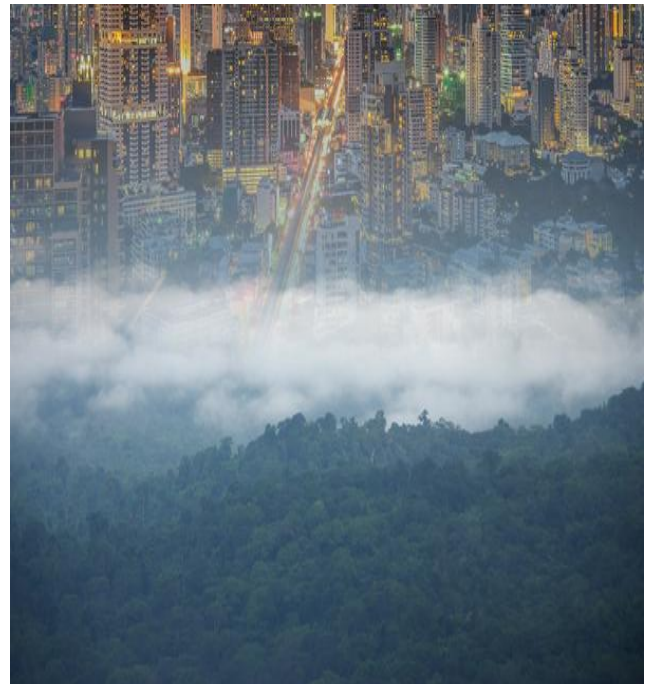
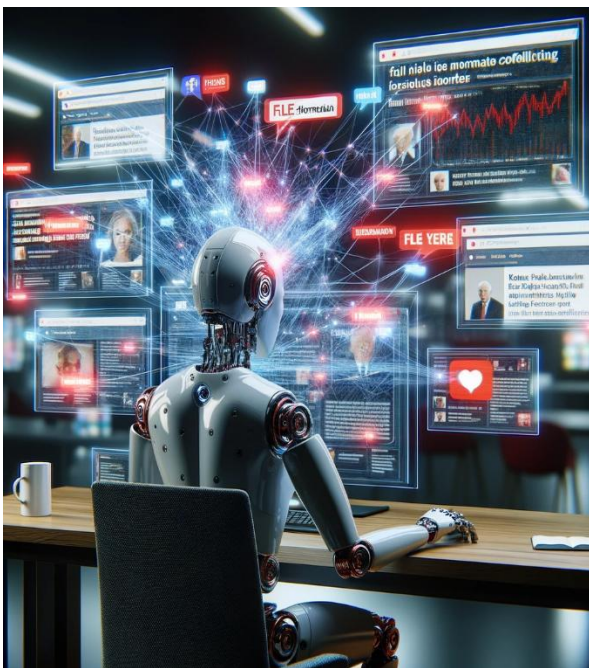


Yearly Activity report 2024/2025

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Pilot4dev receives co-funding from the European Union



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I. About us

PILOT4DEV is an independent NGO/Think Tank which connects global stakeholders with pilot development initiatives in the areas of Governance, Disinformation, AI, Climate Change, Conflicts/Stability, Gender Equality, the Environment and the implementation of SDGs.

It gathers enthusiastic personalities, active organizations and pioneering initiatives.

The objectives of the organization are: R

- To promote sustainable development, climate adaptation, security and S.D.Gs
- To combine research and action, and exchanges across countries.
- To propose a diversity of narratives and promote exemplary initiatives
- To strengthen existing actions and propose cooperation projects
- To connect stakeholders, build up cooperation, and stimulate knowledge
- To work on advocacy and decision-making

Our values are Independence, Sustainability and Positive impact.

PILOT4DEV activities connect civil society, academic, and pioneer initiatives with decision-makers.

We organize:

- Events, workshops and conferences
- Interactive panels of experts
- Knowledge Exchange
- Field and study visits
- Training, capacity building

We support:

- Dissemination of research
- CSOs and Development initiatives in several countries
- Visibility of pioneering initiatives
- Joint projects and partners' search

We draft:

- Reports
- Analysis, Publications
- Dossiers, Collective Books

We promote:

- Initiatives and Exchange
- Diversity of views
- Sustainability and Impacts

II. Who's who: Presentation of the board and team

The team in Brussels

Pascaline Gaborit, Ph.D. Director/Founder. Pascaline has more than 20 years of experience in working on governance, support to civil society, climate, cities, the environment, gender issues, and dialogue. She is the author of several books. She is the founder of the organization and sits on the board. She is working full time as an employee for the organization.

Vincent Rao is a senior researcher, providing support for reports and projects application on an ad hoc basis. Expert in energy policies, and global development, Vincent contributed to the projects deliverables and training toolkits.

Joen Martinsen: Joen Martinsen is a junior research assistant, graduated in political science. He started a 6-month traineeship for Pilot4dev in March 2024, which was followed by a 7-month employment contract. He has been very active in coordinating the AI4DEBUNK WP12. He wrote papers and blogpost articles on disinformation, security, and AI.

Pilot4dev works with ad hoc consultants regularly in the framework of different projects

Our President and Vice President

- **Elise Féron**, is professor at the Peace and Conflict Studies, TAPRI (Tampere Peace and Research Institute), Finland. She is a recognized researcher and expert and is the president of Pilot4dev.
- **Isabelle Milbert** is honorary Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. She is an expert on India. She is also president of the Genevese Federation of International cooperation (Exchange and Knowledge). She is the Vice President of the organization and has been the President from 2018 to 2024.

Steering Board

- **Jeffrey Raven**, FAIA, LEED AP BD+C Director, Graduate Program in Urban + Regional Design | Associate Professor New York Institute of Technology (NYIT-Manhattan)
- **Didier Vancutsem**: Didier Vancutsem is Prof. at ULB, head of the Master Resilient Cities, former ISOCARP General Secretary
- **Ravi Guru**: Ravi Guru is the Deputy Director General at All India Institute of Local Self Government. His professional experience is concentrated on climate change, climate resilience & mitigation, policy development, state action plan on climate change, environmental management, sustainable development, CDM, renewable energy and energy management.

- **Youssef Diab:** Professor and Director for research at the Ecole des Ingénieurs de la ville de Paris (Gustave Eiffel University).
- **Eric Alira:** With its African roots from Burkina Faso, Eric Alira has lived in Austria, Poland and Belgium, where he's played a key role in regional and EU politics. Eric is Independent consultant on European ACP-EU development policy issues, former Member of Parliament for Lower Silesia in Poland and Vice-Chairman of the region's Foreign Affairs Committee, former Parliamentary Advisor to the Development Committee (DEVE) at the European Parliament in Brussels.
- **Alain Simon:** Dr. Alain Simon is a Belgian expert in Marine Ecology with experience both in Europe and in the U.S. He is in charge of environmental affairs at the municipality of Molenbeek in the Brussel's region, and he is one of the founders of the 'House of Nature' in Molenbeek. He is also a scuba diving instructor. He joined the Board of Pilot4dev in December 2023.

Advisory and Orientation Committee

- **Reia Guppy:** Reia Guppy is Associate Professor at The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) and expert in Coral Reefs.
- **Dr. Donath Olomi :** Dr. Donath Olomi is an Expert in entrepreneurship and former Director of IMED Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship in Tanzania
- **Khadija Omar Kayanda,** Founder of the NGO Pink Hijab in Tanzania, Expert in Youth and Women Empowerment
- **Marcel Keijzer,** is an Expert and an Urban Planner
- **Jennifer Vasta,** founder and owner of PIKA Foundation for Education.
- **Jan Kragt,** Founder and Owner of "Innovative Ideas" foundation.

III. Pilot4Dev's current projects and involvement



PROJECT Horizon Europe AI4DEBUNK

To revolutionize the fight against disinformation, a four-year innovation action, AI4DeBunk, has been launched this January. Funded by the European Union (EU) through the Horizon Europe Programme, the project brings together an interdisciplinary consortium of 13 partner entities from eight countries towards a shared mission: to support trustworthy online activity by providing citizens with human-centered AI-powered tools. In

recent years, the proliferation of disinformation has become a major issue across Europe. The pervasive use of the internet and social media has facilitated the spread of fake news

and propaganda, heavily influencing public opinion, as evidenced during the COVID-19 pandemic and, more recently, Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In this context, a synergistic combination of human efforts and sophisticated artificial intelligence (AI) tools is the only sustainable way to effectively combat the "infodemic" and battle of narratives we currently face. As stated by Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission: "AI is already changing our everyday lives. And this is just the beginning. Used wisely and widely, AI promises huge benefits to our economy and society."

Partners who will participate and are in charge of the successful implementation of AI4Debunk: University of Latvia (Latvia) - project coordinator, Euractiv.bg, Pilot4DEV, University of Mons (Belgium), Internews Ukraine (Ukraine), National Research Council of Italy, University of Florence (Italy), Barcelona Supercomputing Center (Spain), DOTSOFT (Greece), University of Galway, F6S Innovation (Ireland), University of Applied Sciences Utrecht, INNovaTiVe POWER (Netherlands).

Involving various stakeholders, from media professionals to software developers and AI experts, this new EU project takes a holistic approach to fighting disinformation through Human-AI collaboration. It will be validated with two case studies: Russian propaganda related to the war in Ukraine and manipulated content on climate change. AI4Debunk aims to develop four human-centered AI-powered interfaces: a web plug-in, a collaborative platform, a smartphone app, and an Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality interface based on the first-of-its-kind open-source debunking API. The plug-in will be designed for seamless integration with web browsers and social media platforms, delivering instant notifications to users when they encounter false content, regardless of the format.

As for the collaborative platform (Disinfopedia), it will allow proactive users to report suspicious content, which will then be checked by human experts and potentially removed from circulation. The app, in turn, will enable people to detect disinformation in everyday life directly through their smartphone. Lastly, the AR/VR interface will provide guidelines on how to deal with disinformation in future AR/VR-based social media.

The Role of Pilot4dev

Pilot4dev is involved in the WP4 and WP5 on Fake news, and was leading the WP12 and WP13-14 on the sociological analysis and inclusiveness of the project and the tools.

Initial sociological assessment including gender analysis and Mult stakeholders' recommendations

Description of work

Task 12.1: Forecast on the tool's perceptions by citizens and social media users

Task leader: P4D; Other partners involved: UL, EURACTIV Bulgaria, IUA; Timing: M1 to M15

Task objective: The objectives of this task were to understand the possible perception and uses of the tools by citizens and social media users. It aims at giving directions and guidelines to the tool's developers, and for this, an analysis is needed.

Action plan: This task consisted of the following steps: 1) Desk review, 2) Benchmark with other tools, 3) Questionnaires, 4) Online poll 5) Follow up and Monitoring

This task contributed to D12.1 *Report on the possible impacts of the tool on the perceptions of the citizens and the social media users*. The deliverable has been accepted and will soon be available online

Task 12.2: Sociological assessment of the resilience mechanisms to disinformation thanks to the tool through beta testers

Task leader: P4D; Other partners involved: UL, EURACTIV Bulgaria, IUA; Timing: M8 to M15

Task objective: The objective of this task is to study the resilience mechanisms of the citizens and the social media users that the tool will trigger, to make sure that the tool will have long term impacts. Action plan: This task will consist of the following steps: 1) Creation of an ethical committee of the tool; 2) Selection of beta testers; 3) Experimental tests with the beta testers (with a set of questions, images, and multimedia content); 4) Guidelines and recommendations to the tools' designers

This task contributed to the D12.2 *Initial report on the resilience mechanisms triggered by the tools* which has been accepted and will soon be available online.

Task 12.3: Gender and Equity analysis of the project and of the tools developed

Task leader: P4D; Other partners involved: UL, EURACTIV Bulgaria, IUA; Timing: M6 to M15

Task objective: The objective of this task was to make sure that the tools developed will follow the gender equality standards.

Action plan: This task consisted of the following steps: 1) Gender equality plan for the project, 2) Set up of guidelines on gender equality in the tool's developed, 3) Testing of the guidelines with the developers, 4) Testing of the guidelines with the beta testers, 5) Recommendations This task will contribute to D12.3 Gender Equality Plan.

Task 12.4: Desk review analysis of the 2 case studies Task leader: UL; Other partners involved: EURACTIV Bulgaria, P4D, IUA;

Timing: M6 to M15 Task objective: The objective of this task was to add a sociological cross cutting analysis of the 2 selected case studies in order to support the development of the tools, and to ensure that the tool does not have any bias (gender/ethnic) and to make sure that the tool is as inclusive as possible.

Action plan: This task consisted of the following steps: - Desk review analysis of case study 1 including the first findings of WPs 4, 5, and 6 : Russian disinformation including sources and propagation - Desk review analysis of case study 2 including the first findings of WPs 4, 5, and 6 : Disinformation on Climate change including sources and propagation This task will contribute to D12.4 Report on the desk review analysis. The deliverable has been drafted by Pilot4dev and will soon be available online.

Task 12.5: Multi-stakeholders perspectives on resilience to disinformation

Task leader: P4D; Other partners involved: UL, EURACTIV Bulgaria, IUA; Timing: M1 to M15

Task objective: The focus groups opened up the multi-stakeholders engagement on the use of the tool, so as to generate the widest audience as possible in different countries. The involved partners organized the focus groups in their local language and send an English translation to Pilot4Dev for the analysis. The focus groups will involve representatives from civil society, social media users, public organizations, businesses, creative industries, the education sector, and

digital companies.

Action plan: This task consisted of the following steps: 1) Set up of the guidelines for the focus groups, 2) Organization of the focus groups by the local partners year 2, 3) Analysis, follow up, and scaling up on the multi-stakeholders' involvement; 4) Organisation of 2 transnational online focus groups multi-stakeholders' involvement. This task will contribute to D12.5 *Initial report on the multi-stakeholders' perspectives*. This report has been accepted and will be available online.

The list below shows the objectives we have contributed until April 2025. Additionally, through the WP15, we contribute to the project's communication, while through the WP18 we try to ensure compliance with the "ethics requirements"

<i>WP/WP Task</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
<i>WP4 - Information manipulation and threads of disinformation, fake news and propaganda</i>	<i>The objective of the WP4 is a more precise diagnosis of the interactions of fake news, disinformation, information manipulation and foreign interference in the EU policy making</i>
<i>Task 4.1: Baseline analysis of disinformation, propaganda and fake news</i>	<i>The objective of this task is to create a theoretical framework for the analysis of disinformation campaigns and foreign interference in the EU policy making</i>
<i>Task 4.2: Social media engagement in dissemination of disinformation</i>	<i>The objective of this task is to identify how information manipulation is adapting to changes in the EU media ecosystem and to elaborate on an effective response.</i>
<i>WP5 - Identification of target groups, fake news and technological requirements</i>	<i>Information manipulation, disinformation and increasing spread of fake news and propaganda is a growing political and security challenge for the European Union. The objective is to identify adequate and effective technical means to prevent, deter and respond to these threats that could be supported by AI-powered tools.</i>
<i>Task 5.1: Identification of disinformation target groups, sources and hosts of fake news/propaganda</i>	<i>The objective of this task is to understand the audiences and the groups of people who might be marginalised, suppressed or deeply affected by ongoing information manipulation efforts and determining who is behind information manipulation.</i>
<i>Task 5.2: Identification of narratives and fake news throughout Europe through various case studies</i>	<i>The objective of this task is to determine typical narratives used in the foreign interference campaigns through information manipulation and propaganda in the EU, in particular in the contexts of Russia's war against Ukraine and climate change</i>
<i>WP 12 - Initial sociological assessment including gender analysis and multistakeholders' recommendations</i>	<i>The objective of WP12 is not only to provide a sociological assessment of the tool that will be created through the project, but also to accompany the whole project's process with a follow up on social sciences and humanities, so as to make sure, that it is not only a 'smart tool' and a 'user friendly tool',</i>

	<p><i>but also a social, inclusive and citizens' friendly and gender equal tool. This WP will go through the forecast on the tool's perceptions by citizens and social media users, a sociological assessment of the resilience mechanisms to disinformation thanks to the tool, a gender equality analysis, an integration of 'multi-stakeholders' perspectives on resilience, and multi stakeholders' recommendations and feedback for the tool's developers.</i></p>
<p><i>Task 12.1: Forecast on the tool's perceptions by citizens and social media users</i></p>	<p><i>The objectives of this task are to understand the possible perception and uses of the tools by citizens and social media users. It aims at giving directions and guidelines to the tool's developers, and for this, an analysis is needed</i></p>
<p><i>Task 12.2: Sociological assessment of the resilience mechanisms to disinformation thanks to the tool through beta testers</i></p>	<p><i>The objective of this task is to study the resilience mechanisms of the citizens and the social media users that the tool will trigger, to make sure that the tool will have long term impacts</i></p>
<p><i>Task 12.3: Gender and Equity analysis of the project and of the tools developed</i></p>	<p><i>The objective of this task is to make sure that the tools developed will follow the gender equality standards.</i></p>
<p><i>Task 12.4: Desk review analysis of the 2 case studies</i></p>	<p><i>The objective of this task is to add a sociological cross cutting analysis of the 2 selected case studies in order to support the development of the tools, and to ensure that the tool does not have any bias (gender/ethnic) and to make sure that the tool is as inclusive as possible</i></p>
<p><i>Task 12.5: Multi-stakeholders perspectives on resilience to disinformation</i></p>	<p><i>The focus groups will open up the multi-stakeholders engagement on the use of the tool, so as to generate the widest audience as possible in different countries. The involved partners will organize the focus groups in their local language and send an English translation to Pilot4Dev for the analysis. The focus groups will involve representatives from the civil society, social media users, public organizations, businesses, creative industries, the education sector, and digital companies.</i></p>

#@WRK-PLA-WP@#

1.2 Explanation of the work carried out per WP

1.2.1 Work Package 4

For the Task 4.1, we have focused on the point 3: collecting evidence of interference and on the point 4: Analysing appropriate policies, strategies and instruments to respond to the disinformation threat including national and international.

For this we have contacted stakeholders to organize online interviews. We have shared a grid for the interviews' template with all the partners of the WP4 and we have organized a series of interviews. We have performed 10 interviews by the end of March 2025. We have sent out more than 120 invitations from researching online through relevant organizations, and finding their contacts on their respective websites. We also participated in the different cluster event meetings, and the Nexus 2024 Summit to meet more stakeholders. Also, contacted speakers at webinars that we have attended, such as DisinfoLab webinars, and also the 2024 Sofia Information Integrity Forum, using these events to find stakeholders with specific expertise that suits our work for AI4debunk.

For the point 4, we wrote a paper on “Effectiveness of EU responses to tackle disinformation”, assessing different policy initiatives on a European level to counter disinformation, focusing on The Code of Conduct on Disinformation. Highlighting EU's efforts to counter disinformation but also assessed some limitations. The paper was included in the Deliverable 4.1.

Working Paper 2: 'Information Manipulation in the EU Media Ecosystem and Response'

We have drafted an assessment of the EU Media Landscape (author Joen Martinsen) and we have shared it with the group. After the paper was reviewed by the other partners, some requested were added to the assessment, finalizing it to be integrated into D4.1.

To support the objective of Task 4.2, we produced a document analyzing the European media landscape, covering 13 EU countries. This document includes descriptions of each country's primary media structures, key media outlets, press freedom status, and current challenges, allowing us to identify unique differences and obstacles across the EU. This work contributed to Step 1 of the action plan, as outlined in the grant agreement, by mapping the EU information environment.

Additionally, for Task 4.2, assessed for current summarized platform-specific reports from DisinfoLab on content moderation policies to counter disinformation. Our analysis covered major platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, and Telegram, contributing to Step 3 of the action plan, which involves assessing the effectiveness of social media companies in detecting and removing information manipulation. These insights were included also inform Deliverable 12.1 on social media users' perception of disinformation tools. We also produced a summary of the Newman Report, providing further context on media and information environments.

To advance Step 4 in the action plan, we focused our understanding how threat actors are adapting their strategies, tools, and tactics on social media. Using a combination of case studies on misinformation and relevant literature, we identified trends, such as how Russian actors adapt disinformation tactics on platforms like TikTok to target younger audiences in Western countries with anti-American and pro-Russian narratives. This collection of case studies also supported Task 5.2, which aims to identify disinformation narratives and foreign interference. These findings were particularly valuable in shaping discussions during the focus group and panel discussion.

Finally, Task 4.2 aims to identify effective tools for detecting and building resilience against information manipulation on social media. To support this, we drafted a paper on policies and legislative efforts targeting disinformation. Our findings highlight the challenges of defining “true” versus “false” information in legislative contexts and suggest that regulatory attempts often face limitations. This paper contributes to Step 4 of the action plan, as specified in the grant agreement.

1.2.2 Work Package 5

For WP5, we have drafted several papers to serve as foundational frameworks, supporting UL in their work on Deliverables 5.1 and 5.2.

Task 5.1: To support the objective of Task 5.1, we drafted a paper that identifies the groups most susceptible to disinformation. This analysis focused on age demographics, such as elderly populations, immigrant communities, minorities (e.g., the Roma), and geographically isolated groups, such as rural populations. These groups were found to be at higher risk of both targeting by and susceptibility to disinformation. This draft directly supports Step 1 of the action plan for Task 5.1, as outlined in the grant agreement.

Additionally, we prepared a paper exploring the opportunities and limitations of critical thinking in combating disinformation. This paper discusses the role of critical thinking as a tool for individuals to counteract disinformation, how it can be fostered through education, and the ways personal biases may limit its effectiveness. This work contributes to Step 2 of the action plan for Task 5.1.

For Task 5.1, we also drafted a paper on disinformation threat actors. This paper profiles various threat actors, including specific countries, terrorist groups, hacktivists, ideological movements, and commercial entities that actively disseminate disinformation online. Each actor is analyzed in terms of their motives and strategies for spreading disinformation. The selection of threat actors was guided by their level of threat to Europe and the EU, as identified using reports from the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity. This draft aligns with the objective of Step 3 in the action plan for Task 5.1.

Task 5.2: To support the objective of Task 5.2, we drafted a paper focusing on identifying disinformation narratives aimed at polarizing and dividing society along religious, political, racial, cultural, and gender lines. This paper which will culminate in Deliverable 5.2 and a policy brief addressing disinformation narratives and foreign interference in Europe.

1.2.3 Work Package 12

Task 12.1: Forecast on the tool's perceptions by citizens and social media users

To meet the objectives for Task 12.1, which will be presented in the D.12.1, we gathered primary data through an online survey designed to capture public perspectives on disinformation and fake news, as well as preferences for countermeasures. First, the questionnaire was designed to fulfill step 3) of the task, focusing on questions that reveal perception of how frequently the respondent encounters disinformation, also specifically related to the projects case studies (Climate Change; War in Ukraine), questions about media consumption, perceived effective counter measures to disinformation, and open ended question whether AI can be used to counter disinformation and preferences in AI tool design for false news detection and debunking. Then, following step 4), the questionnaire was made into an online survey using Google Form. The survey, disseminated through our project's AI4debunk website, Instagram, LinkedIn, and a website called Pollpool, and in the social networks of the project partners, we reached over 300 respondents by early October, surpassing our goal. Finally, we collected 331 survey responses, after stopping to actively distribute the survey by the end of 2024. With the help of our partners, we provided translations in 10 languages—including English, French, German, Dutch, Italian, Greek, Norwegian, Bulgarian, Latvian and Ukrainian—to ensure broad accessibility and diverse

insights. We requested also the partners to distribute the survey in their networks for further reach in these languages.

Data Analysis and Findings: *With the target response rate achieved, we began preliminary analysis to inform Deliverable 12.1. starting October. The survey responses were compiled into a joint primary data document, which includes merged charts showing combined results across all languages. These results offer valuable evidence on public perceptions of disinformation and reveal user preferences for detection tools, providing crucial insights to guide further development and testing. The analysis were later completed in december as dissemination of the survey had completed and final reflections on the survey together.*

To fulfill step 5) the results and quality of the survey and results were evaluated and reflected upon challenges.

Challenges:

- *It was time-consuming to collect all the translations. It was equally difficult to find an efficient distribution method of the online survey.*
- *The demographic of the survey was very young, with 68% of the survey responders belonging to the age group 18-34, and many of these had student as their main occupation. This left the age group of 65 and older to only represent 4% of the responses, which is an important vulnerable group to assess for preferences and perception.*
- *Identified weakness in questioner – Some questions overlap making the survey longer than needed.*

Next steps

Potentially: Create another online survey on more tool specific design preferences - Such as potential graph interaction preference or impact of the current geopolitical situation.

Also, as a part of Task 12.1, for step 1) to do desk research, we conducted research on how social media platforms are being monitored. This included moderation of disinformation, content and how specifically AI is regulated. We used platform content moderation reports made by DisinfoLab, to make an overview of the platforms TikTok, Facebook, X (Formerly known as Twitter), YouTube, and also Telegram. More updated information was added to follow up on recent developments regarding platforms' content moderation policies and performances.

Additionally, we made a benchmark of existing AI tools as a part of step 2) of Task 12.1. The assessment was included in D12.1 as "Pros and cons of existing tools to counter fake news" reflecting on the strong suits and the shortcomings of different AI tools already developed. The benchmark is meant as a short overview of existing tool designs for AI solutions to counter disinformation and other types of manipulated information online. The evidence emphasizes the need for a more comprehensive tool design and the need for continued innovation and research to develop better solutions that suit user preferences.

The final results of the online survey together with the reflections on limitations and challenges, research on disinformation and content moderation on different social media platforms, as well as the benchmark of existing AI tools were all presented in the D.12.1. By the end of M12 of the project, the first draft of the deliverable was shared for an internal quality assessment. Following up on requested changes, the revised D12.1 was then finalized. After requested changes had been

approved, the D12.1 was shared with the rest of the project partners open for feedback and requests for changes from everyone, before it was finalized for an external quality review, meeting its deadline of 31st of March. As the task were executed following the steps planned out and delivered the results in time according to the planned in the grant agreement, the Task 12.1 can be considered successful.

Task 12.2: Sociological assessment of the resilience mechanisms to disinformation thanks to the tool through beta testers

We have drafted **guidelines for the beta testers**, which have been shared with all the partners.

As part of Action 12.2 in the proposal (WP212), our team conducted the first beta-testing session on June 19. This session included a panel discussion on fake news detection, aiming to evaluate public responses to fake news and understand user interaction with detection tools.

Beta-Tester Recruitment and Selection: To recruit beta testers, we advertised the opportunity on LinkedIn and our project websites, offering participants a 50€ compensation and providing a brief overview of the beta-testing role. Interested applicants submitted their CVs and cover letters, which we reviewed to ensure suitability for the project. This resulted in a selected group of four beta testers.

Testing Session Details: In the beta-testing session, we assessed participants' evaluations of fake news and deepfakes by presenting them with various disinformation case studies collected from social media. These examples included disinformation on topics such as climate change (e.g., exaggerated claims of cancer risks from windmill pollution) and the Russian invasion of Ukraine (e.g., false reports of thousands of pregnant Ukrainian women being conscripted). Observing testers' reactions allowed us to assess their suitability for future sessions and to identify any responses that might indicate a need for additional support or screening for later AI-tool evaluations. The Beta-tester successfully identified what was inauthentic with these sources, and how they are fakes. The Beta-testers were also shown videos of Deep Fakes, and asked for their responses to the videos specifically, and deep fakes more generally.

We found the testing to be successful, and that the group were eligible to be proceeded as Beta-testers for testing of the tools in the future. To remain contact with the Beta-testers, we invited them to the first Webinar organized by AI4debunk together with a new years greeting.

Challenges:

- We had difficulties in enrolling beta-testers and found it difficult to reach out to a wider audience. This led to a limited pool of applicants in Brussels.
- Expected challenge to keep the Beta-tester engaged also in the following steps of the project

As part of the task 12.2. we also developed **guidelines for the tools' developers**, which are being integrated into our **draft Deliverable 12.2. 'resilience mechanisms to disinformation and guidelines for the tools' developers'**. The draft Deliverable 12.2. was shared for an internal quality assessment during M12 of the project, editing the deliverable according to requested changes, and as the revised changes were approved, the revised deliverable was shared with the rest of the partners before the final D12.2 was sent for the commissions quality assessment review, meeting the deadline, 31th of March 2025.

The work for Task 12.2 will be continued as Task 13.1.

Task 12.3: Gender and Equity analysis of the project and of the tools developed and Milestone 8 (completed)

Task leader: P4D; Other partners involved: UL, EURACTIV Bulgaria, IUA;

We have performed the following steps: 1) Gender equality plan for the project, 2) Set up guidelines on gender equality in the tool's developed, 3) milestone 8 plan including the Review from the partners and the Quality assessment. Also step 5) presenting recommendations. The milestone 8 was further developed into the D12.3 presenting final guidelines and recommendations for gender equality. A draft was shared with the partners, and after adding requested changes, the revised D12.3 is finalized before its planned deadline. The Task is finalized. The objectives of this task will be continued with Task 13.2 which will lead the next step of our work.

Task 12.4: Desk review analysis of the 2 case studies

The draft of deliverable 12.4 was developed by a through analysis of literature, and case studies related to disinformation on climate change, and disinformation on the war in Ukraine. It is divided into 2 separate reports. It was shared with the partners. The team has added all requested changes, finalizing the revised version. The task is finalized. The task objective will continue to be followed up through Task 13.3 which will lead the next step of our work.

Task 12.5: Multi-stakeholders' perspectives on resilience to disinformation

The focus groups will open up the multi-stakeholder's engagement on the use of the tool, so as to generate the widest audience possible in different countries. We have performed the following steps: 1) Set up the guidelines for the focus groups, 2) Organized the focus group in Brussels 3) Combined the results from the focus group events and the stakeholder interview to map out stakeholder perspectives and to follow up on Step 1) of the task- to make the guidelines for the focus group, we made questions together with a presentation of the project and our work on WP12 and WP4 so far, to make the framework of a semi-structured panel discussion. The structure was maintained flexible to let the discussion develop organically and to be open to suggestions from the participants.

To support step 2) of Task 12.5, we organized a multi-stakeholder focus group and panel discussion on September 5. During the session, we presented the project to stakeholders, shared preliminary findings from our online survey, and posed a series of key questions to guide the discussion. These included:

- "What are the most effective strategies for identifying and mitigating disinformation?"
- "How can we address the ethical challenges of censorship while balancing the need to control harmful disinformation?"
- "What impacts do fake news and disinformation have on society, particularly regarding elections and democratic processes?"
- "How has the emergence of advanced disinformation techniques, such as deepfakes, affected public perception and trust in media?"
- "How can we ensure that AI tools for countering disinformation are effectively monitored to minimize risks like bias, misuse, and unintended consequences?"

The discussion extended beyond these topics, with participants also exploring strategies for building public trust in anti-disinformation efforts.

Challenges:

- Three stakeholders notified us of their inability to attend within 24 hours of the event. This short notice limited participant diversity in the discussion, and we did not have sufficient time to find replacements.

To further advance our work on WP12 the Stakeholder interviews outlined under Task 4.1 will also be used as insights of multi stakeholder perspectives.

We shared our focus group report with the other partners working on WP12, so they had a reference to organizing their own focus group meetings. The University of Latvia has organized a multi-stakeholders' focus group Meeting on the 1st of November 2024. Internews Ukraine and Euractiv Bulgaria also organized their own multi-stakeholders' focus groups meetings in Kyiv and Sofia respectively. We collected all the focus group meeting reports in the end.

The results from all of these focus groups events together with the results from stakeholder interviews organized through WP4, was integrated into Deliverable 12.5, which we finalized a draft for and shared with the partners during M12, and edited the draft after requested changes from partners. The revised Deliverable 12.5 was finalized before the deadline of 31th of March. The Task is finalized and completed successfully.

<i>We have performed the following steps</i>	
WP1	<i>Attendance to Meetings- general meetings, General Assembly, IPR meeting- performance of the quality assessment reviews</i>
WP4	<i>Fake News Identification</i>
<i>Working Paper 1</i>	<i>grid for interviews template online interviews, paper effectiveness of eu responses to tackle disinformation</i>
<i>Working Paper 2</i>	<i>Media Landscape Assessment Report, Reports on the social media strategies to counter disinformation (summary reports)</i>
WP12	<i>Initial sociological assessment including gender analysis and Mult stakeholders' recommendations</i>
<i>Task 12.1. the tool's perceptions by citizens and social media users</i>	<i>Desk Review, Benchmark with other tools, questionnaires, Online Survey In Different languages, analysis of survey, follow up on results. All tasks completed. The Deliverable 12.1 has been finalized, after being shared with the partners and the revised Deliverable is completed.</i>
<i>Task 12.2.: Sociological assessment of the resilience mechanisms to disinformation thanks to the tool through beta testers</i>	<i>guidelines for the tools' developers.</i> <i>Work with the ethical committee, selection of the beta testers, organization of a first meeting with the beta testers, and experimental tests with the beta testers with a set of questions. The deliverable 12.2. is completed.</i>

<i>Task 12.3. Gender and Equity analysis of the project and of the tools developed</i>	<i>Milestone 8 completed. 1) Gender equality plan for the project, 2) Set up of guidelines on gender equality in the tool's developed, 3) milestone 8 plan including the Review from the partners and the Quality assessment. The Deliverable 12.3 has been completed.</i>
<i>Task 12.4. Desk Review of the 2 case studies</i>	<i>The deliverable 12.4. is finalized, shared with partners and ready for quality assessment</i>
<i>Task 12.5. Multi-stakeholders perspectives on resilience to disinformation</i>	<i>The first focus group meeting was organized on the 5th of September 2024 in Brussels and the second one in Riga the 01/11/2024. We have contacted -à stakeholders and have organized 10 online interviews. The results have been integrated into Deliverable 12.5, which has been completed.</i>
<i>WP15 Communication</i>	
<i>Drafting of an opinion article on disinformation</i>	<i>1 opinion paper has been drafted and 1 peer reviewed article published. Posts have been placed on Pilot4dev website and social media.</i>
<i>WP18 Ethics</i>	<i>We take part in the ethics committee and reviewed the ethics guidelines and first report. We also liaise between WP12 and WP18</i>

1.3 Impact

This is too early to quantify the impacts, but the first steps are on track.

Key indicators:

- Number of deliverables completed: 5
- Number of stakeholders contacted: more than 120
- Number of beta testers selected: 4
- Number of draft articles: 5
- Number of milestone completed : 1 M8
- Number of guidelines shared with the partners: 3 (focus groups, beta testers, gender equality guidelines for tools' developers)
- Number of documents shared in WP4, WP5 and WP12: 15
- Number of events attended physically: 4 (NexusForum 2024 Summit, European Parliament Conference with Interviews Ukraine, Media Literacy Expert Group (MLEG) meeting)
- Number of events attended Virtually: 13 Information Integrity Forum Sofia, Press conference Launch of the Europe Free Press Report, EDMO Training session for Research on LinkedIn data, Cerre event - A Blueprint for Future-Proof EU Digital Laws, IIC Legal Counsel Forum – AI for Regulators, MSCA lunchtime conversation - Digital democracy and citizenship. EU DisinfoLab Webinars (7); A path to build open, public interest social media; Building trust against climate misinformation storms; New approaches to measuring the impact of counter-disinformation campaigns; Disinformation campaigns observed in Romania and the role of the

DSA in risk mitigation; How to detect and analyse identity-based disinformation; Building Latvian resilience against disinformation; AI and Disinformation a Legal Perspective.

PROJECT CRIC: Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities Indonesia



This project is co-funded by EuropeAid.

The project started on January 1st 2020 and ended at the end of 2024, with an extension to July 2025.

The website: www.resilient-cities.com

Programme: Local Authorities: Partnerships for Sustainable Cities BGUE-B2018-21.020802-C1-DEVCO.

Reference: EuropeAid/16116/DH/ACT/MULTI.

Lead Partner: UCLG ASPAC Asia.

Partners: ACR+ the cities association for the use of sustainable resources, ECOLISE the association of grassroots movements for the environment, the University Gustave Eiffel, and Pilot4dev

The overall objective of the project is to propose a long lasting and unique cooperation between cities and research centres in Europe and in Indonesia (and beyond), and to contribute substantially to sustainable integrated urban development, good governance, and climate adaptation/mitigation through long lasting partnerships, and tools such as sustainable local action plans, early warning tools and experts' panels. The specific objectives are:

-To strengthen good governance: continued promotion of good governance, and the necessary policy and legal frameworks to implement urban policies.

-The sustainable use of resources by cities: climate mitigation and adaptation can be achieved by a better understanding of local resources, and the empowerment of the population to develop a local circular economy.

-Social cohesiveness or inclusive cities: the project will pay a special attention to the question of informal settlements, rural migrants and marginalization.

-Resilience and actions for the environment: the project will support the transition to more resource efficient systems of production and consumption. It will develop early warning systems for the selected cities, an analysis of the main sources of pollution and develop unique innovative approaches.

-Prosperity and innovation in cities: will be addressed with questions of innovation, culture, design, and the identification of sustainable financing mechanisms. **The promotion of triangular cooperation:** will be developed with knowledge exchange and joint trainings among countries from the South (Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Cambodia), and promote **the use/transfer of smart technologies.**

Pilot4dev supported part of the communication, visibility, the training on urban sustainable development, the development of tools for 3 cities, trainings on disasters risk management and part of the research (expert reports).

- CRIC Study visits and panel of experts



The CRIC (Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities) Project convened its second Thematic Panel of Experts in Nusa Dua, Bali, from October 28 to 31, 2024. This event, themed "Towards Inclusive and Resilient Cities: Ecosystem and Waste Management for a Sustainable Future," brought together approximately 80 participants from 15 cities and regencies across the Asia-Pacific region. Pilot4dev made a general introduction. The panel aimed to foster knowledge exchange, build partnerships, and support the effective implementation of Climate Action Plans (CAPs) in CRIC pilot cities.

Key Highlights:

- **Bioregional Governance Workshop:** Prior to the main event, CRIC pilot cities participated in an online workshop on bioregionalism and governance, led by ECOLISE and ACR+. This session emphasized aligning local governance with natural ecosystems to promote regenerative urban development.
- **Thematic Sessions:** The panel featured sessions on nature-based solutions, waste and water management, and bioregional governance. Representatives from pilot cities such as Kupang, Gorontalo, and Pekanbaru shared their experiences and challenges in implementing CAPs. Tools developed by CRIC partners were introduced to address issues like karst landscape management and flood mitigation.
- **Innovative Practices:** Guest cities, including Denpasar and Banyuwangi, presented successful waste management strategies. Denpasar highlighted its Regulation No. 8 of 2023 on waste sorting and the SIDARLING app to incentivize participation. Banyuwangi showcased its Clean River Initiative and 3R facilities led by the private sector.
- **Field Activities:** Participants engaged in a tree-planting activity in Serangan Village as part of the UCLG ASPAC Greening Initiative. They also visited Subak Pedahanan to observe traditional water management practices, emphasizing community governance and sustainability.

The panel concluded with sessions on systems thinking and regenerative futures, where participants developed action plans focusing on practical strategies for water management, waste reduction, and sustainable urban planning. This event underscored the importance of collaborative efforts and innovative solutions in building climate-resilient and inclusive cities.

The fourth Thematic Panel of Experts under the Climate Resilience and Inclusive Cities (CRIC) project was held in Kochi, India, from February 4 to 6, 2025. This event, co-organized by UCLG ASPAC and the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIIILSG), focused on "Sustainable Climate Finance" and brought together representatives from 10 Indonesian pilot cities, including Bandar Lampung, Banjarmasin, Cirebon, Gorontalo, Kupang, Mataram, Pangkalpinang, Pekanbaru, Samarinda, and Ternate. Pascaline Gaborit moderated a panel session on sustainable financing with cities.

Key Highlights:

- **Node for Sustainable Financing:** A significant outcome of the panel was the development of a "Node for Sustainable Financing," designed to assist CRIC pilot cities in securing sustainable financing through trilateral collaboration among cities and research centers in Europe, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.
- **City Pairing and Matchmaking:** The event facilitated partnerships between Indonesian cities and counterparts in India, aiming to address financing gaps in their Climate Action Plans (CAPs). Sessions included presentations from pilot cities on their sustainable financing proposals for climate mitigation and adaptation actions, followed by business matchmaking meetings with potential funders.
- **Exhibition:** An exhibition showcased the CRIC project's achievements over the past five years, featuring Climate Action Plan reports from the 10 pilot cities, training modules, publications, and videos.
- **Field Activities:** Participants engaged in site visits and tree planting activities, emphasizing practical approaches to climate resilience and community engagement.

This panel served as a platform for dialogue, partnership-building, and exchanging ideas and best practices on climate resilience and inclusiveness, supporting pilot cities in implementing their Climate Action Plans and opening up opportunities for triangular cooperation.

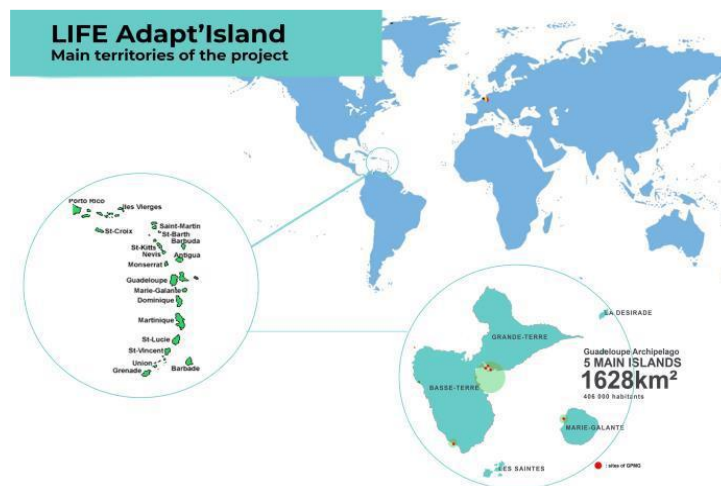
This event was an opportunity for Pilot4dev to strengthen the link with cities and AILLSG, and to organize a visit to FSLGA the federation of Sri Lanka Government Authority in Colombo (1,5 hour flight away from Kochi).



PROJECT LIFE ADAPT ISLAND GUADELOUPE



This project is co-funded by the LIFE program of the European Union and directed by the Grand Port Maritime de Guadeloupe.



The consequences of climate change are now evident in Guadeloupe and in the Caribbean in general:

- Increased severity of extreme meteorological activities such as hurricanes
- Increasing sea levels and retreating shorelines
- resource shortage

Together with Pilot4dev, the GPMG has applied and received funding from the EU LIFE for its Cáyoli program, which develops solutions with local stakeholders to strengthen resilience of maritime and coastal areas, the port, and the broader community. The project took place between December 2019 and July 2024. It benefited from a 1 year no cost extension.

Key objectives of the Adapt'Island Project

- Preserve the living environment
- Protect economic activities
- Encourage development of local green jobs.

GPMG is developing creative technologies and solutions with high potential for transferability and replicability in the Caribbean with the LIFE Adapt Island initiative. This would promote wide-scale regeneration of three coastal habitats and reduce the burden of extreme climate events on the area and its operations.

The LIFE Adapt Island project also improves the scientific frameworks for the writing of protocols in the natural environment for processing, development and transplantation. Actions include:

- Scaling up nursery production of transplant specimens (coral cuttings, mangrove saplings, and seagrass meadows) for the restoration of natural areas.
- Building a network of specialists in the Caribbean focused on developing adaptation strategies to climate change.
- Restoring damaged high-priority natural areas.
- Proposing environmental restoration solutions suitable for public contracting authorities in Guadeloupe and the Caribbean.
- Promoting the creation of a local environmental engineering industry.

“Resilience is the ability to anticipate sudden or gradual disruptions, to minimize their effects, to evolve towards a new state of equilibrium.”

Pilot4dev's role was to give the project a more European dimension. In specific, it is responsible for Action E5' Project Communication at European level.' To promote the project's results, facilitate dissemination and promote awareness, Pilot4dev hosted 3 workshops and attended a workshop on the 4th of April in Paris.

Support to the coordination of the project

Pilot4dev has also supported the project coordination by providing expertise on the program and the EU funding framework. Pilot4dev has been taking part to regular project meetings with the lead partner in order to ensure that the project achieves steady progression.

As part of the LIFE ADAPT'ISLAND project, we organized 2 mini workshops in Brussels in collaboration with our partners GUADELOUPE PORT CARAIBES and URAPEG-FNE in 2023.

We attended the workshop organized to present the results of the project in Paris on April 4th 2025 organized by the port with the university of 'La Sorbonne'.

PROJECT BRUD: Building Resilience through integrated Urban Development: Solid Waste Management, Efficient Public Lighting and Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction in Khorog Tajikistan

The grant agreement of the project has been signed in December 2021. It is funded by the European Union (EuropeAid). The project is operating under the leadership of the municipality of Khorog (Tajikistan). The University Gustave Eiffel (UGE) (France) and Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (Tajikistan) are partners while Pilot4dev acted as a support partner (subcontractor).

The overall objective of the project is to promote an integrated urban development by strengthening urban governance in Khorog, as well as by improving city's resilience and resource efficiency. The goal is to build the capacity of local authorities to identify and implement nature-based solutions to face climate-induced hazards and adopt more resource-efficient modes of delivering essential services to the citizens - waste management and public lighting.

A meeting was organized with Khorog's representative Jovid Yaminov in Brussels in November 2023. It was the opportunity to meet the program's representatives and to set the project's milestones.

Pilot4dev has also drafted 2 main reports: one on disaster risk Management, and one on waste management. They propose a benchmark overview of good practices, and a set of recommendations for Khorog.

Link to the report on [Waste management](#)

A visit to the Aga Khan Agency in Geneva was organized in April 2024.

In addition to this Pilot4dev organized a field visit and training session in Khorog in September 2024. Despite difficult conditions of access, we have been able to deliver a training on disaster risk management and early warning system for an audience of 50 people with a translation.

In addition, field visits and visits with the mayor led to the drafting of 4 reports:

- A report on concrete recommendations for Khorog EWS
- A report on knowledge exchange: suggestions for continuation between the University Gustave Eiffel and Khorog university in particular
- The training report
- A report on recommendations for Khorog Disaster Risk Management

Despite the energy provided, we have identified many challenges: The representative of Pilot4dev ended up working alone with the municipality and had to undertake all the expected activities. The access to Khorog was dangerous, and there was no focal point at the EUD to follow up on the visit. Finally, the access to data and lack of transparency is a huge challenge. In this framework, we were not able to continue and sustain and the cooperation during the no cost extension.

IV Proposals / pending projects

Other submitted projects pending decisions include the proposals listed below.

DEMO-Shield

The project Demo-Shield will be submitted before the deadline of 29/04 as a follow up and engagement strategy of the AI4DEBUNK project. It gathers partners from Latvia, Serbia, the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, North Macedonia, Belgium and Ukraine. The objective is to fight against disinformation and to promote democracy.

The **approach and methodology** of Demo-Shield combine a **multi-disciplinary, evidence-based, and participatory strategy** to effectively counter disinformation while ensuring ethical integrity and the safety of target groups. The project adopts a **human-centered design approach**, tailoring interventions to the specific needs of young people, educators, journalists, and civil society organizations (CSOs). It integrates **AI-driven media literacy tools, critical thinking frameworks,** and **participatory educational methodologies** to empower citizens to recognize and counter disinformation effectively.

A key component of the educational dimension is the development and large-scale distribution of **educational comic books** designed to enhance media literacy in schools. These materials will be disseminated to **more than 8,000 schools across the Netherlands and around 4000 in other partner countries, as well as** made available in other target regions, ensuring wide accessibility. Additionally, **gamified learning and new study courses** will be introduced to create **interactive, scenario-based learning experiences**, helping students and educators critically engage with digital content and recognize misinformation in real time.

For journalists, the project integrates a **blended learning methodology**, combining **interactive training sessions, digital security workshops, and AI-supported fact-checking tools** to strengthen investigative journalism and ethical reporting. The strengthening of a **transnational journalist safety network** will provide **legal support, psychological assistance, and emergency response mechanisms** to protect media professionals facing online harassment and threats.

Case studies on Disinformation: As we cannot tackle the entire question of disinformation, the Demo-Shield project will approach mainly the following case studies:

- **Disinformation linked to hate and polarizing narratives.**
- **Disinformation linked to climate change**
- **Russian led foreign manipulation and interference** -e.g. related to the war in Ukraine, but also divisive narratives surrounding minorities and refugees.

Ethical considerations underpin all activities, with strict adherence to **GDPR compliance, data privacy, and digital security protocols**, preventing potential misuse of AI tools or exposure to harmful content. The methodology also follows a **rights-based and gender-sensitive approach**, ensuring the inclusion of marginalized groups, particularly women journalists who are disproportionately targeted by disinformation and online abuse. By fostering **cross-border collaboration** among media professionals, educators, and CSOs, the project ensures knowledge-sharing and the sustainability of its impact, reinforcing democratic resilience across Europe.

Bioceans

This proposal will be submitted before the 15th of May to the Interreg Next Med Secretariat. It is led by Agritrack in Greece.

The Mediterranean region faces significant environmental challenges, particularly in marine pollution and biodiversity loss. Annually, approximately 229,000 tonnes of plastic leak into the Mediterranean Sea, with plastics constituting up to 95% of total floating litter. Ecosystems are under threat with overfishing. Cetaceans and pelagic fishes represent important bycatch, while vessels increase pollution. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Mediterranean fisheries and seafood sector confront numerous obstacles in adopting sustainable practices. These include limited financial resources, inadequate access to green financing, and complex certification processes. Additionally, the lack of product traceability and underappreciation of the inherent value of small-scale fisheries products perpetuate unsustainable market trajectories. This proposal addresses challenges by providing SMEs—fishers, aquaculture producers, seafood and fisheries processors, and retailers—with practical, scalable, and affordable tools for environmental monitoring, pollution reduction, sustainable seafood and fisheries traceability, marine waste valorisation, and business model transitions.

WP3 aims to address the critical issue of marine pollution and biodiversity loss through the innovative deployment of better practices and monitoring sensors across seven SME pilot sites (Cyprus, Tunisia, Alexandria, Algarve, Crete, Tripoli-Lebanon, Sardinia). By enabling more sustainable practices and a better monitoring of marine pollution, biodiversity, and ecosystem health, SMEs are empowered to decrease environmental impacts, enhance food safety, and improve regulatory compliance. Complemented by AI powered technology for seafood and fisheries traceability and eDNA authentication systems, SMEs and retailers ensure product transparency, build consumer trust, and gain competitive market advantages.

WP4 directly responds to the lack of practical knowledge and skills among SMEs, fishers, and retailers by offering tailored training sessions and hands-on workshops. These include simplified compliance training, low-cost traceability solutions, environmental monitoring, and ecosystem management strategies. By actively engaging stakeholders in regional training and consumer awareness campaigns, the WP4 proposes a broad uptake of sustainable practices, resulting in immediate improvements in SMEs' operational sustainability and long-term adoption of eco-friendly methods.

The project brings together partners experienced in fisheries, food, and biodiversity protection. The Mediterranean region shares critical environmental challenges such as marine pollution, biodiversity loss, inadequate waste management, and limited SME capacity for sustainable transitions. This project's transnational dimension is essential, as no single country can effectively address marine pollution or establish robust seafood and fisheries traceability systems alone. Joint development, pilot testing, and capacity-building activities ensure shared solutions are applied consistently across the Mediterranean basin. The collective approach facilitates knowledge transfer, harmonised

regulatory compliance, and market integration, substantially enhancing SMEs' operational sustainability and green market readiness.

Activities under WP3 (technical innovation and environmental monitoring) are strategically located across multiple Mediterranean pilot sites: better nets and fishes' monitoring in Cyprus (MER), marine waste valorisation in Tunisia (UTAP), AI powered traceability (Agritrack), Marine pollution assessments in Alexandria, Egypt (NIOF/AASTMT), Waste Skimmers, Fisheries and logistics at Tripoli Port, Lebanon (OEPT), eDNA authentication in Crete, Greece (BIOCOS), and biodiversity enhancement via mussel farming in Sardinia, Italy (IMC). Each pilot shares results transnationally, amplifying collective environmental benefits.

WP4's transnational capacity-building reinforces the environmental added value by creating shared learning platforms and standardized training modules on environmental monitoring, simplified fisheries and seafood traceability, ecosystem management, and regulatory compliance. Joint training sessions, workshops, and consumer campaigns engage SMEs, fishers, retailers, and consumers from Cyprus, Greece, Tunisia, Egypt, Italy, Lebanon, Jordan, and Portugal, fostering transnational cooperation and unified standards adoption.

WP5 enhances SMEs' strategic capacities to scale green practices and integrates them into sustainable supply chains through green financing, market entry strategies, and certification guidance. By connecting SMEs across territories to ethical investors and certification bodies, WP5 creates durable cross-border collaborations, ensuring lasting economic resilience and environmental sustainability across the Mediterranean region.

The tangible benefits in each involved territory include improved SME capacities for sustainable operations, reduced marine pollution, enhanced biodiversity management, increased regulatory compliance, and strengthened green market competitiveness. This integrated, transnational approach ensures a cohesive Mediterranean green transition, delivering lasting environmental, economic, and social value to all participating territories.

Proposals not approved

- [GIFT: Towards a Green, Inclusive and Fair Transition for Mining and Deforestation Affected Communities in South Kalimantan](#)
- [ATICA: Accountability and Transparency In business supply Chains Advocacy](#)

IV. Advocacy, Education, Trainings and Press Events

Official Meetings and Representation

Pilot4dev has met with EU officials from different DGs, MEPs, and co-workers of the EC Council of the European Union to present the findings of our research. Pascaline Gaborit presented the results of the AI4EBUNK project during the Media Literacy and Expert Group organized the 20th of February in Brussels, but also during the Nexus summit event in November 2024 in Brussels, and during an event at the European Parliament in September 2024 organized jointly with Internews Ukraine. The event was on 'Political Education and Digital technologies. Reflect EU & US ' and was hosted by MEP Gaby Bischoff at the EU Parliament. It led to a very interesting debate with international students and panelists.

Publications and training

Pilot4dev is pleased to share that our latest research chapter, co-authored with Fanny Kerninon, Norman Duke, and Donovan Campbell, has been published in the Handbook of Sustainable Blue Economy. Our chapter, explores the pressing challenges facing marine and coastal ecosystems in the context of climate change and increasing blue economy activities.

[Opportunities and Challenges in Restoration and Preservation of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Highlighting Participation, Trust and Dialogue: The Case of Guadeloupe Island LIFE Project | SpringerLink](#)

Gaborit P. [A sociological Approach to Disinformation and AI: concerns, responses and challenges](#) in *Journal of Political Science and International Relations*, 2024, Vol 7, n°4, 75-88 <https://doi.org/10.11648/j.jpsir.20240704.11>

This article presents the findings of the AI4DEBUNK survey and presents the results of our online survey on disinformation. It also analyses the AI responses on disinformation.

Gaborit P. [Trust and Risk Management: Understanding the Multifaceted Role of Trust in Managing Local Water Crises and Conflicts](#)

Local and national efforts to implement water management strategies often depend on cooperation, robust social networks, and generalized trust. Multi-level governance, supported by institutionalized frameworks, enables multi-stakeholder collaboration, ensuring the success of such initiatives. Trust emerges as a cornerstone for action and policy implementation. However, the rise of antagonisms, conflicts, or divided interests poses significant challenges. Crises and conflicts can derail cooperation and hinder progress.

This chapter examines how trust can be leveraged as a pivotal factor in moving beyond conflicts and mitigating potential crises. It specifically applies this lens to water management and disaster risk management in local contexts. By addressing trust as an often-overlooked parameter, the chapter offers new insights into building resilience and fostering dialogue in challenging environments.

We invite you to explore this thought-provoking analysis on the intersections of trust, conflicts, crisis management, and sustainable water governance. Join the conversation on Trust, conflicts and cooperation.

Keywords: trust, conflicts, crisis management, water resources, dialogue, risk management.

You can access the whole article here: <https://www.intechopen.com/online-first/1206155>

To be published by Peter Lang in 2025: 'Trust, New Technologies and Geopolitics' to be published in English and French not as an open source

Pilot4dev contributed to the Master 'Resilient Cities' managed by the ULB and ENGIE Tractebel. Pilot4DEV took part in the final session in May 2024.

Social media and online activities

We have ramped up our activities online through the creation of several new Pilot4dev outlets.

We have also been publishing regularly on our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

We also publish regular pieces of news on the [Pilot4Dev website](#)

VI. Results and achievements

In 2024 and 2025, Pilot4dev marked its seventh anniversary amidst a backdrop of challenges including the complex environment, increasing competition of EU funding, ramifications of the conflict in Ukraine, and the loss of interest for cooperation and development as a priority for the EU.

Despite these obstacles, we successfully adapted to the evolving situation by regularly collaborating with our partners, allowing us to sustain our diverse projects without significant compromises.

The year has been notably fruitful in terms of project development, highlighted by the approval of a significant initiative, AI4Debunk. This and other proposals have enabled us to broaden our international network. We actively participate in online meetings, European debates, and events, including those organized by think tanks like Friends of Europe and at the Press Club Europe and the Spanish Chamber of Commerce to Belgium. Our involvement in international events further promotes Pilot4dev's efforts and projects.

We maintain consistent communication with European institutions, inviting representatives to participate in our EU-funded projects' events.

Despite limited funding, Pilot4dev's ongoing growth and resilience are a testament to our ability to forge strong partnerships, expand our network, and seize collaborative opportunities.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all board members, partners, founders, and contributors whose support has been key in our success.

www.pilot4dev.com