

TAFTIE Academy Workshop:

AI in Agency processes 2026

Date & Place:	7.-8. October, 2026 , VDI/VDE-IT, Steinplatz 2, Room 517 (Kino) 10623 Berlin
Time:	October 7 th , 12:00 – 17:00, 19:00 Networking Dinner October 8 th , 09:00 – 16:00
Host:	VDI/VDE-IT
Contributions:	Please, send you contribution to Inessa Seifert (Inessa.Seifert@vdivde-it.de) if your Taftie Agency wants to contribute.
Moderators:	Inessa Seifert, Gereon Meyer

Brief Description

Artificial intelligence (AI) is disrupting established value chains and challenging traditional evaluation and review processes within innovation and funding agencies. AI-assisted proposal-writing tools are contributing to a significant increase in the volume of submissions. To maintain the quality of selected research and innovation projects, new approaches to assessment, transparency, and the responsible use of AI are needed.

This workshop brings together AI experts, early adopters from innovation agencies, data scientists and ethical AI practitioners to explore ways in which AI can meaningfully enhance strategic foresight and ensure the integrity of public decision-making. This workshop addresses the open questions that remained after the previous workshop in 2025, The following topics will be discussed during the workshop:

1. Assessing AI-Generated Proposals:

- Assessment tools for AI-generated proposals
- Suggesting vs. requiring the use of AI
- Transparency about how AI is used

2. Scientific Results and Data

- Assessment of integrity and correctness of scientific results and data
- Transparency of AI use

3. Piloting AI Tools

- Piloting AI tools such as chatbots for advisory purposes

- Using chatbots to make information open and collect insights

4. New Proposal Formats

- Shifting proposals to web-based forms
- Pitches, Interviews, etc.

5. Responsibility

- AI is only a tool — in the end, the applicant must deliver

6. ChatGPT vs. Consulting Companies

- Is a tool better and more efficient than consultants?
- How to distinguish bad AI-generated proposals from good ones?
- How to assess the quality and competence of the (human) team?

7. Evaluation Procedures

- Evaluation procedures may need to change
- Definition of strategic and narrow cutting-edge topics

8. Ownership of the Process

- Agencies should claim ownership of the process

9. Trust and Sovereignty

- US-based AI systems are not to be fully trusted
- What happens if innovative ideas leak to the US/Asia?
- How we can protect the intellectual property rights?

10. Fairness & Equal Opportunity

- Ensuring the same chance for everybody
- Avoiding structural advantages created by AI tools

11. Structure of Applications

- High quality and competence should come from applicants, not from AI
- Concern about proposals being developed or generated by AI

Participants are invited to submit short presentations with statements, lessons learnt, suggestions that address the outlined challenges, etc. (10-12 slides, 10-15 minutes) by **30 September 2026** to inessa.seifert@vdivde-it.de

October 7th, 2026: 12.00 – 17.00

Time	Topic
12:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-13:30	Welcome Introduction of the participants
13:30-14:30	Invited Speaker: Education and Competences in the Age of Generative AI (KI Campus)
14:30-16:00	Presentations from the innovation and funding agencies
14:30-15:00	Coffee break
15:00-17:00	Interactive moderated discussions of lessons learnt and challenges
17:00 End	

October 8th, 2025: 9.00 – 16.00

Time	Topic
9:00-12:00	Presentations from the innovation and funding agencies
12:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-16:00	Interactive moderated discussions of lessons learnt and challenges
16:00 End	

Who Should Attend?

The workshop aims to facilitate connections with experts who are implementing and adopting AI tools within agency processes, as well as with decision-makers responsible for investing in such technologies.

Learning Outcome

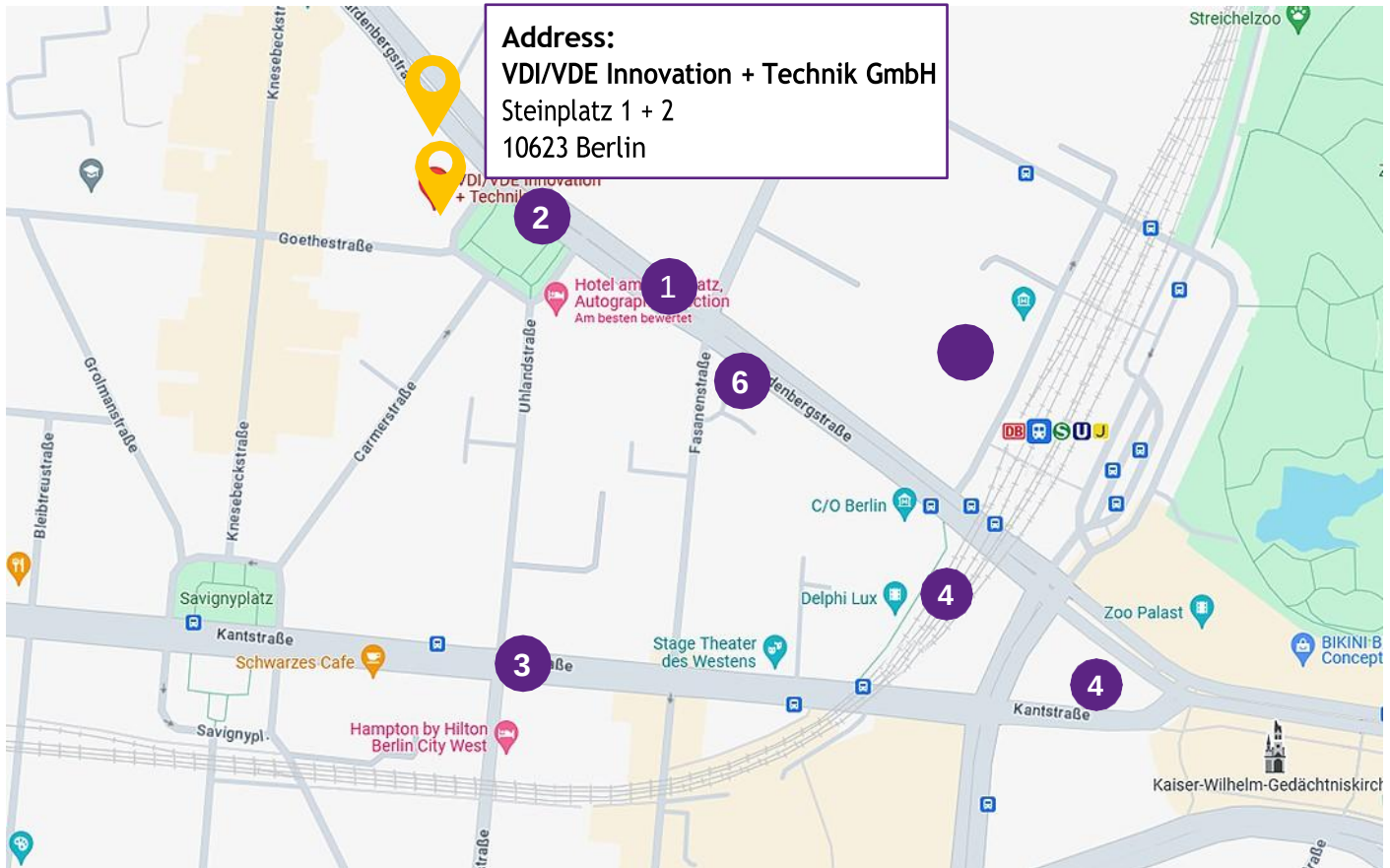
The workshop will provide an overview of the potential and application of AI tools in innovation agencies, highlighting both the benefits and the challenges—including barriers and compliance requirements—associated with implementing AI-assisted processes.

Costs and registration

For TAFTIE members and International Partners: free of charge (Travel and hotel costs have to be covered by the participant's agency). External parties are only eligible to participate upon invitation by the host. For external parties, the participation fee for the networking workshops amounts EUR 250 per workshop.

For non-members and international partners as well as for further questions regarding the participation, [registration](#), or workshop costs, please contact: Janine.Halder@ffg.at or Susanne.Stremitzer@ffg.at

For further information regarding the agenda, venue, contribution to the networking workshop, please contact Inessa Seifert (Inessa.Seifert@vdivde-it.de)



From BER Airport/Schönefeld (approx. 30 mins):

Either via regional train lines RE8, RB22, RB23, RB24, RB32 or FEX (Airport Express) to Berlin Hauptbahnhof (Central station) or via S-Bahn (commuter train) lines S9 and S45.

From Berlin Central Station (approx. 15 mins):

Take any westbound S-Bahn line S3, S5, S7 or S9 to Zoologischer Garten.

From Zoo you can choose between the bus lines 245 or M45 to Steinplatz or a walk down Hardenbergstraße.

Hotel Recommendations (no special conditions available)

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| <p>1 Hotel Indigo Berlin
 Hardenbergstraße 15
 10623 Berlin - €€</p> | <p>2 Hotel am Steinplatz
 Steinplatz 4
 10623 Berlin - €€€</p> |
| <p>3 Hampton by Hilton Berlin City West
 Uhlandstraße 188-189
 10623 Berlin - €€</p> | <p>4 Hotel Motel One
 Kantstraße 10 & 163-165
 10623 Berlin - €€</p> |
| <p>5 B&B Hotel Berlin-Tiergarten
 Englische Straße 1-4
 10587 Berlin - €</p> | <p>6 aletto Hotel Kudamm
 Hardenbergstraße 21
 10623 Berlin - €</p> |