



Magyar  
Fejlesztésösztönző  
Iroda

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## EU FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AI

2022.11.15.

# CONTENT – WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS WORKSHOP

**01. EU PRIORITIES AND BUDGET 2021–2027**

**02. DIRECT FUNDING PROGRAMMES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AI**

**03. DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMMES (DEP)**

**04. HORIZON EUROPE (HE)**

**05. CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY (CEF)**

**06. TIPS AND TRICKS FOR APPLICANTS**



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# 1. EU PRIORITIES AND BUDGET FOR 2021-2027

A LEADING ROLE FOR AI

# KEY EU PRIORITIES 2019-2024

## 1. A EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

EUROPE AIMS TO BE THE FIRST CLIMATE NEUTRAL CONTINENT

## 2. A EUROPE FIT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

THE EU'S DIGITAL STRATEGY WILL EMPOWER PEOPLE WITH A NEW GENERATION OF TECHNOLOGIES.

## 3. AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR PEOPLE

CREATING A MORE ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT, AND GROWTH THAT CREATES QUALITY JOBS, ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND SMALL BUSINESSES.

# AI IS A KEY ELEMENT OF THE EU'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, BASED ON A BALANCE OF INNOVATION, ETHICS AND SUSTAINABILITY

## THE 3 PILLARS OF THE EU AI STRATEGY

1

### ECONOMY

Increasing technological and innovation capacities with the help of AI

2

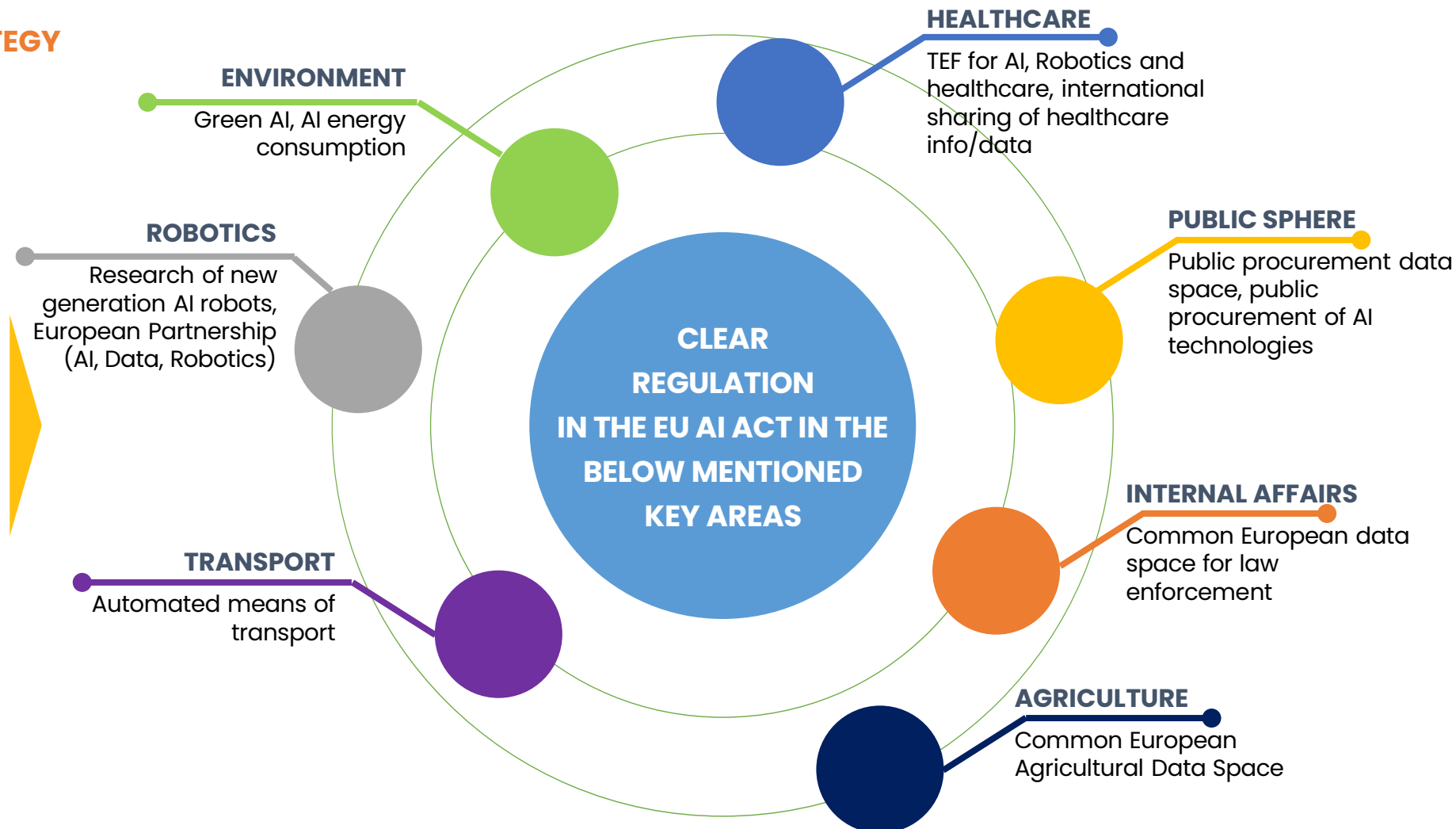
### SOCIAL

Preparing for the significant impact of AI on the labor market – AI specialists and other jobs affected by AI

3

### ETHICS

Creating the appropriate ethical and legal framework



# EU BUDGET 2021-2027 – QUICK OVERVIEW

## Single Market, Innovation and Digital

149.5 (+ 11.5 from NGEU)

## Cohesion, Resilience and Values

426.7 (+ 776.5 from NGEU)

## Natural Resources and Environment

401 (+ 18.9 from NGEU)

## Migration and Border Management

25.7

## Security and Defence

14.9

## Neighbourhood and the World

110.6

## European Public Administration

82.5

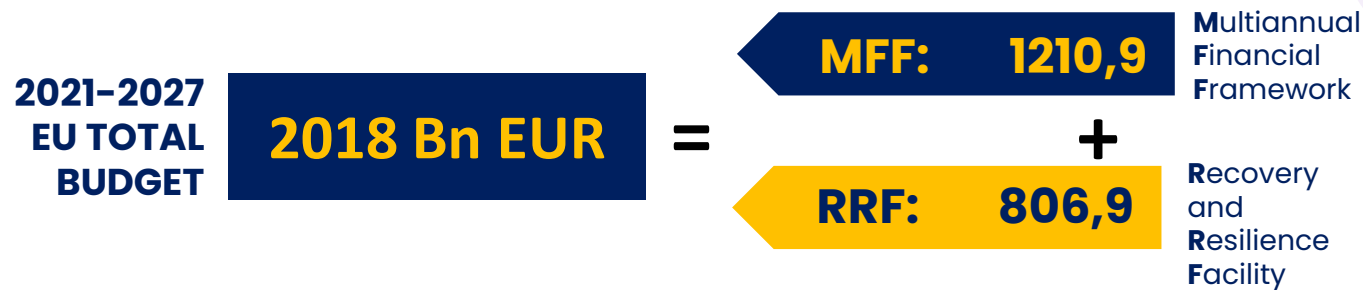
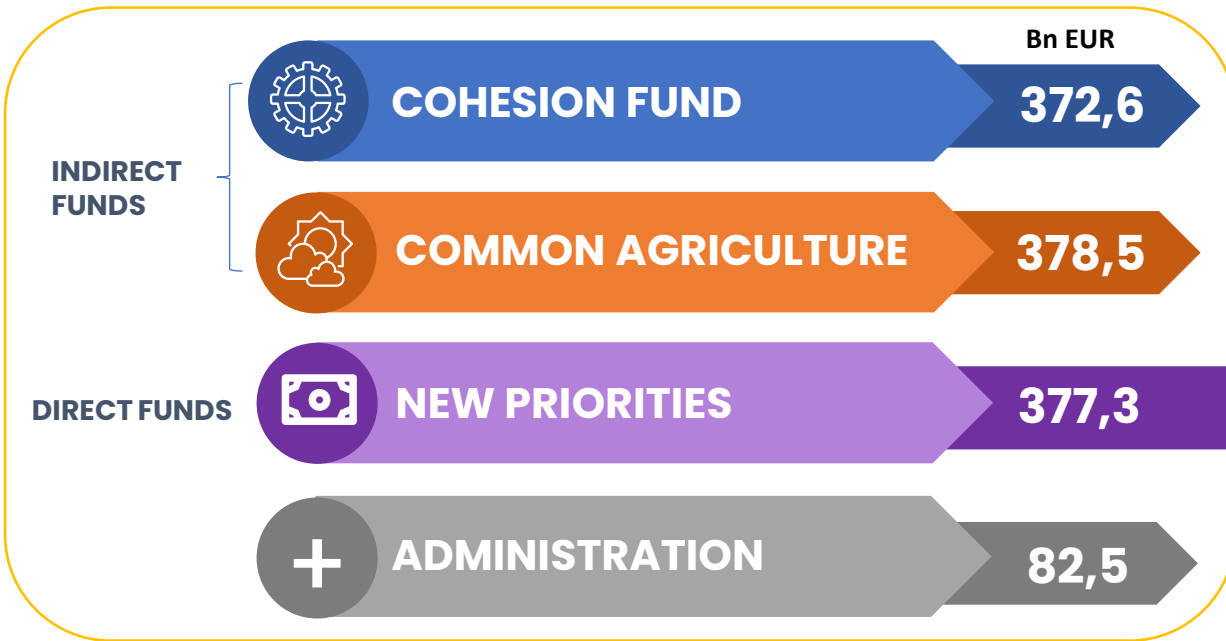
**Total: €2.018 trillion**



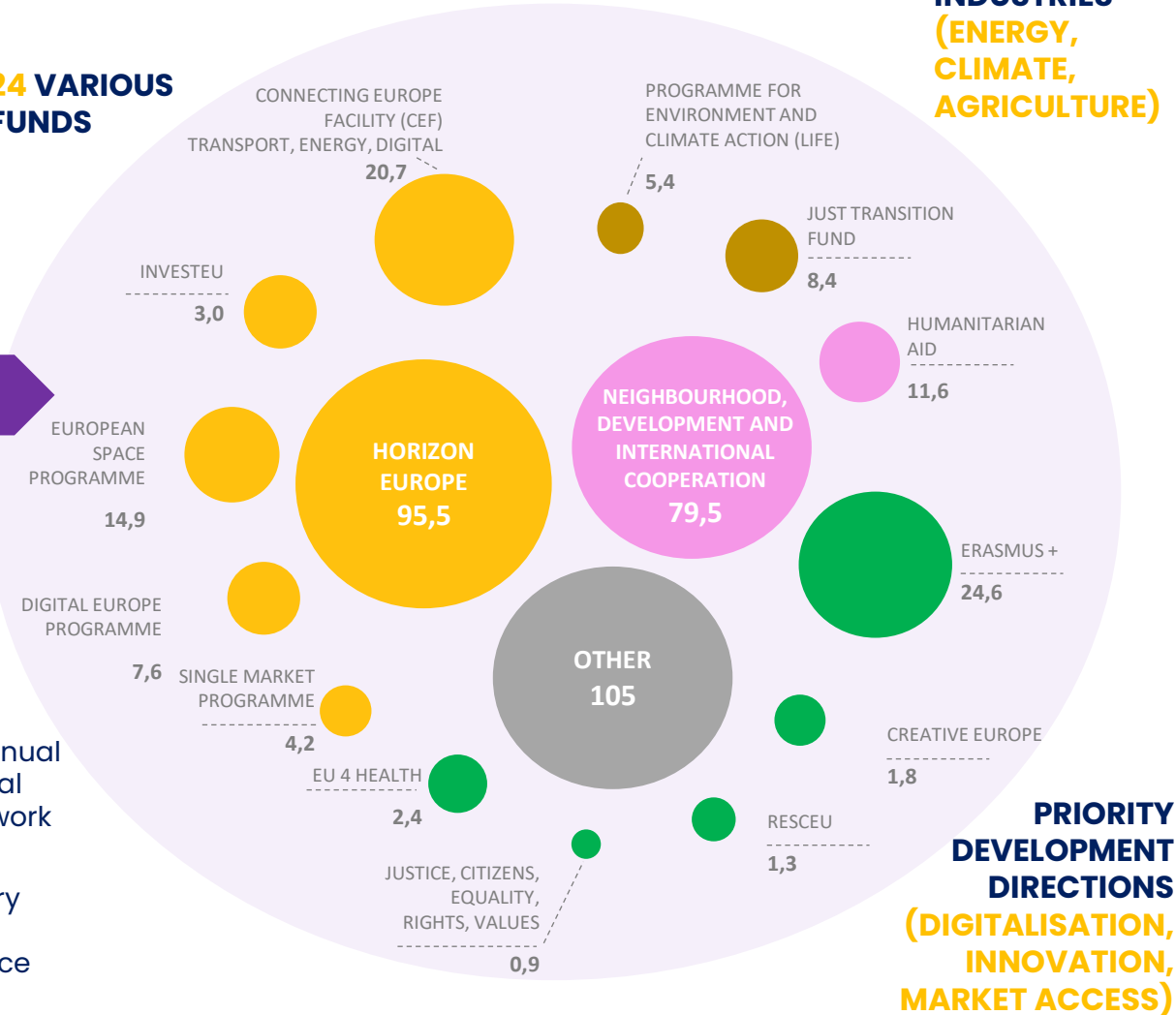
- The EU Budget for 2021-2027 consists of:
  - A long-term budget of EUR 1.211 trillion under the MFF
  - A COVID-19 recovery package of 806.9 billion euros under NextGenerationEU



# EU FUNDING PROGRAMMES - SUPPORTING THE GREEN TRANSITION, DIGITALISATION AND POST-COVID RECOVERY



## 24 VARIOUS FUNDS



## 2. DIRECT FUNDING PROGRAMMES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AI



# THE EUROPEAN PATH OF THE DIGITAL DECADE IS MARKED ALONG PRECISE DIRECTIONS

## SKILLS

- **ICT PROFESSIONALS:** 20 million + gender convergence
- **BASIC DIGITAL SKILLS:** at least 80% of the population

## PUBLIC SERVICES

- **KEY PUBLIC SERVICES:** 100% online
- **E-HEALTHCARE:** Medical documents with 100% availability
- **DIGITAL IDENTITY:** 80% of people use a digital ID



## BUSINESS

- **TECHNICAL PREVALENCE:** 75% of EU companies use Cloud/AI/Big Data services
- **INNOVATORS:** Expansion and financing of EU Unicorns
- **LATE ADOPTERS:** more than 90% of European SMEs reach at least a basic level of digital intensity

## INFRASTRUCTURES

- **CONNECTION:** Gigabit for everyone, 5G everywhere
- **CUTTING EDGE SEMICONDUCTORS:** double the share of the EU in global production
- **DATA – EDGE & CLOUD:** 10,000 climate-neutral, extremely secure edge nodes
- **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY:** the first quantum computer

# Our progress towards the EU's Digital Decade targets

## TARGET

### ICT Specialists:

20 million + gender convergence

### Basic digital skills:

min. 80% of population

## TARGET

### Key Public Services:

100% online

### e-Health:

100% of citizens having access to medical records

### Digital Identity:

80% of citizens using digital ID

*Public services: no data measuring the targets are available*

## 2021

### ICT Specialists:

9 million,  
19% women

### Basic digital skills:

54% of population

## TARGET

### Connectivity:

Gigabit for everyone,  
5G everywhere

## TARGET

### Late adopters:

more than 90% of SMEs reach a basic level of digital intensity

### Tech up-take:

75% of EU companies using cloud/AI/big data

## 2021

### Connectivity:

70% of EU households with gigabit connectivity  
66% of populated areas covered by 5G

## 2021

### Late adopters:

55% of SMEs reached a basic level of digital intensity

### Tech up-take:

41% of EU companies used cloud computing,  
8% used AI

## 2019

14% of EU companies used big data analysis

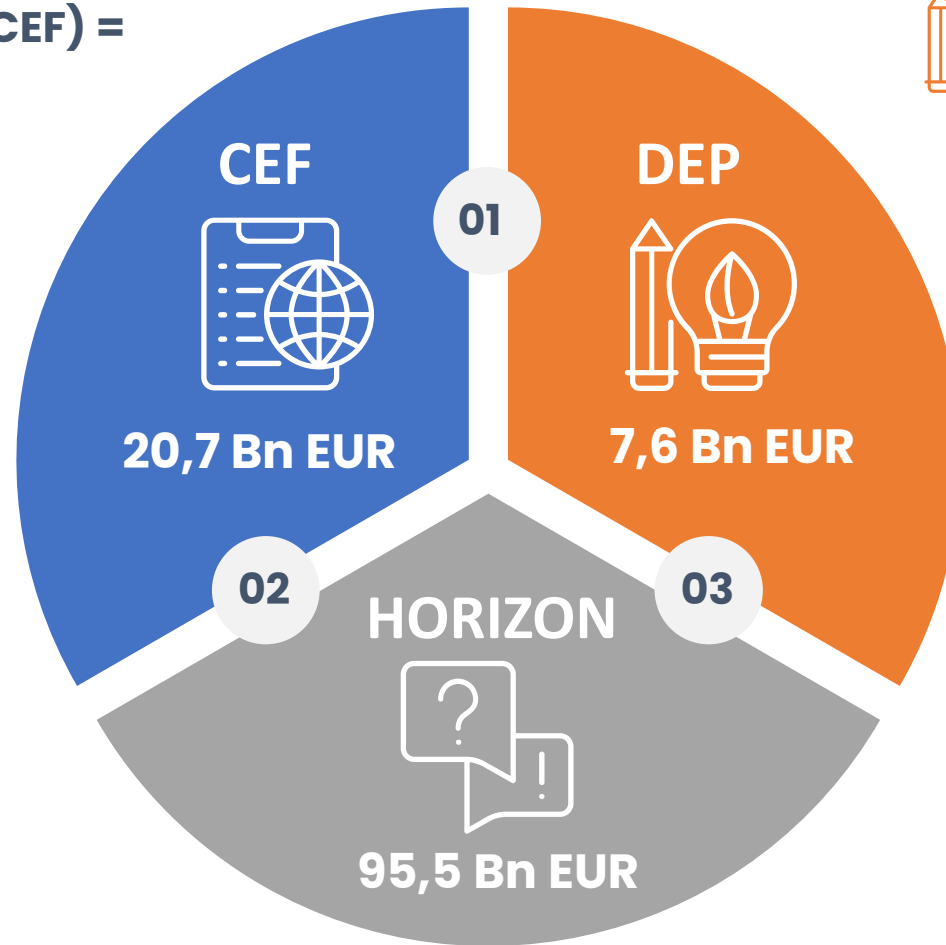


# ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE DIGITAL AGENDA WILL BE DIRECTLY REFLECTED IN 3 PRIORITY PROGRAMMES



## Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) = **INFRASTRUCTURE**

- **ENERGY** – 5,84 Bn EUR
  - Integration, security of supply, CO2 reduction.
- **TRANSPORT** – 12,83 Bn EUR
  - Networks; rail; waterborne infrastructure; safe mobility.
- **DIGITALISATION** – 2,07 Bn EUR
  - Developing secure and sustainable high-performance infrastructure, including Gigabit and 5G networks.



## Digital Europe Programme (DEP) = **SERVICES**

- Bridging the gap between digital technology research and market take-up.
- Supports the twin digital and green transition while strengthening the EU's resilience and digital sovereignty.



## Horizon Europe = **INNOVATION**

- Strengthening the EU's science and technology base and the European Research Area (ERA).
- Increasing Europe's innovation capacity, competitiveness and jobs.

# 3. DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME (DEP)

# DEP – IDENTIFIED 5 MAIN CRITICAL AREAS



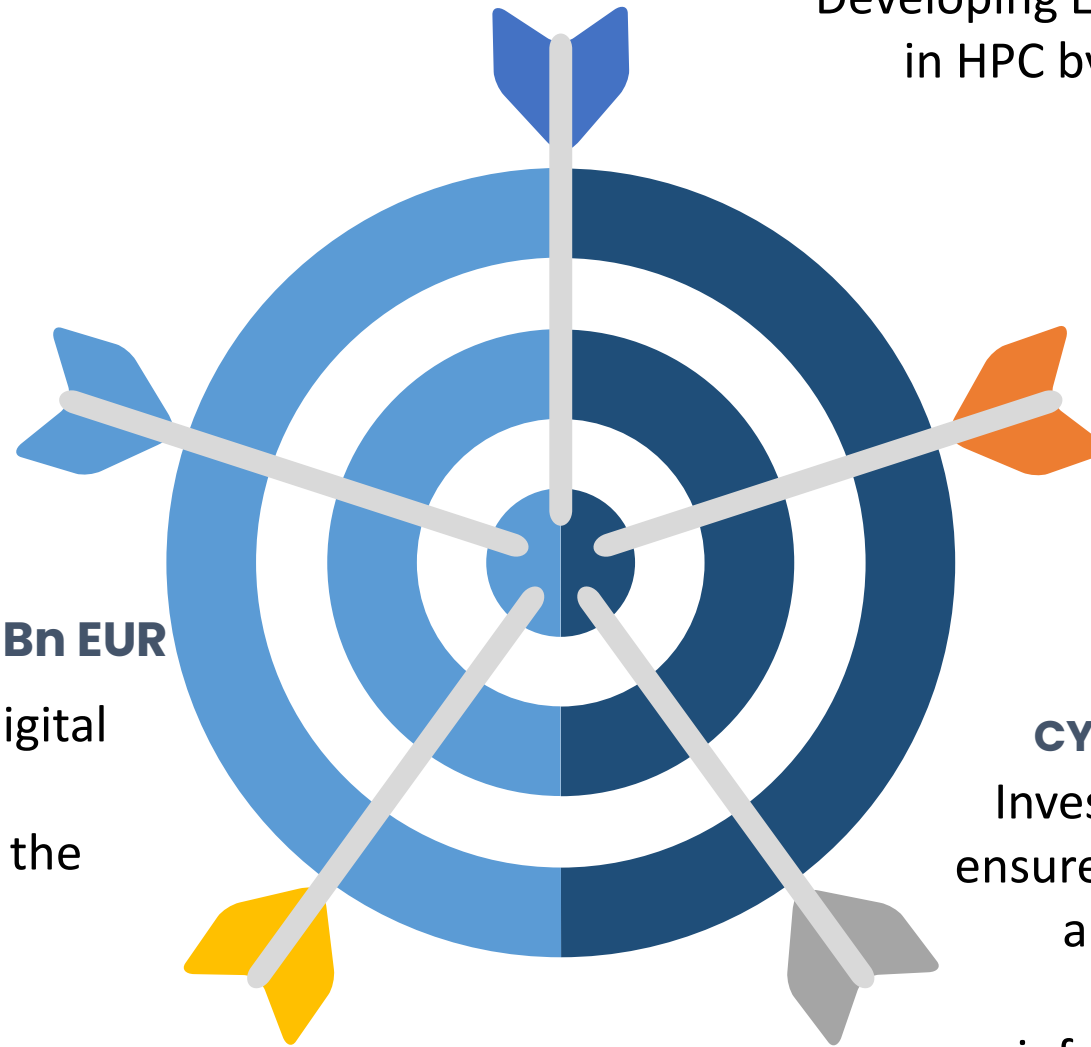
## AI – 2,1 Bn EUR

Increasing the use of artificial intelligence-based solutions in the critical areas of climate change or healthcare



## DIGITAL SKILLS – 0,58 Bn EUR

Fostering advanced digital skills in the key technologies used by the program



## SUPERCOMPUTING – 2,2 Bn EUR

Developing Europe as a world leader in HPC by increasing its scientific potential and industrial competitiveness



## WIDE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES – 1,1 Bn EUR

Broadening the uptake of key digital technologies to make Europe more competitive and tackle societal challenges



## CYBERSECURITY – 1,6 Bn EUR

Investing in cyber security to ensure the resilience, integrity and reliability of Europe's critical networks, infrastructures and services



# DIGITAL EUROPE (DEP) FOCUSES ON DIGITAL CAPABILITIES AND SERVICES, PARTICULARLY ON AI, CYBERSECURITY, SUPERCOMPUTING AND DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

YEAR	TOTAL
2021	1130,5
2022	1247,8
2023	1268,4
2024	962,3
2025	981,4
2026	1000,4
2027	1020,2
<b>TOTAL (Bn EUR)</b>	<b>7,611</b>



## TARGET

SMEs, Large companies, Government, Cities, Communities & NGOs, Knowledge centers



## TYPE OF FINANCING GRANT



## PROJECT TYPE

R+I, Infrastructure



## AREAS

ICT, International Cooperation, Security, SME sector, Manufacturing, Health, Culture & Creative Industry, etc.

## 4 Work Programmes

- EDIH Work Programme 2021-2023
- DEP Cybersecurity Work Programme 2021-22
- Activities related to supercomputers - Work Programme under development
- For activities beyond the above three: DIGITAL Europe Work Programme 2021-22 (new version for under development)

# DEP – CURRENT AND UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AI

## Current (live) calls for proposals

	BUDGET / FUNDING RATE
<a href="#">Deployment of the AI-on-demand platform</a> DIGITAL-2022-CLOUD-AI-03-AI-ON-DEMAND - Deployment of the AI-on demand platform	28 Million eur, 100% Funded
<a href="#">Data space for manufacturing (deployment)</a> DIGITAL-2022-CLOUD-AI-03-DS-MANUF	16 Million eur, 50% Funded, 75% for SMEs

Also, Data spaces for:

- Media
- Smart Communities
- Mobility

**DEADLINE: 2023. JAN. 24.**

## Announcements expected in the near future (2022-2023).

AI: COORDINATION OF AI SECTORIAL TESTING AND EXPERIMENTATION FACILITIES

AI: DEVELOPING VR/AR WORLDS FOR CITIES

DIGITAL SKILLS: KEY AREAS, CYBERSECURITY

QUANTUM / CYBERSECURITY: TESTING AND CERTIFICATION INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECTS AIMING AT THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY OF DIHS (KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER, TRAINING, ETC.)

## Expected trends of the distant future (2024 onwards)

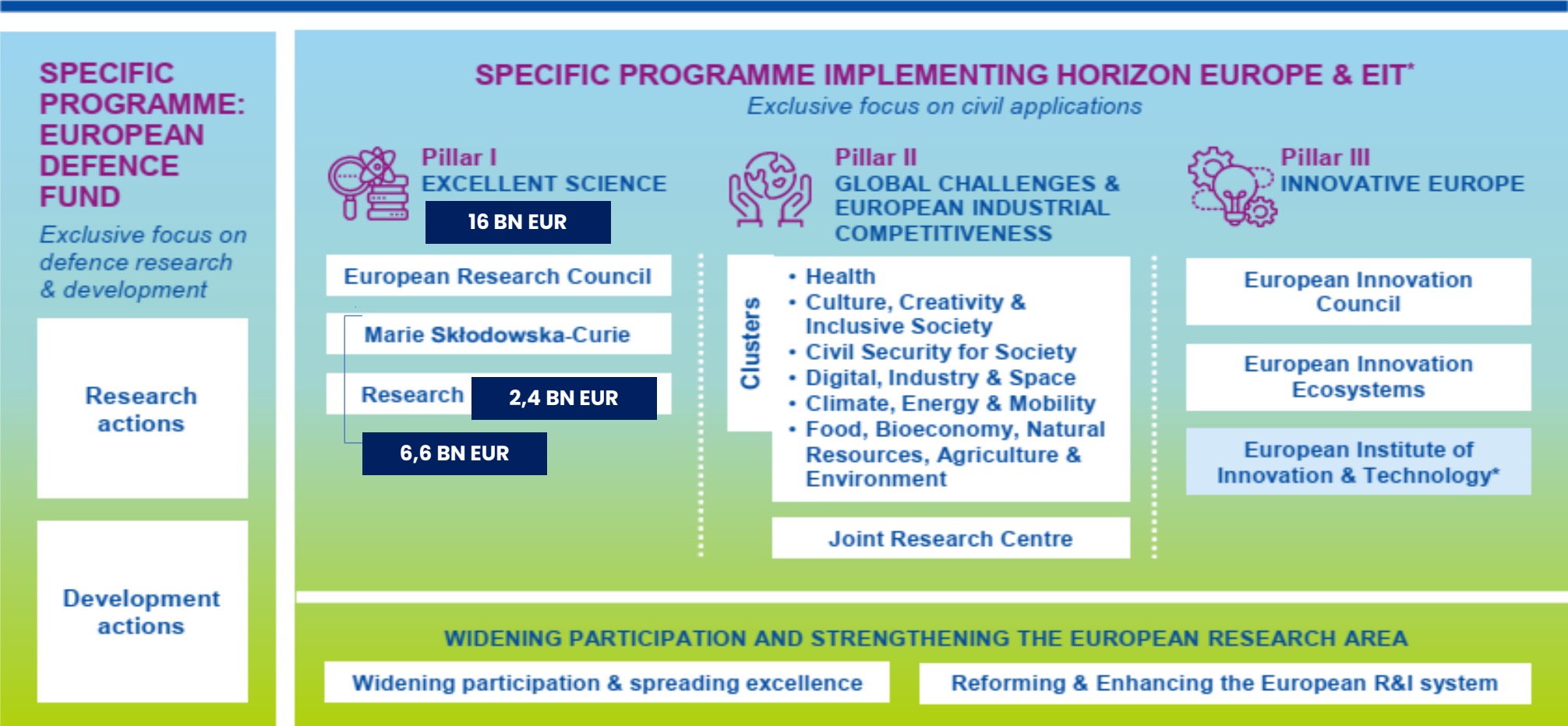
- AI - SUPPORT FOR THE AI ACT (DATABASE)
- AI – EXPANDING SECTORIAL TESTING AND EXPERIMENTATION FACILITIES BEYOND 4 IDENTIFIED SECTORS
- AI - TOWARDS CONNECTED LOCAL DIGITAL TWINS IN THE EU



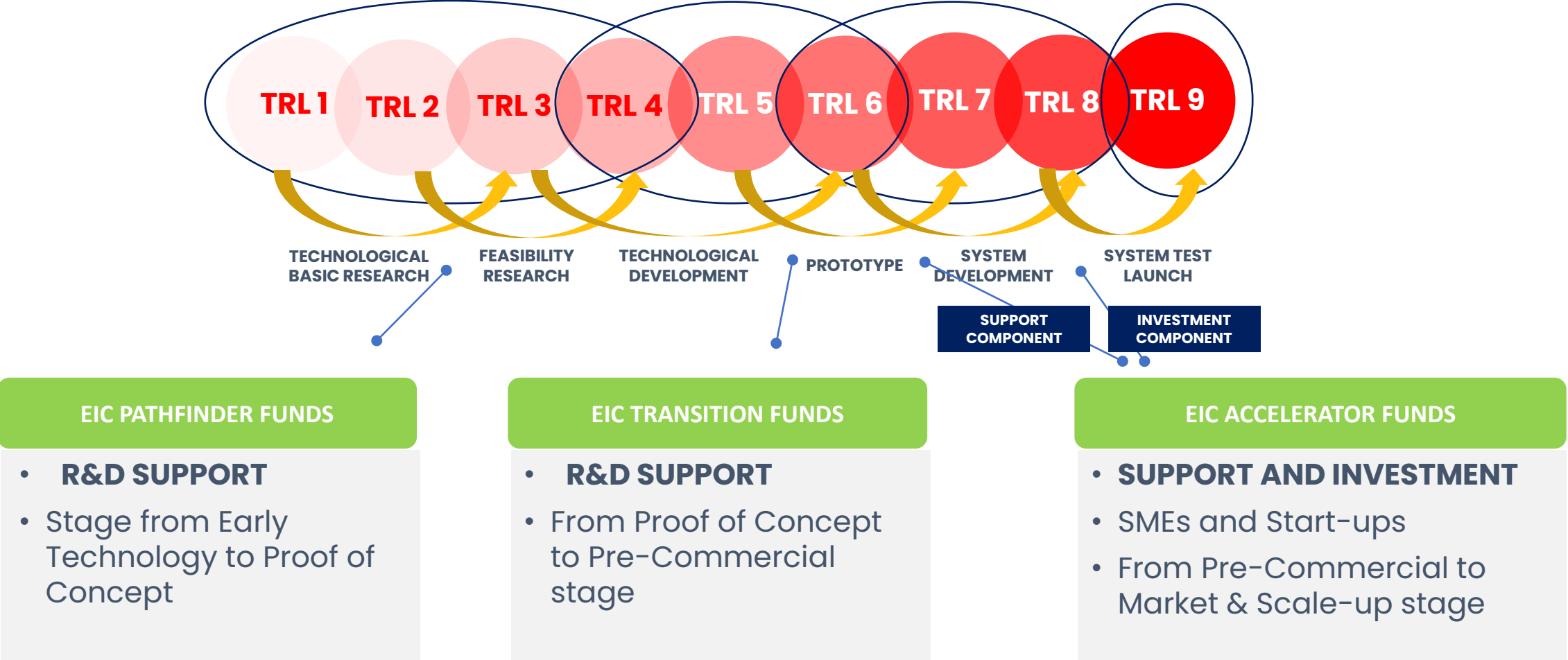
## 4. HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME (HE)

# HORIZON EUROPE - THE BIGGEST PROGRAM, WITH A HUGE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS AND A SIGNIFICANT DIGITAL IMPACT

## HORIZON EUROPE



# PILLAR 3 IS THE MOST FLEXIBLE – SUPPORT AND INVESTMENT COMPONENTS ALIGNED TO THE TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL



# THE HORIZON EUROPE PROGRAMME HAS A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF CALLS FOR PROPOSALS WITH AN AI DIMENSION

**HE – Around 50 new calls were released in mid-June 2022 – related keywords:**

1

## ROBOTICS

- Robotic opportunities in key sectors
- AI, data and robotics in industrial optimization

3

## HEALTH

- Trustworthy AI tools to predict the risk of chronic non-communicable diseases and/or their progression

5

## CYBERSECURITY

- Intrusion protection of digital systems
- Quantum-resistant cryptography

2

## BORDER PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT

- Combating fraud related to personal identification

4

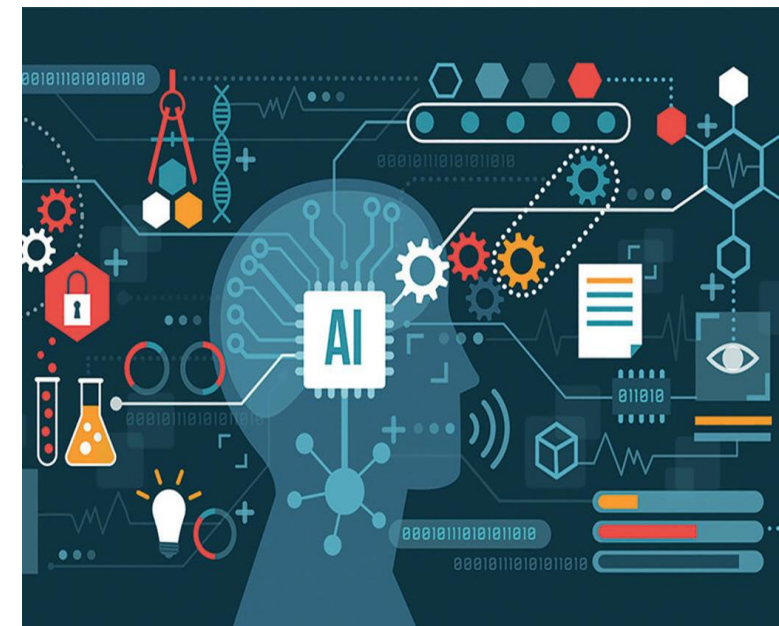
## DISASTER RESILIENCE

- Impact forecasting (digital twins) and risk estimation

6

## CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY / INFRASTRUCTURE

- Smart network for buildings (smart grid, smart network)
- Autonomous infrastructure protection systems



## 5. CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY (CEF) AND OTHER PROGRAMMES

# CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY (CEF) - INVESTING IN DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURES, NOTABLY 5G

01

ENERGY

Md EUR

5,84

02

TRANSPORT

Md EUR

12,83

03

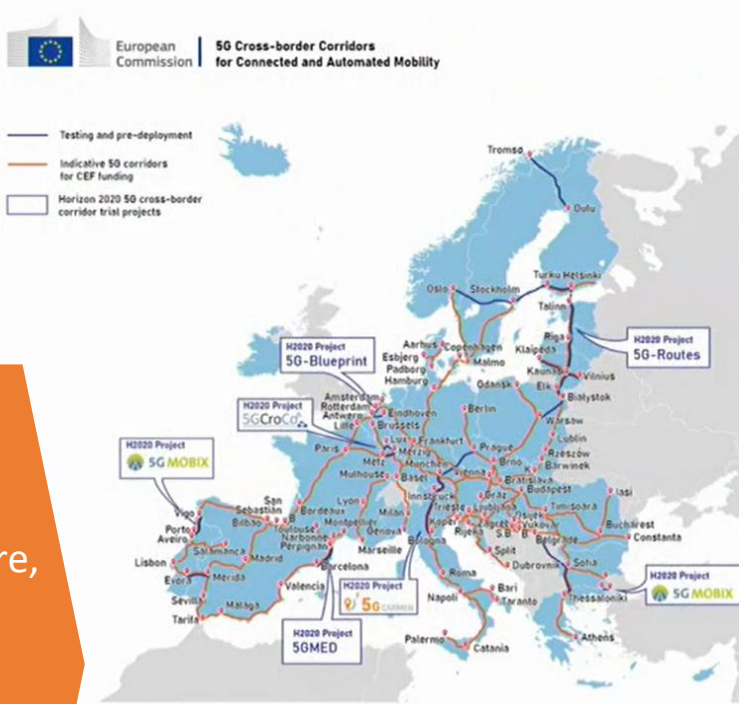
DIGITALISATION

Md EUR

2,07

- Secure, sustainable, high-performance infrastructure (Gigabites and 5G networks)
- increase the capacity and flexibility of digital backbone infrastructures
- 5G – in areas of transportation, healthcare, education, and environment.
- Prioritizes the involvement of public institution and NGOs - usually the non-private sector is at an advantage

## 5G corridors



## 5G for Smart Communities



CEF2 Digital 5G corridor deployment calendar										
Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Early Wave	Call Q4-Q1		Deployment (CEF/RRF)							
1st big Wave	Call Q4-Q1		Studies							
			Call Q1-Q2	Deployment (CEF/RRF)						
2nd big Wave (TBC)			Call Q1-Q2	Studies						
			Call Q1-Q2	Deployment (tbc)						
Last Wave (TBC)										

# CEF DIGITAL – OPPORTUNITIES FOR AI?

The interest for the AI community is to complement and create synergies between CEF Digital projects and other infrastructure deployment activities in EU Funding Programmes, such as:

- deploying cooperative intelligent transport systems (CEF Transport)
- digitising and electrifying transport paths (CEF Energy and Transport)
- artificial intelligence applied to CAM (DEP and Horizon)
- deploying pan-European federated cloud and edge computing capacities (DEP and Horizon)
- use of 5G corridors as testbed for the validation of use cases developed under Horizon Europe

Such links and synergies are heavily valued in CEF applications, so you can still have a good shot at participating in CEF Digital projects as part of a consortium.





# THERE WILL ALSO BE A CONTINUOUS STREAM OF CALLS FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE AI COMMUNITY IN OTHER EU FUNDS

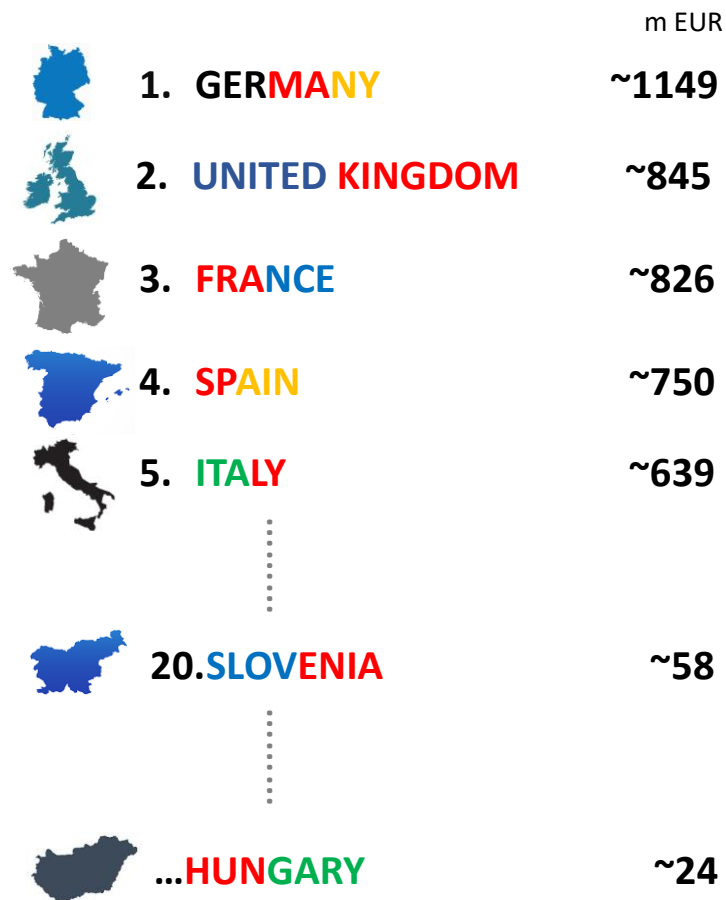
## OTHER DIRECT EU FUNDS AND RELATED KEYWORDS

- 1 INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (ISF)**  
Cyber crime and Digital Investigations
- 2 ERASMUS+**  
Supporting high quality and inclusive digital education, in line with the aims of the Digital Education Action Plan.
- 3 EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND (EDF)**  
Shared databases and integrated systems for image recognition
- 4 INTERREGIONAL INNOVATION INVESTMENTS**  
Innovative solutions for businesses digitalisation, including the use of AI; ICT up-take in SMEs; Digitalisation of public administrations (i.e.: e-government services)
- 5 EU4HEALTH**  
Support MyHealth EU for Patients health data cross border exchange; Healthcare digitalisation activities



## 7. HOW CAN MFOI HELP? – TIPS AND TRICKS FOR APPLICANTS

# THE STARTING POINT - HUNGARY'S SHARE OF DIRECT EU FUNDS IN THE PREVIOUS CYCLE WAS VERY LOW



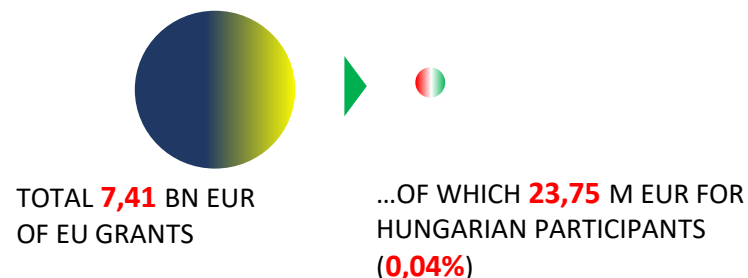
FOR EXAMPLE, IN **HORIZON 2020 - ENERGY AND CLIMATE PROJECTS**, FEW HUNGARIANS HAVE COMPETED AND WON...



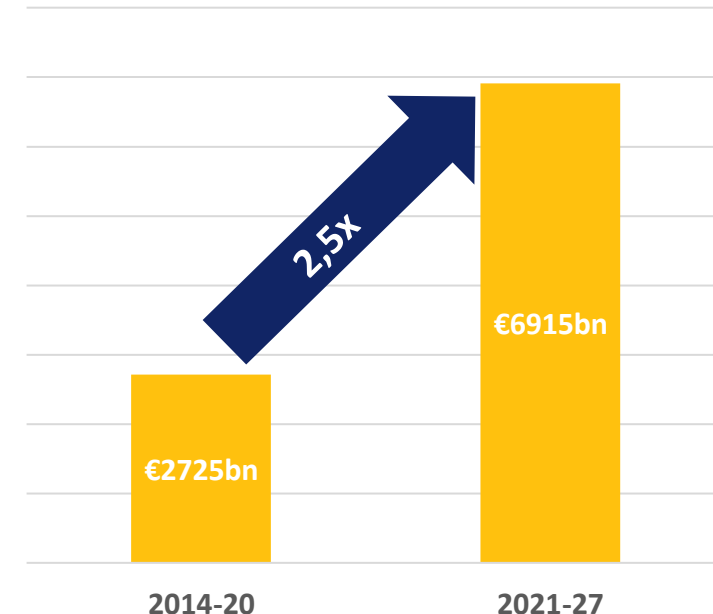
...FEWER HUNGARIAN PARTICIPANTS ON AVERAGE...



...AND ON AVERAGE WE WON EVEN SMALLER GRANTS



WITH SIGNIFICANT GROWTH, THE AIM IS TO REACH THE POPULATION SHARE IN THIS CYCLE



# MORE HUNGARIAN EVALUATOR EXPERTS WOULD BE REQUIRED, BECAUSE THIS NUMBER CORRELATES WITH THE SUCCESS RATE OF THE COUNTRY



## Responsibilities

- Evaluation of applications, tenders
- Follow-up of actions, contracts
- Valication and consultancy in
  - Preparation, implementation and evaluation of EU programmes
  - Formulation of policies

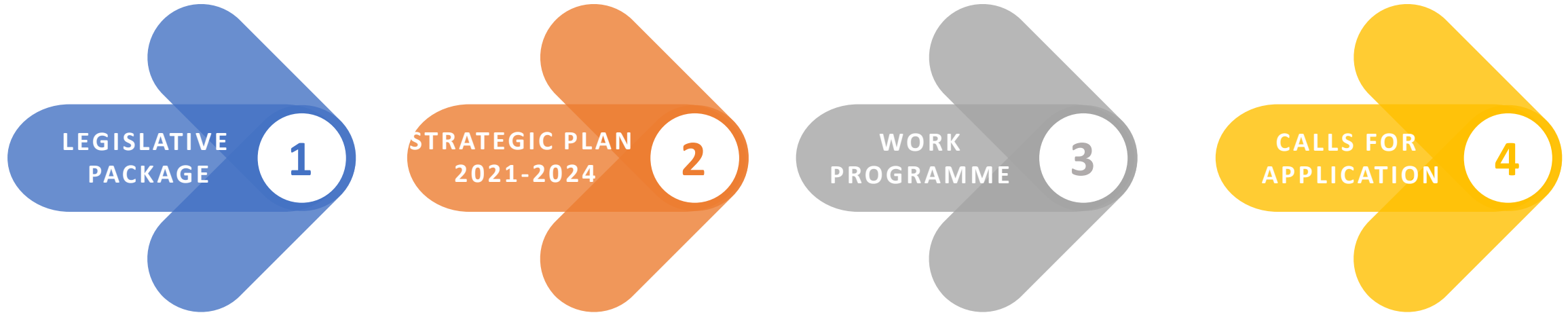
## Benefits

- Development (professional skills, EU skills, English language skills)
- Expand your network of contacts
- Gross daily allowance of 450 EUR

Apply here:



PLAN IN TIME! WHEN A CALL / TENDER IS PUBLISHED, IT'S OFTEN TOO LATE - SO IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO JUST MONITOR THE CALLS TO BE SUCCESSFUL



## IMPORTANT STEPS



### **POLICIES, WORK PROGRAMMES**

- 1) POLICY-LEVEL MONITORING OF NATIONAL AND EU RESOURCES
- 2) MONITORING AND SCREENING OF BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMMES - IN SOME AREAS SEVERAL CALLS MAY BE RELEVANT



### **CONTACTS**

- 1) DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS
- 2) PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL WORKING GROUPS



### **MATCH, ELIGIBILITY**

- 1) SEARCH ON THE "FUNDING AND TENDERS" WEBSITE
- 2) CHECKING THE MATCH BETWEEN OUR PROJECT AND THE CALLS - IDENTIFYING THE RIGHT CALL



### **APPLICATION**

- 1) THE SPECIFIC CHALLENGE (PROBLEM, ISSUE)
- 2) SCOPE - WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?
- 3) EXPECTED IMPACT - WHAT NEEDS TO BE ACHIEVED?

# INVOLVE THE MFOI, THE BRUSSELS CONNECTION IS WORTH A TREASURE! – LOBBYING DOESN'T GUARANTEE SUCCESS FOR READY APPLICATIONS, BUT PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR A GOOD APPLICATION

## MONITORING

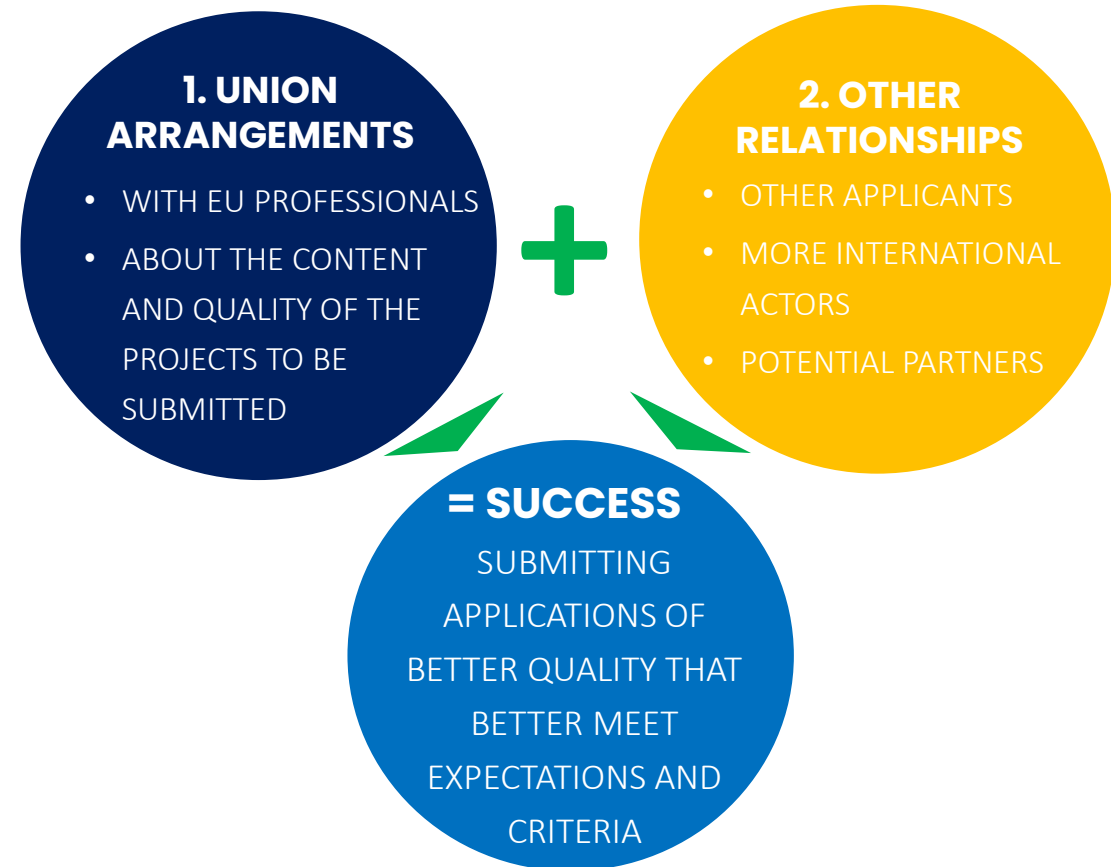
- DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS, IDEAS
- CURRENT AND UPCOMING TENDERS

## CONTACT

- WITH UNION OFFICIALS
  - ABOUT PROJECT IDEAS
  - EMPHASIS AND EXPECTATIONS RELATED TO TENDERS
- WITH COMPANIES, INTEREST GROUPS, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTORS

## TARGETED MEETINGS FOR MFOI CLIENTS

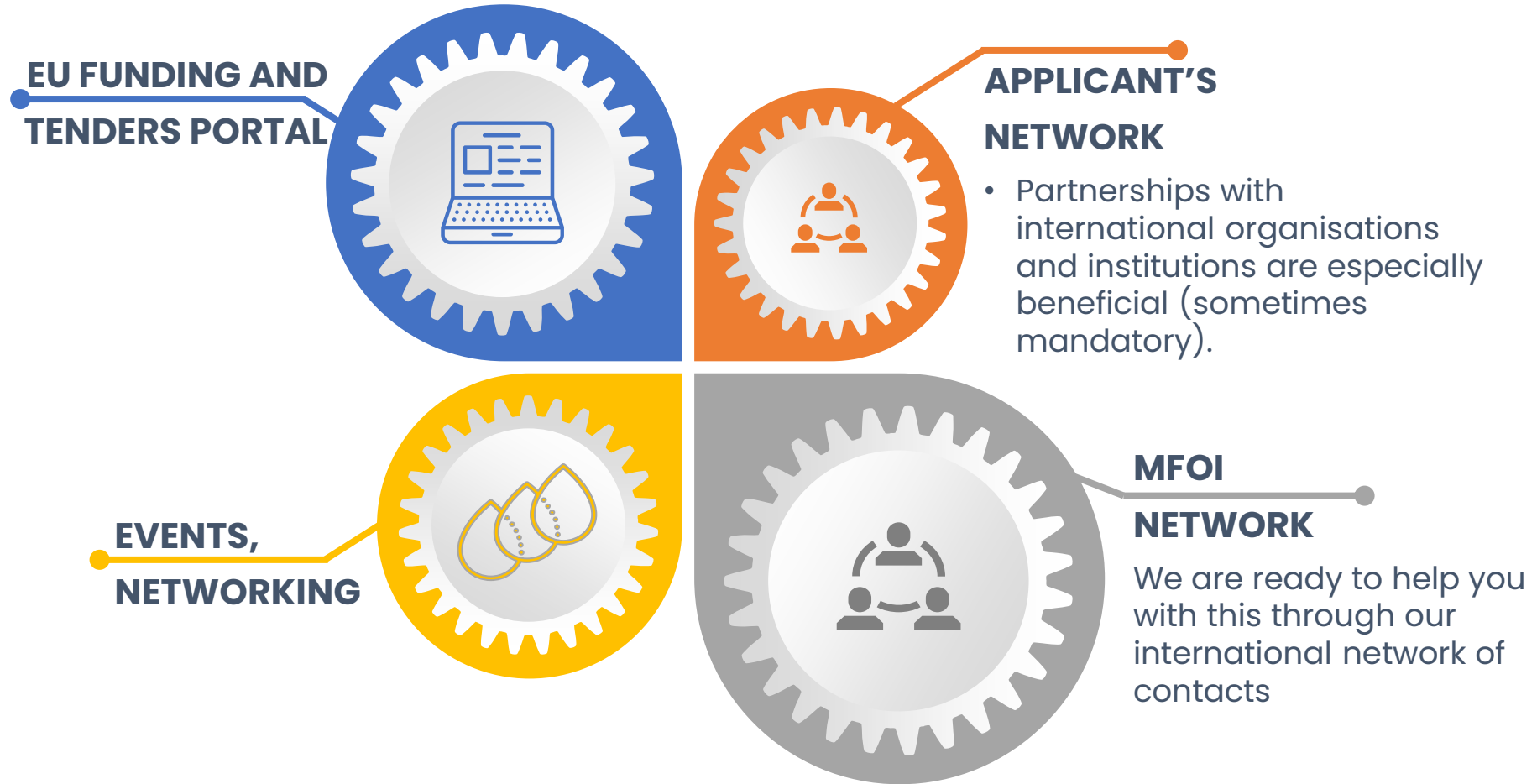
- ESTABLISHING NEW PARTNERSHIPS



# GET READY FOR PARTNERSHIP! YOU CAN'T CREATE A PARTNERSHIP OR JOIN A WINNING CONSORTIUM QUICKLY

## MFOI helps...

- .. IN CONSORTIUM ORGANIZATION, IN DETERMINING THE **APPROPRIATE CONSORTIUM ROLE**
- (HARDLY ANYONE WANTS TO CREATE/LEAD - BUT IT'S OFTEN MORE BENEFICIAL)
- .. IN **AD-HOC PARTNER SEARCH** (EU AND ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES, EUROPEAN NEIGHBORHOOD, ETC.)
- ..IN BUILDING **LONG-TERM** PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS
- DUE TO THE COUNTRY'S LOW PARTICIPATION, EXTRA POINTS CAN BE AWARDED TO HUNGARIAN PARTICIPANTS

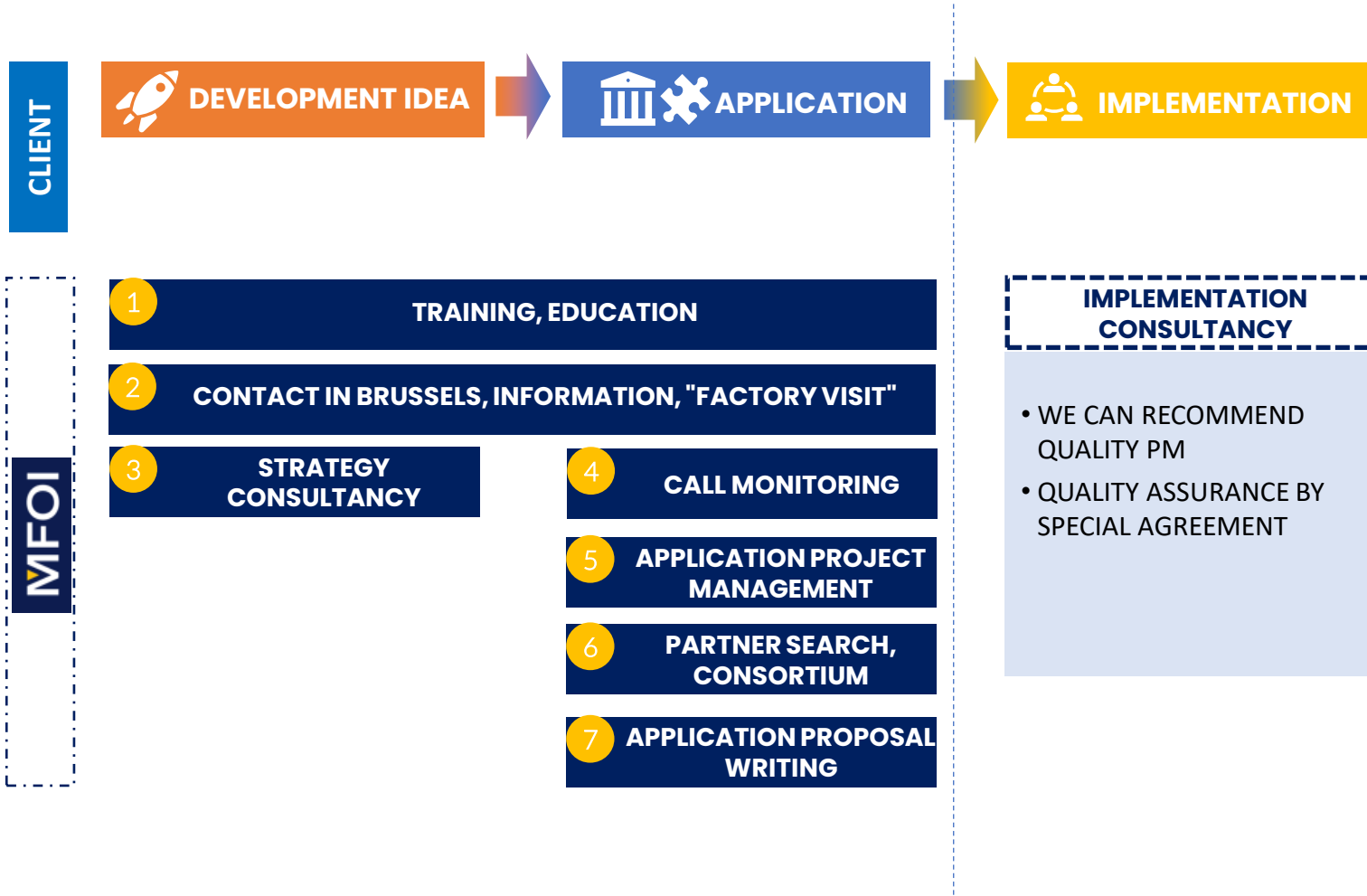




# MFOI CAN HELP YOU AT ALL STAGES OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS!

## MFOI'S COLLEAGUES

- 1) ...KNOW THE SPECIFIC **RULES AND TERMINOLOGY** OF THE EU DIRECT FUNDS
- 2) ... SPEAK ENGLISH AND FRENCH AT A LEVEL THAT ENABLES THEM **TO CARRY OUT ALL THE NECESSARY TASKS** (E.G. RESEARCH, PARTNER SEARCH, RULE INTERPRETATION, LIAISON, PROJECT MANAGEMENT, CONTRACTING, REPORTING, ETC.) **IN ENGLISH**
- 3) ...ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE SYSTEMS AND INTERFACES RELATED TO THE DIRECT FUNDS



- 4) **SPECIALISE IN CALL AREAS**, COMBINING KNOWLEDGE OF THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AT HOME WITH KNOW-HOW IN BRUSSELS.
- 5) OBTAIN RELEVANT INFORMATION **FIRST-HAND FROM THE COMMISSION** THROUGH THE REPRESENTATION IN BRUSSELS.
- 6) **HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK** OF CONTACTS TO HELP IN THE SEARCH FOR CONSORTIUM PARTNERS
- 7) HAVE GOOD CONTACTS WITH RELEVANT ACTORS IN THE **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**.

# HANDS ON – FOLLOW A CONSULTANT FOR 5 MINUTES



Microsoft Word  
Document

## AD HOC SEARCH

1. **AD HOC SEARCH IN F&T PORTAL WITH KEYWORDS:**  
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-search>
2. **AD HOC PARTNER SEARCH IN F&T PORTAL**

## PLANNED SEARCH

1. **DEP WORK PROGRAMME DEP 2023–2024**
2. **AD HOC PARTNER SEARCH BEYOND THE F&T PORTAL (USEFUL TO JOIN CONSORTIUMS AT THE VERY START):** <https://www.up2europe.eu/>

## IN ANY CASE

- **APPLY FOR A PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CODE – NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN EU FUNDS**
- **ALWAYS PLAN IN ADVANCE; ESPECIALLY FOR CONSORTIUM PROJECTS. THE BIGGER THE GROUP THE BIGGER THE COORDINATION PROBLEMS + DELAYS**
- **ALWAYS FILL IN EVERY BOX OF THE APPLICATION: LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED**
- **HAVE YOUR FINANCIAL RECORDS AT HAND (PAST 5 YEARS)**
- **AVOID REPETITION EXCEPT OF CRUCIAL, SELLING-POINT KEYWORDS (I.E.: CURRENCY AGNOSTIC; USER OR COSTUMER CENTRIC, etc.)**

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING AND  
CONTACT OUR DIGITAL TEAM!

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KÖSZÖNJÜK A FIGYELMET!