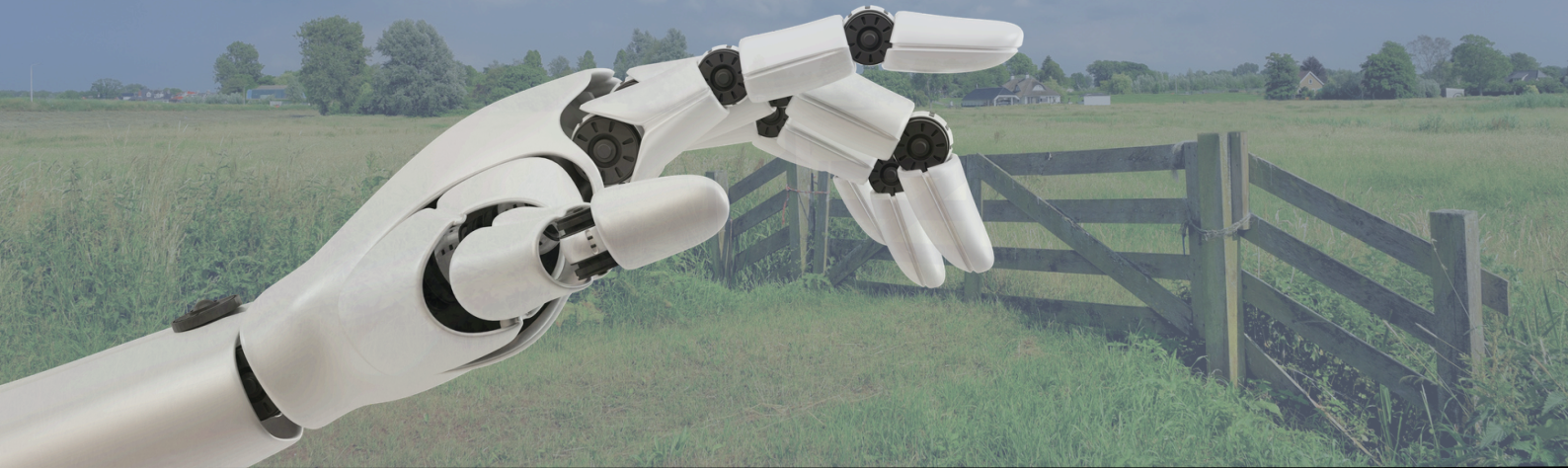


# QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION BULLETIN

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## REVITAL PRESENTS ITS FIRST RESULTS!

The project “REVITAL: Socioeconomic revitalization of low population density areas through clinical telecare”, which is part of the Interreg VI-B Sudoe 2021 – 2027 Program, presented its first results at a conference held on February 5 in Palencia, in which political and institutional authorities participated.

The event, which took place at the Ateneo of Palencia, was also attended by media outlets, highlighting the impact and reach of the project.

### *Diffusion*

The REVITAL European project consortium held its first in-person meeting of the year on February 4th and 5th, 2026, in Palencia, Spain. This key meeting aimed to strengthen coordination among the partners and assess the progress of the various work streams. The meeting culminated on February 5th with a presentation of the project and its results to date, attended by political and institutional authorities and members of the media, which helped to highlight the value of REVITAL.



During the two days of work, the members of the consortium learned firsthand about the facilities of the San Cebrián Foundation, currently under the name BRIAN, as well as the evolution of the pilot project that has been developed in this enclave, one of the three strategic locations of the REVITAL project.

Meetings

WORKING MEETING AND VISIT TO THE PILOT PROJECT

Wednesday, February 4th, was dedicated to an internal working meeting of the REVITAL consortium, held at the Fidel Ramos Independent Living Center in Palencia. This meeting allowed for progress in the technical and operational coordination of the project. The partners reviewed administrative matters and discussed the preparation of the next beneficiary declaration, laying the groundwork for the proper planning of the project's subsequent phases.

Throughout the afternoon, progress on the pilot activities carried out in BRIAN, GARAZI, and IPCB was presented, along with the initial results obtained from the questionnaires administered in the pilot cases, as presented by the participating organizations. The session also included a workshop to identify emerging needs and define protocols and technological tools, as well as a visit to the Fidel Ramos Independent Living Center and its testing laboratory, which provided firsthand insight into the technological solutions associated with the project.



Pablo Viñas, Director of the Health Area at CARTIF and coordinator of the Internationalization-Missions Group at the SIVI Cluster, and Héctor J. Urueña de Castro, R&D&I Researcher at CARTIF, were the professionals and experts invited to learn about this project and to share technological solutions and developments at their organization. They presented three developments from their projects at CARTIF: an assisted walker, a web application for comprehensive rehabilitation (the SERENHE project), and an upper limb rehabilitation robot. This allowed the consortium to learn about other solutions and working tools, identifying new synergies for the future of REVITAL.



## Diffusion

### PRESENTATION TO POLITICIANS AND INSTITUTIONS IN PALENCIA

The event on Thursday, February 5th, held at the Ateneo of Palencia, was marked by the institutional nature of the gathering and the media coverage of the REVITAL project. Following the initial welcome, the project was officially presented to political and institutional authorities, as well as the media. The presentation outlined the project's objectives, innovative approach, and scope, and included an update on the results achieved to date in the pilot phase, highlighting the impact of the actions carried out so far on both the users and the pilot areas.

The meeting was attended by Eduardo García Brea, Director General for Older Adults, People with Disabilities, and Dependency Care of the Regional Ministry of Family and Equality of the Government of Castile and León; Charo García, Councilor for Social Services of the City Council; Juan Antonio Obispo, Deputy for Social Services; and Rosario Fernández, Head of the Social Care, Women, and Equal Opportunities Area of the Palencia Territorial Management. They were accompanied by Montse Fdez. Chimente, Manager of the SIVI Cluster, and Eva del Río, Manager of BRIAN.

In addition, Andrés Pesquera, a user and beneficiary of the REVITAL-Interreg SUDOE Project, shared his experience using one of the assistive technologies, the HANK exoskeleton. "I have post-polio syndrome and I have been using this technology since August 2025. After the sessions, my posture improved, as it allowed me to walk more upright," he noted.

REVITAL already has initial preliminary results that allow for a very positive assessment of its development. To date, 24 professionals have been trained in the use of technological tools for rehabilitation and telecare, and they have provided services to 92 users in the three pilot areas: the Cerrato and Tierra de Campos region in Palencia, Spain; the Garazi canton in the French Basque Country; and the Beira Baixa region in Portugal.

These initial data reflect a significant intervention during the pilot program to date, with an average age of 73 among those served and a total of 763 sessions conducted, representing an average of 8 sessions per person. These figures are still provisional, as data from the various pilot areas continues to be updated as the project progresses.



## Diffusion

### EPS GARAZI SHOWS IN VIDEO THE PILOTING IN FRANCE

L'Établissement Public de Santé de Garazi, EPS Garazi, the entity in charge of piloting the REVITAL project in the Pays Basque region of France, has announced, through an exciting and revealing video, the progress in its territory of this innovative initiative that seeks to transform rehabilitation processes in rural areas through the use of advanced technology and closer, more human and connected support.

The pilot program involved a multidisciplinary team of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, psychomotor therapists, speech therapists, activity coordinators, geriatric care assistants in nursing homes, and psychologists, working under a coordination model between EPS Garazi—both at its hospital and in nursing homes—and independent professionals in the region. This regional collaboration has allowed for the integration of technological innovation into daily clinical practice, fostering a more holistic approach to rehabilitation.

Among the tools used in the pilot project are digital solutions and advanced devices such as MediMoov, Cérébro, Fonctionsexecutives.com, VitalStim Plus, and several exoskeletons—Hank, Belk, and Helk—thanks to the support of Gogo Mobility Robots within the consortium. As Paloma Álvarez, physiotherapist and project coordinator at EPS Garazi, explained: “The Revital project is an opportunity to discover new, modern, and technological devices that are not usually available. What these technological devices bring to traditional rehabilitation is that they enrich it, because they allow for even greater variation in the proposed exercises.” This perception is also shared by the participants; one of the project's patients noted that “it's true that this playful aspect adds something extra to the sessions, and I have the impression that it's what has been developed the most. It's a boost of motivation in relation to the exercises.”



*Fairs and events*

## REVITAL IS PRESENTED TO MORE THAN 30 PROFESSIONALS AT A WORKSHOP ON EXOSKELETONS IN ZAMORA

The REVITAL project was presented to more than 30 professionals in the socio-health field within the framework of the workshop “Exoskeletons and Neurorehabilitation”, held last Tuesday, April 14th at the La Aldehuela Technological Innovation Hub in Zamora, arousing considerable interest due to its innovative approach applied to the rural environment.

The session was led by Sergio Martín, head of Communication for the project through the SIVI Cluster —the entity in charge of coordination and communication—, along with Abigail Azpeleta, project manager at Fundación San Cebrián (currently under the name ‘BRIAN’), Cristina Mena, physiotherapist from the same entity, and Íñigo Urkidi, COO and founding partner of the company Gogoa.

During the presentation, the team presented a preliminary assessment of the situation in rural areas, addressing the main challenges in accessing rehabilitation and social and healthcare services. Based on this analysis, the project's objectives were detailed, focusing on improving the quality of life for older and dependent individuals, as well as revitalizing the socioeconomic development of these areas.



Furthermore, the areas of change that REVITAL aims to promote were explored in depth, including the incorporation of advanced telecare and telerehabilitation services supported by innovative technologies. In this context, the consortium members were introduced, along with the technological solutions employed—including exoskeletons applied to neurorehabilitation—and the development of the pilot projects, illustrated with technical examples, experiences, and relevant data from the process followed.

At this forum, REVITAL reaffirmed its position as a strategic initiative seeking to revitalize rural areas in southwestern Europe by combining technological innovation and local development. Through the implementation of remote clinical care and rehabilitation services, the project aims not only to improve healthcare but also to generate skilled employment, attract residents, and foster a sustainable growth model for these areas.

## Fairs and events

### IPCB BRINGS REVITAL TO THE 4TH CONGRESS AGE.COM

The REVITAL project was present at the 4th AGE.COM Congress, solidifying its position as one of the most relevant initiatives addressing aging in rural areas. Participation was made possible thanks to the Escola Superior de Saúde Dr. Lopes Dias (ESALD), part of the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco, which promoted the project by including it in the congress's poster session.

The poster presented summarizes the work developed within the REVITAL project, which aims to address the challenges of aging and depopulation in rural areas of the SUDOE region, such as Beira Baixa (Portugal), Castile and León (Spain), and the French Basque Country. These regions are characterized by a marked demographic aging and a limited availability of social and healthcare services, a situation that was exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially for the elderly and dependent individuals.

In this context, REVITAL proposes an innovative solution based on the implementation of telecare and telerehabilitation services, combining technological innovation with social cohesion.

Consult the information on the REVITAL Project poster at <https://eu-central-1.linodeobjects.com/evt4-media/documents/4Age.comm Livro de resumos 3Fev.pdf> (pages 16 and 17 / 17 and 18 of the PDF)

#### IPCB, responsible for piloting REVITAL in Portugal

In this regard, the Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco has been the entity in charge of piloting the REVITAL project in Portugal, finally reaching significant figures: a total of 20 people served, 209 individual sessions carried out and an average age of the participants of 69 years.

Under the theme "Challenges of Aging: Creativity, Connectivity and Inclusion", the event presented aging not as a problem, but as an opportunity for the development of sustainable and innovative communities.

For three days, from November 13 to 15, 2025, this international and interdisciplinary meeting brought together researchers, professionals and policymakers to analyze the multiple dimensions of aging and reflect on new strategies that respond to current demographic and social transformations.



## The project consortium



### BENEFICIARY ENTITIES IN SPAIN



#### CLUSTER SIVI | VALLADOLID, SPAIN

SIVI Cluster brings together a significant number of public and private organizations with experience in the design, development and application of innovative technological solutions in the fields of active and healthy aging, mental health and independent living.

The role of the SIVI Cluster will be that of project coordinator. SIVI will also be responsible for coordinating all communication and dissemination activities.

#### UNIVERSIDAD DE DEUSTO | BILBAO, SPAIN

DEUSTO, through its e-VIDA research group at the Faculty of Engineering, provides the project with a multidisciplinary team of researchers with experience in projects (national and international) in the areas of computer, electronic, biomedical and telecommunications engineering. The group is committed to the research and development of tools, systems and interventions based on ICT for health.



#### GOGOQ | BILBAO, SPAIN

GOGOQ is a SME manufacturer of medical devices, which focuses its activity in the field of neuro-rehabilitation. It will provide REVITAL with its technological knowledge as a manufacturer of robotic neuro-rehabilitation systems, and its clinical knowledge of neuro-rehabilitation and tele-assistance, both in person and remotely, with the experience gained in the neuro-rehabilitation centres it manages in the Basque Country.

#### GERENCIA DE SERVICIOS SOCIALES | CASTILE AND LEON, SPAIN

The Social Services Management is a public administration whose main objective is the development and provision of services for the society of Castilla y León.

You will participate in different activities contributing your knowledge in the management of social services, including leading the planning activity of the pilot cases in the three participating regions.



#### FUNDACIÓN SAN CEBRIÁN



#### FUNDACIÓN SAN CEBRIÁN | PALENCIA, SPAIN

It is an entity that provides support to people, mainly in rural areas. It has an important network of centers and services for promoting autonomy, which includes an area for promotion and functional rehabilitation.

Their main competence is to facilitate the project in the territory they know and work for the people who live there. They will be an active part in the planning and execution of the pilot cases in Castilla y León.

**The project consortium****BENEFICIARY ENTITIES IN PORTUGAL****Politécnico  
Castelo Branco**  
Polytechnic University**IPCB** | WHITE CASTLE, PORTUGAL

The Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco is a public higher education institution whose mission is to provide high-level training to citizens and to produce and disseminate knowledge.

IPCB will participate in the planning of the project, the selection of appropriate technological tools, the implementation of telemedicine services, as well as the evaluation of the results obtained, with the support of the consortium partners.

**AEBB** | CASTELO BRANCO, PORTUGAL

The AEBB is a private, non-profit business association for public services. Its purpose is to promote the development of economic activities in the region in the technical, economic, commercial, associative, scientific and other fields.



He brings experience in the connection between the business and academic worlds, as well as in entrepreneurship processes and launching new businesses.

**BENEFICIARY ENTITIES IN FRANCE****EPS GARAZI** | ISPOURE, FRANCE

The Garazi public establishment (EPS Garazi) offers a local healthcare offer, bringing together hospitalisation services in medicine and medical and rehabilitation care, an outpatient and imaging platform, and nearly 200 beds for elderly people in the three EHPADs that comprise it.

It will be key in the management of rehabilitation processes in France.

**ESTIA** | BIDART, FRANCE

ESTIA is a subsidiary of the Bayonne Chamber of Commerce and Industry that provides education and training in industrial technology.

In the project, he brings his experience and knowledge of existing technological tools in the field of tele-assistance, as well as in business promotion.



**Interreg  
Sudoe**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# REVITAL

**Socioeconomic revitalization of low-density  
population areas through clinical telecare**



PROJECT CO-FINANCED BY THE INTERREG SUDOE PROGRAMME  
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