial or legal obligations.

C.8.2 Durability

Some outputs/deliverables should be used by relevant groups (project partners or others) after the project's lifetime, in order to have a lasting effect on the territory and the population. For example, new practices in urban transport need to be used by local authorities to have cleaner air in the city, and the whole population will benefit from this. Please describe how your outputs/deliverables will be used after the project ends and by whom. (Please describe to what extent it will be possible to test/validate/transfer the outputs and results to other organisations/regions/countries outside of the current partnership)

The DARING Empowerment Program model developed as output of DARING project will be utilized in all its components by universities, particularly economic faculties, as well as by incubators, accelerators, and other institutions focused on skill development for SMEs. Once adopted, the model will be employed to ensure that the solutions and products proposed by SMEs effectively meet market demands, verifying that the target audience for these services is fully satisfied. SMEs will also benefit from the implementation of the empowerment program, as it will significantly reduce the risk of failure associated with developing solutions that do not meet market needs. By equipping SMEs with the necessary skills and insights, the program ensures that their innovations are better aligned with actual demand, increasing the likelihood of success in the market.

The Virtual Fair platform will be utilized by public authorities, patients, and SMEs. Public authorities will have the opportunity to explore potential new solutions to address specific requests or needs within the sector. Patients, together with their caregivers, will be able to discover new products and services designed to enhance their well-being, enabling them to adopt these solutions. Meanwhile, SMEs will have a reliable resource to investigate existing solutions in the sector and identify areas where intervention is needed to achieve success in the market.

The neurodegenerative patients' needs and mapping of the sector's operating SMEs will be valuable for both start-up incubators and public authorities. Incubators can use this information to guide start-ups toward developing products that are currently absent from the market but have the potential to provide significant benefits. Meanwhile, public authorities will be able to identify any gaps in the service delivery process for specific patient groups, enabling them to address unmet needs effectively. The entire process of analyzing needs of a specific patient group and the general mapping of SMEs that provide products or services suitable for addressing those needs can be replicated targeting patients with different conditions beyond those considered in the DARING project. This would add significant value for all the parties involved in the care process, enhancing the overall effectiveness of healthcare delivery and emphasizing the importance of the DARING's results.

The CB Healthcare Innovation Action Plan can be adopted and utilized by public administrations of Italy, Albania and Montenegro as a comprehensive roadmap to guide the necessary phases for the adoption of new healthcare technologies, as it provides a structured framework. By clearly outlining each stage, the plan will help public authorities to be able to systematically evaluate the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of proposed technologies. Patients, along with their caregivers, will have the opportunity to experience innovative services that can genuinely enhance their quality of life and promote greater self-sufficiency.

C.8.3 Transferability

Some outputs/deliverables that you will deliver could be adapted or further developed to be used by other target groups or in other territories. What will you do to make sure that relevant groups are aware of your outputs/deliverables and are able to use them?

The capacity-building materials developed during the Short Master will be made widely accessible to SMEs operating in the area, as the entire package will be published on the project website and disseminate to the greatest number of stakeholders. By offering these materials on an online platform, they will be easily accessible, allowing a broad range of targets to benefit. Social media activities will further raise awareness among target groups regarding the availability of training materials, enhancing their outreach and impact.

Additionally, the Virtual Fair platform will be actively promoted by all project partners through both project-specific and private channels, as well as during their participation in industry events, trade fairs, and workshops. This comprehensive promotional strategy will maximize visibility and awareness of the platform among relevant stakeholders.

All stakeholders in the public administration sector will be informed about the new action plan and the mapping of SMEs that address the needs of patients affected by NDDs through dedicated newsletters and dissemination campaigns. The resulting document will be made accessible on the project website and on the websites of all involved partners, ensuring broad visibility for everyone. The cohesive approach will facilitate the effective dissemination of information and resources, ultimately strengthening the impact of the project.