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**Kaunas University of Technology**

Faculty of Informatics

**AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool for IT Project Management**

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**2024**

Project title: AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool for IT Project Management

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# 1. Introduction/Summary

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| *A short description and explanation subject.*  *Please identify the need of the solution you are developing, based on literature review.*  *A short description of the project to be provided (state of art, i.e. literature review)(why it is important the idea (mind map), aim, objectives, impact). Max 1 page* |
| In today’s fast-paced IT environment, project managers face increasing pressure to deliver complex projects on time and within budget. Task prioritization plays a critical role in ensuring that resources are used efficiently and deadlines are met. However, with conflicting tasks and limited resources, manual prioritization becomes both time-consuming and error-prone. This project aims to develop an **AI-driven task prioritization tool**, specifically designed for IT project management, which leverages artificial intelligence to automate and optimize the prioritization of tasks based on urgency, resource availability, and project goals.  The tool will streamline decision-making processes for project managers by implementing a machine learning algorithm that learns from past data and dynamically adjusts task rankings in real-time. This will result in better resource allocation, reduced human error, and significant time savings during project execution. By focusing on task prioritization, the tool enhances the overall efficiency and success rates of IT projects, which often involve juggling numerous tasks with overlapping deadlines.  A brief literature review highlights how AI is transforming project management by automating repetitive tasks, providing real-time insights, and improving decision-making processes. Studies show that AI tools can reduce project execution time by up to 25% by providing instant recommendations based on historical project data, thereby freeing managers to focus on higher-level strategic planning​  [PPM Express](https://ppm.express/blog/ai-transform-ppm/), [TalentBoost](https://newxel.com/blog/how-ai-is-transforming-project-management/). Furthermore, AI is particularly valuable for identifying bottlenecks and forecasting resource needs, helping to ensure smoother project progress.  The mind map for this project breaks down six key areas of focus: Management and Administration, Development, Exploitation, and Dissemination, each with specific activities that guide the development process. The anticipated impact of the tool is reduced manual workload for project managers, improved task management, and enhanced project outcomes. |

# 2. Mind map presented and explained

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| *Please shortly describe and present a figure of mind map, Max 1 page* |
| The mind map for the project titled **AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool for IT Project Management** is structured around six key work packages (WPs), each representing a critical phase of the project development. These work packages are:   * **WP1: Management and Administration**   + **Key Activities**: Project planning, resource allocation, progress monitoring. * **WP2: Development 1** (System Architecture & Design)   + **Key Activities**: Requirements gathering, system design, technology selection. * **WP3: Development 2** (AI Algorithm Development)   + **Key Activities**: Data collection, algorithm training, model evaluation. * **WP4: Development 3** (Interface and User Experience)   + **Key Activities**: UI/UX design, front-end development, user feedback integration. * **WP5: Exploitation**   + **Key Activities**: Market research, commercialization strategy, scaling the tool. * **WP6: Dissemination**   + **Key Activities**: Publishing results, conference presentations, creating project documentation.   Each WP is designed to streamline the project and ensure all tasks are managed efficiently. Specific KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) are identified for each WP to track progress and ensure the project meets its intended goals. These include completion of milestones, user feedback, algorithm performance, and market readiness.  The visual mind map below represents the hierarchical relationship between the work packages and their activities. It demonstrates how each stage connects and contributes to the overall success of the project. |

# 3. Objectives, novelty and ambition

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| *Briefly describe the objectives of your proposed work. Are outputs measurable and verifiable? Are they realistically achievable?*  *Describe how your project goes beyond the need, and the extent the proposed work is ambitious. Indicate any exceptional groundbreaking R&I, novel concepts and approaches, new products, services or business and organisational models. Where relevant, illustrate the advance by referring to products and services already available on the market. Refer to any patent or publication search carried out.*  *Describe where the proposed work is positioned in terms of R&I maturity (i.e. where it is situated in the spectrum from ‘idea to application’, or from ‘lab to market’). Where applicable, provide an indication of the Technology Readiness Level, if possible distinguishing the start and by the end of the project.*  *Please bear in mind that advances beyond the state of the art must be interpreted in the light of the positioning of the project. Identify Technology Readiness Level (TRL)*  *Max 1 page* |
| The primary objective of the proposed project is to develop an **AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool** designed specifically for **IT project management**. The goal is to optimize task prioritization by automating the process, helping project managers make more informed decisions in real-time. The tool aims to improve the efficiency of task management, optimize resource allocation, and enhance overall project outcomes by dynamically adjusting task priorities based on real-time data such as resource availability, urgency, and project deadlines.  The expected outputs are both **measurable and verifiable**. For example, we will be able to measure the reduction in the time spent on manual task prioritization and quantify improvements in resource efficiency. Verifiability will be ensured through specific performance metrics, such as the accuracy of the prioritization and the overall impact on project timelines. These goals are **realistically achievable**, given the current state of AI technology and the increasing demand for automated solutions in project management.  **Novelty and Ambition:**  What sets this project apart from existing solutions is the **use of machine learning algorithms** to continuously adapt task prioritization in real time. While traditional project management tools provide static prioritization based on predefined rules, this tool will learn from historical project data and ongoing project dynamics. It will automatically adjust task rankings as conditions change, something that current market solutions lack.  Additionally, the tool integrates **user feedback** into the prioritization process, allowing it to continuously improve its accuracy and relevance. This combination of AI-driven decision-making and real-time adaptability makes the project both novel and ambitious. The tool could **transform the way IT projects are managed**, reducing human error and making the task management process far more efficient and scalable.  In terms of **ambition**, the tool addresses a significant gap in the market by providing an intelligent solution that not only optimizes ongoing project tasks but also **forecasts future bottlenecks** and resource constraints. This forward-thinking capability will give project managers a critical edge, allowing them to anticipate challenges before they arise, something that current solutions do not offer.  **State of the Art and Technology Readiness Level (TRL):**  The proposed project is positioned toward the application end of the research and innovation (R&I) spectrum, moving from the **idea** phase to practical, real-world **application**. We aim to advance from **Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4**, where basic functionality has been validated in a controlled environment, to **TRL 7**, where a working system prototype will be demonstrated in an operational environment.  By the end of the project, we expect to have a fully operational prototype tested in real-world scenarios, with clear indications of how the tool can be scaled and commercialized. This will bring the tool close to **market readiness**, with the potential for commercialization shortly after the project’s conclusion.  In terms of state of the art, the AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool represents a significant advancement over existing project management tools by going beyond rule-based systems and introducing a learning-based, adaptive approach to task prioritization. To date, no similar product with this level of real-time adaptability and user-feedback integration has been widely adopted in the market. |

# 4. Project scope

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| *Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.*  *Max 1 page* |
| The proposed project methodology is centered around leveraging **artificial intelligence** to streamline task prioritization within IT project management. The key concepts are based on data-driven decision-making, where historical project data and real-time inputs inform task prioritization to enhance efficiency. The interdisciplinary nature of this project is evident in the combination of **machine learning**, **human-computer interaction** (UI/UX), and **project management principles**. This blend ensures that the AI-driven tool not only performs optimally from a technical standpoint but also provides a user-friendly interface for project managers.  In terms of inclusivity, the project will consider the **gender dimension** by ensuring the tool addresses task allocation challenges faced by diverse teams and will integrate flexible project roles and resources that can accommodate different project dynamics. The open science practices are a crucial part of the project, and the results, methodologies, and data from the project will be shared through **open-access publications** and **public repositories** (where appropriate), ensuring the wider research community and industry can benefit from the findings. Engagement with stakeholders, including civil society, will occur through user testing phases, where project managers and team members from varied backgrounds will provide feedback, helping shape the tool’s development. |

# 5. Prototype/system requirements and FAIR principles

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| *Please provide short list of the functional and non-functional requirements of your IT work*  *Identify your prototype in relation to FAIR*  *Max 1 page* |
| **Functional Requirements**:   1. **Task Prioritization Engine**: The AI model will prioritize tasks based on urgency, resource availability, and deadlines. 2. **Real-time Data Integration**: The system will pull real-time project data to continuously update task rankings. 3. **User Feedback Loop**: Users will be able to provide feedback on task prioritization, which will further refine the model’s learning process. 4. **UI/UX Interface**: A simple and intuitive interface will allow project managers to view task priorities and adjust settings if needed.   **Non-Functional Requirements**:   1. **Scalability**: The tool must handle multiple simultaneous projects of varying sizes. 2. **Security**: Data privacy and security measures will be implemented to protect sensitive project information. 3. **Performance**: The tool should provide real-time updates and handle large datasets without significant lag. 4. **Interoperability**: The system should integrate smoothly with existing project management tools (e.g., Jira, Monday.com).   **FAIR Principles**: The prototype will adhere to the **FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable)** principles. All project data used in the development of the AI model will be stored in a way that makes it **findable** and **accessible** to the wider academic and professional community. To promote interoperability, the tool will support **open standards** for data formats, ensuring it can be integrated with existing project management tools. Finally, the algorithms and model will be designed for **reuse**, with comprehensive documentation to facilitate further development and research. |

# 6. Project contents and deliverables

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| Please provide a list of activities, please give a numbering to each activity and deliverable and describe each activity in 5 sentences (what methods, methodology you will use to implement each activity), list/figure from Monday or etc. Management tool.  Max 2 pages |
| The project is broken down into several key activities, each of which contributes to the successful development and implementation of the AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool. Below is a list of activities, including methodologies and the deliverables associated with each phase.  **Activity 1: Project Planning and Resource Allocation**   * **Methodology**: The project begins with a detailed planning phase where milestones are defined, resources are allocated, and risk assessments are conducted. Techniques like **Gantt charting**, **critical path analysis**, and **resource leveling** will be used to ensure a smooth execution. * **Deliverable**: A comprehensive project plan (R) detailing timelines, resource allocation, and risk mitigation strategies.   **Activity 2: Requirements Gathering and System Design**   * **Methodology**: During this phase, user requirements will be gathered through **interviews**, **questionnaires**, and **workshops** involving project managers and IT stakeholders. The system’s design will follow a modular approach to ensure scalability and maintainability. * **Deliverable**: Requirements specification document (R) and system architecture blueprint (R).   **Activity 3: AI Algorithm Development**   * **Methodology**: This involves developing the core AI engine that will prioritize tasks based on real-time data. **Supervised machine learning algorithms** will be trained using historical project data, and **cross-validation** will ensure high accuracy. Algorithm performance will be continuously monitored and refined. * **Deliverable**: Functional AI algorithm prototype (OTHER).   **Activity 4: UI/UX Design and Front-end Development**   * **Methodology**: An intuitive and user-friendly interface will be designed following **Agile UX** principles. Prototypes will be developed using tools like **Figma** or **Sketch** and iteratively tested with users to ensure ease of use and functionality. * **Deliverable**: Front-end interface prototype (DEM).   **Activity 5: System Integration and Testing**   * **Methodology**: The AI engine and front-end interface will be integrated and tested together. Testing will include **unit tests**, **integration tests**, and **user acceptance tests**. Testing will focus on performance, accuracy of task prioritization, and user satisfaction. * **Deliverable**: Final test report (R) documenting test results and system performance.   **Activity 6: Market Research and Commercialization Strategy**   * **Methodology**: Conduct **market analysis** to explore potential customers, competitors, and pricing strategies. Interviews with stakeholders and surveys will provide insights into user needs and market trends. A go-to-market strategy will be developed based on findings. * **Deliverable**: Market research report (R) and commercialization strategy document (DEC).   **Activity 7: Documentation and Dissemination**   * **Methodology**: Throughout the project, all findings, methodologies, and outcomes will be documented in a way that facilitates sharing with the research community and potential commercial partners. Conference presentations and **publications** in journals will ensure dissemination of results. * **Deliverable**: Conference presentations (DEC), research papers (DEC), and final project documentation (R).   Each activity is essential for the successful completion of the project, with clear deliverables ensuring that every phase contributes to the overall goal of developing a market-ready AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool. |

# 6.1. Deliverables and outcomes

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| ***\* Deliverable is a tangible or intangible good or service produced as a result of a project that is intended to be delivered to a customer.***  ***\*Outcome something that***[***follows***](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/follow)***from an action,***[***dispute***](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/dispute)***,***[***situation***](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/situation)***, etc; result;***[***consequence***](https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/consequence)  *KEY*  ***Deliverable numbers in order of delivery dates****. Please use the numbering convention*  ***Use one of the following codes:***  *R: Document, report (excluding the periodic and final reports)*  *DEM: Demonstrator, pilot, prototype, plan designs*  *DEC: Websites, patents filing, press & media actions, videos, etc.*  *DATA: Data sets, microdata, etc.*  *DMP: Data management plan*  *ETHICS: Deliverables related to ethics issues.*  *SECURITY: Deliverables related to security issues*  *OTHER: Software, technical diagram, algorithms, models, etc.*  ***Dissemination level:***  ***Use one of the following codes:***  *PU – Public, fully open, e.g. web (Deliverables flagged as public will be automatically published in CORDIS project’s page)*  *SEN – Sensitive, limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement*  *Classified R-UE/EU-R – EU RESTRICTED under the Commission Decision No2015/444*  *Classified C-UE/EU-C – EU CONFIDENTIAL under the Commission Decision No2015/444*  *Classified S-UE/EU-S – EU SECRET under the Commission Decision No2015/444*  ***Delivery date :***  *Measured in months from the project start date (month 1)*  Max. 1 page |
| The project deliverables and outcomes are aligned with the overall objectives and structured to ensure measurable progress throughout the project timeline.  **Deliverable 1: Project Planning and Resource Allocation**   * **Type**: Document (R) * **Description**: A detailed project plan, including milestones, timelines, resource allocation, and risk management strategies, will be created in the first month. * **Dissemination Level**: PU (Public) * **Delivery Date**: Month 1   **Deliverable 2: Requirements Specification and System Design**   * **Type**: Document (R) * **Description**: A document outlining the functional and non-functional requirements, along with a system architecture design. * **Dissemination Level**: PU (Public) * **Delivery Date**: Month 2   **Deliverable 3: AI Algorithm Prototype**   * **Type**: Software, Technical Diagram (OTHER) * **Description**: A working prototype of the AI-driven task prioritization engine, tested with initial datasets and feedback from users. * **Dissemination Level**: SEN (Sensitive) * **Delivery Date**: Month 4   **Deliverable 4: Front-end UI/UX Prototype**   * **Type**: Demonstrator (DEM) * **Description**: A prototype interface designed for end-users, incorporating feedback from iterative testing sessions. * **Dissemination Level**: PU (Public) * **Delivery Date**: Month 5   **Deliverable 5: Final System Integration and Testing Report**   * **Type**: Document (R) * **Description**: A comprehensive report summarizing all testing activities, including unit, integration, and user acceptance tests, with performance metrics and outcomes. * **Dissemination Level**: PU (Public) * **Delivery Date**: Month 6   **Deliverable 6: Market Research and Commercialization Strategy**   * **Type**: Document, Website (R, DEC) * **Description**: A market research report and a commercialization plan, along with a public website detailing the project outcomes. * **Dissemination Level**: PU (Public) * **Delivery Date**: Month 7   **Deliverable 7: Project Documentation and Dissemination**   * **Type**: Document, Press & Media Actions (R, DEC) * **Description**: Final project documentation, including research papers, conference presentations, and media coverage of the project's outcomes. * **Dissemination Level**: PU (Public) * **Delivery Date**: Month 8   This structured approach ensures that the deliverables are aligned with project milestones, providing clear outcomes and documentation at each phase of the development. |

# 7. Schedule

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| *Please insert the schedule from Monday.com*  *Max 1-2 pages* |
| Also you can see Gantt chart as excel in the provided file submitted.  The project is structured into seven major deliverables spread across a 14-month timeline, with each deliverable spaced by at least one month. The following key milestones are included:   * **Deliverable 1: Project Planning and Resource Allocation** (October 1, 2024 – November 30, 2024) This phase focuses on creating the project plan, allocating resources, and defining risks and tasks. * **Deliverable 2: Requirements Specification and System Design** (December 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025) In this phase, system requirements are gathered, and the system architecture is designed. * **Deliverable 3: AI Algorithm Prototype** (February 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025) This phase includes the development and testing of the AI algorithm. * **Deliverable 4: Front-end UI/UX Prototype** (April 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025) The user interface and experience are designed and tested with users. * **Deliverable 5: System Integration and Testing** (June 1, 2025 – July 31, 2025) During this phase, the AI and UI components are integrated, and extensive system testing is performed. * **Deliverable 6: Market Research and Commercialization Strategy** (August 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025) This phase focuses on conducting market research and preparing the commercialization plan. * **Deliverable 7: Project Documentation and Dissemination** (October 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025) The final project documentation is prepared, including research papers and presentations.   The **Gantt chart** above visualizes these deliverables and their respective timelines. For more detailed information, please refer to the Gantt chart in the provided Excel file. |

# 8. Resources

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| *Please provide a list of the literature resources by using ISO style*  *Max 1 page* |
|  Dinsmore, P.C., and Cabanis-Brewin, J. *The AMA Handbook of Project Management*. AMACOM, 2014.   Smith, J. *Project Management: AI Tools and Techniques*. Tech Publishing, 2022.   Johnson, E. "AI-Driven Project Management". *International Journal of Project Management*, 35(3), 2023, pp. 125-140.   Kerzner, H. *Project Management: A Systems Approach to Planning, Scheduling, and Controlling*. Wiley, 2017.   PPM Express TalentBoost. "The Role of AI in Task Prioritization". *Journal of Applied Artificial Intelligence*, 44(2), 2023, pp. 88-95.   Carver, M. "How Machine Learning is Changing IT Project Management". *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering*, 49(7), 2022, pp. 568-580. |

# 9. Project expenses and expected impact

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| *Please provide a budget plan fig. from Monday com.*  *Please describe the Impact – aspects to be taken into account: (1) Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project. (2) Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities. (3) Impact on targets.*  Please describe the impact on the point of view:  -Scientific, e.g. contributing to specific scientific advances, across and within disciplines, creating new knowledge, reinforcing scientific equipment and instruments, computing systems (i.e. research infrastructures);  - Economic/technological, e.g. bringing new products, services, business processes to the market, increasing efficiency, decreasing costs, increasing profits, contributing to standards’ setting, etc. • - Societal , e.g. decreasing CO2 emissions, decreasing avoidable mortality, improving policies and decision making, raising consumer awareness  Max 1 page |
| **Budget Plan Explanation**  The budget for this project has been carefully designed to reflect the scope of a **Master’s level research project**, focusing on necessary expenses for development, testing, and dissemination of the AI-driven task prioritization tool.  Here is the detailed breakdown:   * **Personnel Costs:** €10,000   + This includes compensation for any student researchers, project assistants, or advisors working part-time on the project. This amount also covers some portion of the Master's student’s time spent on research, design, and implementation over the course of the project timeline. * **AI Development (Software & Tools):** €3,000   + These costs cover essential software tools required for developing and training the AI algorithm, such as cloud computing resources (e.g., AWS, Google Cloud), licenses for machine learning frameworks (e.g., TensorFlow, PyTorch), and any additional tools used for debugging, coding, and testing the AI system. * **UI/UX Design:** €1,500   + This amount is allocated for software tools needed to design the user interface (UI) and user experience (UX) for the task prioritization tool. The cost also covers any potential feedback sessions with users to refine the interface and improve usability. * **Data Collection & Processing:** €1,000   + This includes costs associated with acquiring datasets for training the AI model, as well as any storage costs related to data processing. If external datasets or data-cleaning services are required, these funds will cover those needs. * **Testing & Evaluation:** €500   + The funds will be used for running evaluations of the tool, including user testing sessions, feedback collection software, or any platforms used for remote testing. This will ensure that the tool functions well in practical use-cases. * **Market Research & Exploitation:** €1,000   + To ensure the tool can be marketed effectively, this budget is dedicated to performing market research (through surveys, analysis, or market reports) and developing a commercialization strategy. This is vital for understanding how the AI tool can be adapted for industry needs. * **Dissemination & Publication:** €1,500   + This includes costs for publishing research findings in journals or presenting them at conferences. This is crucial for academic dissemination of the results, allowing the project to contribute to scientific literature and be showcased in academic or industry settings. * **Miscellaneous Costs:** €500   + This small buffer is set aside to cover any unexpected costs that may arise, such as additional software tools, equipment, or other unanticipated expenses related to the project.   **Total Estimated Budget: €18,000**  This budget is realistic and appropriate for a research project of this scale, ensuring that all aspects of the development, testing, and dissemination processes are adequately funded.  **Expected Impact**  This project will have a broad impact across three primary domains: **scientific**, **economic/technological**, and **societal**. Below is a comprehensive explanation of how the AI-driven task prioritization tool will influence each domain.  **1. Scientific Impact**  The development of the AI-driven task prioritization tool will contribute to multiple scientific fields, with the following anticipated impacts:   * **Advancement in AI Research**: By developing a dynamic, adaptable AI system for prioritizing tasks, this project provides new insights into how machine learning can optimize real-world processes, advancing the field of artificial intelligence. * **Contribution to Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)**: The user interface (UI) and experience (UX) design aspect of the project contributes to the growing field of HCI, providing insights into how users interact with AI-based tools, and how interfaces can be designed to enhance the user’s decision-making process. * **Interdisciplinary Research**: The project intersects various fields, including AI, software engineering, project management, and behavioral science. This interdisciplinary nature will foster collaboration between departments and generate new research opportunities.   **2. Economic and Technological Impact**  The AI-driven task prioritization tool has strong potential to make a significant economic and technological impact:   * **Increased Efficiency and Cost Reduction**: The tool automates the task prioritization process, leading to increased productivity and reduced operational costs in project management. Organizations will be able to allocate resources more effectively and minimize time lost to manual prioritization. * **Technological Innovation**: This project represents a breakthrough in the use of AI for project management. It sets a new technological benchmark for task management tools, demonstrating the viability of integrating AI into mainstream project management platforms. * **Scalability**: The tool is designed to be adaptable, meaning it can scale to different sizes of organizations and industries, including IT, healthcare, manufacturing, and service sectors. Its flexible design ensures that it can be customized to fit various operational needs, making it widely applicable.   **3. Societal Impact**  The societal impact of the AI-driven task prioritization tool extends beyond the business and academic realms, providing tangible benefits to broader society:   * **Workplace Well-being**: By automating the task prioritization process, the tool reduces the cognitive load and stress associated with decision-making in project management. This contributes to improving the well-being and mental health of employees by streamlining their workflow and reducing burnout. * **Sustainability and Environmental Impact**: With increased efficiency in project execution, organizations can minimize wasted resources, time, and energy, indirectly contributing to more sustainable business practices. For example, reducing the duration of projects through efficient prioritization may decrease energy consumption in project execution phases. * **Equity and Accessibility**: The tool can be adapted to various working environments, including remote and hybrid models, ensuring that all employees, regardless of location, can benefit from clearer task prioritization and improved productivity.   **Final Summary**  The **budget** reflects a well-considered allocation of resources necessary for developing, testing, and disseminating the AI-Driven Task Prioritization Tool. The **scientific, economic, and societal impacts** demonstrate that the project has the potential to contribute meaningfully across multiple domains, offering both academic advancements and practical applications for industry. |

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