Romanian Hub of Artificial Intelligence

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UK – Romania Conference "Exploring our AI Potential", 28 February 2024

Romanian Hub of Artificial Intelligence - HRIA

Project in the framework of

Programme: Smart Growth, Digitization and Financial Instruments 2021-2027

Priority: Priority 1. Support and promote an attractive and competitive RDI system in Romania

Specific Objective: Develop and improve research capabilities and innovation and adoption of advanced technologies

HRIA

Consortium formed of 7 universities and 7 SMEs:

- POLITEHNICA Bucharest - Coordinator
- Technical University of Cluj-Napoca – P1
- West University of Timișoara– P2
- Technical University "Gheorghe Asachi" of Iași – P3
- University Politehnica of Timișoara – P4
- University of Bucharest – P5
- University Babes-Bolyai – P6

- BEIA Consult International S.R.L. – P7
- CODA INTELLIGENCE S.R.L. – P8
- CONTROL DATA SYSTEMS S.R.L. – P9
- Neural Grader S.R.L. – P10
- Safetech Innovations S.R.L. – P11
- Softechnica S.R.L. – P12
- Terrasigna S.R.L. – P13

Duration: 60 months, Budget: 65,250,000 eur

About HRIA

- The Romanian Hub of Artificial Intelligence is a project with national wide impact, identified as a priority project for Romania at national level, and aimed to ensure a widespread and spill-over effect of the AI domain in industry, across different sectors of the economy, and in society.

- The creation of the **Romanian Hub of Artificial Intelligence** comes in a European context which strongly requires such an initiative

- The national distribution of the consortium, its previous achievements in AI, and the collaboration with SMEs will allow the spread and adoption throughout the country of the Hub results.

General objective of HRIA

The **general objective** of the project is the development of the **Romanian Hub of Artificial Intelligence** for research, development, and innovation in AI, by creating *an attractive and competitive research ecosystem* that coagulates the efforts of the academic environment and the economic environment, with a view to
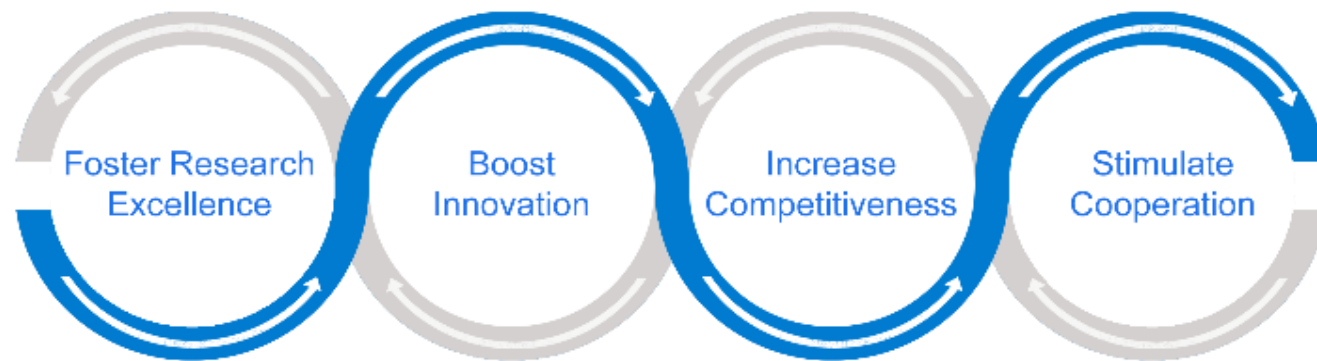
- stimulate original scientific creation,

- transfer the research results towards industry and society,

- develop new products and services, and

- generate a nucleus of knowledge and development in Artificial Intelligence integrated into the European Research Area.

Specific objectives

➢ Development of the field of Artificial Intelligence in Romania, by **stimulating the research excellence, through applied research, innovation, and interdisciplinary research**, at international standards

➢ **Collaboration with the business environment**, transfer of AI research results to the economic environment, and the widespread introduction of AI in the Romanian economy

➢ Development of **highly specialized human resource** by attracting and retaining researchers of the new generation of AI specialists, by "training on the job" young talent for research, attracting AI-skilled researchers from diaspora and abroad

➢ Development of a **research infrastructure** at the level of international standards and its efficient use to support the research, development, and innovation objectives of HRIA

➢ Increasing the **international visibility of Romanian AI research**, enhancing the capacity of Romanian researchers to participate in European cooperation and in EU research networks of excellence

Methodology

The methodology of the RO AI Hub project is structured around 4 concepts, integrated in continuous feedback loops: foster research excellence, boost innovation and technological transfer, increase economic competitiveness, and stimulate cooperation, around a *co-creation approach*.

Main topics of research of RO AI Hub

T1. Trustworthy AI

T2. Intelligent and Autonomous Systems

T3. Intelligent Human Computer Interfaces
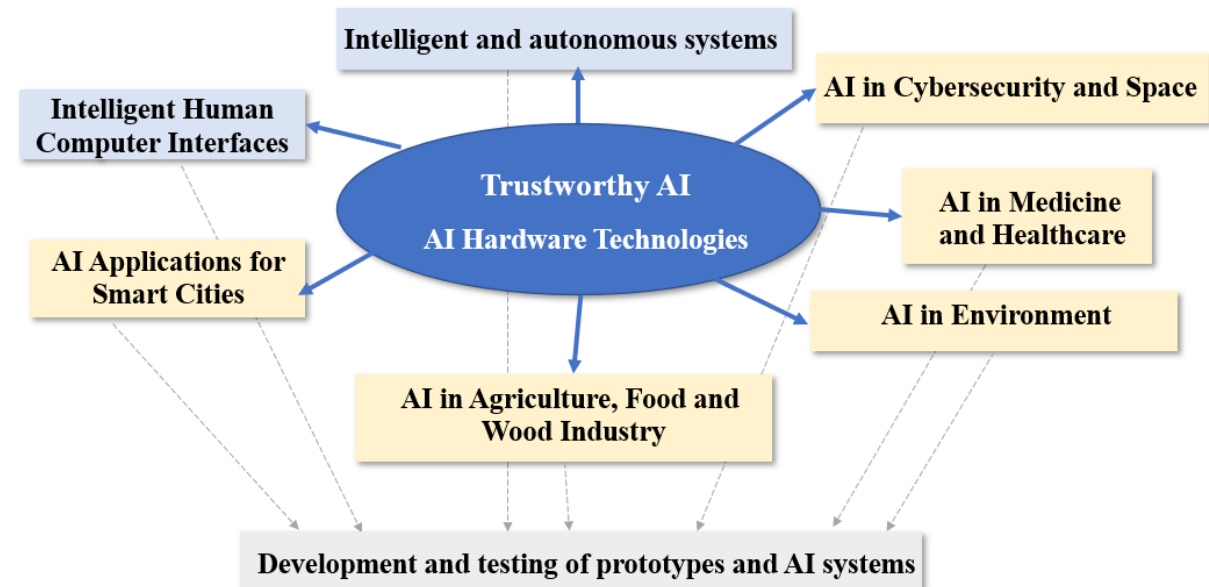
T4. AI Hardware Technologies

T5. AI in Medicine and Healthcare

T5. AI in Cybersecurity and Space

T6. AI Applications for Smart Cities

T8. AI in Environment

T9. Development and testing of AI prototypes and systems

Indicators

Output indicators
RCO06 Researchers working in the supported research facilities (ENI) – 70
RCO07 Research institutions participating in joint research projects – 7
RCO08 Nominal value of research and innovation equipment – 10.752.000,000 Euro
RCO10 Enterprise cooperating with research institutions – 7

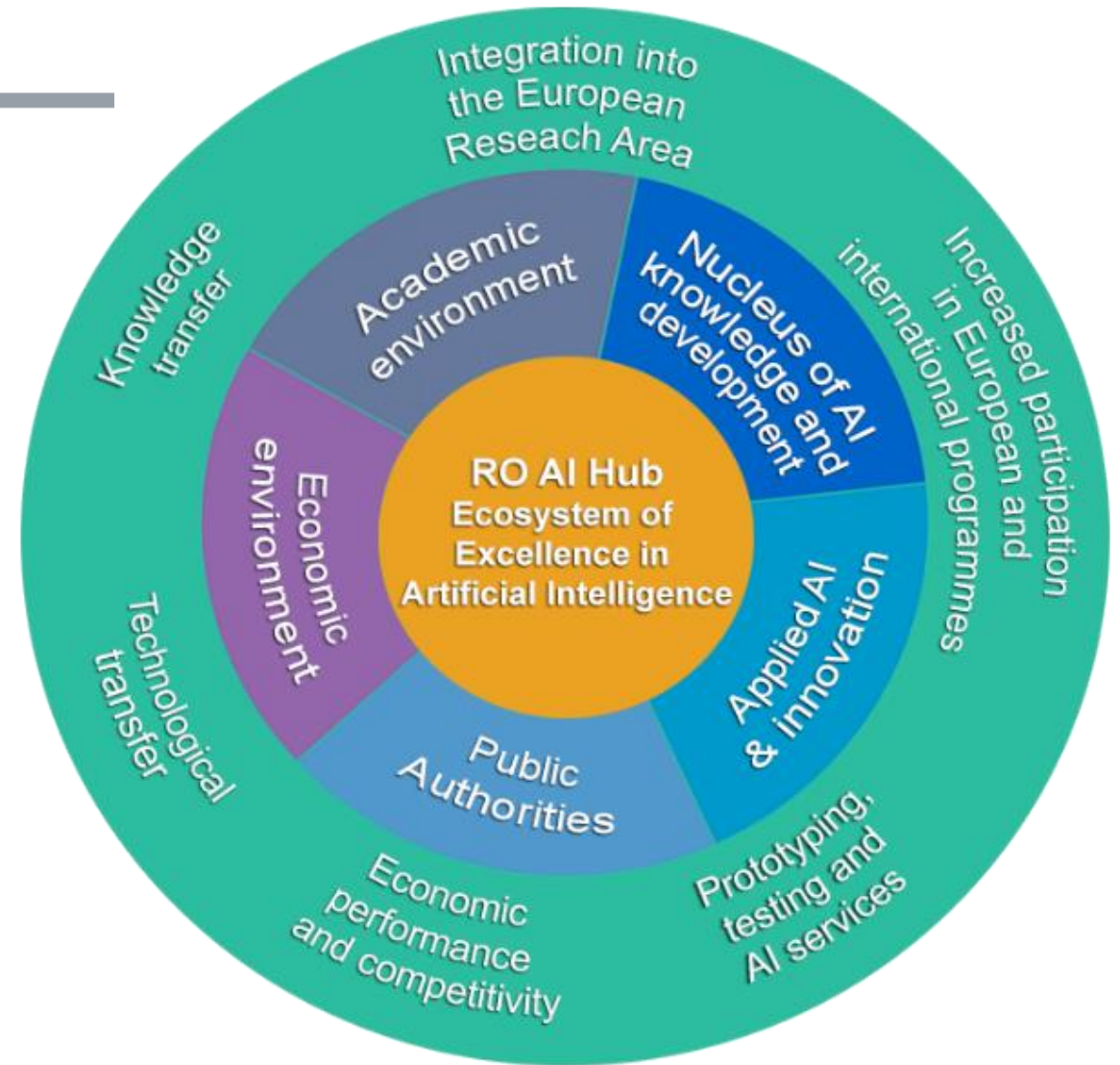| Result indicators |
|---|
| RCR03 – SMEs introducing product or process innovation – Number of enterprises: 5 |
| RCR06 – Patent applications submitted – Number of patents: 31 |
| RCR08 – Publications of supported projects – Number of publications: 375 |
| RCR102 – Number of new research positions created - 38 |

Expected outcomes

- **RO AI Hub** will develop an ecosystem of excellence in Artificial Intelligence, which will be *unique in Romania* in terms of the scope of the RDI activity and concrete results in economy

- This strategic project will allow the coagulation of the efforts of the entire AI community in Romania to increase its impact at European and global level, becoming the catalyst for this process, creating national resources of development and innovation in the field of AI and supporting all sectors of the community

Thank you