



EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY

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WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO



Intergovernmental Agency
of the Council of the European Union



Established in 2004
Based in Brussels

DESIGNED TO BE

1

Main intergovernmental
prioritisation instrument
at EU level in support of
defence capability
development

2

Preferred
cooperation forum
for technology and
capability development

3

military interface
between Member States
and EU wider policies

EDA AT A GLANCE

Steered by Member States, for Member States



EDA Steering Board
27 Defence Ministers

chaired by



Josep Borrell
Head of Agency, HR/VP



Chief Executive EDA
Jiří Šedivý



+180 staff

Connected with 2,500
experts in Member States



27 Member States

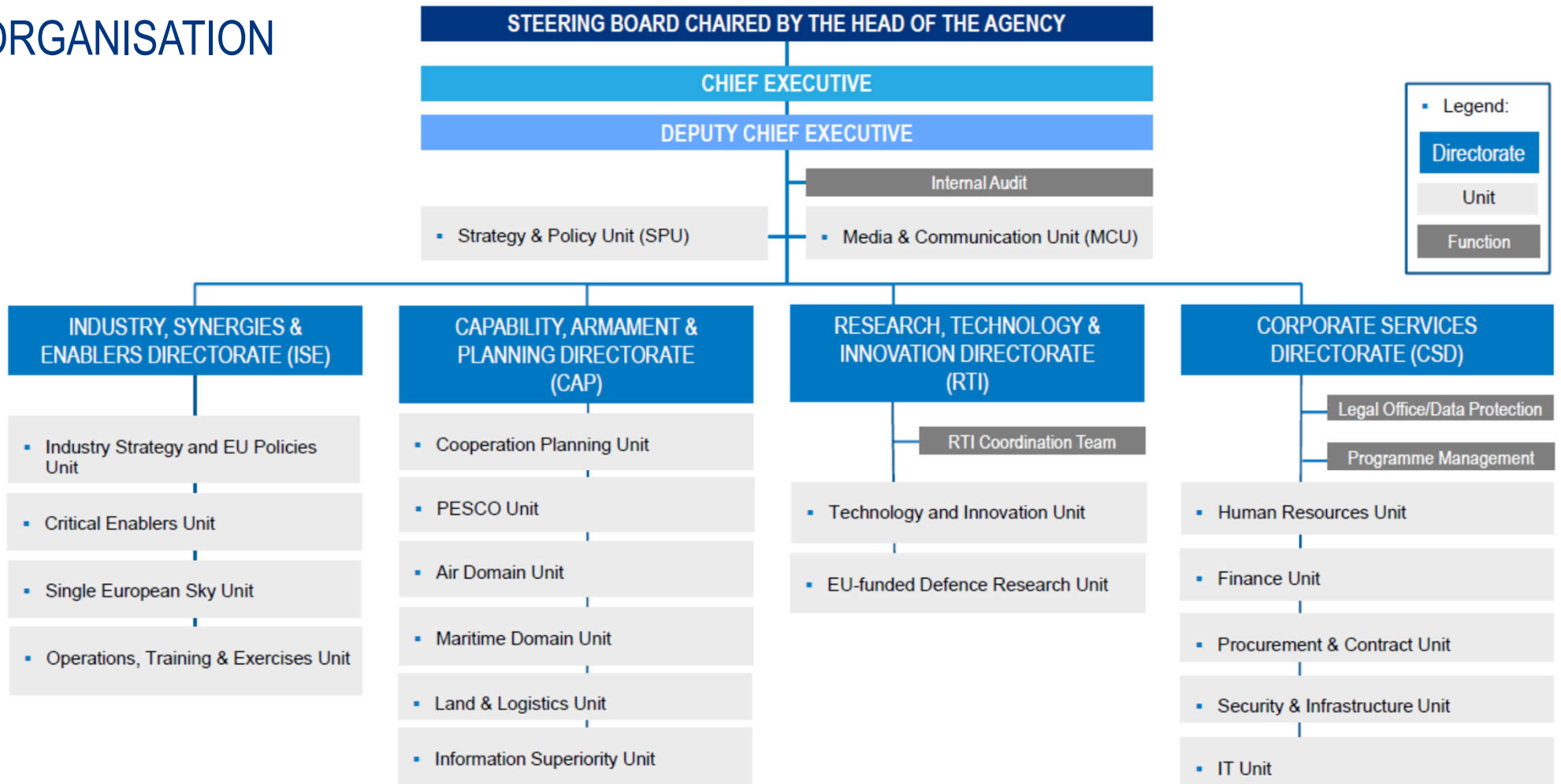
(All EU Member States)



Administrative Arrangements

with Norway, Serbia,
Switzerland and Ukraine

ORGANISATION



RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY

- ▶ EDA promotes, facilitates and manages Research and Technology activities in 15 technology domains (CapTechs), in order to **develop knowledge and technologies needed for future defence capabilities.**

R&T MANAGEMENT TOOLS:

- ▶ Identification of technologies - **Technology Watch and Foresight**
- ▶ Technology assessment and prioritisation:
 - **Strategic Research Agendas (SRA)**
 - **Overarching Strategic Research Agenda (OSRA)**
 - **Technology Building Blocks (TBBs) Roadmaps**

R&T CONTRACTING TOOLS:

- ▶ EDA studies from EDA operational budget (OB)
- ▶ Cat B projects funded by Member States, Bottom up initiatives (Opt In)
- ▶ Cat A programmes funded by Member States, Top down steering (Opt Out)
- ▶ Adapted mechanisms

WHAT ARE CAPTECHS?





HEDI

Hub for EU Defence Innovation



The path leading to the establishment of the hub

HEDI has been established against the backdrop of a degrading security environment and in a world where defence innovation is again front and centre in the global competition restructuring the international balance of power.

The **Foreign Affairs Council** (conclusions of May 2021) calls for a reinforcement of EDA's role in fostering defence innovation.

In the **Strategic Compass** the establishment of the Hub for EU Defence Innovation in EDA is identified as a key step to boost defence technological innovation and fill strategic gaps.

"Less than two months after the adoption of the EU's Strategic Compass, we deliver on one of the Compass' main priorities by establishing the European Defence Agency's Defence Innovation Hub"
HR/VP Josep Borrell, Head of EDA

The **EDA budget** for 2023 will rise 15% compared to 2022, following approval by Defence Ministers at the Steering Board. An important part of the increased budget is set to be invested by EDA in innovation through the Agency's **Hub for Defence Innovation (HEDI)**.



17 MAY 2022
Hub for EU Defence Innovation Established within EDA



15 NOVEMBER 2022
A new budget for a new era: EU Defence Ministers approve EDA budget increase

May '21

March '22

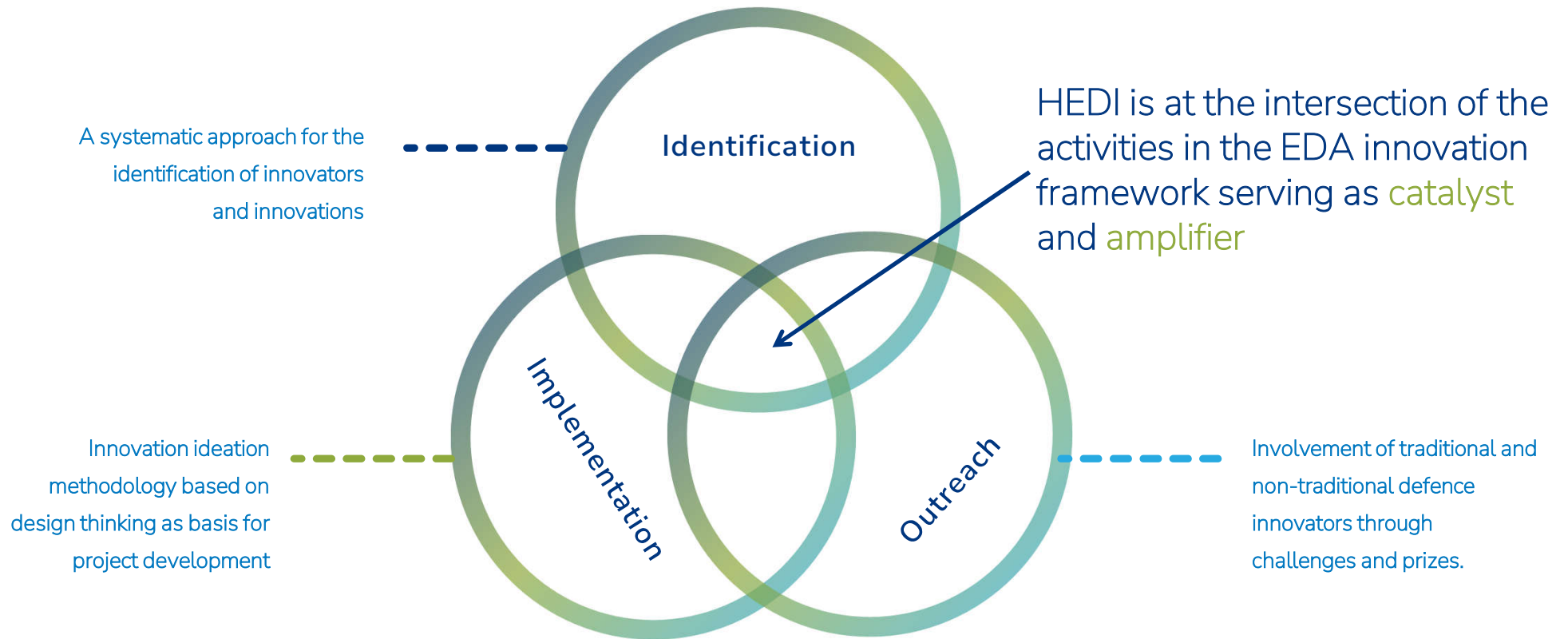
May '22

November '22



EDA Innovation framework

Create added value for military capabilities



A systematic approach for the identification of innovators and innovations

Identification

HEDI is at the intersection of the activities in the EDA innovation framework serving as **catalyst** and **amplifier**

Innovation ideation methodology based on design thinking as basis for project development

Implementation

Outreach

Involvement of traditional and non-traditional defence innovators through challenges and prizes.

Initial portfolio of the EDA Defence Innovation Hub



Common Picture

Exchange best practices, create networks and harmonize awareness on critical EDTs.

EDA Innovation prize(s)

Upscale to several innovation prizes and/or hackathons.



Innovation challenges

Organize and manage innovation challenges for and with partners. For instance, with the European Commission.

Proof-of-concept/demonstrators

Bring technology to higher TRL for the most promising solutions



European Defence Innovation Days



Organize every two years a two days event to showcase, connect and inspire.

Uptake of innovation

Involve end-users from capability planning and national armaments domains to ensure a smoother uptake of innovation



DEPLOYMENT OF THE HUB ACTIVITIES (1/3)

Milestones from January to June 2023

EDA Defence Innovation Prize 2023

15 February 2023: Launch of the prize campaign

15 June 2023: Deadline for submissions

December 2023 EDA Annual Conference: award ceremony in Brussels

Topic 1: *Innovative solutions and technologies for immersive training, battlefield situational awareness and other defence applications.*

Topic 2: *Innovative solutions and technologies for implementing Zero Trust Architecture in tactical defence communication and information systems.*

EDA Research, Technology and Innovation Papers Award

1st edition – 20 papers received

Balanced mix of **academia, RTOs, and industries**

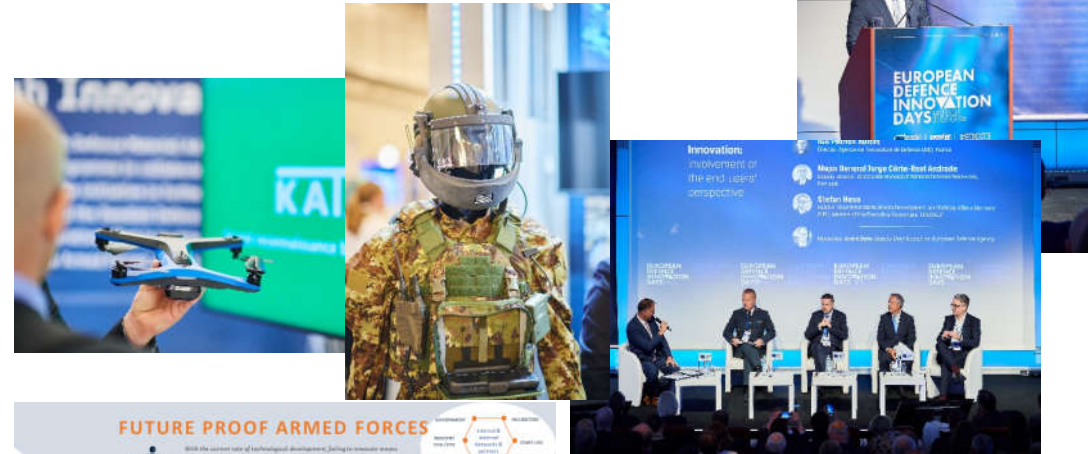
3 winners announced at the EDID23 – pitched research in front of audience

DEPLOYMENT OF THE HUB ACTIVITIES (2/3)

Milestones from January to June 2023

European Defence Innovation Days

2nd edition – 500 participants – 52 stands
 Exhibition focused on MS stands, start-ups, SMEs
Break-out rooms for technical presentation and pitches

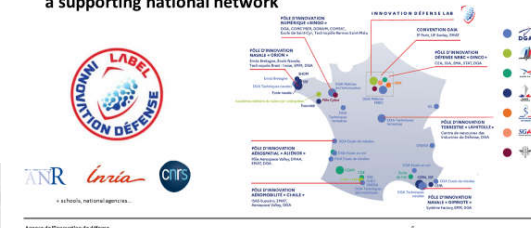


European Defence Innovation Network

3 meetings since its kick-off
 Information sharing on MS ecosystems, LI and LL
20 June and 30 August workshops on defence innovation on the base of dual-use technologies.
Next steps: develop the network to create multinational innovation projects.



Manage and federate a supporting national network



DEPLOYMENT OF THE HUB ACTIVITIES (3/3)

Milestones from January to June 2023

Proof of concept

The domain selected for the proof of concept for 2023 is **Space**

Innovative VLEO satellite system for defence applications

Space has a wide and active community in Europe with a significant dual-use character. It is included in the EDTs and identified as a key area for EU strategic autonomy.

Potential game changing benefits of the VLEO:

- performance and value for money, enhanced spatial resolution
- greater flexibility of operation
- reduced latency & detectability,
- reduced cost of launching & operation,

Faster procurement approach, allowing multiple solutions to be funded

Tender is ongoing



THANK YOU

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