



EARTO Annual Report 2024



EARTO Milestones in 2024

- EARTO positioned RTOs as key actors of EU collaborative RD&I driving EU Competitiveness
- EARTO published its Policy Recommendations for 2024-2029: No EU Tech, No EU Competitiveness
- EARTO actively participated to the debate on future EU RD&I related programmes including FP10 (e.g. Inputs to Heitor Report) & the newly announced EU Competitiveness Fund (e.g. Inputs to Draghi Report)
- EARTO provided views and inputs for the preparation of the next EU Budget/MFF (2028 onwards)
- EARTO supported the European Parliament in securing RD&I investments in the EU 2025 Budget
- EARTO shaped key aspects of the debate on the implementation of Horizon Europe
- EARTO continued its collaborations with key EU RD&I and industrial actors jointly promoting EU RD&I investments and EU collaborative RD&I, some key examples:
 - Joint Statement by 115 EU Industrial Associations for an Ambitious FP10: Investing in Europe's Future Competitiveness through Collaborative Research, Development, and Innovation
 - Joint Open Letter with EUA and Science Europe to EC Commissioner Iliana Ivanova on investing more in RD&I as a strategic move for Europe's future prosperity

EARTO Collaboration with EU Institutions in 2024



- **EARTO worked closely with all the European Institutions, and especially in 2024:**
 - Actively provided several inputs to the European Commission's Expert Group Report on Horizon Europe's Interim Evaluation (Heitor Report)
 - Actively provided several inputs to the European Commission work on setting up a new EU Strategy on Technology Infrastructures: via EARTO Experts involved in the European Commission's Expert Group on Technology Infrastructures (or directly)
 - Discussed the implementation of RD&I Programme with the European Parliament's ITRE WG RD&I MEPs
 - Supported the European Parliament's STOA study looking at the new structure of FP10
 - Participated in various events at the European Parliament to discuss next EU budget & FP10
 - Participated in various Council Presidencies' events related to EU RD&I Policy
 - Responded to the European Commission's Consultation on the Future of the European Research Area and actively participated in the ERA Forum on relevant ERA actions for RTOs
 - Continued its MoU collaboration with the EC DG JRC, which included among others the work of the joint Task Force on Technology Foresight and the participation in the TTO Circle's Board as well as the launch of INCITE

RTOs' International Network - RIN

EARTO supported RTOs international collaboration through high-level discussions with its International Members (RIN)

- Organised with ITRI the RIN CEOs meeting in Taipei, Taiwan in March 2024
- Published a new RTOs' International Network (RIN) Joint Statement on Building Resilient Society: RTOs' Role in Long-term Cross-Borders Collaboration
- Organised with ITRI and AIST support a Joint RIN CEOs dinner in parallel of the STS Forum in Kyoto, Japan
- Organised participation of its International Members in the various discussion held with the OECD
- Finalised the 2nd RIN benchmarking study comparing with key management data the interested RIN & EU members



EARTO Network in figures



7 Working Groups: 4 Policy WGs and 3 Technology WGs
3 Task Forces active this year
Joining 800 experts' capabilities together



Members covering now 32 countries, with 96% of Members
actively involved in our Working Groups & Task Forces



Active & High-level EARTO management: Board & Steering
Committee Members comprising RTOs CEOs who combined
met 7 times in 2024

EARTO Highlights 2024



24 publications, including many alliances with other key EU Stakeholders



EARTO active in 8 EC HLGs: DG R&I Expert Group on Horizon Europe & FP10, DG R&I Expert Group on Technology Infrastructures, DG GROW EU Industrial Forum, DG R&I EIC Board, DG REGIO I3 Expert Group, DG REGIO CPR partners, DG CNECT eHealth Stakeholder Group, DG GROW Technology Council for Advanced Materials



EARTO Annual Conference, Policy Event and Innovation Awards, EU Presidency Events & 6 Workshops/Webinars

EARTO Communication in figures



In 2024 EARTO:

- Held around 88 meetings with EU Institutions & National Representatives and more than 40 meetings with key EU SHOs
- Attended around 84 external events
- Participated as a speaker in more than 30 Panels, Roundtables, Workshops, and Conferences



X & LinkedIn EARTO accounts with around 14,000 followers and 13,000 members



Around 140 internal newsletters shared on key dossiers to Board, WGs & TFs

EARTO Members in Horizon Europe



EARTO Members represent **1,1%** of the beneficiaries, but receive **10%** of the available funding



Industry participation increases to **33%** when EARTO Members are involved in the project (23% when they are not)



EARTO Members coordinate **1/3** of the projects in which they participate



EARTO Members participate in large collaborative projects with on average **€6.3m** EU contribution and **13** partners per project



66% of the funding spent in Pillar II given to projects with EARTO Members



56% of all Horizon Europe projects includes at least one EARTO Members, and these projects represent **60%** of HE EU funding

(eCorda data June 2024)

New EARTO Members 2024

EARTO welcomed 6 new members in 2024:

1. **Advanced Technology Research Council (RIN) (United Arab Emirates)**
2. **CETIM - Centre Technique des Industries Mécaniques (France)**
3. **CSIR - Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa)**
4. **I-CAN – Innoventures Canada (RIN) (Canada)**
5. **METROSERT (Estonia)**
6. **NTT - Next Technology Tecnotessile (Italy)**



EARTO Innovation Awards 2024

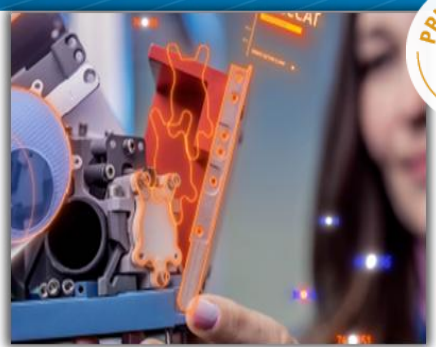
PRIZE
1ST



Blue Foot



PRIZE
2ND



CubeCAT



PRIZE
3RD



StackPack 75



PRIZE
1ST



iLoF



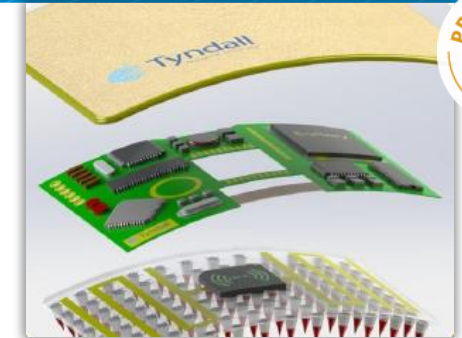
PRIZE
2ND



Hypermine



PRIZE
3RD

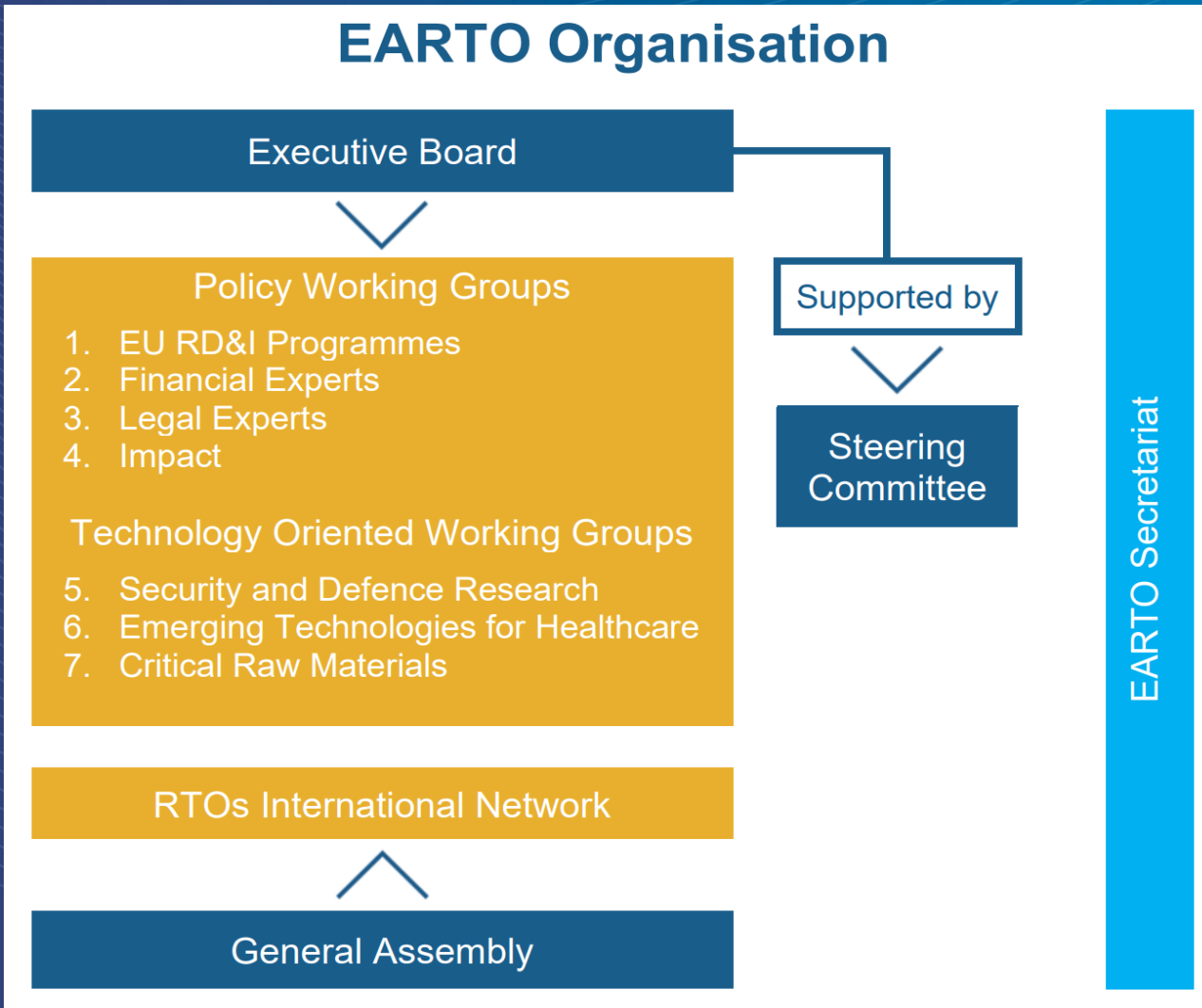


MicroTIPS



EARTO Structure

EARTO Organisation



Changes in Working Groups in 2024

- **New Chair and Core Team Members in WG Legal**
- **New Core Team Members in WG Emerging Technologies for Healthcare, WG Security & Defence Research, and WG Financial Experts**
- **Closure of EARTO WG on Critical Raw Materials**

Task Forces active in 2024

- **TF on Corporate Sustainability**
- **TF on RIN Benchmarking**
- **Joint TF on Technology Foresight with JRC**

EARTO Board 2024 (Voted at EARTO General Assembly 2024)



François Jacq [*] , President General Administrator, CEA, FR	Jesús Valero [*] , Vice President Managing Director, TECNALIA, ES	Brigitte Bach [*] , Treasurer CEO, AIT, AT	Antti Vasara [*] President & CEO, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, FI	Mathias Rauch [*] Chief Representative for the EU, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, DE	Tjark Tjin-A-Tsoi [*] CEO, TNO, NL	Marco Alvisi General Manager, CETMA, IT	Alexandra Bech Gjørv President & CEO, SINTEF, NO
Anne Van den Bosch Vice-President Public R&D Policies and Programs, imec, BE	John Rodrigues Director, INOV, PT	Dirk Fransaer Director General ad interim, UST, LU	Rafal Lukasik Director of Department of International Cooperation, Lukasiewicz Research Network, PL	Aureo Díaz-Carrasco Executive Director, FEDIT, ES	Alexandre Pauchard CEO, CSEM, CH	Juan Farré President & CEO, DTL, DK	Tasos Kounoudes CEO, SignalGeneriX, CY
Dimitrios Myttas Associate Researcher, KEMEA, GR	William Scanlon CEO, Tyndall, IE	Katherine Bennet CEO, HMV Catapult, UK	Sigitas Rimkevičius Director, LEL, LT	Malin Frenning CEO, RISE, SE	Boštjan Zalar Director, Jožef Stefan Institute, SI		

* Steering Committee members

EARTO WG EU RD&I Programmes Experts

Chair & Core Team: EARTO Secretariat

- 6 WG meetings took place in 2024, in addition to numerous meetings with EC representatives. Furthermore, EARTO hosted a webinar on the future of FP10, with high-level speakers representing a variety of EU Industrial SHOs.

PAPERS PUBLISHED IN 2024

1. EARTO Answer to EC Consultation on Technologies with Dual-use Potential
2. Joint Statement for an Ambitious FP10
3. EARTO Paper on the Next EU Multiannual Financial Framework
4. EARTO Paper on EU Partnerships in FP10: How to boost Future EU Public-Private Partnerships?
5. EARTO Response to the EC Consultation on ERA
6. EARTO Inputs to the New ERA Policy Agenda
7. EARTO Members' Participation in Horizon Europe: Analysis from EC eCORDA data from June 2024
8. EARTO Reaction to European Parliament's Draft Report on FP10
9. EARTO Reaction to the new EC Expert Group Report on Horizon Europe's Interim Evaluation

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Horizon Europe: following implementation of the different pillars & many instruments, many inputs provided for its mid-term review
- FP10 Preparation: Several Position Papers published & webinars organised with other key SHOs, many inputs to Heitor Report via EC EG with EARTO President/VTT support
- ERA: following ERA Forum & ERA actions of interest
- Digital Europe: following implementation incl. Innovation Hubs & TEFs, pilot-lines

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- DG R&I, DG CONNECT, DG GROW, DG JRC, DG REGIO
- EP (ITRE & REGI)
- Council
- Committee of the Regions
- Industry: BusinessEurope, Digital Europe, Orgalim and 50+ other Industry associations
- Regions: ERRIN & Vanguard Initiative
- Universities: EUA, CESAER, The Guild, YERUN
- Science Europe
- EAIC
- Various consultants hired by DG R&I for EU studies

EARTO WG Financial Experts

Chair & Core Team: CEA, AIT, EURECAT, Fraunhofer, Helmholtz, TNO, VTT

- **3 WG meetings** took place in 2024, in addition to various meetings of the Core Team with EC representatives (e.g. Directorate of the Common Implementation Centre of EC DG R&I). Additionally, EARTO co-organised the launch event of DESCA for Horizon Europe 2.0.

PAPERS PUBLISHED IN 2024

1. EARTO Recommendations regarding the Evaluation & Pre-contractual Negotiations of Lump-sums EU Funded RD&I Projects

OTHER DELIVERABLES IN 2024

1. WG survey was conducted on key issues affecting the WG's scope of work, and the compiled results were presented to the WG members

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Ensuring that Horizon Europe financial implementation is at RTOs' benefit via:
 - Commenting impact of current rules for Participation and Model Grant Agreement & Annotated Grant Agreement (financial aspects)
 - Sharing best practices on the implementation of financial aspects such as:
 - Usual cost accounting practices, unit costs, allocation keys, internally invoiced goods and services
 - Audits, cross-reliance, system and process audits
- Monitoring Lump-sum implementation
- Evaluating and commenting the rules for participation of other EU Programmes with an RD&I component: Digital Europe, Defence, Space

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- **DG R&I, DG BUDG**
- **ECA**
- **EP (ITRE, BUDG, CONT)**
- **Members States' Horizontal NCPs**
- **Accountancy Europe**

EARTO WG Legal Experts

Chair & Core Team: TNO, CEA, Fraunhofer, VTT, AIT, EURAC

- 2 WG meetings took place in 2024, this next to various meetings with EC representatives to present EARTO's view on key legal issues and published papers. Additionally, EARTO hosted a webinar on SAR, which again involved EC representatives.

PAPERS PUBLISHED IN 2024

1. EARTO Paper on RTOs' role as Intermediaries in Knowledge Valorisation
2. EARTO Joint Letter to MEP Plenary vote on Standard Essential Patents Regulation

OTHER DELIVERABLES IN 2024

1. EARTO Inputs to EU Strategy on Technology Infrastructures (TIs): Overview of Current State-Aids Framework Applying to TIs
2. EARTO Workshop Notes on Implementation Issues linked to State-Aids Framework Applying to TIs

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Horizon Europe implementation: Rules for Participation and Model Grant Agreement (legal aspects) & Annotated Grant Agreement, Data Management Plan, Artificial intelligence (AI)
- Knowledge Valorisation policies: IPs, SEPs & Standardisation
- EU State Aid rules: implementation and revision
- Open Science policy: FAIR data, European Open Science Cloud, Open access to publications
- Public Procurement of Innovation: incl. PCP, EU PP partnerships

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- DG R&I, DG COMP, DG JRC, DG CONNECT, DG GROW, DG EMPL
- EP (ITRE)
- Council
- EPO
- Industry: BusinessEurope, Digital Europe (especially on SEPs)
- Universities: EUA, CESAER, The Guild
- ASTP
- ALLEA

EARTO WG Impact Experts

Chair & Core Team: TNO, CEA, TECNALIA

- 2 WG meetings took place in 2024, next to three separate meetings with both the OECD on running projects, and with the EC on key topics related to RTOs' impact and data on RTOs' sector. Additionally, EARTO hosted a webinar to present its Economic Footprint Study 2024.

PAPERS PUBLISHED IN 2024

1. EARTO Economic Footprint Study of 15 RTOs in 2024 (Report & Brochure)
2. RIN Benchmarking Study (Report)

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Demonstrating the impact of RTOs: including exchanging members' best practices and sharing recent studies of RTO's impact
- Organising new EARTO economic footprint study with support of IDEA Consult and supporting members
- Working towards official OECD and EUROSTAT data on RTOs: discussing on how to best organise the flagging of RTOs in national statistics, inputs given to the NESTI Pilot Project on RPOs data
- Collaboration with OECD on other topics of interest: co-creation, knowledge transfer and RD&I Intermediary organisations, Technology Infrastructures, green & digital transitions, etc.
- Ensuring Members' participation as speakers to OECD events: STI and geopolitics, OECD Science and Technology Policy Ministerial: Multistakeholder Dialogue, Global Science Forum, etc.
- Organising EARTO/RIN benchmarking study with support of Technopolis Group

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- **DG R&I, DG JRC**
- **OECD**
- **EUROSTAT**
- **National Statistical Institutes**

EARTO Technology Oriented WGs

WG Technologies for Healthcare

Chair & Core Team: [AIT](#), [CEA](#), [CIDETEC](#), [CSEM](#), [imec](#), [Tecnalia](#)

- 2 WG meetings in 2024

PAPER PUBLISHED IN 2024

- ❖ EARTO Position Paper on Advanced Materials for Healthcare
- ❖ EARTO Input on Health Research and Innovation for the next European Framework Programme (FP10)

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Input to Horizon Europe Partnership on Health & Clusters looking at health-related topics
- Role of RTOs in Horizon Europe, including Partnership (IHI) & JUs
- Monitor the EU4Health programme
- Open innovation: OITB, ecosystem for developing and commercialising of health technologies
- Special Interest Groups (SIG) on thematic areas sub-optimally or underrepresented in EU Programmes: SIG Rehab, SIG Health & Nutrition and SIG Biosensing, EU Health Dataspace, AI

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- [DG R&I](#), [DG GROW](#), [DG REGIO](#), [DG SANTE](#), [DG CONNECT](#)
- [MedTech Europe](#), [EFPIA](#), [COCIR](#)

WG Security & Defence Research

Chair & Core Team: [TNO](#), [INOV](#), [Fraunhofer](#), [CEA](#)

- 4 WG meetings in 2024 (incl. 1 CL3 matchmaking session)

PAPER PUBLISHED IN 2024

- ❖ EARTO Answer to EC Consultation on Technologies with Dual-use Potential

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Horizon Europe (Cluster 3 – Civil Security for Society/Strategic Plan 2025-2027/EDF)
- New MFF and position of Civil Security and Defence research
- Security Mission Information & Innovation Group (SMI2G) Event
- Co-organisers and panelists of Community for European Research and Innovation for Security (CERIS)
- New STEP giving top-off to EDF (Meeting with DG BUDG)
- Supporting the Innovation Hub for Internal Security

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- [DG DEFIS](#), [DG R&I](#), [DG CONNECT](#), [DG HOME](#)
- [EDA](#), [IMG-S](#), [Seren 5](#), [EDRIN](#), [Europol](#)

WG Critical Raw Materials

Chair & Core Team: [Fraunhofer](#), [CEA](#), [VITO](#)

- 1 WG meeting in 2024

PAPER PUBLISHED IN 2024

- ❖ EARTO Position Paper Towards an Impactful Implementation of the Critical Raw Materials Act: Threading the Needle on Benchmarking and Circularity

2024 KEY ISSUES

- Critical Raw Materials Act (CRMA) & SRIA
- Stable long-term investment in research and innovation
- Public awareness and acceptance
- Resilient CRM supply for Europe
- Skills

Cooperation with EC DGs & other Stakeholders

- [DG GROW](#), [DG R&I](#)
- [European Parliament](#)

WG Closed in 2024

EARTO Temporary Task Forces



Running Task Forces in 2024:

1. TF on Corporate Sustainability:

- **Core Team Members: CEA, EURAC, IMEC, VTT**
- **2 TF meetings took place in 2024**
- **A TF was conducted on key issues affecting the TF's scope of work, and the compiled results were presented to the WG members**
- **Follows the impact of the new Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive**
- **Exchange of best practices on Members' Current Efforts on Corporate Sustainability: Double materiality, Data & Digital Management, Taxonomy, etc.**

2. TF RIN Benchmarking:

- **Follows the EARTO-RIN Benchmarking Study 2022-2024 launched with the support of Technopolis Group**
- **Supported by a Core Team for the coordination of the study and to follow the work of the hired consultant**
- **Planning of EARTO-RIN Benchmarking Study 2025-2026**

3. TF on Foresight – Joint with JRC:

- **Co-organised by the JRC & EARTO Secretariat**
- **Ongoing coordination and evaluation meetings with the JRC**
- **2 TF workshops organised in 2024: including the participation of to non-EARTO foresight experts to enlarge the network**
- **Exchange of best practices on Technology Foresight**
- **Ongoing work on planning the next TF workshop for 2025**

EARTO Membership Categories

Interested in more information? Please contact [EARTO Secretariat](#)

Our Membership Categories following our statutes:

- **Category 1 – Full European Members**
 - **1.1. Individual Full European Members**
 - **1.2. Association Full European Members**
- **Category 2 – International Members (Corresponding)**
- **Category 3 – Associated Members**

For more details on those categories, please see our [website](#)

EARTO Services to its Members

- **Central point of contact:** EARTO Secretariat based in Brussels
- **Targeted information** on the development of future EU Research & Innovation funding programmes and procedures
- **A platform for discussion** and exchange of best practices for RTOs
- **A strong network** with the relevant European Institutions and Stakeholders
- Support and/or initiate **common positions** on key EU dossiers
- **Additional public exposure** of its members



Contact details

EARTO – European Association of Research and Technology Organisations AISBL

Rue Joseph II 36-38 – 1000 Brussels

Enterprise N° 0465.567.732 (RPM Brussels)

Tel +32 2 502 86 98

Email earto@earto.eu

Website www.earto.eu

LinkedIn [EU Framework Programmes – News and Views](#)

X [@EARTOBrussels](#)