

# 2nd Meeting

SmartBlue ZIM-Network  
14.12.2022, online



# Agenda

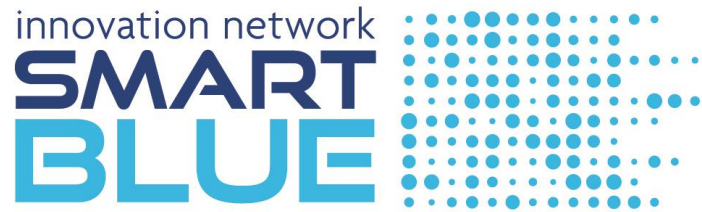
Time	Agenda Point	Referee
13:00 – 13:05	Welcome	EurA AG
13:05 – 13:20	SmartBlue Network – Status & News	EurA AG
13:20 – 13:50	Presentation of Network Partners and Project Ideas III	Network Partners
13:50 – 14:20	Funding Landscape	EurA AG
14:20 – 14:30	Coffee break	
14:30 – 15:30	Talk & Discussion: Standardization	Alexandra Horn, DIN
15:30 – 16:15	Work with Miro board	All
16:15 – 16:45	Discussion of topics in groups	All
16:45 – 17:00	Summary / next steps / closing	EurA AG



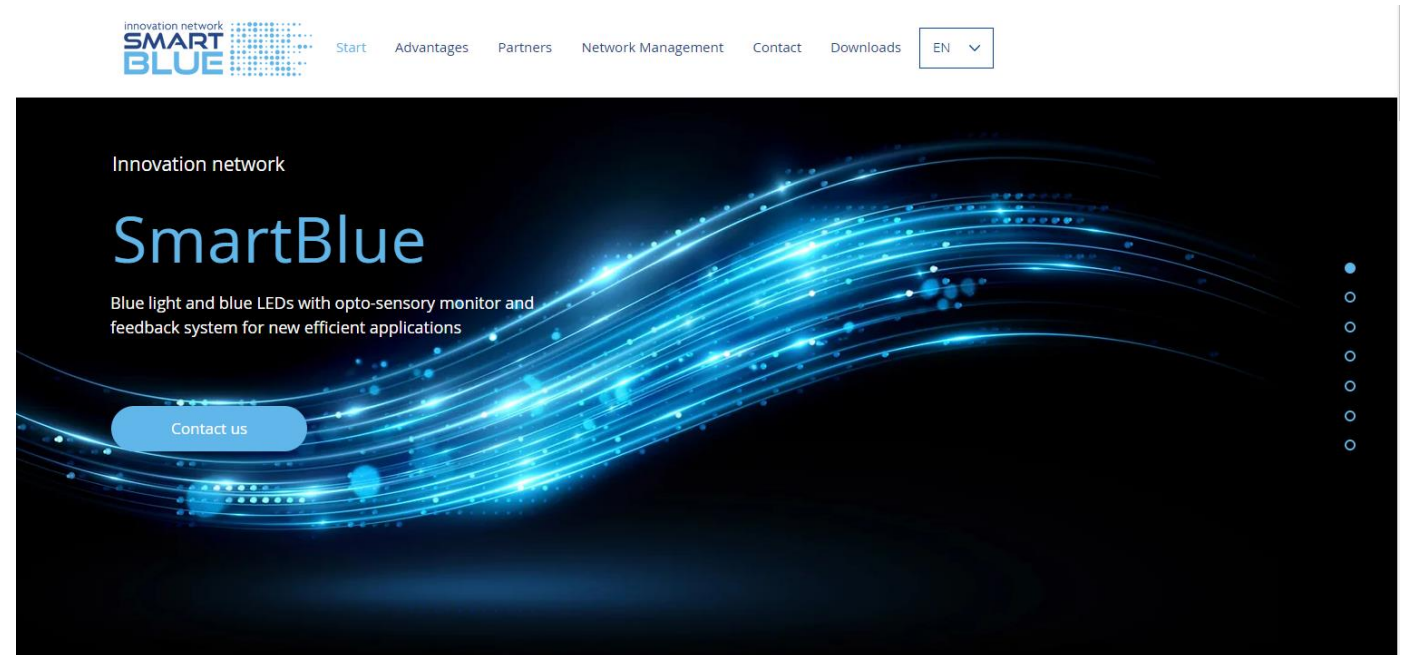
# SmartBlue Network – Status & News

# Marketing activities

## Logo



## Website



[SmartBlue | Blaue LEDs \(smartblue-network.com\)](https://smartblue-network.com)

→ Shared documents in password-protected area instead of sharepoint?

# Internal interactive platform – Miro Board

[https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVPcCUICE=?share\\_link\\_id=581235379255](https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVPcCUICE=?share_link_id=581235379255)

Password: DnNWgi05L!

# Network Management Germany



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# ViProNet: „Virus Protection Network“

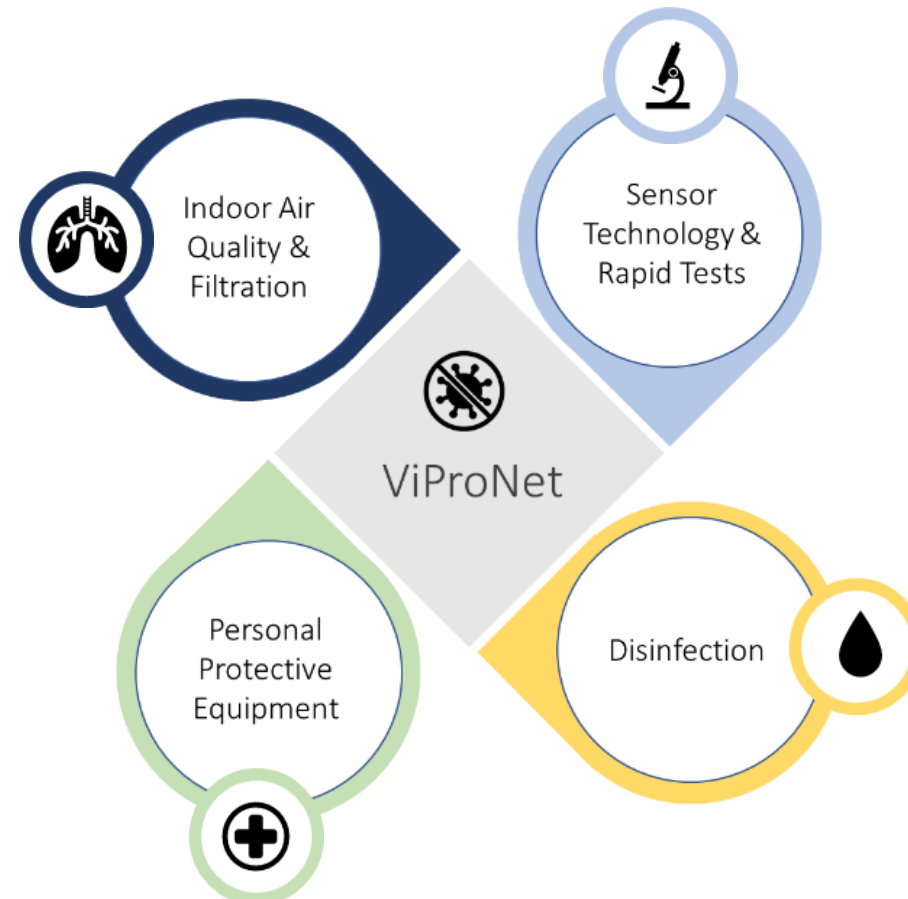
International Network with Finland

## Innovative filter systems and developments for monitoring and improving indoor air quality

- Indoor air purification
- Virucidal/ antimicrobial coatings
- Room air filters with integrated sensors

## Personal protective equipment, innovative textiles and coatings

- New materials
- increased wearing comfort, integrated sensors (pathogen, moisture, contamination)



## Diagnostics, rapid tests and sensor technology

- Antigen/antibody tests
- Extension to other infections
- Contact tracing
- Room air sensing

## Disinfection solutions for surfaces, air and the skin

- Effects of UV-C disinfection
- Automation for occupational safety



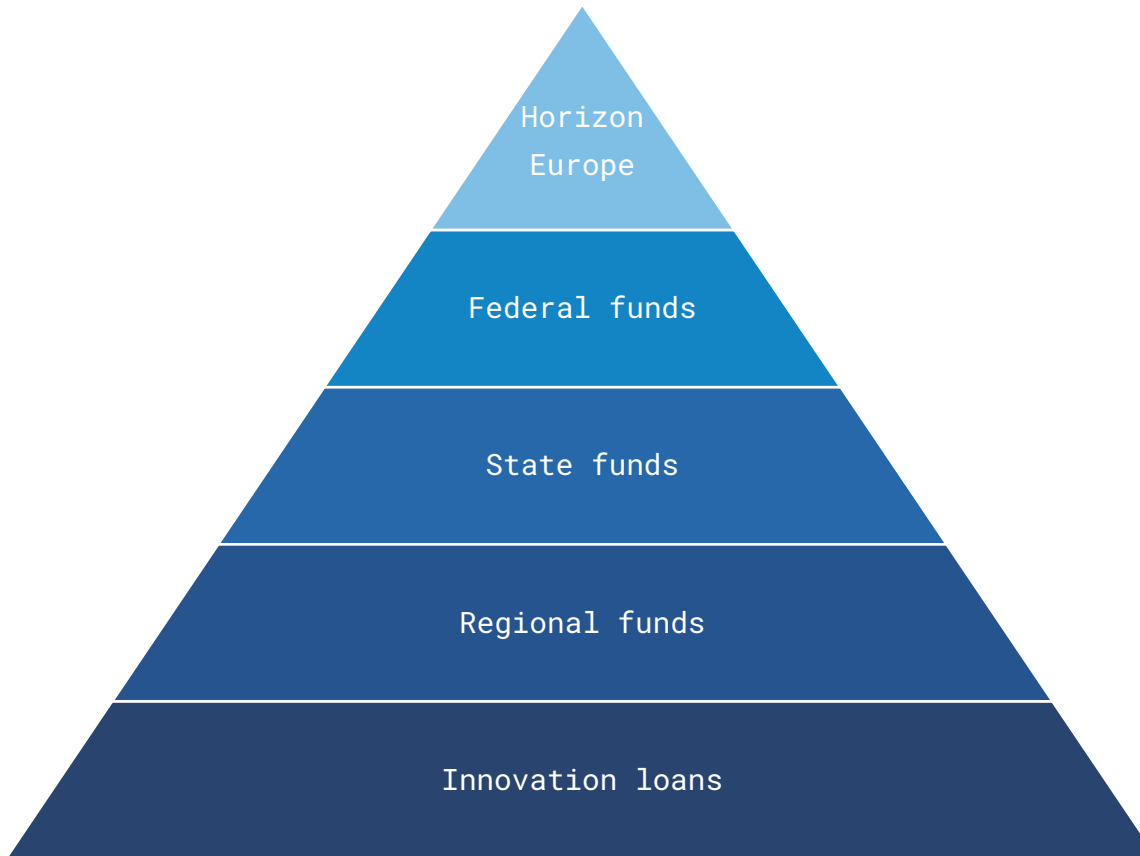
# Introduction of Network Partners and Project Ideas III



A stack of several silver coins is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image. The background is a solid, deep blue color. The text 'Funding landscape' is written in a white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and partially overlapping the stack of coins.

# Funding landscape

# Funding landscape



## International funding programs



### EIC Pathfinder

European Commission



### EIC Accelerator

European Commission



### Eurostars

European Commission

## National funding programs



### Zentrales Innovationsprogramm Mittelstand (ZIM)

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (BMWi)



### KMU Innovativ

Bundesministerium für Bildung u. Forschung (BMBF)



### Steuerliche Forschungszulage

## Innovation vouchers



### Go Inno

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (BMWi)



### Go Digital

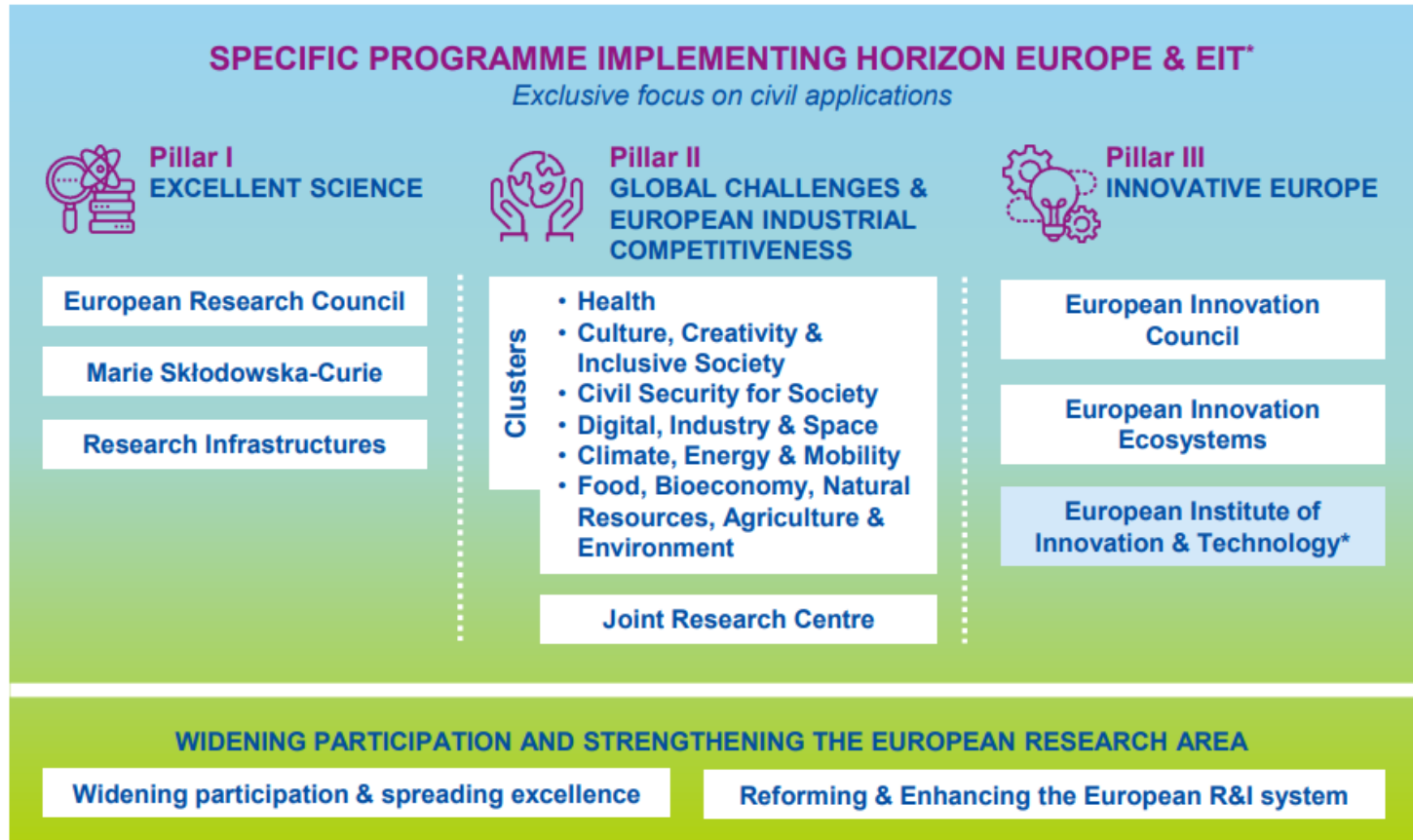
Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (BMWi)



# EU funding programs

# Horizon Europe 2021-2027

EU's key framework programme for research and innovation with ~95.5 billion € budget

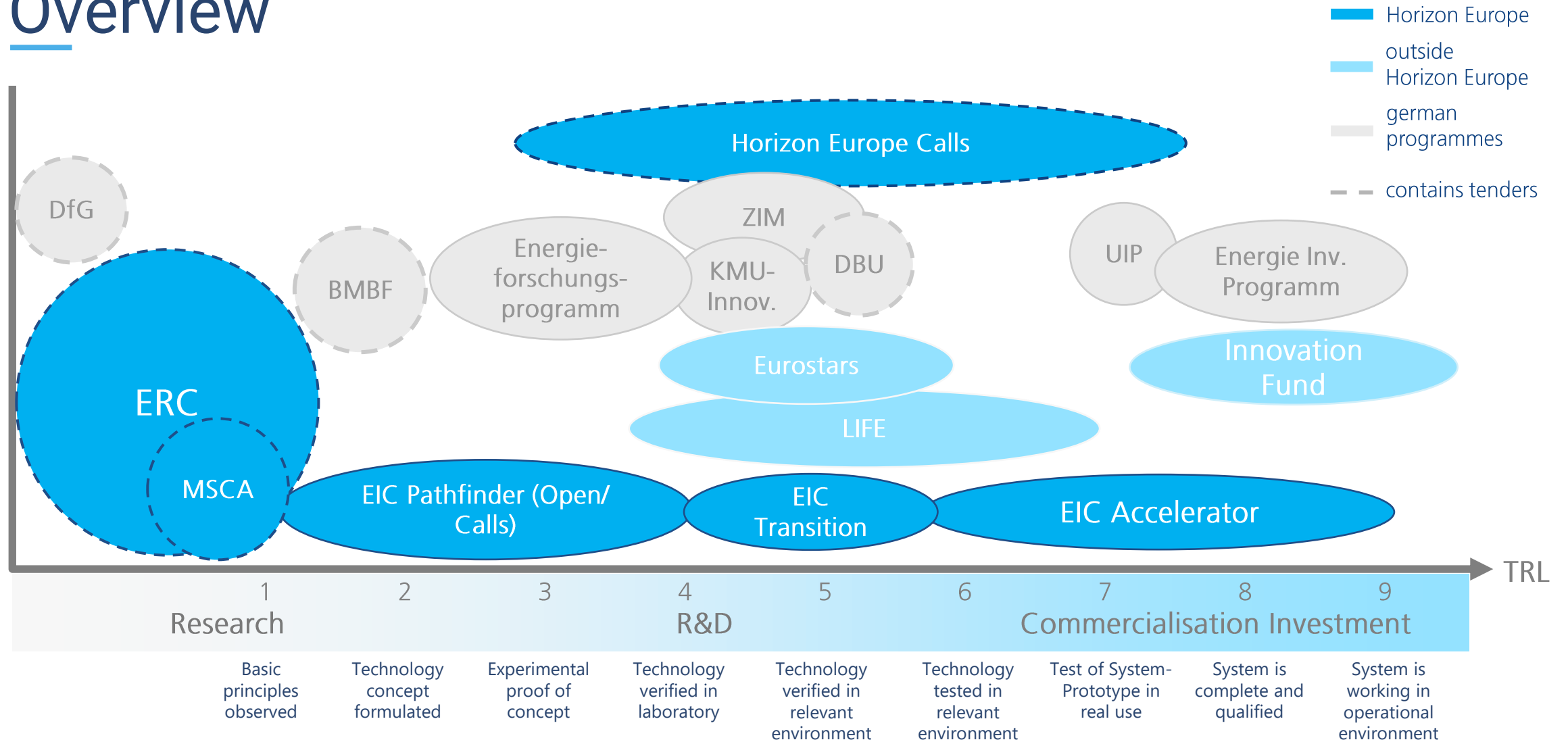


**Pillar I:** reinforcing and extending the excellence of the EU's science base

**Pillar II:** boosting key technologies and solutions underpinning EU policies & Sustainable Development Goals

**Pillar III:** Stimulating market-creating breakthroughs and ecosystems conducive to innovation

# Overview



# Horizon Europe Calls – 6 Clusters



Health



Culture, Creativity  
and inclusive Society



Civil Security for  
Society



Digital, Industry and  
Space



Climate, Energy  
and Mobility

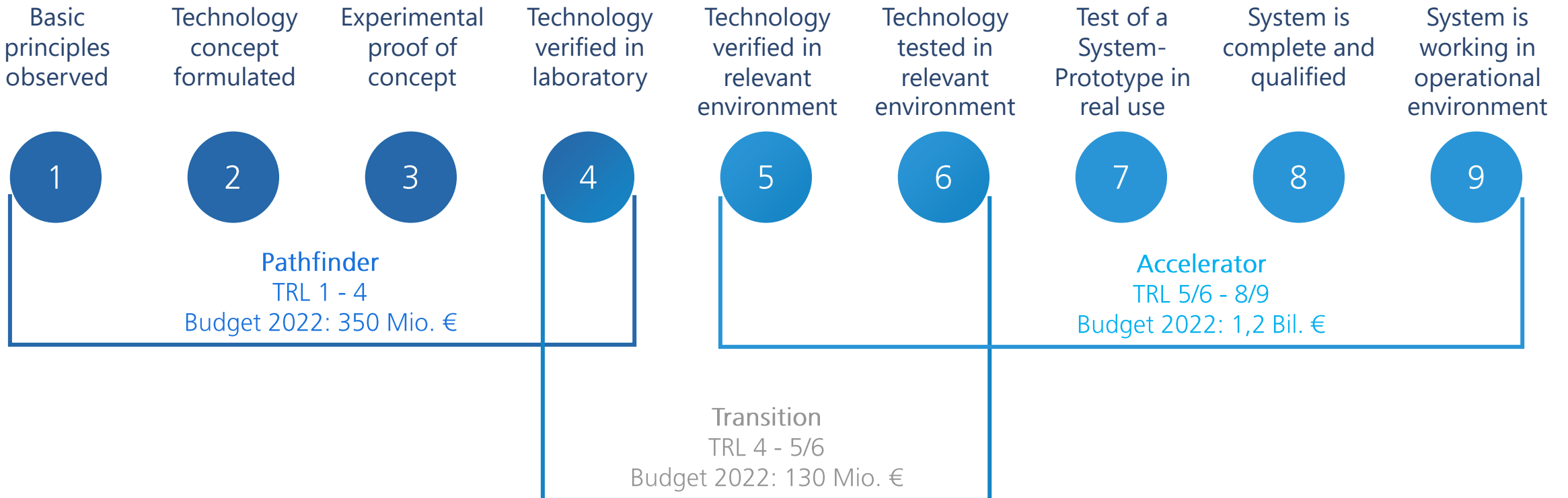


Food, Bioeconomy, natural  
resources, agriculture and  
environment

- Budget: **53.5 billion €**
- **Cooperation projects**
- **At least 3 partners from at least 3 EU countries** (usually more)
- Deadline dependent on call
- Focus: more on **Research and Development**, less on scaling and market launch
- Depending on call **one-stage** (full proposal) or **two-stage** (concept note and full proposal)
- **Funding: 30%-100%** for enterprises, 100% for research institutes
- Scope: 10 pages for concept note, 45 - 100 pages for full proposal

# European Innovation Council

- Budget: 10.1 billion €
- Eligible: 27 member states + 17 associated countries



EIC Pathfinder  
Advanced research on breakthrough  
or game-changing technologies





# What is the program about?

Towards powerful new technologies

Exploration of bold ideas for **radically new technologies**

**cutting-edge** science collaborations underpinning **technological breakthroughs**

**High risk, high gain, interdisciplinary**

low TRL:  
**TRL 1 → TRL 3**

goal: proof of concept

# Conditions & Topics

## Conditions



- Consortia or individual applicants (challenges)
- **Consortia:** at least **3 Partners** from at least 3 **eligible countries**
- Universities, Research institutes, SMEs, Industry



- Up to 3-4 Mio. €, 100% funding
- Project duration: 3 years (open), max. 4 years (challenges)
- One-stage application
- 17 pages (open) or 25 pages (challenges)

## OPEN and CHALLENGES (2023)

Topic-open

Next  
deadline:  
**07.03.23**

Clean and efficient cooling

Architecture, Engineering and Construction digitalisation for a novel triad of design, fabrication and materials

Precision nutrition

Responsible electronics

In-space solar energy harvesting for innovative space applications

A conceptual image showing a human hand on the left and a blue and white robotic hand on the right, both reaching towards a bright, glowing yellow light source in the center. The background is dark with some light rays and bokeh effects. A blue semi-transparent box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text.

# EIC Transition

From Proof of Concept to Pre-Commercial

# What is the motivation of EIC Transition?



## From laboratory to industrial demonstrator

Foundation for breakthrough innovations and business models

Building on **successful EIC Pathfinder, FET or ERC-Projects**

Concretization of the application

Next step of the technology maturity (TRL 4 → TRL 5/6)

Further technical development steps

Building a business model

Project goal is a **Demonstrator** that has been successfully tested in an industrial environment

# Who can apply?

## Small consortia or individual applicants



### Consortia

- At least **2 Partners** from at least **2 eligible countries**
- With **3+ Partners**, at least **3 countries** necessary
- Max. **5 Partners**
- Universities, Research institutes, SMEs, Industry



### Individual applicants

- Universities, Research institutes, SMEs
- Large enterprises not allowed

## OPEN and CHALLENGES

Topic-open

Full scale Micro-Nano-Bio devices for medical and medical research applications

Environmental intelligence

RNA-based therapies and diagnostics for complex or rare genetic diseases

# Conditions

2,5 Mio. €

Project volume



100 %

Funding rate



12. April,  
27. September

Deadlines



Max. 3 years

Project duration



Two-stage  
(Interview)

Process



20 pages

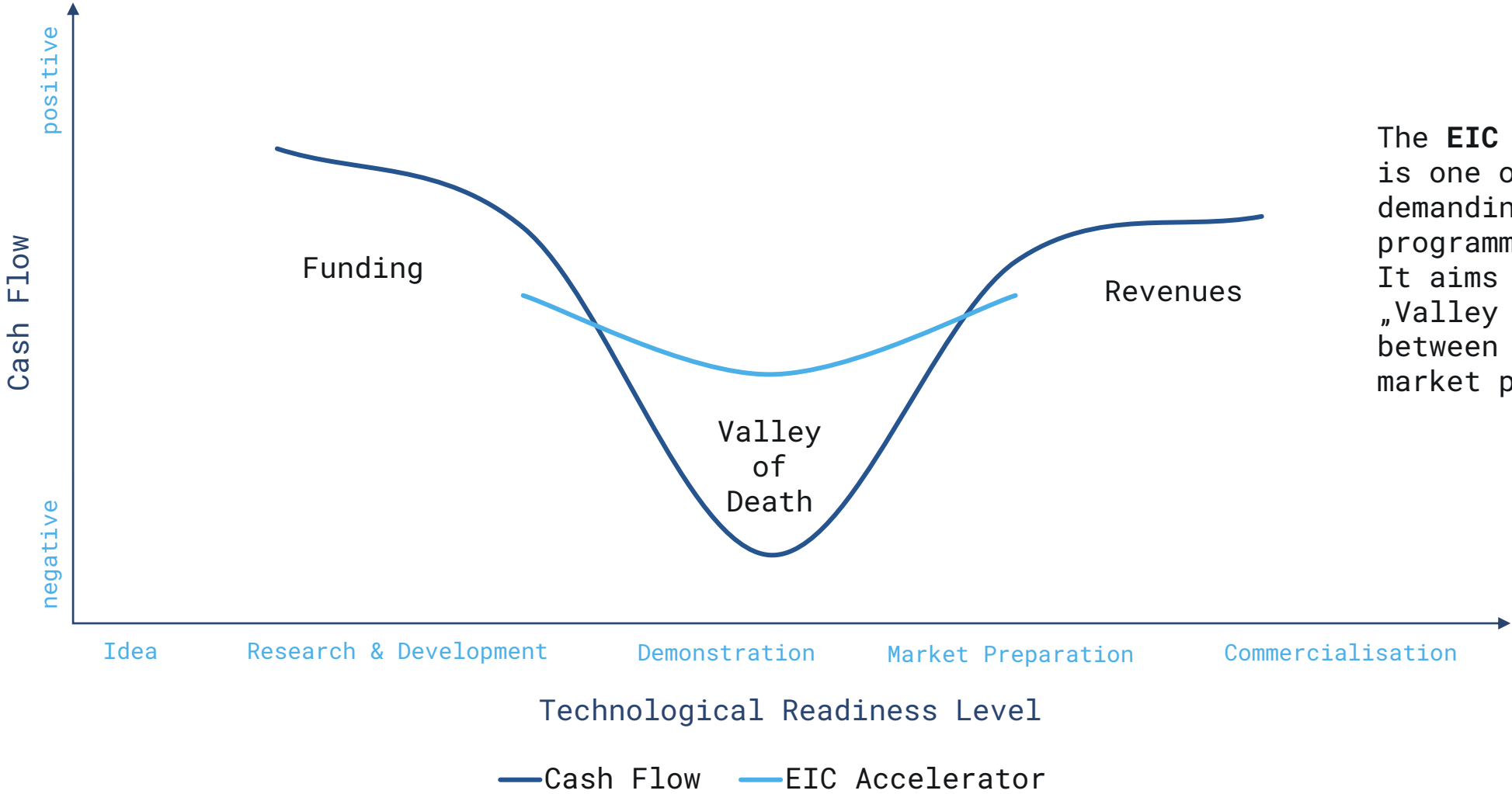
Proposal



# EIC Accelerator

The funding program to develop and scale up game changing innovations

# Where does the EIC Accelerator kick in?



The **EIC Accelerator** is one of the most demanding funding programmes in the EU. It aims to bridge the „Valley of Death“ between R&D and market preparation.



# Who can apply?

Start-ups and small companies (max. 500 employees)

... with **disruptive innovations** and **clear growth ambitions**. Companies with innovative ideas that trigger radical changes and can **change the market sustainably**.

**Requirement:**  
**Existing Demonstrator (TRL 5/6)**

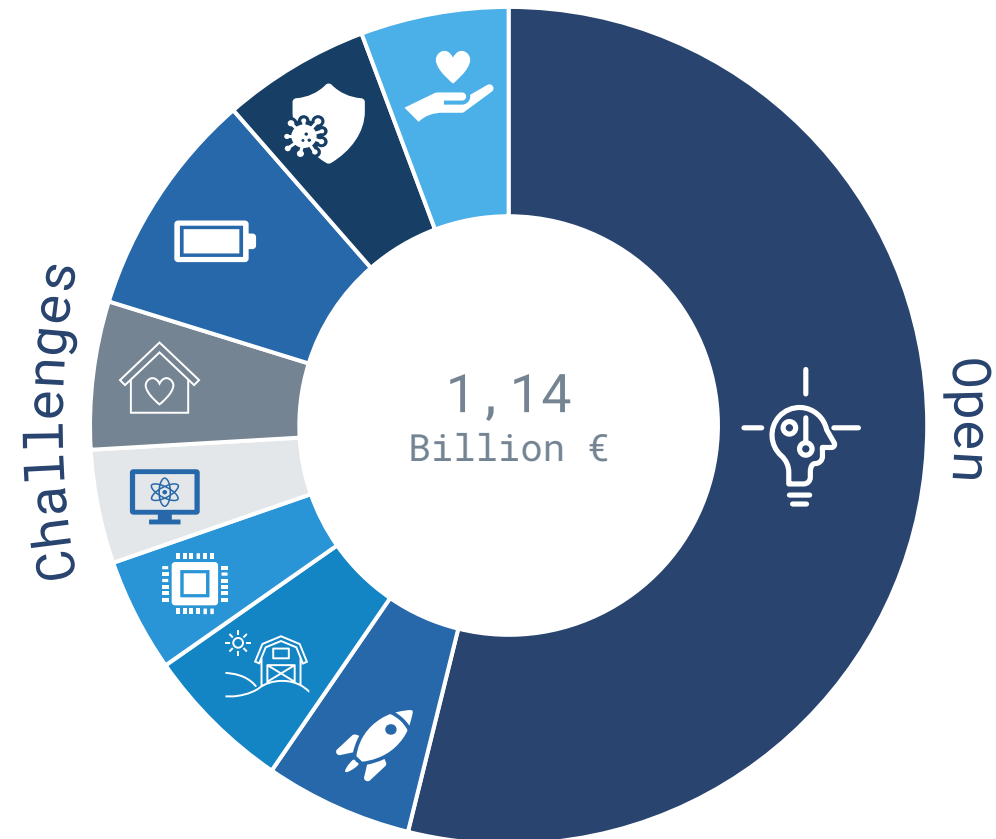
# What topics are relevant?

The programme is **open to all topics**. In addition, there are **annually changing challenges**. There is a strong focus on **deep tech** innovations and sustainable solutions.

## Challenges 2023

- Biomarker assays for cancer
- Decontamination for pandemic management
- Energy storage
- New European Bauhaus
- Quantum computers and quantum sensors
- Semiconductors
- Resilient agriculture
- Space technologies and services

Budget Distribution 2023



# What are the underlying conditions?

Standard: Blended Finance. In special cases, however, sole funding is also possible

## Funding



- Up to 2.5 Mio. Euro
- 70% Funding rate
- Eligible costs: personnel, travel, material, equipment, 25% overhead, external services
- Project duration: max. 24 months



## Equity



- Up to 15 Mio. Euro
- For 10-24.9% of the company shares

# What do you receive support for?

## Funding (TRL 5-8)



Close-to-market R&D,  
Demonstration as well as  
Market preparation

- Demonstration & Tests
- Prototyping
- Validation
- „market replication“
- Preparation of scale-up
- Miniaturisation & Design
- Market preparation

## Equity (> TRL 9)



Growth, Scale-Up, Market  
Implementation

- Scale-up
- Marketing & Sales
- Serial production
- Clinical studies

or to cover the necessary own  
contribution to the project costs



EUROSTARS  
for innovative SME

# What is the focus of the funding program?

## Small international consortia under leadership of an SME

Topic-open

Pure civil  
applications

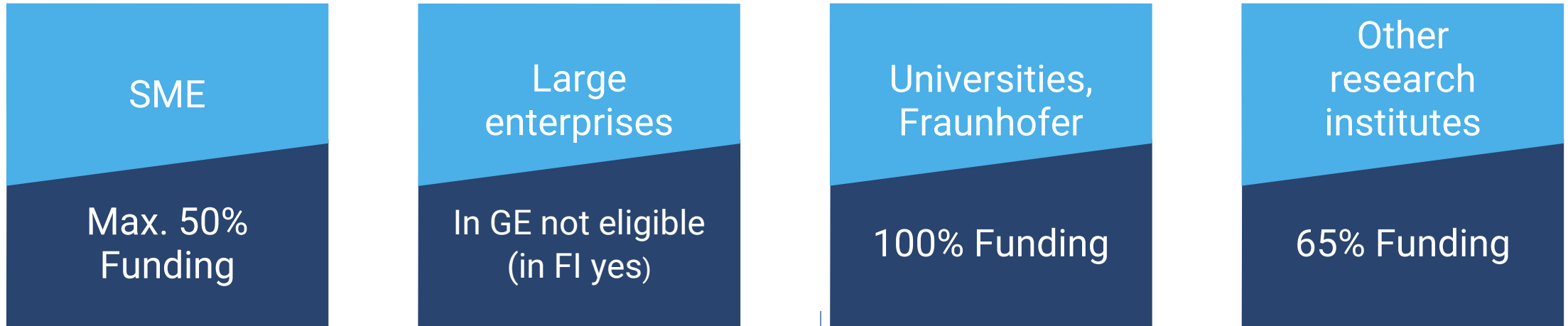
Market driven:  
products enter  
market 2 years  
after project end

Development up to  
creation of a  
prototype (TRL4  
→ TRL 6)

# What are the requirements in Eurostars?

- Consortium management by innovative SME
- At least **2 independent partners** from at least **2 Eurostars countries** (of which 1x EU)
- Possible partners: universities, research institutes, SMEs, industry
- At least 50% of the costs incurred by the SMEs
- Project duration: **maximum 3 years**
- No partner or partner country with > 70% of project volume
- Funding rate varies dependent on country and partner type
- Eurostars countries ≠ EU member states → separate list as well as non-european countries (e.g. Singapore, South Korea, Canada, South Africa)

# What are the funding requirements in Germany?



2 Deadlines per year: normally spring and autumn, next: 03/23

Requirement: german SME is part of project

All german partners (SME + research institutes) receive in total max. 500.000 € funding in one project.



# ZIM

Zentrales Innovationsprogramm Mittelstand

## Who can apply?

- for SME with < 500 employees, or < 1000 employees in cooperation with small SME
- Research institutes

## What does the program include?

- Topic-open
- Joint projects & Solo projects
- Application: single-stage (Proposal ~20 pages project description + application form („Mantelbogen“))
- No deadlines
- **New since 07/22: max. 1 grant in 24 months**

## How much funding?

- Funding rate KMU: 25%-60%
- Eligible costs: Personnel costs, external orders, other costs
- Project volume:  
Solo proj. 550.000 €,  
Joint proj. 450.000 €,  
RI 220.000 €,  
total max. 2,3 Mio. €
- Overhead surcharge 100% (RI 85%)

# ZIM – Durchführbarkeitsstudie (Feasibility study)

## Who can apply?

- Young enterprises (< 10 years), smallest enterprises (< 10 empl.) or first time beneficiaries,
- Prerequisite: Preparation of R&D Project

## What does the program include?

- Topic-open
- Technical preliminary projects and studies, tests to evaluate and analyse the potential of the project
- Joint projects & solo projects
- Application: single-stage (proposal ~20 pages project description + application form („Mantelbogen“))
- No deadlines
- Duration: max. 8 months

## How much funding?

- Funding rate: 50%-70%
- Eligible costs: Personnel costs, external orders (max. 2)
- Project volume: Solo proj. 100.000 €, Joint proj. 200.000 €
- Orders to RI (10%-80% of PMs)
- Overhead surcharge 30%

# ZIM – Leistungen zur Markteinführung (Market launch services)

## Who can apply?

- Enterprises with approved ZIM-Project

## What does the program include?

- Application up to 12 months after the end of the project
- Funding for innovation consulting services, support services, trade fair appearances, advice on product design, marketing, certification, ...)
- 3 applications per R&D project

## How much funding?

- Funding rate: 50%
- Eligible costs: up to 60.000 €

# ZIM international

- Bilateral and multilateral tenders with over 20 countries worldwide
- German SMEs can receive up to 10% more funding rate
- Non-german partners must ensure their financing independently



## **Finnland**

Weitere Ausschreibungen sind geplant.

Partner: Business Finland

No tender planned for 2023 due to pause and revision of funding initiatives in finland.



# KMU - innovativ

Cutting-edge research in SMEs

## Who can apply?

- Open for differently sized enterprises
- SMEs with < 250 empl., ≤ 50 Mio. € sales or ≤ 43 Mio. € balance,
- Research institutes
- SME (< 1.000 empl.) | LE (as project partner; dependent on technology area)

## What does the program include?

- Topic related: 12 specific topics, also topic-open funding possible
- Joint projects & solo projects
- Application: two-stage (draft + proposal)
- Deadlines for drafts: 15. April and 15. October

## How much funding?

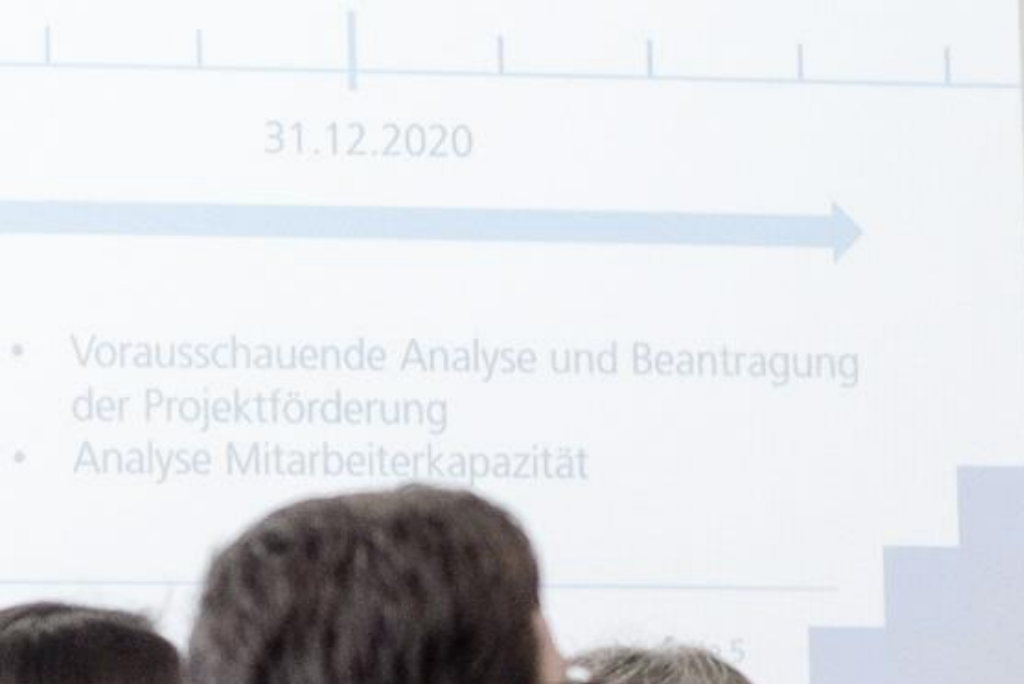
- Funding rate: 50% (+10% / + 20% SME-Bonus)
- Eligible costs: Personnel costs, overhead and material costs, travel costs, third-party services, investment
- Project volume: in principle unlimited / typical: up to 2 Mio. € costs

## Technology areas:

- Bioeconomy
- Biomedicine
- Electronics and autonomous driving; supercomputing
- Research for civil security
- Medtech
- Information and communication technologies
- Material research
- Interactive Technology for health and life quality
- Photonics and Quantum technologies
- Production technology
- Resource efficiency and climate protection







# Steuerliche Forschungszulage

Yearly up to 1 Mio. € tax-free for R&D

“

**No general funding of R&D expenses of companies,  
but concrete R&D projects  
must be described in detail.**

„Forschungszulage“ FZulG | Bundesgesetzblatt 2019 Teil I Nr. 51 | 20. Dezember 2019

# For whom?

## Enterprises

Single enterprises, persons or corporations of any size



## Research Associations

Enterprises in R&D-Associations



# What can be founded?

All steps of **research and development**, i.e. basic research, industrial research and experimental development.

It is **topic-open**. Thus, there are no specifications regarding the development topic of your project.

Also **failed development projects** can be taken into account. Nutzen Sie diese Chance! Take advantage of this opportunity!

# What is funded?

## Eligible costs

- **Employer's gross salary of employees** (including annual bonuses, performance bonuses, overtime pay, employer's expenses for securing the future)
- **60% of the remuneration** that the client has spent on an ordered development and research project

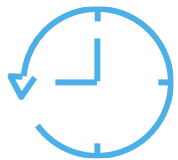
## Funding

- **Maximum eligible costs: 4 Mio. € per year**
- **Funding rate: 25%** → maximum 1 Mio. € (tax-free)

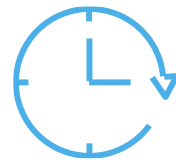
# Structure

01.01.2020

current



With the Forschungszulage:  
**Retroactive** application for  
the Forschungszulage for  
R&D projects started after  
01.01.2020.



With R&D Funding:

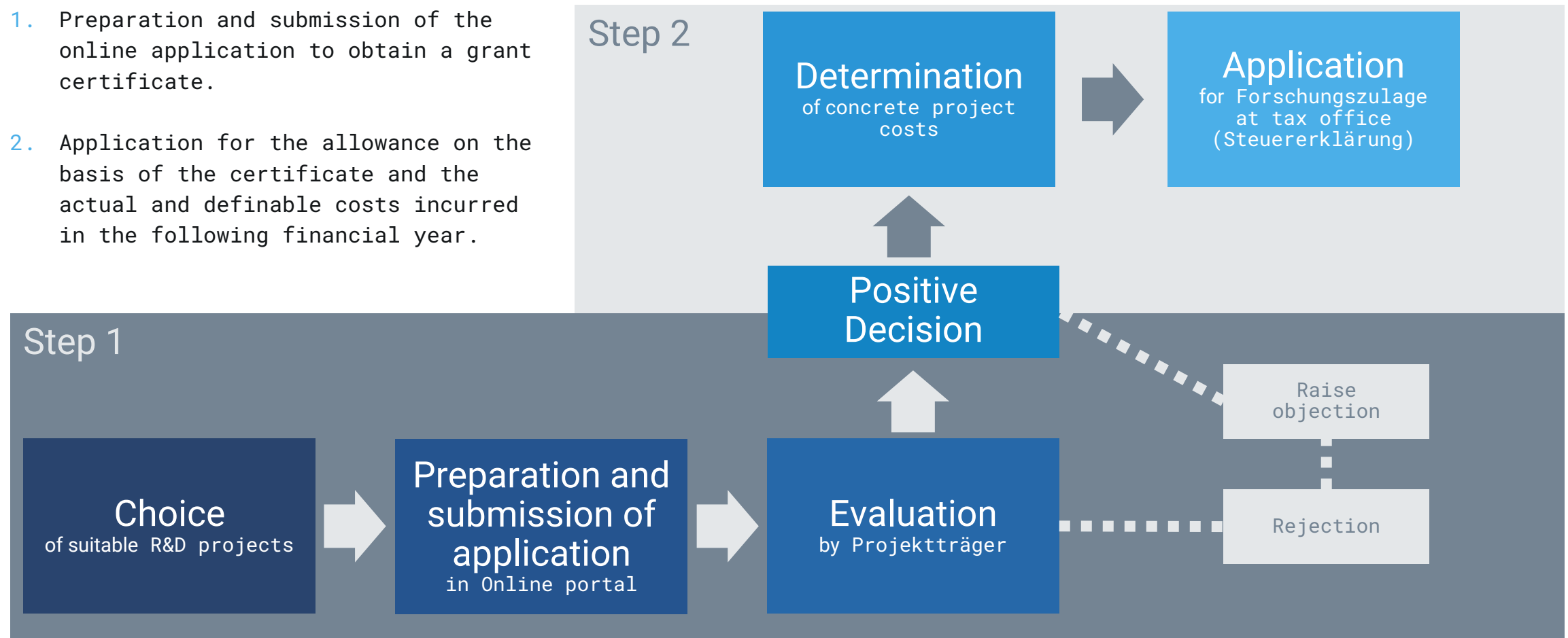
- **Forward-looking** analysis and application for project funding
- Analysis of employee capacity



We not only look at a small excerpt, but the entire roadmap for the best possible funding strategy.

# Procedure: Two-step application process

1. Preparation and submission of the online application to obtain a grant certificate.
2. Application for the allowance on the basis of the certificate and the actual and definable costs incurred in the following financial year.





Coffee break



# Invited talk: Alexandra Horn

Head of Support for SME

DIN – dt. Institut für Normung e.V., Berlin

# Discussion of Project Idea

“Development of a standardized test setup to measure antimicrobial effectiveness of blue light irradiation on surfaces/liquids/air”

- Explain the idea in concrete terms (esp. measurement), DIN will look for already existing Specs, Norms
- Define consortium (GHO, GMBU, THU, ???)
- Workshops will be organized by DIN
  
- Determination of germ reduction (for different bacteria and viruses)
- Standardized irradiation parameters/conditions, specification of germ types



# Work with Miro Board



# Discussion in small groups



## Summary / Next steps

# Summary & next steps

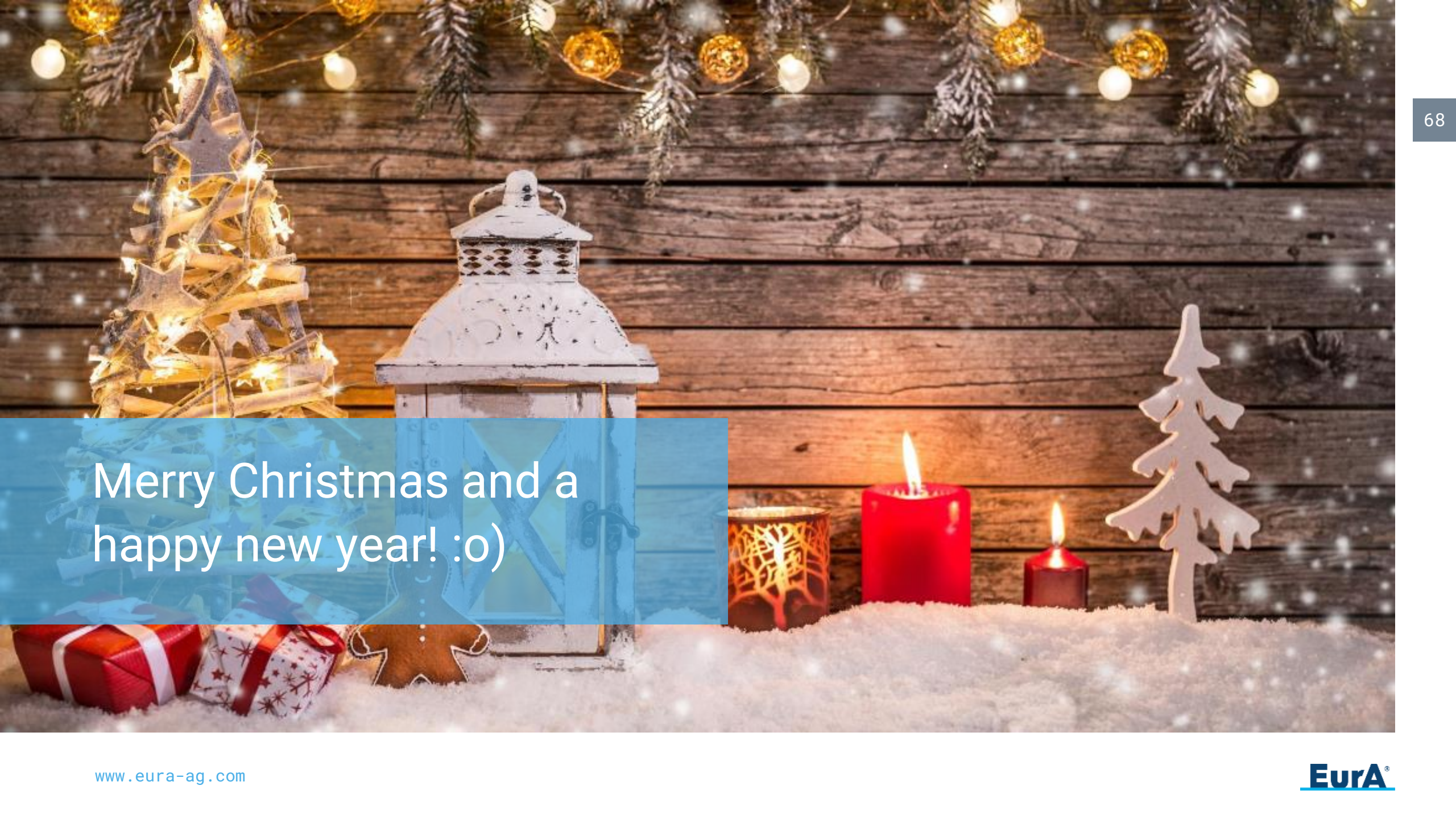
## Summary:

- Logo and website available, flyer still to be done
- Dr. Christian Gehl will take over network management from 01.01.2023
- Funding landscape: **Any further information/support needed?**
- Miro board as interactive platform and to use also outside of network meetings

# Summary & next steps

## Next steps:

- Individual meetings with partners and network management
- Next steps for Project idea „Development of a standardized test setup to measure effectiveness of irradiation“: contact DIN with more details
- Project workshops will be invited
- Next network meeting: Q1/23



Merry Christmas and a  
happy new year! :o)