# Tools4LEAs

**A project of the European Anti-Cybercrime Technology Development Association (EACTDA)**

EACTDA

# D2.3 Exploitation Management Handbook

| Version: | 1.0 | |
|---|---|---|
| Delivery date: | September 2023 | |
| Dissemination level: | Public | |
| Status | FINAL | |
| Nature: | Report | |
| Main author(s): | Juan Arraiza | EACTDA |
| Contributor(s): | Edmundas Piesarskas | L3CE seconded to EACTDA |
| | | |
| | | |

**DOCUMENT CONTROL**

| Version | Date | Author(s) | Change(s) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.1 | 30/08/2023 | Juan Arraiza | Update of the Tools4LEAs v1 project's equivalent deliverable, including suggested changes and updates. |
| 0.2 | 14/09/2023 | Edmundas Piesarskas | First version, released for review. |
| 0.3 | 21/09/2023 | Juan Arraiza | Updated with feedback from reviewer. |
| 1.0 | 26/09/2023 | Juan Arraiza | Final version, ready to be submitted. |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Overview of the Tools4LEAs project

EACTDA is the acronym of the European Anti-Cybercrime Technology Development Association, which is a private non-profit association, established in San Sebastian, Spain. The members of the Association include European Union (EU) public entities fighting cybercrime, universities and research technology organisations, for-profit private companies, and other relevant actors in the field of the EU security research and innovation.

The Tools4LEAs projects are a series of projects that receive a Direct Award under the ISFP programme, and which main goal is to facilitate and promote the uptake of innovative technologies by EU public entities fighting cybercrime. EACTDA, via the Tools4LEAs projects, aims at further developing pre-existing assets, mainly from EU-funded security research and development projects, so that they are offered with no license cost and with access to the source code to EU public entities fighting cybercrime.

In the first Tools4LEAs project (v1; Jul'21 to Jun'23), the focus was on designing and setting up the infrastructures, processes, and governance / decision-making mechanisms, whilst delivering the first set of "fully-tested and operational-ready" tools via Europol's Tool Repository. Though 11 tools were further developed in the v1 project, it is expected that 3 of them will not be released to their targeted audience as they do not pass the pre-established quality threshold of "operational-ready". Also, an End-User Advisory Board (EUAB) composed as of Jul'23 by 23 members from 14 EU member states and co-chaired by two Europol units (EC3 and Innovation Lab) was established and it is the body responsible for identifying and prioritising end-user needs and which has veto right over the decisions done by EACTDA/Tools4LEAs with regard to the tool development roadmap.

In the second Tools4LEAs project (v2; Jul'23 to Jun'25), it is proposed to double the number of tools delivered. Also, the repository of tools implemented in v1, and currently used to host the results of the Tools4LEAs projects, will be enhanced and reused to host the results of EU-funded security research projects (when relevant in the field of cybercrime). EACTDA will play the role of custodian of these results, and the technical, IPR, and administrative aspects needed to create this new repository of security research results will be put in place. In addition, the v2 project will include a pilot to proof the concept of initial and limited support&maintenance periods for a selection of tools. Besides, a pilot of the concept of EACTDA National Nodes (NN) will be included, with nodes planned in Lithuania, France, Spain, and maybe one or two additional ones. Also, a platform for end-users to evaluate online tools will be implemented. Finally, the v2 project will include activities to further build the community of Tools4LEAs stakeholders and to promote the creation and/or adoption of technical blueprints, and in general, of commonly accepted best practices.

## 1.2. Main objective of this document

The main objective of deliverable D2.3 "*Exploitation Management Handbook*" is to set out in detail the exploitation process that is defined for the Tools4LEAs project. Exploitation process contains workflow of how different technological solutions travel from Tech-providers to selection phase and to end-users at national / regional / international levels.

This handbook is based on the initial design of the exploitation strategy described in the Tools4LEAs first iteration (2021-2023) project deliverable D2.6 "*Exploitation strategy and planning report*". Scope

**Co-funded by the European Union**

of the process and each step on how this is going to be implemented is presented in it. Initial design (D2.6) was slightly modified reflecting the practical implementation experience. Those are explicitly described in the Tools4LEA first iteration (2021-2023) project *D2.7 "Report on exploitation activities and exploitation strategy and planning update".* This document is a blend of the above-mentioned documents. In addition, it contains some activities, that are newly included, or changes occur during the period in between preparation of documents. Current version of exploitation activities remains the same focus on end-users and "last mile".

## 1.3.    Relation to other deliverables

This deliverable is closely related to the following deliverables:

- **D1.6 IPR management handbook** and **D1.7 Report on IPR management activities**: Deliverables D1.6 and D1.7 focus on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), aspect that is closely related to the exploitation strategy and planning of the Tools4LEAs project that are presented in more details in deliverables D2.3 and D2.4.
- **D2.4 Report on exploitation management activities**: Deliverable D2.4 will present at the end of the project (month 24) the report of the exploitation strategy and planning activities conducted during the project; which are presented in this deliverable D2.3.

## 1.4.    Structure of the deliverable

Section 2 of the document provides a short remainder on the Exploitation strategy to provide the context for next section on implementation. This is followed by the identification of the parties involved in the process and their respective roles. This section finalises with the definition of the high-level process that provides the overview of all activities planned within exploitation strategy.

Each of high-level process components is further detailed in dedicated sections. Section 3 presents the Technological Roadmap, section 4 presents the Selection and Initiation of projects, section 5 describes the execution of projects, and section 6 describes the processes defined for the adoption of the results by the end-users.

Section 7 presents several relevant additional considerations.

And finally, section 8 presents the conclusions and future work that has been identified.

## 2. Scope of the exploitation strategy

This section provides a condensed information on exploitation strategy. The explicit description is provided in D2.6 and this deliverable only the main points are reminded.

The aim of the end-user driven ecosystem that the Tools4LEAs project is embedded into is to support and promote the creation and diffusion of innovations between EU LEA's by strengthening the demand for innovations and improving the prerequisites for their adoption[1]. The focus is mainly made on innovative software tools/solutions. The approach can be characterised as end-user driven ecosystem development and maintenance.

The implementation of the exploitation strategy requires the participation of EACTDA internal resources as well as of external stakeholders, such as end-user organizations and solution providers, combining the ecosystem.

Being end-user driven organisation EACTDA has End-User Advisory Board (EUAB). The EUAB gives direction for the development of tools by providing inputs about end-user needs and priorities and selecting tools for development and evaluating tools. Europol has a key role in facilitating EUAB operations. The target beneficiaries of the whole exploitation strategy implementation are national LEA's of EU MS. Scale of tools, made available through Tools4LEAs project, deployed at operational level is to be the main indicator of strategy implementation.

EACTDA is positioned as intermediary organisation that effectively manage development of innovations using internal resources and fostering the relationships with potential Technology providers that represents different groups of stakeholders: Industry, RTO's and Academia. They propose the further development/enhancement of pre-existing technology solutions that are mature enough (TRLs 6-7). In addition to Technology providers ecosystem includes Service providers - organizations, capable and interested to provide expected services at national and/or regional level.

As it is described in D2.6, the exploitation strategy is a process., consisting of four main blocs. Exploitation activities start by defining Technological Roadmap followed by Selection and Initiation of Projects, Project Execution and finalised by Adoption and use of the tool. Each block is described as a process in more detail. Such approach allowed to construct the strategy itself as well as to illustrate the implementation of the strategy (Section 3). The strategy is presented as a process flow, but in reality is not so linear.

Further sections of the document will provide a more detail description of each process block of the exploitation strategy. Each block is presented in the general schema and a description of each component is provided.

---

[1] https://rritrends.res-agora.eu/uploads/22/Framework_and_Action_Plan.pdf

## 3. Technological Roadmap definition

The block consists of 3 main components. It is important to note, that funnelling of technological solutions is made in two directions – from supply side (Bottom-up) and demand side (Top-down).
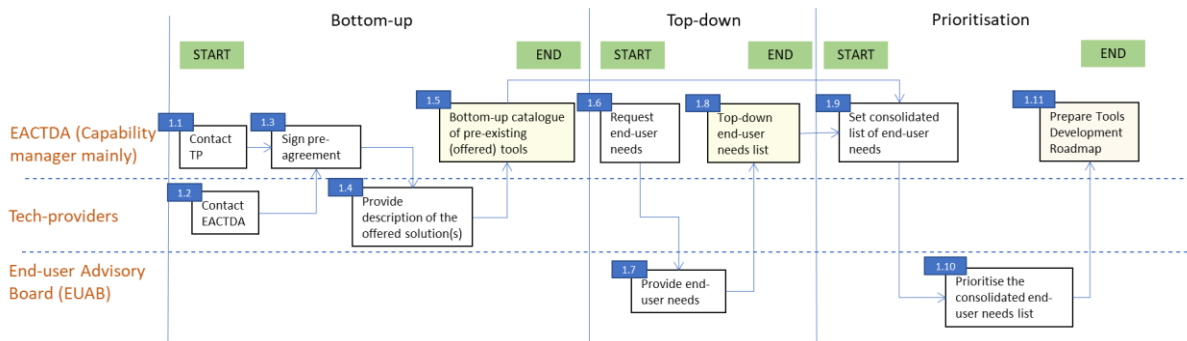


*Figure 1 – Technological Roadmap definition process block.*

There are two starting points that initiate the exploitation implementation. The "bottom-up" process component starts with contacting different Tech-providers (1.1). Those can be different EU or regional / national funded projects, academia institutions or RTO's that develop technological solutions, relevant to LEAs. Tech-providers can also initiate the contact with EACTDA (1.2). More attention for awareness building among target groups is to be given during the upcoming period, as only few organizations contacted EACTDA during the previous period. From the exploitation strategy point of view those activities should feed further activities, thus the number of contacts and hit-rate (signed pre-agreement) can be considered as Key Performance Indicators (KPI).

Initial contacts with Tech-providers have two main content points:

- Relevance to LEA activities – tech innovation should be relevant to activities of LEAs and the tech-provider should provide a clear statement of what value this can bring to them.
- TRL level – only innovative solutions, that have reached TRL6-7 or above level are subject for further consideration. The exploitation strategy of the Tools4LEAs project is not considering any lower-level solutions.

If those two requirements are met, a pre-agreement between EACTDA and the Tech-provider can be signed (1.3). This pre-agreement basically consists in a declaration of intent by the Tech-provider to offer to EACTDA and the Tools4LEAs tools owned by the Tech-provider under the terms and conditions of the overall Tools4LEAs Intellectual Property Rights framework. The management of signing as many as possible pre-agreements with relevant Tech-providers is the responsibility of EACTDA's Capability manager.

Based on the terms and conditions of the previously signed pre-agreement, Tech-providers can provide the details in the structured template (1.4) of the tools they are offering. During the implementation phase of the Exploitation strategy the Solution description Template (SDTempl) should be developed.

All of the provided descriptions are included in the Bottom-up catalogue (1.5), managed by EACTDA.

The whole "bottom-up" process component is managed by EACTDA Capability manger, who is also responsible for the SDTempl development and the definition and data collection of the relevant KPI's.

Execution of this process component is considered as on-going (there is no framed time tine for intake of solutions, and this is to be handled as continuous activity).

In parallel to the "bottom-up" process component, the "top-down" process block component is also to be implemented. This is a demand driven approach. This process component is to be executed in a more structured way.

The process component is triggered by EACTDA Capability manager, by requesting the members of the End-user Advisory Board (EUAB) to provide end-user needs in the structured way (1.6). Prior to the request, the structuring of available material is made by the Capability manager. Materials can be obtained from other relevant projects (e.g., I-Lead). EUAB is responsible to provide information about the end-user needs (1.7), then this information is processed and transformed into the End-user needs list by EACTDA (1.8). This process component is of great importance, as it guides the focus and activities of the organisation towards the needs of end-users. Therefore, the involvement of the end-users (in this case, of the members of the EUAB) is of a critical importance.

This component is managed by EACTDA Capability manager and is expected to be executed, at minimum, twice a year.

The closing component of this block is Prioritisation. Based on the Catalogue of pre-existing tools and End-user need list, the Capability manager compose the Consolidated list of end-user needs (1.9). This is done by mapping proposed solutions to the needs list. Each need is linked to proposed solution. If no relevant solution is available in the Catalogue, there are additional efforts made to identify relevant ones and process starts from 1.1. The Consolidated list is shared with end-users (EUAB) for their prioritisation (1.10). The prioritisation process is facilitated by the Capability Manager, who plays the role of Secretary of the EUAB.

The end-user needs prioritisation process is already defined and it has been proof-tested. The 100 points technique is used, which allows each representative of end-users to distribute 100 points among the list of end-user needs. Then, the maths partis is done, and the end-user needs that obtain more points are ranked first. When the prioritisation exercise ends, the prioritised list of end-user needs is shared with the EUAB for their final confirmation.

The final deliverable of this block is the Tools development Roadmap. The roadmap will be developed by EACTDA Capability manager based on the result of the prioritisation of the end-user needs.

The whole block is organised and executed by the EACTDA Capability manager at least twice a year. The main outcome of the block is the Tools development Roadmap, which is the main input to the next process block of the Exploitation strategy.

## 4. Selection and Initiation of Projects

This process block contains two phases Selection and Initiation. The focus of the block is on the alignment of the end-user needs with the Tech-providers understanding of the solution at detailed level.
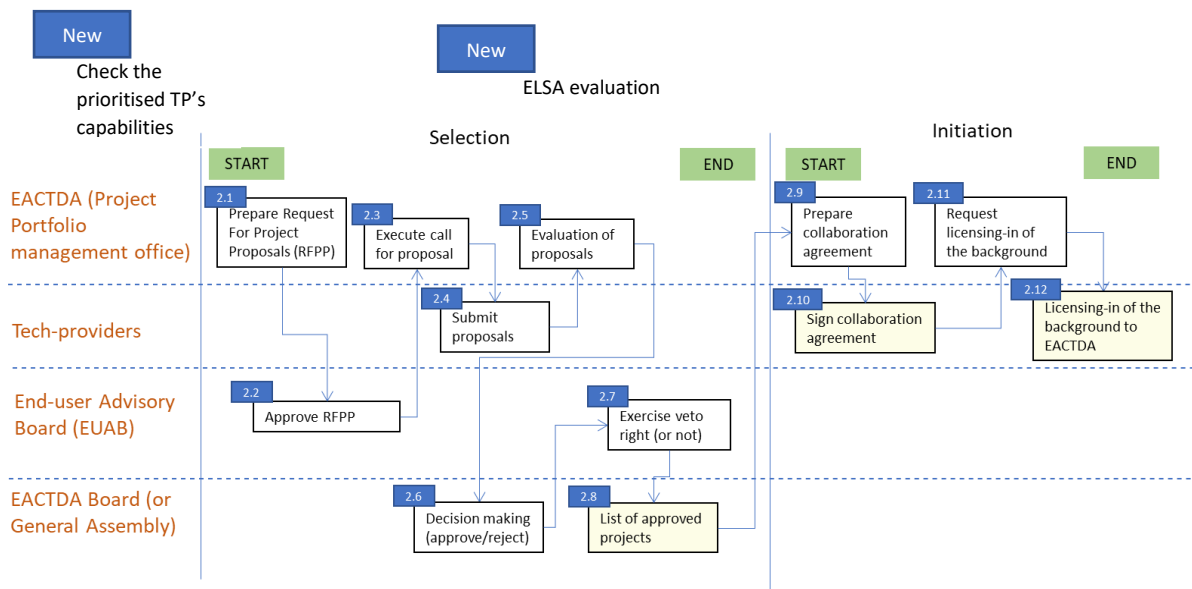


*Figure 2 – Selection and implementation of Projects process block.*

Based on the Roadmap, EACTDA Project Portfolio management team is now responsible for preparation of the Request for Project Proposals (RFPP) (2.1). But before the preparation of RFPP new step was added, to double-check the availability of resources and interest of Technology provider to continue the work.

The RFPP includes detailed Business Requirements, which are aligned with the end-user needs. The EUAB should approve the RFPP in order to verify that their needs are satisfied by the Business Requirements (2.2). After the RFPP is approved, the PPMO prepares and executes a call for proposals (2.3). Tech-providers respond to the RFPP by submitting their proposals (2.4). The PPMO makes a preliminary evaluation of the submitted proposals taking into account the set of pre-established evaluation criteria (2.5). During the evaluation step the scope was widened by including ELSA assessment, done by special ELSA committee to ensure the compliance issues. This evaluation with a recommendation is presented to the EACTDA Board or to the General Assembly for approval (2.6), depending on the duration and budget. The decision is made on each project/proposal individually. Even at this stage, the decision made by the EACTDA governance body is still to be verified by end-users. The EUAB can use its veto right on any decision on this matter. The veto right of the EUAB results in the exclusion of the proposal from the final list. Veto application does not require providing to the Proposer any reasoning or justification. After the EUAB's verification, EACTDA prepares the final list of approved projects (2.8). This is the final output of this process component.

The Selection component is supported by EACTDA PPMO. As subject of this component is detailed alignment of needs and solution capabilities there might occur different technical issues to be resolved with the help technical experts.

End-user contributions during this component is crucial, EACTDA is considered as a supporting organisation and the EUAB as a supervisory and final decision-making body.

As this component follows the Technological Roadmap block, it is planned that it will be executed at least on bi-yearly bases.

After the final list of approved projects is made, a more administrative component is to be executed. The initiation of the projects is to be handled by EACTDA PPMO and Tech-providers. A Collaboration agreement is prepared by EACTDA PPMO (2.9) and it is signed with the Tech-provider (2.10). Also, a very important activity at this stage is the licensing-in management. Tech-providers must provide a license (2.12) of the solution they already own and that will be further developed/enhanced during the project (the "background") to EACTDA (2.11). More details on licensing agreements are presented in D1.6 "IPR management handbook".

The main outputs of this process component are the Collaboration agreement and the licensing-in licence. Presence of both lead to Project execution block.

Despite the fact that this process block was executed rather smoothly, most of steps in the process are standardised and only minimal changes are to be made during the implementation, managing licensing agreements is the main challenge. Motivating TP's to provide free access for LEA's to their solutions is difficult. Thus, this part of the process should be improved by building more motivation to get involved in the EACTDA up-take management process.

## 5. Project execution

The following process block aims to develop tools to the expectations of end-users. This is the most heavyweight block and is the main focus of the Tools4LEAs project. It covers tools development, supported by EACTDA, and demonstration and evaluation events, followed by evaluation activities. At the end of this block tools are made available for end-users for use.
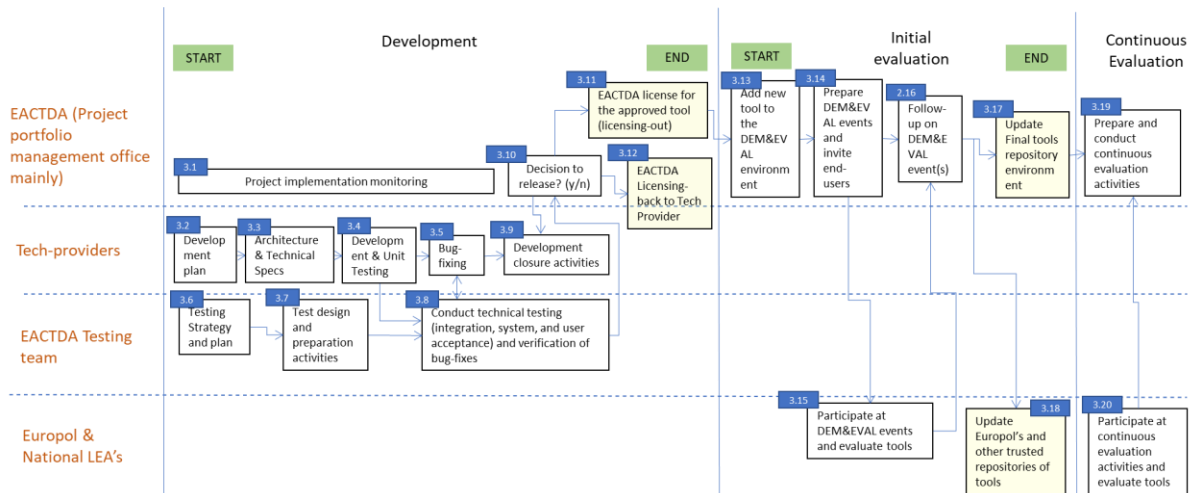


*Figure 3 – Project execution process block.*

All activities during the Project development stage are to be monitored by PPMO (3.1) and supported by the Technical manager as needed. In most cases, the development itself is made by the Tech-provider, though in some cases it could also be that EACTDA conducts the development with its own resources. The process starts with the preparation of the Development plan (3.2), that should be rather detailed to have a proper tool for monitoring. Then leading to the Architecture and Technical specifications. The PPMO monitors all the process and ensures that these (and all other) artifacts comply with EACTDA and Tools4LEAs' guidelines and policies before actual development is performed (3.4).

EACTDA Testing team is working in parallel. According to Development plan and based on the business requirements firstly defined in the Request for Project Proposals and that are included in the Collaboration Agreement, they prepare the Testing strategy and plan (3.6). This is followed by test design and preparation activities (3.7). After development and initial testing is made by Tech-providers (3.4), EACTDA Testing team conducts technical testing (3.8). If testing detects bugs, they are to be fixed by Tech-provider (3.5). Verification of bug fixes is also to be provided by EACTDA Testing team. The development of tools, supported by Tools4LEAs project ends with Development closure activities (3.9), where Tech-provider assemble all relevant materials (e.g.: manuals, reporting, etc.) to be handles over to EACTDA.

A few focus areas in the development process should be highlighted:

- Monitoring of the process (executed by PPMO mainly), ensuring that the progress in made according to the Development plan and early identification of potential problems is made.
- Ensuring that the end-user expectations, described in collaboration agreement are fully met. PPMO is responsible for this component, with support from Technical manager.
- Quality of the development is a primary concern of the Testing team. As it was mentioned, this team might consist of specialists from different institutions. Standardization, application of relevant certification schemas is also part of Testing team activities.

The Tools4LEAs project

The main objective of whole development process (3.1 – 3.9) is to move the tool TRL 9, to make it a final, high-quality product, that can be implemented for use by LEA organisation.

Based on materials provided by tech-provider, EACTDA testing team and Project implementation monitoring activities EACTDA (PPMO) should make the decision to release the tool. It might be not released if there are significant deviations from initial development plan and issues reported by Testing team. In case of rejection, development phase can be prolonged, or project can be cancelled. Project implementation monitoring activities should prevent occurrence of cancellation by detecting relevant issues at the early stage of development.

If decision is made to release the tool, licensing related are handled. License to make the approved toll available for LEAs (the "licensing-out") is provided to EACTDA (3.11) and license to Tech-Provider for tool to be used is also provided (the "licensing-back"). More details on licensing agreements are presented in D1.6 "IPR management handbook".

Development component is followed by the Initial evaluation stage. Twice a year EACTDA should organise Demonstration & Evaluation (DEM&EVAL) events. Aim pf those events is to present the tolls developed and receive initial evaluation from end-users. As tools are approved, they should be added to special DEM&EVAL environment (3.13). EACTD prepares the event (3.14) and manages all observations and comments provided during it (3.16). The involvement of Europol and LEAs representatives is very important at this stage. They are expected to participate in the DEM&EVAL events and provide the initial evaluation of presented tools (3.15). During the implementation phase of the Exploitation strategy the Tool evaluation template (TETempl), describing evaluation criteria, should be developed in order to have a well-structured and unified evaluation. The analysis of LEAs readiness (including social readiness level) for innovation uptake is to be included in the evaluation template (TETempl).

After initial evaluation by end-users is provided, EACTDA team places tool with all relevant documentation, including initial evaluation, in the Final tool's repository environment (3.17). Same set can also be placed in Interpol's repository or other trusted repositories (e.g.: training materials can be made available through ECTEG for long lasting and standardized training development and execution). (3.18). At this point comprehensive tool set is made available to end users.

It is important to note, that at this point only the initial evaluation of tools is made. End-user experience using different tools is one of the critical success factors facilitating up-take process. Positive feedback on the tool from early adopters serves as a reference for others. It also helps unification of tooling among national LEAs. Tools that are most popular and have positive evaluation presumably would be more considered by others. Considering importance of the evaluation, EACTDA team plans to practice continuous evaluation activities. Any experimentation or deployment initiatives will be followed by request to provide evaluation (3.19 & 3.20). The same template (or slightly modified) is to be used. In order to make it simple, results of the continuous evaluation will be provided in a format of ranking.

For the evaluation of activities within Project execution block few KPI's are proposed:

- Part of the released projects compare to initiated projects.
- Scale of initial evaluations received from end-users.
- Positivity of evaluations received.

The main output of this block is tools, including all relevant elements and evaluation reports, are made available through repositories of EACTDA, Europol's and other trusted partners.

## 6. Adoption

This is the final block, focusing on the gap between available tools and up-take by end-users. As it is mentioned in the short description of the exploitation strategy, solutions released will in many cases not meet all the specific requirements and needs that the end-users will have at national level. The adoption component aims to facilitate and coordinate those actions.

It is important to note, that this process block is relevant only for those solutions that undergo certain modifications. End-users can go directly to the final step (4.9) of exploitation strategy - operation of tool and providing evaluation as requested (3.19). Current process entails that all tools (whole package) are made available for Europol. Europol decides if particular tools are to be uploaded to their platform "Europol Tools Repository" (ETR). If the tool is made available at ETR, individuals, that have access to the platform, can access it if Model License Agreement is signed. Such agreement with Europol makes the availability of tools faster for LEAs in Europol scope. Even though this is a good channel for innovative solutions, it has some limitations in the context of up-take:

- Tools can be accessed as they are and no additional support provided. This means that no maintenance services, no adoption, training or other relevant components are provided with the tool. For more sophisticated tools this is a very important issue. The adoption, integration and use of the tool is up to the entities interested. No support for the tools might lead to the discreditation of innovative solutions in general.
- Tools are accessed by individuals. Thus, how solution can be diffused through organization, o several organizations is left unfolded.
- Limited availability as not all organizations fighting cyber crime can access tools through ETR.

This leads to the conclusion, that making innovative solutions available through ETR is good practice, but not enough to support the "last mile" concept wide adoption of such solutions. Inclusion of Adoption process block in EACTDA activities remains relevant.

The concept is based on the network of national or regional level service providers, that can support deployment and adaptation of the toll provided. Initial Tech-providers will be encouraged to develop this network applying certification framework. Such extension will allow national or regional up-take initiatives to obtain needed adaptation at their level.

This concept also provides new capabilities for continuous improvement, as smaller scale improvements and additional functionalities will be handled back to EACTDA and included in new version of tool.
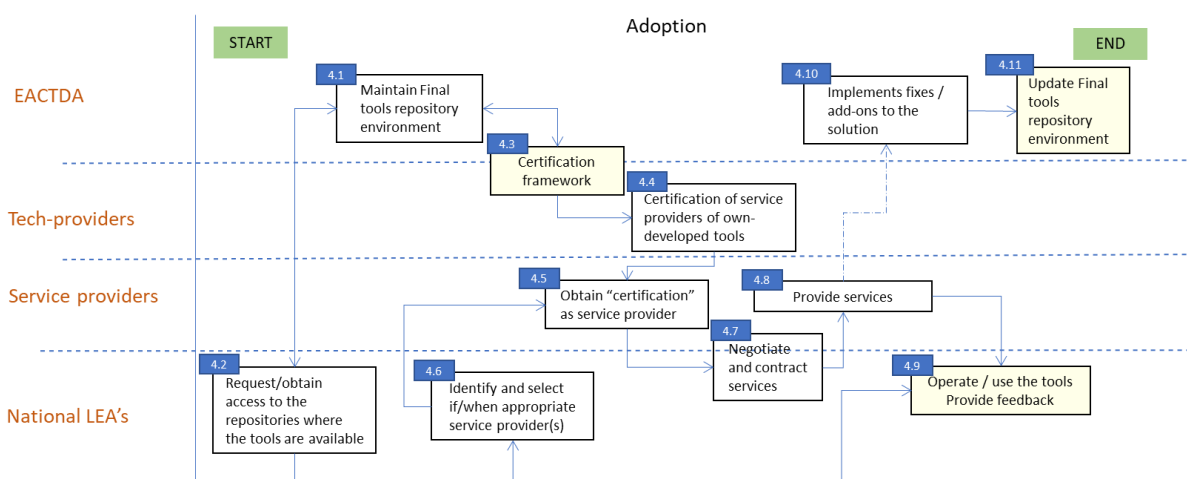
*Figure 4 – Adoption process block.*

As EACTDA maintains the Final tools repository (4.1), national LEAs can obtain access to repository and get relevant tool(s) (4.2).

The full concept of Certification framework (4.3) is still to be detailed. It is planned that the framework will be built continually, consolidating applied practice. It is expected to break services in different categories (e.g.: training, maintenance, functional improvements, integration services, etc.), allowing to identify most relevant services for certain tool. Based on this Tech-provider will identify relevant national/regional service providers and will certify them. Certification can be made following Tech-provider practice or might be assisted by EACTDA. EACTDA's role is to facilitate this process, map certification frameworks and provide relevant information to end-users.

Following the process block, the Certification framework will be gradually built (4.3). Based on it, Tech-providers will select and certify service providers (4.4 & 4.5).

Such concept will provide end-users with additional support, making adoption of tools more realizable. As they choose the tool to be deployed (4.2), they can evaluate their needs for additional development or specific adaptation, localization to their needs. As they know changes that are to be done, they can identify and contact appropriate certified service provider for relevant activities (4.6). Contract can be signed between LEA and service provider on negotiated bases (4.7). At this point internal financial resources, national, regional or EU funding instruments can be used. Following the agreement services are to be provided (4.8). It is important to note, that service provision licensing agreements are similar to the ones in the Project execution block. It means that improvements made should be also transferred to EACTDA, if they are relevant. EACTDA team is responsible for implementing those changes in tool (e.g., bug fixings, additional language module, etc.) (4.10). Such mechanism ensures continuous improvement of tools, that are adopted by end-users.

The final step (4.9) of exploitation strategy from the end-user perspective, is operation of tool and providing evaluation as requested (3.19).

# 7. Additional support

The presented exploitation strategy describes main components directly linked to making tools available and finetuned to their specific needs. In addition to them there are some horizontal activities, that are not linked to the process blocks and to tools at different stages of the process.

The whole exploitation strategy implementation requires trusted environment / infrastructure. This entails storing and managing all information from contacted tools providers, contracts, licenses, tools themselves, all documentation and other relevant artefacts. Final tools repository is a final component of this infrastructure. Whole of this supporting infrastructure maintenance is important for exploitation implementation and is under the responsibility of EACTDA.

Dissemination activities are also to be considered as horizontal exploitation supporting function. Acknowledging the importance of communication between LEAs in the tools up-take process, EACTDA role remains to facilitate the structured information sharing. Focus is on the evaluation of tools (included as process components in the exploitation strategy description); testing results, good practice, success stories, reference contacts, transparent and swift reaction to any relevant incidents is to be considered as important scope of dissemination. Exploitation strategy implementation includes DEM&EVAL events, but other dissemination actions should also be considered.

To support the adoption of new tools additional resources and activities in-scope of the Tools4LEAs-v2 are planned. After the last-mile development projects are finished different activities (e.g.: hackathons, support&maintenance pilot phase, etc.) are to be executed. Also, the concept of National Nodes (NN) is very important to pilot at this stage, creating and supporting communities at local level able to test, share experience and develop demand for maintenance on the national level.

Exploitation strategy does not include any intend to provide direct recommendations on particular tools for their up-take by end-users. The strategy covers only the consolidation and structured presentation of end-user evaluations. At the same time EACTDA acknowledges the value of capillarity – different MS LEAs using similar tools, enabling smoother cooperation and evidence recognition. Thus, facilitation of wider up-take of most popular tools, joint procurement initiatives is to be considered as supporting function. "Think Tank" approach is planned to be used for new tools to complete exploitation potential identification leading towards identification of core strategies for LEA exploitation as well exploitation by other related stakeholders group considering potential dual use aspects (cyber security, defence and other relevant practitioners' groups). For this purpose, the DevSecOps Body of Knowledge tailored to the public security practitioners will be continuously developed and shared among community. This will be based on collection of practice, identifying best practice and presenting them in a structured manner. Different literature was reviewed and own, cybercrime specific, framework was developed. It will be continuously undated and made available for the community of interested partners.

# 8. Summary

## 8.1. Conclusion

In this document we have provided a detailed description of the Exploitation process for the Tools4LEAs-v2 project.

This handbook is based on the initial design of the exploitation strategy described in the Tools4LEAs first iteration (2021-2023) project deliverable D2.6 "Exploitation strategy and planning report". Initial design (D2.6) was slightly modified reflecting the practical implementation experience. Those are explicitly described in the Tools4LEA first iteration (2021-2023) project D2.7 "Report on exploitation activities and exploitation strategy and planning update".

There are some changes in the process reflecting aspects became clear during the implementation.

The evaluation of the first iteration exploitation strategy implementation indicated that it was well defined and was implementable with minor changes. Therefore, most of components remain the same, only minor changes made.

Most of new aspects of exploitation are concentrated at the final process block (availability through ETR) and horizontal support activities (DevSecOps Book of Knowledge, additional up-take support activities).

## 8.2. Future work

Following current experience and knowledge gained the future activities in Tools4LEAs-v2 can be guided towards few areas:

- Consider the motivation of Technology providers to participate in the EACDTA exploitation path. There is no readymade recipe for this, but building on success stories, applying for free licensing partially or building demand driven marketplace can be options for further discussions.
- Continue with improvements in Adoption part. Current discussions indicated that making tools available through trusted platforms is not enough to effectively reach national or regional LEA's. Organization of activities at national and regional levels, by providing end-users wider conditions to test tools and get wider support.
- Experiment with value that can be provided by supporting activities, especially DevSecOps Book of Knowledge and additional up-take support activities.
- Develop and pilot the concept of National Nodes model. During the Tools4LEAs-v2 implementation this model should be tested and explored further.