



Second General Partner Meeting

2-4 May, 2023



AI FORA

artificial intelligence for assessment

<https://www.ai-fora.de>





Concluding remarks

Great job!

Thank You!

- To Montserrat Abbey and Abbot Manel Gasch
- To Albert Sabater and team of Uni of Girona
- To the Espai Mataro Connecta
- To the TISSS Lab team of JGU
- To all participants



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Learnings

(from the subjective perspective of the coordinator)

- Project is on track
- Case studies in different stages of completion already showing promising results
- Participatory methods work for involving vulnerable groups in AI innovation
- High-level strategy on its way
- Stakeholders show great interest in project results

Project is on track

- Interim reporting to Volkswagen Foundation reported a few delays due to Covid19
- Cost-neutral extension of the project confirmed until 31/12/2024
- General project milestones & deliverables met or revised by new timelines
- Evaluation exercise organised by the SAB for Wednesday afternoon at conference went well
- Open access publication strategy for inclusive science communication funded by Volkswagen Foundation; contracts with Springer Nature under way; novel preceding the scientific books to be published end of 2023
- First policy workshops are envisaged or even scheduled for 2024 (USA 2024 at AnnSim 2024 in Washington D.C., Germany at Berlin, India at Chennai, China at Shanghai)

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Case studies in different stages of completion already showing promising first results

- Actor- network maps for most case studies already available
 - Information on actors involved, on societal norms and values stakeholders used as reference for social assessment routines, on organisational practices and routines in place, and on system performance
 - Gaps and barriers from the perspective of stakeholders and their view on more desirable solutions identified, both from the technical and from the social realm. Results of research on existing systems with first indications for directions towards more desirable systems were validated by multi-stakeholder workshops.
- Working papers for some case studies already available
- Example for great results from gamification workshops: Spanish case study gamification on conference
 - Blind-spot discoveries by stakeholders
 - Identification of a missing criterion (being a Spanish national citizen) on the Self-Sufficiency Matrix that is nevertheless used by agents and should be there explicitly
 - Discovery of heterogeneity among agents in interpreting the criteria on the Self-Sufficiency Matrix and in scoring applicants
 - Discovery that playing the serious game increases convergence in interpretation and scoring; the game could be used for training purposes at agencies

Participatory methods work for involving vulnerable groups in AI innovation

- Using the recent example India (same type of experience for other case studies as well):
- Indian case study documentary available on Safe Space workshop with low-caste women in rural area
- Surprising results
 - They know how to navigate the system
 - They know about biometrics and the use of data
 - They know about social service policies
 - They could contribute important insider perspectives and concrete recommendations for the ground level of what works



High-level strategy on its way

- Having already had online seminar with Surrey to create ABM flowchart from actor-network map
 - Spain, Estonia, Germany
 - Next in line: India, USA, China
- Having already their ABM
 - Spain, draft sent to Estonia (ABM for Iran case at the side of high-level strategy)
 - Next in line: Germany
 - To come: India, USA, China (maybe Ukraine, Iran, Nigeria)
- Having already their gamification workshop check with stakeholders
 - Spain (during the conference)
 - Next in line: Germany (19-20 June 2023)
 - To come: India, USA, China (maybe Ukraine, Iran, Nigeria)
- Having already their NN/ML component for 'better AI'
 - Everybody to come

Stakeholders show great interest in project results

- Gamification workshop during conference showed that interplay of gamification and simulation works; stakeholders showed great interest in the ABM and the final results of the Spanish case study with recommendations for policy
- Site visit at Espai Mataro Connecta was very useful to prove stakeholders' interest and was an eye-opener in terms of ground-floor experience for us researchers
- The representatives of the agencies picked our brains concerning AI use in public service distribution
 - Worldcafé on their problems
 - Showed us how much in-depth knowledge about context is needed to give appropriate advice and have realistic ideas
 - This was a big support of the AI FORA approach for contextualized AI



Next steps

Next steps: Completion of empirical work in case studies

- Completion Spain
- Completion Estonia
- Next in line
 - Germany
 - India
 - USA
 - China
- As much as possible methodological inclusion for
 - Ukraine, Iran and Nigeria as self-funded case studies



Springer Nature: „AI FORA Empirical Research book“

- This book is contracted by Springer and will appear in May 2024
- Book proposal was positively peer-reviewed in April 2023
- Each case study will have a chapter in this book to describe their empirical work (based on working papers)
- Topic of each chapter: Social service provision with AI in country X
- Guidelines for authors will be distributed soon
- Deadline for chapters will be 15 December 2023 to allow for internal peer review and quality
- Manuskript will be delivered to Springer end of January 2024

Next steps: High-level strategy

- Completion Spain
- Completion Estonia
- Next in line
 - Germany
 - India
 - USA
 - China
- As much as possible methodological inclusion for
 - Ukraine, Iran and Nigeria as self-funded case studies



Springer Nature: „AI FORA Modelling book“

- This book is contracted by Springer and will appear in December 2024
- Book proposal is yet to be peer-reviewed
- Each case study will have a chapter in this book to describe their approach and results in high-level strategy (based on ABM and games)
- Topic of each chapter: Better AI in country X
- Guidelines for authors will be distributed in due course
- Deadline for chapters will be 15 July 2024 to allow for internal peer review and quality
- Manuskript will be delivered to Springer end of September 2024

Next steps: Save-the-date

- Final AI FORA partner meeting in India: 10-12 December 2024
- Local host: Dr. Ebin Deni Raj (Technical Partner of Indian case study)
- Venue: Campus of Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Kottayam in Kerala
 - Airport to fly to: Cochin, Kerala

