CRMsDataSpace RFCS PROJECT

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Communication and Dissemination Plan

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Keywords	Communication & Dissemination Plan, Communication strategy, Stakeholders, Target groups

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Document history

Date	Version	Prepared by	Description
21/12/2025	1	Name and surname	First draft

Acronyms & Definitions

Acronym (in alphabetical order)	Definition
CRMA	Critical Raw Materials Act, Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020
CRM	Critical Raw Materials
FAIR	Find, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable
GIS	Geographical Information System
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
REA	Research Executive Agency
RFCS	Research Fund for Coal and Steel
RMIS	Raw Materials Information System
SPOC	National Single Points of Contact, as required under the European Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA)

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1 Executive Summary

The CRMsDataSpace project aims to initiate and deploy a Common European Data Space on Critical Raw Materials (CRMs), starting with closed extractive coal waste facilities and extendable to other extractive waste contexts. The project intends to develop the appropriate tools (data bases structure and pilot content) to help Member States in meeting CRMA (Regulation (EU) 2024/1252) obligations by providing structured, comparable information to identify sites with economically viable recovery potential, while contributing to the just transition in historically mining regions.

The CRMsDataSpace communication strategy enables broad awareness and stakeholder uptake of the project results through a range of communication and dissemination tools, such as a dedicated website, informative videos, bi-annual newsletters, publication of scientific publications, specialised webinars, international workshops in the partner countries and a final Brussels event.

The dedicated communication and dissemination work package (WP7) is led by Grupo DEX, with the appropriate support and contributions from all the partners and a particularly relevant role of GIG-PIB as project coordinator, UNIOVI as responsible for the management of the website, and EURACOAL as institutional liaison with European-wide stakeholders and the Commission Directorates-General.

Monitoring of communication and dissemination implementation, outcome and impact will be based on the project communication KPIs (e.g., outreach to 27 National Authorities, ≥4 workshops with >250 attendees, ≥4 webinars with ≥200 trained stakeholders). Risks related to stakeholder participation and authority engagement are addressed through hybrid formats and the support from REA channels.

2 Purpose and Scope of the Communication Strategy

This plan defines the objectives, audiences, governance, channels, activities, calendar, performance indicators and risk management for CRMsDataSpace communication, dissemination and stakeholder engagement. It covers project-wide actions aligned with CRMA implementation, FAIR data principles and the specific tools of CRMsDataSpace (data space platform, GIS web portal, mobile app, LLM-based reporting, UNFCR classification).

The Communication Plan establishes the strategic framework for all communication, dissemination, and stakeholder engagement activities within the CRMsDataSpace project. Its primary purpose is to ensure that project objectives, results, and tools are effectively communicated to relevant audiences, fostering awareness, adoption, and compliance with the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA) across Member States.



Setting up the C&D framework	Communicating project activities & goals	Dissemination of project results	After-life dissemination of project results
• Final dissemination and communication strategy • Preparation of basic communication materials and tools • Creation of website and social media profiles • Kicking off dialogue with stakeholders • Connecting with end-users: surveys and direct contact	• Production of audio-visual communication materials • Dissemination of project activities (different channels) • Stepping up web traffic and social media posts • Participation in scientific conferences • Direct communication with key stakeholders and end-users	• Dissemination via different channels, including international workshops • Publication in peer-reviewed journals • Participation in scientific conferences and sector events • Intensification of direct contacts with end-users • Analysis of IPR protection needs • Business plan development	• Direct communication with key stakeholders and end-users • Website updating and social media posts • Publication in peer reviewed journals • Participation in scientific conferences and sector events • Preparation of spin-off project • IPR protection and exploitation

The Communication and Dissemination Strategy encompasses:

- **Objectives**: To promote visibility of CRMsDataSpace, facilitate stakeholder understanding of its benefits, and support the uptake of its tools and methodologies in line and to comply with EU regulatory requirements.
- **Audiences**: Public authorities, industry actors, scientific and technical communities, data service providers, and multipliers, as well as general professional and public audiences where relevant.
- **Governance**: Coordination led by DEX (WP7), with contributions from project partners for content development and validation, ensuring consistency and compliance with EU communication standards.
- **Channels and activities**: A multi-channel approach combining push, pull, hybrid, and interactive modes, including website, newsletters, social media, webinars, workshops, and policy briefs.
- **Alignment**: All actions are aligned with CRMA implementation timelines, FAIR data principles, and the overarching goals of the project to enable a trusted, interoperable European data space for critical raw materials.
- **Coverage**: Project-wide communication actions addressing technical, policy, and societal dimensions, ensuring transparency and accessibility of information for stakeholders at different knowledge levels.

This section provides the foundation for subsequent components of the plan, detailing how communication will contribute to regulatory compliance, stakeholder engagement, and the successful deployment of CRMsDataSpace tools.

3 Communication objectives and key messages

3.1 The CRMsDataSpace Communication Objectives

The CRMsDataSpace project operates within the regulatory framework established by the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA), which requires Member States to create publicly accessible and user-friendly databases on closed extractive waste facilities by 2026/2027, enabling rapid identification of high-potential sites. These databases are essential for identifying sites with economically viable recovery potential and accelerating the deployment of projects that contribute to the EU's strategic autonomy in critical resources and to the green transition.

Current national and EU-level databases were designed for different purposes and present significant challenges, including language diversity, interoperability gaps, and lack of comparability. These limitations hinder effective data sharing and slow down the identification of opportunities for critical raw material recovery.

CRMsDataSpace addresses these barriers by setting the bases for a **Common European Data Space** that applies a standardized data model and interoperable architecture. This approach will help to ensure consistency across Member States and facilitates rapid access to reliable information for authorities, industry, and research communities. The project integrates advanced tools—such as a GIS web portal, mobile application for georeferenced data collection, and AI/LLM-based reporting—to support decision-making and compliance with FAIR data principles.

The objective of the communication plan and the targeted awareness and engagement actions it includes is to complement the project technical efforts by informing stakeholders about the benefits of the data space and its alignment with CRMA objectives and obligations, and to promote its development and uptake by all stakeholders, from national authorities to private mining operators. Communication, dissemination and awareness actions are aimed at accelerating the participation of authorities, industry and research communities in the CRM Data Space.

The specific objectives of the CRMsDataSpace communication will be:

- **Enhance visibility and outreach of the CRMsDataSpace activities and outcomes** and raise the stakeholder awareness about the project contribution to the implementation of key aspects of the CRMA. Project communication will obviously be aimed at making the project activities and outcomes visible to the targeted audiences, but also the consortium and the funding programme, the RFCS. It is expected that the multiple communication channel will help to reach a wider audience, technical, industrial, scientific and authorities and policy-makers. The project website will be the main communication signpost, but

proactive communication (push) will include the production and dissemination of newsletters, promotional videos, and other tools to reach diverse audiences.

- **Highlight the benefits of a Common European Data Space in Critical Raw Materials** for interoperability, comparability and transparency. The communication strategy must highlight the project approach as the most effective and efficient way of developing and implementing the information sharing obligations that the CRMA imposes on the Member States. The project approach supersedes the isolated "national databases" to propose an integrated ecosystem of interrelated, interconnected and federated data sources where data providers and users can collaborate.
- **Promote stakeholder awareness, engagement and collaboration.** The project communication must ensure that key CRMA stakeholders, as defined in the project DoA and in this document, become aware of the project contribution to meeting Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 obligations. The active participation of stakeholders is crucial to creating and developing any Data Space, as it is based on the federation of data sources from every interested party and the definition and implementation of use cases. The communication strategy will aim at fostering active participation of National Authorities, industry actors, and scientific communities using pull, push and hybrid channels and tools: website, newsletter, workshops, webinars, and consultation platforms. EURACOAL will be a key actor to amplify messages and to mobilise EU-level stakeholders.
- **Facilitate the uptake of project tools and services.** The CRMsDataSpace project success is somehow dependent on the widespread use of the tools and services developed by the CRMsDataSpace consortium and the growth of federated data sources that can be accessed through the GIS web portal, the mobile app, and feed the AI-based reporting tools. As the tools and services are developed, the communication strategy shall provide clear guidance the use of these tools and on how they can support decision-making and compliance.
- **Ensure policy alignment and establish synergies with related EU projects and initiatives to share knowledge and resources.** CRMsDataSpace should be aligned and consistent with EU policy developments in Critical Raw Materials, Circular Economy and Green Transition. Data model structure, data collection and retrieval tools need must be aligned with the CRMA objectives and the communication must showcase the project relevance to the CRMA milestones and to the rest of the EU policy objectives. Specific policy briefs will be produced to delivered targeted messages to EU and national authorities. Official EU dissemination channels will be leveraged for wider and enhanced impact (CORDIS, RMIS).
- **Prepare for sustainability and after-life exploitation of project results.** It is the partner's objective that the CRM Data Space becomes the reference for data sharing and data-driven innovation in CRM recovery. The communication will promote and reinforce the scientific and technical dimension of the project, promoting the CRMsDataSpace as a long-term solution for CRM data management beyond the project duration, and enhancing the partners' profile as a key actors in the CRM ecosystem. To consolidate the Data Space, it will be necessary to deploy a trustworthy communication strategy.

3.2 Key Messages

A consistent set of messages will be conveyed through the different CRMsDataSpace communication channels and actions to achieve the project communication objectives. Key messages will be integrated into the project's communication actions by embedding them across all materials, channels, and stakeholder interactions. They will be present, either explicitly or implicitly, in press releases, website and social media posts, newsletters, and public events, tailored for different channels and target audiences. While they will be adapted to the different target groups and will evolve during the implementation of the project, from gaining notoriety to deliver project results, a bottom line will remain, in line with the project general and specific objectives: raising the awareness on the CRMA objectives and requirements and on the importance of a European Data Space to accomplish them, highlighting the specific contribution of the CRMsDataSpace project to this endeavour. The CRMsDataSpace communication will consistently convey messages that:

- **Enhance visibility and outreach of CRMsDataSpace activities and outcomes**. CRMsDataSpace is pioneering in the development of data models, tools and services that underpin a comprehensive Common European Data Space in Critical Raw Materials.
- **Highlight the benefits of a Common European Data Space in Critical Raw Materials.** A trusted, interoperable European data space is the best, more efficient option to make easily available all the information sources the CMRA is requesting Member States to share, initially regarding post-mining but potentially on every aspect of the CRMA, contributing to the acceleration of CRM recovery initiatives.
- **Promote stakeholder awareness, engagement and collaboration.** All CRM stakeholders are invited to learn about the CRMsDataSpace project and the Data Space in Critical Raw Materials. The development of a Data Space decisively depends on the involvement and engagement of stakeholders, whether data generators and providers or data users.
- **Facilitate the uptake of project tools and services.** The pilot features of the Data Space that will be developed within the project are to be made free and widely available to CRM stakeholders. Among others, it includes the data model, the guidelines for data sets, a mobile application for georeferenced field data collection, a GIS-based web portal for spatial data visualization, and an Artificial Intelligence/LLM-based reporting.
- **Ensure policy alignment and establish synergies with related EU projects.** The project directly supports the implementation of the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA). To build the data space and progressively enrich it, the CRMsDataSpace partners will be connecting and liaising with other CRM related projects and other stakeholders.
- **Prepare for sustainability and after-life exploitation of project results.** Recovering critical raw materials from closed extractive waste facilities generates economic opportunities and supports employment in regions affected by industrial decline. This contributes to a fair and inclusive transition for coal-dependent areas.

3.3 Summary of Communication Objectives, Key Messages, and Suggested Channels

Communication Objective	Key Messages	Communication Channels
Enhance visibility and outreach of CRMsDataSpace activities and outcomes	CRMsDataSpace is a groundbreaking EU funded project to boost data-driven innovation in critical raw materials recovery. CRMsDataSpace is producing a suite of added value tools that fits the needs of different stakeholders concerned with the implementation of the CRMA. CRMsDataSpace offers resources that support sustainable mining and circular economy goals. CRMsDataSpace is building a community of stakeholders concerned with the implementation of the CRMA.	Project website Social media (LinkedIn, X) Newsletters Press releases Promotional videos
Highlight the benefits of a Common European Data Space in Critical Raw Materials	A unified European data space will remove barriers to data sharing and will ensure interoperability across Member States, contributing to the CRMA goals. The European CRM Data Space facilitates and accelerates the development of CRM recovery projects. Data spaces support transparency and informed decision-making for industry and policy makers.	Webinars Policy briefs Conference presentations Website landing page
Promote stakeholder awareness, engagement and collaboration	The full development of a data space in any field requires the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders. Collaboration across authorities, industry, and research communities is key to achieving CRMA objectives. CRMsDataSpace fosters partnerships that drive innovation and sustainable resource management.	Webinars International workshops Stakeholder consultation area on website Direct email outreach
Facilitate the uptake of project tools and services	Explore our GIS portal, mobile app, and AI-based reporting tools designed for practical CRM resource assessment. CRMsDataSpace registered users can access a range of user-friendly services and solutions to facilitate potential CRM recovery in post-mining sites that simplify compliance and accelerate project planning. CRMsDataSpace registered users will be guided through the data space functionalities and tools through training sessions and webinars.	Website (tools section) Training webinars Social media tutorials Newsletters
Ensure policy alignment and establish synergies with related EU projects	CRMsDataSpace contributes directly to CRMA milestones and complements EU initiatives on circular economy and data governance. Our results inform policy development and support strategic autonomy in critical raw materials supply.	Policy briefs Brussels event EU dissemination channels (CORDIS, RMIS)

	By collaborating with EU projects and platforms CRMsDataSpace contributes to enhance the CRM recovery ecosystem to maximize impact and knowledge exchange.	Joint events with related projects
Prepare for sustainability and after-life exploitation of project results	CRMsDataSpace is designed for long-term value—our exploitation strategy ensures continuity beyond the project lifecycle. Future services will include consultancy, training, and tailored solutions for CRM recovery projects. Join us in shaping sustainable resource management for Europe's green and digital transitions.	Business Plan Final public report Newsletters Horizon Results Platform Workshops

4 The CRMsDataSpace Communication Target Groups: the CRM Data Space Stakeholders

4.1 The CRM Data Space Stakeholders

The CRMsDataSpace proposal already identifies a set of stakeholders across institutional, industrial, and scientific domains who would use or further up-take the results of the project or who will benefit from the results of the project. Main target groups identified are[1]:

- **Authorities:** National Authorities in charge of implementing the CRMA (Single Points of Contact, see below); Authorities from coal regions in transition; National/regional geological surveys and other relevant entities collecting raw materials related data and information; European institutions, namely the EU Commission, the EU Parliament, and the Committee of the Regions.
- **Mining industry:** Coal mining companies; Operators of coal preparation plants; Senior and Junior general mining companies; Mineral recovery plant operators (mineralurgical and metallurgical); and Mining consultancy companies.
- **Data services providers:** Business solutions providers, shared industry services, and data space infrastructure
- **Scientific community:** Experts in geology, mining, digital science, and innovation.
- **Critical raw material suppliers and users within strategically relevant value chains.** Strategic sectors include renewable energy, e-mobility, defence/aerospace, and electronics, where CRM availability directly influences deployment and competitiveness.

Effective communication requires a clear understanding of the stakeholders involved and their respective needs, interests, and expectations to ensure targeted and impactful outreach.

The main target group for the CRMs DataSpace communication and, further down, for the exploitation strategy, will be Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) that the CRMA requires each EU Member State to designate to serve as the national authorities responsible for implementing the Act's permitting and information provisions. These SPOCs are due to act as "one-stop-

[1] *Detailed information on the specific groups is provided in Annex I of this document.*

shop" authorities to coordinate and streamline permits for critical raw material projects, and to provide information and assistance to project developers. Article 9(3) of the CRMA requires Member States that each SPOC's contact information (addresses, emails, websites) should be published. The European Commission's Raw Materials Act portal collates these and provides links or emails for each country's contact. Project promoters should reach out to the listed national contacts as a first step for any permitting or regulatory guidance related to critical raw materials projects in that country. The annex to this plan provides a comprehensive table listing the designated authority or contact point(s), with the available contact details, drawn from official EU or national government sources. The list will be duly completed during the implementation of the project.

Audiences will be segmented by knowledge level to tailor the content of the communication and the channels to be primarily used to reach them. The communication and dissemination would not be the same when it is aimed at scientific or technical audiences, such as the researchers or professionals in mining, geology, and data/AI domains with high technical expertise, or when aiming at policy and decision makers (National Authorities, agencies, and regional governments), which would need to be targeted with a strong policy focus. Likewise, national and EU-level policy makers will be informed about the benefits of the data space and its role in achieving CRMA milestones.

At the same time, there will be more general communication and dissemination actions aimed at increasing the notoriety of the project or to raise the awareness regarding the CRM recovery and the project contribution to such goals. General professional audiences, such as industrial sectors connected to the CRM value-chain, or more general audiences, such as organisations and individuals interested in circular economy and in the environmental and economic benefits of CRM recovery would be addressed through less technical and more straight forward narratives. Professional and institutional stakeholders outside the EU will be engaged through high-level messages and general project results, ensuring global visibility of CRMsDataSpace objectives.

The regions undergoing post-mining transition[2] and those exploring domestic CRM supply initiatives will be targeted with specific project communication actions, for several reasons. As traditional coal mining dependent regions, they are of particular interest for EU just transition measures, including RFCS-funded actions. As post-mining areas, there will be a good deal of post-mining deposits whose data must be included in the CRMA database and therefore in the CRM Data Space.

4.2 Stakeholder and Contact Database

The project will compile a CRMsDataSpace Stakeholder and Contact Database to facilitate and focus the communication actions. The database will include the following information:

Organisation Name

[2] This list focuses on EU territories highlighted in the Just Transition Fund (JTF), the EU Coal+ Regions in Transition initiative, or equivalent national plans

Website URL
Country
Type (e.g., government, geological survey, industry, association, NGO, academic, data provider)
Interest Area / Value Chain
Role (authority, implementer, multiplier)
Contact Person Details
Consent Status
Notes (additional relevant information)

This structure ensures that stakeholders can be segmented by role, sector, and geographic scope, facilitating targeted communication actions.

The CRMsDataSpace stakeholder engagement and communication activities will be fully compliant with all relevant European regulations and principles governing transparency, data protection, and accessibility. GDPR compliant personal data management procedures will be implemented. Explicit, informed consent will be requested for inclusion in mailing lists. Stakeholders will be informed of their rights to access, rectify, and erase their data, and procedures will be in place to respond promptly to such requests. All communications will include embedded opt-out links to allow stakeholders to withdraw consent at any time. The database will be maintained in an access-controlled environment, storing only minimal personal data necessary for project purposes and data will be retained only for the duration of the project and deleted thereafter, in line with GDPR requirements.

5 Communication Channels

5.1 Overview

The CRMsDataSpace communication strategy adopts a multi-channel approach to ensure broad visibility, stakeholder engagement, and effective dissemination of project outputs. This approach combines push, pull, hybrid, and interactive modes to address the diverse needs of target audiences, ranging from technical experts and policy makers to industry actors and the general public.

The overarching objectives of this strategy are:

- **Maximize Awareness**: Promote understanding of CRMsDataSpace objectives, tools, and benefits across all stakeholder groups.
- **Facilitate Uptake**: Encourage adoption of the data space platform and associated services by authorities, industry, and research communities.
- **Support Policy Alignment**: Communicate the project's contribution to CRMA implementation and FAIR data principles.
- **Ensure Accessibility**: Deliver clear, consistent, and user-friendly messages through channels adapted to different knowledge levels.

The strategy integrates digital and physical channels, leveraging:

- Project website and landing page for centralized information.
- Social media campaigns and newsletters for continuous engagement.
- Webinars, workshops, and policy dialogues for interactive knowledge transfer.
- Promotional videos, infographics, and visual materials to enhance comprehension and outreach.

This multi-modal design ensures that communication actions are **coherent, inclusive, and scalable**, supporting both project milestones and long-term impact objectives.

5.2 Push Modes

Push communication modes are designed to proactively deliver information to stakeholders, ensuring timely awareness of project milestones, results, and opportunities for engagement, through the following mechanisms:

Press Releases	Press releases will be issued to announce major project milestones, such as: • Launch of the project website. • Publication of key deliverables and public reports. • Organization of international workshops and the final Brussels event. These releases will be tailored for specialized media and general outlets to maximize visibility across professional and public audiences.
Project Videos and Short Spots	Two promotional videos (introductory and closing) presenting project objectives, tools, and results: • Introductory Video: Highlighting project objectives, activities and expected impacts. • Closing Video: Summarizing achievements, lessons learned, and future perspectives. Short clips will be derived from the full videos and the recorded material to be shared in social media. Videos and recordings will be made available on the project website and external platforms to ensure discoverability.
Social Media Campaigns	As part of WP7 activities, CRMsDataSpace will establish dedicated social media profiles. The strategy includes creating a professional presence on LinkedIn and X (formerly Twitter). These profiles will serve as dynamic communication channels for sharing project milestones, tools, and events, to enhance visibility, while enabling interactive dialogue with target audiences and foster stakeholder engagement, also redirecting them to the website.

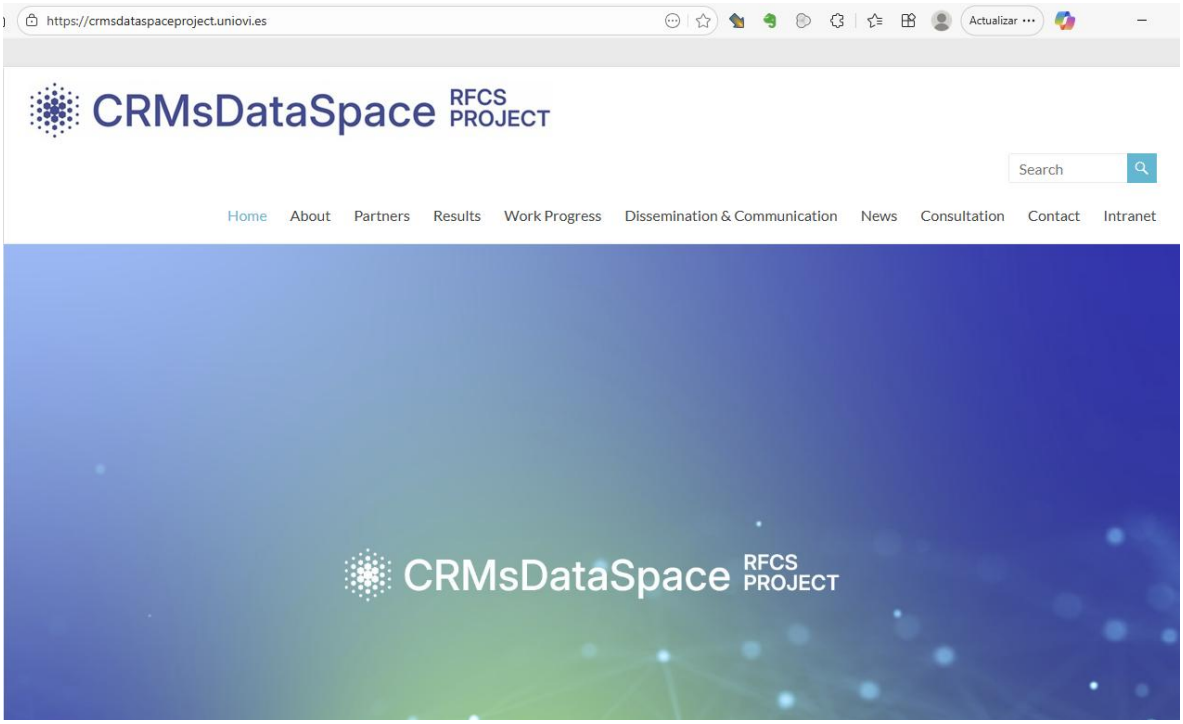
	Periodic campaigns will be launched to highlight project results, tools (GIS portal, mobile app), and upcoming events. The guidelines for social media post management are included as an annex to this Plan.
Policy Briefs	At least two concise, accessible notes for national and EU policy makers summarizing CRMsDataSpace project contribution to CRMA milestones and just transition pathways will be produced: • The CRM Data Space underpinning of CRMA implementation: A strategic support to Member States and mining operators to comply with CRMA obligations. • Post mining recovery of CRM: a promising economic activity and job creation alternative to ease transition in coal-dependent regions.
Influencers and Multipliers	As a specific communication task, EURACOAL will activate institutional multipliers, liaising with other CRM-related projects and EU-level associations and partnerships will be activated to broaden reach, share materials and invite stakeholders to project activities, to amplify project messages and connect with policy makers and stakeholder networks.
Newsletters	Five bi-annual newsletters (two pages each) will be distributed via Website registration and project mailing list. highlight progress, tools, and upcoming events

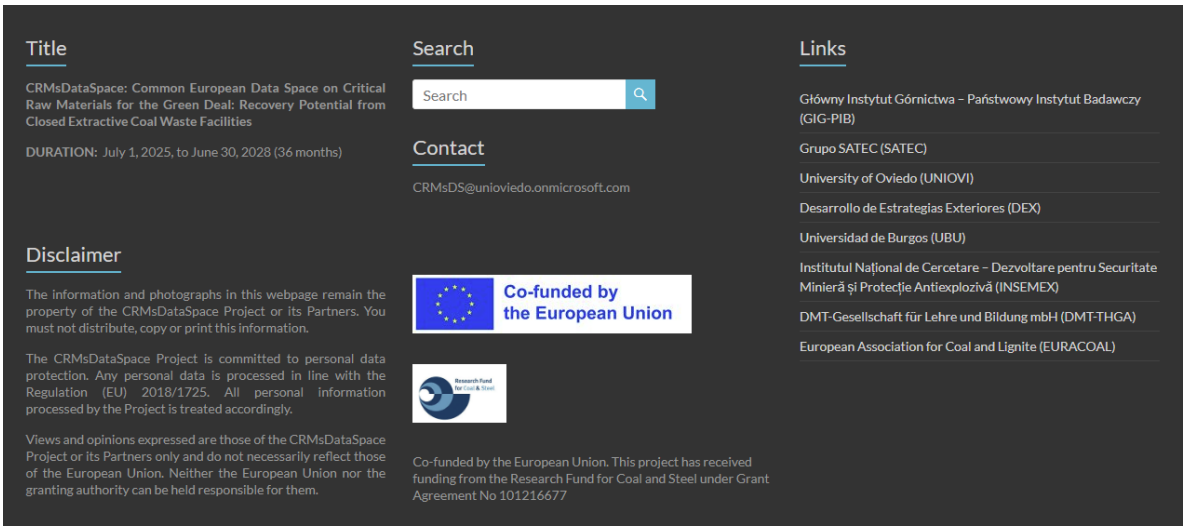
5.3 Pull Modes

Pull communication tools will provide stakeholders permanent access to project information and resources, ensuring transparency and facilitating self-service engagement, through the following mechanisms pull mechanisms:

Project Website and Landing Page	WordPress-based website with public area (news, results, events), stakeholder consultation area, and private partner area for collaboration.
Infographics and Visual Elements	Visual summaries of CRMA context, data space architecture, value flows, and just transition links, designed for non-expert audiences will be developed to. • Explain CRMA context and obligations. • Illustrate the architecture of the Common European Data Space. • Highlight value flows and links to just transition objectives.

This is the screenshot of the landing page of the website:





5.4 Interactive Communication

Interactive communication modes are designed to foster active participation, knowledge exchange, and capacity building among stakeholders. CRMsDataSpace will implement the following interactive mechanisms:

Policy Dialogues	Structured institutional dialogues coordinated by DEX and EURACOAL and partners will be implemented to inform Commission services and national authorities about CRMsDataSpace. With the partners' support, DEX will compile a list of key stakeholders and National Authorities in charge of developing and implementing the CRMA, establishing direct contact with them so that they can receive information about the data space's contents and tools. EURACOAL will keep in permanent contact with the Directorates-General in charge of implementing the Critical Raw Materials Act 2024 and developing the Circular Economy Act 2026, to keep them informed on CRMsDataSpace, to communicate their policy needs back to the projects partners, and to seek their support for CRMsDataSpace as a policy tool. EURACOAL will present the CRMsDataSpace project results to policymakers in Brussels so that they can be used to inform policy development. EURACOAL will ensure that the potential of the CRMsDataSpace is well understood by the stakeholders invited to join the Clean Industrial Dialogue on Circularity.
Webinars, Seminars, and Focus Groups	At least four webinars to train stakeholders in using the data space, with focused sessions for authorities and industry. Sessions will target specific groups such as national authorities and industry representatives, ensuring tailored content and practical demonstrations. These sessions will focus on CRMA implementation, interoperability challenges, and the

	benefits of the Common European Data Space. Interactive features (e.g., live Q&A, polls) will be integrated to enhance engagement.
Conference Presentations	Participation in technical and scientific events (UNECE, WMC, JTP) and publication of at least three open-access papers to disseminate results. At least ten presentations will be made at specialised technical and scientific conferences and other events: the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) meetings and workshops, the World Mining Congress (WMC), Just Transition Platform (JTP) meetings, and other forums, with all partners contributing under Grupo DEX coordination. UNIOVI, GIG, UBU and DMT-THGA will deliver at least three open-access publications in journals ranked in the Journals Citation Report (JCR) to disseminate the project's results among the scientific community.

6 The CRMsDataSpace visual identity

A meaningful visual identity has been developed to facilitate recognition of CRMsDataSpace. It is built on three fundamental pillars, reflecting interoperability, collaboration, and innovation, aligning with the project's mission to create a trusted European data space on Critical Raw Materials:

- Data Space: The project creates a centralized, interoperable platform with standardized data on coal mining waste. Using artificial intelligence, the potential for CRM recovery is analysed and classified, enabling informed decision-making and resource optimization.
- Critical Raw Materials (CRMs): At the heart of the concept is the recovery of strategic resources such as lithium and rare earth elements from abandoned coal mines. This reduces EU dependency on imports and supports a circular economy, ensuring resilience for green and digital transitions.
- Cooperation: The image emphasizes cross-border collaboration among EU member states through interoperable tools and transnational workshops, fully aligned with the Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA) to build a sustainable European network for mineral resource management.



Based on these concepts a meaningful visual identity was developed:

- The icon logo icon symbolizes an interoperable platform centralizing CRM information. Stylized crystals represent recoverable raw materials and their interconnection, highlighting collaboration among member states. The project acronym and the reference to the funding source will be integrated with the logo.

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- The colour palette boasts a combination of green and blue tones:
    - Blue: Represents digital infrastructure and technological progress.
    - Green: Symbolizes mine rehabilitation and clean energy applications. This palette reflects a balance between industrial progress and environmental sustainability, reinforcing the project's innovative and technological essence.



The EU emblem will be displayed on all public-facing materials, accompanied by the funding acknowledgment in accordance with programme requirements. References to the Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS) will be included where applicable.

The project acronym and logo will be used consistently across all channels and deliverables. The partner logos will be incorporated in multi-partner outputs, respecting proportionality and clarity.

Public materials will be produced in plain language and accessible formats to ensure inclusivity. Visual elements (e.g., infographics, diagrams) will be optimized for clarity and usability by non-expert audiences.

Templates for presentations, reports, and promotional materials will be standardized to maintain coherence across all communication outputs.

7 Resources and Roles

The CRMsDataSpace partners will be involved in the implementation of the project communication strategy, according to the resources and responsibilities allocated in the DoA:

7.1 Team Structure and Social Media Task Force

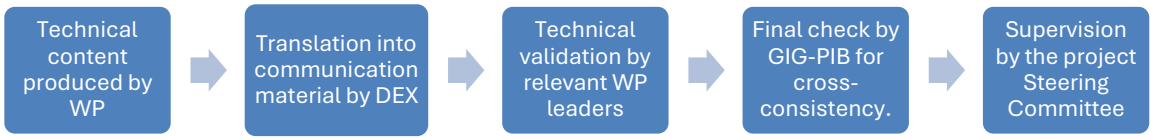
DEX (WP7 Lead)	Overall coordination of communication planning and execution. Responsible for newsletters, workshops, and social media campaigns.
GIG-PIB (Coordinator)	Project-wide oversight and cross-cutting consistency. Production of videos, Business Plan, and final public report.
EURACOAL	Institutional outreach to Commission Directorates-General and support for the Brussels event.
UNIOVI	Website development and maintenance. Contribution to technical content and webinar organization.

SATEC	Inputs on data catalogue, governance framework, and platform deployment.
UBU	Development of AI/LLM reporting templates and UNFCR classification tool.
INSEMEX & DMT-THGA	Support in data acquisition and event participation.

7.2 Content Development and Validation

The CRMsDataSpace communication workflow will ensure that all materials meet quality standards and reflect project objectives, making sure the communication contents is properly validated to ensure accuracy and are timely released.

Communication content will draw on results from WP2–WP6 (data acquisition, catalogue, data space deployment, business solutions, AI/LLM tools) provided by the respective WP or task leader. These inputs guarantee that communication materials are evidence-based and aligned with project progress. Technical contents will be used for communication purposes following the production and approval workflow.



This production and review process ensures quality, clarity, technical accuracy, effectiveness and impact, with Grupo DEX taking the ultimate responsibility for the coordination of communication and the compliance with the funding authority communication requirements. The Steering Committee will monitor the communication and will be responsible for the approval of key deliverables before publication.

Grupo DEX (WP7 leader) coordinates content creation, based on the with contributions from partners according to their expertise. Technical leaders (e.g., SATEC, UNIOVI, UBU) will provide domain-specific content (updates on the platform architecture and interoperability features, including the GIS interface, the progress in the acquisition, processing and uploading of data from closed extractive waste facilities and CRM recovery potential, the deployment of AI tools for automated reporting templates) and, when necessary, will review the material produced. GIG-PIB, as project coordinator will monitor the consistency of the communication, provide cross-cutting messages and ensure compliance with project objectives.

8 Communication Calendar and Action Plan

8.1 Communication Deliverables and Milestones

The CRMsDataSpace DoA sets the following calendar of the Communication Deliverables and Milestones:

Month	Deliverables and Milestones	Check
M3	Launch of the project website (Deliverable D1.1, led by UNIOVI).	☒

M6	Publication of the Communication & Dissemination Plan (Deliverable D1.4, led by DEX).	☐
M6	Release of the first promotional video (Milestone MS12).	☐
M18	Dissemination of presentations and newsletters; submission of the first scientific paper (Milestone MS13).	☐
M24	Upload of the Business Plan draft (Milestone MS14).	☐
M36	Delivery of the final public report (Deliverable D1.2, led by GIG-PIB), along with all videos, newsletters, webinars, and workshops (Deliverables D7.1–D7.5).	☐

8.2 Campaign Scheduling

Bi-annual newsletters (aligned with milestones). Webinar series aligned with GIS portal/app availability and data space updates. Workshops in Poland, Spain, Romania and final Brussels event (agenda coordinated with institutional stakeholders).

- Newsletters: Five bi-annual issues aligned with major milestones.
- Webinars: Scheduled in coordination with GIS portal and mobile app availability to maximize relevance.
- Workshops: Organized in Poland, Spain, Romania, and a final event in Brussels, with agendas tailored to institutional stakeholders.
- Social Media Campaigns: Timed around key deliverables and events to amplify visibility and engagement.

8.3 Action Plan Overview

Period	Activity	Responsible Partner
M1–M6	Website launch, initial press release, first video	UNIOVI, DEX
M6–M18	Newsletters, webinars, social media campaigns	DEX, GIG-PIB
M18–M24	Scientific publications, workshops	UNIOVI, EURACOAL
M24–M36	Final video, Brussels event, KPI reporting	GIG-PIB, DEX

9 Performance Monitoring and KPIs

Monitoring the effectiveness of communication activities is essential to ensure impact and compliance with project objectives. CRMsDataSpace applies a structured KPI framework and reporting routine.

9.1 Communication SMART KPI

To monitor the achievement of communication objectives, SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) indicators have been identified:

Objective		SMART
Enhance visibility and outreach of the CRMsDataSpace activities and outcomes	S	Maintain active website and social media presence.
	M	Reach ≥50 registered stakeholders on the website and ≥1,000 social media followers by M36.
	A	Implement scheduled campaigns and content updates.
	R	Ensures continuous engagement and transparency.
	T	Website live by M3, social media campaigns ongoing until M36.
Highlight the benefits of a Common European Data Space in Critical Raw Materials	S	Communicate the role of CRMsDataSpace in supporting CRMA compliance and interoperability. Publish and present project results in recognized forums.
	M	Achieve at least 5 press releases, 2 promotional videos, and 5 newsletters published by M36. Deliver ≥3 open-access scientific publications 4 webinars and ≥10 conference presentations by M36.
	A	Use existing channels (website, social media, multipliers) and partner networks.
	R	Directly supports CRMA implementation and EU Green Deal objectives
	T	Complete initial awareness campaign by M6, maintain continuous updates until M36. First publication submitted by M18, all completed by M36.
Promote stakeholder awareness, engagement and collaboration	S	Engage National Authorities, industry actors, and scientific communities
	M	Organize 4 international workshops and 4 webinars with at least 450 participants combined by M36.
	A	Leverage consortium expertise and EURACOAL's institutional network.
	R	Ensures adoption of CRMsDataSpace tools and policy alignment.
	T	First workshop scheduled by M12, all completed by M36.
Facilitate the uptake of project tools and services	S	Promote GIS portal, mobile app, and AI-based reporting tools to technical and policy audiences.
	M	Achieve ≥200 trained stakeholders via ≥3 webinars and ≥50 tool downloads/registrations by M36.
	A	Use website, social media campaigns, and training sessions.
	R	Critical for practical implementation of CRMsDataSpace.
	T	Launch tool promotion by M12, monitor uptake quarterly until M36.
Ensure policy alignment and establish synergies with related EU projects	S	Produce policy briefs targeted to relevant stakeholders
	M	Produce ≥3 policy briefs and participate in ≥5 policy/scientific events by M36. Collaborate with at least 3 related EU projects and initiatives.
	A	Utilize EURACOAL's Brussels office and consortium expertise. Use Horizon Results Booster and RMIS channels.
	R	Supports CRMA milestones and Circular Economy Act objectives. Enhance knowledge exchange.
	T	First policy brief by M12, all completed by M36. Establish first synergy by M12, report all by M36.
Prepare for sustainability and after-life	S	Communicate exploitation strategy and spin-off plans.
	M	Include a sustainability roadmap in the final report and produce a project result exploitation plan.

exploitation of project results	A	Led by GIG-PIB with partner contributions. Engage technical partners and leverage existing networks.
	R	Positions CRMsDataSpace as a reference for CRM recovery innovation. Ensures continuity of CRMsDataSpace beyond project duration.
	T	Exploitation Plan delivered by M24, roadmap finalized by M36.

9.2 Monitoring and reporting methodology

The KPI-driven approach for communication monitoring and reporting will ensure transparency, effectiveness and continuous improvement of communication actions, adjusting messages and tools. Grupo DEX, as WP leader, will compile the key metrics available per channel and produce twice a year consolidated progress reports. The Steering Committee will assess communication performance at major milestones and the results will be integrated into internal reports and the final public report (Deliverable D1.2).

	Target
National Authorities Contacted	27 authorities reached by Month 36.
Workshops	Minimum 4 international workshops with >250 attendees by Month 36.
Webinars	At least 4 sessions with ≥200 trained stakeholders by Month 36.
Publications	Minimum 3 open-access scientific papers in JCR-indexed journals.
Website	Metrics include page views, engagement rates, and registrations for the consultation area.
Newsletters	Delivery performance and open/click-through rates.
Videos	View counts and referral traffic to project tools and website.

10 Compliance with the Grant Agreement and other regulations

The communication activities of CRMsDataSpace shall comply with the provisions of the Grant Agreement and with all other relevant European regulations and principles governing transparency, data protection, and accessibility.

Article 17 of the Grant Agreement sets out the communication, dissemination and visibility obligations, stating that "*the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner. Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.*"

It also requests that *the communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):*



The Grant Agreement specifies the conditions for the use of the emblem, which must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text. Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EU support. When displayed in association with other logos (e.g. of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

As indicated in the Grant Agreement, it would not be necessary to obtain the approval from the granting authority to use the emblem, although this cannot be understood an unlimited right to exclusive use or any permission to appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information, and a disclaimer must be included in any document or publication (translated into local languages where appropriate):

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union [or the granting authority]. Neither the European Union [nor the granting authority] can be held responsible for them.

Moreover, annex V of the Grant Agreement sets out supplementary provisions regarding communication, dissemination and visibility. Firstly, and more prominently, it requires the beneficiaries to provide a detailed communication and dissemination plan, setting out the objectives, key messaging, target audiences, communication channels, social media plan, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation, which is the objective of this document.

In compliance with the Grant Agreement and in line with the proposal and the call, the CRMsDataSpace partners will disseminate the project results, as soon as this is possible, in a publicly available format, subject to any restrictions due to the protection of intellectual property or legitimate interests. The CRMsDataSpace communication outputs adhere to the FAIR data principles:

- **Findable**: Information is indexed and easily discoverable through the project website and associated channels.
- **Accessible**: Public materials are available in open formats and hosted on a user-friendly platform.
- **Interoperable**: Messaging and data references align with EU interoperability standards.

- **Reusable**: Content is designed for reuse by authorities, industry, and research communities, ensuring long-term value.

The communication and dissemination plan provides for the additional communication activities Annex V requires, such as presenting the project (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and special logo and project results) on the beneficiaries' websites or social media accounts.

As explained in section 4 of this document, the CRMsDataSpace communication activities will be fully compliant with all relevant European regulations and principles governing transparency, data protection, and accessibility. GDPR compliant personal data management procedures will be implemented. Explicit, informed consent will be requested for inclusion in mailing lists. Stakeholders will be informed of their rights to access, rectify, and erase their data, and procedures will be in place to respond promptly to such requests. All communications will include embedded opt-out links to allow stakeholders to withdraw consent at any time. The database will be maintained in an access-controlled environment, storing only minimal personal data necessary for project purposes and data will be retained only for the duration of the project and deleted thereafter, in line with GDPR requirements.

11 Communication Risk Management

11.1 Risk Identification and Mitigation

Additional risks for communication and dissemination have been identified on top of those identified in the Grant Agreement.

Risk	Effect	Mitigation measures
Low Workshop Registration	Limited stakeholder participation in scheduled workshops	Offer hybrid formats (physical + virtual) to increase accessibility. Integrate interactive tools (e.g., polls, Q&A) to enhance engagement
Difficulty Contacting National Authorities	Delays in reaching designated CRMA authorities.	The consortium will ask the Research Executive Agency (REA) for help via their contacts in the different Directorates-General. Institutional channels will be leveraged through EURACOAL and other multipliers.
Low engagement on website and social media	Missed communication KPIs, weaker uptake of the GIS/app/LLM tolos and reduced policy influence	Editorial calendar; periodic highlight campaigns; strong audiovisual assets; leverage multipliers (EURACOAL).
Partner misalignment on key messages	Confusing public narrative; credibility risk.	Shared key-message sheet; pre-release sign-off
Policy shifts or updated CRMA guidance mid-project	Messages become outdated or contradictory	Quarterly policy scan; rapid update cycle; versioning + disclaimer

11.2 Contingency Planning.

11.2.1 Low level of stakeholder registration for workshop

Trigger: Fewer than 50% of target registrations three weeks before; low confirmations one week before; forecast shows fewer than 450 total participants by month 36; first workshop not scheduled by month 12.

Actions (within 48 hours): Switch to hybrid or virtual; extend invitations; require at least five personal invitations per partner; launch a short promotional push with speaker teasers; add interactive elements; offer satellite webinars or on-demand access.

Responsible: Workshop Coordinator (lead), Communications Lead, Partner Liaison, Stakeholder Outreach Lead.

Completion: Minimum attendance reached 72 hours before the event and forecast returns to at least 450 participants by month 36.

Escalation: Project coordinator informs the European Commission Project Officer if milestones are at risk.

11.2.2 Difficulty Contacting National Authorities

Trigger: No reply after ten working days and two follow-ups; invalid contacts; forecast risks events, policy briefs, or collaborations; no authority engagement for the first workshop by month 12.

Actions (within 48 hours): Escalate through multipliers for warm introductions; use alternative routes (switchboards, secretariats, professional networks); broaden to regional authorities; hold a multi-country briefing if access is slow.

Responsible: Stakeholder Outreach Lead (lead), Partner Liaison.

Completion: Valid contact and a meeting scheduled within ten working days, with the forecast back on track.

Escalation: Project coordinator adjusts timelines; inform the European Commission Project Officer if deliverables may slip.

11.2.3 Low Website and Social Media Engagement

Trigger: Two-week indicators below plan or weak partner amplification; forecast shows fewer than 50 registered website stakeholders or fewer than 1,000 followers by month 36; website not live by month 3 or awareness campaign not delivered by month 6.

Actions (within 72 hours): Refresh the editorial calendar; launch highlight campaigns focused on project tools; produce short demonstrations; apply quick improvements to titles, metadata,

and internal links; send partners a ready-to-use syndication pack; add clear calls to action and newsletter sign-up prompts; consider a modest paid boost.

Responsible: Communications Lead (lead), Data and Analytics team, Partner Liaison.

Completion: Trend restored toward at least 50 registrations and 1,000 followers, with two consecutive weeks meeting planned indicators.

Escalation: Project coordinator intervenes if tool uptake remains at risk.

11.2.4 Partner Misalignment on Key Messages

Trigger: Conflicting drafts or statements; uncoordinated releases; approval delays that jeopardise outputs (five press releases, two videos, five newsletters, three open-access publications, four webinars, ten conference presentations by month 36); first open-access publication not submitted by month 18.

Actions (within 48 hours): Freeze external communications on disputed topics; convene the Editorial Board; validate a shared key-message document; appoint a single spokesperson; enforce a fast approval workflow with version control.

Responsible: Partner Liaison (lead), Communications Lead, Editorial Board.

Completion: Consensus memo approved; two on-time releases; plan realigned to meet month-36 outputs.

Escalation: Project coordinator arbitrates unresolved issues; inform the European Commission Project Officer if dates shift.

11.2.5 Policy Shifts or Updated CRMA Guidance Mid-Project

Trigger: New European Union guidance or acts that affect content, tools, or accuracy of public materials.

Actions (within 72 hours): Conduct a focused policy scan; open a short update sprint; update website, tools, and materials with clear versioning and temporary disclaimers; issue a concise briefing note; adjust the risk log and timelines.

Responsible: Policy Watch Lead (lead), Communications Lead.

Completion: All public assets updated within five working days; no accuracy gaps; policy-facing outputs remain on schedule; disclaimers removed.

Escalation: Project coordinator re-sequences milestones if needed and informs the European Commission Project Officer when deliverables change.

12 Annexes

12.1 Social Media Management Guidelines

Purpose and Objectives	Enhance visibility of CRMsDataSpace activities, milestones, and results. Foster stakeholder engagement and dialogue across authorities, industry, and research communities. Drive traffic to the project website and promote uptake of tools and services.
Platforms	LinkedIn: Primary channel for professional audiences, policy makers, and industry stakeholders. X (formerly Twitter): For quick updates, event promotion, and engagement with EU-level initiatives. Optional: YouTube for hosting promotional videos and webinar recordings.
Tone and Style	Professional, clear, and aligned with EU communication standards. Use plain language for accessibility while maintaining technical accuracy. Include visual elements (infographics, short clips) to increase engagement.
Content Types	Project Milestones: Website launch, deliverables, workshops, webinars. Tools and Services: GIS portal, mobile app, AI-based reporting. Event Promotion: Invitations and reminders for webinars and workshops. Impact Stories: Just transition benefits and stakeholder testimonials.
Posting Frequency	LinkedIn: One post per month plus specific posts for deliverables, milestones, events, technical highlights. X: Monthly updates, live coverage during events.
Engagement Strategy	Respond to comments and questions during the following week. Tag relevant EU bodies, associations and project partners. Use hashtags: #CRMsDataSpace #CriticalRawMaterials #EUDataSpace #GreenDeal.
Visual Identity	Apply CRMsDataSpace corporate image (logo and colour palette) Include EU emblem and RFCS funding acknowledgment in all visuals.
Monitoring and KPIs	Track engagement metrics: followers, impressions, click-through rates. Quarterly reporting to Steering Committee. Target: ≥1,000 followers across platforms by Month 36.

12.2 Policy brief guidelines and template

Policy briefs should be short and focused, with a maximum of two pages, supported by visual elements (infographics, icons) to facilitate access and highlight key aspects.

Header	**Title**: Concise and action-oriented (e.g., *"Accelerating CRMA Implementation through CRMsDataSpace"*). **Subtitle**: Optional tagline summarizing the benefit (e.g., *"Supporting Member States with interoperable data solutions"*). **Date of release** **Add Project Logo and EU Emblem**: Include funding acknowledgment in compliance with EU visibility rules.

Executive Summary (150–200 words)	Purpose of the brief. Main messages and relevance for policy makers. Include a call-to-action (e.g., *"Adopt CRMsDataSpace tools to meet CRMA obligations by 2027"*).
Context and Policy Relevance	Brief overview of the regulatory and policy framework: CRMA obligations, Circular Economy Regulations, Resource EU Action Plan, Green Deal... Explain why the topic matters for national/EU policy priorities (e.g., strategic autonomy, just transition).
Key Insights / Evidence	Bullet points summarizing critical findings or benefits, such as: • Interoperability: Harmonized data model to boost CRM recovery in closed extractive waste facilities. • Impact: Supports CRMA timelines and reporting requirements contributing to circular economy, resource efficiency and regional development. • Efficiency: Reduction of barriers to data sharing and facilitates and underpins investment decisions.
Recommended Actions	Recommendations for policy makers: • Integrate CRMsDataSpace tools into national CRM strategies. • Encourage stakeholder participation in webinars and workshops. • Align national databases with the common European data space architecture.
Resources and Contact	Links to: • Project website. • GIS portal and mobile app. • Upcoming events (webinars, workshops). • Contact details for institutional liaison.

12.3 Lists of stakeholders and target groups

12.3.1 National Single Points of Contact under the CRMA

Country	Designated CRMA Contact Point(s)	Contact Details
Austria	Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) – Mineral Resources Policy division designated as the national SPOC (covering extraction, processing, recycling, and substitution stages).	*(Contact details pending official publication; central ministry coordination)*
Belgium	Federal Public Service (FPS) Economy – designated as the sole national SPOC covering extraction, processing, recycling, and substitution for critical raw materials. *(Note:* Implementation involves coordination with regional authorities given Belgium's federal structure.)	*(Contact details not publicly listed; coordination through FPS Economy)*
Bulgaria	Ministry of Energy – Directorate for Natural Resources (lead SPOC for mining/extraction).	Ministry of Energy – Tel: +359 2 9263 211 (central line); Ministry of

	Ministry of Environment & Water – (coordinating permits for processing, recycling). *(Bulgaria has multiple authorities per stage, or combined roles as needed.)*	Environment – Tel: +359 2 940 6000. *(Emails/online portals provided on ministry websites.)*
Croatia	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development – designated SPOC (coordinates extraction, processing, recycling permits, with internal units handling different stages).	Ministry of Economy – Ulica grada Vukovara 78, 10000 Zagreb. Email: ministry@mingor.hr (general inquiries).
Cyprus	Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry – Geological Survey Department acts as the national SPOC (coordinating all critical raw materials projects permitting).	Geological Survey Dept. – 1 Lefkonos Street, Strovolos 2064, Nicosia. Tel: +357 22409257. Email: director@gsd.meci.gov.cy.
Czech Republic	Ministry of Industry and Trade (MPO) – Mining and Raw Materials Policy Department designated as SPOC (Coordinates all permits for strategic CRM projects.)	MPO Mining & Raw Materials Dept. – Na Františku 32, 110 15 Prague. Email: info@mpo.cz.
Denmark	Danish Energy Agency (under Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities) – serves as the single point of contact for critical raw materials projects.	Danish Energy Agency – Carsten Niebuhrs Gade 43, 1577 Copenhagen. Tel: +45 3392 6700. Email: ens@ens.dk.
Estonia	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications – Energy Department (responsible for mineral resources) designated as SPOC for CRMA implementation.	Ministry of Economic Affairs – Harju 11, 15072 Tallinn. Tel: +372 625 6361. *(General ministry contact, dedicated CRM contact via ministry portal.)*
Finland	Regional State Administrative Agency for Northern Finland – designated as the national service point for CRMA permits in Finland. This central agency ("Pohjois-Suomen Aluehallintovirasto") assists companies with all CRM project permitting.	RSAA Northern Finland – Email: Teo Kangaspunta (Coordinator) at *teo.kangaspunta@gov.fi*
France	Ministry for the Ecological Transition – General Directorate for Energy and Climate (DGEC) designated as the national SPOC (coordinates mining permits, environmental assessments, etc. for CRM projects). *(Region-level prefectures will support as needed.)*	Ministère de la Transition Écologique – Grande Arche, 92055 La Défense Cedex. Tel: +33 1 40 81 21 22. *(Dedicated CRM contact info to be provided on ministry site.)*
Germany	State-Level Mining Authorities – Germany has 16 regional Single Points of Contact (one in each Bundesland) rather than a single federal SPOC. Each German state's mining or environmental agency serves as the central permit coordinator for CRM projects in that state. The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) provides a portal linking to all state contact points.	Germany (general) – BMWK "Zentrale Anlaufstellen" portal lists all state contacts. *(Example: Saxony-Anhalt Mining Authority – Email: anlaufstelleCRMA@mwu.sachsen-anhalt.de.)*

Greece	Ministry of Environment and Energy – General Secretariat for Energy & Mineral Resources is the designated SPOC, coordinating permits for mining and processing of critical raw materials.	Min. Environment & Energy (YPEN) – 119 Mesogeion Ave, Athens 10192. Tel: +30 2131515000. *(Contact via YPEN portal; dedicated CRM email to be announced.)*
Hungary	Ministry of Energy – Department of Mining and Raw Materials serves as Hungary's single point of contact (overseeing all CRM project permits across exploration, extraction, processing, recycling).	Ministry of Energy – Honvéd u. 13-15, 1055 Budapest. Tel: +36 1 550 1800. *(General contact; CRM-specific contact info to be provided on ministry site.)*
Ireland	Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE) – *Geoscience Regulation Office (GSRO)* – SPOC for extraction projects; Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – SPOC for processing & recycling projects. Ireland opted for two specialized contact points for different stages of the value chain.	GSRO (DCEE) – Tom Johnson House, Haddington Road, Dublin D04 K7X4. Email: gsro@dcee.gov.ie EPA – Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford Y35 W821. Email: licensing@epa.ie.
Italy	Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security (MASE) and Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MIMIT) – Italy has three national SPOCs: two within MASE and one within MIMIT *MASE – Directorate-General for Energy Resources*: SPOC for extraction projects *MASE – Directorate-General for Circular Economy*: SPOC for recycling projects. *MIMIT – "UMASI" Mission Unit*: SPOC for processing (transformation) projects. All three coordinate via a joint online portal.	MASE (DG Energy Resources) – Via Cristoforo Colombo 44, 00147 Roma. MASE (DG Circular Economy) – Via Cristoforo Colombo 44, 00147 Roma. MIMIT (UMASI Unit) – Via Molise 2, 00187 Roma. *(Dedicated CRMA inquiries email: crma-helpdesk@mise.gov.it.)*
Latvia	Ministry of Economics – Industrial Policy Department is the designated SPOC, coordinating critical raw material project permits in Latvia.	Ministry of Economics – Brīvības iela 55, Riga, LV-1519. Tel: +371 67013100. Email: pasts@em.gov.lv.
Lithuania	Ministry of Energy – Renewable and Energy Resources Department (overseeing mineral resources) acts as the single contact point for CRMA implementation.	Ministry of Energy – Gedimino pr. 38, LT-01104 Vilnius. Tel: +370 706 64 910. *(General ministry email: info@enmin.lt; CRM-specific contacts provided via ministry site.)*
Luxembourg	Ministry of the Economy – Directorate of Energy and Resources serves as Luxembourg's SPOC, given the country's centralized administration for raw materials.	Ministry of the Economy – 19-21 Boulevard Royal, L-2449 Luxembourg. Tel: +352 247-84111. Email: info@eco.etat.lu.
Malta	Malta Enterprise (Business First) – designated Single Point of Contact for all CRMA-related permits. Marika Tonna, Chief Officer at Malta Enterprise's Business First unit, is the contact person.	Malta Enterprise – Business First – Gwardamangia Hill, Pietà, MEC 0001, Malta. Contact: Marika Tonna (Chief Officer). Email:

		marika.tonna@businessfirst.com.mt. Tel: +356 2542 0000.
Netherlands	Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) – acting as the national SPOC on behalf of the Ministry of Economic Affairs provides guidance and coordinates with permitting authorities (e.g. via the Omgevingsloket). A dedicated helpdesk handles CRMA inquiries.	RVO – CRMA/NZIA Helpdesk: Email vergunningcrma_nzia@rvo.nl (for all questions on CRMA permits). *(Permits are processed via the Omgevingsloket; regional environment services involved as needed.)*
Poland	Ministry of Climate and Environment – Department of Geology is the primary SPOC for mining permits. Regional Authorities: For downstream stages, Poland uses regional points – Voivodeship Marshals handle processing & recycling permits, and Regional Environmental Protection Directors handle environmental impact assessments (EIA). This multi-tier approach means project promoters will be directed to the appropriate regional contact after initial inquiry at the ministry level.	Dept. of Geology, Ministry of Climate & Env. – Wawelska 52/54, 00-922 Warsaw. Email: departament.geologii@klimat.gov.pl. Voivodeship Marshal Offices – (varies by project location; e.g. Marshal of Silesia for projects in Silesia). Regional Environmental Protection Directorates – (varies by region; handles EIA coordination).
Portugal	Comissões de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional (CCDR) – Portugal has five regional SPOCs. Each Regional Coordination and Development Commission acts as the one-stop contact for projects in its region. These agencies coordinate all permitting with national bodies as needed.	Example – CCDR Norte: Rua Rainha D. Estefânia, 251, 4150-304 Porto. Tel: +351 226 086 300. Website: www.ccdr-n.pt *(Each CCDR provides contact emails and phone numbers on their websites.)*
Romania	Ministry of Economy – Directorate-General for Industrial Policy and Competitiveness is designated as the national SPOC, in collaboration with the National Agency for Mineral Resources (ANRM) for mining projects.	Ministry of Economy (Industrial Policy) – Calea Victoriei 152, 010096 Bucharest. Tel: +40 21 202 5000. ANRM – Str. Iancu de Hunedoara 36, Bucharest. Tel: +40 21 317 1018.
Slovakia	Ministry of Economy – Division of Raw Materials and Energy Security serves as the single point of contact, coordinating with the Regional Mining Offices for permit issuance.	Ministry of Economy SR – Mlynské nivy 44/a, 827 15 Bratislava. Tel: +421 2 4854 1111. *(CRM contact via Ministry's raw materials division; info also via regional mining offices.)*
Slovenia	Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning – designated SPOC (through its Directorate for Mineral Resources), handling all CRM project approvals.	Min. of Natural Resources – Dunajska cesta 48, 1000 Ljubljana. Tel: +386 1 478 7400. Email: gp.mnvp@gov.si.
Spain	Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge (MITECO) – General Directorate for Energy and Mines serves as the national SPOC. Additionally, each Autonomous Community in Spain has a regional single contact point (usually the regional industry or	MITECO (Dir. Gral. de Política Energética y Minas) – Plaza de San Juan de la Cruz, 28003 Madrid. Tel: +34 91 349 4826. Autonomous Communities Contacts – *e.g.* Catalonia: Directorate-General

	environmental department) for projects in their territory. Spain's implementation follows the CRMA mandate of one SPOC per relevant administrative level. MITECO's website lists all regional contact details.	of Industry (GENCAT). Andalucía: Regional Ministry of Mines, etc. *(See MITECO portal for full list.)*
Sweden	Swedish Geological Survey (SGU) – acting as the national Single Point of Contact for CRMA. SGU coordinates mining and processing project permits in collaboration with environmental authorities.	SGU Headquarters – Villavägen 18, 754 40 Uppsala. Tel: +46 18 17 90 00. Email: sgu@sgu.se.

12.3.2 Coal-dependent regions in transition

Region (English)	Country	Legacy resource	Transition framework / status
Asturias	Spain	Coal	JTF programme (2021–2027) for Spain; regional Just Transition Agreements (Nalón, Caudal-Aboño, Southwest)
León (Bierzo–Laciana)	Spain	Coal	JTF programme (Spain) targeting provinces affected by coal phase-out
Palencia (Guardo–Velilla, La Robla area)	Spain	Coal	JTF programme (Spain) for coal-affected provinces
Teruel (Andorra–Sierra de Arcos)	Spain	Coal	JTF programme (Spain) targeting Andorra (Teruel) area
A Coruña (As Pontes area)	Spain	Coal/power	JTF programme (Spain)
Cádiz (Los Barrios area)	Spain	Coal/power	JTF programme (Spain)
Córdoba (Puente Nuevo area)	Spain	Coal/power	JTF programme (Spain)
Alcúdia (Mallorca municipalities)	Spain	Coal/power	JTF programme (Spain)
Western Macedonia (Dytiki Makedonia)	Greece	Lignite	National just transition strategy; JTF territorial programme
Megalopolis (Arcadia, Peloponnese)	Greece	Lignite	Just Transition Development Plan; JTF implementation
Ida-Viru County	Estonia	Oil shale	TJTP approved; €354m JTF support
Silesia (Śląskie Voivodeship)	Poland	Hard coal	TJTP approved; significant JTF allocation; Regional Observatory (ROPT)
Western Małopolska	Poland	Hard coal	Included with Silesia under JTF for diversification & land rehabilitation
Lower Silesia (Wałbrzych area)	Poland	Coal	JTF allocation (Lower Silesia) under Polish TJTPs
Wielkopolska (Eastern Wielkopolska/Konin)	Poland	Lignite	JTF allocation (Wielkopolskie) under Polish TJTPs

Łódzkie	Poland	Coal/industry	JTF allocation (Łódzkie) under Polish TJTPs
Lusatia (Lausitz – Brandenburg & Saxony)	Germany	Lignite	TJTPs launched; large structural change programmes; JTF implementation
Rhenish lignite area (Rheinisches Revier, NRW)	Germany	Lignite	TJTP launched; NRW JTF measures; regional structural agencies
Central German lignite district (Mitteldeutsches Revier)	Germany	Lignite	TJTP launched across Saxony/Saxony-Anhalt; hydrogen investment schemes
Ústí Region (North Bohemia)	Czechia	Lignite	Operational Programme Just Transition; substantial JTF investments
Karlovy Vary Region	Czechia	Lignite	Operational Programme Just Transition; RE:START restructuring
Moravian-Silesian Region	Czechia	Hard coal	Operational Programme Just Transition; diversification & land rehab
Jiu Valley (Valea Jiului, Hunedoara County)	Romania	Hard coal	Strategy for just transition adopted; JTF county programme; EU support
Gorj County (Southwest Oltenia)	Romania	Lignite	TJTP (Gorj) under JTF; technical assistance & entrepreneurship support
Upper Nitra (Horná Nitra, Trenčín Region)	Slovakia	Lignite	Citizen-led Action Plan (2019); TJTP approved; coal phase-out
Stara Zagora Province (Maritsa Iztok complex)	Bulgaria	Lignite	TJTP adopted; €1.2bn JTF across BG coal regions; reskilling & energy efficiency
Pernik Province	Bulgaria	Lignite	TJTP adopted; JTF implementation sub-committee active
Kyustendil Province	Bulgaria	Lignite	TJTP adopted; JTF implementation sub-committee active
Latvia – selected peat-dependent areas (Vidzeme, Latgale, Zemgale, Kurzeme)	Latvia	Peat (energy)	TJTPs approved; JTF supports peat phase-out & peatland restoration

12.3.3 Coal mines in operation or mine-waste deposits

Stakeholder	Country	Main Activities	Relevance
Complexul Energetic Oltenia (CEO)	Romania	Lignite mining and power generation; restructuring and solar/gas plans	Reconversion initiatives
Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa (JSW)	Poland	Leading coking coal producer; operates enrichment plants	Relevant for steel chain and methane/safety
LEAG (Lausitz Energie)	Germany	Lignite mines and plants (Schwarze Pumpe); transformation projects (GigawattFactory, storage, renewables)	Briquetting and lignite valorization; regional energy transition

LW Bogdanka (Enea Group)	Poland	Modern coal processing plant	Industrial demonstrations
Polska Grupa Górnicza (PGG)	Poland	Largest EU hard coal producer; operates mines and coal preparation plants (ZPMW)	Industrial demonstrations
RWE Power	Germany	Lignite mining (Garzweiler/Hambach); site reconversion and PV projects	Industrial demonstrations; energy transition
Severočeské doly (ČEZ Group)	Czech Republic	Largest lignite producer (Bílina); closure/transition plans	Industrial demonstrations; energy transition

12.3.4 Mining Consultancy Companies

Stakeholder	Country	Main Activities	Relevance
DMT Group	Germany	Full mining engineering and consulting	Due diligence and lifecycle support
SRK Consulting	Sweden, Finland	Resource studies and geotechnics	Global reputation for mining advisory
SLR Consulting	EU-wide	Technical and environmental advisory	Lifecycle mining consultancy
AFRY	Sweden, Finland	Mining and metals engineering	Focus on transition and ESG
ERM	Global, EU	ESG and permitting consultancy	Supports sustainable mining
Beak Consultants	Germany	Geology, 3D modelling, AI prediction	Data-driven exploration

12.3.5 Operators of mineral recovery plants

Stakeholder	Country	Main Activities	Relevance
Aurubis	Germany, Bulgaria, Belgium, Spain	Multimetal smelting and recycling	Recovery of copper, PMs, and by-products
Boliden Smelters	Sweden, Finland	Copper, nickel, zinc smelting and recycling	Hydrometallurgy and e-waste recycling
Nyrstar	Belgium, France, Netherlands	Zinc smelting and by-product recovery	Strategic for zinc and indium
Umicore	Belgium	Precious metals and battery recycling	Circularity for battery materials
Terrafame	Finland	Nickel and cobalt sulphates	Key for EU battery chemicals
AMG Lithium	Germany	Lithium hydroxide refinery	First EU LiOH refinery
Rock Tech Lithium	Germany	Lithium converter	CRMA strategic project
Eramet/Sibanye Sandouville	France	Nickel refinery conversion to pCAM	Supports EU battery chain
Befesa	Multiple EU sites	Recycling of steel dust and salt slags	Recovery of zinc and secondary aluminium

12.3.6 CRM Value Chain

Stakeholder	Country	Main Activities	Relevance
Eurobattery Minerals	Finland	Nickel-cobalt-copper project	Agreements with Terrafame and Boliden
European Lithium / Critical Metals	Austria	Subsurface lithium project	Fast-track development without EIA
European Metals Holdings (Cinovec)	Czech Republic	Hard rock lithium project; JV with ČEZ	Strategic for EU lithium supply
Keliber (SibanyeStillwater)	Finland	Integrated mine-concentrator-refinery for LiOH	Supported by EIB/InvestEU
KGHM	Poland	Copper cathodes and wire rod	Supports EU electrification
Leading Edge Materials	Sweden	Rare earths (Norra Kärr) and graphite (Woxna)	CRM-focused reactivation of Nordic assets
LKAB	Sweden	REE and phosphorus recovery	Reduces EU import dependency
Neo Performance Materials	Estonia	Rare earth separation and magnets	Supports EU magnet autonomy
Savannah Resources (Barroso)	Portugal	Spodumene lithium project; CRMA strategic project	Key for EU battery value chain
STMicroelectronics	EU	GaN wafer production	Strengthens semiconductor supply
Terrafame	Finland	Nickel and cobalt sulphates	Battery chemicals for EU
VACUUMSCHMELZE	Germany	Magnet production (NdFeB/SmCo)	Automotive and industrial supply
Vulcan Energy Resources	Germany	Geothermal lithium project (Upper Rhine)	Strategic for low-carbon lithium

12.3.7 Data Service Providers

Stakeholder	Country	Main Activities	Relevance
EGDI	EU	Geological data infrastructure	Harmonized mineral intelligence
Gaia-X	EU	Data space federation services	Trusted and interoperable data spaces
IDSA	EU/global	Dataspace Protocol and connectors	Enables secure data sharing
FIWARE	EU/global	Open-source components for data spaces	Supports DSSC and standardization

12.3.8 Scientific Community & Networks

Stakeholder	Country	Main Activities	Relevance
JRC RMIS	EU	Science service for CRMs and SRMs	Technical support for CRMA
EIT RawMaterials	EU	Innovation and skills network	Links industry and academia

ERMA	EU	Alliance for CRM resilience	Mobilizes strategic projects
SCRREEN	EU	Expert network on CRMs	Data and foresight for EU policy
EuroGeoSurveys	EU	Geological surveys coordination	CRM mapping and intelligence
Helmholtz Institute Freiberg	Germany	R&D on CRM recovery	Supports circular economy

12.3.9 European Commission and European Parliament

Stakeholder	Country	Name	Position / Political party
European Commission	EU	Martin Lange	Policy Officer - Raw Materials, European Commission Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW I.1)
European Commission	EU	Joan Canton	Head of Unit - Raw Materials, European Commission Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW I.1). +32-229-52155
European Parliament	DE	Nicola Beer	Renew. Responsible for the act's passage through parliament
European Parliament	DE	Hildegard Bentele	EPP. Responsible for the act's passage through parliament
European Parliament	PL	Izabela-Helena Kloc	ECR. Responsible for the act's passage through parliament