

CRANE PRESS RELEASE

Five Years On: CRANE Concludes, Leaving a Blueprint for Citizen-Centred Digital Health

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After five years, three rural regions, two validated solutions and one shared conviction — that citizens belong at the centre of their own health data — the CRANE Pre-Commercial Procurement comes to a close. What began in 2021 as a question — could people living with chronic conditions truly reach and control their own health data? — ends with a practical, evidence-based answer: yes, it can be built, and it works.

Across its lifetime, CRANE took an initial field of competing suppliers through a three-phase competition and arrived at two complementary, validated solutions — **Data for Care** and **dHDSI** — tested in real care settings with citizens and professionals in Region Västerbotten (Sweden), Extremadura (Spain) and Agder (Norway). Both are now continuing to mature through their suppliers' own routes to market.

But the legacy CRANE is proudest of reaches beyond the technology. The project leaves behind a **value-based evaluation toolkit** that any public buyer in Europe can reuse, a set of policy recommendations gathered in its positioning paper, and a body of evidence on what adoption really takes. Its central lesson is simple and durable: earning the citizen's trust is the foundation on which everything else stands — the spirit of the project's motto, "**In CRANE we trust**".



Nordic policy workshop and showcase at the Norwegian Health Directorate, 26 February 2026 — CRANE presenting its experience and results.

In its final months, CRANE worked to carry that message to those who can act on it. At an **Exploitation Workshop in Copenhagen on 2-4 February 2026**, the two contractors and the buyer regions met as a co-creation session, with the Monitoring Team facilitating, to work through the business models and the conditions for sustaining each solution after the project closes — who buys, operates and pays for them, and through which routes to market. Its conclusions fed directly into the final CRANE Exploitation Plan.

Weeks later, at a **Nordic policy workshop and showcase hosted at the Norwegian Health Directorate** on 26 February 2026, members of the consortium presented the CRANE experience, its results and its policy implications, including potential paths to scaling. This was complemented by

sustained engagement between Region Västerbotten and the Swedish eHealth Agency on how CRANE's results could contribute to national digital infrastructure connected to the European Health Data Space — bringing the project's findings directly to the national authorities shaping the future of digital health.

The project closed with its **Final Demonstration on 17 March 2026**, a two-hour online session in which the two contractor consortia behind Data for Care and dHDSI showed, live, what citizen-centred digital health actually looks like, each presentation followed by questions from an audience of users, professionals and decision-makers. After years of design, prototyping and validation, the demonstration was the moment the solutions spoke for themselves — not as concepts, but as working systems tested with real citizens in real care settings.

The timing could hardly be more favourable. As the European Health Data Space moves into implementation, public buyers across the Union will need exactly the citizen-centred, consent-based capabilities CRANE has shown can be built. With the right procurement and funding conditions, the evidence from projects like CRANE can end up where it belongs: in services that citizens and health systems actually use.

To every citizen, nurse, doctor, care coordinator, supplier, partner and stakeholder who walked this road with us: thank you. This was your project as much as ours. CRANE ends here — but the questions it raised, and the solutions it proved can be built, are very much still alive.

All the best and let's CRANE!

To learn more from our projects stay tuned to our newsletters and CRANE Website



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