



Safety and Security

– Riihimäki as a hub for Defence and Security Innovation

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19.02.2025

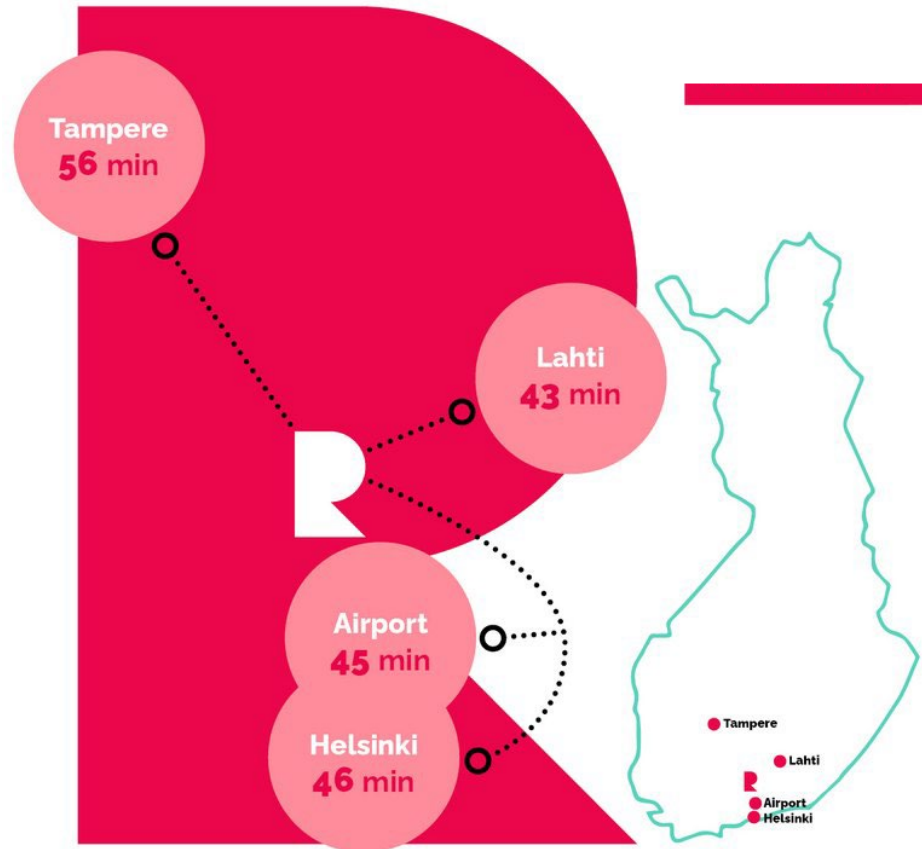
Facebook: @riihimaenkaupunki

Instagram: @riihimaenkaupunki

LinkedIn: @Riihimäen kaupunki – City of Riihimäki

Riihimäki at a glance

- Riihimäki has approx. 28,000 inhabitants
- 94 % it's people live within 3 km of the railway station
- All services are within a cycling or walking distance
- At the heart of the "15min city's" strategy is the decision to build a close-knit urban center equipped with a solid digital infrastructure, and a determination to maintain it



Strategic Goal:

“A home of future professionals”

A Leader in robotics education

A “future proof” hub for ICT, Robotics and Defence innovation

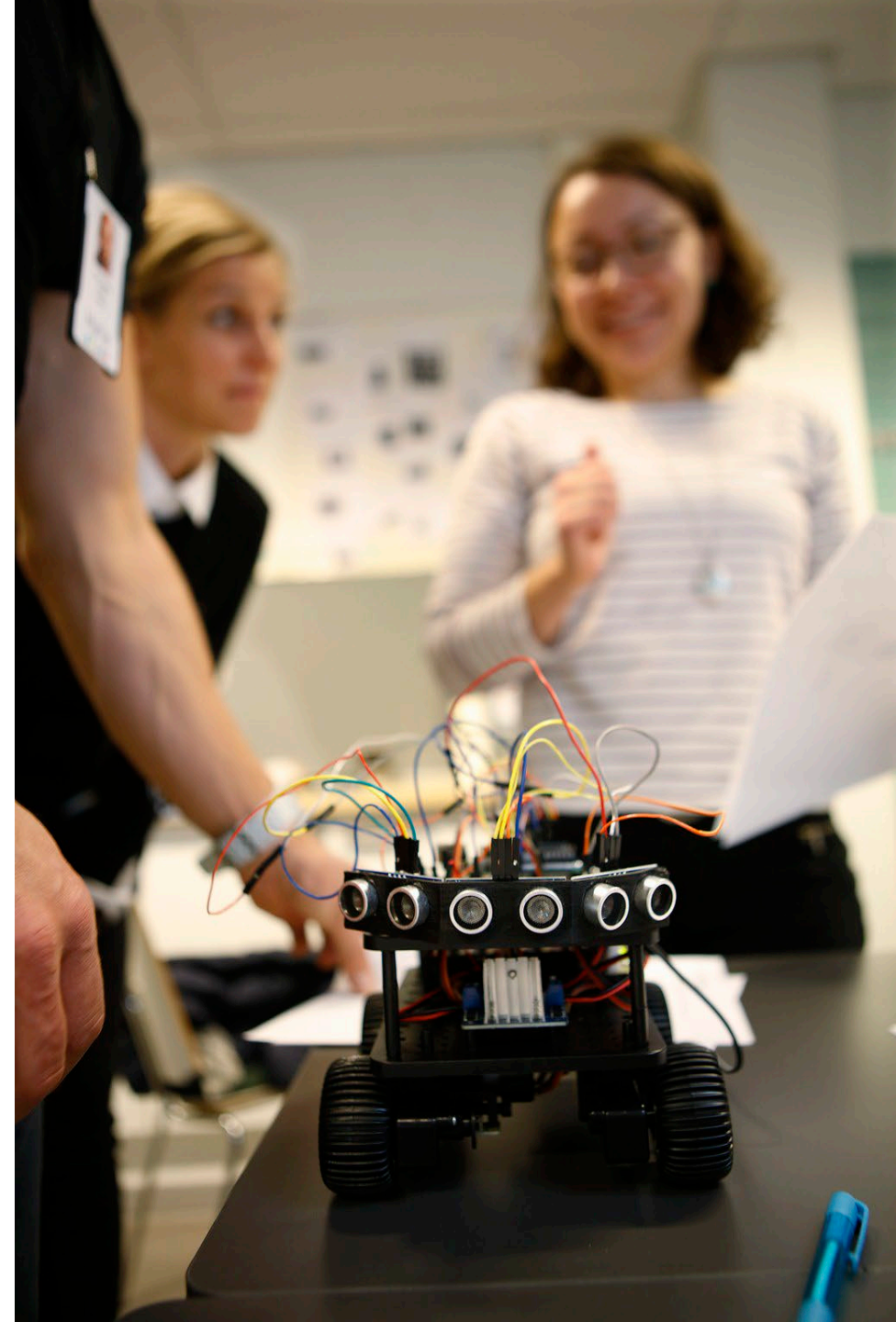
Robotics education

- Riihimäki is the only town in Europe where robotics is taught to all school children from early childhood to the end of comprehensive school
- Educational objectives and content are defined in Riihimäki's early childhood curricula and teaching curricula



Robotics education

- During comprehensive school, robotics education is integrated into the teaching of basic education subjects
- At our General Upper Secondary School, students can select robotics courses as part of their studies
- These studies can later be credited as part of higher education studies at HAMK.





Defence Innovation Finland – Business accelerator

Innovations for total defence and security

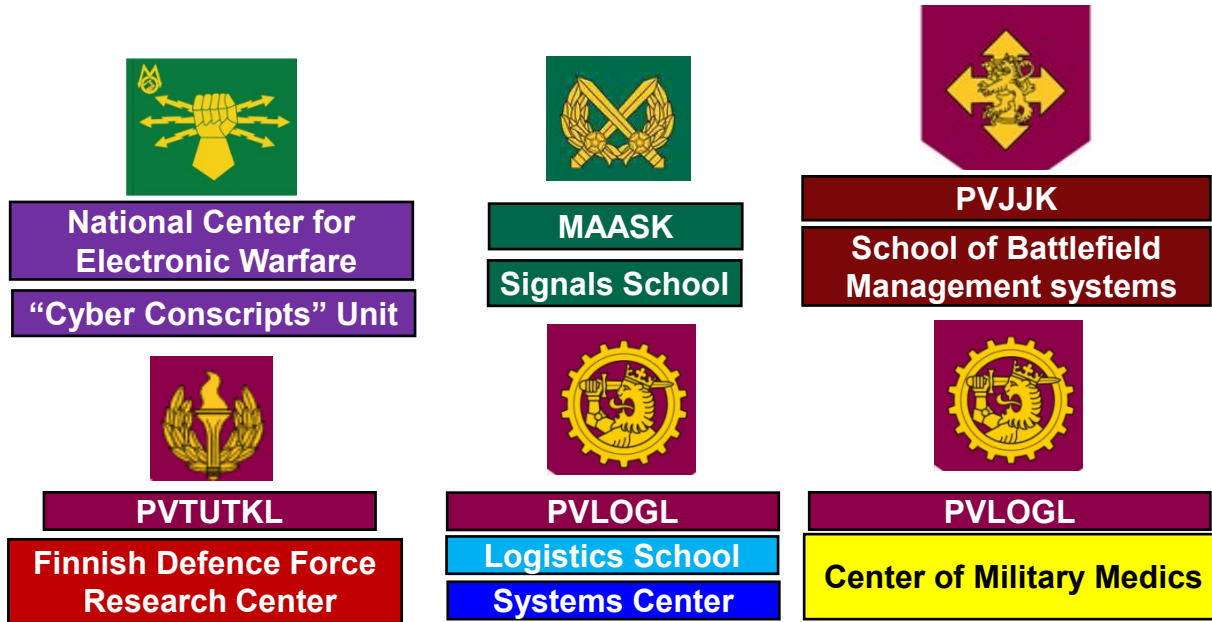
DEFINE - Innovations for total defence and security

Riihimäki is building a world-class defence and security network that generates new expertise and accelerates innovation in the field.

Our operations create **dual-use technologies** that serve military organisations and civil society, improve Finland's national defence capability and the comprehensive security of its citizens, and boost Finland's exports

European defence startups are gaining momentum, driven by public sector support such as NATO's \$1 billion startup fund and the European Investment Fund's €175 million fund for dual-use technologies.

The Riihimäki Garrison



Defence sector in Riihimäki:

- over 1000 pers., of which
- appr. 600 Defence Forces
- appr. 400 Corporate empl.

An ecosystem hub at a central location

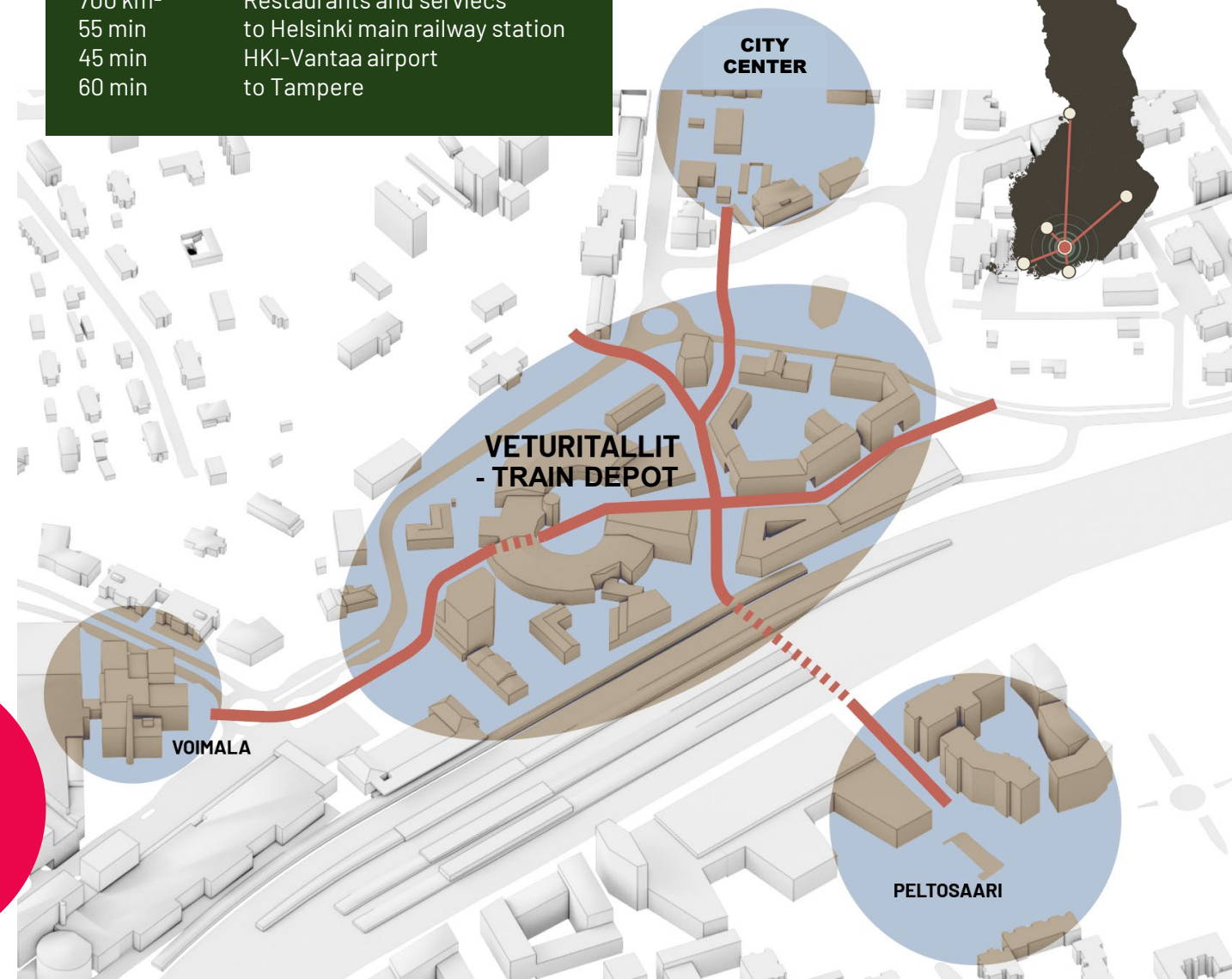
- Riihimäki is a part of the “national growth corridor” and the Helsinki Metropolitan Area
- The Train Depot area at the centre of the town is being developed as a hub for high level technology expertise, research and innovation.

RIIHIMÄKI Business Network

Current plans of the Train Depot -area enable the creation of a significant business concentration right next to the main National Railway Line.

Key Figures

18 000 km ²	office space
2 000 km ²	Accelerator space
4 000 km ²	Event and Exhibition space
700 km ²	Restaurants and services
55 min	to Helsinki main railway station
45 min	HKI-Vantaa airport
60 min	to Tampere



Railway station under the feet

A new underpass will connect the railway straight to the Depot

Growing demand for Defence innovation

- The security and defence sector is growing rapidly amid global turmoil.
- The Finnish defence industry has 130 export companies and the value of exports is EUR 1,2 billion.
- As a comparison, in Norway, 90% of exports come from SMEs. With 180 export companies in the defence industry and the value of exports at EUR 1.7 billion.

Finland

1,2 mrd. €

130 export companies

Norway

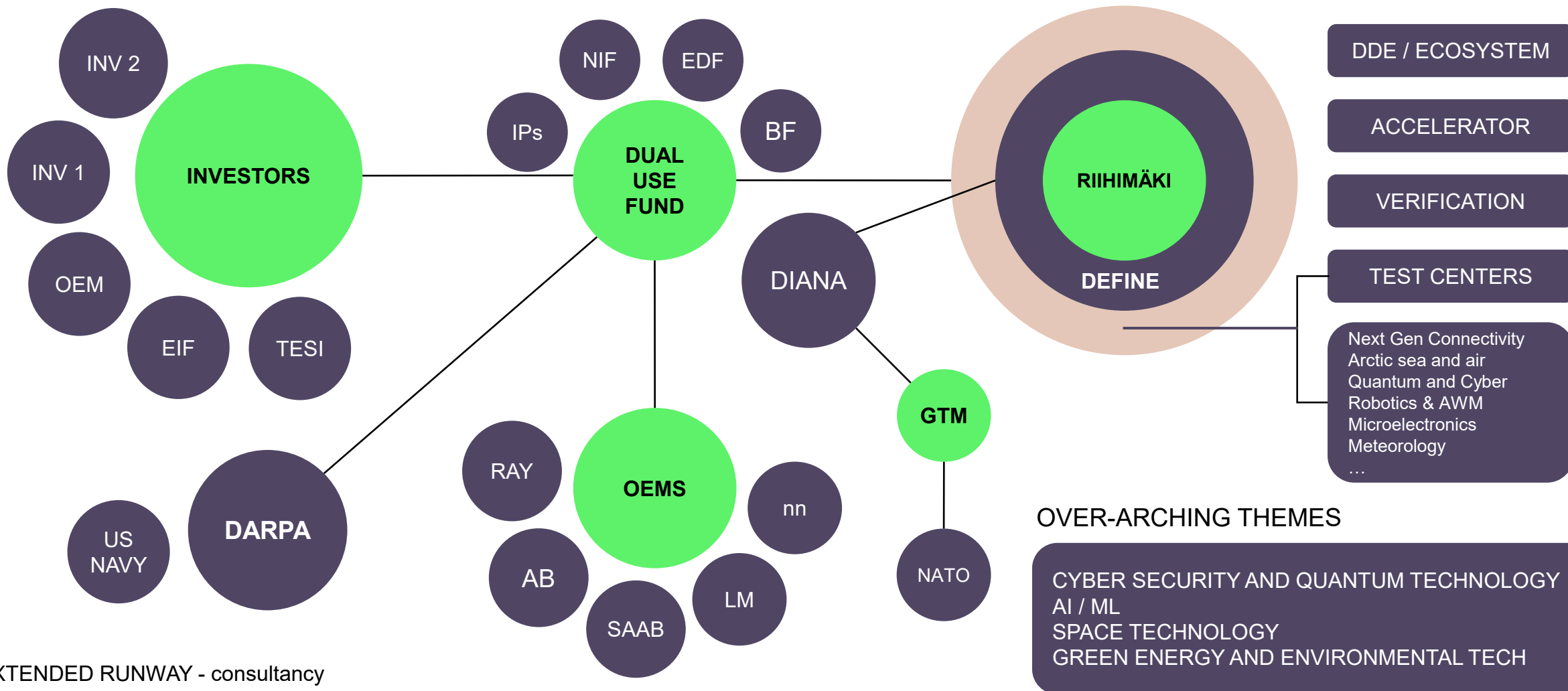
1,7 mrd. €

180 export companies



DEFINE - DUAL-USE ECOSYSTEM

RIIHIMÄKI CITY INITIATIVE



DEFINE ACCELERATOR PARTNERS

INNOVATING AND SCALING THE FINNISH DUAL-USE TECHNOLOGIES TOGETHER WITH BEST PARTNERS

INNOVATION CLUSTER

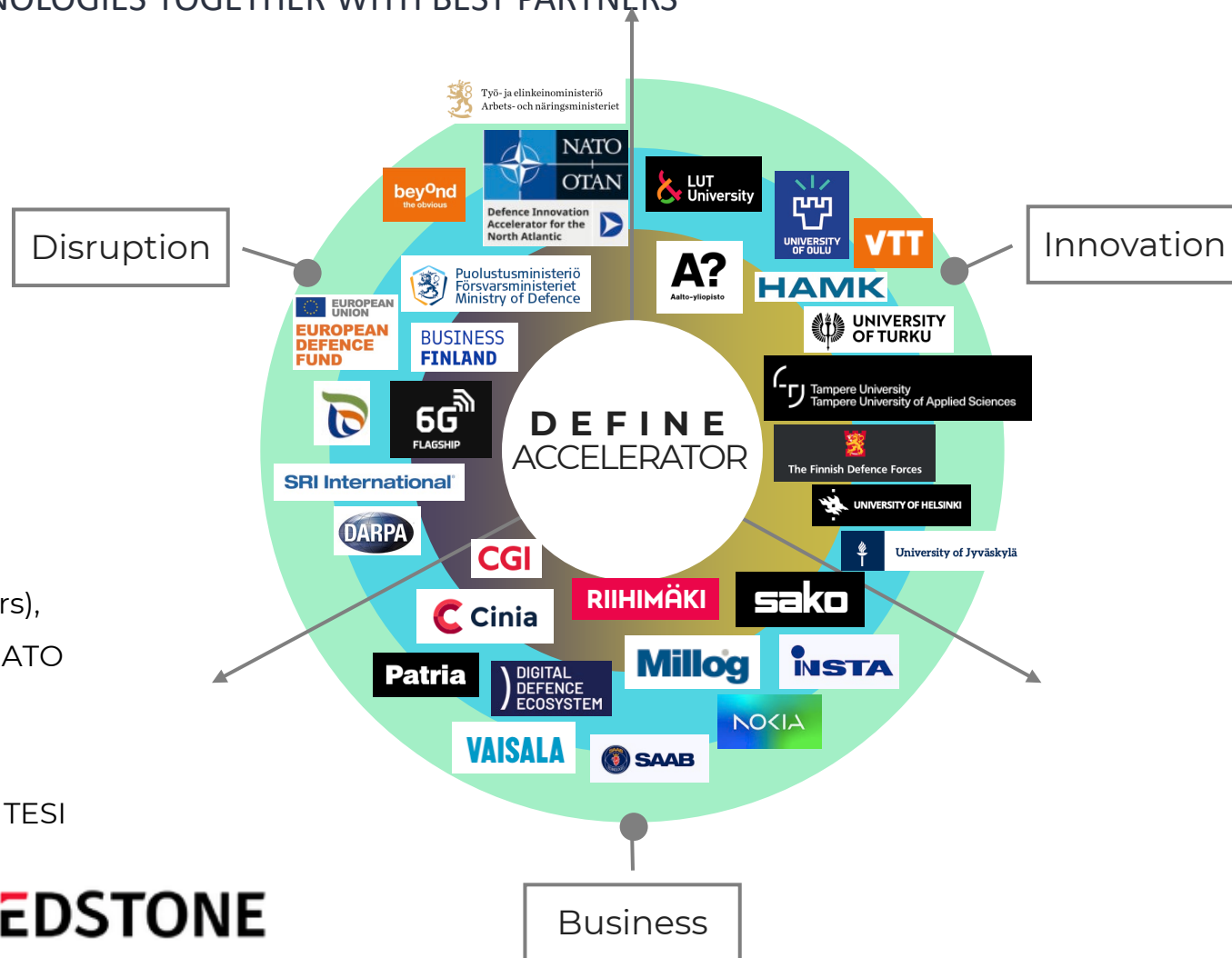
Aalto University, Helsinki University, Tampere University, Jyväskylä University, Turku University, Lappeenranta University, HAMK, Oulu University, Finnish Defense Forces Research Center Riihimäki, VTT

BUSINESS CLUSTER

Dual-use technology business partners, Riihimäki City, Digital Defense Ecosystem (DDE) Finland,

DISRUPTION CLUSTER

NATO Diana accelerator partner network (11 partner accelerators), Funding partners (ELY, EDF, Business Finland, NIF, PEs, VCs), NATO countries test centers (97), SocHub Tampere, Micronova and Kvanttinova R&D Centers Finland, Ministry of Defense Finland, DARPA, Stanford Research institute, 6G Flagship Finland, TEM, TESI



Supported by the City of Riihimäki and backed by Redstone VC



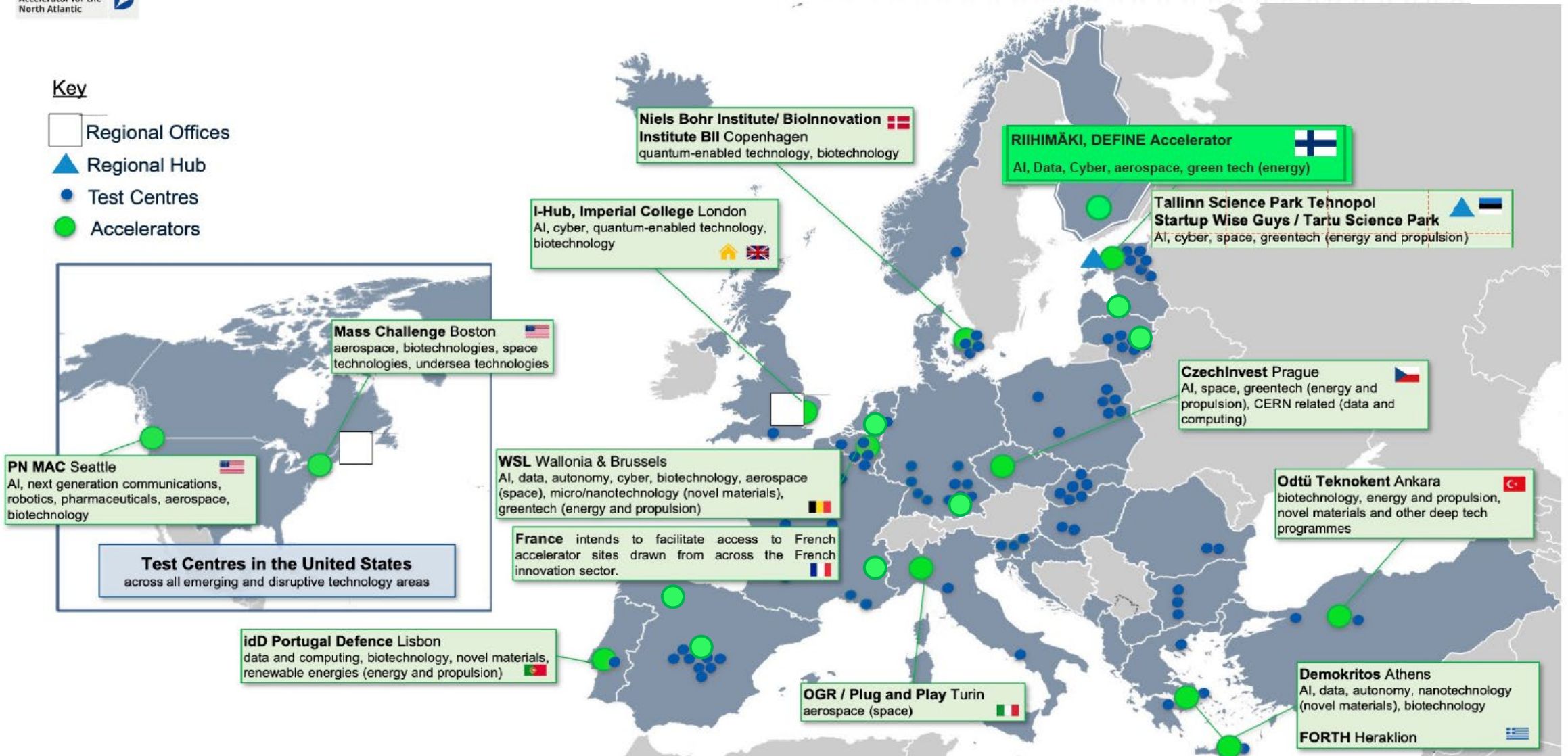


NATO - DIANA footprint: Accelerator sites

March 2025

Key

- Regional Offices
- ▲ Regional Hub
- Test Centres
- Accelerators



DEFINE - contacts

Teemu Seppälä

Technology and Innovation Director

City of Riihimäki

Henrietta Hirvonen

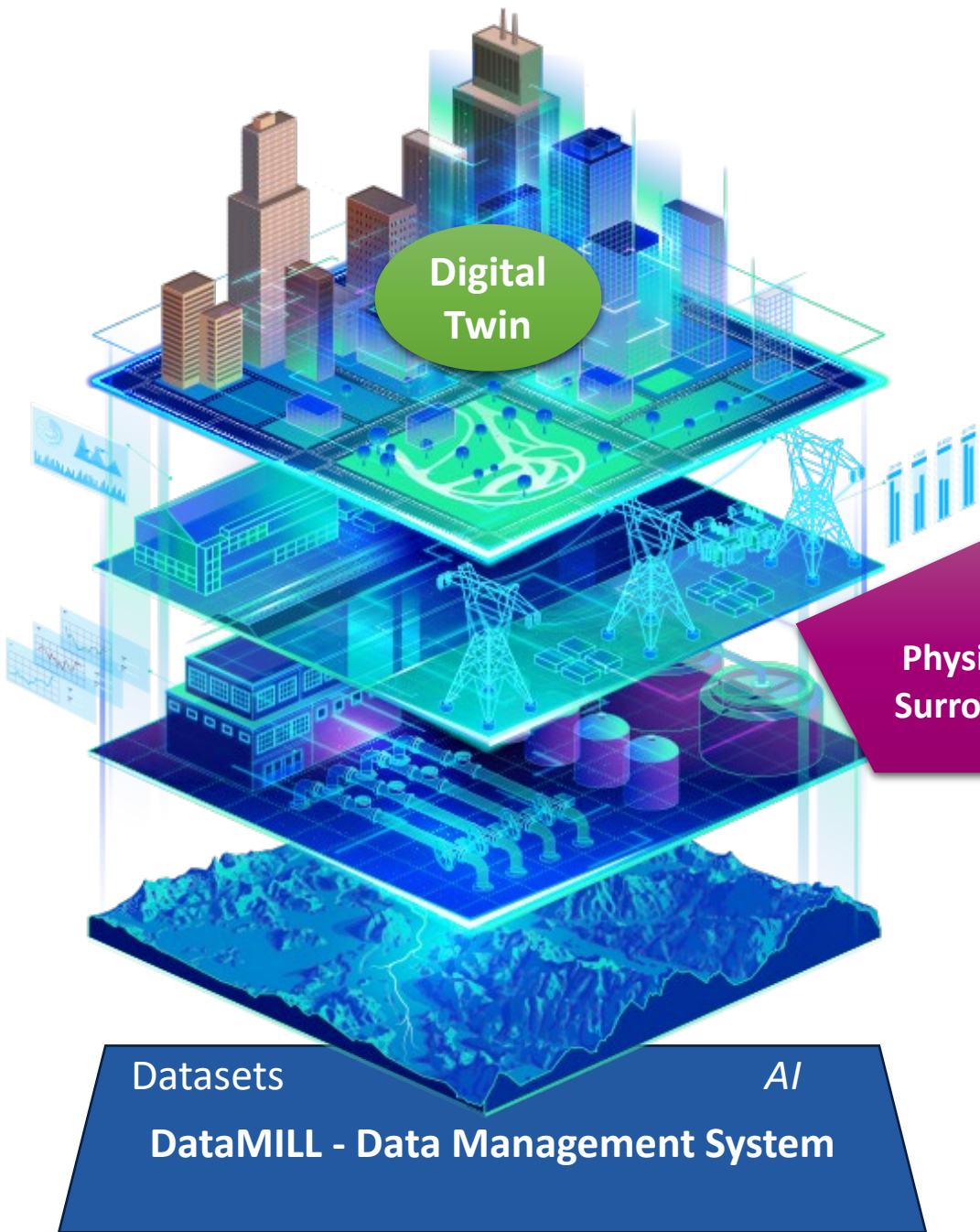
Dealflow manager

Redstone VC

- **Seasoned industry-leading experts from the Finnish Army Academy and professional investors from Redstone VC provide their guidance to the startups throughout their journey at DEFINE**

Summary: Urban visions

The Bigger Picture



Digital infrastructure as a service platform for our city units, citizens and the business ecosystem

Stakeholders: Academia, R&D, ICT & Robotics, Defence Sector, Dual Use –technology development

Towards a safer, more functional and sustainable physical urban environment

RIIHIMÄKI

Innovation Challenge:

How can robotics and automation help?

- **Possible perspectives:**

- Defence / Traffic / Personal / Specific user groups or places
- **Physical surroundings – physical robots & automation**
 - Public areas: parks, roads, sport fields, school yards, etc.
 - Private areas: gardens, parking lots, office yards, etc.
 - Interiors: shopping malls, restaurants, public toilets, etc.
- **Digital surroundings – software robots & automation**
 - Apps, programming, digital twins, AI,



Team-up time!

RIIHIMÄKI

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