

CRANE PRESS RELEASE

CRANE Selects Two Solutions for its Validation Phase

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The CRANE Pre-Commercial Procurement has reached a decisive milestone. Following the prototype phase, two solutions have been selected to advance to **Phase 3 — validation and field testing: Data for Care** and **dHDSI**. They will now be tested in real-world conditions with citizens and care professionals across the three buyer regions: Region Västerbotten (Sweden), Extremadura (Spain) and Agder (Norway).

This is the moment CRANE has been building towards. Phase 3 is the most demanding stage of the competition, where prototypes leave the workbench and meet the people they are meant to serve — under approved research protocols and strict data-protection requirements. It is also where the project's core conviction is put to the test: that a solution succeeds only if citizens trust how their health data is governed, shared and protected. As the project's motto puts it, "**In CRANE we trust**".

The two selected solutions embody two distinct, complementary routes to the same goal — putting the citizen in open and trustworthy control of their own health data:

- **Data for Care** is built around citizen-controlled data governance and privacy-preserving data sharing, placing the citizen at the centre as the party who decides how their data is shared between organisations.
- **dHDSI** is a standards-based, decentralised health-data infrastructure, designed for interoperability with European regulatory frameworks.

Different in architecture, both consortia arrived independently at the same starting point: trust comes first. Each had to build the citizen-side governance — the transparency, the control, the safeguards — before anything else could work. This is **Trust by Design** in practice, and it is the foundation on which CRANE's vision rests.

"Reaching the validation phase with two strong, complementary solutions is a real achievement for the whole consortium. Now comes the part that matters most: putting them in the hands of citizens and professionals in our regions. What we are really testing is whether people trust these solutions enough to use them — because that, more than any technical feature, is what will decide their future."

Niclas Forsling, CRANE Coordinator

Field testing will provide a solid basis for assessing both solutions under real operational conditions, generating the evidence at the very heart of the CRANE project. The validation phase begins now and will run across the three regions through 2025. CRANE thanks the contractors and stakeholders for their dedication in reaching this stage.

All the best and let's CRANE!

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