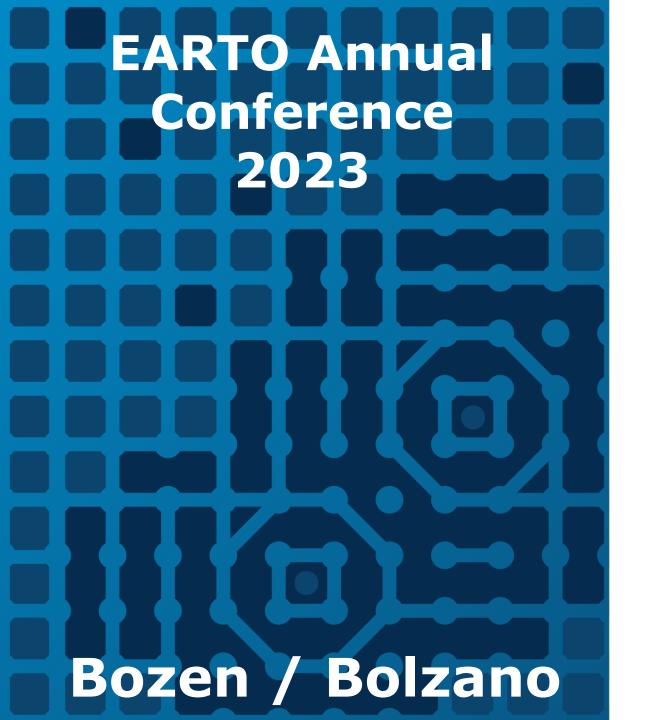






# "The role of RTOs in rolling out the EU innovation agenda"

29 March 2023 08.30 - 14.00

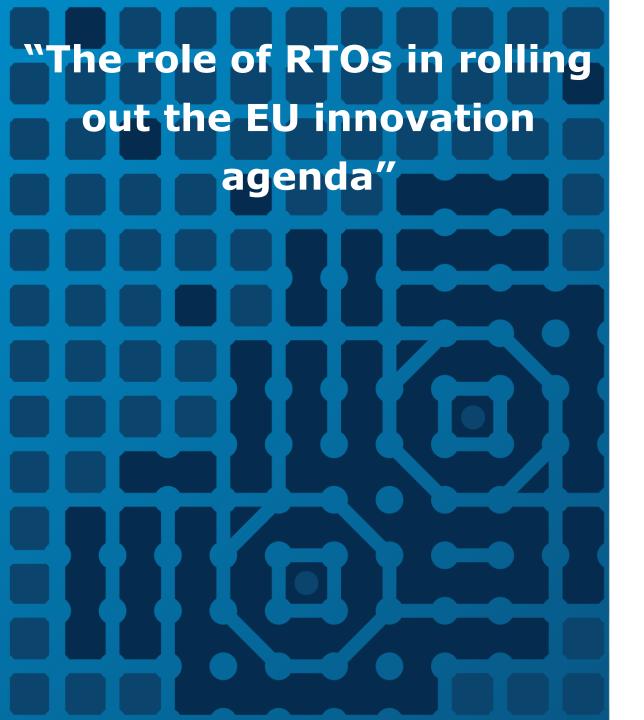






# "The role of RTOs in rolling out the EU innovation agenda"

29 March 2023 08.30 - 14.00







#### Introduction

### **Antti Vasara President, EARTO**



EARTO Motto: Impact Delivered!
EARTO Vision: Technology for a Better World





#### 3 New Members since last Annual Conference:

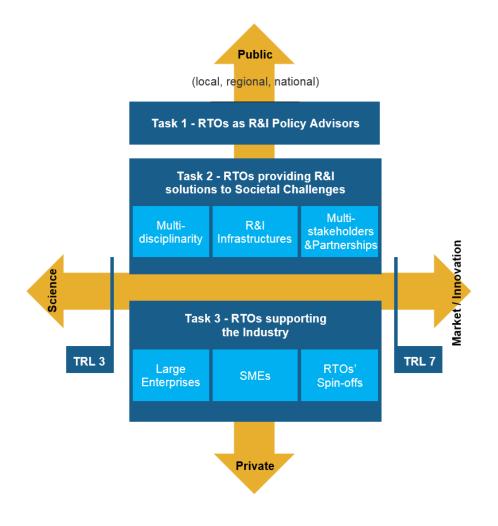






**ELDORADO (BR)** 





MORE (PT)

ITENE (ES)

#### **EARTO Highlights**



#### 7 Working Groups:

- 4 Policy WGs
- 3 Technology WGs: Launch EASTRO + New WG on Critical Raw Materials



Network covering now **31 countries**, including **7 International Members 96% of Members actively involved** in our WGs & Task Forces



**26 new publications since 2022,** partnering with other key RD&I Stakeholders on specific issues



1/4 of Horizon Europe funded projects including EARTO Members, representing 51% Horizon Europe total funding





#### **New European Commission initiatives in 2023**

**1. Net-Zero Industry Act :** Identify goals for net-zero industrial capacity and provide a regulatory framework suited for its quick deployment.



EARTO Reaction Paper published on 10 February 2023 exposing the lack RD&I component, crucial for the success of the Net-Zero Industry targets

**2. Critical Raw Materials Act:** Ensure sufficient access to critical materials, like rare earths, that are vital for manufacturing key technologies



Creation of a new EARTO WG on Critical Raw Materials: launched yesterday



#### The European Green Deal Industrial Plan



#### EARTO Reaction to the EC Proposal for a Green Deal Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age

10 February 2023

EARTO welcomes the EC proposal for a Green Deal Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age. The ability for the EU to develop an industrial base on the technologies that will be needed for the climate and energy transition is at stake, RTOs are at the heart of the creation and scale up of green technologies for industry. As such, EARTO members are ready to contribute to defining an ambitious Green Deal Industrial Plan. This paper brings forward EARTO recommendations to this effect.

#### Green Deal Industrial Plan's Pillars

EARTO very much welcomed the ambitions of the European Green Deal back in 2020 and encourages the EC to develop clear links between the development of EU green tech capabilities and skills offered by actors such as Research & Technology Organisations (RTOs) to its EU industrial ambitions for the green tech deployment and manufacturing. The development of green tech manufacturing will go hand in hand with the scaling up of such technologies.

European RTOs have developed and matured state of the art technologies for deployment in all clean tech sectors and are preparing the next generations of technologies already: both through continuous improvement of performance for existing technologies and through developing breakthrough technologies. The transfer of these technologies from non-profit research laboratories to industrial deployment remains a specific challenge in Europe. Europe cannot afford anymore to waste opportunities. The Green Deal Industrial Plan is an opportunity to reconcile and better integrate EU RD&I, Energy and Climate, and Industrial policies all together.

Today, the EC proposes 4 pillars to this new plan; simplified regulatory environment, faster funding, skills and open trade. However, the RD&I and linked technologies' development/maturation/scaling up are not obviously considered in the plan. In this context, the EC proposal misses to create a Research, Development and Innovation Pillar that should aim at linking the EU industrial strategy towards green tech industries and RD&I public & private investments (going via IPCEIs as well as already running EU RD&I programmes).

The issue at stake is of course about investments and financing. But even most importantly it should be about the choice of the best technological options to be picked for EU industrial value chains for the coming 10 to 20 years based on long term partnerships between industry and their technology providers. In this context, the EU leadership in R&D for low carbon technologies is an asset for Europe's green deal industrial ambition (i.e. See the recent EPO study showing that the EU is the world leader in hydrogen patents). Accordingly, EARTO recommends to build a Research, Development and Innovation Pillar supporting the industrial objectives as successfully done in the EU Chips Act for the microelectronics sector. Such a RD&I pillar should then encompass the various existing EU instruments having RD&I components linked to green tech industries such as Horizon Europe, Digital Europe with links to the Innovation Fund, EIF activities supporting deep-tech ventures fund, etc.

For each clean tech industrial sector, such a RD&I pillar could focus on:

- . In the short term: Supporting the uptake by industry of EU technologies ready for deployment by associating RTOs to the respective industrial alliances and their governance, so that RTOs can present to industry stakeholders the solutions they provide.
- . In the medium to long term: Organising, within the industrial alliances or EU technology platforms, the mapping of existing technology infrastructures in RTO that can help develop and test new industrial innovation in collaboration with industry, and identify the gaps that would require coordinated investments so that the EU can maintain its technology edge

EARTO - European Association of Research and Technology Organisations AISBI Rue Joseph II 36-38, 1000 Brussels | +32-2 502 86 98 | earto@earto.eu | www.earto.eu | BE0465567732 - RPM Brussels

#### **EARTO** Reaction to the EC Proposal for a Green Deal **Industrial Plan for the Net-Zero Age**

#### **EARTO** called for the implementation of a RD&I Pillar aiming to:

- Support the uptake by industry of EU technologies ready for development through RTOs involvement
- Organise the mapping of existing technology infrastructures in RTOs that can help develop and test new industrial innovation in collaboration with industry, and identify the gaps that would require coordinated investments (e.g EC pilot on aviation).

#### **EARTO** proposed concrete measures in 5 main areas:

- 1. Simplified Regulatory Environment
- 2. Speeding Up Access to Finance
- 3. Enhancing Skills
- 4. Trade Openness and Technology Sovereignty
- 5. New Critical Raw Materials Act.



### Roland Psenner President, Eurac Research

#### **Ulrich Stofner**

Director, Department Europe, Innovation, Research and Communication of the Autonomous Province of Bozen/Bolzano, and Director, NOI Technology Park



#### **Prof. Alessandro Aresu**

# Head of the Technical Secretary of the Ministry for University and Research

(Online)

#### **Pauline Rouch**

# Head of Cabinet of Mariya Gabriel, EU Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

(Video Message)

#### **Stefano Corvaglia**

Intellectual Property Manager and Head of Research and Development of the Aerostructures Division,

Leonardo s.p.a.

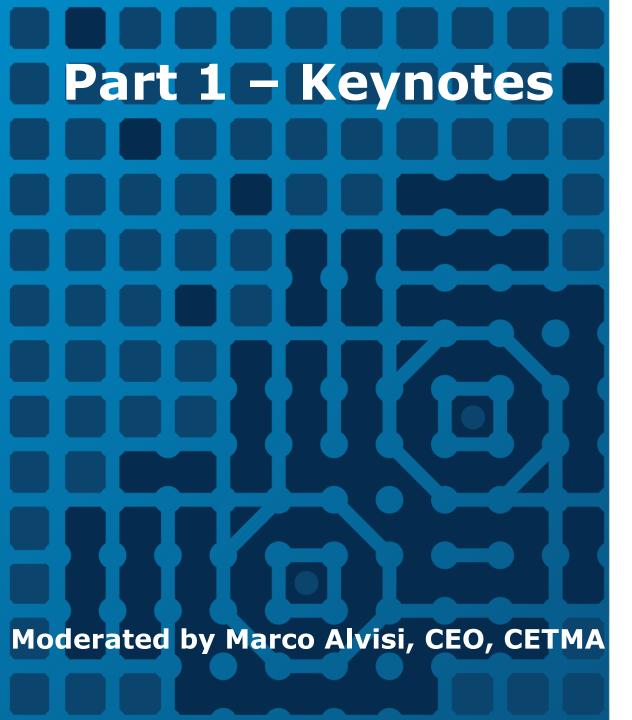








# Enjoy your coffee break! We will be back soon







How can RTOs support Europe to face the energy crisis in the short term and ensure competitiveness in the transition for the long term?

#### RTOs' impact & sustainability

# Elena Schaeidt Director Corporate Development, Tecnalia



RTOs' impact & sustainability: beyond R&D Elena Schaeidt, Corporate Development Director at TECNALIA





Research & Development Roles of RTOs, beyond R&D Urgency & pressure for change **New conditions and networks NEW FRAMEWORKS** TRAINING/MENTORING ORMATION OF A VISION **NEW RELATIONSHIPS EVIDENCE-BASED** & NETWORKS **AWARENESS** FOCUS SHIFTING **Experimentation** Directions for the future TEST INFRASTRUCTURES **Connections and dissemination** LIVING LABS **BUSINESS CREATION ROADMAPS & STRATEGIES** MONITORING & EVALUATION

CONNECTED ECOSYSTEM
COLLABORATION
DISSEMINATION & GOOD
PRACTICES



# Societal impact assessment of TECNALIA: contributions to transformations beyond R&D

The objective is to obtain a further in-depth qualitative assessment of our societal impact, and more specifically of our contributions to societal transformations beyond its R&D activities in the Basque Country, that are needed to reach the SDGs by 2030.









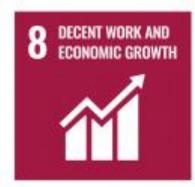


































## Six Transformations

To define the action domains of societal importance for the future, we use as a framework the Six Transformations to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Education, gender and inequality

Health, well-being and demography

Energy decarbonisation & sustainable industry

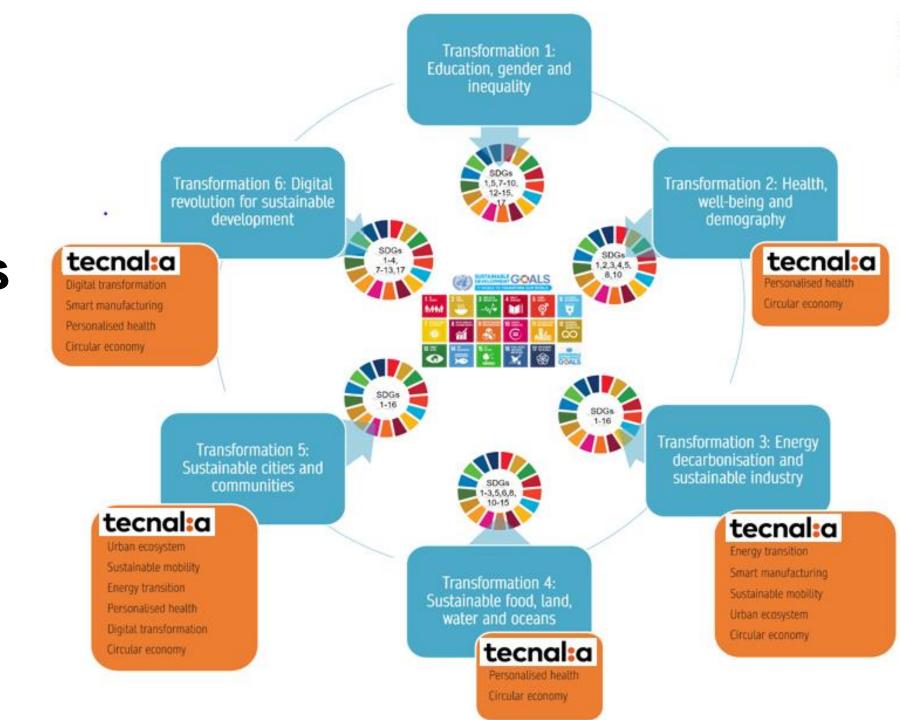
Sustainable food, land, water and oceans

Sustainable cities and communities

Digital revolution for sustainable development



### Mapping TECNALIA contributions





# Selection of 6 key intervention domains

Energy efficiency and Zero-carbon electricity generation

Healthy behaviours and societal determinants of health, well-being and quality of life

Urban adaptation and resilience

Sustainable mobility and transport networks

Mobilising digital technologies to achieve all SDGs



# X-Curve of transition

The transition steering can be shaped in 5 steps



Increase urgency & preassure for change.



Mobilising resources for experimentation



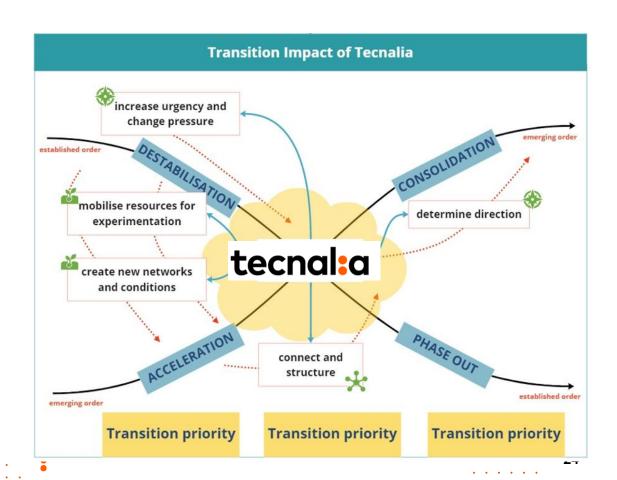
Development of new conditions & networks



Connecting & structuring

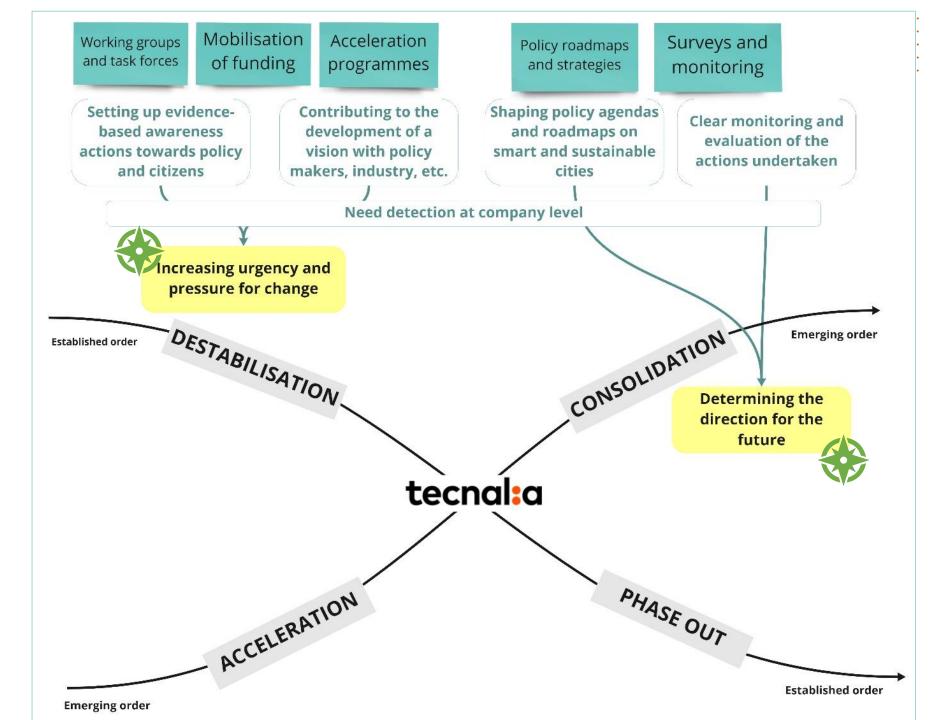


Determining the direction of the future





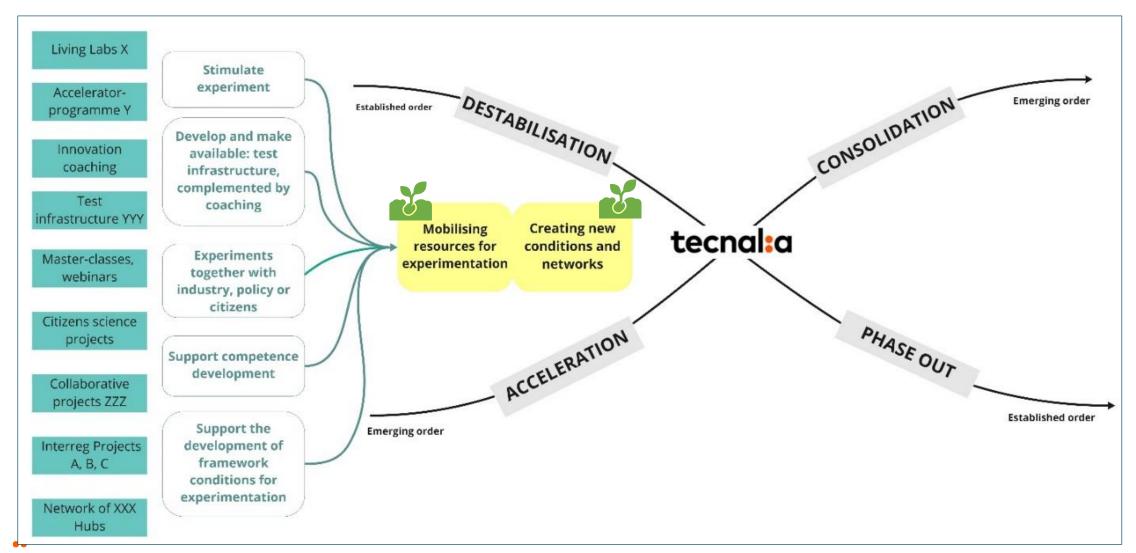






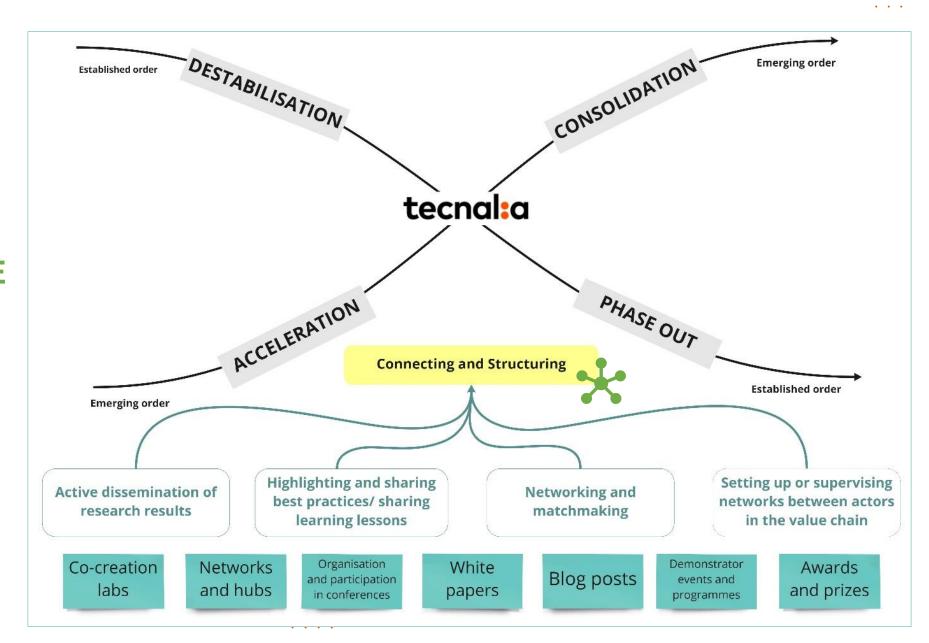


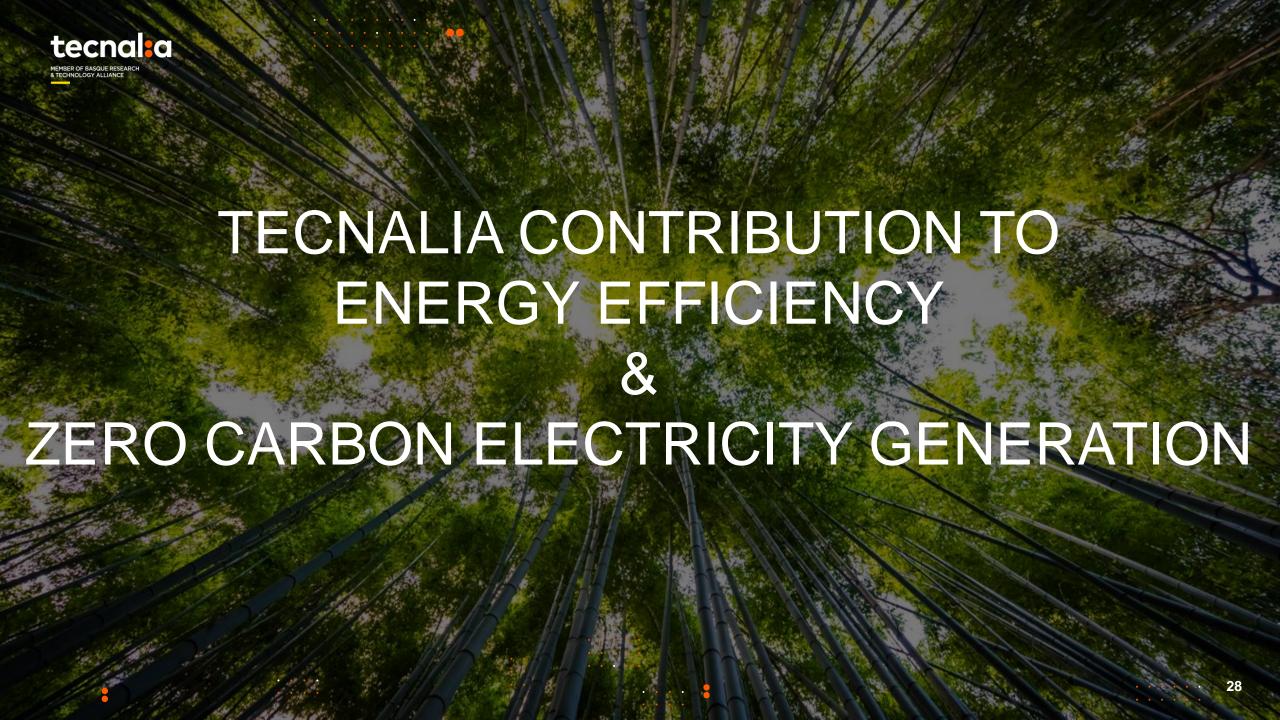
## ROLES TO STIMULATE THE SHIFT FROM THE ESTABLISHED TO THE EMERGING ORDER





ROLE TO
ACCELERATE
THE SHIFT
TOWARDS A
MORE
SUSTAINABLE
ORDER









## **Increasing pressure Determining the direction for the future**

- Contributing to the formation of a vision on energy transition;
- Helping mobilise funding from both public and private partners to realise the transition to energy efficiency and zero-carbon electricity generation;
- Helping **shape** the thematic (policy and industrial) **agenda** on energy transition;
- Working to **shift attention** to the relevance of the energy transition and to specific markets.

TECNALIA's **scientific excellence** in its research domains gives it the necessary 'authority' to take on these transition roles in the Basque Country and internationally.





#### Mobilizing resources for experimentation Developing new conditions and network

TECNALIA's activities that are directed towards the broad business community.

#### Examples:

- Stimulating **experiments and framework conditions** for experimentation and supporting the **development of new innovative businesses**;
- Supporting competence building in relation to the energy transition;
- Supporting the development of new standards and networks.





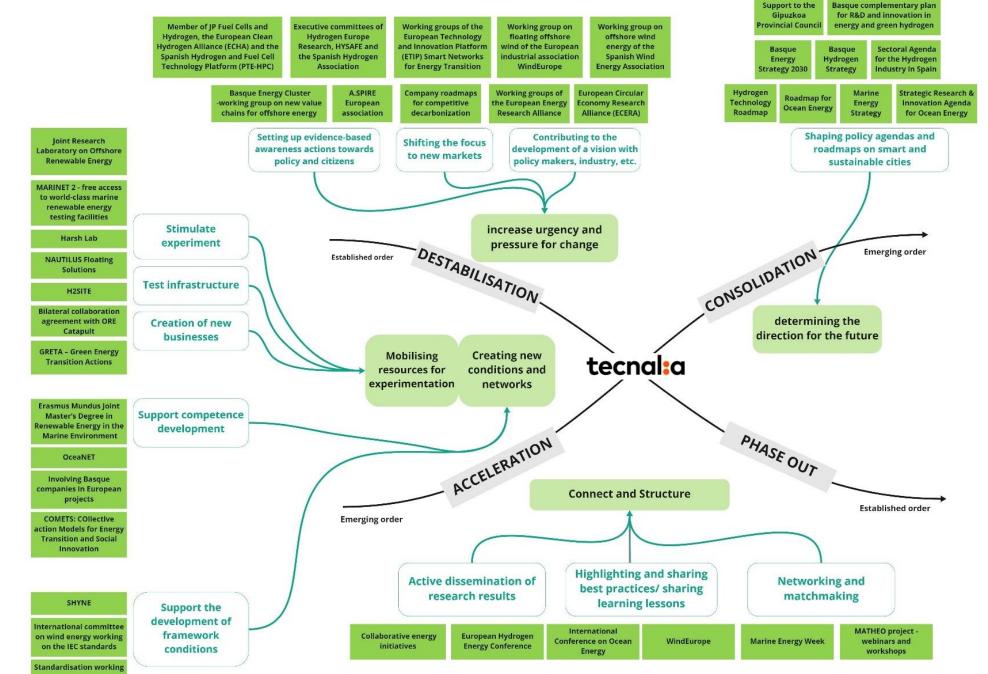
## Facilitating connections and stimulating a structuring effect

Highlighting the possible impact and inspiring examples of innovators, setting up or supervising networks between actors in the value chain, sharing learning lessons from innovators, etc.

- connecting actors in the value chain;
- sharing best practices and disseminating research results.



. . . .







**Deep-tech start-up company** resulting from a partnership between TECNALIA, ENGIE Group and the Eindhoven University of Technology

H2SITE efficiently produces onsite and renewable H2 for small and medium companies

We focus on industry and mobility, using our membrane reactors able to work with different feedstocks such as ammonia, methanol, gas mixtures...

Technological Excellence

**Smart Capital** 

Entrepreneurial Team

Venture Building

Impact





**Deep-tech start-up company** resulting from a partnership between TECNALIA, ENGIE Group and the Eindhoven University of Technology

#### Transition impact of TECNALIA in 'H2SITE' Link between H2SITE and SDGs increase urgency and change pressure established order mobilise resources for determine direction Legend experimentation 5DG 14 SDG 4 Targeted: the intervention directly addresses the tecnal:a create new networks SDG 5 SDG 13 · Reinforced: the intervention is necessary for and conditions achieving the SDG. · Enabled: the intervention enables the achievement of the SDG. connect and structure emerging order

### tecnal:a

MEMBER OF BASQUE RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE



# Thank you elena.schaeidt@tecnalia.com

# The role of RTOs in regional innovation ecosystems for transformation towards sustainable economies

Roland Psenner President, Eurac Research







# The role of RTOs in regional innovation ecosystems for transformation towards truly sustainable economies

Roland Psenner

29.03.2023



U.S. legislators from both parties sharply criticized the policies of Chinese President Xi Jinping during hearings this week. GRAEME SLOAN/SIPA VIA AP IMAGES

# Lawmakers offer contrasting views on how to compete with China in science

In twin congressional hearings,
Democrats argue for <u>more investment</u>,
whereas Republicans favour <u>sanctions</u> on
U.S. adversary

Science Advances, 2 Mar 2023

By Jeffrey Mervis

https://www.science.org/content/article/lawmakers-offer-contrasting-views-how-compete-china-science

"China is going to continue to innovate," Kimberly Budil, director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, said. "And we can't stop them. But we can run faster, and be smarter, in making discoveries that could lead to new industries."

# The New European Innovation Agenda will:

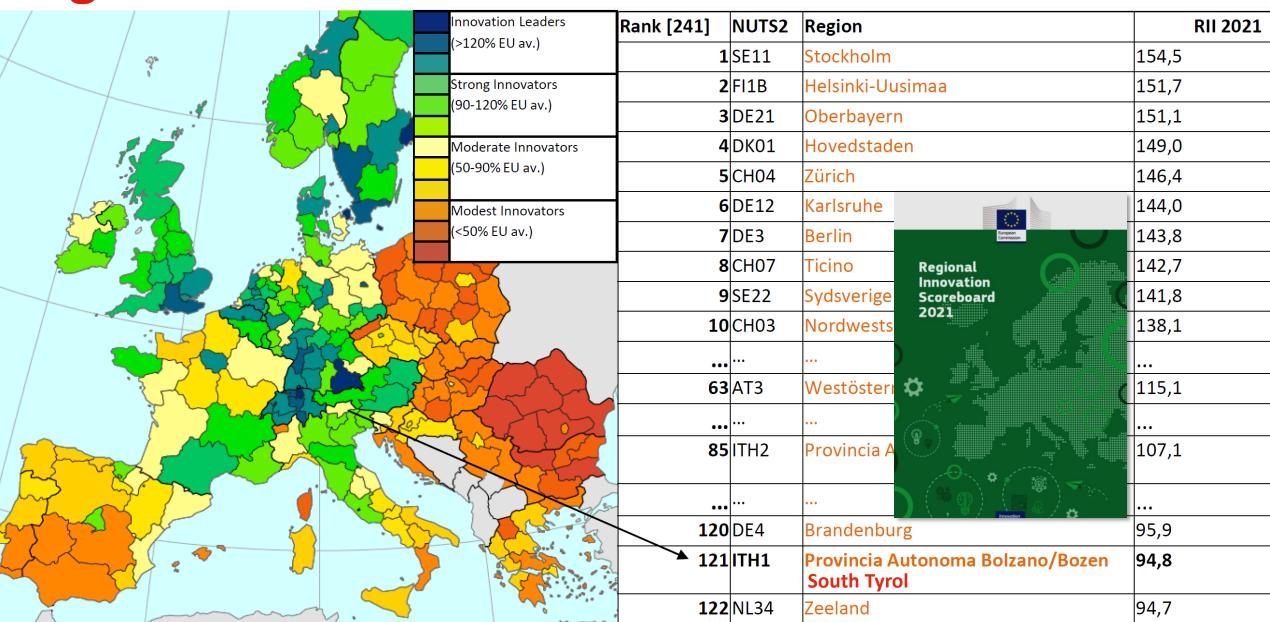
- improve access to finance for European start-ups and scale-ups, for example, by mobilising untapped sources of private capital and simplifying listing rules
- improve the conditions to allow innovators to experiment with new ideas through **regulatory sandboxes**
- help create "**regional innovation valleys**" that will strengthen and better connect innovation players through Europe, including <u>in regions lagging behind</u>
- attract and retain talent in Europe, for example by training 1 million deep tech talents, increasing support for women innovators and innovating with start-up employees' stock options
- improve the policy framework through clearer terminology, indicators and data sets, as well as **policy support to Member States**



eurac research

11 Institutes, 6 Centres, 600 people, 90 ongoing EU projects, 70 PhDs

# **Regional Innovation Index RII**



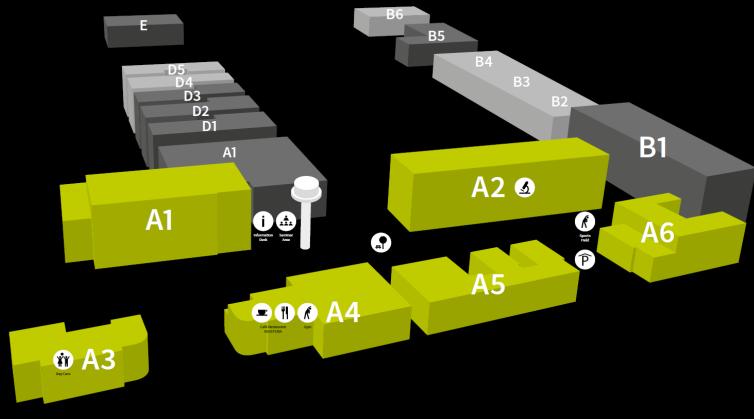
# South Tyrol: moderate or late innovator?

1974: Laimburg Agricultural Research Centre

1992: Eurac Research

1997: Free University of Bolzano/Bozen

2017: NOI Techpark

















# **NOI Techpark**

South Tyrol's innovation district.

A stimulating surrounding for companies, institutions and the university to collaborate on research and development projects.

- 4 Research Institutions
- 70 Companies
- 30 Start-ups
- 41 Labs
- 1100 People
- Open Data Hub
- Start-up Incubator

• ..

# RIS3 Strategy of South Tyrol: Focus on 4 Fields

- The "Digital" technology field comprises the Internet of Things (IoT),
   Open Data Hub and Artificial Intelligence (AI) as its supporting pillars.
- In "Food and Health", the driving themes are raw materials and by-products, optimal processing and fermentation, and "Omics and Precision Health".
- The specialisation areas in the "Automotive/Automation" field are Automotive and Mobility, Manufacturing and Agri-Automation.
- In the technology field "Green", NOI Techpark will concentrate primarily on energy systems, sustainable buildings and urban districts, as well as water technologies.

## **European Green Deal**

### The first climateneutral continent

by 2050

#### At least 55% less

net greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, compared to 1990 levels

#### 3 billion

additional trees to be planted in the EU by 2030

https://commission.eu ropa.eu/strategy-andpolicy/priorities-2019-2024/europeangreen-deal en



fresh air, clean water, healthy soil and biodiversity



renovated, energy efficient buildings



healthy and affordable food



more public transport



cleaner energy and cutting-edge clean technological innovation



longer lasting products that can be repaired, recycled and re-used



future-proof jobs and skills training for the transition



globally competitive and resilient industry

## **Energy Savings in Buildings – an Untapped Potential?**

Buildings account for 40% of Europe's energy consumption and are responsible for more than 33% of the bloc's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Inaction in the building sector in recent years has already cost the EU four years of potential progress towards the climate neutrality goal.

https://www.bpie.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/BPIE\_EU-Buildings-Climate-Tracker\_Final.pdf

Two-thirds of the buildings in the EU have poor energy performance. Under current policies, less than 1% of buildings are renovated each year, while data suggests the number of Europeans unable to provide enough heat in their homes has risen from 36 to 50 million since 2020.

https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/opinion/insulating-the-economy-why-the-eu-must-aim-high-on-its-buildings-directive/

Buildings can be constructed on zero-emission construction sites, **creating positive energy buildings**. However, the standing time is the longest phase to address, as **80% of existing buildings will still be there in the year 2050**.

https://www.airclim.org/sites/default/files/acidnews\_pdf/an123.pdf



## Three Examples where the Institute is Lead Partner:

Two ongoing (REWARDHeat, INFINITE) and a finished one (SINFONIA)



All-in-one industrialised envelope technologies will allow to increase the **energy** performance and lifespan of a

and lifespan of a building, while cutting time and costs of the retrofitting process.



Industrialised durable building envelope retrofitting by all-in-one interconnected technology solutions



#### ABOUT INFINITE

Meet the future of building renovation. All-in-one industrialised envelope technologies will allow to increase the energy performance and lifespan of a building, while cutting time and costs of the retrofitting process. INFINITE relies on the "Renovation4.0" approach, which combines digitalisation and industrialisation to offer high-quality, tailor-made, sustainable solutions designed to last.

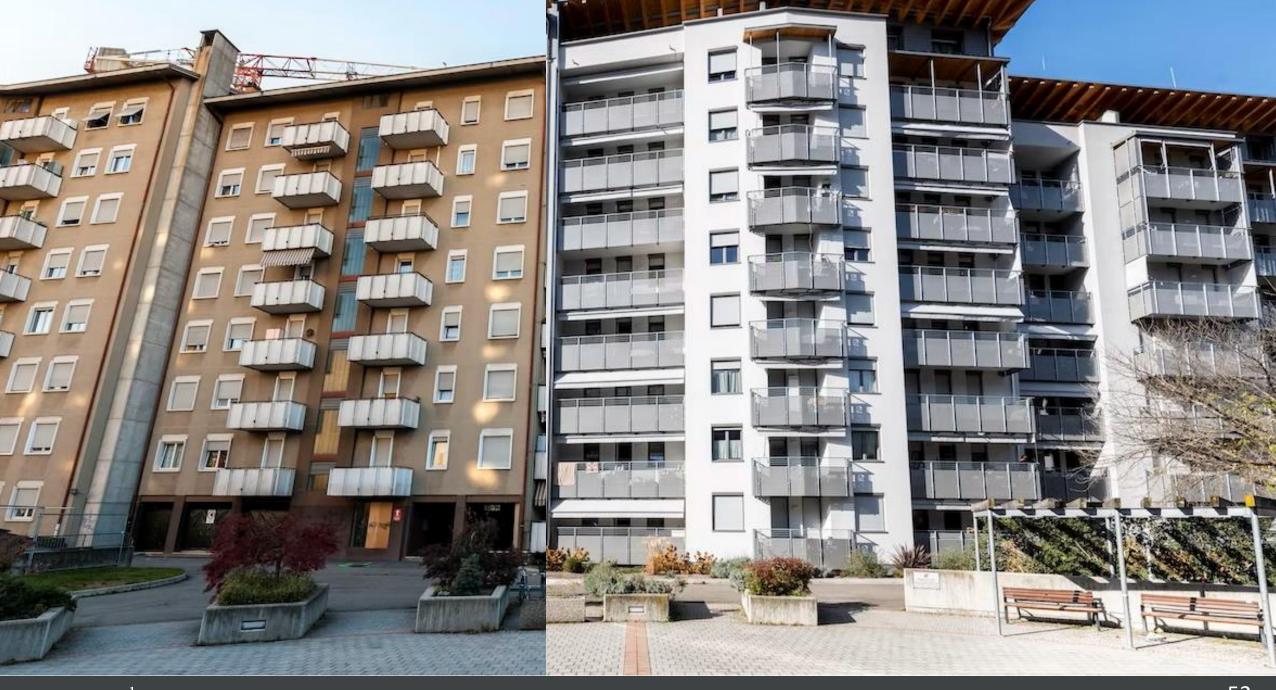
INFINITE will unleash the market potential of prefabrication in the construction sector and will pave the way for the decarbonisation of the European building stock.

# With 80% of European citizens living in urban areas, cities have a crucial role to play in the transition towards a low-carbon economy



# The SINFONIA project is a five-year initiative to deploy large-scale, integrated and scalable energy solutions in mid-sized European cities

At the heart of the initiative is a unique cooperation between the cities of **Bolzano** (Italy) and **Innsbruck** (Austria), working hand in hand to achieve **40 to 50% primary energy savings** and increase the **share of renewables by 20%** in two pioneer districts ... through an integrated set of measures combining the **retrofitting** of **>100,000m² of living surface**, optimisation of the **electricity grid**, and solutions for **district heating & cooling**.



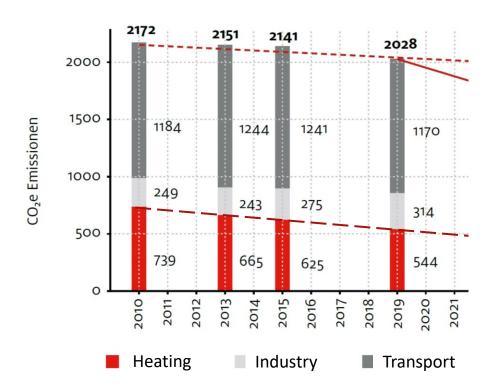






Only in Bolzano/Bozen 12 buildings and 235 apartments were reshaped, thereby saving 80% of energy with 60% of energy coming from renewable sources ... and providing 100% higher comfort to the residents.

# Facts Check: Did it Work at the Regional Level?



**Fig. 1**. Trend of  $CO_2$ e emissions (kt/year) from fossil fuels in South Tyrol 2010-2019, with a perspective for 2030 and climate neutrality.

### **Conclusions**

While <u>national</u> activities, fraught by outdated legal regulations and political disputes, often go in the wrong direction, <u>international</u> agreements – despite sometimes painful compromises – are of greater consequence and foresight:

- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Paris Climate Agreement
- Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- New York High Seas Treaty

In contrast to nation states, **cities** (Paris, Barcelona, Vienna ...), **regions** and **municipalities** take a different approach that is more down-to-earth and in line with international agreements.

# Thanks for your attention

#### Proposal for a

# **DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL** on the energy performance of buildings (recast)

(Text with EEA relevance)

#### Article 1

#### Subject matter

1. This Directive promotes the **improvement of the energy performance of buildings** and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from buildings within the Union, with a **view to achieving a zero-emission building stock by 2050**, taking into account **the** outdoor climatic **conditions**, **the** local conditions, **the requirements for** indoor **environmental quality and the contribution of the building stock to demand-side flexibility for the <b>purpose of improving energy system efficiency** and cost-effectiveness.

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2014 2019/plmrep/COMMITTEES/ITRE/DV/2023/02-09/09 CA-EPBD EN.pdf

# Facing the energy crisis: the role of technology infrastructures

François Jacq CEO, CEA



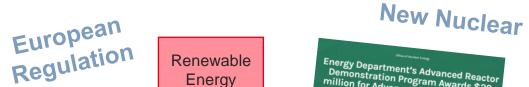
# Facing the energy crisis: The role of technology infrastructures

François JACQ



### **Energy background in 2020-2021 Some highlights**









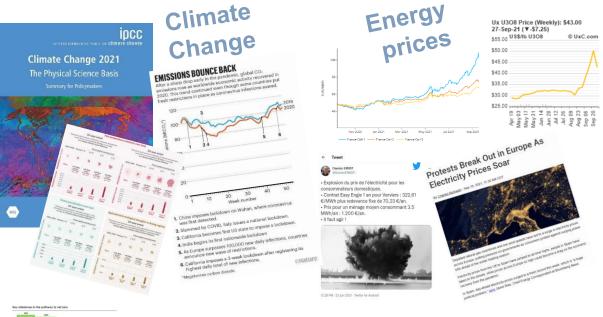


Fit for 55

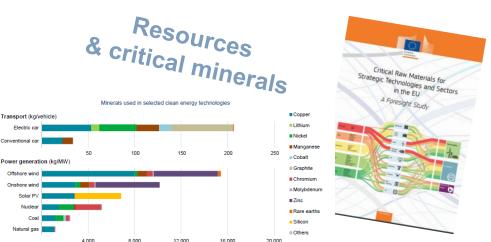
(RED II)

Alternative

fuels







**Taxonomy** 

Carbon Border



## **Lessons from 2022 energy crisis**

- Tackling the climate crisis : Net-zero economy by 2050
  - Already a major challenge
- +++ 2022 Energy crisis
  - Acceleration is needed (reduction of fossil fuels)
  - No simple solution for decarbonisation: explore and support any possibilities
  - Keeping in mind that we should not create new dependencies

















## **Global race for Clean Tech industry**

#### **US Inflation Reduction Act**

"The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 will make a historic down payment on deficit reduction to fight inflation, invest in domestic energy production and manufacturing, and reduce carbon emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030."

Investments for Energy Security and Climate Change	\$369 Bn
- Including DOE scientific research	\$2 Bn
<ul> <li>New DOE Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations program (Support projects to reduce GHG emissions at industrial facilities, including carbon capture and clean hydrogen).</li> </ul>	\$6 Bn
+ \$250 Billions in DOE loans for energy infrastructure projects	\$250 Bn

#### **Net-Zero Industry Act**

"Making the EU the home of clean technologies manufacturing and green jobs"

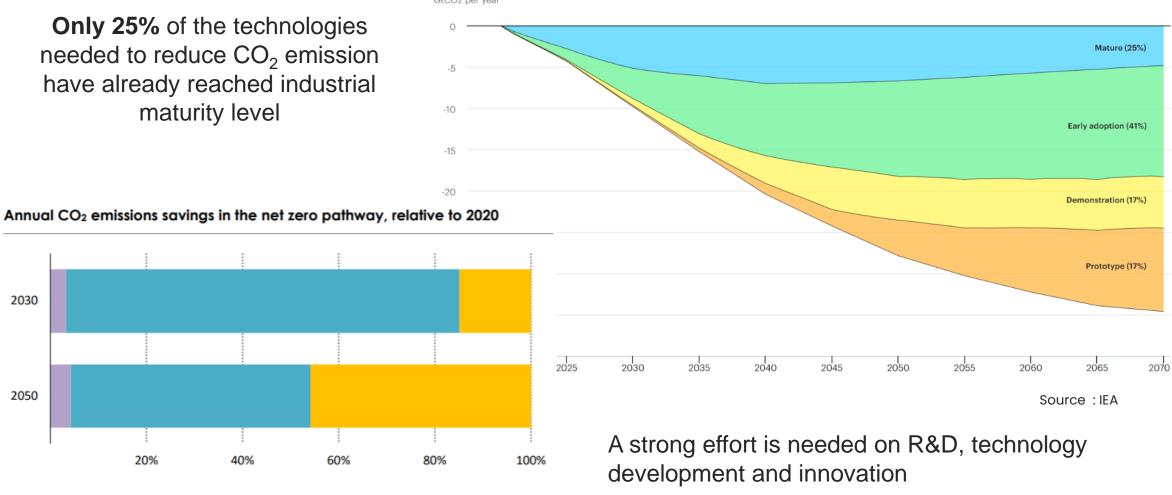
- EU manufacturing capacity should reach 40% of annual deployments needs in some key transition technologies by 2030,
- better conditions to set up net-zero projects in Europe,
- attract investments,
- BUDGET?
- R&D?

#### How to accelerate?



a key factor for a successful energy transition GtCO2 per year

Only 25% of the technologies needed to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emission have already reached industrial maturity level



2030 2050 20% 40% 60% Behaviour changes ■ Technologies in the market
■ Technologies under development



### **Technology Infrastructures and RTOs**

RTOs = ideal instrument for policy decision makers



=> RTOs + Technology Infrastructures = set of services to innovators (qualified staff, open environment for collaboration, IP management models...)



### Some examples





Extreme climate simulation centre Bolzano





For bio and circular economy processes

Espoo





**TNO Solar Lab** 

Custom and highefficiency-tandem photovoltaic

Petten



**CEA Plateform for hydrogen** production and storage

Grenoble

## **Next steps**



NZIA

- Innovation: limited to « Regulatory sandboxes »
- EARTO (We) should push for more!

Public-Private Partnerships

- Organise research communities and provide significant resources
- First examples: Hydrogen, batteries

Public-Private Partnerships Proposals

- More are needed: on solar PV, for alternative fuels (from bio- to synthetic-), on SMRs and for Innovative materials
- PPP to launch mapping exercises of existing TIs and identify gaps

RITIFI project

- 'Research Infrastructure Technology Infrastructure For Impact'
- Phase 2: Strategic analysis of the TI landscape

Highlight

the strengths

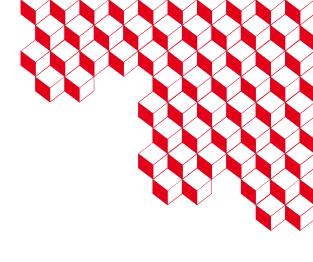
of

RTOs

&

TIS





# Merci

# Strengthening RTOs & industry collaboration: the latest in tech transfer

Erik Drop
Director Knowledge Strategy
Department, TNO

# Latest insights in Tech Transfer

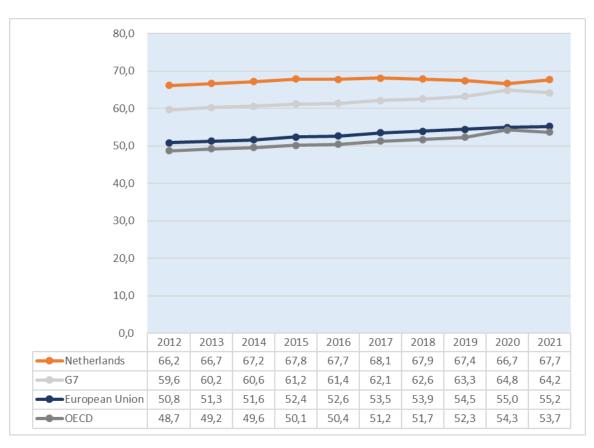
Strengthening role RTO's in renewal EU economic structure

**Erik Drop TNO** 



# **Economic growth: theoretical concepts**LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY IMPORTANT FOR COMPETITIVENESS

- > Labour productivity = GDP / labour:
- ) value that is added with production machines and knowledge in production processes and / or products/services with 'labor'
- ) Interpretation: competitiveness of a country
  - how efficiently the economy uses labour;
  - quality in an economy of the production process and the products and services created by it.



Labour productivity

[GDP per hour worked, US\$, constant prices, 2015 PPPs] - Source: OECD (20/09/2022)



#### **Economic growth: theoretical concepts** HIGHER LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY ONLY BY INNOVATION

#### $\Delta$ GDP = f( $\Delta$ labour, $\Delta$ labour productivity):

- $\Delta$  labour: not an option for NL;
- Δ labour productivity:

capital deepening  $\uparrow$ : not an option for NL;

intangiable capital goods ↑: innovation driven growth.

Type of investments	
Capital goods	9 cent
Education / schooling	1 euro en 30 cent
Private R&D	2 euro en 60 cent
Public R&D	4 euro en 20 cent

Effects of an additional investment of 1 euro on added value (GDP) Source: (Erken, et al. 2019)



Labour productivity growth

[%, GDP per hour worked, constant prices, 2015 as base year] - Source: OECD (20/09/2022).



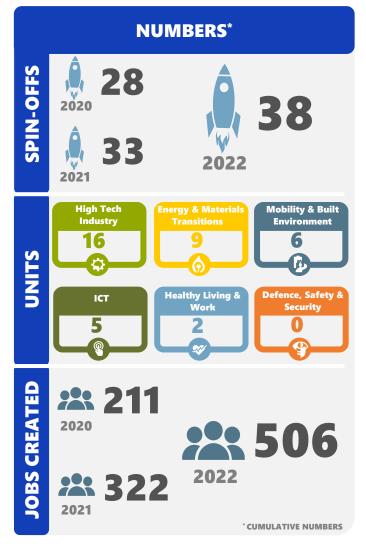
## Raise of Private Expenditure on R&D necessary BY CREATING NEW ACTORS AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

- Top 5 global R&D performers ((2020): global expenditure [MEUR]): 1. Alphabet (22470,1), 2. HUAWEI (17460,1), 3. Microsoft (16882,1), 4. Samsung (15281,6), 5. Apple (15281,6).
- Top 5 R&D performers NL ((2020): expenditure NL [MEUR] / global expenditure global [MEUR], ranking global): 1, ASML (1540 / 2201, 76), 2: Philips (778 / 1915, 94), 3: Janssen (499 / 8438, -), 4: KPN (302 / 302, 744), 5: DSM (217 / 438, 333). Total: 27% of BERD in NL.
- ) In comparison: 95% of all companies that do R&D can be classified as SMEs; but this group accounts for only 33% BERD.
- ) Underrepresentation of activity in the Dutch economy in R&D intensive sectors 'Pharma', 'Automotive' and 'ICT/Software' this limits size and growth BERD.
- ) Top performers in NL spend 10% 25% of their turnover on R&D much more than their international peers. Further growth expenses: organic growth or acquisitions no further incentives.
- A further increase in BERD must come from renewal of the economic structure of NL: new players or new sectors (or support transformation of existing actors).

Source: (update of) TNO (2019). Aanjagen Private R&D. TNO 2019 R10687.



### **Successful TNO Tech Transfer program**











### Spin-off funnel based on financing stage









FOUNDED (spin-off companies)

SEED (convertibles/equity)

SERIES A (> 1M equity)

SERIES B+ (> 10M equity)



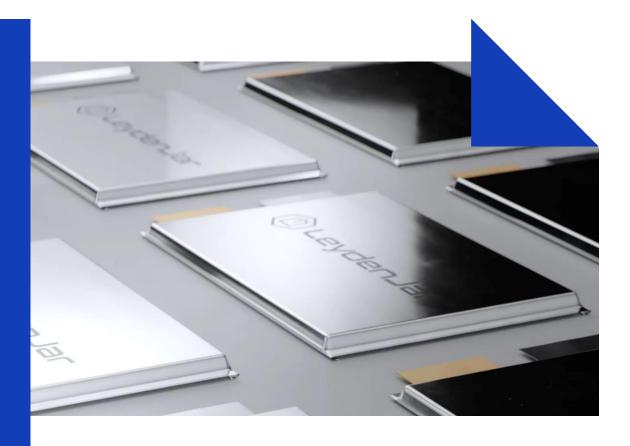
### Spin-off LeydenJar

LeydenJar developed a pure silicon anode with 70% higher energy density than traditional anodes. Using LeydenJar anodes, technology companies can benefit from Li-ion batteries that are extremely powerful, small and fast charging.













#### **Spin-off Cellcius**

 The heat battery technology from Cellcius makes it possible to heat houses, neighbourhoods and offices without the need for a gas connection. This is possible by storing residual heat and using it to heat air and tap water in houses.





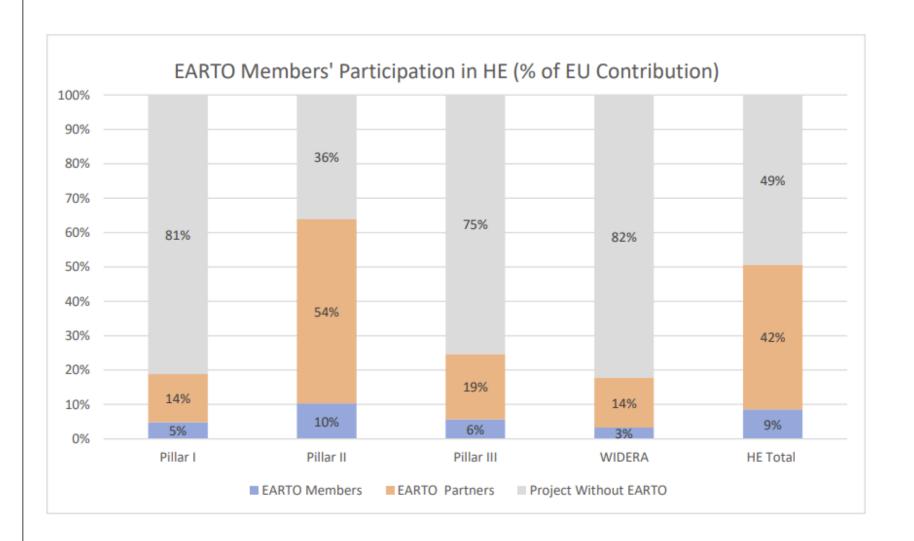




[cellcius]



#### Back to Europe: Missing the full RTO potential in pillar 3



"The EIC Pathfinder and Transition programs was a much-awaited instrument for RTOs, especially as an instrument to create or develop deeptech start-ups.

Its implementation is however disappointing, leading to low participation of RTOs and their spin-offs."

Source: <u>EARTO-</u> <u>Answer-to-EC-</u> <u>Consultations-on-</u> <u>Future-of-RI-FPs-</u> <u>Final.pdf;</u> 10/02/2023



## Role for RTO's in renewal of economic structure of MS Requires actions at three levels

#### RTO level:

- Dedicated Tech Transfer team with specific skills at "public side" with top level commitment
- Involve majority private shareholders from the start and external CEO's (not TNO, more CTO role)

#### National level:

- Acknowledgement of the of role RTO's in renewal economic structure
- Access to finance: Capital but also Valorisation budget

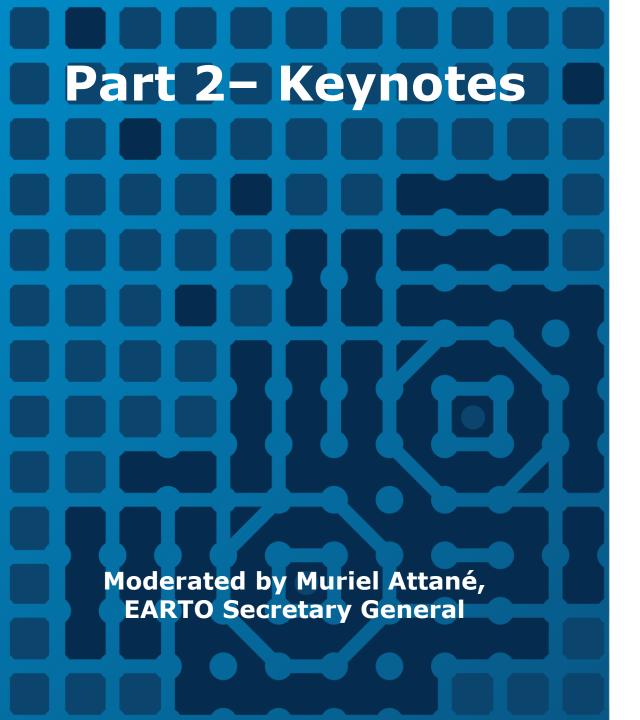
#### EU level:

- Make use of full RTO potential
- Visibility for RTO Tech Transfer results and celebrate/communicate successes



## **Skills for Transformation - How RTOs are getting fit to shape change**

Annika Gehrmann
Head International HR & Labour Law,
Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft







## **Latest EU Developments**

### **Digital Europe**

## Thibaut Kleiner, Director, Policy Strategy and Outreach, DG CNECT, European Commission

(Video Message)

### **European Innovation Council (EIC)**

**Špela Stres, EIC Board Member & Assistant Director, Jožef Stefan Institute** 



## The European Innovation Council News

Špela Stres, EIC Board member

## European Innovation Council (EIC) – Europe's most ambitious innovation initiative



- Largest early-stage deep tech public investor in Europe with a budget of €10 billion;
- Combination of grants and equity investments that can crowd in 30 to 50 billion other private investments;
- Unique in the world to combine research on emerging technologies with Accelerator for startups, SMEs and scaleups;

### EIC main instruments and characteristics



#### **Pathfinder** (TRL1-4)

- For consortia (2+ partners)
- Early-stage research on breakthrough technologies
- Grants up to €3/4 million

#### **Transition** (TRL 4-6)

- For consortia and individual SMEs/researchers (1-5 applicants)
- Technology maturation from proof of concept to validation
- Business & market readiness
- Grants up to €2.5 million

#### **Accelerator** (TRL 6-9)

- For individual SMEs
- Development & scale up of deep-tech/disruptive innovations by startups/ SMEs
- Blended finance (grants up to €2.5 million; equity investment up to €15 million or above)

# Backing visionary entrepreneurs

Funding and investments 2021/22



## Implementation: EIC Pathfinder



2022

Open

868 proposals submitted

858 proposals submitted

868 proposals submitted
60 projects selected
€174.4 mil in funding
858 proposals submitted
62 projects selected
€187 mil in funding

#### **Challenges**

403 proposals submitted deadline)

Evaluations ongoing (October deadline)

proposals selected ~€167 mil

€316,8 mil in funding

€142.4 mil

€354,0 mil in funding

## Implementation: EIC Transition



2021

#### **EIC Transition**

2022

173 proposals submitted for Open
57 proposals for Challenges
(Medtech & devices; Energy
harvesting & storage)

**45** proposals selected ~ €100 million funding

300 proposals submitted for Open46 proposals for Challenges

**54** proposals selected

~ €100 million funding

## Implementation: EIC Accelerator



## 2021

#### **EIC Accelerator**



## >5000 short applications (apply anytime)

Open + Challenges (green deal, strategic technologies)

#### ~1900 full applications

(June, October cut-offs)

**335** selected for **interview** 

## 164 companies selected

€ 350 million grant funding

€ 642 million investment (EIC Fund)

#### ~ 2500 short applications

Open + Challenges: (strategic autonomy, Fit for 55)

#### ~3309 full applications

(March, June, October cut-offs)

**538** selected for **interview** 

### 149 companies selected

€ 330 million grant funding

€ 448 million investment (EIC Fund)

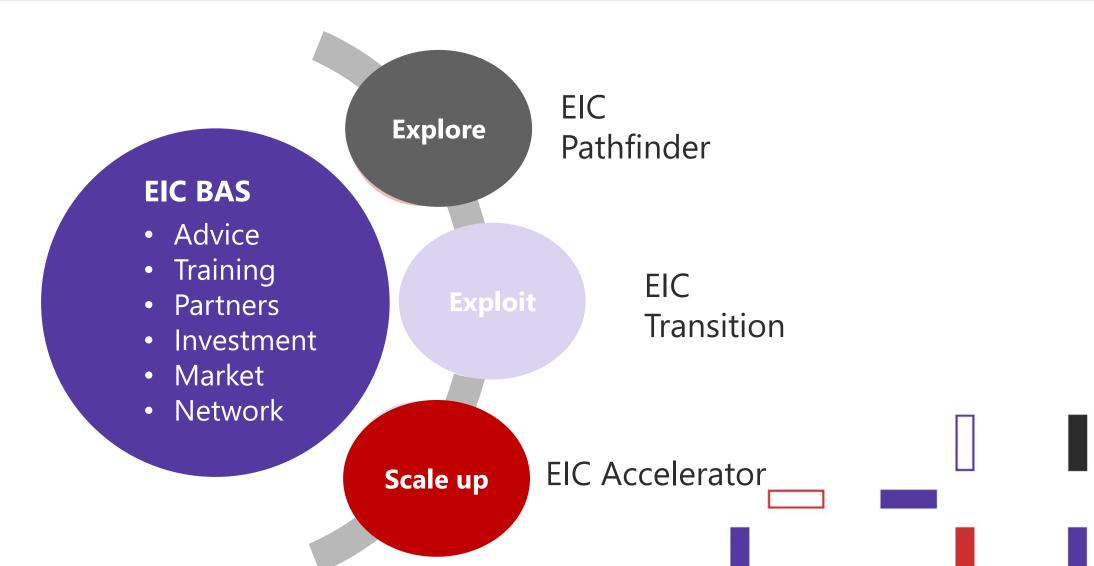
# Backing visionary entrepreneurs

Not just about money –
- the system we have built so far



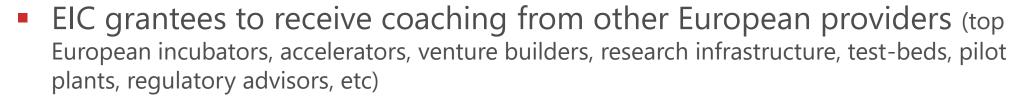
## The EIC Business Acceleration Services (EIC BAS) European Council





## Coaching from EIC Ecosystem Partners







- Top partners such as EIT, Collider, Angels Sante, Consilience Group so far
- Soon, a Catalogue will help to navigate through the offer!
- Call to become and EIC Ecosystem Partner: Last deadline in December, next DL expected in June 2023



European \*\*\*\*
Innovation Council \*\*\*\*

- Entrepreneurial courses for innovative researchers
  - Innovation Discovery Training (one day)
  - Bootcamp for innovative researchers (four days)
  - Pioneer Programme for innovative researchers (four months)
- Business Model Development and Validation through Design Thinking
  - Business Idea Validation Bootcamp (three weeks)
  - Business Validation Programme (eight weeks)
- EIC Venture Building programme (6 months)

More information and application: https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities/business-acceleration-services/tech-market-programme-t2m\_en



# Backing visionary entrepreneurs

New approaches in 2023



## Highlights of Other EIC Actions 2023



## A new internship scheme

COMING UP IN Q2 2023

To allow eligible **researchers** (from Pathfinder, ERC, MSCA, RI) to carry out an innovation **internship** in a **hosting company** (EIC, EIT) for 3-6 months.

## Pilot support to test EIC innovations for potential clients/ procurers

Consortium to give grants to EIC beneficiaries to test innovations with public or private procurers

- Grants of 20-60K for EIC beneficiaries to test innovations
- In-kind commitment of procurers for access to facilities, expertise, data etc and preparation of validation report

COMING UP IN Q2 2023

#### Overview of EIC IP Provisions



- Included in the EIC Work Programme (Annex 7) and in the Model Grant Agreement.
- Aim to foster the commercialization of promising research results.
- Main elements (in addition to normal Horizon Europe rules) concern:
  - Portfolios
  - Exchange of information on preliminary findings and results
  - Priority to exploitation (e.g. patenting) over publication
  - Rights of EIC inventor



## Revision of the EIC IP provisions



Following discussions with TTO/academic stakeholder organisations, on 28 February the EIC Board has recommended revisions to the **EIC IP Provisions**, namely:

- Clarification of definition of 'EIC Inventor'
- Allow institutions a period to commit to supporting the exploitation of results, in exchange for 'fair and proportionate' returns
- If institution does not commit to exploitation, grant full access rights to the EIC Inventors

The Board also recommended joint work to develop guidance on 'fair and proportionate return', and on performance metrics/KPIs that encourage commercialisation.

→ ... Standard spinoff deal terms?























# Backing visionary entrepreneurs

How can RTOs participate



#### Pathfinder 2023



For multi-disciplinary research teams (including individual applicants for Challenges) to undertake visionary research with the potential to lead to technology breakthroughs

- Budget: €323 million
- Budget: €163 million for 'Challenges':
  - o Clean and efficient cooling
  - Construction digitalisation
  - Precision nutrition
  - o Responsible electronics
  - o In-space solar energy
- Technology Readiness Levels 2-4
- **Grants** up to €4 million for 'Challenge' proposals
- **Eligible applicants:** Consortia (min 2 entities) or single legal entities
- Deadline for applications: 18 October 2023.

#### **EIC Transition 2023**



#### Budget: €128 million

- €68 million for 'Open', bottom up calls in any field of technology and application
- €60 million is earmarked for Transition 'Challenges':
  - o Micro-Nano-Bio devices
  - o Environmental intelligence
  - o Chip-scale optical frequency combs
- **Grants** up to €2.5 million (or more if justified)

#### Applications

- All year-round open application process
- 12<sup>th</sup> April and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (for both 'Open' and 'Challenges')

#### EIC Accelerator 2023



#### Budget:

- €612 million for 'Open', bottom up projects in any field of technology and application
- €523 million is earmarked for Accelerator 'Challenges':
  - Biomarkers for cancer
  - o Decontamination for pandemic management
  - Energy storage
  - o New European Bauhaus
  - o Quantum and Semiconductor components
  - o Resilient agriculture
  - Space technologies and services
- Grants up to €2.5 million Equity up to €15 million (or more if justified)
- Applications
  - All year-round for short proposals. If invited to full proposal, four cut-offs: 11 Jan, 22 Mar, 7 June,
    - 4 Oct 2023

# Backing visionary entrepreneurs

EIC is about people



## The EIC Programme Managers

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-communities/eic-programme-managers en





Carina Faber

Renewable energy conversion and alternative resource

exploitation



Quantum tech and electronics

Samira Nik



Isabel Obieta
Responsible electronics



Pantaleo

**Antonio Marco** 

Energy systems and green technologies



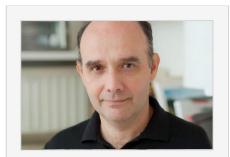
Francesco Matteucci

Advanced materials for energy and environmental sustainability



Stella Tkatchova

Space systems and technologies



**Iordanis Arzimanoglou** 

Health and biotechnology



**Enric Claverol-Tinturé** 

Medical technologies and medical devices



**Ivan Stefanic** 

Food chain technologies, novel & sustainable food



**Franc Mouwen** 

Architecture engineering construction technologies

## **EARTO Member's Participation in EIC**



106

#### Low participation in FET

reason: too early stage

#### **EIC Funding opportunities for RTOs**

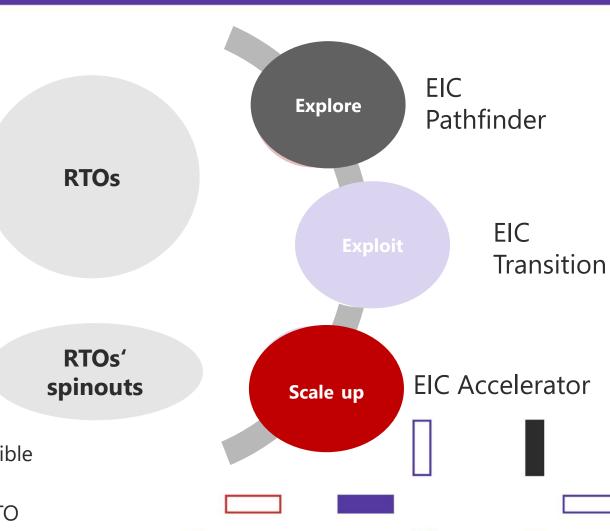
- reorientation of EIC Pathfinder and EIC Transition towards innovation
- greater relevance for RTOs
- EIC Accelerator
- > relevance for RTOs' spinouts



#### **Isabel Obieta**

EIC Programme Manager for Responsible Electronics

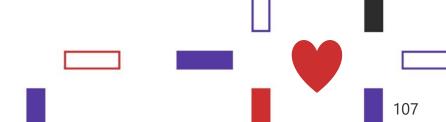
previously Technalia (RTO and EARTO member)



## RTOs are key players in the EIC ecosystem



- RTOs successfully participate in EIC Pathfinder and EIC Transition projects
- RTO spinouts successful in EIC Transition and EIC Accelerator
- RTOs can be a future source of EIC Programme Managers
- RTOs can apply as ecosystem partners for EIC BAS
- RTOs can be recipients of EIC Booster grants (to be launched in 2023)
- ... and many others





## Thank you!

Spela Stres, EIC Board member

EIC the beating heart of innovation

# Latest EARTO positioning on EU RD&I Framework Programmes

Muriel Attané, EARTO Secretary General

# **EARTO Answer to EC Consultation on FPs**



EARTO Answer to the EC Consultation on the past, present and future of the European Research & Innovation Framework Programmes 2014-2027

10 February 2023

### Introduction

RTOs are very pleased with the opportunity offered by the EU Framework Programmes to contribute to the European Research Area by developing pan-European excellent and impactful collaborative applied research. In turn, EARTO Members have been very active participants in EU RD&I Framework Programmes for the last decades. In <u>EARTO last Horizon 2020 analysis</u> as well as in our <u>new analysis for Horizon Europe</u>, the share of EU grants to Research & Technology Organisations (RTOs) is consequently larger han RTOs' share in the total number of FP participants. In both programmes, RTOs have a leading position and driving role in FPs' multi-disciplinary, large and complex collaborative projects. FP projects where RTOs are avoided a larger participation from industry than projects without RTOs. Those trends are even more predominant in the current FP than in the last one as shown in the summary below. In Horizon Europe as in H2020, RTOs have a large share of projects for which they are coordinators.



### Chapter 1 - Strategic Issues for Horizon Europe's Mid-Term review

In preparation of the mid-term review, EARTO would like to point out the following issues to be further analysed in the upcoming two years:

### The need of proper analysis of the FPs evolution:

EARTO calls on the European Parliament ITRE Committee to launch with the EPRS a new study on the evolution of FPs. Indeed, the <u>European Parliament Research Service's in-depth analysis done in 2017</u> was of great value for planning the changes needed in the next FP. Today, there is a clear need to properly and independently analyse:

- The social and economic effect of the FPs' last structure change, from input to impact (i.e. merging ex pillars 2 (Industrial competitiveness) and 3 (societal challenges) of Horizon 2020 in a single pillar with a very large scope and number of objectives, new pillars and new instruments),
- The proportionality between single beneficiary instruments vs multi-beneficiaries (i.e. collaborative projects) and.
- 3) The proportionality between investment and impact coming from the instruments in the different TRL range. Such a study would also provide valuable inputs to the upcoming EC High Level Group for Horizon Europe Mid-term review/FP10 Preparation.

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### EARTO Feedback on EARTO Members' Experiences with Lump-Sums Projects within Horizon Europe

10 February 2023

EARTO members are very active participants in the FPs, especially in complex and large collaborative applied RD&I projects. In turn, EARTO is a strong supporter of the European Commission's efforts towards simplification of the EU RQI Framework Programmes (FPs). However, all simplifications efforts should cover the full project life-cycle – from application to audit and benefit all – from the EU Commission to the projects and beneficiaries. In this context, EARTO members are actively participating in the current lorizon Europe lump-sums projects and report many implementation issues which need to be tackled before envisioning to further extend the use of such financial instrument.

### Premature and Unsuited for Collaborative RD&I Projects

The extension of lump-sum funding from the Horizon 2020 pilot to the Horizon Europe projects was not based on a full evaluation covering the whole life-cycle of the projects. While we understand the use of lump-sum is a simplification for the EC services, EARTO believes that the broader use of lump-sum funding is premature, especially for large collaborative applied research projects. Indeed, our members are experiencing a lack of genuine collaboration among partners in large projects working with lump-sums due to too many work packages and isolated task responsibilities aiming to minimise risks. EARTO calls for caution on widening the use of lump-sums in Horizon Europe Work programmes under the next Strategic Plan 2025-21.

### More Guidance to Coordinators Needed

In the current implementation of lump-sums, EARTO welcomes the new EC approach to also finance not-finalised work packages at the end of a project. However, beneficiaries and projects' coordinators need sufficient written guidance regarding: 1) the necessary circumstances to be demonstrated so a work package would fall under this new approach and 2) how the EC will assess the percentage of fulfilment of said work package. Moreover, to ease the work of the coordinators, the EC could, under such new approach, clearly attribute the payment of a work package with the percentages to the different beneficiaries involved (i.e. not leaving it up to the consortium to distribute the funding among them). This way the coordinary would have clear specification which amount each beneficiary gets for a specific work package. This would avoid disputes among consortia members.

Higher Success Rates Needed to Align with Higher Ex-ante Costs Incurred during Proposal Making In addition, EARTO would like to ask for a simplified proposal procedure for lump-sums to align costs versus benefits in proposal making (i.e. as higher success rates are not demonstrated for lump-sums proposals). Experiences of our members clearly show that lump-sum proposals are much more burdensome (e.g. increase lenath of the proposals) bringing to a higher level the ex-ante costs of proposal making for lump-sum projects.

### Lump-sums Dashboard Tool for Evaluators To be Taken Down for Next Calls' Evaluation

Furthermore, the new <u>Lumn-sum dashboard</u> developed by the EC for evaluators is completely inappropriate and should be taken down from the EC website while pending improvements. It currently instructs experts' evaluators to request specific justification regarding personnel costs in proposals in case the 80 percentile is reached or exceeded. The amounts used by the EC in this dashboard are currently checked by different stakeholders including EARTO and have been found completely inaccurate. EARTO members' feedback is clear: the average median amount is far too low (e.g. already demonstrated by German, Dutch or Belgium research performing organisations). Therefore, the EC should quickly modify its instructions to experts' evaluators and update the amounts of the dashboard to the average employers' gross personnel costs. Furthermore, the time span used is too wide as the dashboard uses costs for almost 10 years, which will be inevitably outdated as reference-value. Against the background of very high inflation, reference-values become outdated rather quickly and should therefore be adapted regularly. Finally, the dashboard data clearly need to be quality assured along a defined process in order to prevent reference data to become outdated or wrong and therefore would lead to unfair and unequal treatment of beneficiaries by evaluators.

The following table summarises the issues collected by our members involved in lump sum projects:

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# **EARTO Inputs to Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 25-27**



for individuosis process at one climpean levies, and no commune implementing appropriate support.

He executify content has rarely been so critical in Europe as it is today. The last three years have see permanent state of crists due to, smorp other things, COVID-19, externer summer wildlifers Europe server floods in Germany, the Retherlands Luxemburg and Belgium, continuous cyter-status at last three years and provention of copies ingration and influent of influence cyter-status of the community of the communi

acknowledged programme for industry.

The EARTO WGSD formulated the following six recommendations to further increase the viability and

- Keep focusing HE Cluster 3 on RD&I for Civil Security for Society
- After entry barriers to calls under Cluster 3 Increase citizens' involvement in RD&I security activit
- Better balance TRLs

Recommendation 1. – Keep Recussing ME Cluster 2 on RDAE for Civil Security for Society to the beginning of the new milentum, a series of hard-bitting tremist states brought about realisation that the increasing density and complexity of threats requires an overarching, coordinate on concerted approach to admiss the multifacted appears and interoperations of the section envired in creating a resilient society. The other of permanent crisis abovementanced miniferroad even more this realisation. Cluster 3 has agree value as a dedicated program bringing topether in one git.

Europe needs a loop sime standards cold security research and invested to programme to quarter a continued impact of all investments in security sourced upon as with coldrobules in a security and continued in the coldrobule in a security sourced upon a view of the coldrobule in a security sourced upon and extra coldrobule in the security sourced upon a security resistance in together, developing IADE projects resulting in max products and service between the coldrobule in the security of the Coldrobule productions, the programmes for cold security have been the cold extra cold security practice control and an accordance of the coldrobule in the coldrob

Quite some of the new technological applications for defence were originally developed in the civ

# **EARTO Inputs on RD&I for Civil Security for Society (Cluster 3)**

- 1. Keep focusing HE Cluster 3 on RD&I for Civil Security for Society
- 2. Alter entry barriers to calls under Cluster 3
- 3. Increase citizens' involvement in RD&I security activities
- 4. Expand Cluster 3 to capacity development topics
- 5. Better balance TRLs
- 6. Ensure the stability of HE Cluster 3 budget

# EXAMEDIATION IN THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE STATE OF THE STAT

strong health technology-driven periodise. The structure of frequent future, is used on an all-indicative filter 2, such-drived in application-driven culture, is not cartificiently adapted to health technology-innovation that is transversal to many indicatives, fiseling the indicatival actions of innovation could be indicated as a considerable of the indicatival actions of innovation could fill (ICE) focuses on deep-structure and such dise not compensate the lack of technology-driven research of Filiar 2. A new pipeline of transversal technologies that with feed innovative solutions in healthcast is upgraph; needed as upgraph and the such as a considerable could be such as a considerable could

The EARTO WG Healthcare has identified the following gaps in programming for healthcare at EU level that should be addressed in the next Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027:

- Advanced Blomateriats: Somateriats are the one of medical progress, and patient comfirst a security. Biocompatible, bioconvolent demanders butter a hydroges, polymer (certifices, pilopiette, chizonet, etc.), name-based (petc, polypettedes are the building block breakthrough ministrations in healthrough. They will got the development of vectors, drug deliver breakthrough ministrations in healthrough the security of the programment of the programme
- THE Data Center 2021, Nection Europe Sects and Figures 2022, In the medical technology sector, Sumple hosts 14000 compar

EMTO - Empres Association of Research and Technology Organisations

# **EARTO Inputs on Healthcare Research and Innovation**

- 1. Reintegrate Advanced Enabling Technologies for Healthcare in Horizon Europe
- 2. Create a Bridging instrument for Short, Fast and Innovation Kick-starting Projects with SMEs
- 3. Increase the impact of EIC Transition in Healthcare
- 4. Better integrate Healthcare challenges in Pillar 2 Cluster 4 Digital, Industry and Space programme
- 5. Improve Coordination between Horizon Europe, Digital Europe and EU4Health programmes

# **EARTO Members' participation in Horizon Europe**

(eCorda data November 2022)



EARTO members represent 1% of the receive 8,6% of the available funding



EARTO members participate in large collaborative projects with on average €6.2m EU contribution and 16 partners per project



Industry participation increases to 36% when beneficiaries, but EARTO members are involved in the project (27% when they are not)



64% of the funding spent 25% of all Horizon Europe in Pillar II given to projects with EARTO members



EARTO members coordinate 1/3 of the projects in which they participate



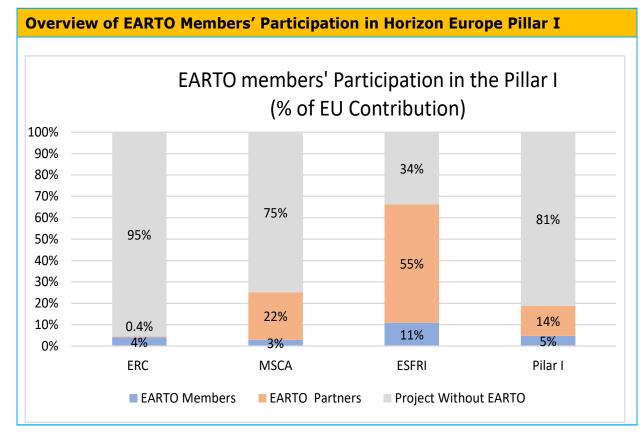
projects includes at least one EARTO members, and these projects represent 51% of HE EU funding.

# **Strategic Issues for HE Mid-Term review**

- > The need of proper analysis of the FPs evolution as done by the European Parliament Research Service in 2017
- > Instability of the RD&I Budget in the Multi-Financial Framework
  - Negotiation of the budget every year within the MFF and the Framework Programme
  - Pressure to re-allocate the FP budget to new top-down EU policies looking for budget without bringing additional funds
- > Increasing distance between the implementing Agencies & the EC policymaking's services
- > Synergies between EU Funding Programmes having RD&I components
  - Creation of a streamlined pathway from research to market between the various programmes & instruments
  - Synergies Mapping Tool
  - More visibility between the programmes through single database
  - Do not add layer of complexity for proposal submission and project implementation



# **Looking at HE Pillar I**



(eCorda data November 2022)

# **Mobility of Researchers**

Avoid that mobility instruments for researchers not effectively implemented by RD&I actors because employment regulations that hinder their participation

### **Research Infrastructures**

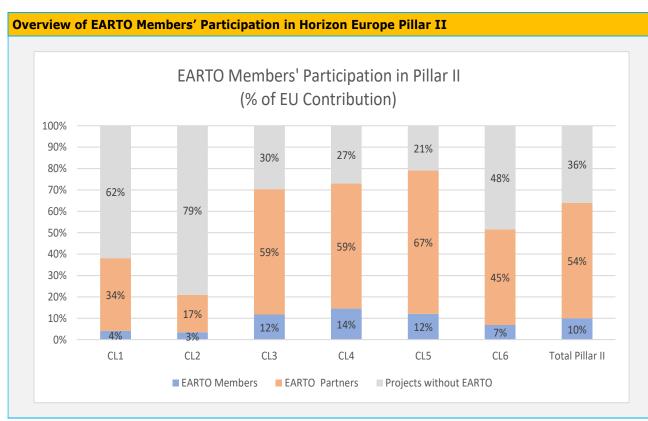
Excess of partners, administrative burden and call for maintain the integrative activities



# **Looking at HE Pillar II**

### **Pillar II Key Figures:**

- ➤ The Projects in which EARTO Members are involved represent 64% of the EU Contribution to Pillar II
- > EARTO Members received 83% of the EU Contribution in HE from the Pillar II



Balance of TRLs levels to allow Proper Portfolio Management

**Balance between Smaller vs Large Collaborative Projects** 

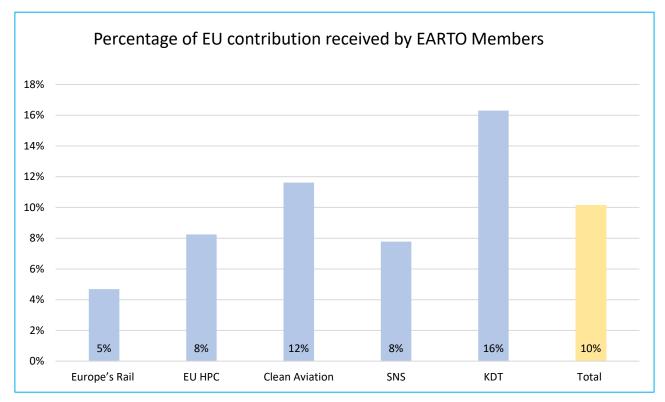
Launching New Pilots on Technology Infrastructures

- Welcome the upcoming Advisory Group on TIs
- Waiting for the launch of new Tis pilots following the Pilot on aeronautics

(eCorda data November 2022)

# In HE Pillar II – EU Partnerships

# **EARTO Members' Participation in Pillar II Institutionalised Partnerships (Joint Undertakings, JUs)**



### **Key Figures:**

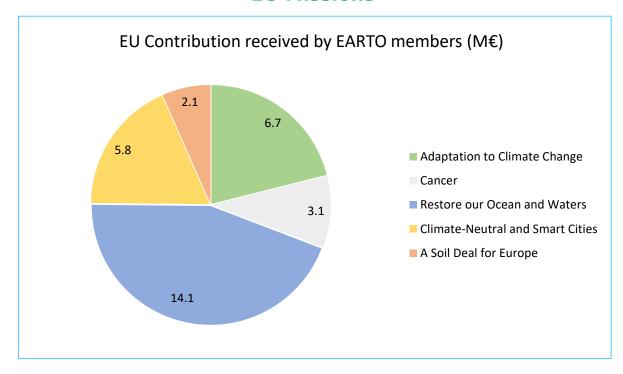
- > 5 institutionalised European partnerships (JUs) in eCorda data (out of 11)
- ➤ EARTO Members represent 10 % of the Funds allocated to EU institutionalised Partnerships (€116 M out of €1.1 bn)

# **Evaluation of the EU Partnerships:**

- ➤ In some clusters, a better balance between cofunded and co-programmed partnerships should be aimed for.
- ➤ In the partnerships that require co-funding, the known problem of the organisations in Member States that do not participate in the co-funding is still present in the current FP.
- ➤ In new SBA for JUs, every JU still has their own funding mechanisms and rules for participation.

# In HE Pillar II – EU Missions

# **EARTO Members' Participation in Pillar II EU Missions**



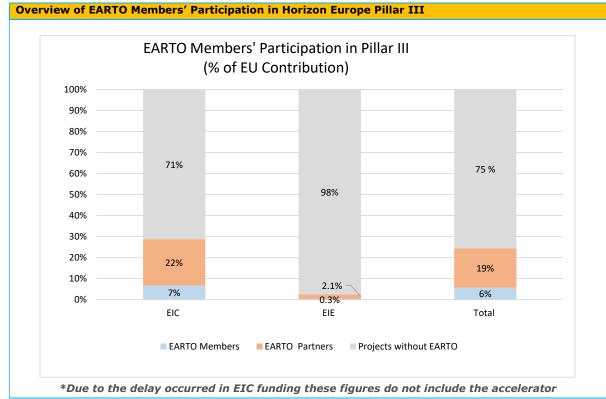
### **Key Figures:**

➤ EARTO members received 10,3% of total EU Contribution in the Pillar II but 5,9% of the total EU Contribution to EU Missions (funded under the Pillar II).

### **Evaluation of the EU Missions:**

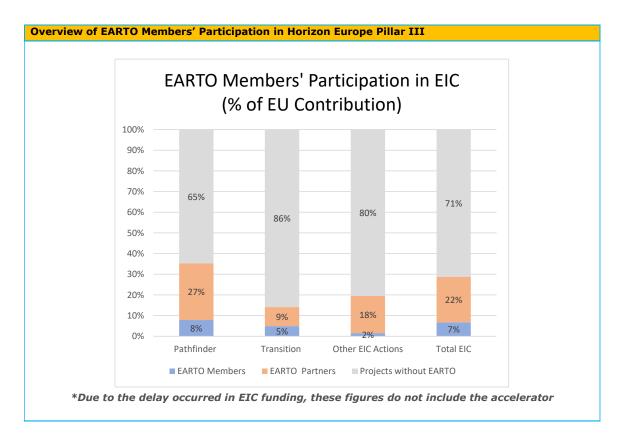
- Delay = unclear impact.
- First calls seem to be:
- Financing the implementation of already existing solutions by regions and cities which could very well be financed by the structural funds,
- 2) Or looking at the coordination of efforts that could be better done by already existing instruments avoiding unnecessary duplication of instruments, such as the EU partnerships.
- Best to be forgoing the start of any new mission under the next Strategic Plan 2025-27 and taking the time to remodel the current missions' governance to clarify the expected role and impact.

# **Looking at HE Pillar III**



### **European Innovation Ecosystems**

Neglect the role of research and technology infrastructures to support and orchestrate research and innovation ecosystems



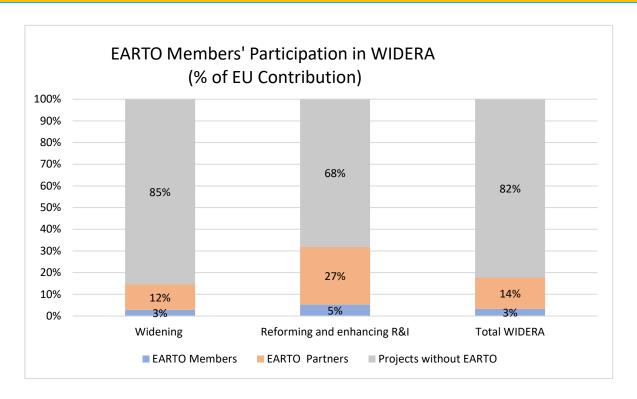
### **European Innovation Council**

- 1. Intellectual Property Provisions issues
- FIC Pathfinder & Transitions difficulties: balance between "radically new technology" and "sufficient evidence" / Link to previous EU funds



# **Looking at HE WIDERA**

### Overview of EARTO Members' Participation in Horizon Europe WIDERA.



According to the Horizon Europe regulation, EARTO has members in the following Widening countries: Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal and Slovenia.

(eCorda data November 2022)

### **Evaluation of the Widening Activities**

- 1. Further look needed at funding schemes aiming to help the capacity-building of the research institutions based in widening countries.
- 2. Hop On instrument needs reconsideration.

# FPs' Simplification: A Non-evidence for Beneficiaries

- 1. Annotated Model Grant Agreement (AGA): beneficiaries are signing grant and consortium agreements without an up-to-date AGA
- 2. Use of the lump-sums (LS): Several issues regarding the implementation of LS in HE which is the subject of a Paper written by EARTO's WG Financial Experts
- **3. Increasing number of requirements for proposals** which increases the burden in project proposal preparation
- **4. Technical shortcomings of the Funding and Tenders Portal:** There have been more problems related to IT related functioning within Horizon Europe calls than in the last calls of Horizon 2020
- **5. Quality of the Evaluation:** The quality of Evaluation Summary Reports (ESRs) has been a recurrent issue over the last FPs + New blind evaluation pilot concerns
- **6. Quality of the support from Agencies:** The level of support that coordinators receive from the agencies during the post-award phase needs to be streamlined between the different Executive agencies



# **EARTO Feedback on Lump-Sums within Horizon Europe**



### EARTO Feedback on EARTO Members' Experiences with Lump-Sums Projects within Horizon Europe

LO February 2023

EARTO members are very active participants in the FPs, especially in complex and large collaborative applied RD&I projects. In Itum, EARTO is a strong supporter of the European Commission's efforts towards simplification of the EU R&I Framework Programmes (FPs). However, all simplifications efforts should cover the full project life-cycle – from application to audit and benefit all – from the EU Commission to the projects and beneficiales. In this context, EARTO members are actively participating in the current Horizon Europe lump-sums projects and report many implementation issues which need to be tackled before envisioning to further extend the use of such financial instrument.

### Premature and Unsuited for Collaborative RD&I Projects

The extension of lump-sum funding from the Horizon 2020 pilot to the Horizon Europe projects was not based on a full evaluation covering the whole life-cycle of the projects. While we understand the use of lump-sums is a simplification for the EC services, EARTO believes that the broader use of lump-sum funding is premature, especially for large collaborative applied research projects. Indeed, our members are experiencing a lack of genuine collaboration among partners in large projects working with lump-sums due to too many work packages and isolated task responsibilities aiming to minimise risks. EARTO calls for caution on widening the use of lump-sums in Horizon Europe Work programmes under the next Strategic Plan 2025-27.

### More Guidance to Coordinators Needed

In the current implementation of lump-sums, EARTO welcomes the new EC approach to also finance notfinalised work packages at the end of a project. However, beneficiaries and projects' coordinators need sufficient written guidance regarding: 1) the necessary circumstances to be demonstrated so a work package would fall under this new approach and 2) how the EC will assess the percentage of fulfilment of said work package. Moreover, to ease the work of the coordinators, the EC could, under such new approach, clearly attribute the payment of a work package with the percentages to the different beneficiaries involved (i.e. not leaving it up to the consortium to distribute the funding among them). This way the coordinator would have clear specification which amount each beneficiary gets for a specific work package. This would avoid disputes among consortia members.

Higher Success Rates Needed to Align with Higher Ex-ante Costs Incurred during Proposal Making In addition, EARTO would like to ask for a simplified proposal procedure for lump-sums to align costs versus benefits in proposal making (i.e. as higher success rates are not demonstrated for lump-sum proposals). Experiences of our members clearly show that lump-sum proposals are much more burdensome (e.g. increase length of the proposals) bringing to a higher level the ex-ante costs of proposal making for lump-sums projects.

### Lump-sums Dashboard Tool for Evaluators To be Taken Down for Next Calls' Evaluation

Furthermore, the new <u>Lump-sum dashboard</u> developed by the EC for evaluators is completely inappropriate and should be taken down from the EC website while pending improvements. It currently instructs experts' evaluators to request specific justification regarding personnel costs in proposals in case the 80 percentile is reached or exceeded. The amounts used by the EC in this dashboard are currently checked by different stakeholders including EARTO and have been found completely inaccurate. EARTO members feedback is clear: the average median amount is far too low (e.g. already demonstrated by German, Dutch or Belgium research performing organisations). Therefore, the EC should quickly modify its instructions to experts' evaluators and update the amounts of the dashboard to the average employers' gross personnel costs. Furthermore, the time span used is too wide as the dashboard uses costs for almost 10 years, which will be inevitably outdated as reference-value. Against the background of very high inflation, reference-values become outdated rather quickly and should therefore be adapted regularly. Finally, the dashboard data clearly need to be quality assured along a defined process in order to prevent reference data to become outdated or wrong and therefore would lead to unfair and unqual treatment of beneficiaries by evaluators.

The following table summarises the issues collected by our members involved in lump sum projects:

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### Main issues raised:

- 1. Premature and Unsuited for Collaborative RD&I Projects
- 2. More Guidance to Coordinators Needed
- 3. Higher Success Rates Needed to Align with Higher Ex-ante Costs Incurred during Proposal Making
- 4. Lump-sums Dashboard Tool for Evaluators To be Taken Down for Next Calls' Evaluation



# **EARTO Members' participation in Horizon Europe**

(eCorda data November 2022)



represent 1% of the beneficiaries, but receive 8,6% of the available funding



EARTO members participate in large collaborative projects with on average €6.2m EU contribution and 16 partners per project



Industry participation increases to 36% when EARTO members are involved in the project (27% when they are not)



64% of the funding spent in Pillar II given to projects with EARTO members



coordinate 1/3 of the projects in which they participate



25% of all Horizon Europe projects includes at least one EARTO members, and these projects represent 51% of HE EU funding.

Question for next years: Will RTOs maintain such good results?

# **FP10** Preparation

Year	2023			2024			2025	
Presidency	Sweden		Spain	Belgium		Hungary	Poland	Denmark
H2020 Ex-post Evaluation	Submission of the draft SWD on H2020 Evaluation to RSB* and opinion	EC consultation synopsis report	Evaluation SWD on H2020 ex-post evaluation	Presentation and discussion Council and EP H2020 Evaluation	-	Evaluation new EU Commissioner for Research		
Horizon Europe	EC report on the approach to Missions and Partnerships		Results EC Studies on Horizon Europe mid- term	Opinion by the RSB on the draft SWD on Interim Evaluation of Horizon Europe		Publication of the SWD on Horizon Europe Interim Evaluation		
Mid-term	ERAC report on mid- term			Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025- 27	T T			
FP10 Preparation	Call for expressions of interest for the High-Level Group (HLG) H2020 evaluation and HE mid- term evaluation for FP10 (Lamy2)			Work of the High- Level Expert Group +ERAC Draft Opinion on the next FP10	0 N S	Publication of the HLG report on the future of the Framework Programme	EC Communication adoption on FPs' future	Adoption of FP10 and its accompanying Impact Assessment

# EARTO October Events on 11 October 2023 13.30 - 16.00, Brussels

# **EARTO Policy Event 2023**

The 10th edition of the EARTO Policy Event will take place on 11 October 2023 in Brussels. The event aims at gathering representatives from all over the world (RTOs, EU institutions, industry as well as other key R&I stakeholders).

# **EARTO Innovation Awards Ceremony 2023**

The 15th edition of the EARTO Innovation Awards Ceremony will also be organised on 11 October 2023 in Brussels. As every year, a wide range of RTOs' work will be presented through our two categories of innovations: "Impact Delivered" and "Impact Expected".

\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE! \*\*\*

11 October 2023

13.30 - 16.00









**Enjoy your lunch!** 

12.30 - 14.00

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"EU Framework Programmes – News & Views"

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