

ITEA PO Days 2026

Closing remarks

Régis Cazenave, ITEA Vice-chairman

17 September 2026

In memory of Franz-Josef Stewing



Franz-Josef was a long-standing and highly valued member of the ITEA Community, an outstanding project leader and a respected colleague.

His commitment, expertise and contribution to ITEA over many years will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts are with his family and loved ones.

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2026

In memory of Franz-Josef Stewing

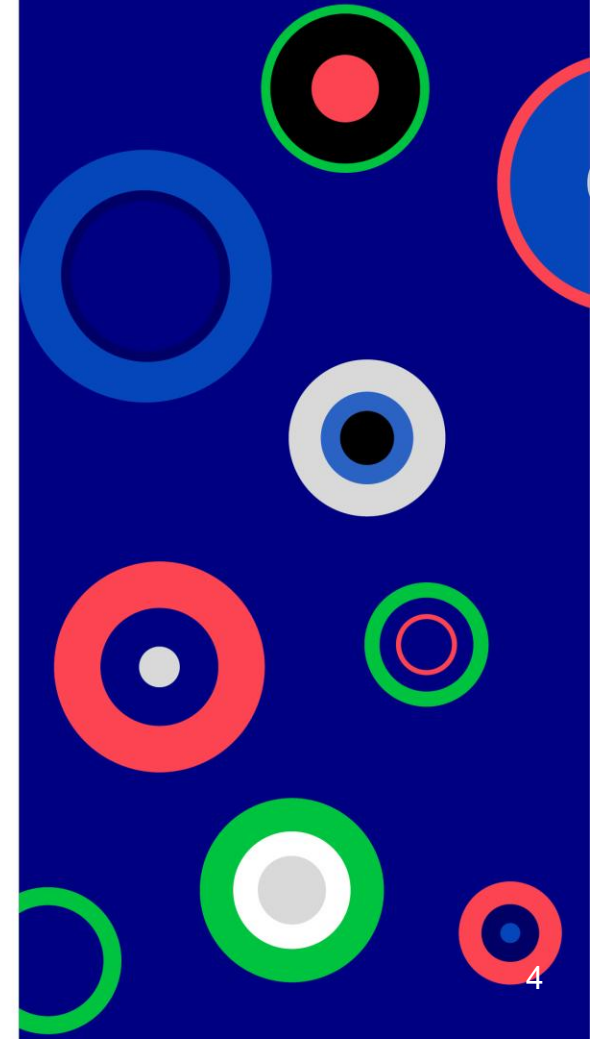
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Record-breaking event

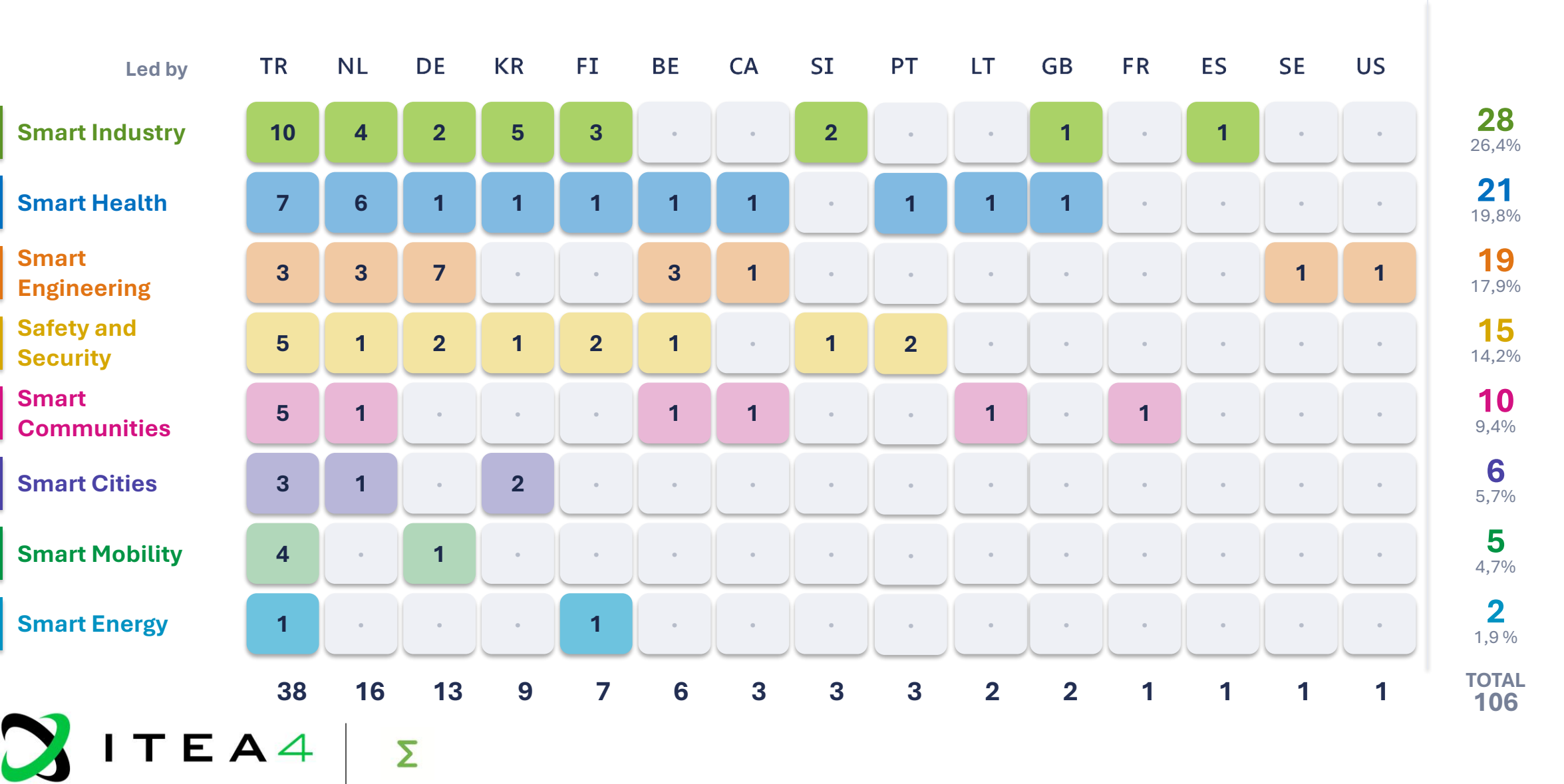
Thanks to you!

- Over 324 participants from 20 countries
- 106 project ideas submitted, 80+ posters presented, 12 intermediate presentations, 7 final presentations



Broad international portfolio of project ideas

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Tackling global challenges

Highlights [1/2]

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Healthcare: enable earlier detection, personalised clinical decisions and continuous care from hospital to home; reduce staff workload through connected services and automation.



Manufacturing: improve production planning, inspection and predictive maintenance; preserve expert knowledge and support safe human-robot collaboration.



Engineering: accelerate design, simulation and software development automate compliance checks and connect engineering models with field operations.



Mobility and logistics: coordinate maritime, airport and freight operations; improve charging strategies, road safety and supply-chain resilience.

Tackling global challenges

Highlights [2/2]

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Energy and circular economy: optimise energy assets and data-centre power; reduce food and material waste and extend connected-product lifetimes.



Safety and security: strengthen fraud prevention, identity verification and cybersecurity; enable trusted AI-assisted transactions and decisions.



Communities: Education and personalised learning and career guidance.



Cities: improve urban coordination, disaster response and continuity of essential services.

A glimpse of what's emerging

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- **Governed and safety-assured agentic AI** – coordinate autonomous actions within verified safety constraints, with runtime checks and human oversight (*PACT, COORDYNEX*).
- **Privacy-preserving identity protection** – combine edge-based deepfake detection, physiological sensing, Zero-Knowledge Proofs and federated learning without centralising raw biometric data (*FIDELIS*).
- **Digital sovereignty beyond technology** – address context, cognitive, economic and social sovereignty together to strengthen resilience, trust and competitiveness (*HOSKIT*).
- **Simulation-generated data for AI validation** – generate labelled images and videos from BIM models to train and evaluate computer vision on rare defects and unsafe situations, with real-site data supporting validation (*SCENE-BIM*).
- **Agentic modelling and simulation** – use AI agents to build, simulate and verify physical models, aiming to accelerate early engineering design and exploration (*AMASE*).

- **Agentic AI and orchestration:** coordinate specialised AI agents, data and tools to carry complex workflows across engineering, industrial operations, healthcare and enterprise environments.
- **Digital twins and simulation:** connect operational data with models to predict risks, evaluate alternatives and support planning and control.
- **Edge and federated intelligence:** process data close to its source and enable collaboration while preserving privacy, sovereignty and operational resilience.
- **Knowledge-grounded and multimodal AI:** combine language models, knowledge graphs, sensor data and domain expertise for context-aware decisions.
- **Trust and assurance by design:** integrate explainability, human oversight, runtime safeguards and reusable compliance evidence into AI-enabled systems.
- **Physical AI and robotics:** connect perception, reasoning and action in factories, hospitals, construction sites and maritime environments.



AI is a common foundation across the portfolio

Integration is a recurring priority

Trust is central to deployment

- Define the operational **problem**, target **users** and **measurable success** and **impact** criteria.
- Show what is **innovative** beyond using AI: domain knowledge, integration, assurance or a reusable software capability.
- Secure access to relevant **data**, end users and realistic validation environments early.
- Explore **collaboration** or consolidation with complementary ideas.
- Carefully consider the PO **evaluation feedback** and align early with your Public Authority.

Next steps: ITEA Call 2026 calendar

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- Opening of the Call 15 September 2026
- ITEA Project Outline preparation Days 15-17 September 2026
- Deadline for submission of Project Outlines (PO) 2 November 2026 - 17:00 CET
- Letter of Intent 16 November 2026
- Announcement of POs invited for Full Project Proposal (FPP) submission & rejected POs 15 December 2026
- FPP briefing webinar 17 December 2026
- Deadline for submission of FPPs (including Declaration of Acceptance) 11 February 2027 - 17:00 CET
- Announcement of labelled and rejected FPPs 31 March 2027
- National funding applications Q4 2026 - Q2 2027

Thank you very much
for your valuable contribution
and good luck!

And hope to see you on
14-16 September 2027
in The Hague
in The Netherlands!