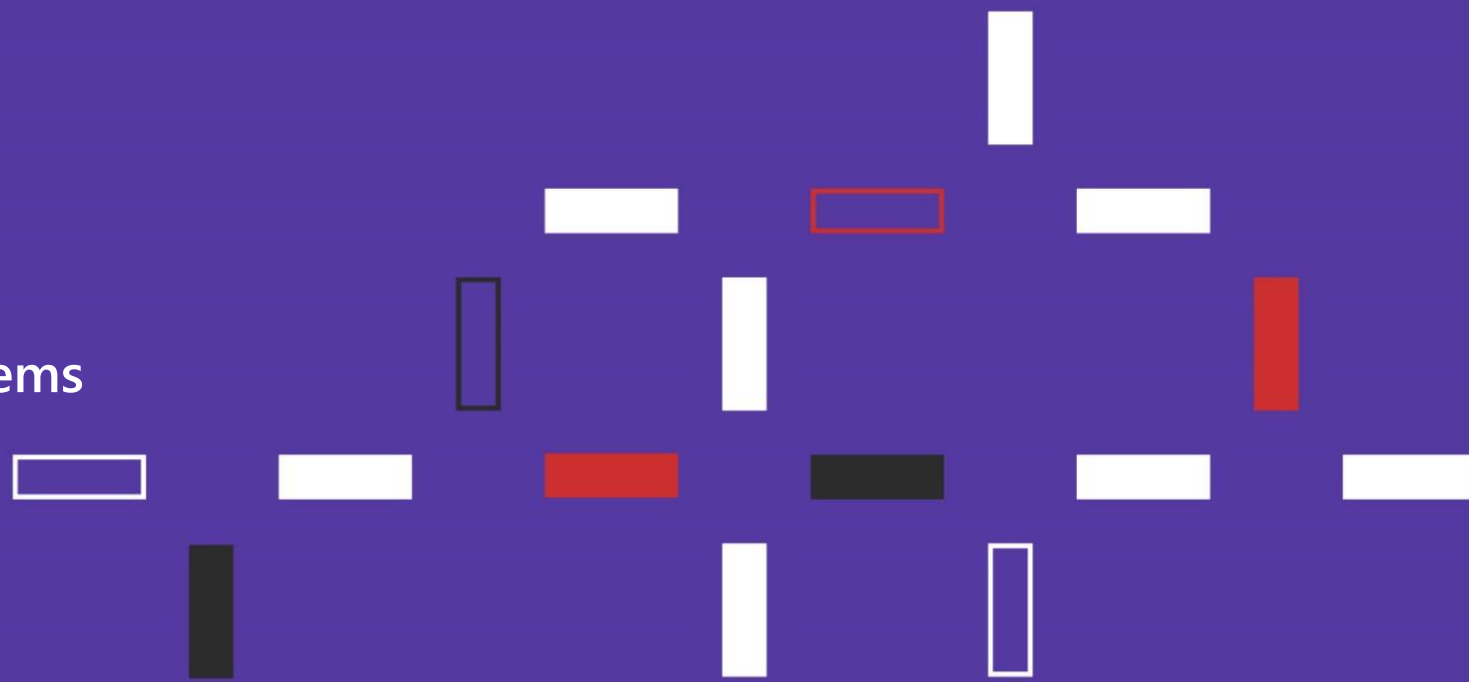




# Backing visionary entrepreneurs

Stela Tkatchova  
EIC Programme Manager for Space Systems  
26/01/2023

European Innovation Council and SME  
Agency





# EIC Accelerator Space Challenge - 10:00am-11:30am

Time	Topic	Presenter
10:00 – 10:10 10 Min	EIC Introduction	Anne-Marie Sassen (EIC/EISMEA)
10:10 – 10:45 35 Min	EIC Accelerator – “Customer Driven” innovative space technologies and services	Stela Tkatchova (EIC/EISMEA)
10:45 – 11:00 15 Min	Q&A - EIC Accelerator	Eric-Olivier PALLU (EIC/EISMEA)
11:00 – 11:10 10 Min	Presentation by DG DEFIS “Future Space Ecosystem (FSE)”	Daniel Noelke (DG DEFIS)
11:10-11:20 10 min	Presentation by DG DEFIS “In Orbit Demonstration (IOD)/In Orbit Validation(IOV) EU initiative”	Maria Vittoria D’INZEO (DG DEFIS) Romain Lezier (DG DEFIS)
11:20-11:25 5 min	Wrap-up	All



# EIC Pathfinder Space Challenge - 11:30am-13:00pm

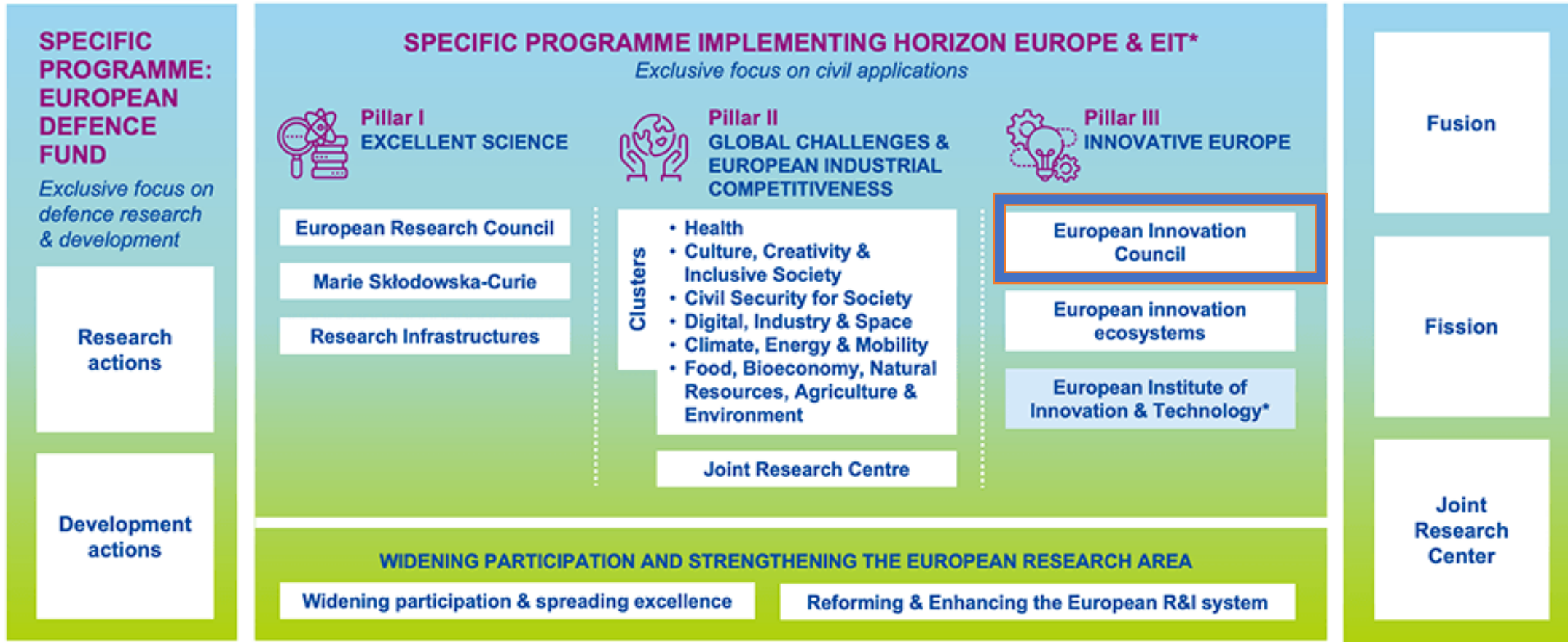
11:30 – 11:50 20 Min	EIC Pathfinder – In-space solar energy harvesting for innovative space applications	Stela Tkatchova (EIC/EISMEA)
11:50 – 12:05 15 Min	Q&A - EIC Pathfinder	Pathfinder Unit (EIC/EISMEA)
12:05 – 12:55 45 Min	<p>Short presentations of potential applicants for Pathfinder projects in the following running order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 OrbitAID</li> <li>2 CASTRA</li> <li>3 Share My Space</li> <li>4 E.T. Pack</li> <li>5 Neutron Star Systems</li> <li>6 BullMould</li> <li>7 AerospaceLab</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 OHB System AG</li> <li>9 Luleå University of Technology</li> <li>10 Emrod</li> <li>11 Light Mirror</li> <li>12 Paraloon</li> <li>13 Neurobus</li> <li>14 Kurs Orbital</li> <li>15 SwissSolar Space</li> </ol>
12:55 – 13:00 5 Min	Wrap-up	All

# Horizon Europe Structure



## HORIZON EUROPE

## EURATOM



\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme



# EIC Programs

## Pathfinder (TRL1-4)

- For consortia
- Early stage research on breakthrough technologies
- Grants up to €3/4 million

## Transition (TRL 4-6)

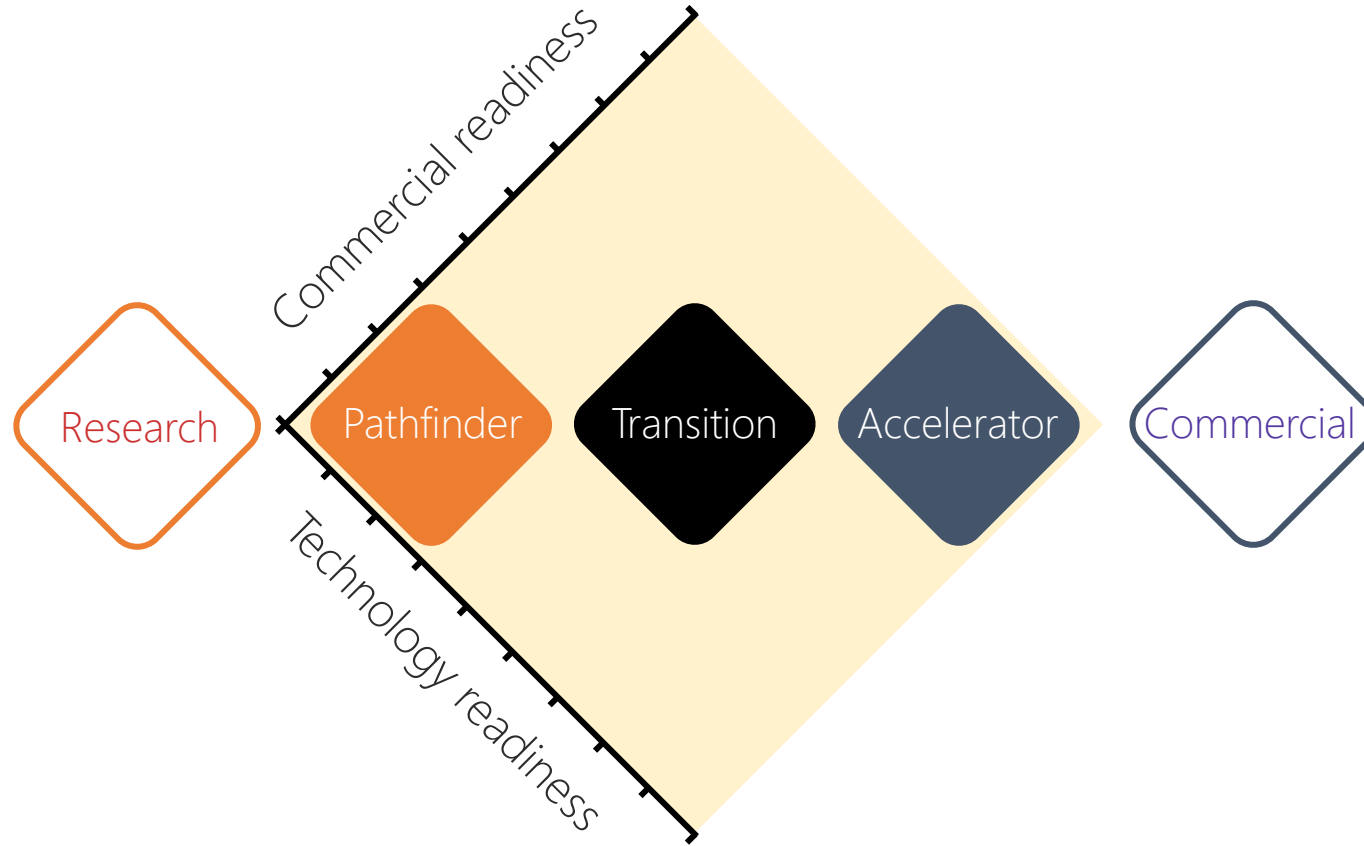
- For consortia and single entities
- Technology maturation from proof of concept to validation
- Business & market readiness
- Grants up to €2.5 million

## 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)

EIC stages the entrepreneurial journey as pathfinder, transition, accelerator with increasing readiness levels

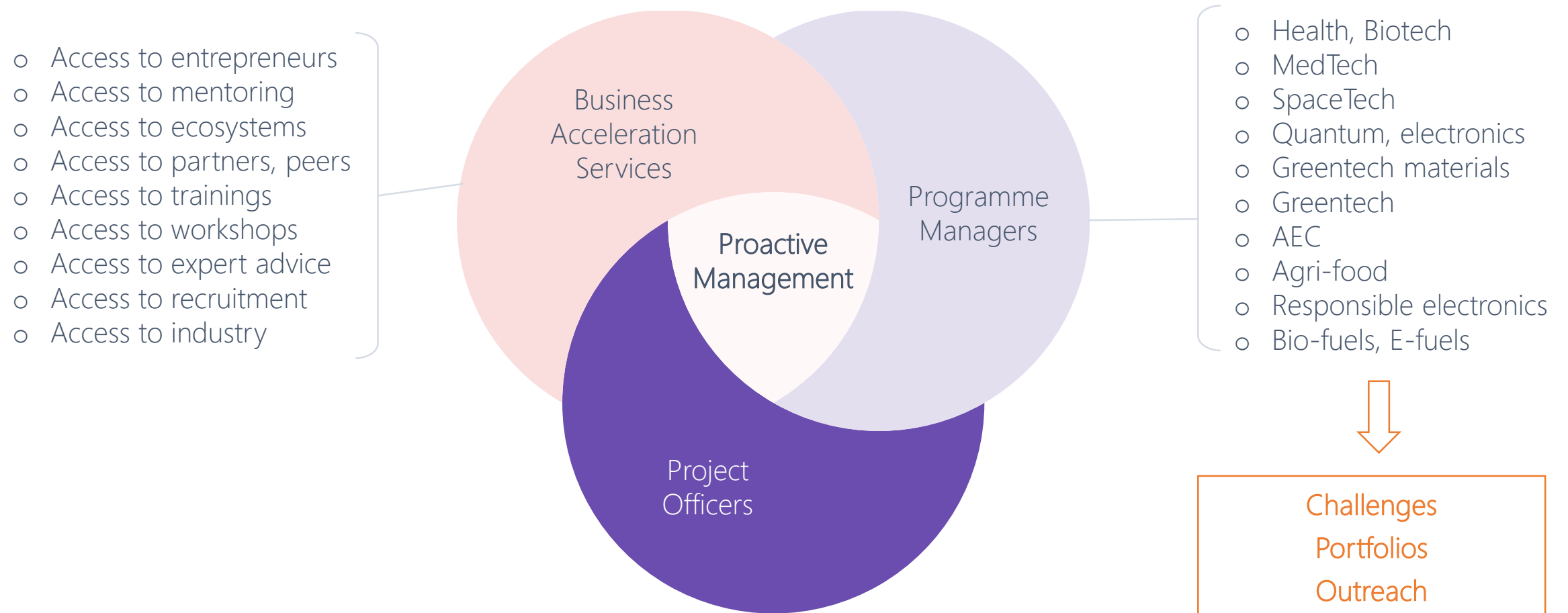
**WHAT?**



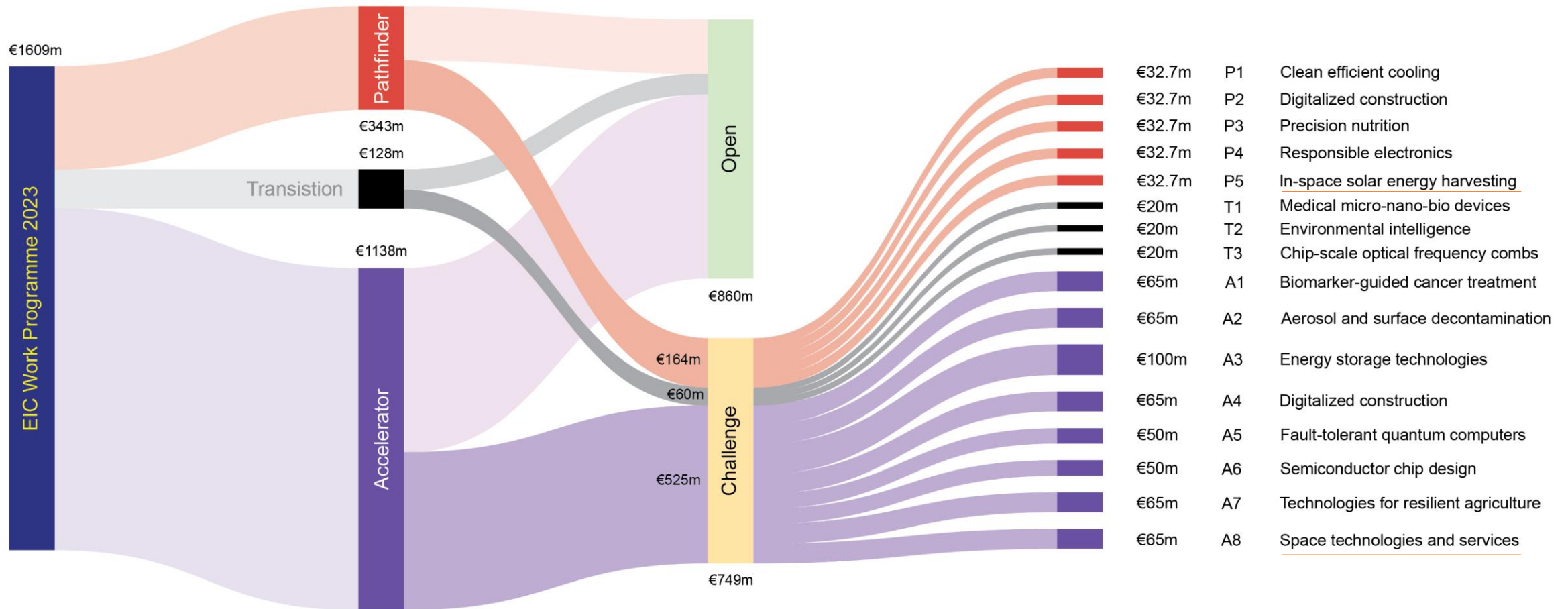
**WHY?**



# With proactive management the EIC aims to maximize its support to success of the entrepreneurial journey

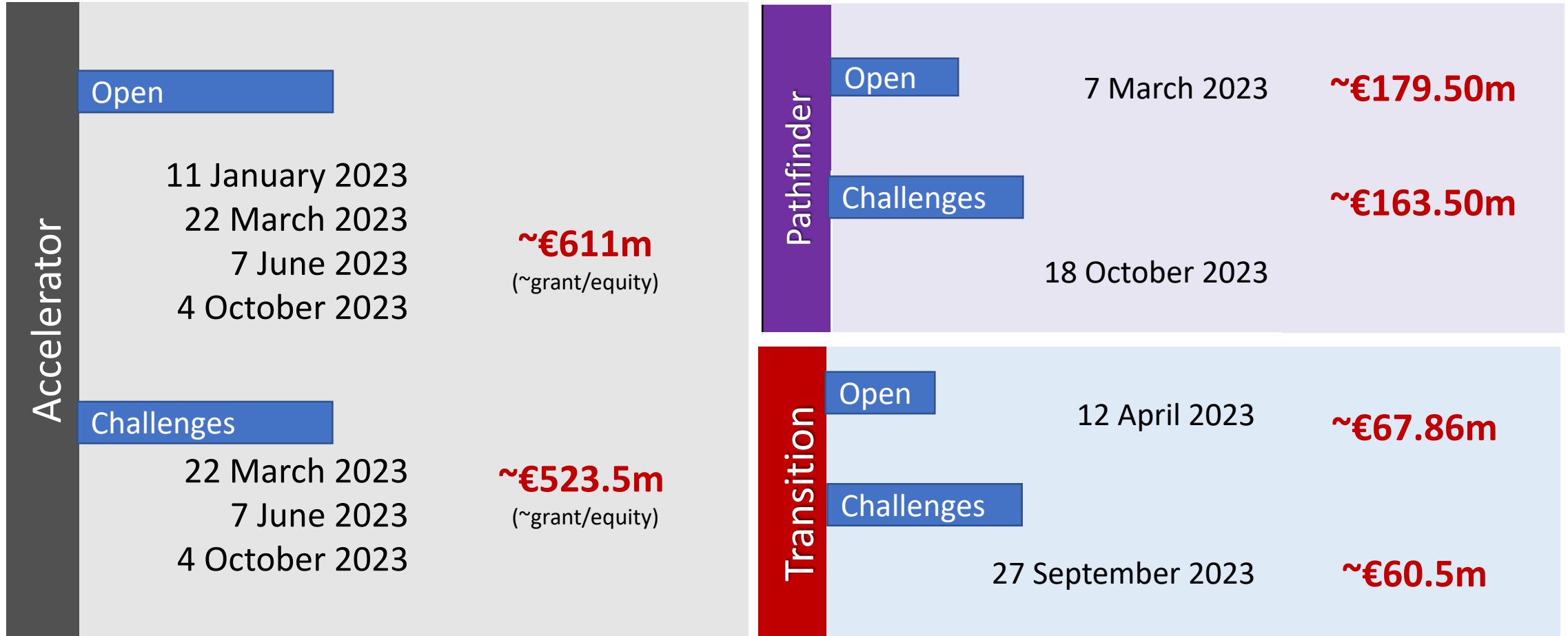


# In 2023 EIC allocates ~€1.6bn to Open and Challenge calls by its Pathfinder, Transition, Accelerator programs





# EIC WP 2023 deadlines and budgets





# Introduction

## Overview

- EIC role in the EU space industry
- WP 2023 Space Challenges
- WP 2023 Methodology for topics selection
- WP 2023 TRL

## Deep-dive

- Background
- Identified GAPs
- “Customer driven” innovative space technologies and services
- EIC Space Portfolio
- Expected outcomes and impacts
- Complementarity to other EU Programmes



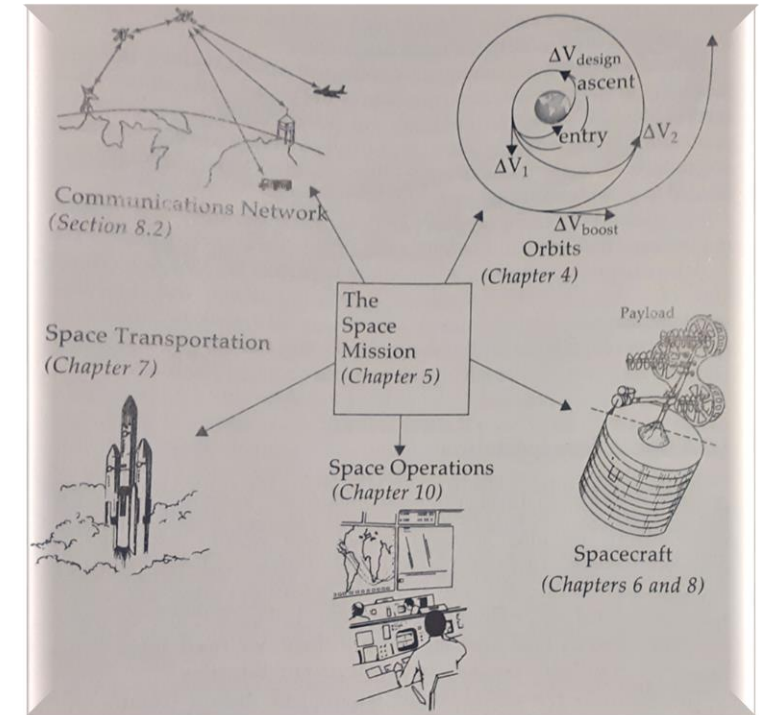
Courtesy: Copernicus - Sentinel 3 A ESA image of Europe  
2017





# EIC role in the EU space industry

- EIC funds game-changing innovations and disruptive/high-risk ideas and supports EU space SMEs & start-ups disruptive innovation, demonstration and commercialization with transversal EIC Pathfinder, Transition and Accelerator programs



Courtesy: ISU, Keys to Space



# What's holding back the European space innovation?

## Innovation **performance**

- **Strong research performance not often translated into commercialisation**

## Innovation **funding**

- Financing gaps (2 “valleys of death”) in
- **Transition** from lab to enterprise
  - **Scaling up** for high-risk innovative start-ups
  - **Limited VC** in EU Newspace SMEs & start-ups

## Innovation **ecosystem**

- Newspace SME & start-ups companies emerging in all EU member states
- Need to **include all EU regions and all talent** (especially female)

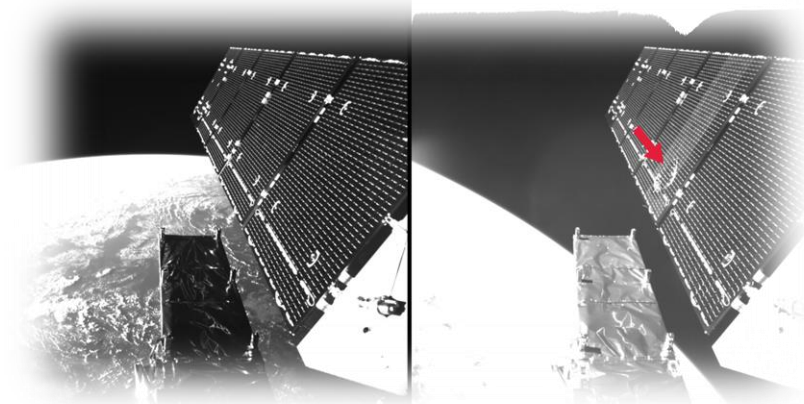
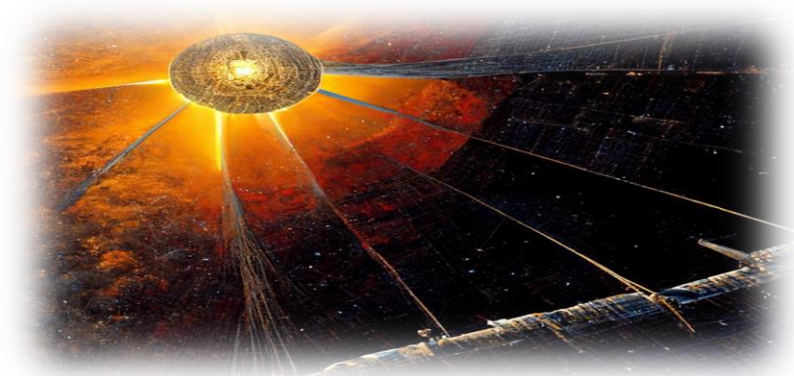
# WP2023 Space Challenges

- **EIC Pathfinder (TRL 1-4)** - In-space solar energy harvesting for innovative space applications

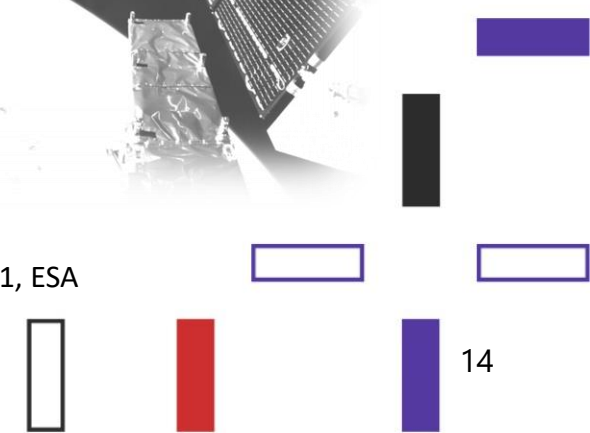
*Preparing for the long term Future*

- **EIC Accelerator (TRL6-9)** - Customer-driven, innovative space technologies and services

*Future market opportunities*

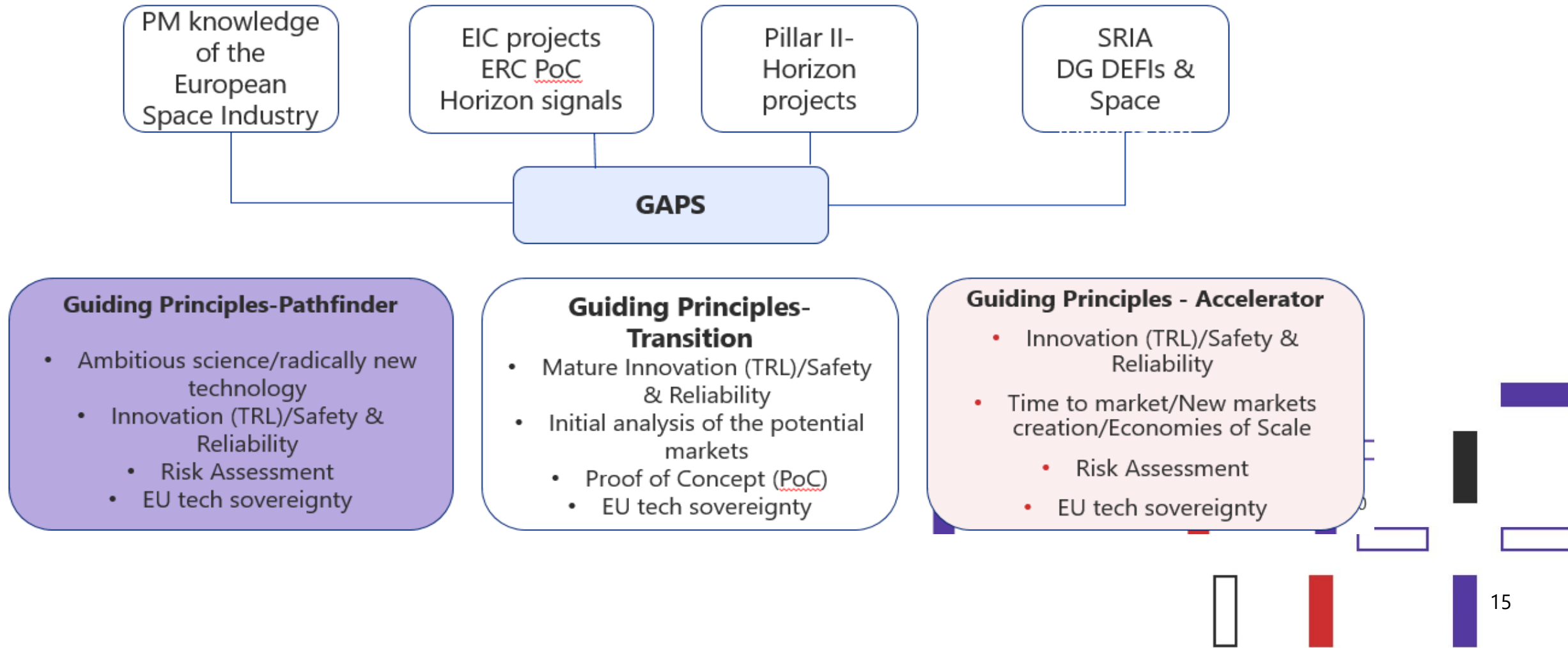


Courtesy: Copernicus - Sentinel 1, ESA



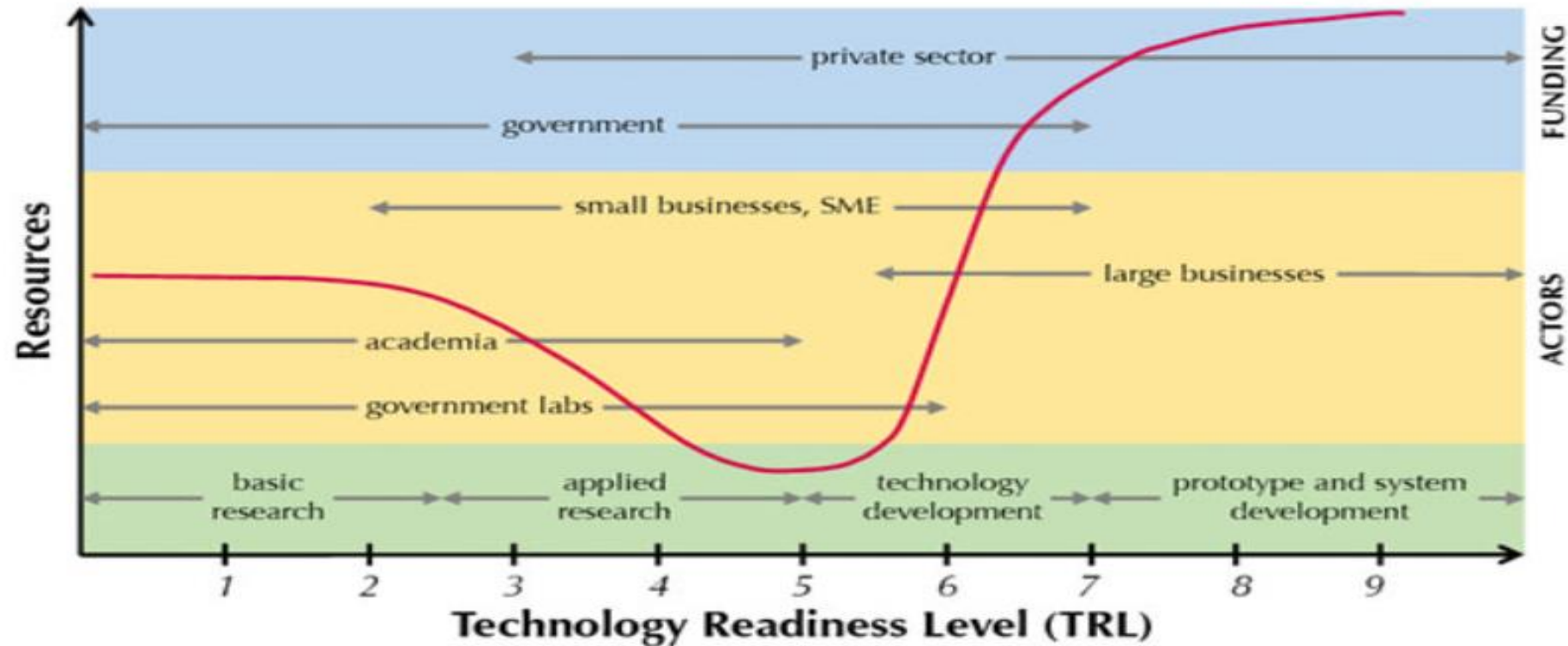


# WP 2023 Methodology for topics selection





# WP 2023 - TRL



Source: Hensen, Jan & Loonen, Roel & Archontiki, Maria & Kanellis, Michalis. (2015). Using building simulation for moving innovations across the "Valley of Death". REHVA Journal. 52. 58-62.

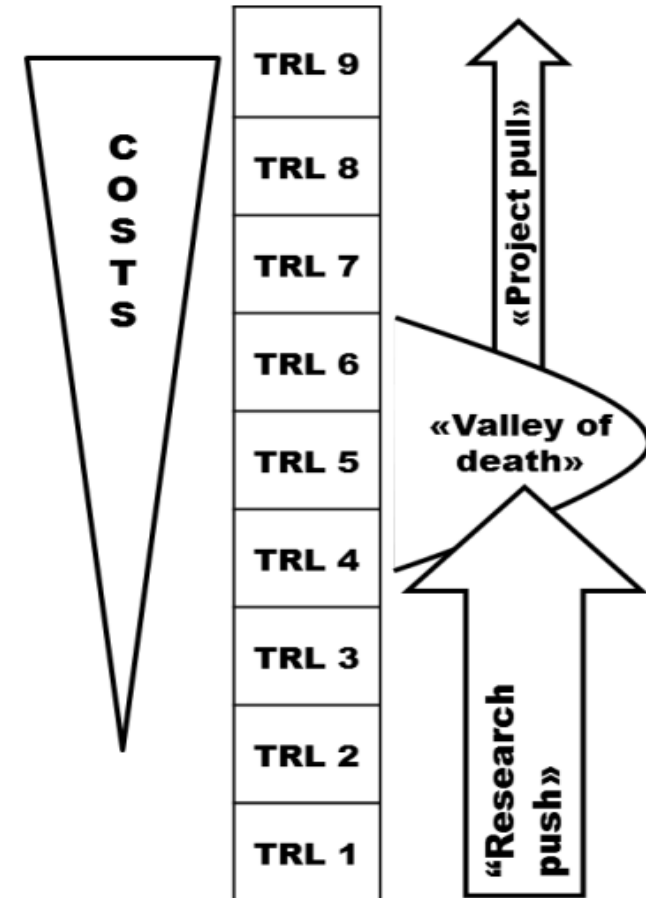
[TRL | EURAXESS \(europa.eu\)](https://euraxess.europa.eu)





# TRL Considerations

- *For EIC Pathfinder and Accelerator projects the **relevant TRL levels are in WP 2023 on page 18***





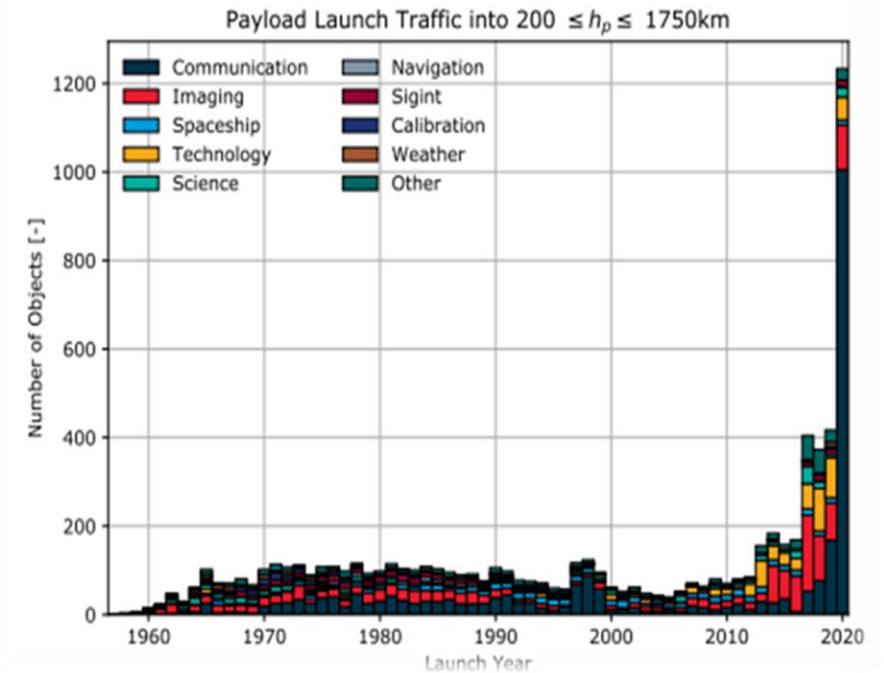
# **EIC Accelerator**

**“Customer Driven” innovative space  
technologies and services**

# Background- Part I



- Increased satellite launches, up to around 5,465 operational satellites in May 2022 (Union Concerned Scientists)
- More than **10 tonnes** of space debris August 2022
- EU approach STM, ESA Zero Debris initiative, JAXA commercial removal of debris demonstration (CRD2)
- ASAT tests in Nov 2021 resulted in the creation of more than 1,500 debris reaching up the 1,100km orbits
- Increased **need** for collision avoidance capabilities, reliable space-based data and unified space traffic management
- Increased **need** for collection, recovering and transforming space debris



Courtesy: ESA



# How do we develop interoperable, scalable, affordable and cost-effective solutions in order to protect EU space infrastructure?

	<u>Rockets launched</u>	6.250	(100%)
	<u>Rockets still in Space</u>	1.990	( 32%)
	<u>Satellites launched</u>	13.630	(100%)
	<u>Satellites functioning</u>	6.600	( 48%)
	<u>Dead Satellites in Space</u>	2.250	( 17%)
	<u>Space objects mass</u>	10.100 tonnes	
	<u>Frangmentation events</u>	630+	
	<u>Debris tracked</u>	32.070	
	<u>Debris &gt;10 cm</u>	36.500	
	<u>Debris 1 -10 cm</u>	1 million	
	<u>Debris 0.1-1cm</u>	130 millions	

*source ESA updated at August 2022*



Courtesy: Slide prepared by Lorenzo Tarabini, E.T.Pack-F project coordinator - EIC Transition

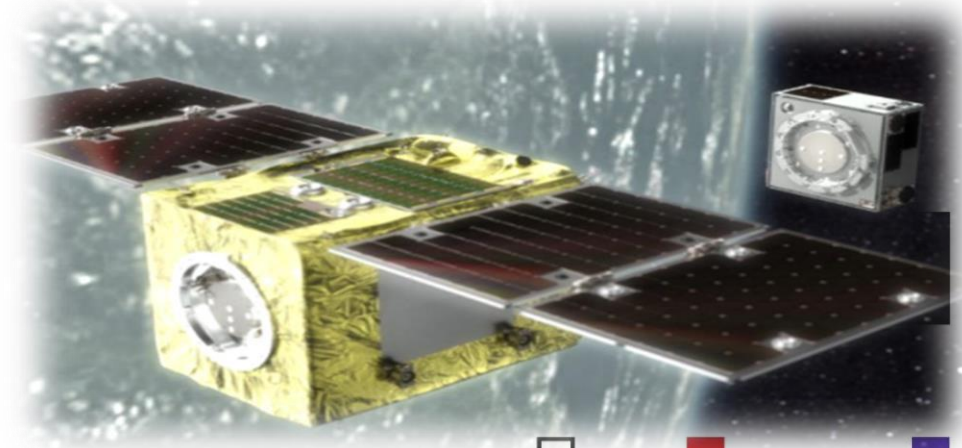


## Background- Part II

- **MEV - 1** and **MEV- 2** successful in orbit servicing missions, resulted into the creation of flight proven life extension services and emergence new IOS markets for GEO satellites
- **ELSA- D** magnetic capturing mission of a demo satellite
- There is an emerging **need** for servicing GEO satellites
- Aging GEO/LEO satellites that need **refueling, repair** or **recycling**. Satellite owners to keep their current **customers**
- **Emergence** of In Orbit Servicing, Active Debris Removal and End-of Life services technology demonstrations



Courtesy: MEV-1 Intelsat's IS-901 in GEO, Northrop Grumman's



Courtesy: ELSA-D in LEO, Astroscale

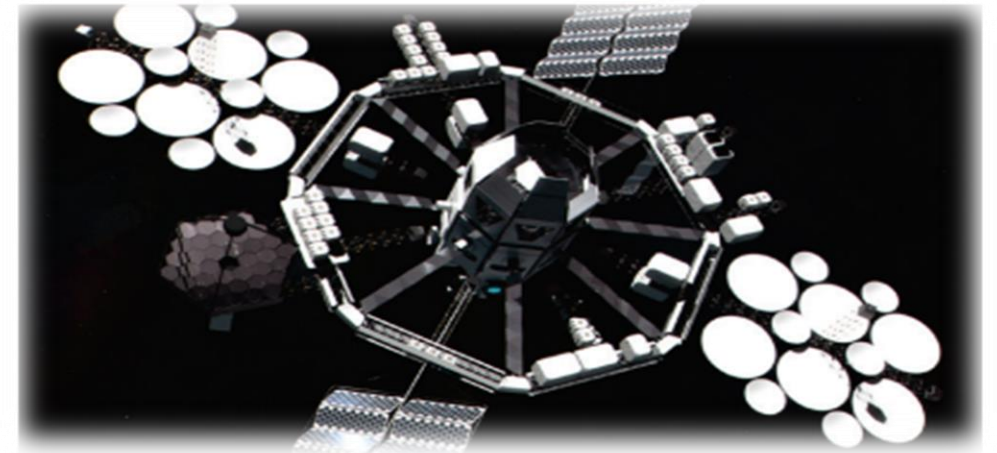
# Background - Part III



- International Space Station expected retirement in 2030
- Commercial space stations- Axiom, Starlab, Orbital Reef
- Unmanned microgravity and robotic platforms – Outposts, Arkysis
- There will be a **need** for access to microgravity environment from European researchers and scientists



Courtesy: ESA



Courtesy: JAXA Robotic platform concept



# Identified GAPS

- The **challenge** is that the **EU lacks user driven** in orbit servicing and **recycling satellite capabilities** and **unified space debris management services**
- Current satellites are built so that they **cannot be easily serviced nor recycled**
- **Need** for increased in-space mobility, payload capacity and cost-efficient propulsion
- **Explosions in orbit**, due to left-over energy- fuel and batteries-onboard spacecraft and rockets is the biggest contributor to the space debris problem (ESA)
- Lack of **in-space debris recycling capabilities**
- Emergence of In Orbit Satellite servicing market is estimated to reach between 4.4 Billion USD (UK IOS strategy) and 6.2 Billion USD (NSR)
- Lack of user-driven, cost-effective and affordable commercial IOS, recycling and recovering capabilities and STM in Europe
- Increased competition from non-EU companies, potential loss of future customer and markets



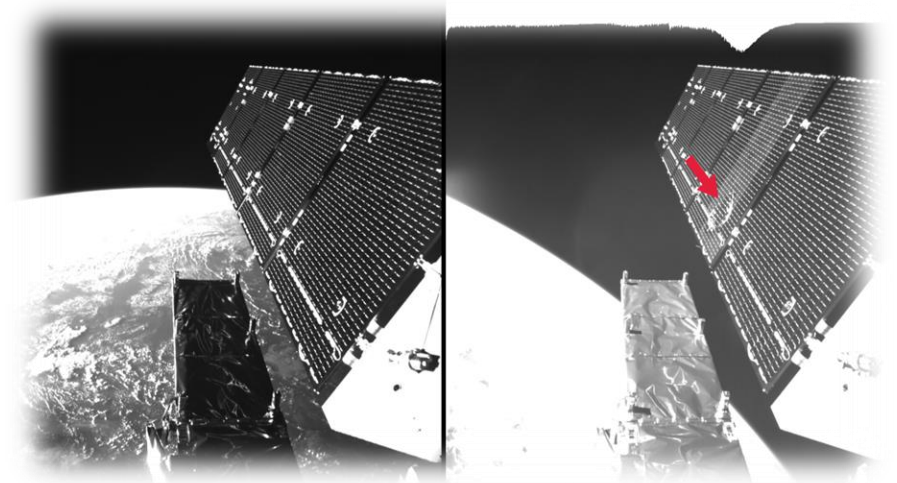
# “Customer driven” innovative technologies and services

## Goal

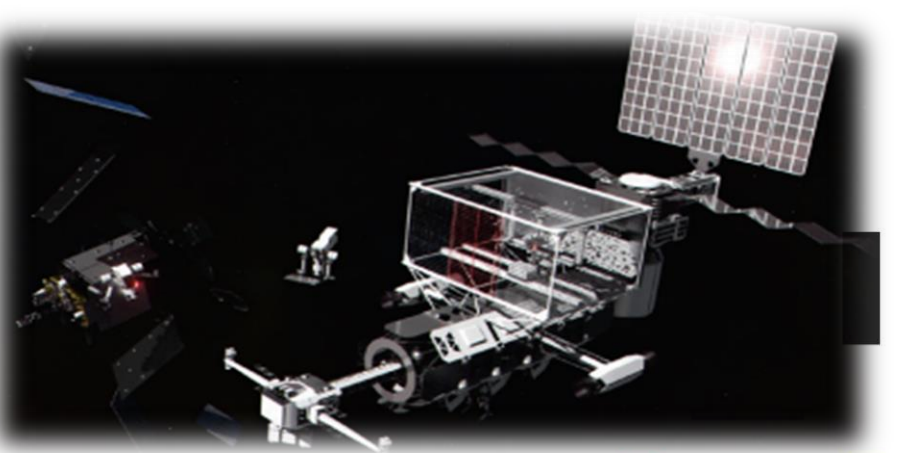
To encourage the emergence of **innovative, interoperable, scalable, and autonomous “customer-driven”** innovative space technologies

## Scope/ specific objectives

- To inspect spacecraft in orbit, to augment satellite capabilities and resilience;
- To develop autonomous and in-space collision avoidance capabilities e.g., use of AI/ML for collision avoidance manoeuvres, space debris positioning data, etc. and develop in-space mobility propulsion capabilities;
- To collect space debris with a view for recycling, recovering and transforming purposes (e.g. microgravity platform).



Courtesy: Copernicus - Sentinel 1, ESA



Courtesy: JAXA Recycling Plant concept image



# “Customer driven” innovative technologies and services

- Some examples of customer-driven = commercial or institutional end users

## Spacecraft Inspection

Tracking, locating & describing s/c,(distance & close inspection)  
Collection of information of s/c anomalies ( e.g. antenna deployment anomalies) and p/l ones  
SSA data for SST and RPO operations, etc.

## Collision avoidance

AI/ML for collision avoidance  
Space debris positioning data for RPO  
On-board processing capabilities for debris detection  
For IOS, ADR, EoL  
Unexpected s/c rescuing activities

## Collect, recover and transform space debris

Space debris collection  
Autonomous Robotic Servicers/Arms/Tools  
S/C or components recycling, recovering & transformation purposes(e.g. mg platforms)  
Space Welding

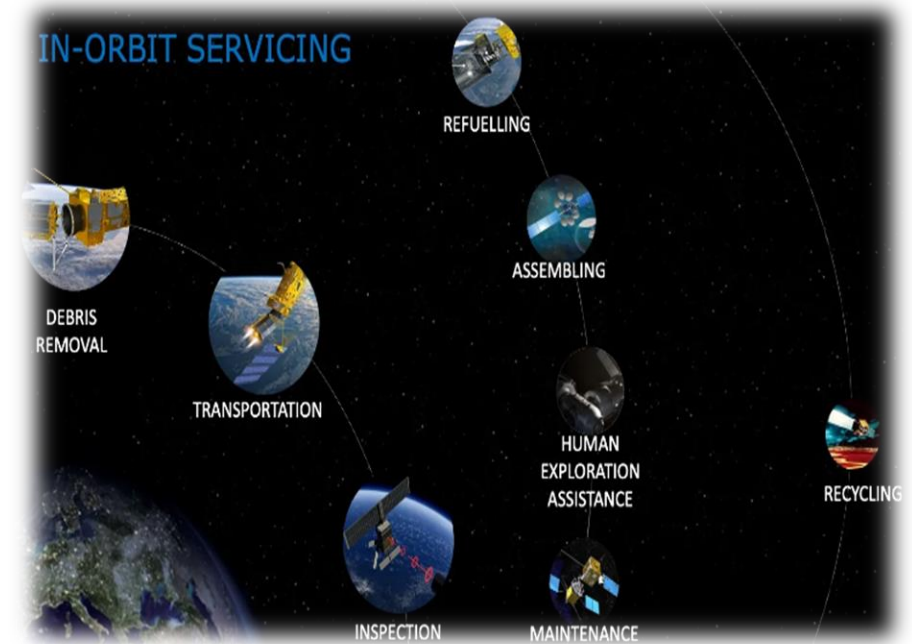




# “Customer driven” innovative technologies and services

## Scope/ specific objectives

- To further mature self-assembly of spacecraft in orbit with different applications (e.g. in-orbit, cis-lunar exploration, Earth observation, space debris inspection, space situational awareness, etc.);
- To design and construct a R&I low Earth orbit unmanned platform assembled in orbit and to host in-orbit microgravity experiments or collect/re-use space debris considering and make use of a sustainable, modular concept for the platform and its operation;
- To scale up disruptive innovations for space situational awareness (SSA), in-space logistics, EO, navigation, SATCOM and others.



Courtesy: ESA



# “Customer driven” innovative technologies and services

- Some examples – In Orbit Servicing (IOS), Active Debris Removal (ADR), End-of-Life (EoL) for cooperative and non-cooperative

In orbit servicing,  
Active debris removal,  
EoL

In-space Assembly &  
Manufacturing

Microgravity platforms

Augment s/c or external p/l  
capabilities & resilience

Refuelling

Orbit raising

In-space docking

P/L, antenna's, components  
replacement or repair

Robotic servicing with  
modular, interoperable or  
scalable parts

Modular payloads

Satellite upgrade

Self-assembly with  
smallsats, cubesats, etc.

GNC capabilities

Modular satellites  
assembly

Multi-material  
manufacturing

Materials separation

Design & construct LEO  
unmanned robotic  
platform

Self-assembled  
autonomous platform

To host internal/external  
p/l

To service smallsats or  
even cubesats

To collect re-use space  
debris



# Expected outcomes and impacts

## Expected Outcomes

- EU servicing and re-use/recover capability for servicing EU space infrastructure, while contributing to the management and reduction of space debris;
- Timely and cost-effective in orbit satellite servicing (IOS), ADR, EOL and Space Traffic Management services
- Innovative propulsion solutions for in-space mobility of spacecraft
- Innovative technologies for space transportation, EO, navigation, SATCOM, space science, SSA

## Expected impacts

- **Research impacts** – EU to be able to inspect, protect and service its spacecraft and develop EU servicing and re-use/recycling capability for servicing EU space infrastructure and contribute to the reduction and management of space debris
- **Innovation impacts** – breakthrough innovations resulting in cost-savings due to the re-use or recycling of components or propellant cost-savings for satellite owners, maturation of scientific and technological solutions for IOS and re-use/recycling of old satellites, “plug-play” satellite modules, affordable modular satellites, innovative propulsion for space tugs, common interfaces standards, simplified maintenance of aging satellites
- **Economic impacts** – EU companies will generate new contracts from new markets, cost-savings for satellite owners, affordable and cost-effective on orbit satellite servicing technologies in benefit for the EU space economy. The new creation of an **innovative in-space servicing (IISS)** industry will result in economic and market spillover effects.
- **Competitiveness impacts** - increased competitiveness of EU space industry for On Orbit Assembly and Manufacturing (OSAM)



# EIC Space Portfolio after selection of proposals

SP 1: Spacecraft  
Inspection

SP2: Collision  
avoidance

SP3: Collect, recover  
and transform space  
debris

SP4: In orbit servicing,  
Active debris removal,  
EoL

SP5: In-space Assembly  
& Manufacturing

SP6: Microgravity  
platforms



# Complementarity to other EU Programmes

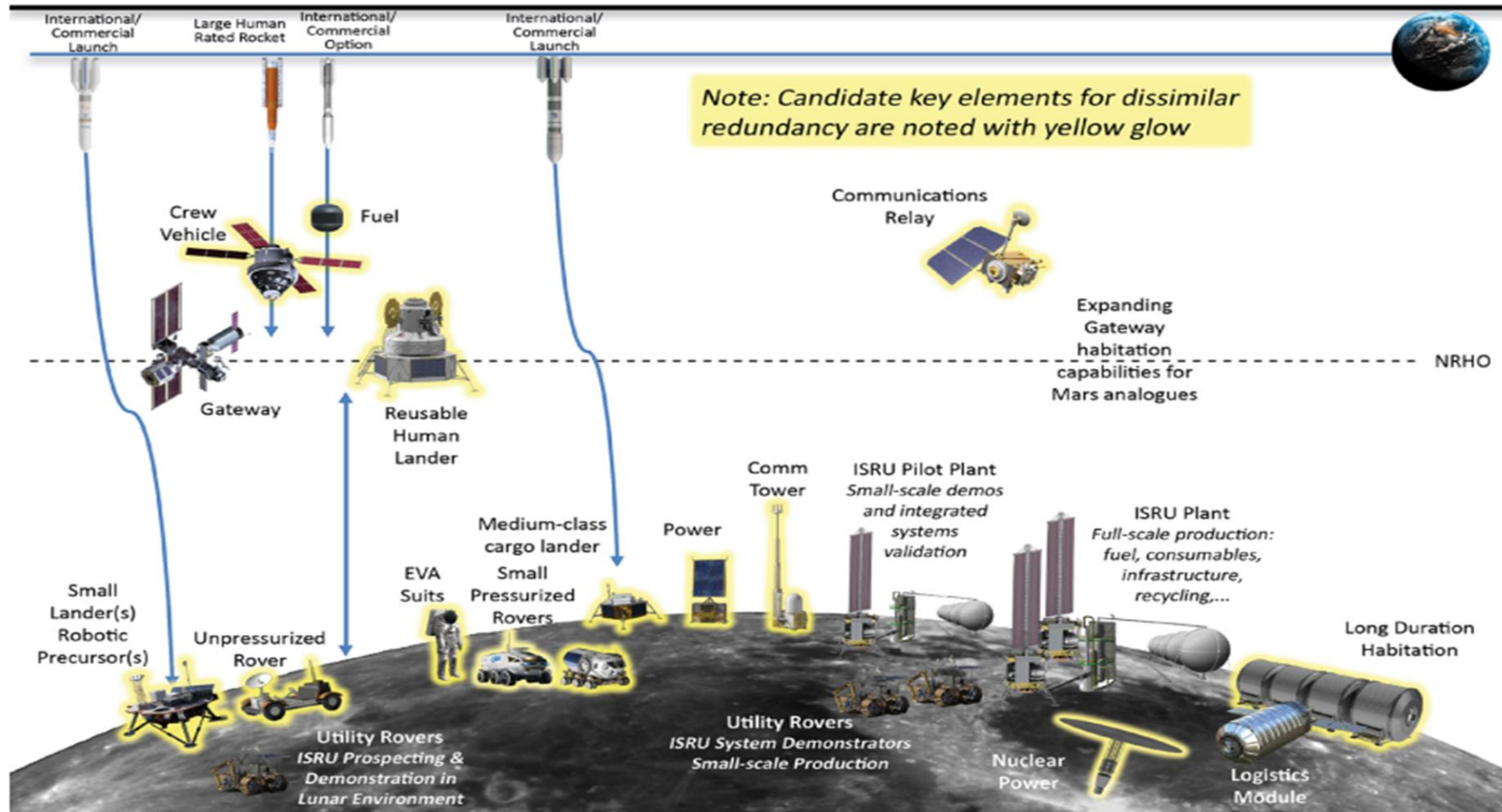
- Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) for EU Space R&I and contribute to the EU Future Space Ecosystem (FSE) Roadmap
- EU Approach to Space Traffic Management and EU SST Partnership activities
- EU In-Orbit Demonstration and Validation initiative (IOD/IOV) – EIC Accelerator companies will have fast track access and opportunity to fly their h/w under the EU IOD/IOV Horizon Europe, Cluster 4



Courtesy: NASA On-Orbit Satellite Servicing Study

# Wrap-up

## ■ Long term future



Courtesy: International Space Exploration Coordination Group, Global Exploration Roadmap