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Towards an EDIC on AgriFood

Motivation

Overall objective of EDIC – digital sovereignty

- Deploying and operating infrastructures and services of common interest in a condition of market failures or sub-optimal investment situations
- AgriFood digitization requires integrated **pan-European** socio-technical platforms
  - Collecting, managing and making **data** available to all interested parties (DS)
  - Making available first class digital and physical infrastructures for developers and innovators
  - Stimulating and supporting the development and deployment of **high quality** solutions based on advanced tech, e.g. AI, IoT, blockchain, cybersec, ..
  - Helping the creation and scale-up of new Agritech business
  - With a governance securing alignment with national and EU27 strategies

AgriFood - current situation

- Upsides
  - A growing attention towards the definition of common (de-facto) standards and requirements for data interoperability and sharing (e.g., GAIA-X).
  - Pan-European infrastructures are being developed, e.g., via DEP: AgriFood Data Space, AI TEF AgriFood
  - Pan-European ecosystems are present or being set up, knotting together various so far disconnected territories and value chain segments (Agriculture of Data Partnership, EIT Food, EIT Digital)
  - Increasing interest and investments of MSs – e.g. Italian PNRR via AI Partnership (FAIR), National Centre on AgriFood, Innovation Ecosystems; Dutch government's Farm of the Future and network of FieldLabs, …

- Issues
  - Scarce vertical integration of available and planned infrastructures, which might prevent the formation of integrated pipelines and, ultimately, impact
    - Synergies among tech infrastructures left to "must have"
  - Integration of tech infrastructures with support to business creation and growth still missing
    - Jeopardising the prospect of long-term sustainability
  - Governance is needed to manage the processes, identify and support the development of new digital infrastructures, integrate with national policies

An EDIC on AgriFood - 1

A legal entity establishing, managing, and operating the **Integrated Pan-European Platform for AgriFood Tech** - a package integrating

- A portfolio of tech infrastructures
  - Integrating those of the TEF AgriFood and of the Agricultural Data Space,
  - Others owned by participating MSs and/or developed by the EDIC using own funding
- A portfolio of business creation and growth services
  - Access to tech/infrastructure, Access to knowledge, Access to finance, ….

A set of **use cases** aligned on national priorities will allow the Platform to fully unfold and showcase its potentials

An EDIC on AgriFood - 2

- **Targets**: Business (SMEs, large and medium companies, farmers, ..), innovators (developers, start-ups, …), research, professional associations,..
- **Members**: Governments, Professional associations, Companies
- **Funding**: from members and the market (revenue from the delivery of tech+business services)
- **Governance** securing long-term strategic vision and alignment, stakeholder and target engagement, the rapid funneling of new tech into innovation

EDIC on AgriFood - status

- Italy (supported by FBK) and Austria (supported by Josephinum) have submitted aligned EoIs to the EC
  - use cases: food value-chain tracing and precision agriculture, respectively
- Those EoIs have received the support of France, Finland, Sweden, Belgium, Cyprus, The Netherlands, Poland, Croatia….
- Next Step
  - Establish the WG that will write the proposal
  - Find a coordinating MS to drive the process (on-going discussion)