

An aerial night view of a city with glowing network lines overlaid. The city lights are visible in the background, and the network lines are white and glowing, connecting various points across the city. The text "BUSINESS FINLAND" is written in large, white, bold letters in the top left corner.

BUSINESS FINLAND

Innovation and Growth Research 2023

THEMES 2023 - INNOVATION, CAPABILITIES AND CREATIVE ECONOMY

Themes (Pick one of these research fields):

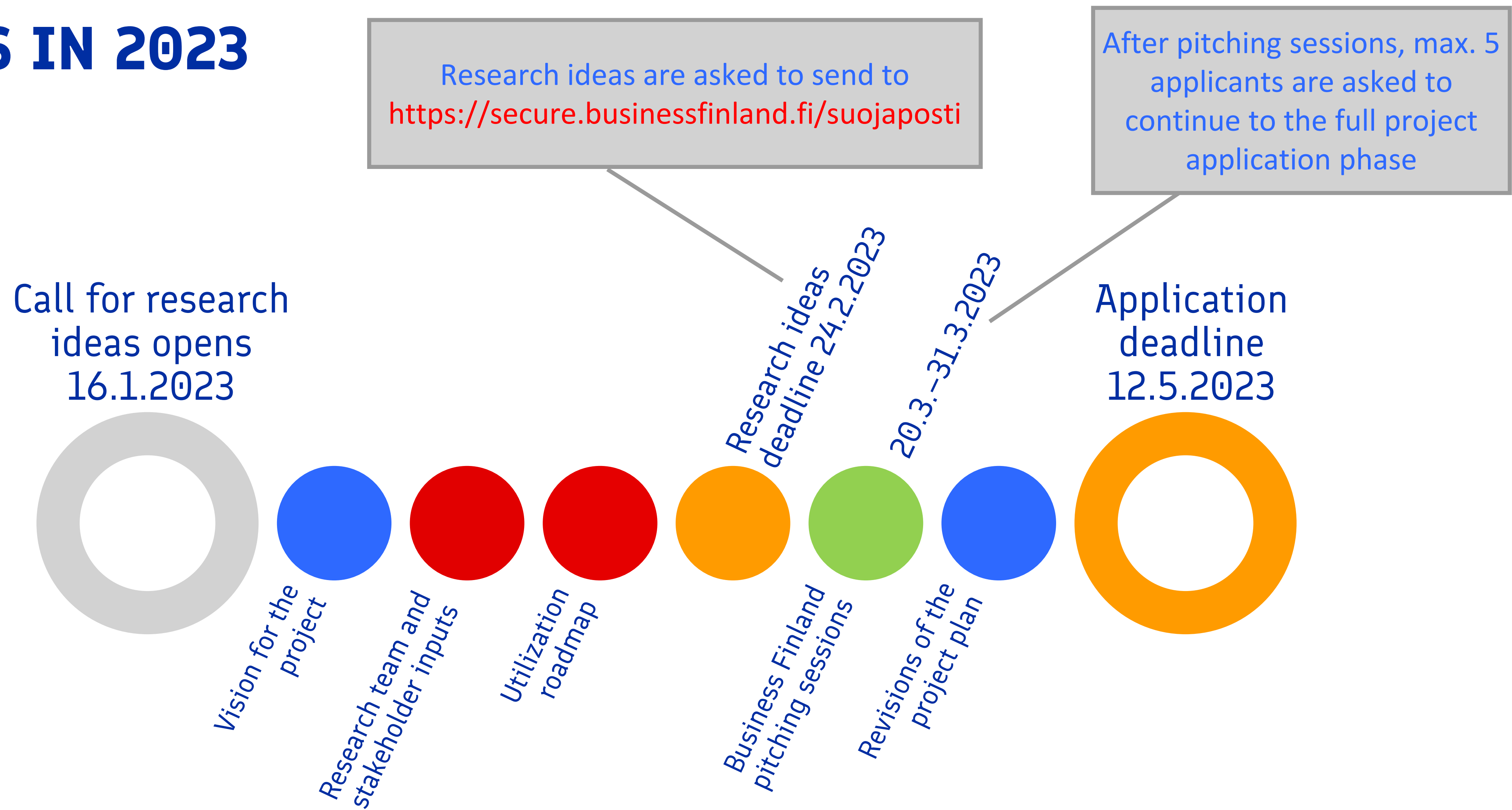
- I. Dynamics and New Technologies in Services
- II. Intangible Capital and Capabilities
- III. Creative Sectors and Renewal
- IV. Innovation and growth policy tools

THEMES 2023 - INNOVATION, CAPABILITIES AND CREATIVE ECONOMY

Themes (Pick only one of the topics I-III, and add IV to these topics):

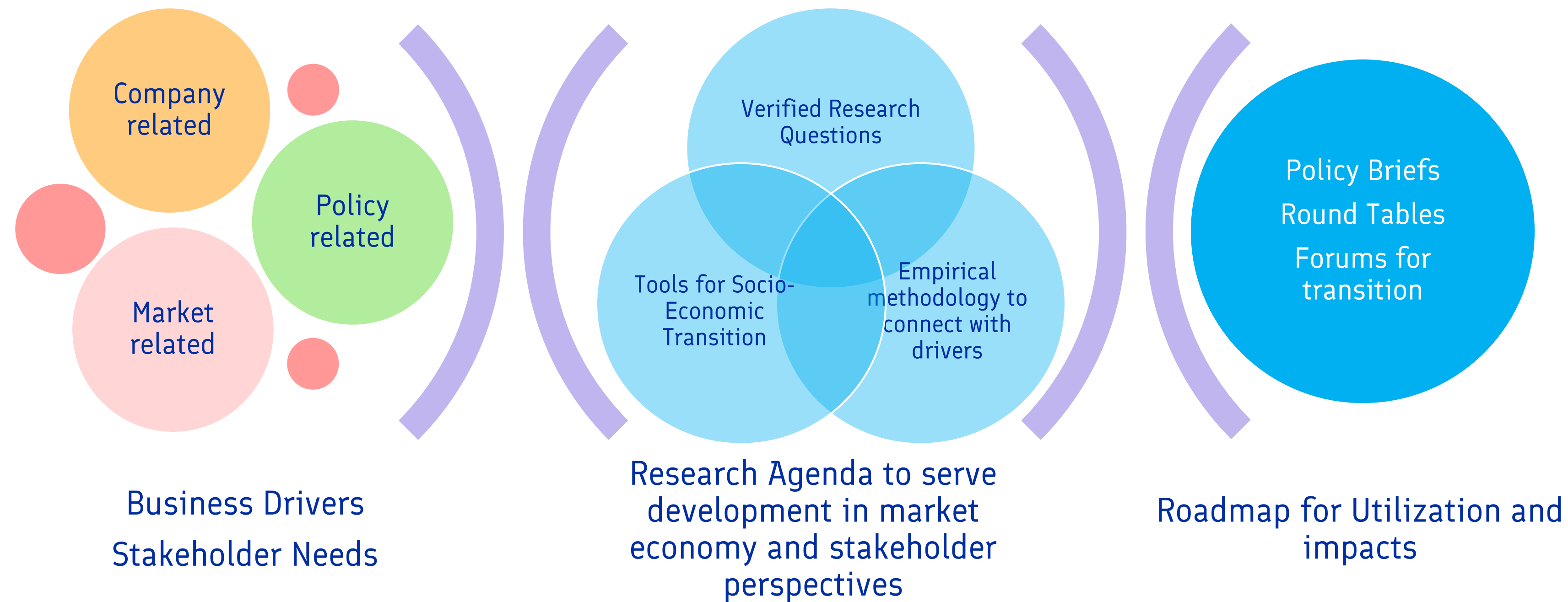
- I. Dynamics and new technologies in private services.** Finland - among other high-income countries - is more dependent on the service sector. In international productivity comparisons, Finland needs to catch-up the competitive countries especially in private services. How can Finland improve productivity in private service sectors – for example in knowledge-intensive services? How new technology tools and digitalization might be utilized in this progress?
- II. Intangible capital and capabilities.** Long-term economic growth in Finland is secured by investment to intangible capital. The aim is to make research how investment in innovation property and economic competencies change work, competition, and renew economic structures? What might be the next stage of knowledge-based economy?
- III. Creative sectors and renewal.** The growth of creative economy, the event sector and tourism can be enhanced by several innovative tools. How ecosystems, networks and value chains can be built in these sectors? How to improve innovation and operating environment that supports growth of these sectors? (See, for example, Luovan talouden tiekartta, TEM Publications 2020:48)
- IV. Innovation and growth policy tools.** It is recommended to add in topics I-III what is a role of policy interventions? Therefore, it should be asked how these policy tools can help innovativeness, renewal and internationalization of companies in the Finnish economy? Also new methodologies based on AI-technologies or for example conjoint-analysis are welcome.

STEPS IN 2023



Elements of Utilization Roadmap

“Research questions, methods and delivery must be business, market, and policy driven”



WHAT WILL BE NEEDED FOR PITCHING? – EVALUATION CRITERIA

Prepare an Idea description document on your research idea. The Idea description must consist of three parts described below. Send **one PDF document** including all three parts to <https://secure.businessfinland.fi/suojaposti> (deadline 24.2.2023).

1. Idea description: Abstract and description of the project (max two A4 pages)
 - Weight **50 %** in evaluation (pitching phase). Evaluation criteria: novelty and relevance of the research idea
2. Utilization roadmap (max one A4 page)
 - Can be partially co-produced with identified potential beneficiaries
 - Weight **20 %** in evaluation (pitching phase). Evaluation criteria: versatility and adaptability to its purpose.
3. Team description, preliminary funding plan, international collaboration and composition of the steering group (max one A4 page)
 - Weight **30 %** in evaluation (pitching phase). Evaluation criteria: quality, credibility and suited division of labor and international collaboration, balanced composition of the steering group considering the objectives of the research proposal.

Business Finland invites max. 12 ideas to present a 15 min. pitching + 30 min sparring and discussion session (Weeks 12-13 (20.3.–31.3.2022)). Out of these, max 5 ideas will be asked to continue to the full project application phase.

WHAT WILL BE NEEDED FOR FULL PROJECT APPLICATION?

After the pitching sessions, max. 5 applicants are asked to continue to the full project application phase. Compile a full application (including project plan max. 15 pages) **in case that pitching discussions support it** by using our online service: <https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/asiointipalvelu/>

1. Description of planned work

- work packages
- research team
- project schedule

2. Stakeholders and funding plan

- Description of supplementing funding (by other stakeholders)
- Stakeholder commitments (preliminary indications for commitment)
- Utilization roadmap
- Composition of steering group

Note: Contents of the idea gathering should equal with the final project plan (and evaluation frame)

Commitment for external funding and international experts: https://www.businessfinland.fi/globalassets/finnish-customers/01-funding/08-guidelines--terms/forms/ilmoitus_projektiin_osallistumisesta___notification_of_participation_in_project.docx

EVALUATION FRAME - WHAT WILL BE APPRECIATED IN THE EVALUATION OF THE FULL APPLICATIONS?

1. Impact and Relevance (50 %)

- 1.1 Relevance to the call themes as well as innovation and growth policy
- 1.2 Quality and credibility of the research plan
- 1.3 Quality and credibility of the utilization roadmap with the stakeholders

2. International collaboration (20 %)

- 2.1 Quality and volume of international collaboration (top research groups and stakeholders) *(1) international joint activity; 2) commitment to take part to the project by international experts*

3. Research team (30 %)

- 3.1 Multidisciplinary approach in research team
- 3.2 Resources and knowledge of research team

IMPACT STEPS FOR INNOVATION RESEARCH CALL

Inputs

- R&D and innovation funding
- Top-skilled and internationally oriented research work
- Competence base sourced from innovation environment actors, Business Finland's strategy and impact assessment

Innovation research / Project activities

Project activities / funding criteria

- Challenge-based research agenda, which develops new methodologies for stakeholders
- Utilization roadmaps with system level impact
- Team CVs for credibility and development of research groups
- Policy Briefs for creating basis for dialogue between stakeholder groups
- Round Table Discussions for supporting the dialogue
- Transition Arenas for creating new innovation activities

Outputs / direct and indirect results in Finland

Project activities

- The quantity and quality of innovation research increase and meets the global context
- New innovation policy tools are established based on strong impact analysis
- Exchange of know-how between research sector, innovation policy actors and companies is enhanced to support renewal of businesses
- Finnish innovation environment's capabilities to catalyze emergence of new growth increases

Impacts

- Radical innovations and new business models renew economic structure
- Sustainable growth of companies and the economy – What are the driving forces of new economic growth?
- New tools for companies to improve resilience
- Public and private RDI funding and activities generate overall increase in capabilities, productivity and sustainability