



Challenges and opportunities for the European agri-food sector

Online Thematic Workshop, 15th March 2022

Orsola Milani
Metropolitan City of Bologna
SinCE-AFC



**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund

AGRO FOOD

Business Innovation Centre

is an accelerator for companies in agri-
food supply chain
- food & beverage
- industrial farming

Partnership between 6 private companies

with the **support** of 3 public
research entities



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA





Vision

To inspire innovative ecosystems and design **the future of agrifood value chain.**

Goal

Support start-ups for the transformation of their ideas into **concrete business initiatives**

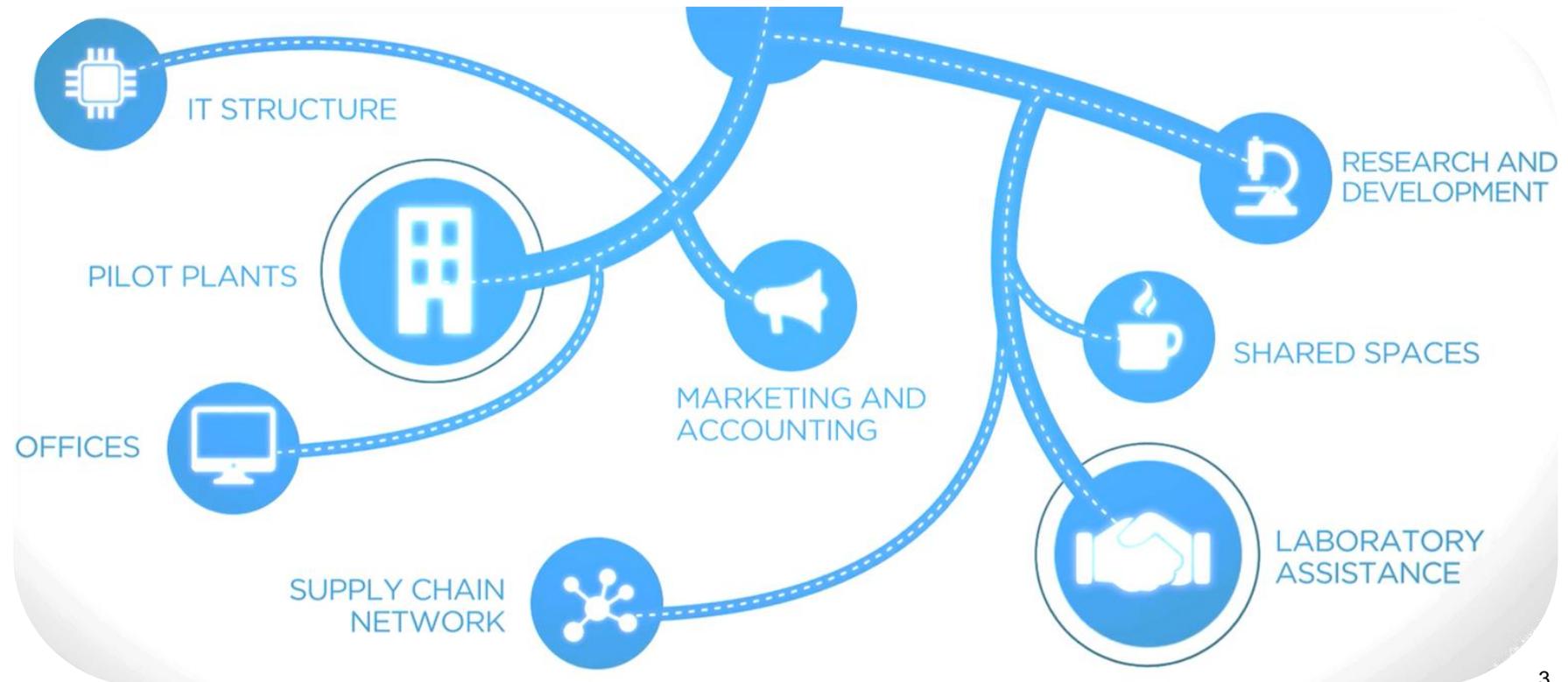
Offering young companies and business ideas the **environment** to develop, experiment and present their project on the market

BIC **offers** to selected projects

OPEN INNOVATION

INDUSTRIAL DNA

COMPANY GROWTH

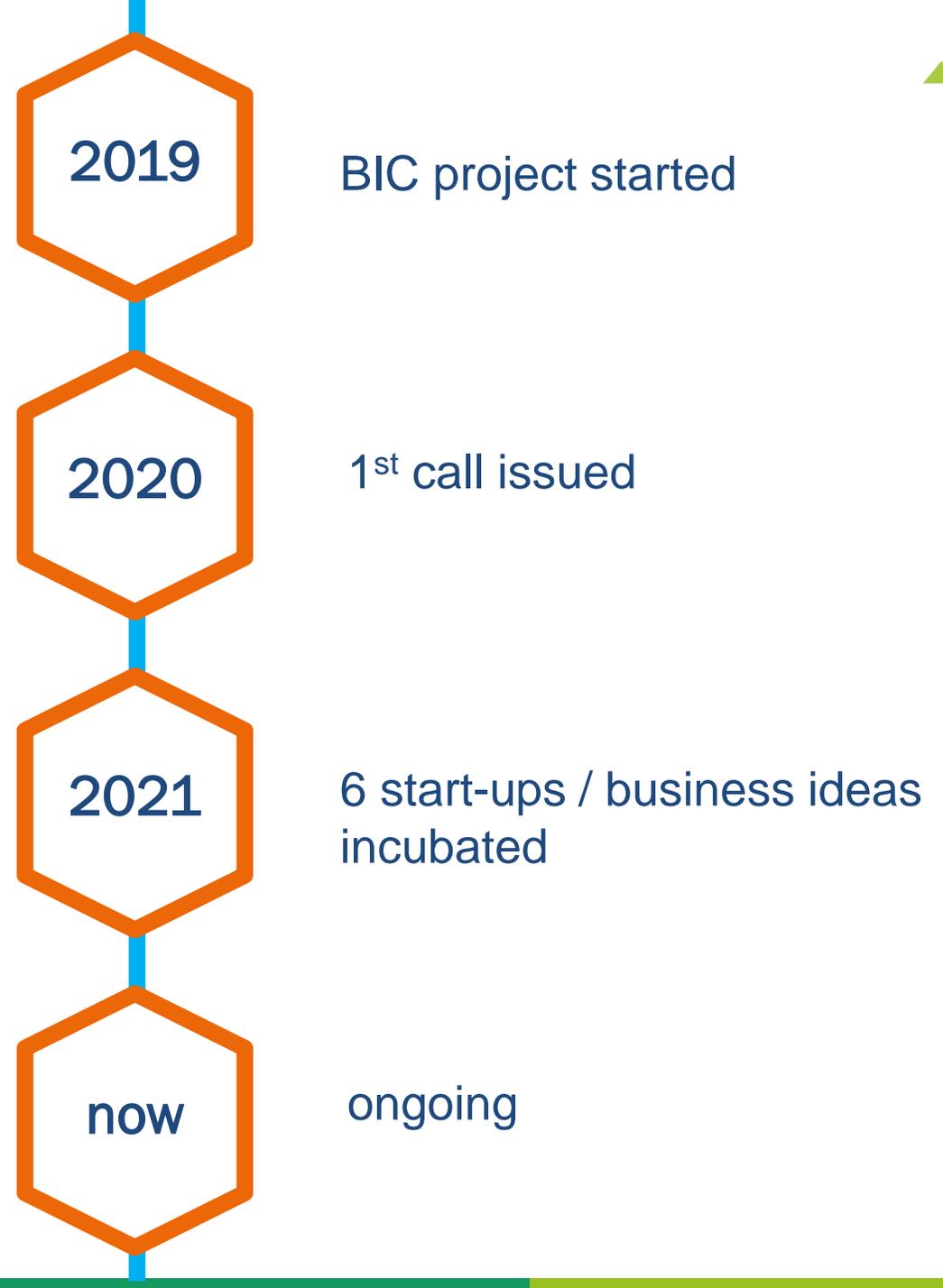




Resources

Partner companies put at BIC disposal:

- 6 plants
- 1 member for the Board of Directors
- 1 R&D Director for the Technical Committee per partner
- R&D staff
- annual partners fees plus flexible investments





Results – lesson learnt

- ❖ cooperation among corporations and research entities
- ❖ factories open to young innovators
- ❖ call launched during the Covid-19 pandemic
- ❖ 6 projects in Agrofood BIC

Transferability potential

- open innovation opportunity
- private-public networking
- start-up support
- promoting innovation
- can be started with public investments and then become self-sustainable thanks to the companies periodic fees



Thank you!

For further information: www.agrofoodbic.it

Orsola Milani
Metropolitan City of Bologna
orsola.Milani@cittametropolitana.bo.it



**Interreg
Europe**



European Union | European Regional Development Fund