

# Introducing the Robotics DIH Networks Adra-e Meeting

Brussels 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022

September 2022



# Robotics Networks



CSA 4 Years

DIH Network Coordination (Cross technology)



RODIN

CSA: 5 Years (2018-2023)

Network Coordination, Working Groups and Monitoring

IAs: Five Networks of DIHs total EC funding €80M E ach **IA** has €16M over 4 years (of which €8M is for Cascade FSTP Calls for SMEs) Total of **117** Participating organisations.



Healthcare



Agri-Food



Inspection and  
Maintenance of  
Infrastructure

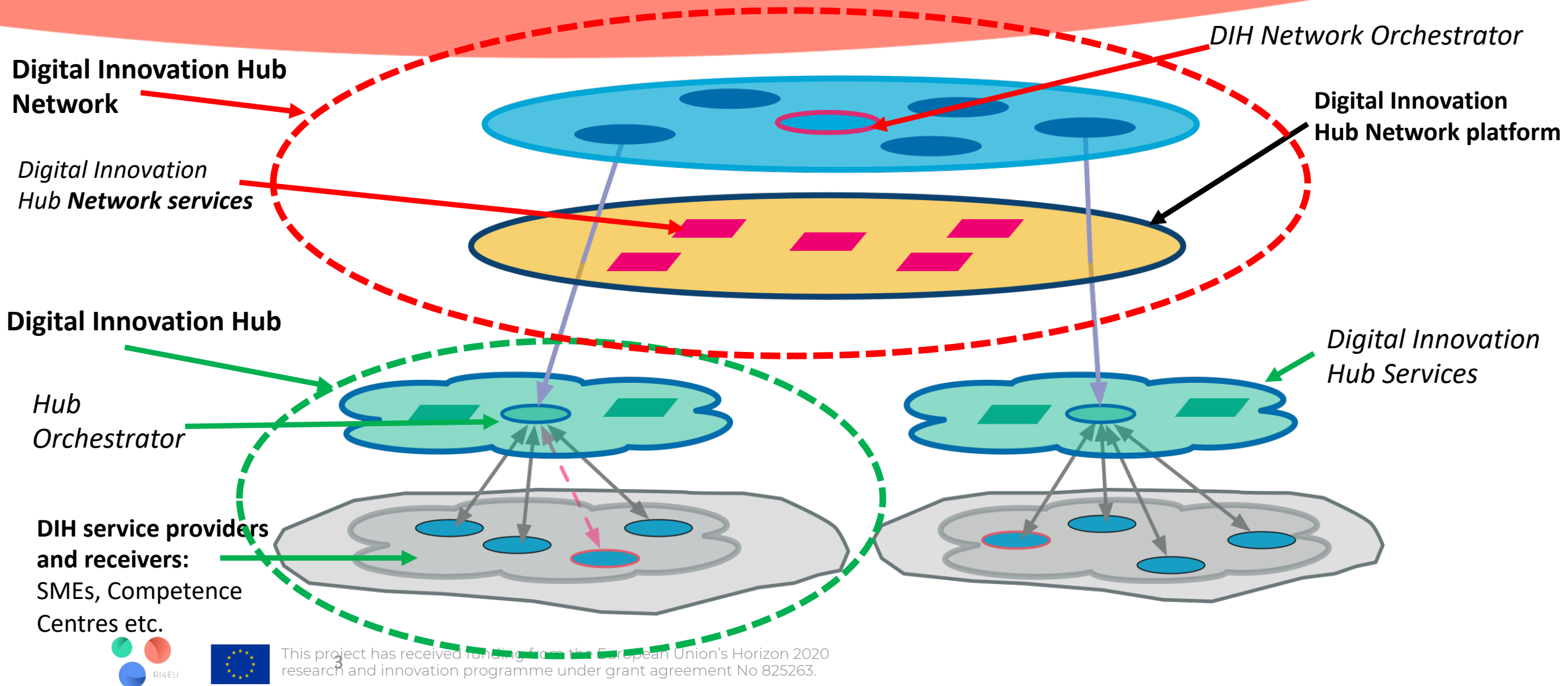


Agile  
Production



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 825263.

# Robotics DIH Network Ecosystem



# DIH networks *(Sector Focus)*

Each network composed of multiple individual hubs

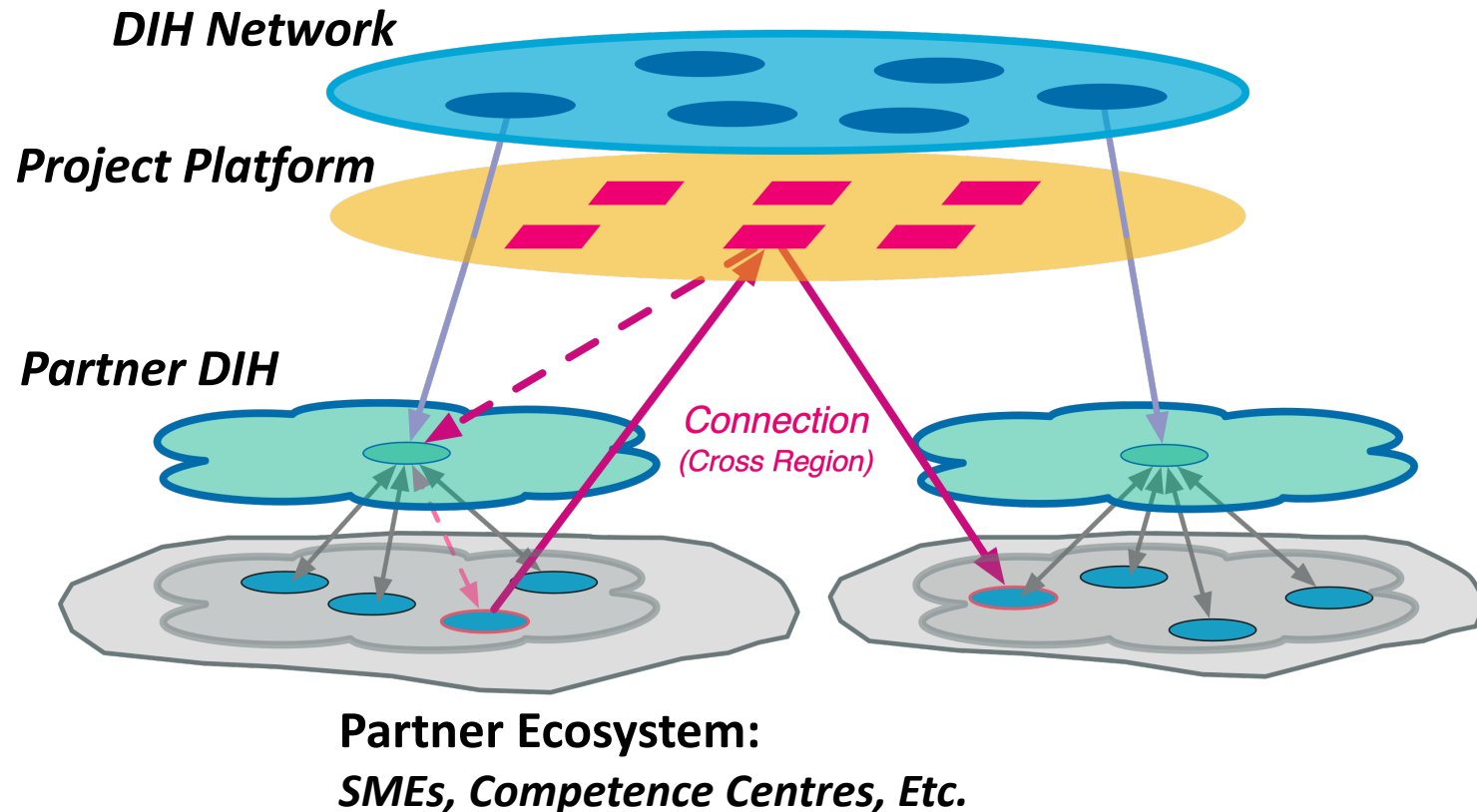
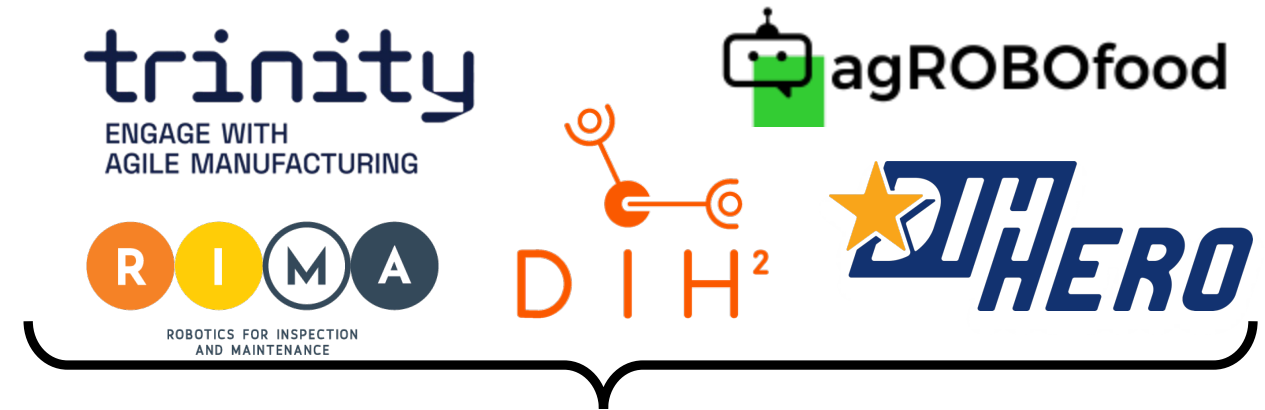
- RTOs and Universities already offering services in their local region

To provide network services across Europe

- Cohere an eco-system
- Gather platform data
- Provide access (cross region)
  - to research
  - to finance
  - to testing and demonstration
- Interface to Pilot projects.
- Enable standards development

Funded for four years:

- Run multiple cascade calls
- Stimulate cross regional developments
- Expected to create sustainability on completion



# Network Services

## DIH Network Services

European Wide Focus

Inter regional services

Linkage to European initiatives

Promote DIH Best practice

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Eco-System | EU-Community building                   |
|            | EU-Strategy development                 |
|            | Strategic EC advice                     |
|            | Collaborative EU awareness creation     |
|            | EU wide promotion and representation    |
|            | Mapping the Eco-System                  |
| Technology | Align/Synchronise technologies          |
|            | Organising Pan-EU research              |
|            | Aligning regional RDI investments       |
|            | Pan-EU scouting RDI collaboration       |
|            | Technology trend watching               |
|            | Technology assessment                   |
| Business   | Initiating interregional collaborations |
|            | Development of EU-proposals             |
|            | Individual RDI business support         |
|            | Initiate interregional corridors        |
|            | Access to finance for EU-collaboration  |
|            | Centralised maturity assessment         |
|            |   |
| Skills     | EU access to available expertise        |
|            | Joined EU training of industry/research |
|            | Train the trainers                      |
|            | Pan-EU policy training                  |
|            | Skills information repository           |
|            | Standardisation of certification        |

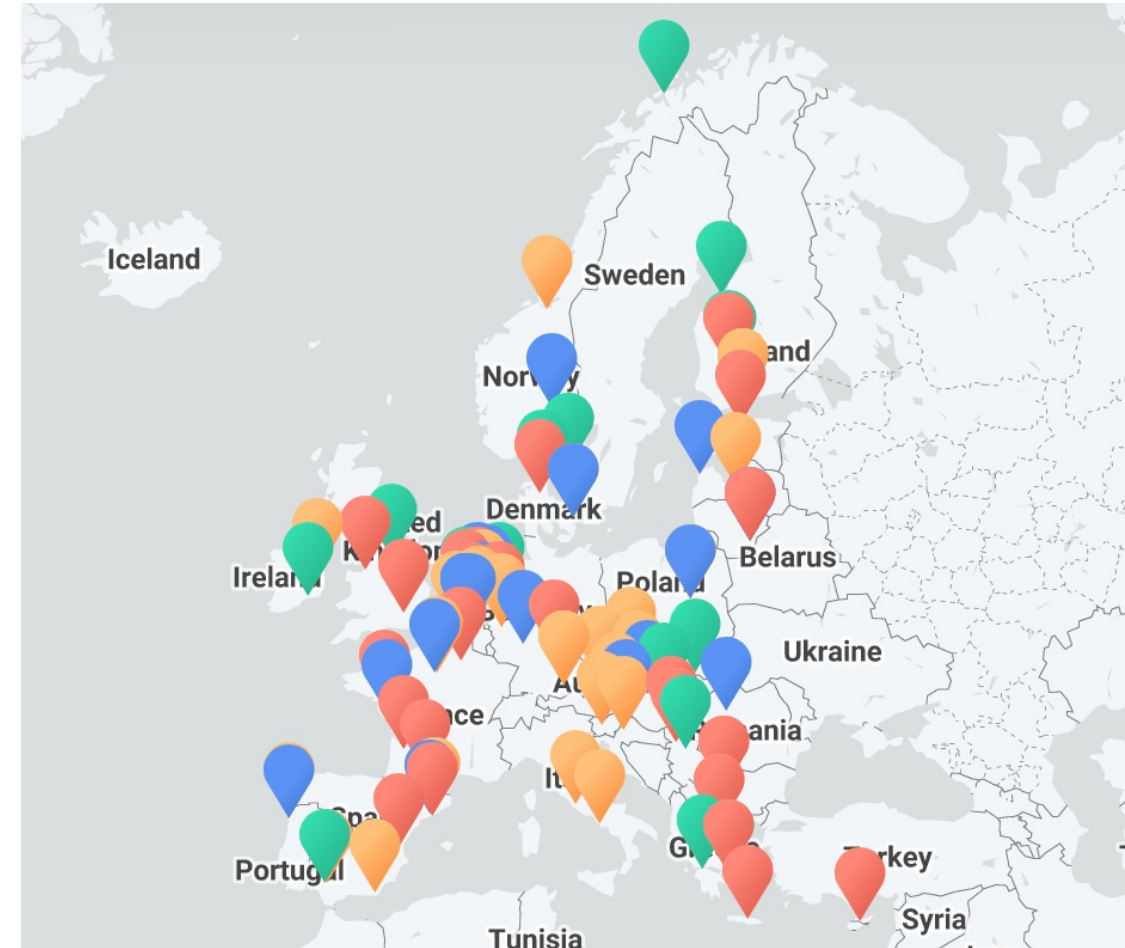
## Hub Services

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Eco-System | Community building                     |
|            | Strategy development                   |
|            | Ecosystem learning                     |
|            | Representation, Promotion              |
| Technology | Strategic RDI                          |
|            | Contract Research                      |
|            | Technical support on scale-up          |
|            | Provision of technology infrastructure |
|            | Testing and validation                 |
| Business   | Incubator/accelerator support          |
|            | Access to finance                      |
|            | Project development                    |
|            | Offering housing                       |



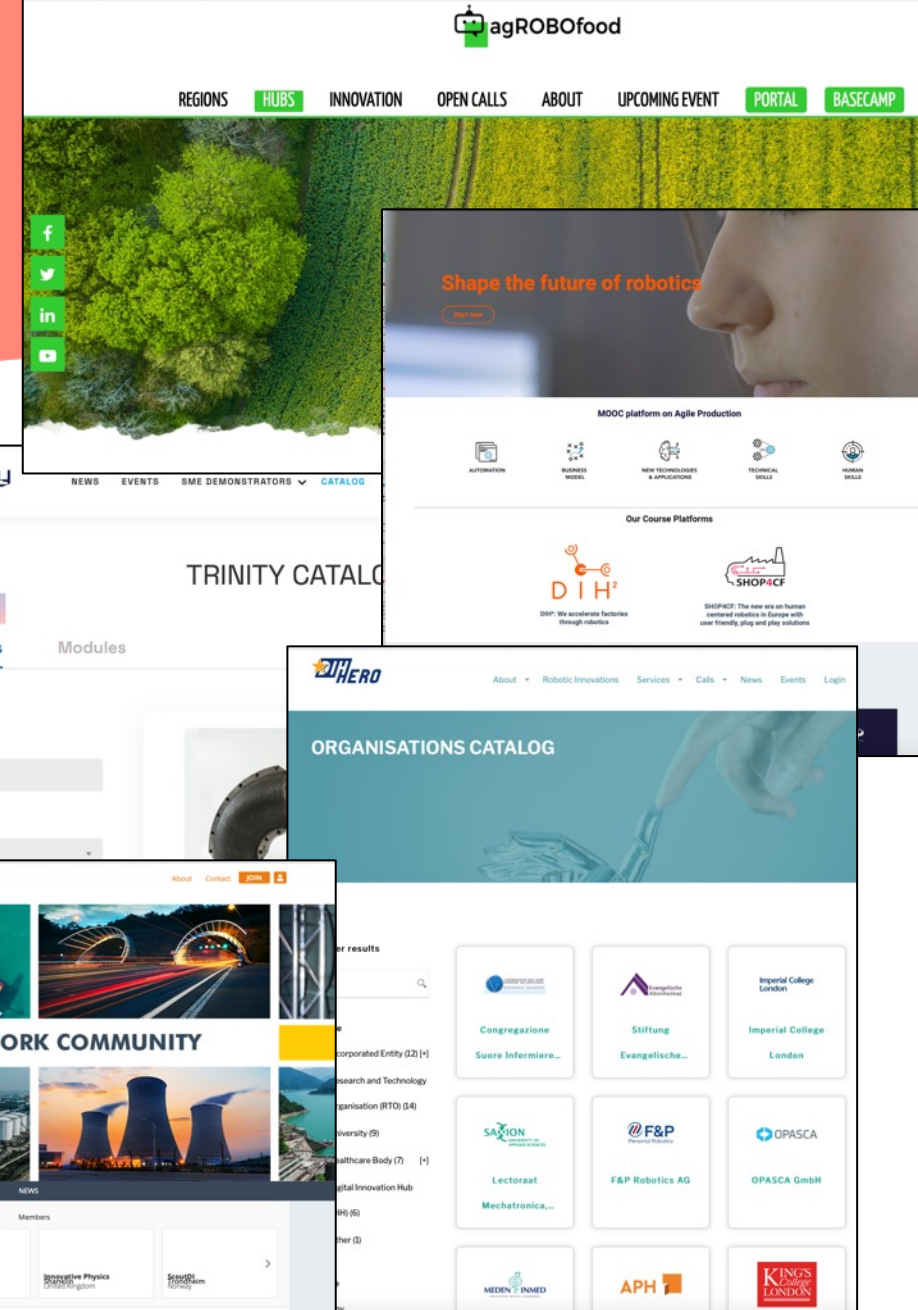
# Key Impacts: European Impacts

- European visibility of robotics in sector
- One step access to sector specific resources
- Identification of European strengths
- Feed into European level roadmaps
- Wider promotion of sector success stories
- Best practice propagation
- Strategy and policy engagement



# Key Impacts: Network Impacts

- Promotion of sector excellence in robotics
- Network service delivery
  - Network services (through DIH to SMEs)
  - Creation of networking effects
- Platforms, catalogues and knowledge bases
  - Defines and identifies the eco-system
  - Stimulates connectivity
  - Collation of third party services
  - Common resources
- Sector level focal points
  - Promotion of market access
  - Market and innovation definition
  - Regulation and standardisation



# A continuing journey...

- Networks are building towards becoming sustainable
- Operation beyond funding creates challenges
- However there are considerable benefits in achieving sustainability

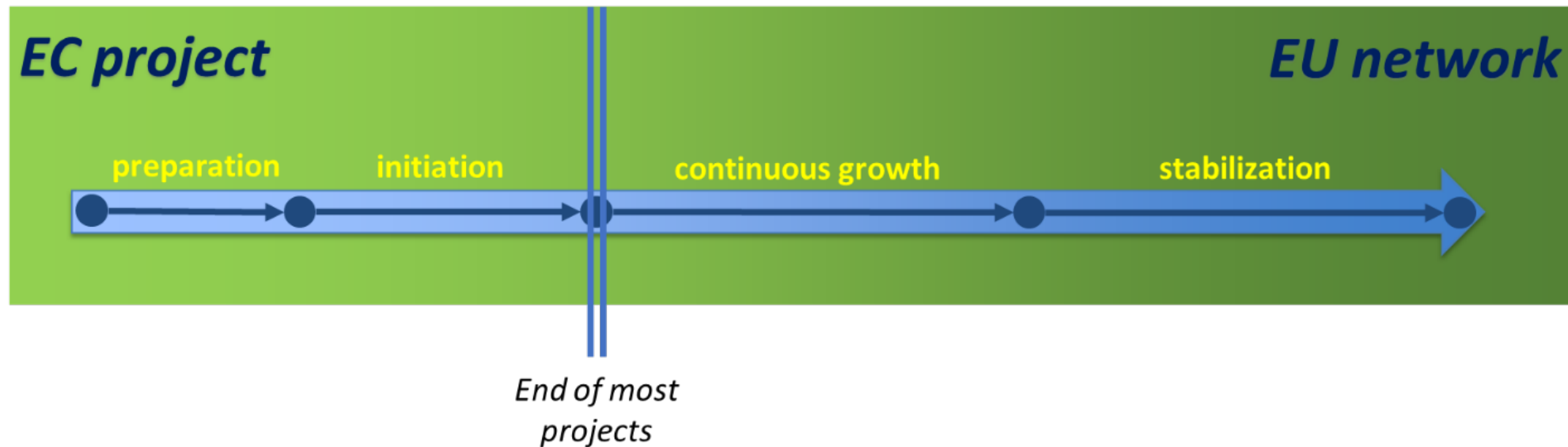
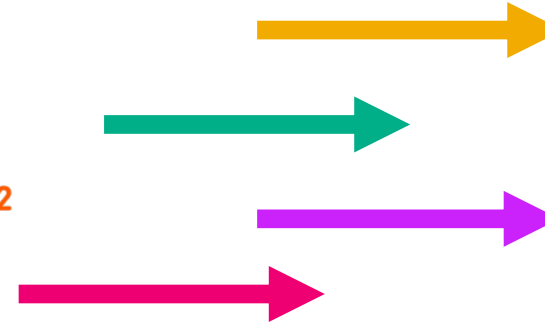


Figure 5: Phases in network development (© 2021 TNO, as part of the work in EU-GREAT!, DIHNET, RODIN projects).



# Sustainability



In the end each network needs to be sustainable:

- manage the transition from public to private funding
- find a business model that preserves brand identity,
- create value
- attract membership.

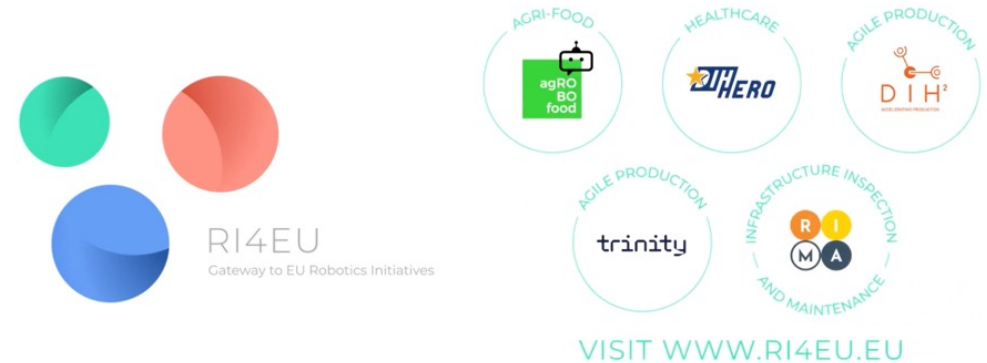


Develop network IP and Assets for continued use  
Identify and deliver Services in addition to the DIHs  
Create cohesion and identity for the stakeholders

# Future Value add: RI4EU

Discover how RI4EU can spur your innovation and support your digital transformation.

- Creates a cohesive collection
  - Single point of access to all key sectors
  - Supports sustainability
  - Promotes visibility of robotics
  - New networks can be added
- Umbrella identity (brand)
  - Full buy-in from networks
  - Independent of limited time projects
  - Unifies impact over a wide base
  - Equivalent to I4MS brand
- RI4EU is not a platform (or a logo)
  - Platforms remain with the Networks
  - Represents cohesion and visibility



**The robotics community needs be distinct from the AI community.**

**This requires distinct and recognisable branding to ensure that Robotics has visibility and identity at a European level.**

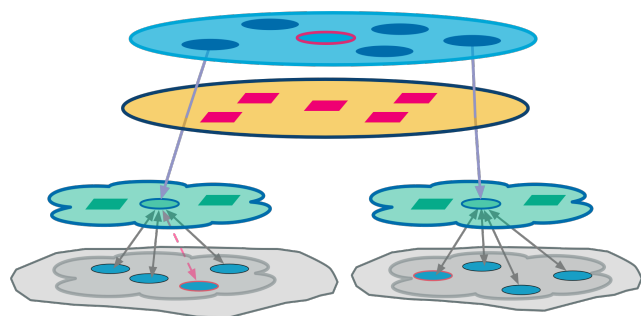


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# EDIH...

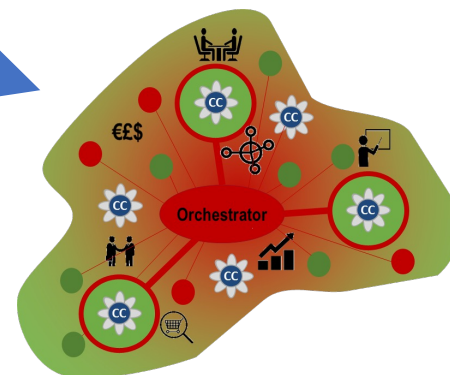
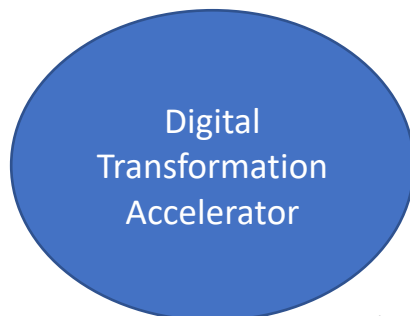
Sector Specific, Robotics. based  
**Digital Innovation Hub Networks**  
*Vertical Horizontal intersection focused on tech  
 Transfer at lower TRL*

| Characteristic    | EDIH  | DIH   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Legal Status      | Formal legal status   | Informal status   |
| Reach             | Regional and European   | Regional (DIH Networks can be European)                                       |
| Adopter focus     | Early and Late Majority   | Innovators and Early adopters   |
| Stakeholders      | Industry and Public Sector  | Innovators and related  |
| Formation         | Member State and EC selection process   | National and regional policy and self-selection                               |
| Funding           | Formal through DEP; 50:50 split (EC + Member States)                          | No fixed funding process  |
| Specialisation    | Aligned to regional Smart Specialisation                                      | Focused on existing regional need   |
| Multiplier effect | Access to unique local expertise scaled to Europe                             | Regional scaling (DIH Networks can have European scaling)                     |
| Local impact      | Enable broad access to digital acceleration + spread of advanced technologies | Enhance regional innovation and technology development. Spread within region. |
| Training          | Trained on Advanced Technologies.   | No centralised technology training  |



Interaction  
Possibility?

RI4EU



**European Digital Innovation Hubs**  
 Technology agnostic Sector  
 agnostic  
 Joint EC and MS funding  
 200 Regions



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