



# Platform-ZERO

**ACHIEVING ZERO DEFECT MANUFACTURING  
FOR THE PHOTOVOLTAIC INDUSTRY**

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June 2023



Co-funded by  
the European Union



# PARTNERS

## 12 European Partners:





- **Four research centers** and **one university** with a strong knowledge in the development of spectroscopic methodologies, imaging, artificial intelligence and data management
- **Two research centers** with strong know-how in advanced PV technologies and with industrial pilot line facilities
- **A Metrology SME** with strong know-how in the implementation of industrial process monitoring applications
- **Two SMEs** in charge of dissemination, exploitation and communication actions



# THE CONSORTIUM



# CONTEXT

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- Solar photovoltaic provides an important contribution of **3.1%** to the EU energy mix (Eurostat)
- Solar energy has the potential to meet **20%** of the EU's electricity demand in 2040 (Bloomberg)
- The latest PV technologies combine high performance with a strong flexibility for integration in buildings, vehicles & agrivoltaics devices
- PVs high-complexity makes them prone to the appearance of critical defects, leading to significant production waste







# ABOUT The PROJECT



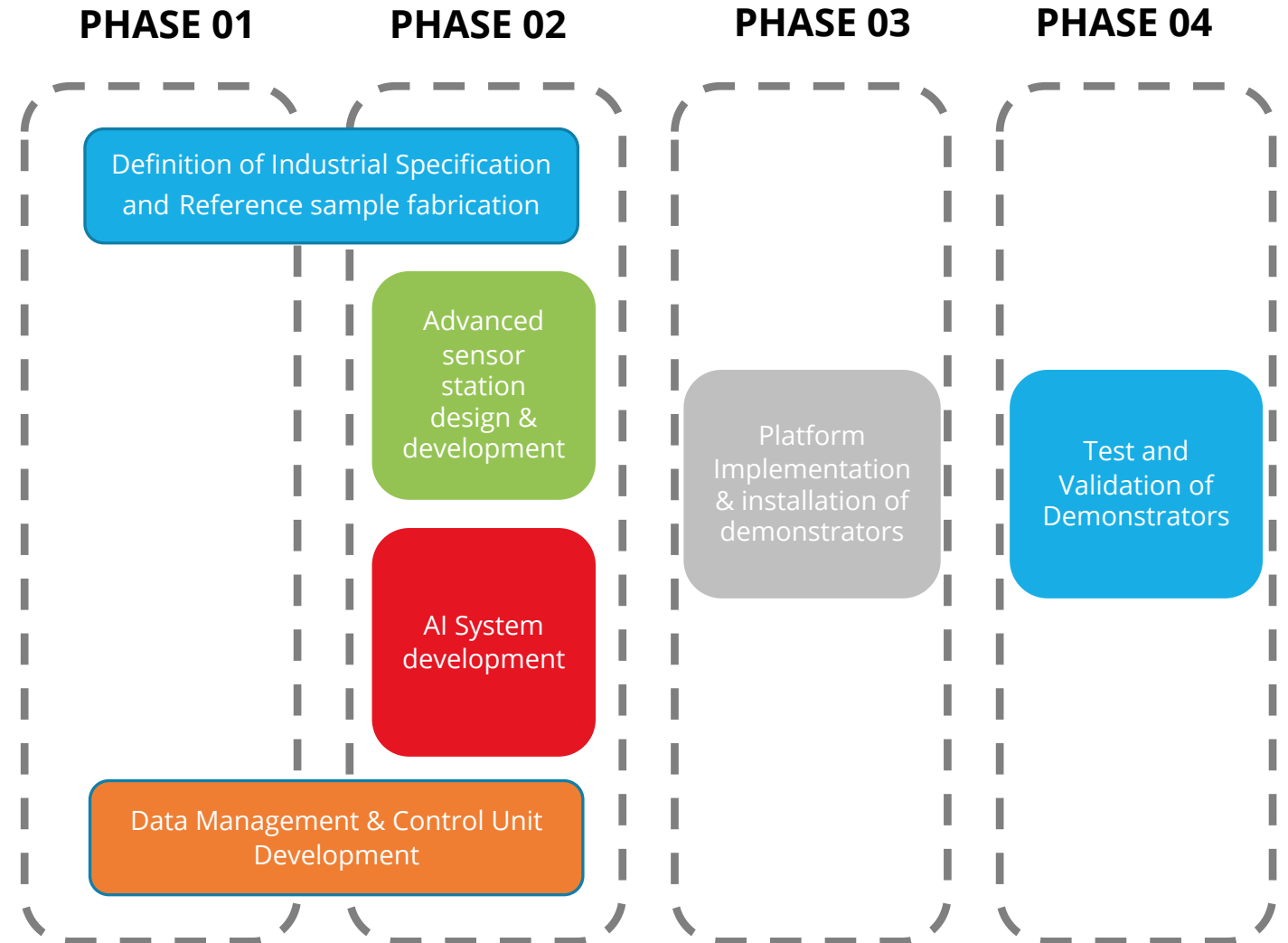
- Platform-ZERO develops a new customizable in-line process monitoring platform, supported by Artificial Intelligence, for achieving zero-defect manufacturing for the PV Industry
- Projects innovations will be tested in 4 PV industrial pilot plants across Europe
- The project aims to:
  - ✓ Substantially lower PV fabrication costs
  - ✓ Improve production quality of PV devices



# TECHNICAL MAPPING & METHODOLOGY

## 4M approach

- Mapping (year 1)
- Manufacturing (year 2)
- Making (year 3)
- Monitoring (year 4)





## JUNE 2023

- ✓ FABRICATION OF FIRST REFERENCE SAMPLES
- ✓ 1ST GENERATION BIG DATA MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

## FEB 2024

- ✓ DESIGN OF SEMI-AUTOMATIZED MODULAR SENSORS PROTOTYPES

## MAY 2024

- ✓ DESIGN OF SENSORS FOR ADVANCED SENSING STATIONS
- ✓ 1ST GENERATION AI IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ GENERATION OF FIRST DATABASE

- ✓ FABRICATION OF SECOND REFERENCE SAMPLES

## SEPTEMBER 2023

## MARCH 2024

# TIMELINE (2023-24)





**JUNE 2024**

✓ UPDATE OF THE 2ND GENERATION DATABASE

**MARCH 2025**

✓ ALGORITHMS DESIGN FOR CONTROL,  
SELF-CALIBRATION AND DATA  
CONDITIONING

**AUGUST 2025**

✓ AI-BASED CONTROL UNIT IN PLACE

✓ 2ND GENERATION AI IMPLEMENTATION

**OCTOBER 2024**

✓ DESIGN OF HOLISTIC PLATFORM

**JUNE 2025**

# TIMELINE (2024-25)



# DEMONSTRATORS

Platform-ZERO innovations will be tested in 4 PV manufacturing lines throughout Europe



**Smart coatings for PV**



Lurederra 📍 Spain

**High efficiency CIGS solar modules**



ZSW 📍 Germany

**Customizable CIGS flexible solar foil**



Sunplugged 📍 Austria

**Perovskite solar modules**



SAULE 📍 Poland



# OBJECTIVES



1) Development of advanced sensor stations



2) AI system for autonomous monitoring and control



3) Implementation of a big data management infrastructure and control system



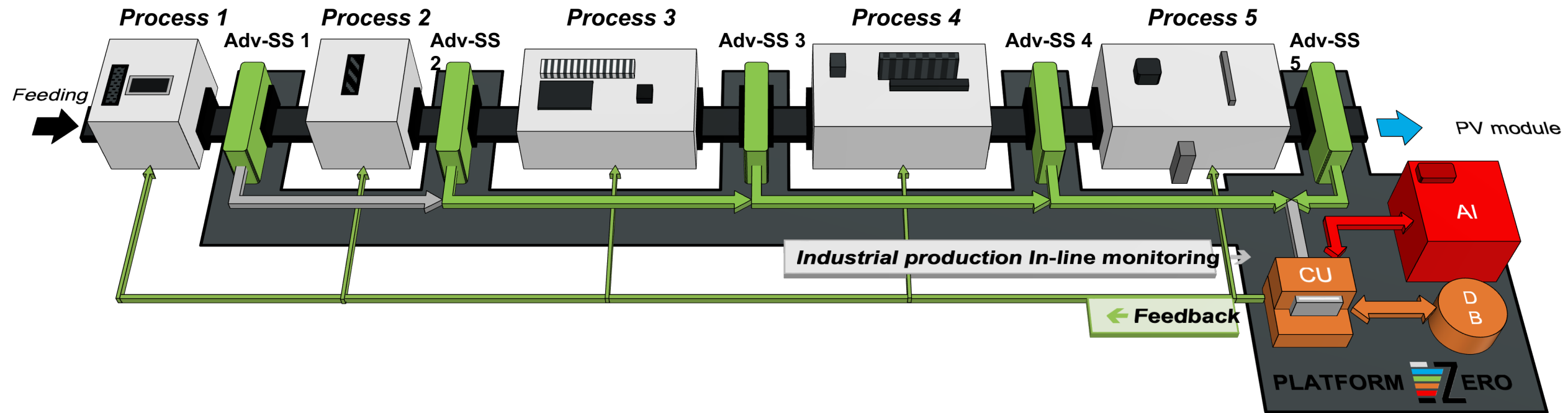
4) Implementation and installation of functional process monitoring platforms



5) PV manufacturing optimization









- Increase of sustainable PV production through improved control systems
- Tools to prevent the generation of defects at different production stages
- Diagnostic methodologies for in-line monitoring of industrial PV production
- Increase of efficient use of materials and reduced related product production costs

### **Expected impacts:**

- 10% increase in productivity of the EU's PV industry
- 10% decrease in consumption of high-value critical raw materials

# OUTCOMES





# PROJECT KPIs

1) Sensor's sensitivity to deviations  $>5\%$

2) Monitoring flow capability

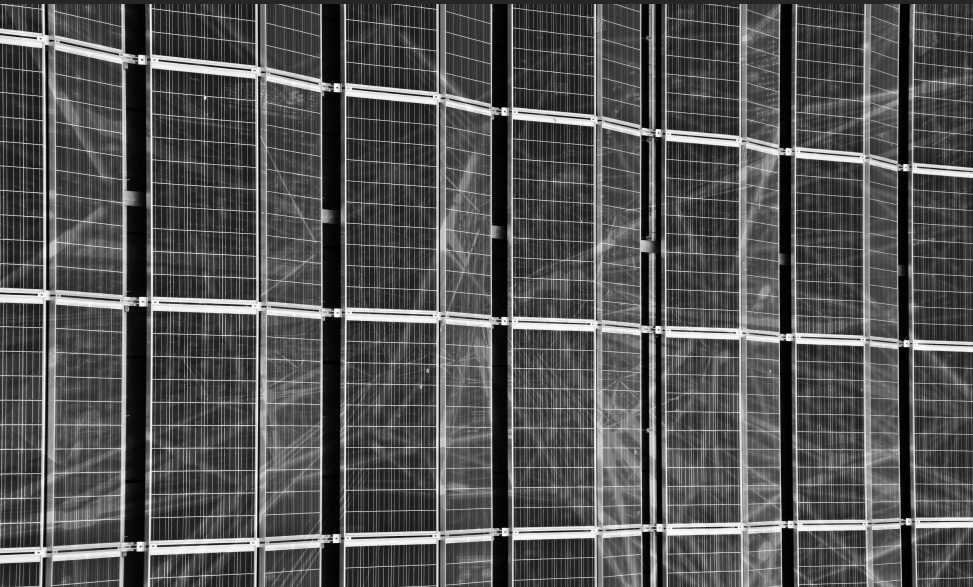
3) Implementation of AI-based algorithms library

4) Implementation of data management and control algorithms library

5) Implementation of GUI software for monitoring, data visualization and decision-making advising

6) Implementation of fully operational platform demonstrators compatible with a real-time industrial process monitoring

7) Detection of process deviations







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# THANK YOU, GET IN TOUCH!



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