

# Integrated Research Infrastructures' initiatives in support to food quality and safety and sustainability of agrifood systems

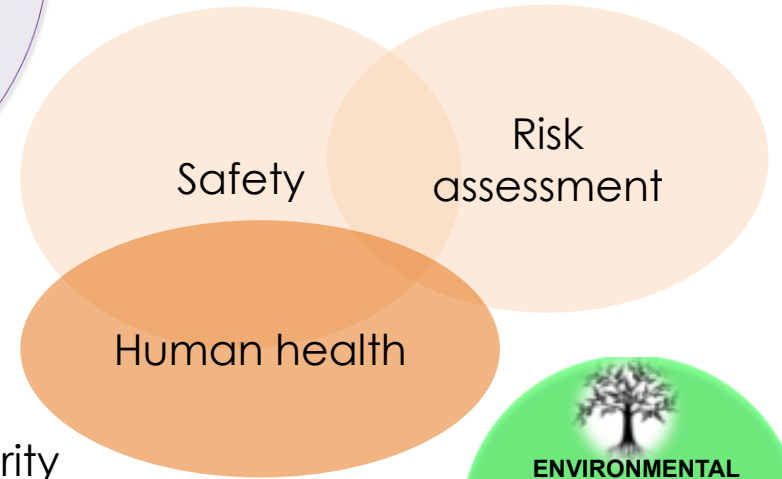
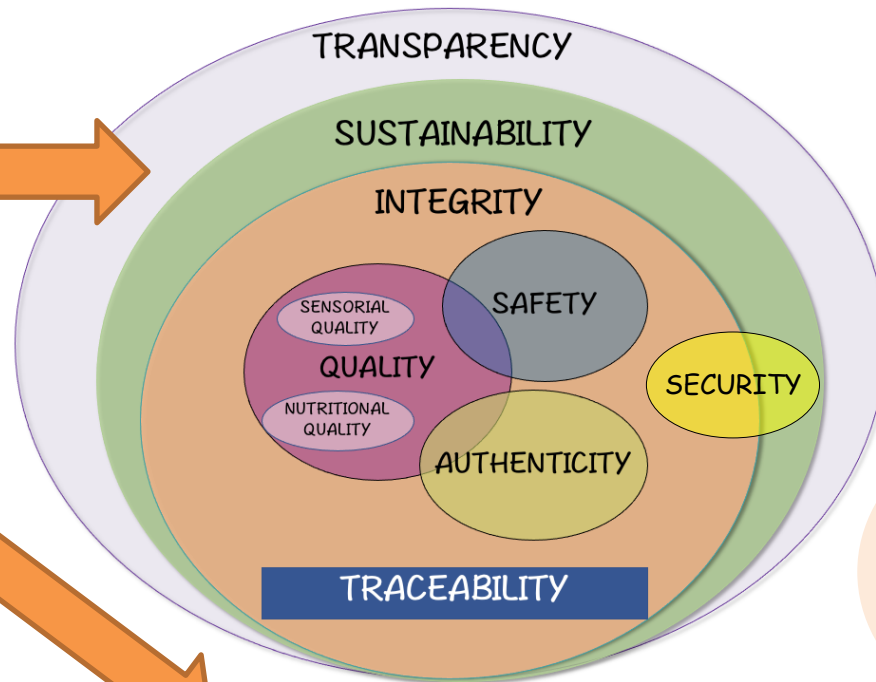
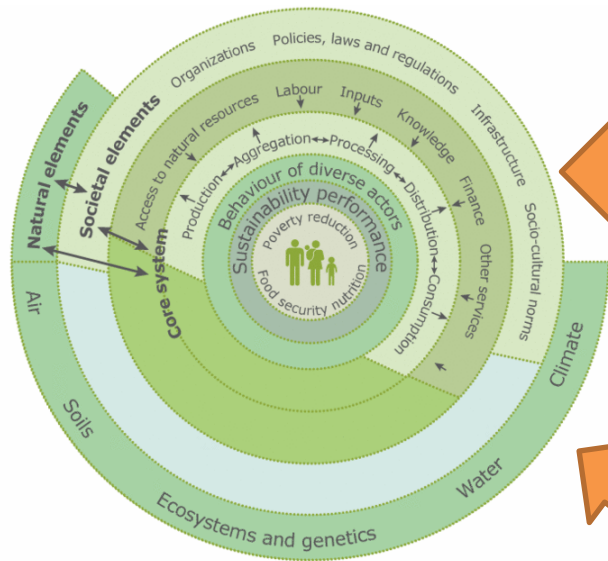
**Claudia Zoani**



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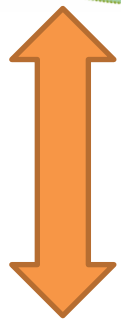
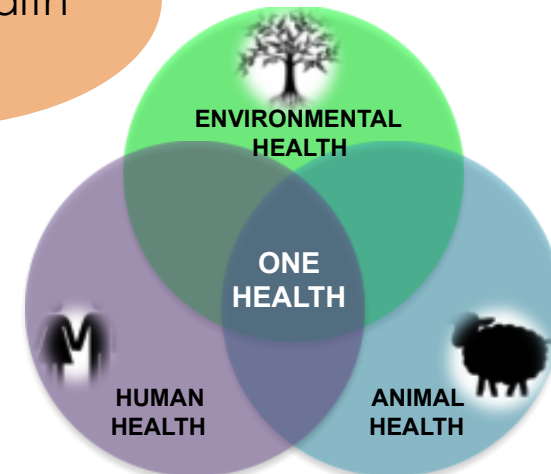
# Agrifood systems' challenges



Security

Sustainability

Sovereignty



Capacity to preserve the system in the long-run



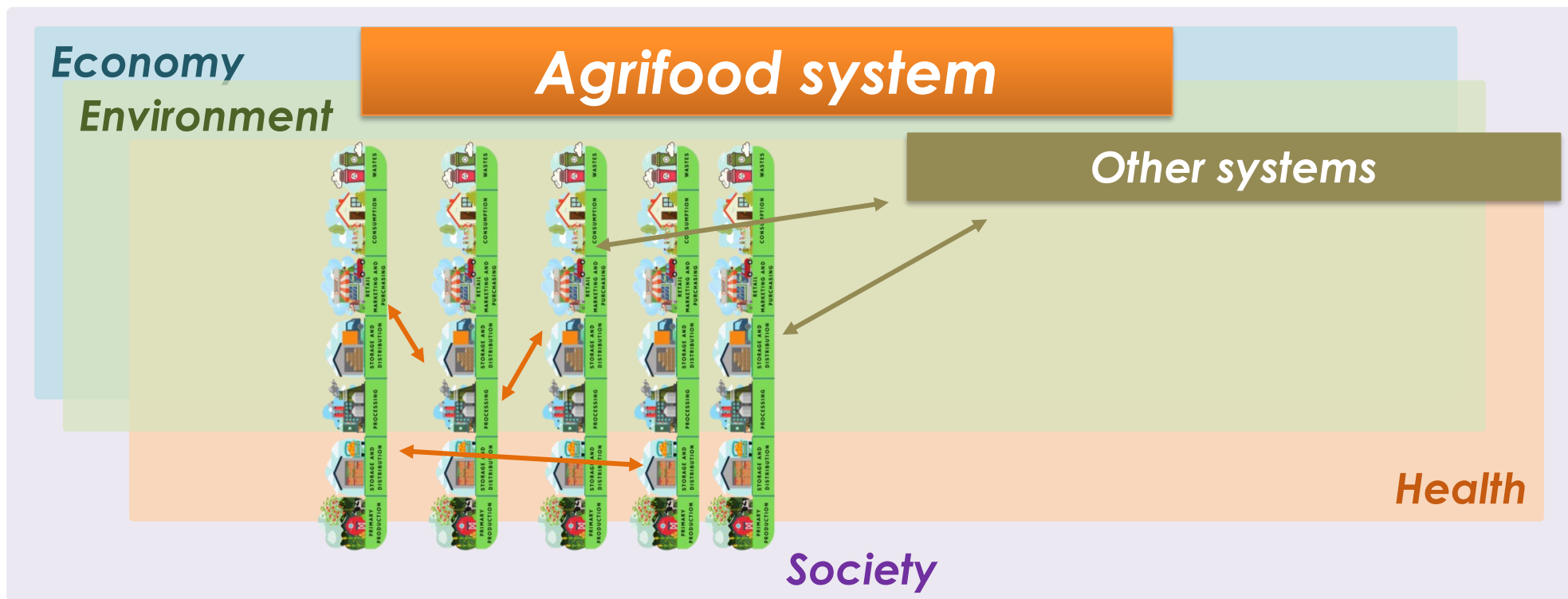
**SUSTAINABILITY**

**RESILIENCE**



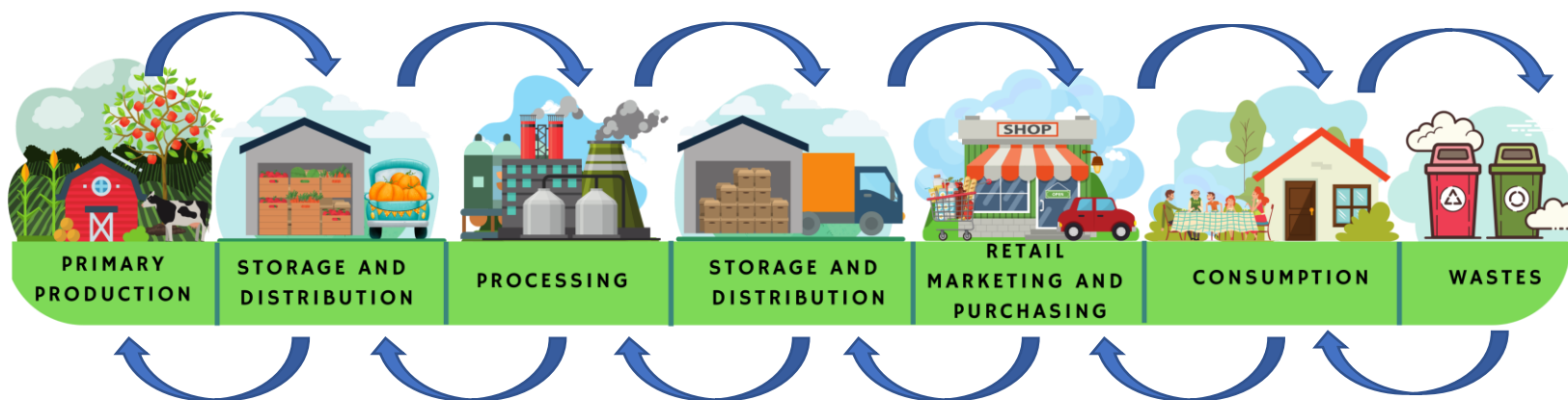
Capacity over time in face of disturbances

# The “multiple” levels of agrifood systems



- Global
- European
- Regional
- National
- Local

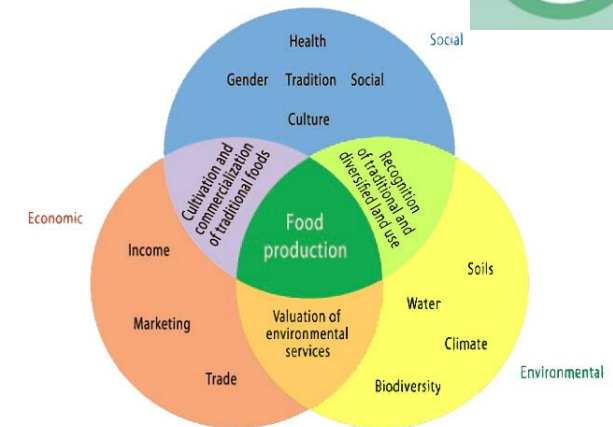
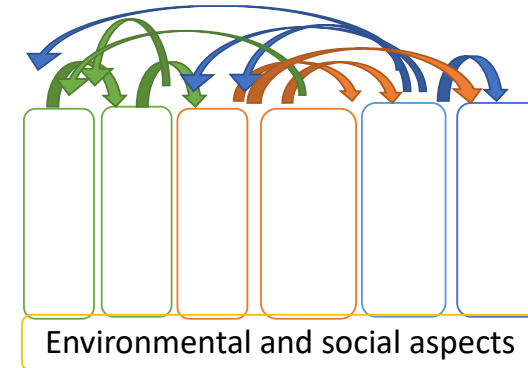
- Social groups
- Households
- Individual



# Where to focus on

- Environmental safety, climate changes and impacts on food safety, environmental impact of agrifood productions, sustainable management of territories
- Development of sustainable agrifood systems & **agroecological transition towards a sustainable and resilient agriculture**
- Improve food safety, food defense, food quality and production processes' control systems
- Application of **new technologies** and effects on quality, safety & health; innovative **packaging** – sustainable, active and intelligent
- **Side streams and by-products** valorisation and **food losses** reduction; valorisation, traceability and re-use of **food surplus**
- **Transparency of agrifood productions**
- **Adoption of healthier and more sustainable diets**

- **Development of new analytical methods; systems for early detections, in situ and in line measurements**
- **Promotion of harmonisation and standardisation**
- **Digitalisation** of agroindustrial systems, **big data** handling & **FAIR approach**, integrated application of **ICT systems** (smart sensors, IoT, Blockchain, AI, 5G, ...)
- Application of **inter- e trans-disciplinary approaches, citizen sciences and co-creation**



Food production at the center of agroecology ([Agroecology - Community Food Forests](#))

- ✓ Policy makers, ministries and local authorities
- ✓ Inspection & control system
- ✓ Health system
- ✓ Researchers
- ✓ Producers
- ✓ Consumers/Citizens



# The role of Research Infrastructures



part of a **connected ecosystem** forming a unique resource for advanced research and interdisciplinary analysis of complex scientific problems

DATA, COMPUTING & DIGITAL RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

ENERGY

ENVIRONMENT

HEALTH & FOOD

PHYSICAL SCIENCES & ENGINEERING

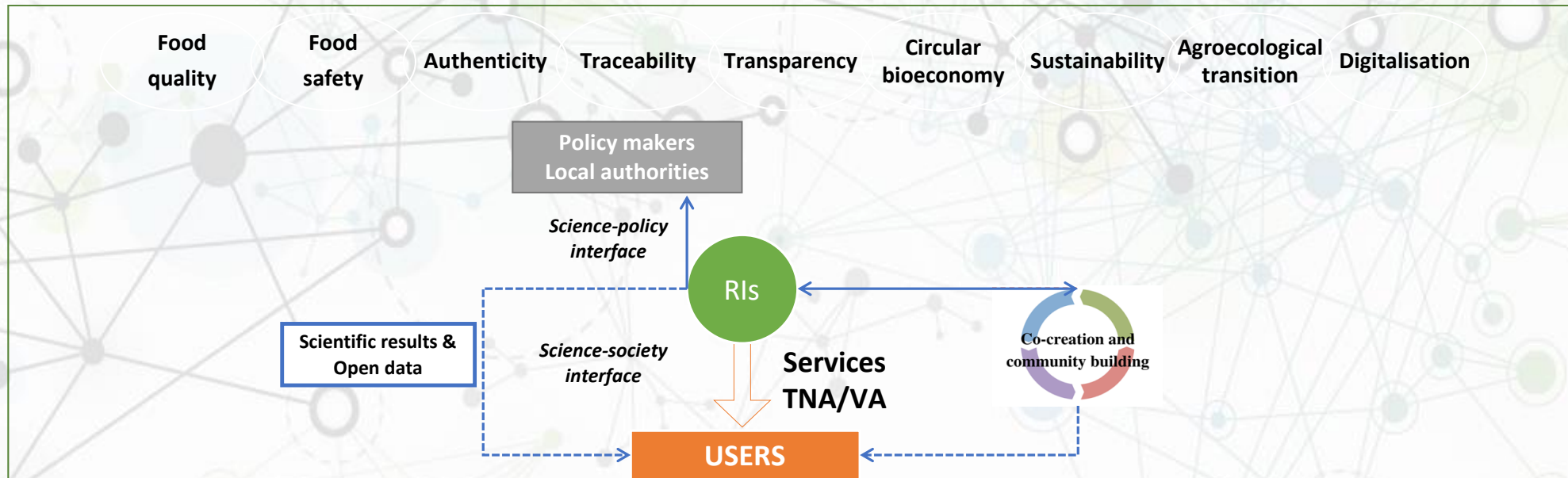
SOCIAL & CULTURAL INNOVATION

Service-oriented organisation

Innovation-oriented approach

Long-Term Sustainability

<https://roadmap2021.esfri.eu/>



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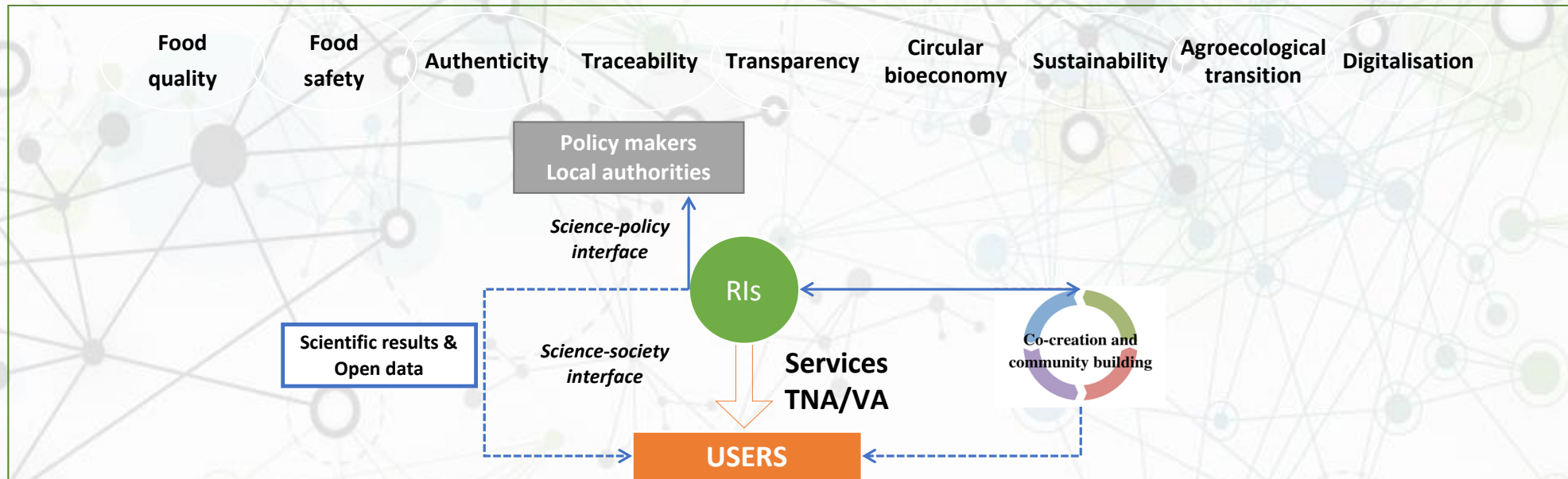
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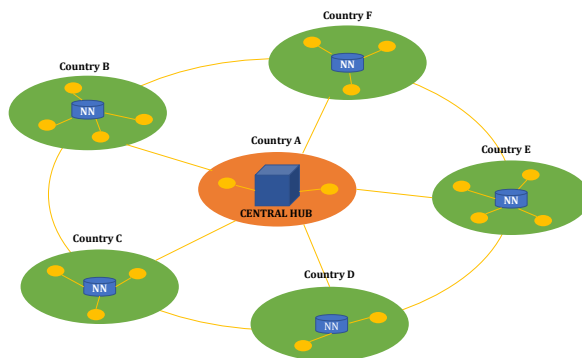


Research Infrastructures (RIs) have the capacity to provide resources and services for research communities on a long-term basis, making the RIs well positioned in addressing societal challenges



**HIGH-LEVEL METROLOGY SERVICES IN FOOD AND NUTRITION FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF FOOD QUALITY AND SAFETY**

**MISSION**



- IT
- BE
- CH
- CZ
- DE
- ES
- FI
- FR
- GR
- HU
- MD
- MK
- NL
- NO
- PT
- RO
- SI
- TR





# Physical-RI

# e-RI



## Metro

## Food

## Software development

## Data collection

## Data analysis

## Management of Interlaboratory tests

## Diffusion and Training

Plants and Labs for RM development

Analytical Labs.

Experimental fields/farms

Facilities for food processing and storage

development of new databases

Integration of existing databases

graphical interfaces development

database maintenance and updating

- Reference Materials
- Official and Reference Methods
- Reference Laboratories
- Vocabularies, Guidelines and procedures
- PTs Providers
- Food composition
- Contaminants in food
- Food markers
- Characteristics of production areas and technologies
- Food consumption



- RM Preparation
- Stability and homogeneity studies

- Sampling, pretreatment and storage
- Food composition and characterization
- Inorganic contaminants
- Organic contaminants
- Chemical and biological markers and profiles
- Microbiological analysis
- Development of sensors and devices
- Environmental Analysis
- Testing (rheological, leaching, etc.)
- Other

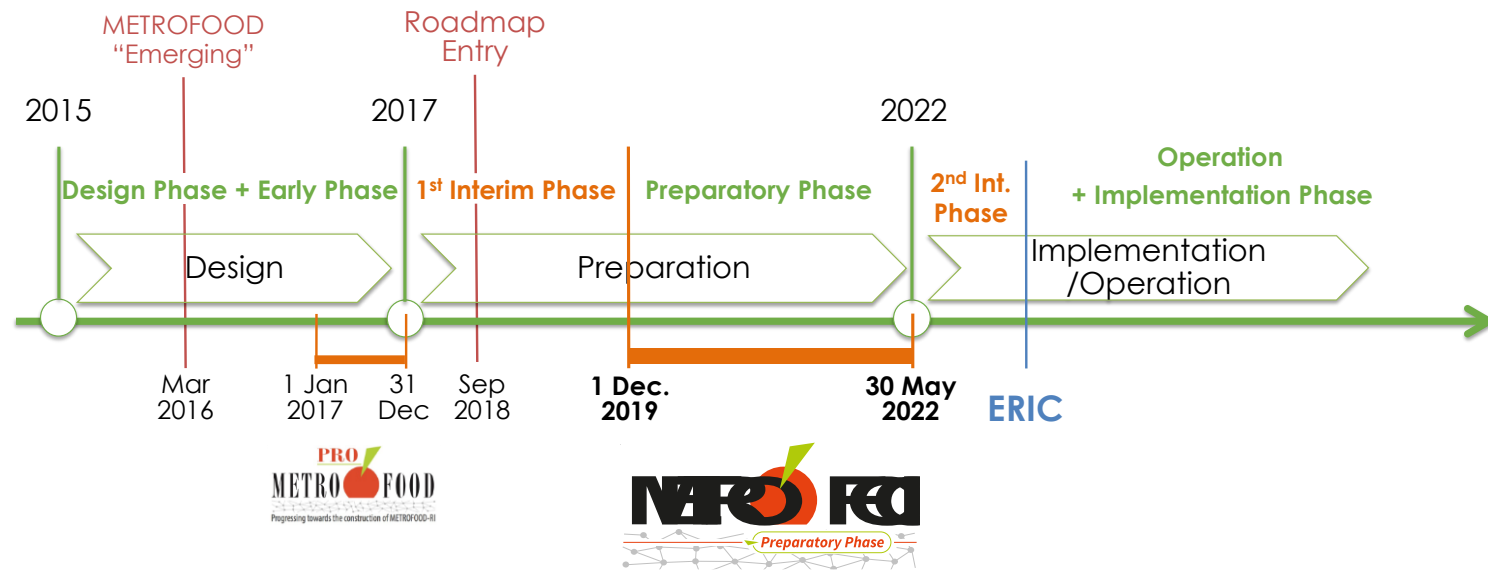
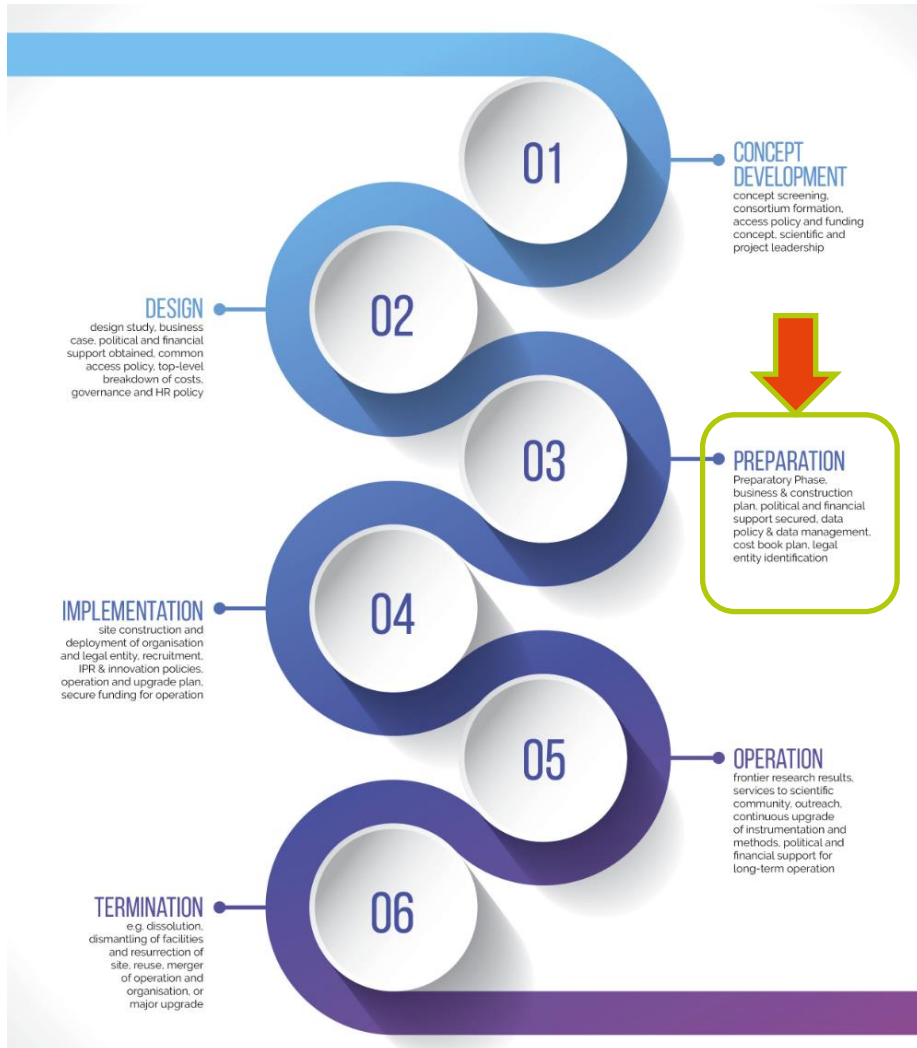
- Crop production
- Animal breedings
- Fish farms

- Industrial processing
- Packaging
- Supply chain and storage
- Food preparation





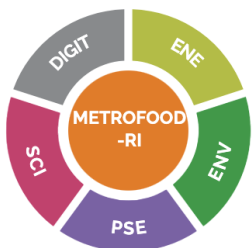
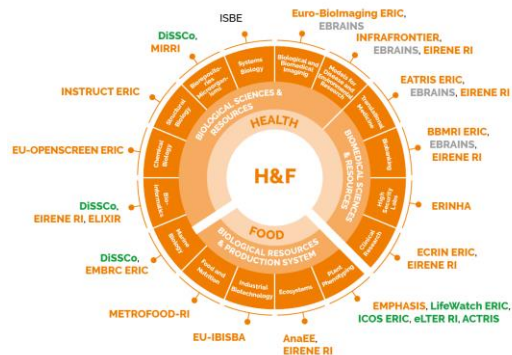
# Where we come from...



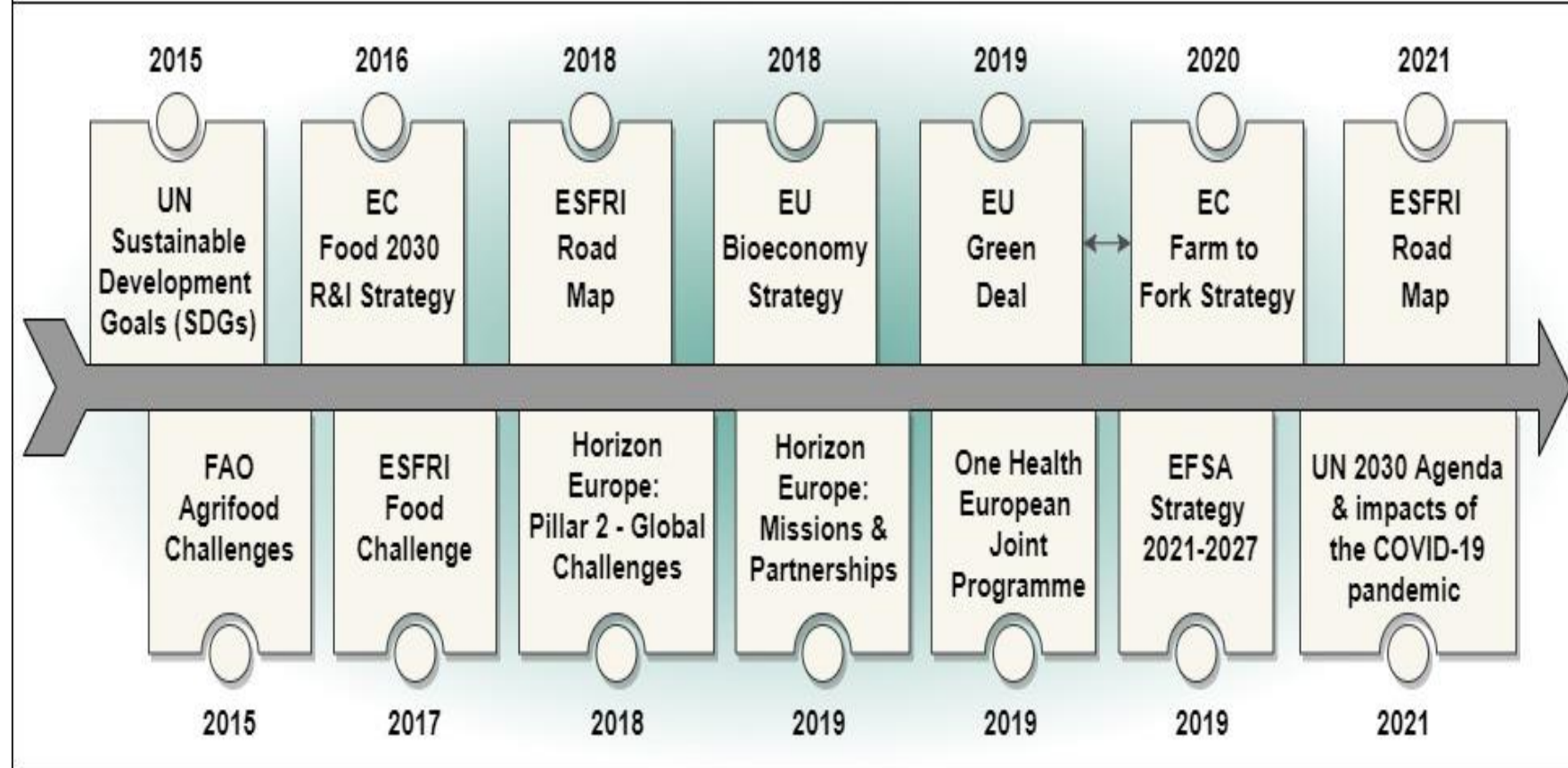
METROFOOD-PP has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 871083.



# Motivation and Challenges



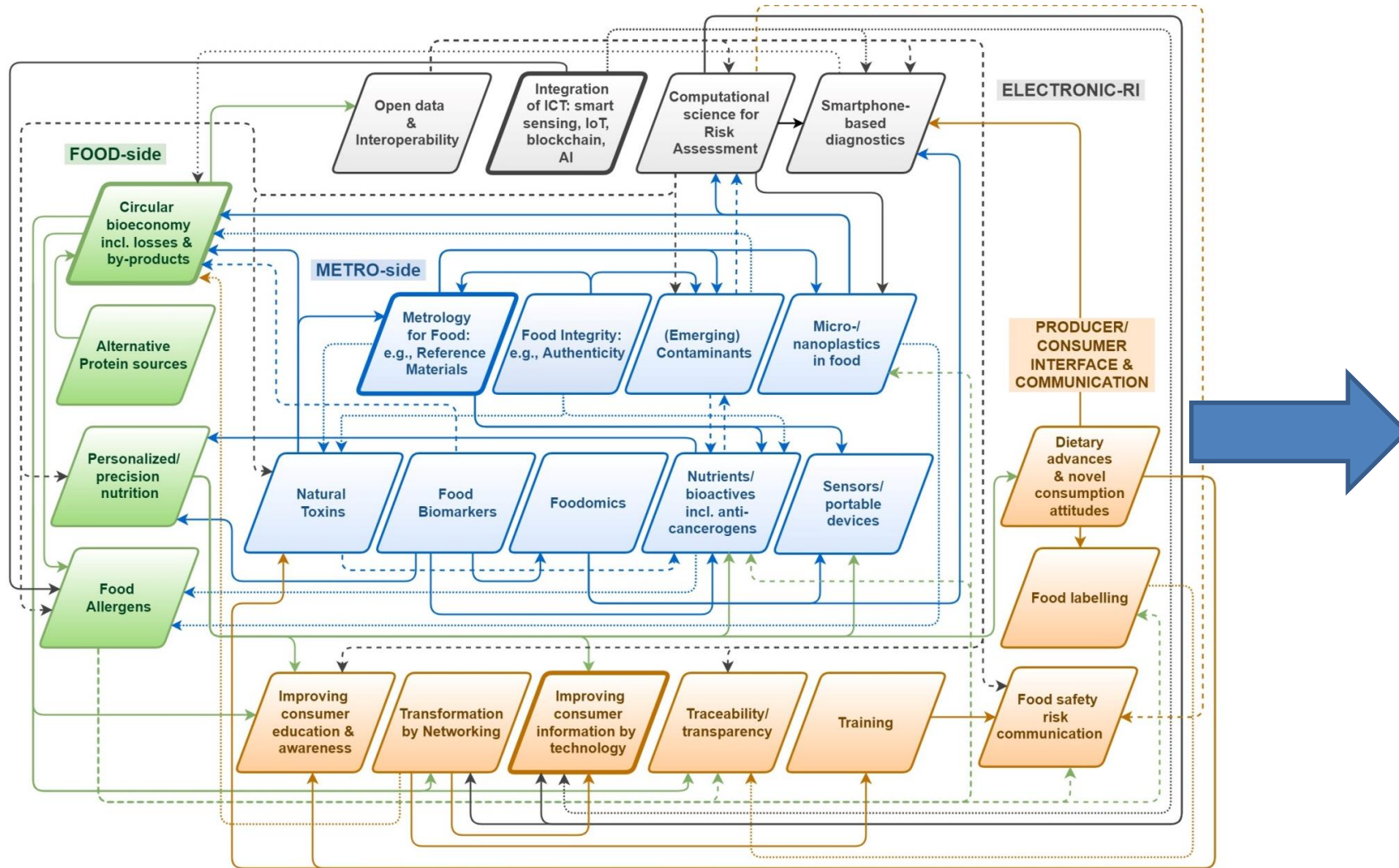
## Selection of relevant Policies & Strategies in the Agrifood sector



METROFOOD-PP has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 871083.



# Network of Strategic Scientific Topics



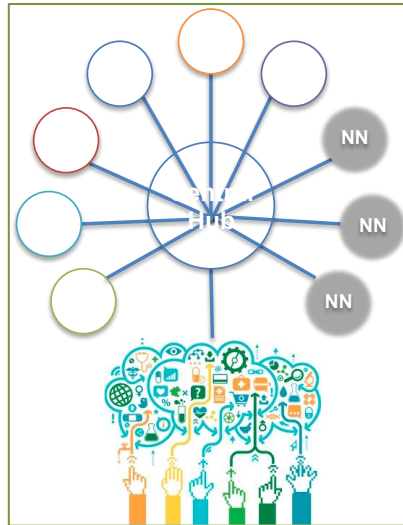
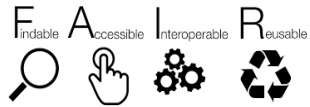
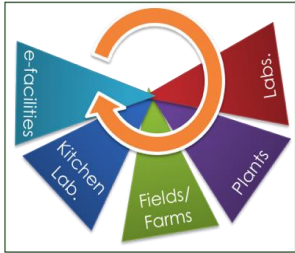
<https://www.metrofood.eu/images/preparatoryphase/SRIApr.pdf>



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# Services and Access



## POTENTIAL USERS



### CORE SERVICES

#### Primary food production

- Research on environmental impacts on food production, safety & quality
- Novel foods & new techniques in food production

#### Food processing & kitchen labs

- Processing techniques to improve safety & quality
- Food packaging & preservation

#### Analytical labs

- Authenticity determination/assessment
- Omics-based analyses
- Allergens
- Mycotoxins (& other natural toxins)
- Sensorial analyses
- Organic compounds/contaminants

#### RM Plants

- Design, development and production of RMs

#### E-services

- Databases and tools

### USE CASES SERVICES

#### Food pilot demonstrator

- Physicochemical characterization of nanoparticles in food

#### RM App and risk assessment tool

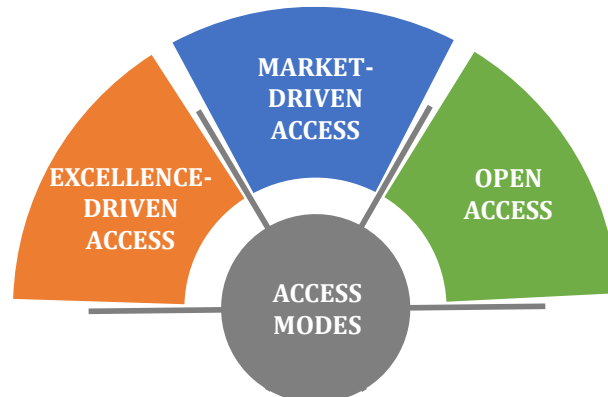
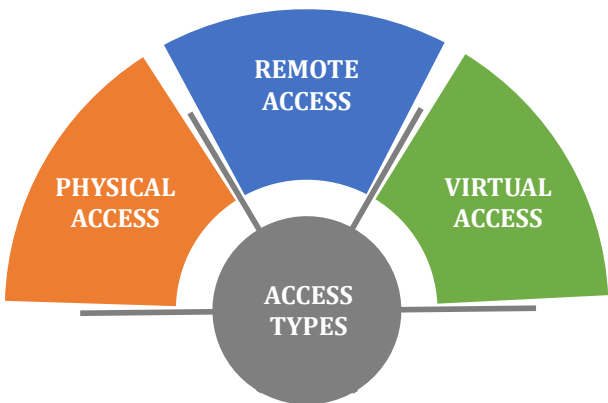
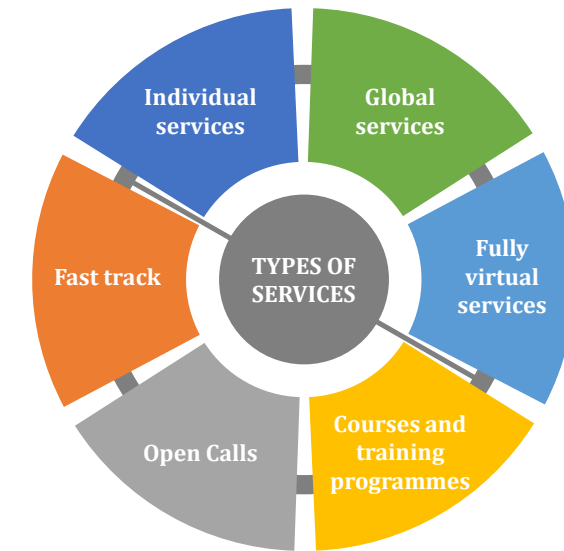
### INTEGRATED SERVICES

#### Circular Bioeconomy

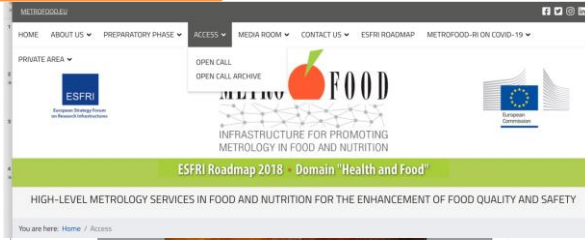
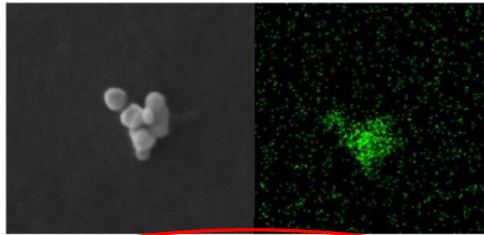
#### Living Labs

#### Food traceability and transparency

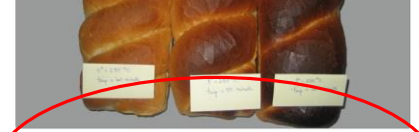
#### Virtual access services



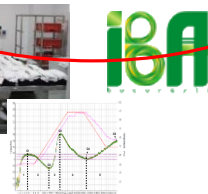
# OPEN CALLS



1st OPEN CALL – (25 July – 30 September 2020) - Remote access to transmission electron microscopy facility for physicochemical characterization of nanoparticles in food



2nd OPEN CALL – (25 July – 30 September 2020) - Physical access to food pilot demonstrator: how to minimize acrylamide in bakery products



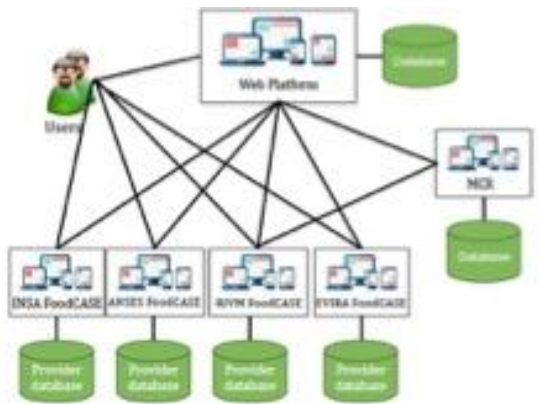
# RM-pp

The interface includes sections for 'MATRIX INFORMATION', 'REFERENCE MATERIAL PROPERTY', and 'SEARCH RESULTS'. The search results table is as follows:

ID/CODE	NAME	PRODUCER	COUNTRY	CATEGORY	LINK
+ MFCO-1	Flour	NIC Orléans	Canada	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ROM-10003616	Deosyrvalerm In Barley, low Level	Biqore (Biomet,Lab)	Austria	Matrix-IRM	🔗
- BCR-37?	Maise Flour (dehydrated) blank	IRM	EC	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ERM-BC17	Maise (dehydrated) (DIN) Neutralized (NVA) Zearalenone (ZDN) (low level)	IRM	EC	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ERM-BC16	Maise (dehydrated) (DIN) (very low level)	IRM	EC	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ROM-10003620	Fumonisins In Corn, low Level	Biqore (Biomet,Lab)	Austria	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ROM-10003617	Deosyrvalerm In Corn, High Level	Biqore (Biomet,Lab)	Austria	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ROM-10003626	Zearalenone (ZDN) In Corn, High Level	Biqore (Biomet,Lab)	Austria	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ROM-10003624	Zearalenone (ZDN) In Corn, low Level	Biqore (Biomet,Lab)	Austria	Matrix-IRM	🔗
+ ROM-10003622	Fumonisins In Corn, High Level	Biqore (Biomet,Lab)	Austria	Matrix-IRM	🔗

<https://www.metrofood.eu/access/e-services.html>

# TOOL TO INTEGRATE TDS SAMPLE DATA WITH MCRA



# TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER GUIDELINES

	IDENTIFY	DEFINE	CONNECT	MAINTAIN
<b>GOALS</b>	Mapping the industry	Creating a value proposition for the industry	Engaging with the end-users identified	Keeping the interest in the offering
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To understand the regional industrial ecosystem to approach it successfully</li> <li>• STEP 1: To characterize the industrial ecosystem by using databases and own knowledge</li> <li>• STEP 2: To connect with the relevant stakeholders (government, clusters, associations...) to get their knowledge on the industrial ecosystem</li> <li>• STEP 3: To concretise the audience the RI is targeting from mapping exercise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To develop an offering that is in line with the industry needs</li> <li>- To bring research closer to industry</li> <li>• STEP 1: To identify the needs of the industrial companies</li> <li>• STEP 2: To adapt the offering to the needs identified</li> <li>• STEP 3: To develop a clear narrative on the value proposition for industrial companies</li> <li>• STEP 4: To validate the industrial companies' willingness to pay</li> <li>• STEP 5: To offer attractive opportunities of collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To draw attention of industry to the RI</li> <li>- To reach the industry following knowledge-based decisions</li> <li>• STEP 1: To concretise the audience the RI is targeting from the mapping exercise</li> <li>• STEP 2: To identify the channels of dissemination and define dissemination actions</li> <li>• STEP 3: To prepare marketing materials according to dissemination channels</li> <li>• STEP 4: To create trust between the METROFOOD-RI and the industrial company</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To foster the regular use of the RI offering</li> <li>- To maintain interest and trust in the METROFOOD-RI</li> <li>• STEP 1: To update the service portfolio</li> <li>• STEP 2: To provide fee-of-charge interesting services to get the industry connected</li> </ul>
<b>USEFUL TOOLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping dashboard</li> <li>• Country/companies databases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buyer persona CANVAS</li> <li>• Value proposition CANVAS</li> <li>• Communication Materiality tools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidentiality agreement</li> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding (Letter of Intent)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customer satisfaction survey (CS)</li> </ul>



# METROFOOD-RI next steps

ERIC Step 1 application  
(30 Jan 2023)

Interim phase (ongoing)

ERIC Step 2 application

METROFOOD ERIC  
establishment

Early Phase  
Implementation

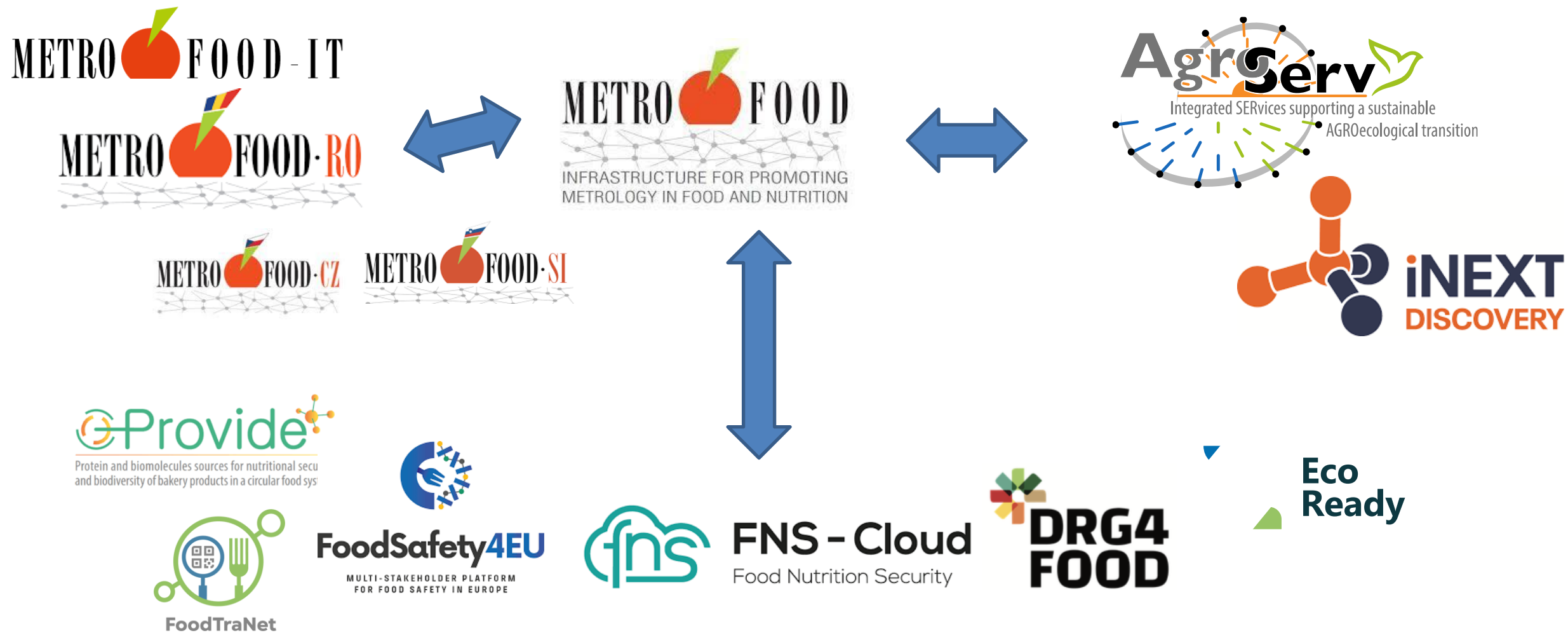
Implementation  
/Operation

- ❑ Providing high-level metrology **services in support to the agrifood**
- ❑ Promote **excellent science, research and innovation** on metrology in food and nutrition and in support to the agrifood
- ❑ **Developing the facilities** owned by METROFOOD ERIC together with all facilities made available to METROFOOD ERIC by the Members and Observers for undertaking activities to achieve the objectives of METROFOOD ERIC at European level to allow scientific communities and other interested stakeholders to **access the data and facilities** of METROFOOD ERIC
- ❑ **Integrating research, training, technology transfer and information dissemination activities.** METROFOOD ERIC shall be the central point of contact for research, training, education and dissemination activities in support to the agrifood, with reference, e.g., to **food quality & safety, authenticity, traceability, food transparency, circular economy, sustainability of agrifood systems**
- ❑ **Promoting the digitalisation of the agrifood systems, open data and the application of FAIR principles**
- ❑ **Establishing connections with international initiatives relevant in the field,** to act as the representative towards other parts to promote international cooperation
- ❑ **Synchronising investment and operational funds,** in a way to optimise national, European and international resources



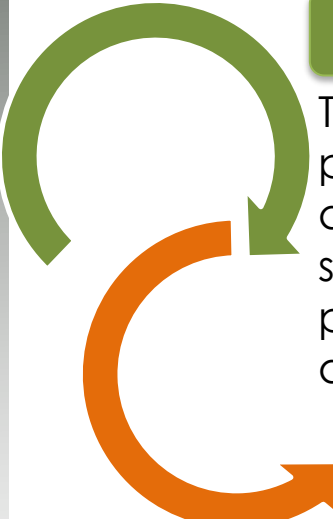
# The best opportunities arise from integration

Initiatives focused in integrating RIs knowledge, facilities and services can boost the definition of an integrated and structured landscape, promoting more and more advanced research and highest cooperation with and within the agrifood systems' stakeholders, thus enhancing the social-economic impact



PNRR - Mission 4 – “Education and Research” - Component 2: from research to business  
InvesAction 3.1.1 “Creation of new research infrastructures strengthening of existing ones and their networking for Scientific Excellence under Horizon Europe

### METROFOOD-IT Mission

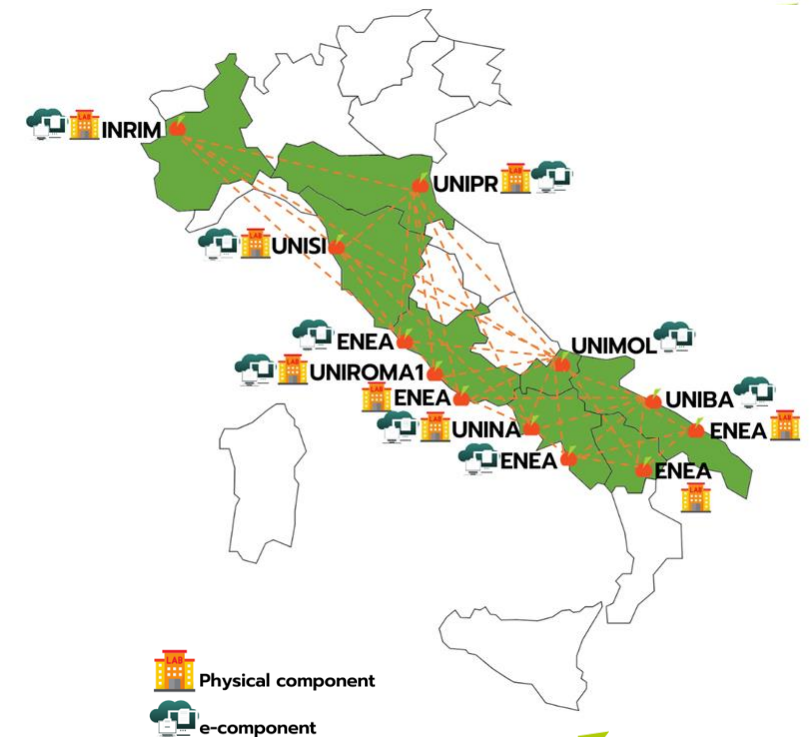


To support research and innovation in the agrifood by providing integrated services, boosting the digitalization of agrifood systems and their efficiency, traceability, and sustainability, increasing the reliability of products and processes and information provided to citizens, authorities, and food system actors.

### Project aim

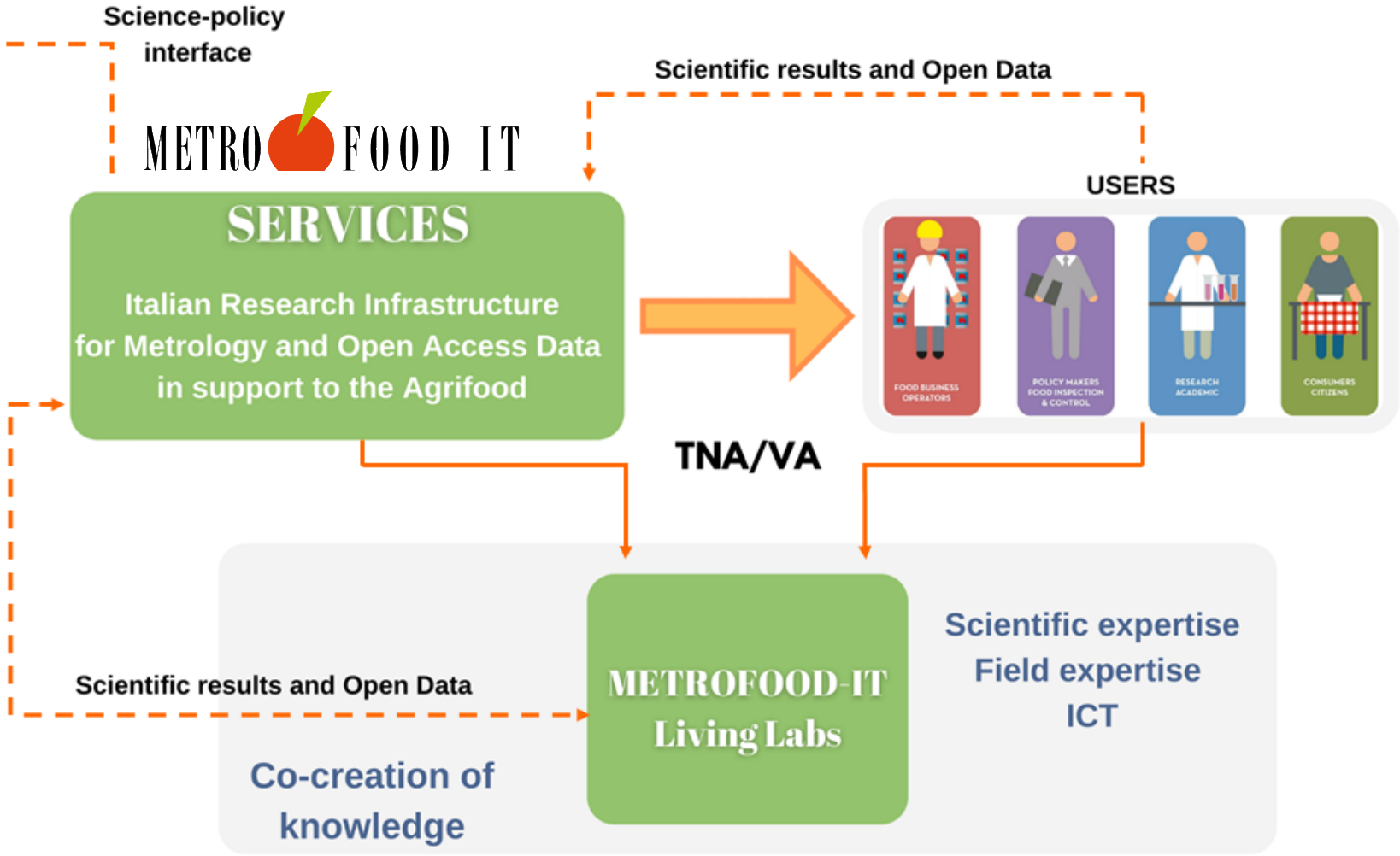
Strengthening the existing infrastructure related to the ESFRI METROFOOD-RI for the domain health and food and included in the NPRI high-priority list, focusing on the electronic component and its integration with the physical one, making it fully implemented, fully operational and sustainable in the long-run.

**Duration: 30 months**  
**Starting date: 1 Sett. 2022**  
**Total funding: 17,79 M€**

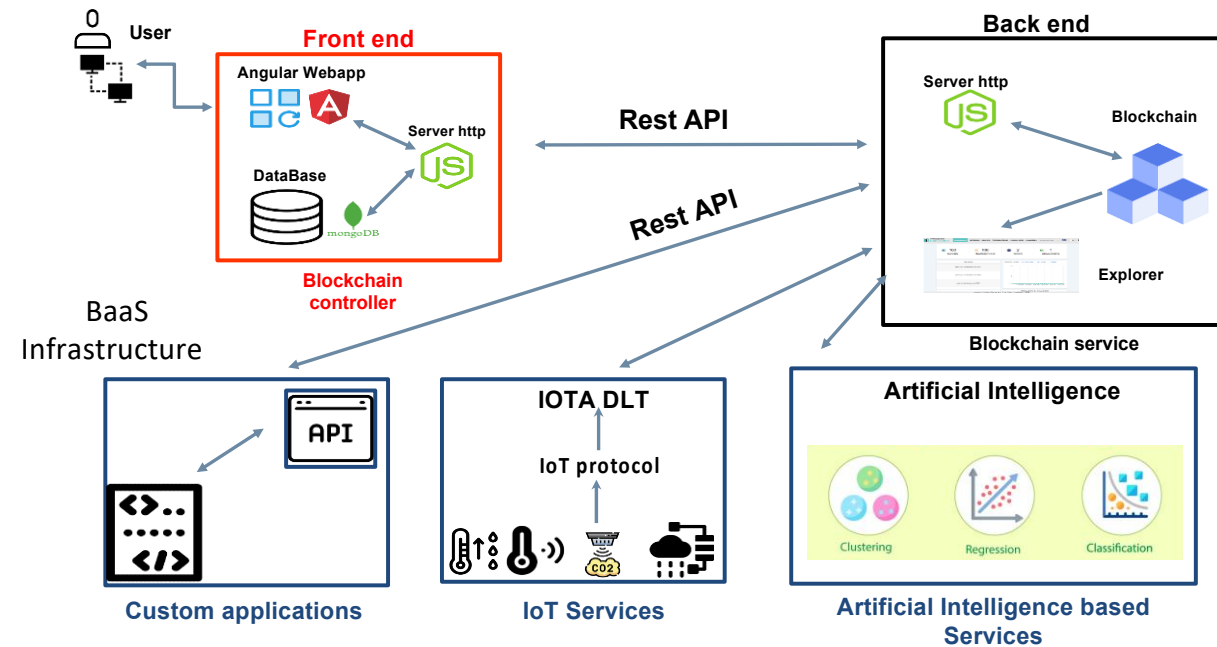
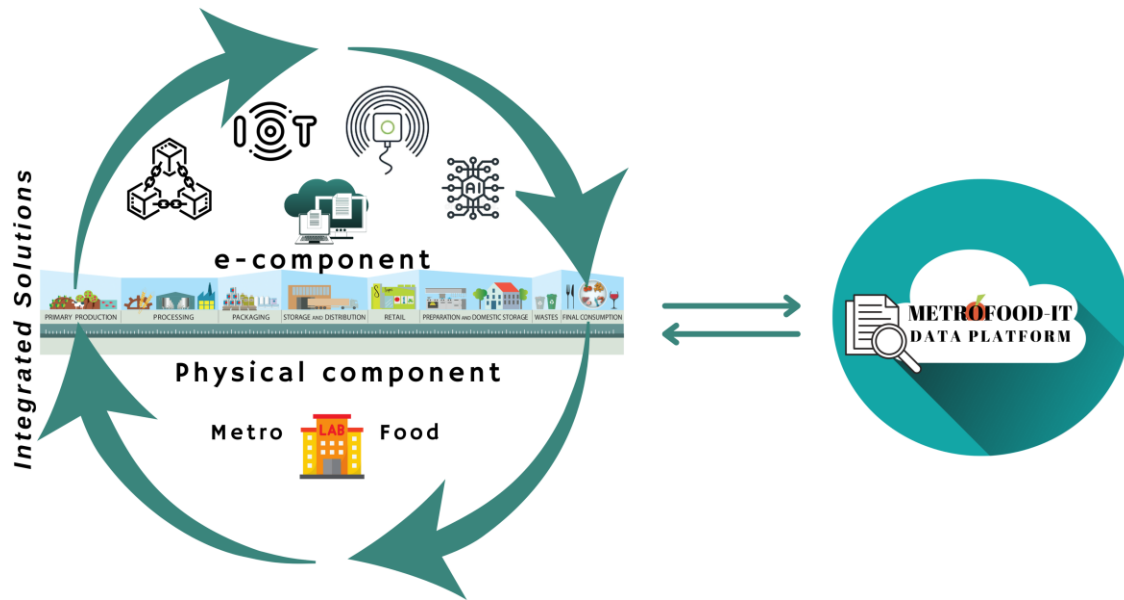




# METROFOOD-IT Concept

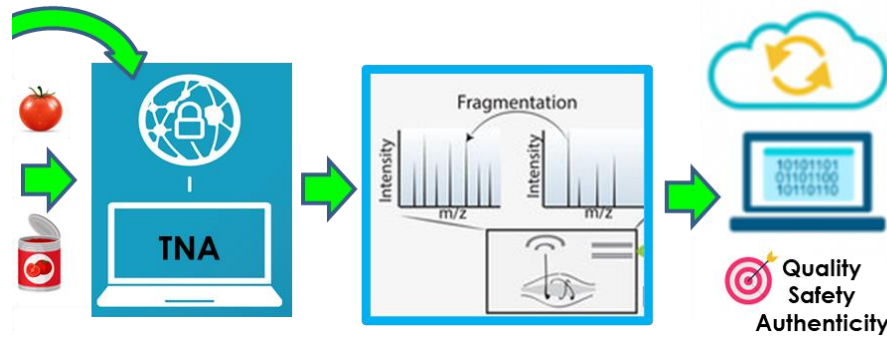


# Data platform and ICT integration



# Services and Living Labs

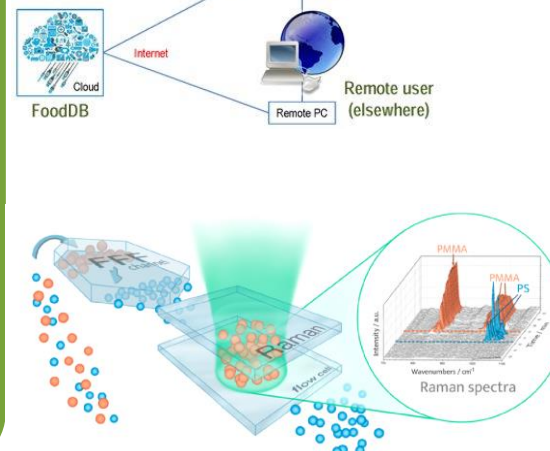
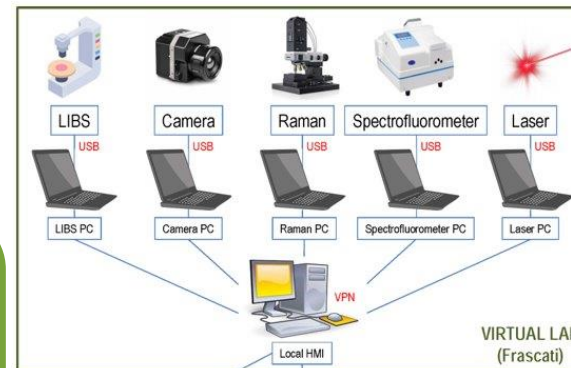
Service provision



Open Innovation Hub & co-creation

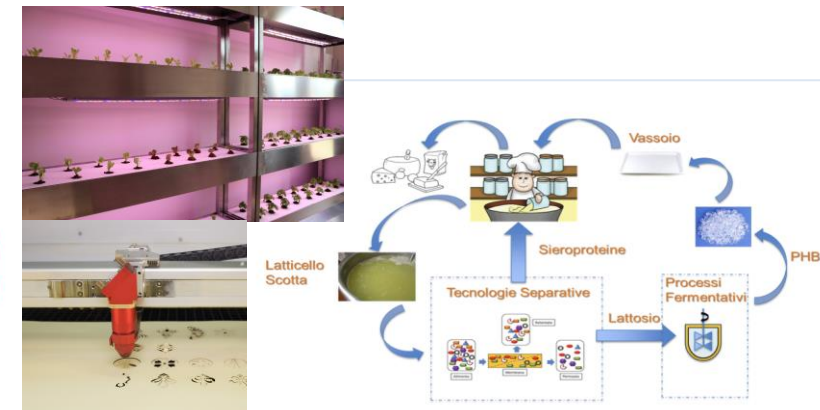
## 3 calls for access - TNA & VA

- Open data of spectroscopical signatures for food frauds (remote and virtual access; 2 open calls, 10 accesses for researchers + 10 accesses for food businesses)
- Open data for authenticity and traceability (physical and virtual access; 2 open calls, 5 accesses for researchers + 5 accesses for food businesses)
- Nanoparticle characterization in food and modelling instruments (wide virtual access)



## 2 Living Labs (LL)

- *LL Circular bioeconomy & industrial symbiosis*
- *AgriFood FabLab*



# AgroServ

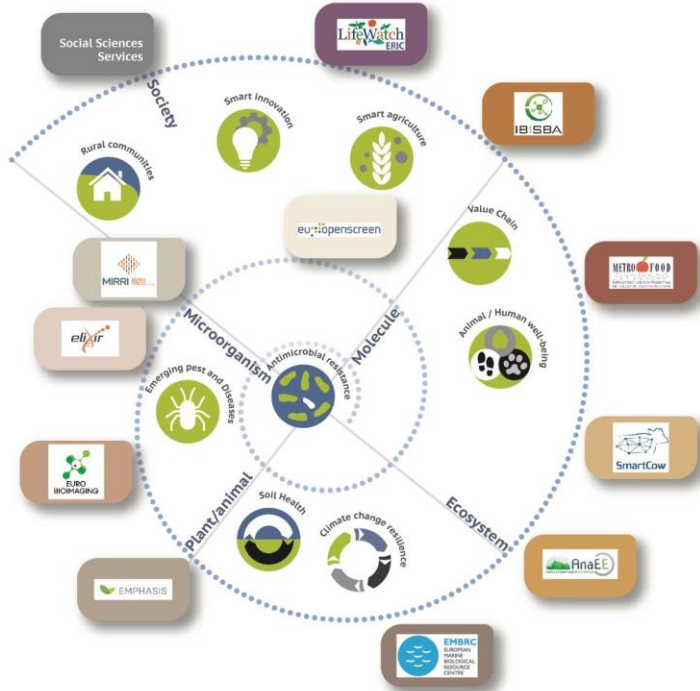
Sowing the seeds of research in  
Agroecology



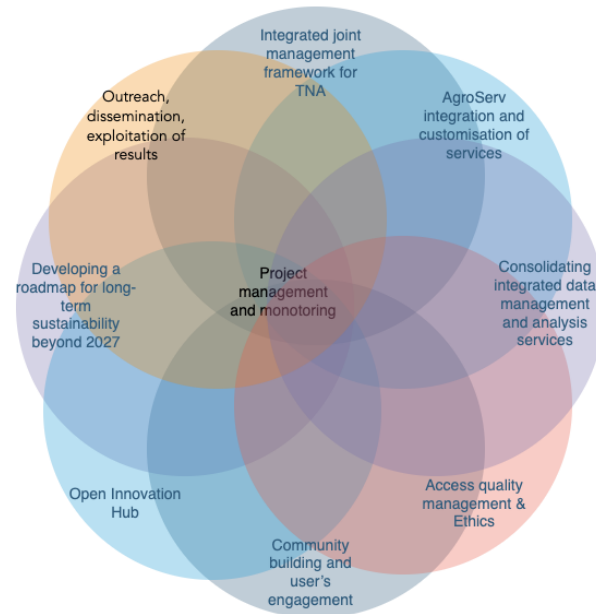
Funded by  
the European Union



# 11 RIs join efforts



All scales  
 From molecule to ecosystems  
 to society  
 70++ partner institutions, 143  
 services offered  
 This diversity is a source of  
 wealth,... and a challenge



- One year to prepare the first call
- Readiness of services
- Readiness of catalogue
- Explore interactions, interoperability
- Prepare data delivery
- Themes and/or challenges addressed for the call
  - From the scientific community
  - Challenge oriented (society)
- Ethical aspects
- Prepare evaluation of proposals
- Communicating with, and training the community
- LL approach and interaction with the society



AgroServ services are covering most of EU++





**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

 **Conference**

**What integrated and  
transdisciplinary  
research services to  
accelerate  
agroecological  
transitions?**

**European  
Research Services  
on Agroecology  
Conference**



5th & 6th  
June 2023



Prague  
& Online



Funded by  
the European Union





**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

# AgroServ Webinar

European Research  
Services on Agroecology



May 15th  
2023



Online



Funded by  
the European Union



**AgroServ  
Webinar**

**Serving research for  
the agroecological  
transition.**



*Thank you for your  
attention!*



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