

# **Lessons learned in implementing U-Space in Finland**

**Dr. Petri Mononen, Principal Scientist  
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd**

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VTT – beyond the obvious



## **Dr. Petri Mononen**

**Principal Scientist**

**VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd**

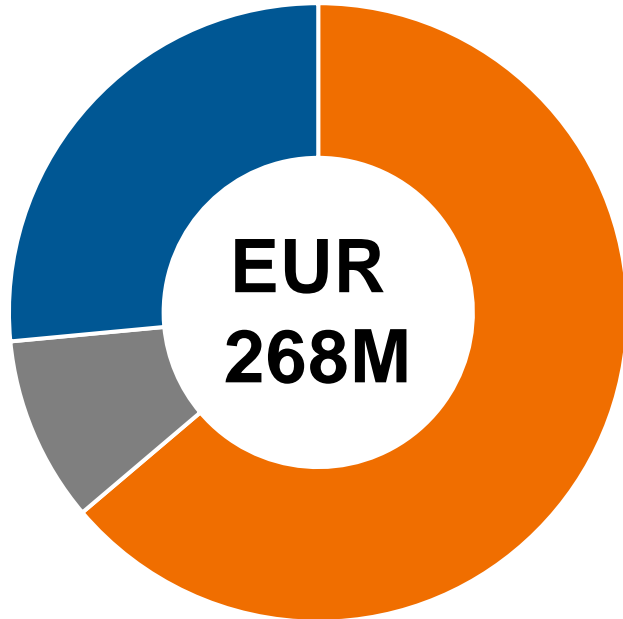
**Leader of VTT UAV Excellence Node**

**AiRMOUR Coordinator**

**Drolo Research coordinator**

**[petri.mononen@vtt.fi](mailto:petri.mononen@vtt.fi) +358 40 5155 808**

# VTT today



**171 M€**

Turnover (parent 160 M€)

**26 M€**

Other operating income

**71 M€**

Government grant

**2,049**

employees

**44%**

of turnover from  
abroad\*

**36%**

of Finnish innovations  
have links with VTT's  
competences

**363**

patent families

**VTT**

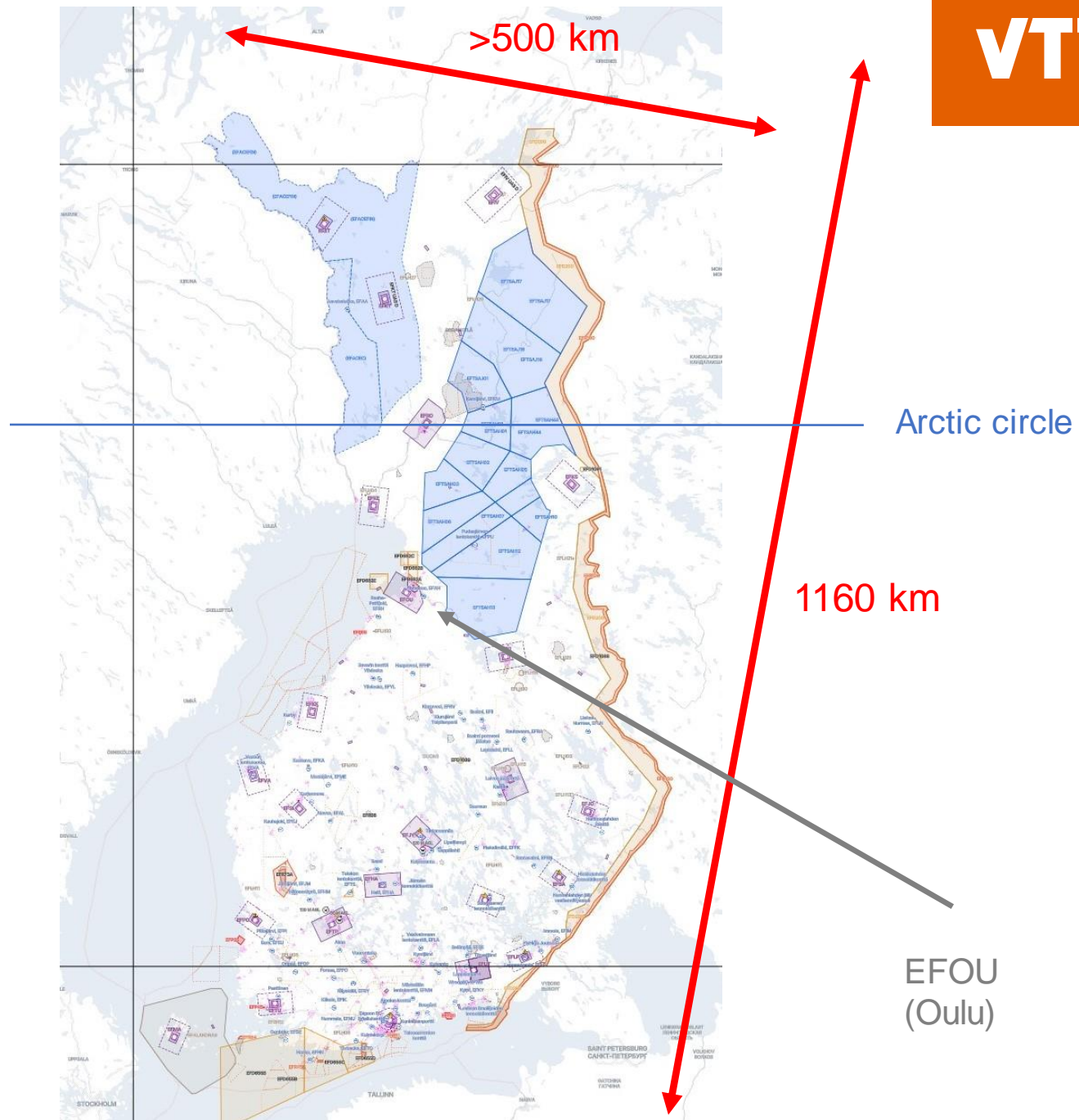
is under the state ownership steering of the Ministry  
of Economic Affairs and Employment

# Contents

- Finnish UAV research & demonstrator landscape
- Autonomous intelligent multi-purpose drone enabled business in evolving U-Space environment (Drolo)
- Lessons learned and to be learned along the way
- Goal: show challenges and learnings for players that start with U-Space from the ground up

# UAV research & demonstrator landscape in Finland

# Finland



# Finnish stance in UAV & UAM & UTM

- UAV offers huge potential for developing innovative civil applications in a wide variety of sectors that benefit the society and will contribute to creating new business and jobs
- By and large, Finland actively contributes to the development of a drone ecosystem supporting the emergence of this promising sector
- In addition to national activities, heavily leaning on UAV development globally
- Up to now, no large scale implementations or demonstrators of U-Space / UTM
  - one smaller scale one with single user company, food logistics in a smallish area

# Research landscape

- European & international
  - AiRMOUR (H2020, a few words on this later)
  - Flying Forward 2020 (H2020 sibling)
  - 5G Drones (H2020)
  - GOF & GOF 2.0 (SESAR)
  - Hyfliers (H2020), Nordic Drone Initiative, etc.
- Nationally funded
  - Drolo (Business Finland, more later)
  - FUAVE (Academy of Finland)
  - RoboMesh (Academy of Finland)
  - VED, SURE, CityLog, etc. etc.
- Foci including drone ecosystems, 5G, cross-border, eVTOL, logistics, U-Space, ground infra, autonomy, propulsion tech, business models, education, etc.
- Involved are businesses, academia & RTOs, administrations and cities



# Expanding mobility into the third dimension – the airspace



# Why AiRMOUR?

**Cities will have a major role in UAM – along with civil aviation administration and national transport authorities**




**Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will be likely first adopters of eVTOL**

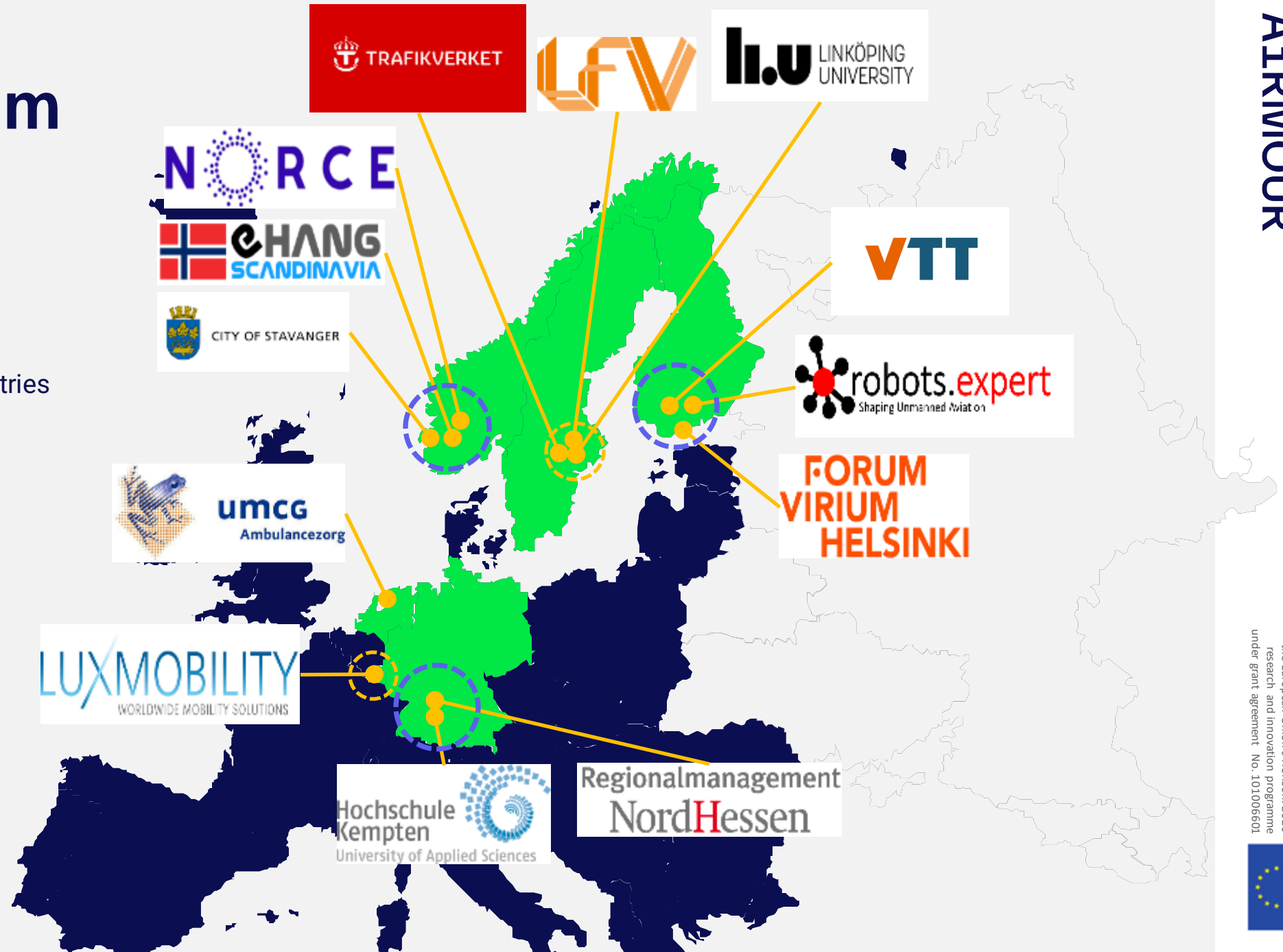


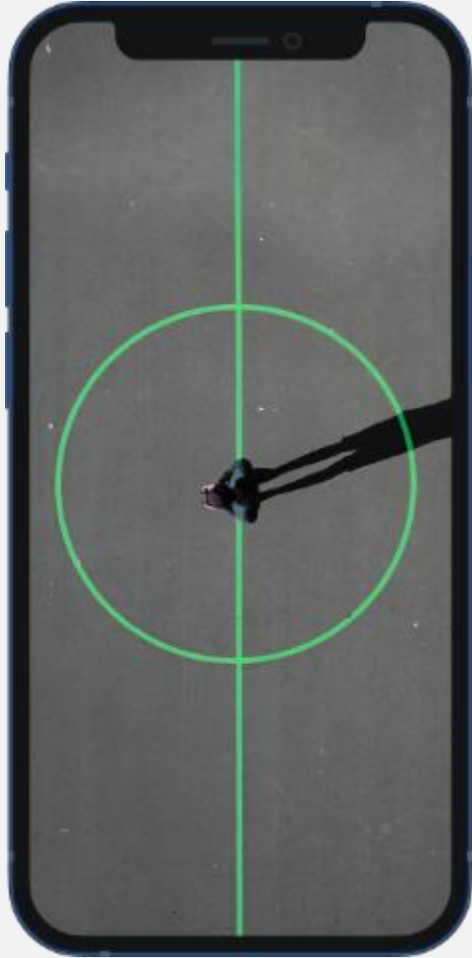
# AIRMOUR in a nutshell

- Enabling sustainable AiR MObility in URrban contexts via use cases in emergency and medical services
- AiRMOUR is a Horizon 2020 RIA supporting Urban Air Mobility
- Running 1.1.2021 – 31.12.2023
- 13 partners from 6 countries, with a total EU funding of 6M€
- Lead partner VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd.
- Demonstrations in three cities: Stavanger (NO), Helsinki (FI), Kassel (DE)
- Simulations in three cities: Luxembourg, Stockholm and Dubai
- 10+ Replicator cities
- Strong international and European support: NASA, JUIDA (Japan UAS Industrial Development Association), Dubai Future Foundation, EASA, Eurocontrol, EIT KIC Urban Mobility, European cities UIC<sup>2</sup>, etc.

# Consortium

-  Partnership countries
-   Test flights / Simulations





# Approach



## Research

- Safety
- Security
- Regulations
- User acceptance
- Sustainability – ecologic, economic, societal



## Validate

- Simulations
- Live validation test flights for unmanned and eVTOL EMS



## Spread

- Leverage findings into UAM Toolbox
- Cities up to speed
- Stakeholder engagement
- Public outreach
- Supplement transportation system as a new mode



# Global outreach



+ 10+ replicators, research collaboration, etc.

# Main output of AiRMOUR

## The UAM Toolbox for aviation and urban authorities, validated in real-life settings

- UAM Guidebook for cities, operators and other stakeholders
- UAM GIS tool for urban planners
- UAM Training programme and masterclasses
- N/B: no UTM, but... →



**City and region involvement - this is an integral lesson**

**Will need to be heavily involved (are in Drolo & AiRMOUR)**

**Huge differences e.g. in understanding, knowledge levels, aspirations, imagined end-states and generally the possibilities & limitations of UAV**

**Varying setup of relevant decision-making bodies**

**Now coordinating directly to the relevant EASA WG**



**DROLO**

BUSINESS FROM URBAN AIRSPACE





“Investigate and demonstrate the U-Space integration into and interplay with ATM CTR. Develop various other technological and economical aspects, such as business viability, hydrogen propulsion and 5G connectivity.”

“Drolo is linked to European regulatory development so that U-Space services can be piloted, tested and launched in Finland among the first.”

2 years c.a. 8 M€

11 partners + ecosystem

U-Space demonstrator

Drone business development

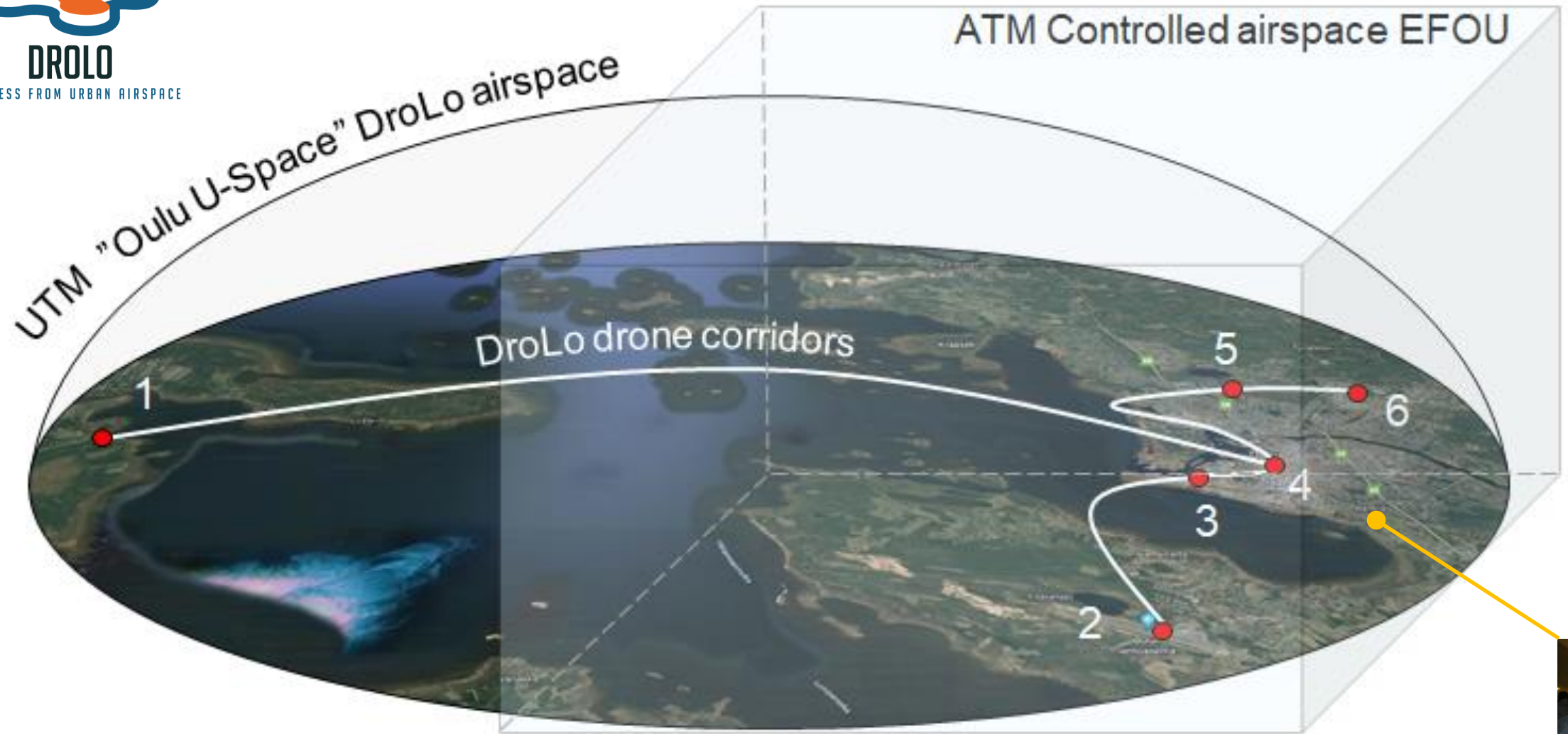
Drone technology RDI

Concept RDI



**DROLO**

BUSINESS FROM URBAN AIRSPACE



1. Hailuoto  
2. Airport

3. Harbour  
4. Oulu City centre

5. Technology campus  
6. Rusko 5G test site



# Schedule

Project start

Consortium agreement

Steering group (every 4 months)

Define, design, implement, validate

Test flight activity (to archipelago etc.)

UTM vendor?

U-Space setup

Pre-commercial U-Space / UTM

Banking on the  
estimated EU  
legislation schedule

Commercial U-Space

Airport corridor definition

5G network analysis

5G flights

Fuel cell drone



Crawl



Walk



Run



Fly

A lot on USSP operators' plate

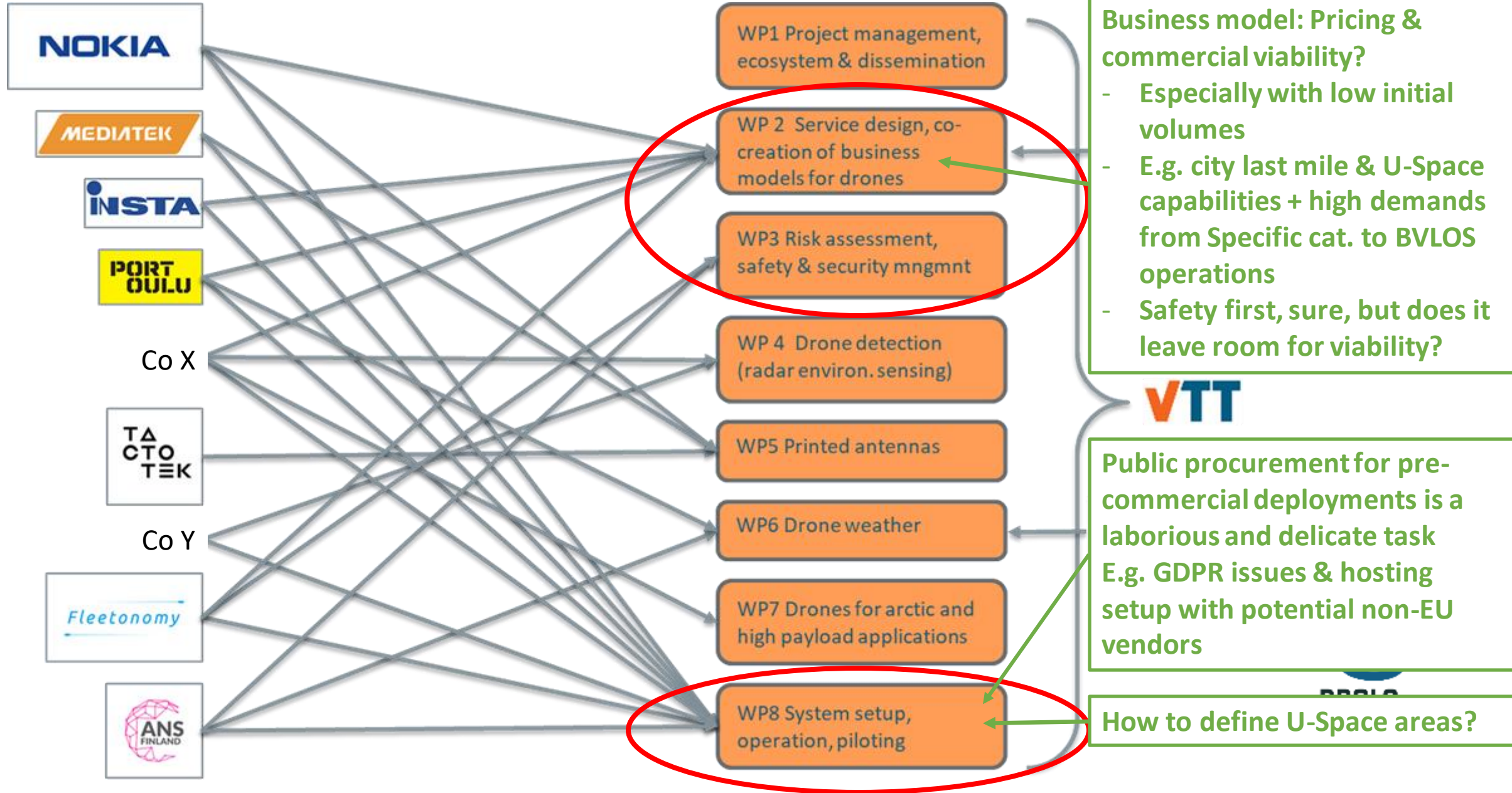
- Inter-USSP data exchange, CIS was going to be the integration point, will this be feasible?
- Methods to convey UAV location data from U-Space to ATM actors
- Handover operability between USSPs at country borders, a lot of undefined interfaces and options



## Companies

## WPs

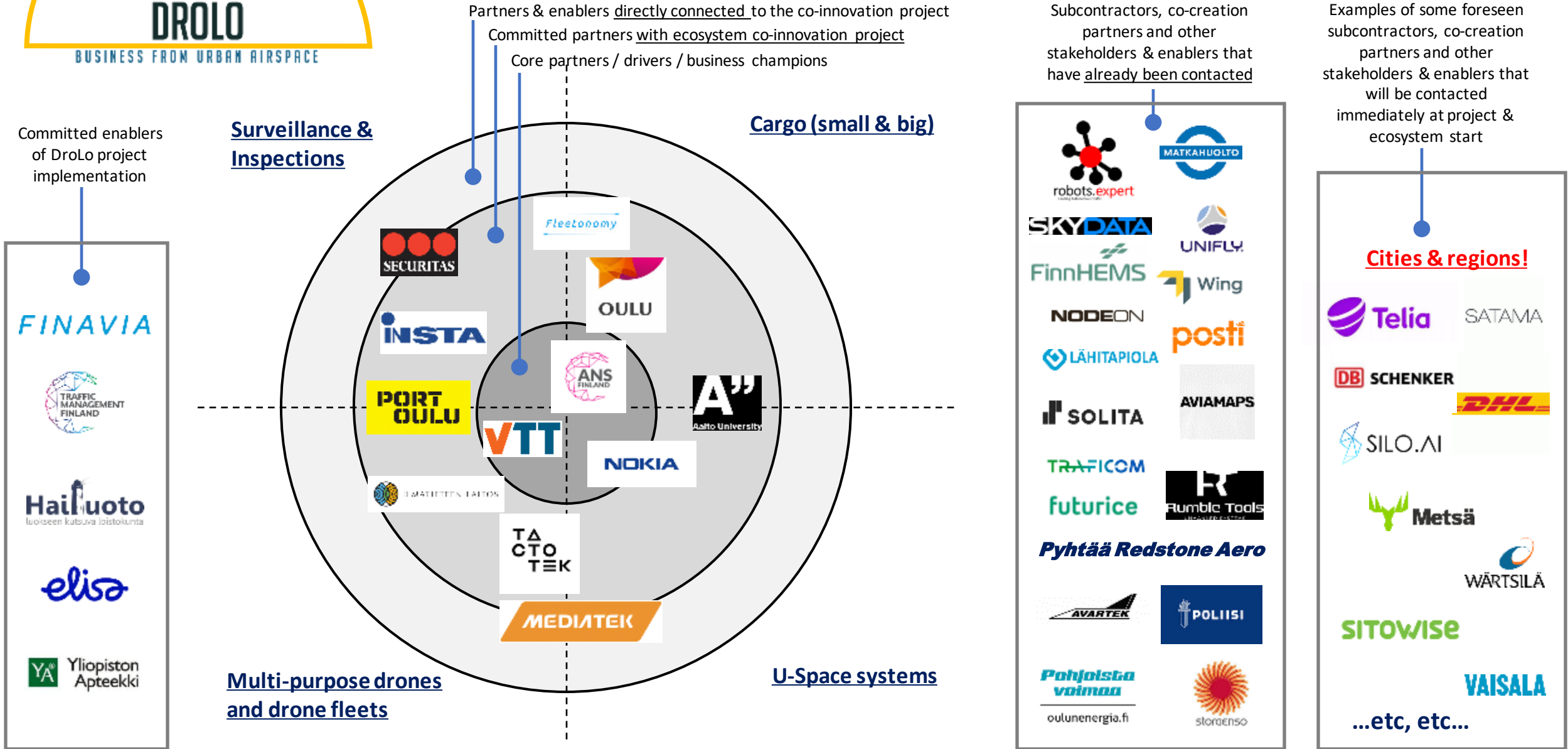
## Public research







# Ecosystem Launchpad (led by VTT)







# UTM & CTR challenge

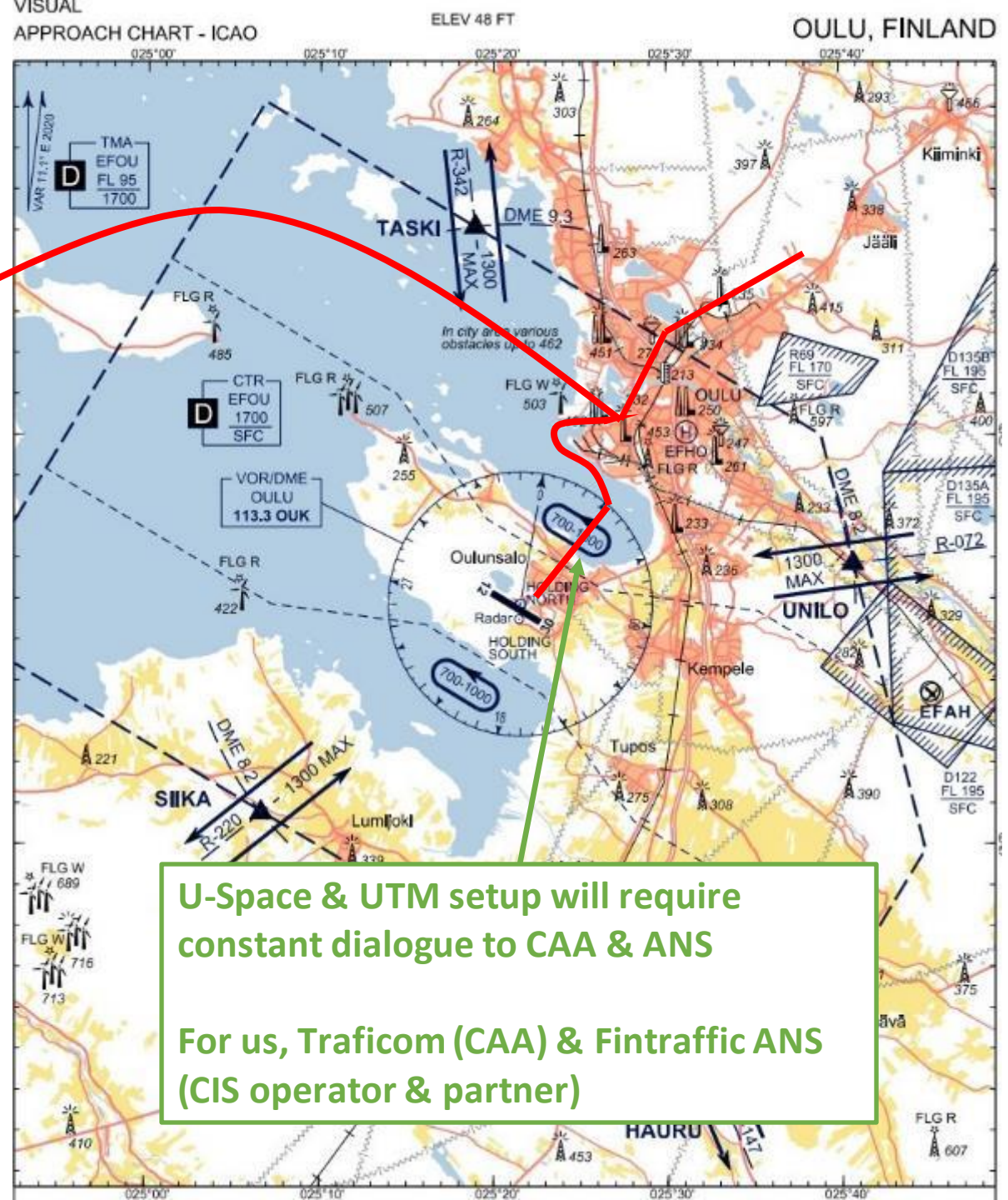
Acknowledging that in the end state when operating close to airport, the UAV certification levels must be high (air- and trustworthiness, redundancies, risk levels etc.)



FINAVIA



TRAFICOM



U-Space & UTM setup will require constant dialogue to CAA & ANS

For us, Traficom (CAA) & Fintraffic ANS (CIS operator & partner)



## Conclude

- What we or non-aviation experts might wish to learn and benefit from other similar or related activities
- Where we think we might be able to help others



# Thank You!

**Dr. PETRI MONONEN**

**AiRMOUR Coordinator**

**Drolo Research Coordinator**

[petri.mononen@vtt.fi](mailto:petri.mononen@vtt.fi)

+358405155808

