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Prototypes take shape

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Welcome to the eighth CRANE newsletter. As 2023 draws to a close, CRANE's three contractors are deep in **Phase 2**, turning their designs into working prototypes. This autumn also saw an intensive round of **co-creation workshops** across our three regions — because a prototype is only as good as the real-world understanding behind it. In this issue: how the prototypes are taking shape, and why anchoring them with regional stakeholders matters as much as the technology.

— PROTOTYPES TAKE SHAPE

From design to working systems

With Phase 2 under way, each contractor is building a working prototype of its solution — moving from concept and feasibility towards something that can be demonstrated and, eventually, tested with real users. The Monitoring Team meets each contractor regularly, tracking progress against the prototype milestones and documenting observations across all three solutions.

A consistent pattern is confirming what CRANE suspected from the start: before any feature can work, each solution must establish a trustworthy way to manage consent and data on the citizen's side. The prototype phase is where that foundation gets built.

— DESIGNED WITH THE REGIONS, NOT JUST FOR THEM

An autumn of co-creation

During November 2023, each buyer region and contractor held **co-creation workshops** with selected stakeholders — seven physical and two hybrid sessions in total. Their purpose: to agree on the scope of the design work and, crucially, to anchor it with the people and institutions that would eventually have to adopt it.

This early anchoring is one of CRANE's quiet lessons. A solution that works technically can still fail if the professionals and organisations around it were not part of shaping it. Co-creation is how CRANE keeps the regions in the room from the beginning.

Why it matters: adoption is decided long before deployment. By co-creating with regional stakeholders during the design phase, CRANE builds prototypes that the regions already recognise as their own.

— CRANE AT A GLANCE

A three-phase journey



WHAT'S NEXT

Phase 2 continues into 2024, with prototype iterations and a demonstration for stakeholders and EU representatives ahead. We will report on how the prototypes mature and on the policy developments shaping the road to the European Health Data Space.

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All the best, and let's CRANE!



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