

EFFRA Response to Digitising European Industry initiative (DEI) WG2 1st Report- 20/01/2017

(DEI – WG2 – FoF PPP – Manufacturing)

Introduction

EFFRA highly appreciates the efforts done by the European Commission and the acknowledgement of the key role of the Factories of the Future PPP within the DEI initiative. This document provides some comments and observations in response to the 1st Report of WG2 'Leadership in Industrial Platforms'. (The headers below refer to the sections of the report)

Section 2.2 Platforms and their roles

There seems to be a minor inconsistency in the description of the focus of the WG2:

The 'three stages of progress in achieving next-generation platforms' (on top of page 10), read as follows:

- 1) *“(Stage 1) Research and development of technology and systems building blocks. This is addressed through better alignment of national R&D&I programmes, both with each other and with EU programmes around strategic priorities established in PPPs.*
- 2) *(Stage 2) Development, validation and piloting of digital industrial platforms. This is addressed through co-investment in large-scale integration, testing and experimentation facilities.*
- 3) *(Stage 3) Roll-out of digital integration platforms. This is addressed through co-investment in large-scale deployment actions (support to first production, infrastructure, etc.). “*

Then, the focus of WG2 is described as follows:

"This step-wise increase in the scale of the initiatives and of their impact on society at large is illustrated in Figure 1. The work of WG2 will focus on the second stage. Thus, the emphasis is on aligning R&D&I initiatives to establish digital industrial-scale technology platforms and large-scale integration. Large-scale deployment will be addressed at a later stage."

The latter part of the paragraph indicates that the focus of WG2 is both on stage 1 and stage 2 (while the picture and the preceding text indicate a focus on stage 2 only).

Section 2.3 Approach towards large-scale experimentation, test beds, and standardisation

This section reads as follows:

"The plan is therefore to continue the development based on PPPs and focus them even more on the goals outlined in the DEI action plan."

Please replace this by: "The plan is therefore to continue the development based on PPPs and expand the project portfolio of the PPPs to further address the goals outlined in the DEI action plan."

Section 2.4 Large-scale federating projects

This section refers to 'Large-scale federating projects' as well as 'Large-scale federating initiatives'. Please only use 'Large-scale federating initiatives'.

Section 3.5 Contributions from PPPs

This section reads as follows:

"Both FoF and SPIRE could in principle be involved in setting up digital platforms in a variety of sectors. For example, existing project clusters within FoF could be the basis for a series of digital platforms which together could help realise a true 'plug and produce' approach. Specifically, these are:

- *Open RAMI-based product-service lifecycle management environments;*
- *Open factory platforms facilitating the encapsulation of production resources & assets;*
and
- *Open design platforms for additive manufacturing."*

RAMI is a framework in which different architectures and approaches can be mapped. The notion of a 'RAMI-based product-service lifecycle management environment' is therefore misleading.

Additive manufacturing is beyond any doubt a promising technology for industrial manufacturing with a high degree of integration with information technologies. Digital manufacturing platforms will also have to support a broad set of advanced and integrated manufacturing technologies, among which additive manufacturing plays an important role."

EFFRA recommends reflecting within this section elements from the response provided by EFFRA after the first WG2 meeting. This input is to a large extent based on the EFFRA document '[Factories 4.0 and Beyond](#)'.

Chapter 6 and 7 – Role of the PPPs

In the cross-sector chapters 6 and 7 'Industrial Data Platforms' and 'IoT', the FoF PPP is not explicitly mentioned, although the FoF PPP is contributing in these fields and it is very likely that they will continue to contribute in the future.

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