

**EUROPEAN
DEFENCE FUND
&
EUROPEAN DEFENCE
INNOVATION SCHEME**

Erno VANDEWEERT

Deputy Head of Unit

DEFIS A.4

EDF Implementation

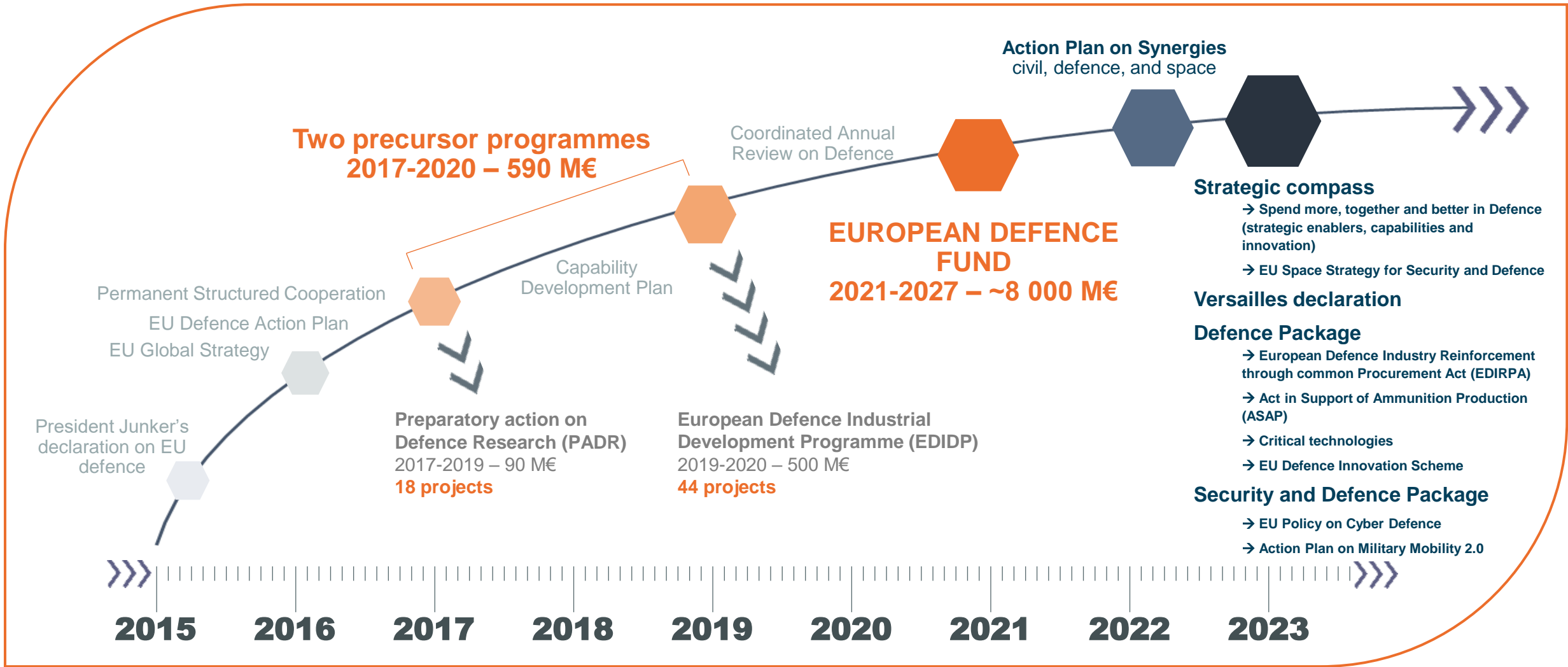
—

Defence Systems

Brussels, 21 February 2024

Ramping-up EU's collaborative approach to defence capability building

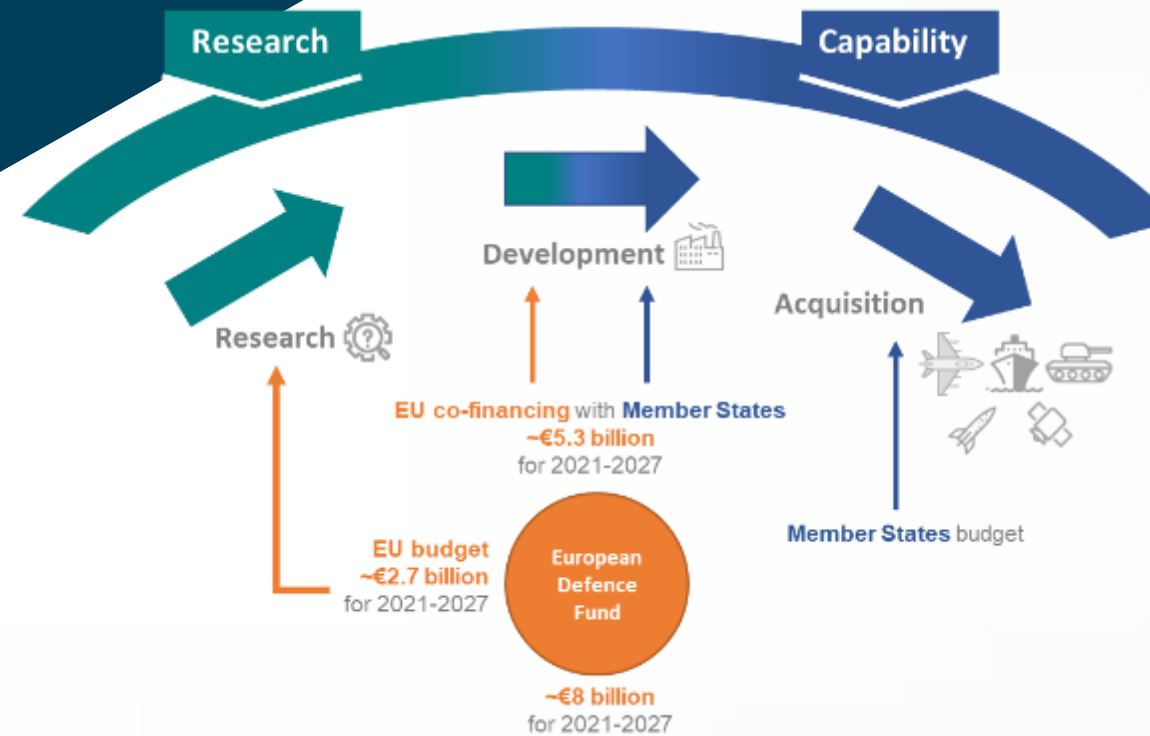
20
24



European Defence Fund

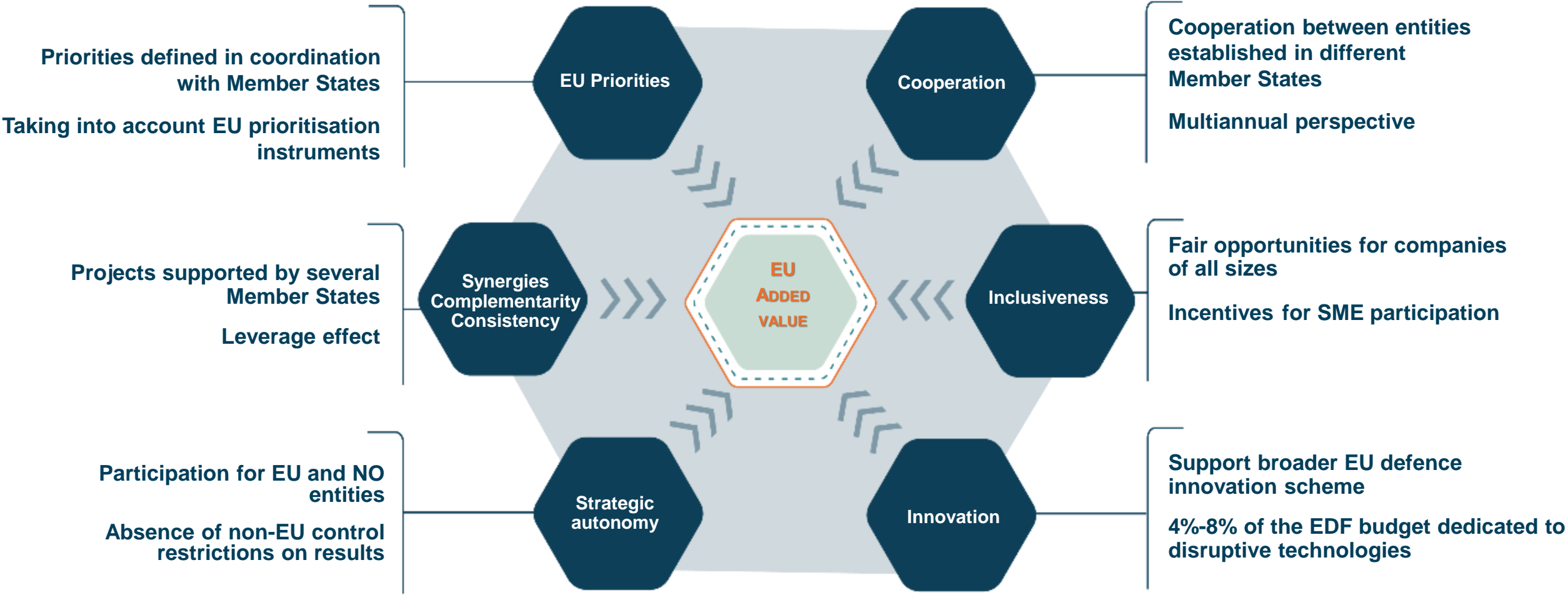
European Defence Fund : The EU defence R&D programme

20
24



- EDF financial support mainly in the form of grants
- Open to EU Member States and Norway
- Security-based participation conditions for entities controlled by third-countries

General Principles governing implementation



EDF: key enabler in larger EU eco-system

20
24

- EDF annual Work programmes **informed by:**
 - **Strategic Compass:** critical capability gaps
 - **Capability Development Plan (CDP):** consistency with commonly agreed priorities
 - **Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD):** opportunities for collaborative R&D
 - **Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) projects**
 - **Synergies and complementarity** with other EU programmes
- EDF programming **informed by MS/NO co-financing & planning**, including regarding their NATO commitments (synergies and complementarity)



EDF implementation

20
24

After the implementation of the first 2 annual Work Programmes:

- **High EU investment: €2 billion**
- **101 projects**
- **Large coverage: 19% EU funding to SMEs**
- **Real cooperative and multinational dimension: in average, 20 entities from 8 MS and Norway are involved in an EDF funded defence R&D project**

EDF 2021



€1.2 billion

60 projects selected

142 proposals submitted

692 entities from 26 MS + NO
43% SMEs

1092 participations
34% from SMEs

18.4% of overall budget
allocated to SMEs

EDF 2022



€0.8 billion

41 projects selected

134 proposals submitted

550 entities from 26 MS + NO
39% SMEs

887 participations
30% from SMEs

19.8% of overall budget
allocated to SMEs

EDF 2023



~ €1.2 billion

34 call topics

238 proposals submitted

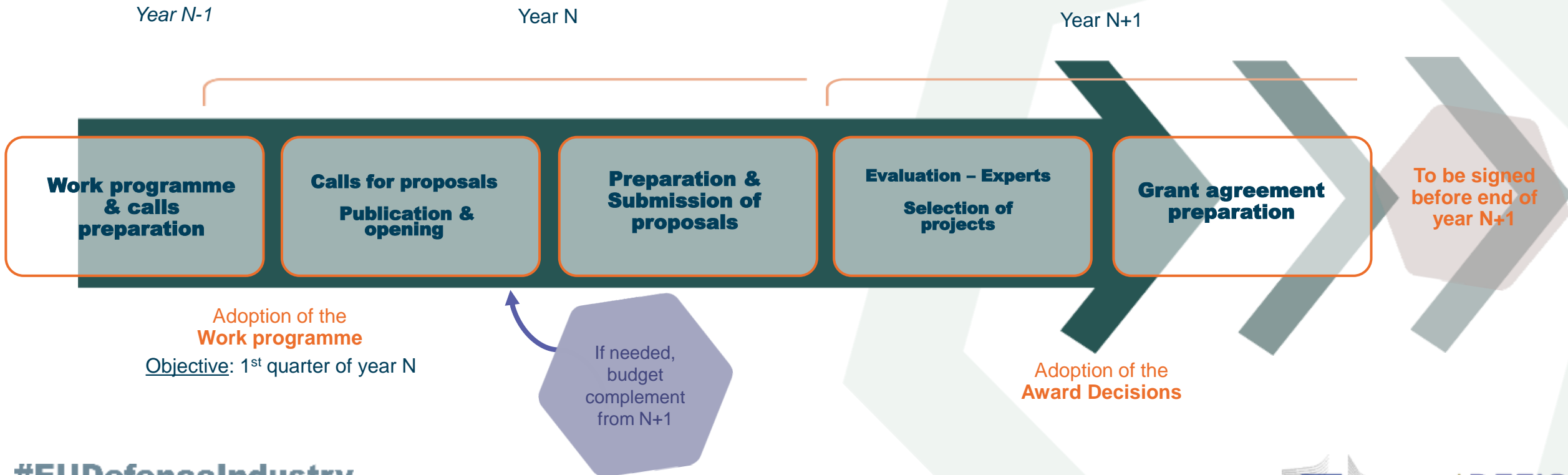
Evaluations
currently ongoing

EDF Life-cycle

20
24

Annual work programmes and calls for proposals + indicative **multiannual perspective**

Member States (“EDF Programme Committee”) to validate the annual **work programme (WP)** and the **selection of projects (awards)** to be funded following the calls for proposals



Eligible actions

- Consortium of at least 3 entities established in at least 3 different Member States or Norway.
- Background and generated foreground **IP** shall **not be subject to any control or restriction** by non-EU countries/entities

Activities:



Research actions: applied/fundamental research, exclusive focus on defence applications - <i>low TRL (up to 4/5)</i>								
100%	100%	100%	100%					
Development actions: defence oriented development (new/upgrade products/technologies) - <i>higher TRL (5-8)</i>								
Baseline:	65%	90%	65%	20%	45%	70%	70%	65%
@max bonus:	100%	100%	100%	55%	80%	80%	80%	100%

← **upstream** Support of at least two MS/NO (LoI, ICR, co-funding) is required **downstream** →

Indirect costs: 25% flat rate or cost accounting of actual indirect costs

Boni: (≤ 35% bonus): PESCO (10%), (cross-border) participation of SMEs, (cross-border) participation of SMEs

The bonus system: development actions

Condition for application	Value of the bonus*
PESCO Bonus	
Action developed in context of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)	+10% for all activities in the action
'Mid-cap' bonus	
% eligible costs allocated to 'Midcaps' established in the EU (and NO) \geq 15%	+10% for the activity
SME Bonus	
% eligible costs allocated to 'SMEs' established in the EU (and NO) \geq 10%	% of eligible costs allocated to ' non cross-border SMEs ' established in the EU and NO (maximum 5%) + 2 x % of eligible costs allocated to ' cross-border SMEs ' established in the EU and NO

Bonus system to **incentivise participation of SMEs and mid-caps**

* Overall bonus capped to 35%

EDF CATEGORIES OF ACTIONS

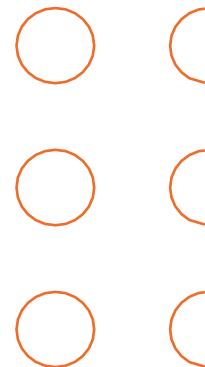
Addressed by annual work programmes & calls for proposals

2024



-  **Medical response, CBRN & human factors**
-  **Information superiority**
-  **Sensors**
-  **Cyber**
-  **Space**
-  **Digital transformation**
-  **Energy resilience & environmental transition**
-  **Materials and components**

-  **Air combat**
-  **Air and Missile defence**
-  **Ground combat**
-  **Force protection and mobility**
-  **Naval combat**
-  **Underwater warfare**
-  **Simulation and training**



Horizontal categories

 **Disruptive technologies**

 **Innovative defence technologies (SMEs)**



EDF Work Programme 2023

EUR 1.18 billion

2024

34 topics

Published 13 April 2023

Submission Deadline: 22 November 2023

 Medical Response & CBRN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federated CBRN systems 15 M€ 1st SGA under FPA on medical countermeasures 25 M€ 	 Air combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart technologies for next generation fighter systems 30 M€ Self-protection systems 33 M€
 Information superiority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laser communications 17 M€ Tactical RPAS 42 M€ Detect and avoid 40 M€ 	 Air & missile defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counter-UAS 43 M€ Endo-atmospheric interceptor (dual sourcing/direct award) 80 M€
 Sensors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electromagnetic signal propagation 22 M€ Optronics detector 20 M€ Sensor grid 27 M€ 	 Ground combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main battle tank technologies 20 M€ Long range indirect fire support 27 M€
 Cyber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automation of security penetration tests (spin-in) 14 M€ Cyber situational awareness 20 M€ Deployable Autonomous AI Agent 26 M€ 	 Protection & Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defeating unexploded explosive ordnances and IEDs 25 M€ Strategic air transport for outsized cargo 20 M€
 Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threats surveillance and protection of space assets 25 M€ Space situational awareness 100 M€ 	 Naval combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modular and multirole patrol corvette 154.5 M€
 Digital transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated hardware architectures for energy-efficient AI 20 M€ Human language technologies (challenge, 2 topics) 25 M€ 	 Underwater warfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unmanned anti-submarine and seabed warfare 45 M€ Mine countermeasures 45 M€
 Energy & Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovative propulsion systems (spin-in) 25 M€ 	 Disruptive technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laser-based directed-energy weapons 25 M€ Non-thematic research 16 M€
 Materials & Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-performance materials (spin-in) 20 M€ Maintenance, joining and repair (cross-border defence innovation network) 30 M€ 	 SMEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-thematic research for SMEs and ROs 36 M€ Non-thematic development for SMEs 36 M€
		 Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External expertise, audits, IT, indirect management 8.5 M€ Business coaching for SMEs 1.2 M€ Blending facility for equity funding for SMEs/Mid-Caps 20 M€ EDF hackathon events 0.6 M€

#EUDefenceIndustry

Legend: **Research** **Development** **EUDIS-related**

12

EDF 2023 Calls - Indicative timeline

2024

22 June 2023

22 November 2023

June 2024

Q4 2024

Nov./Dec. 2024

Opening of EDF 2023 on the Funding & Tender Portal

Final submission deadline for EDF 2023 calls

Information to applicants on evaluations results

Signature of Grants Agreements with awarded proposals/consortia

Projects Implementation

1- Grant Agreement Preparation

2- GA signature

3- Project management

4- End of the project

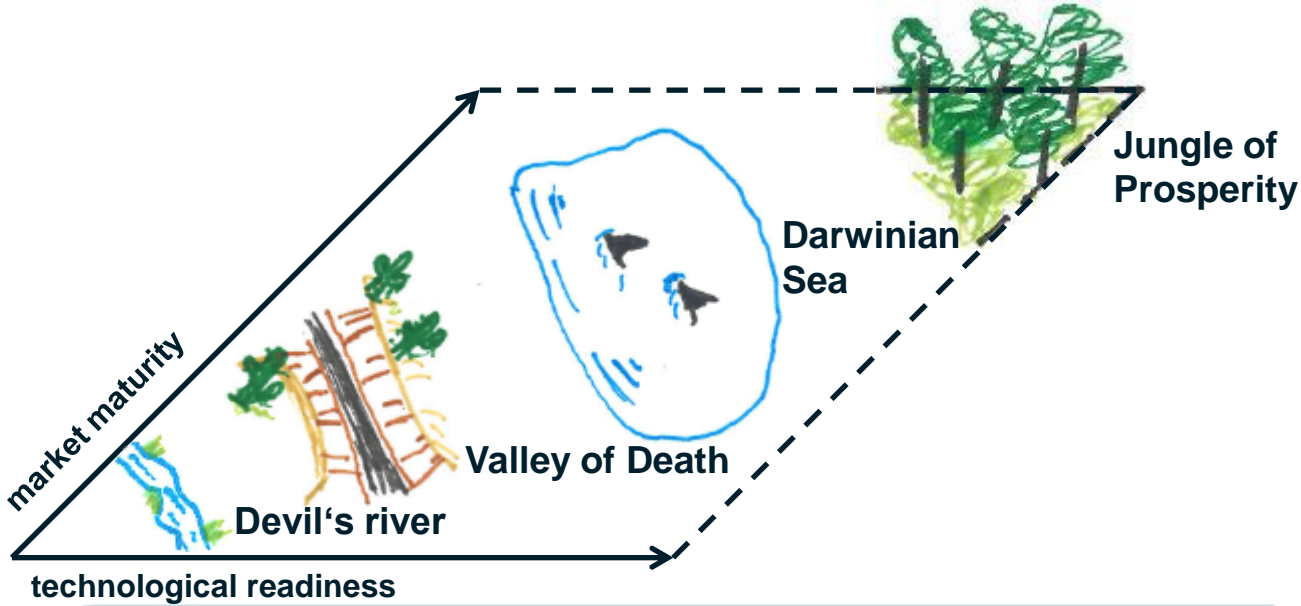
Establishment of the Security Framework

European Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS)

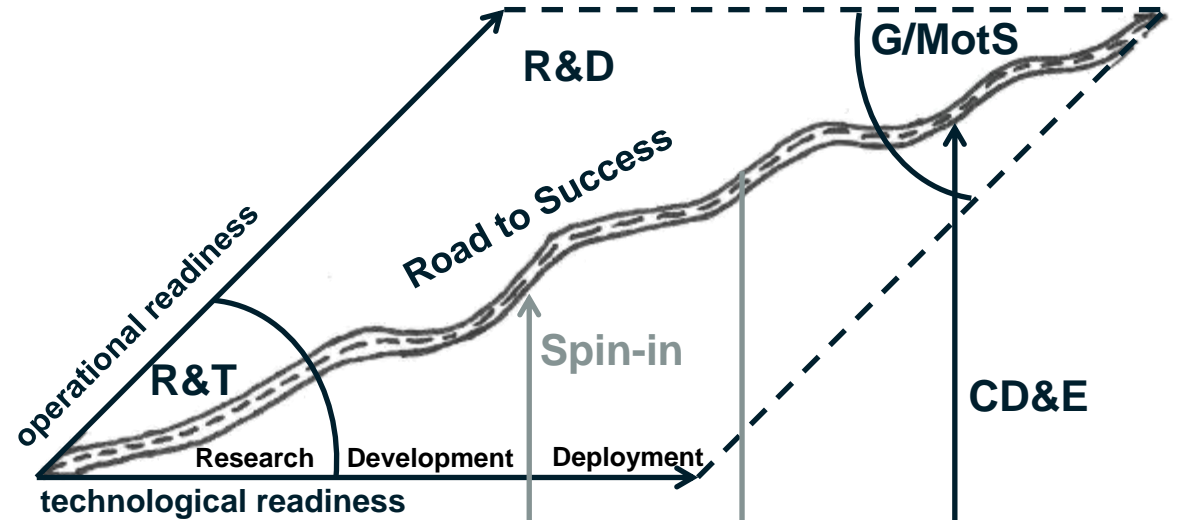
European Defence Innovation Scheme

2024

Any sector



Defence sector



CD&E

CotS

Spin-out

Civil sectors

European Defence Innovation Scheme:

- provides five tailor innovation tracks, including access to finance
- covers two dimensions (technology & market)
- based upon extended pipeline model (research → prototype)
- funds the full innovation spectrum (research → commercialization)
- is non-sequential
- is an combination of specifically designed calls for proposals and specific support services procured by COM

#EUDefenceIndustry

market maturity

technological readiness

15



FIVE EUDIS INNOVATION TRACKS



CHALLENGE YOUR IDEA

- Technological challenge
- Hackathons



TEST & ACCELERATE YOUR INNOVATION

- Innovation test hub



MIGRATE YOUR INNOVATION FROM CIVIL TO DEFENCE

- Spin-in calls



EMPOWER SMEs

- Open SME R&D calls
- Disruptive technologies research calls
- Matchmaking
- Business coaching for grant receivers



IMPTOVE ACCESS TO FINANCE

- Proposed Defence Equity Facility under InvestEU

**Also
good
to
know**

Call for experts: profile (1/2)

20
24

Experts assist the Commission in the assessment of the proposals submitted to the EDF 2023 calls
Expertise in **technical areas, ethics** or in **financial assessment** of defence related activities



CBRN medical countermeasures
CBRN detection



Aircraft configurations
Air Traffic Management



Unmanned systems
Manned-Unmanned teaming



C4ISR
Signal transmission



AI and its evaluation
Databases



Missile defence
warheads



Sonar, radar, optical ...
Data fusion



Synthetic fuels
Batteries



Collaborative
Combat



Cyber defence
Exercises and trainings



Electronics manufacturing
Advanced materials



Protection
Soldier systems



Shipbuilding
Naval architecture



Camouflage



Electronic warfare
Command posts

...

Call for experts: profile (2/2)

20
24



Call for experts: registration

20
24

At any time:

Register or update your **profile** in the EU experts database with relevant **fixed and free text keywords**

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>

Send an email with your CV + registration number to **ec-edf-experts@ec.europa.eu**

More information on our website under 'Funding and Grants' > 'Space and Defence related funding'

https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/calls-tenders/defence-industry-call-experts-assist-european-commission-evaluation-proposals-submitted-funding_en

The screenshot shows the 'Funding & tender opportunities' page on the European Commission website. The page is titled 'Work as an expert' and provides information about the process of becoming an external expert. It includes a video thumbnail titled 'Being an expert for the European Commission', a list of tasks such as 'Evaluation of proposals, prize applications and tenders' and 'Preparation, implementation and evaluation of EU programmes and design of policies', and a 'Register as expert' button. The page also features a 'News' section with a headline 'Horizon Europe: key changes to the Ethics Appraisal Process' and a 'Quick Links' section at the bottom.

EDF National Focal Points – a network for YOU

20
24

»»» Nominated by Member States and Norway

»»» Supported by national structures under their responsibility/control

»»» Inspired by National Contact Points in Horizon Europe

Main tasks

- Provide practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in EDF
- Organise awareness raising events
- Help with partner search
- Signpost to relevant national/EU sources

»»» **Find your EDF National Focal Point**

Through our website under

EU Defence Policy > Network of European Defence Fund National Focal Points (NFP)

https://ec.europa.eu/defence-industry-space/network-european-defence-fund-national-focal-points-nfp-0_en

How to search for partners?

20
24

Partner search tool on the Funding & Tender portal

- Register and request/offer expertise to your topics of interest (EDF topics are under “Horizon Europe” programme)



EDF Info Days brokerage / matchmaking organised on 28-29 May 2024

- B2B platform remains open

Network of EDF National Focal Points (NFP)

- Contact details of your national contact point(s) on the web site!

Other platforms

- Enterprise Europe Network
- European Defence Agency B2B platform
- European Network of Defence related Regions (ENDR)

Useful links

20
24

- [General information on the EDF on DG DEFIS website](#)
(including EDF annual work programmes and multiannual perspective, and selected projects)
- [EDF Calls for proposals on the *Funding and Tenders portal*](#) (where and how to apply)
- [EDF Reference documents on the *Funding and Tenders portal*](#)
(Regulation, conditions to apply, submission templates, model grant agreements, etc.)
- [European Defence Innovation Scheme](#)
- [National Focal Points Network](#)
- [Call for Experts](#)
- [Act in Support of Ammunition Production \(ASAP\)](#)

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

This document has been prepared by the Commission services. It cannot be understood as representing the Commission's position on these issues and does not bind the Commission in any way.