enabling SMEs to develop AI and DATA solutions

through support of a Community of Practice and low-TRL and high-TRL playgrounds

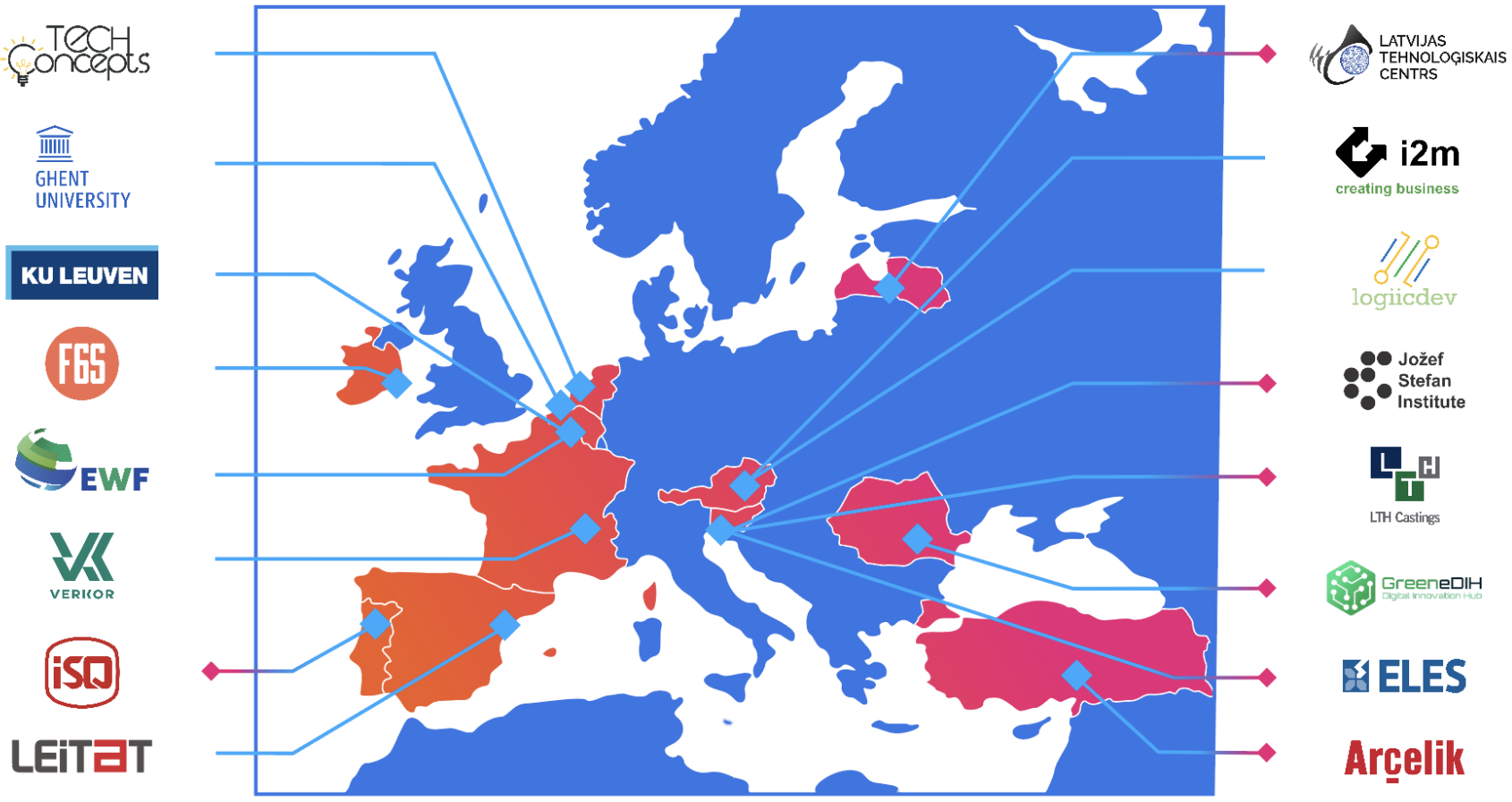
EFFRA ManuDays 2027, Brussels, 18/11/2026

Funded by the European Union

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AID4SME Consortium

16 Partners | 11 Countries



AID4SME objectives



Develop a Community of Practice to support and enable SMEs to develop and deploy AI and data solutions.



Support SMEs to develop/deploy, implement and demonstrate ≥ 20 AI and data solutions at TRL 6-7.

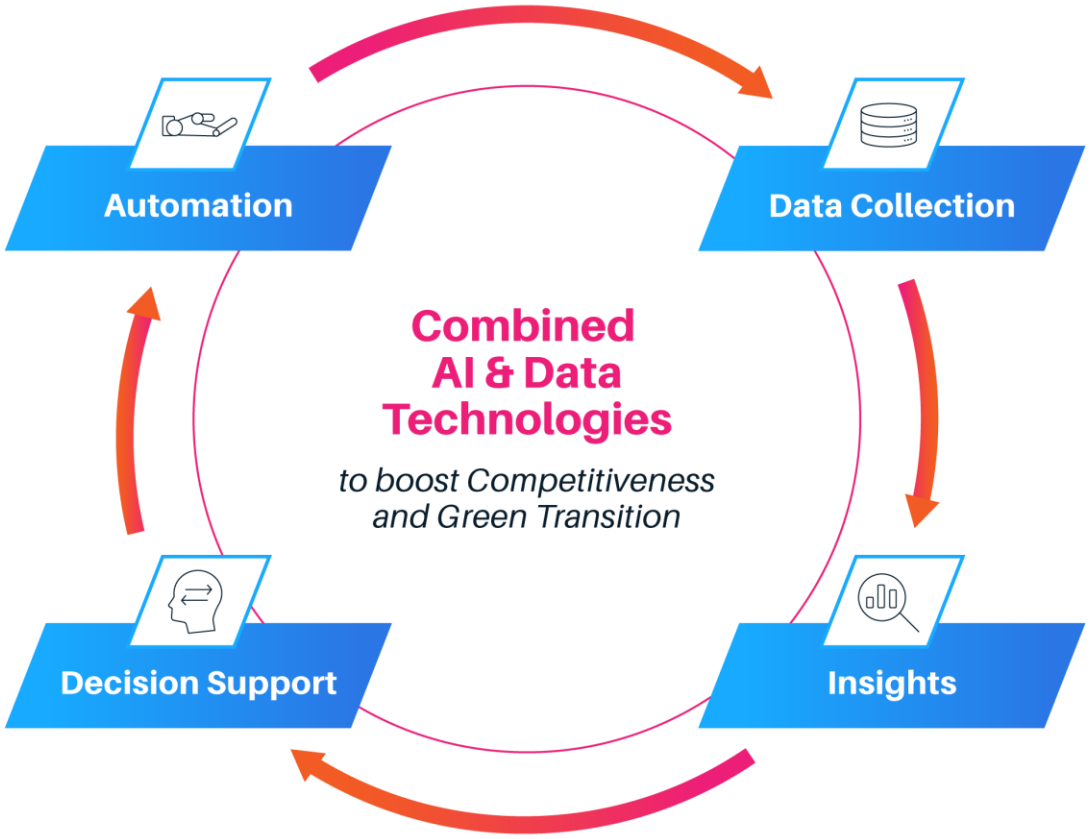


Increase the adoption of combined AI and data technology.

OC1: 269 applications → 11 projects: 01.03.2026 → 30.04.2027

OC2: 379 applications → 12 projects: 01.11.2026 → 31.12.2027

13 challenges in 4 technology umbrellas...



Connect with us☺

...to support SMEs and startups in their sustainable digital transition

The 13 AID4SME challenges:
Combined AI and Data solutions for…

OC1 + OC2
OC1
OC2

DATA COLLECTION

1. Augmented sensing solution
2. 2D/3D image analysis for large Energy Infrastructure predictive maintenance

CREATION OF INSIGHTS

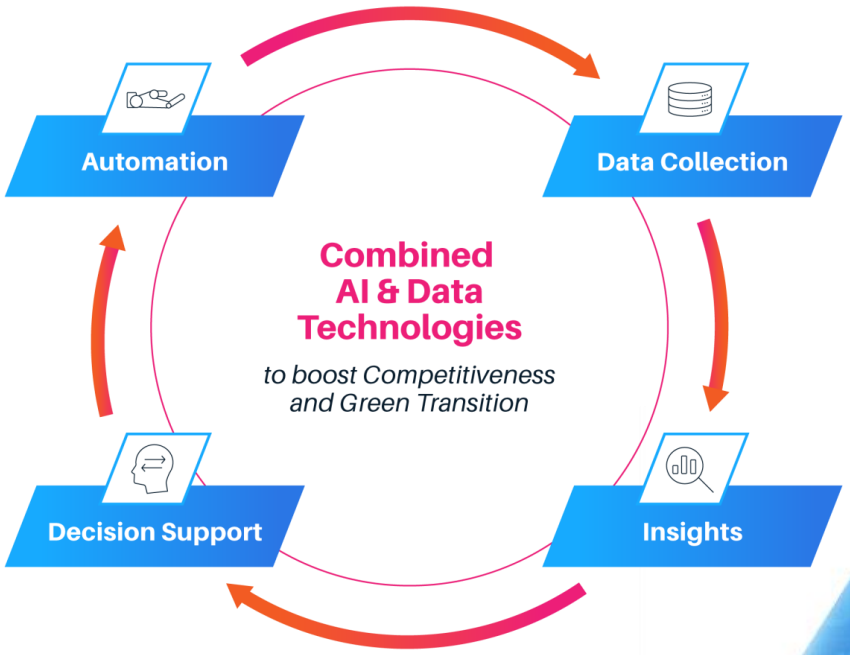
1. Product-production Digital Twins
2. Digital Twin-based lifespan analysis tool
   Automated monitoring hygiene inspection for refurbishment
3. Energy system Digital Twin decision support tool

DECISION SUPPORT

1. Digital Twin-Enabled Smart Production Process Planning Tool
2. Automated machine selection for parts production
3. Battery production digital work instructions & skill capturing
4. Automated warehouse and internal logistics management

AUTOMATION

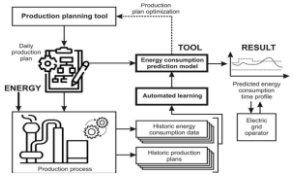
1. Automated energy management for parts production
   Smart energy management of unplanned machine downtime
2. Automated energy management for battery production
3. Semi-automated EV battery disassembly for recycling: introducing digital work instructions
4. Co-bot refrigerator door assembly solutions

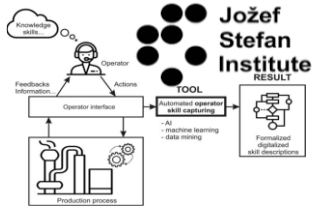


Playgrounds

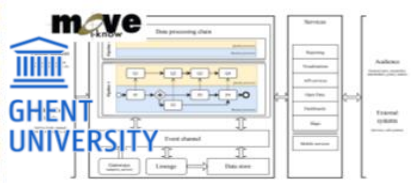
Low-TRL playgrounds (KUL, UGent, JSI, LEITAT)

















LEITAT managing technologies



Jožef Stefan Institute

High-TRL playgrounds (ELES, ARC, LTH, VKR)

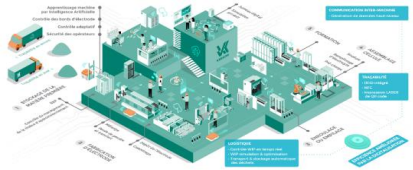


















Technical support: I2M, LOGI
Re-/up-skilling support: EWF, ISQ
Networking support: F6S, GreeneDIH, LTC
Exploitation/business case support: TC

Received proposals

Open Call 1

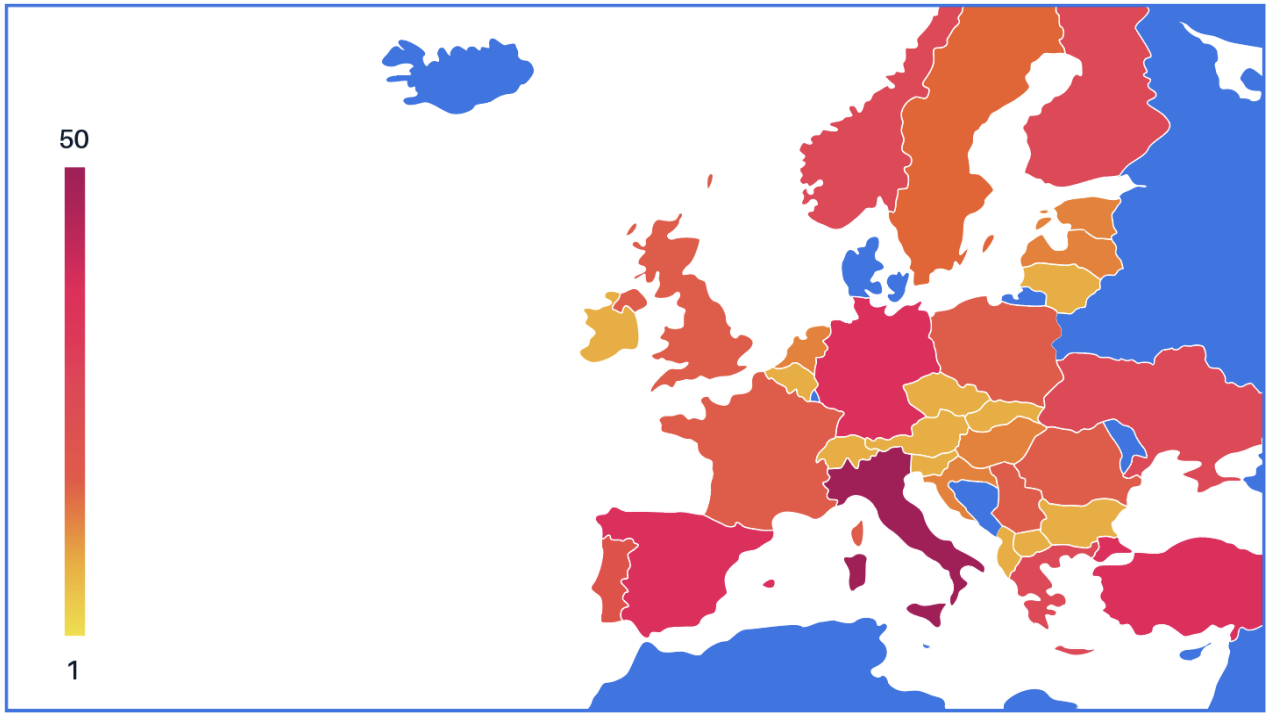
269 applications

11 projects

Open Call 2

379 applications

12 projects



OC2: Applications from 35 countries
OC2: Final numbers/statistics available as of Dec. 2026

Winning SMEs (OC1+OC2)

AID4SME

Data Collection

RAIDYN

iLINK innovative business solutions

LOCAL ai AI▸SUSTAINABILITY

EQUINOX GROUP

Insights

iThermAI

ELVEZ

AR VR tech

Pleg.ma labs

FORCERA

OptiDetect Vision for Perfection

INNODURA Perceptive Robotics & Testing

brisa

Decision Support

superlinear

MADE Competence Center I4.0

VANDRI ROBOTICS

VIRTUAL DAWN

DOUVRIS DYNAMICS

ROLOE SOLUTIONS

NeverBlink

Automation

BECHAINED

PAL

Arti mühendislik

robotizer

Robotico

Plaixus

quaesta.ai

PSC AUTOMATION

A few examples from OC1…

AID4SME

Data Collection

DART

Digital-twin & Augmented-sensing for Rope Tension & spooling analysis: extend rope life, cut waste, increase safety

RAIDYN



Insights

AIMS

Pleg.ma Labs

AI-enabled decision support tool for optimal microgrid sizing & energy control (EV chargers…)

TwinLearnXR

AR VR tech

Adaptive XR training powered by a high-fidelity Digital Twin for sustainable manufacturing (extrusion process)

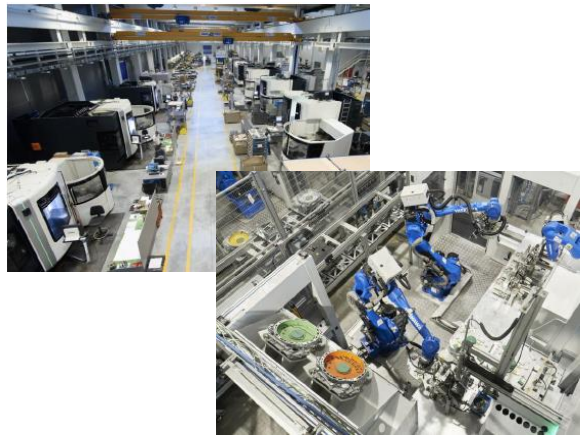


Decision Support

AE OS DemSim

AE OS Demand Forecast & Scenario Simulation

superlinear



Integrated planning system linking Casting and CNC machining

Automation

HFS4HRC

Using high-fidelity simulations to train and develop a human-robot collaborative assembly process

robotizer



Thank You!

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https://www.youtube.com/@AID4SME

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