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4th ET Annual Meeting,
Nov, 11-14, 2025, Opatjia, Croatia

Developing a Comprehensive Digital Framework for Sustainable ET Design: A Prototype for the Sardinia site

ETIC WP6 – Sustainable Design

M. Cagnizi, P. J. V. D'Aranno, F. Ferranti, M. Marzario,
Q. Napoleoni, G. Sappa, F. Scipione, M. Marsella
(DICEA, Sapienza, University of Rome); W. Wahbeh
(FHNW)



ET Specificity and Challenges

Aspect	Specificity of ET	Critical Challenges
Infrastructure configurations	Two options: triangular (3 arms, 10 km) or L-shaped layout (15 km arms)	Selecting the optimal layout based on scientific, technical, and organizational constraints
Instrumentation	Xylophone setup: two interferometers per arm; low-frequency (cryogenic) + high-frequency (high-power lasers)	Managing the optimal positioning cryogenics, thermal stability, and vacuum systems
Optimal positioning	Location of tunnels and caverns within the site	Balancing geological suitability, construction feasibility, environmental constraints, and noise minimization
Scale & Engineering	Tens of kilometers of underground tunnels and ultra-high-vacuum systems	Excavation complexity, structural stability, and costs
Collaboration	Large-scale European project involving multiple countries	Governance, resource coordination, and long-term funding

Beyond isolated models — toward a methodological framework

Establish a flexible and evolving foundation for Digital Twin development

Progressive and federated integration of heterogeneous data

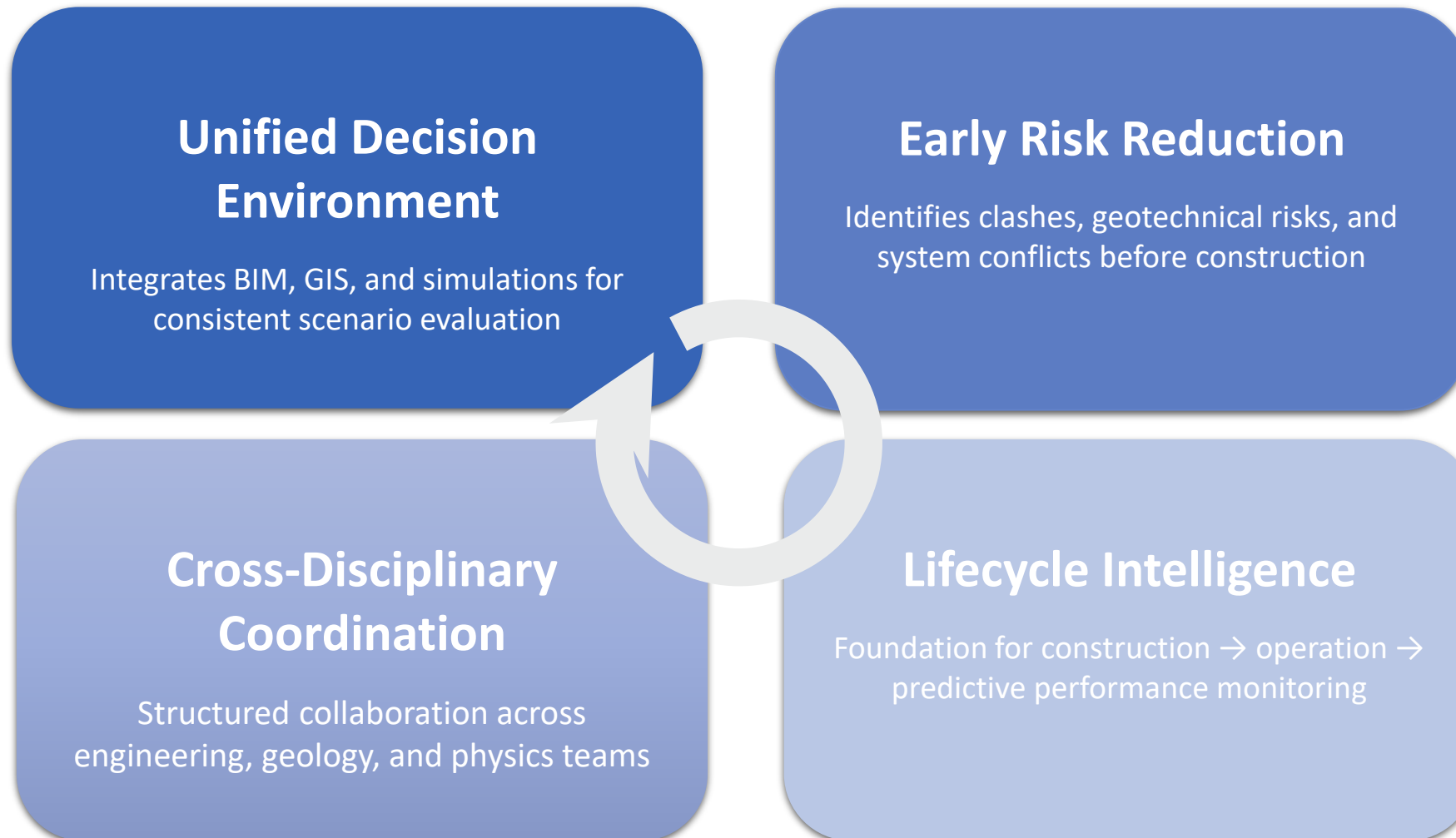
Involve multiple domains from spatial and engineering data sources that evolve progressively and asynchronously

Roadmap toward a full lifecycle twin

Define a roadmap for scalability and continuity evolving from design to operation

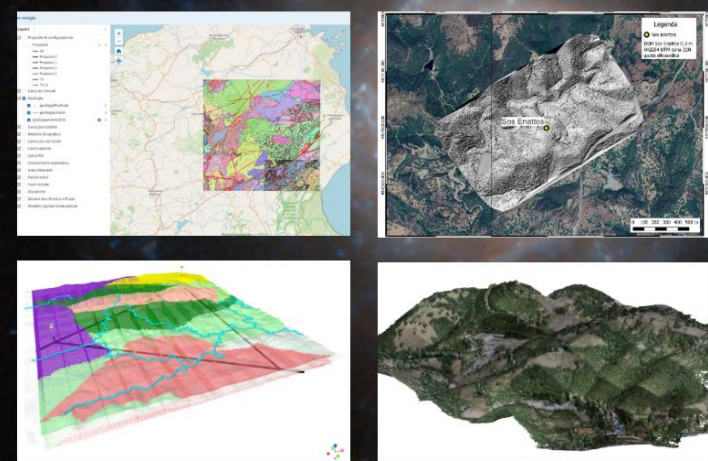
Flexible platform for sustainable ET development

Benefits of DDT



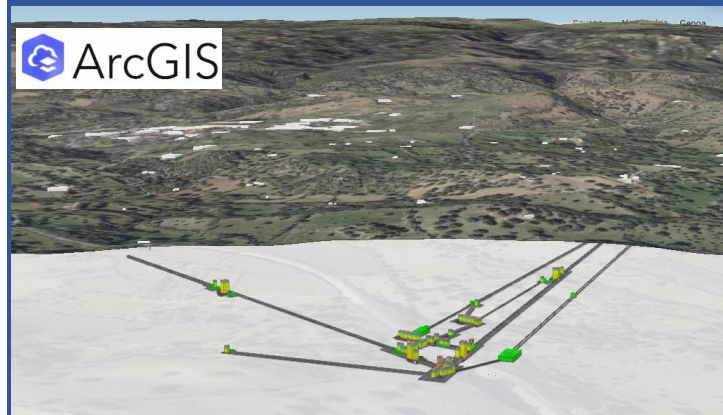
Architecture Overview

Data

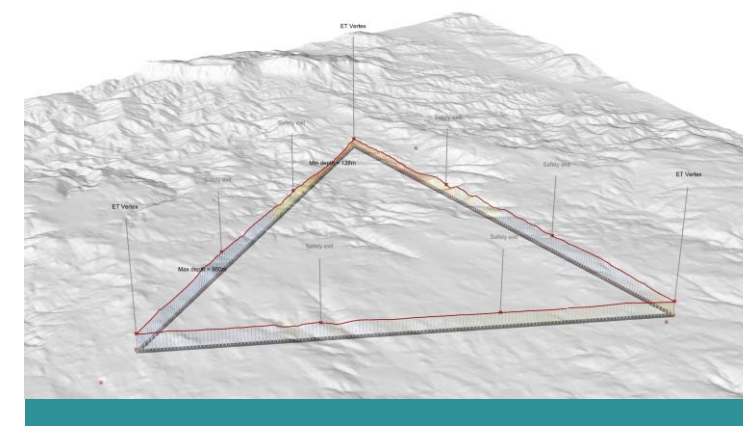


*Work
Environments*

ArcGIS

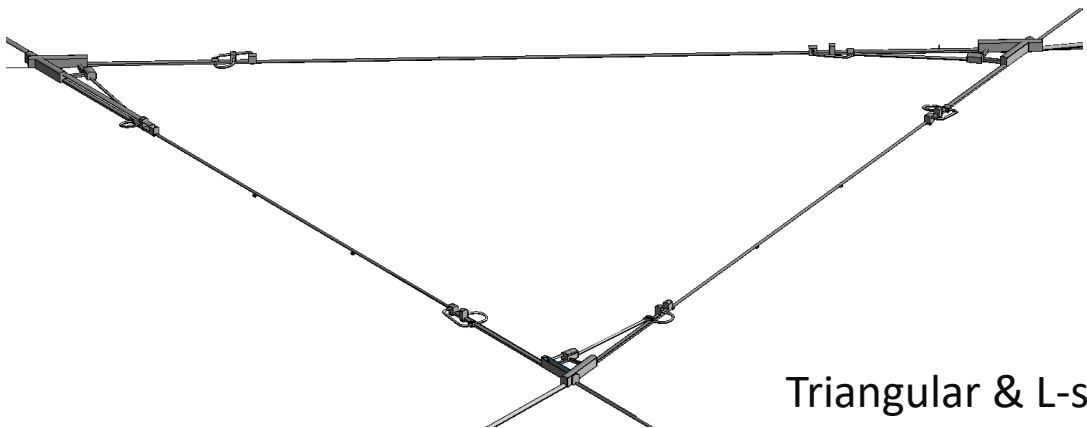


*Analysis and
simulation*

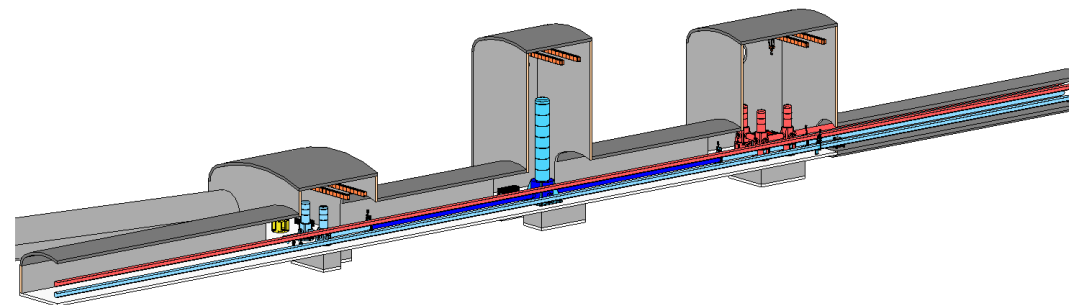
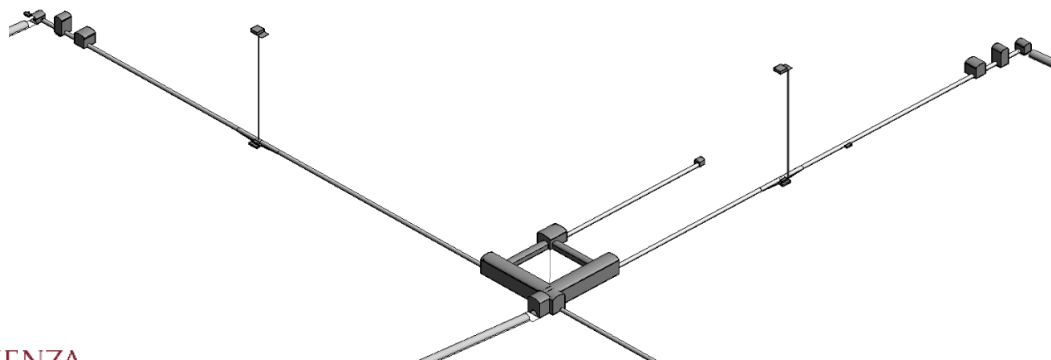


Data - BIM models (LOD ~100–200)

- Focus on main geometries
- Support early spatial reasoning



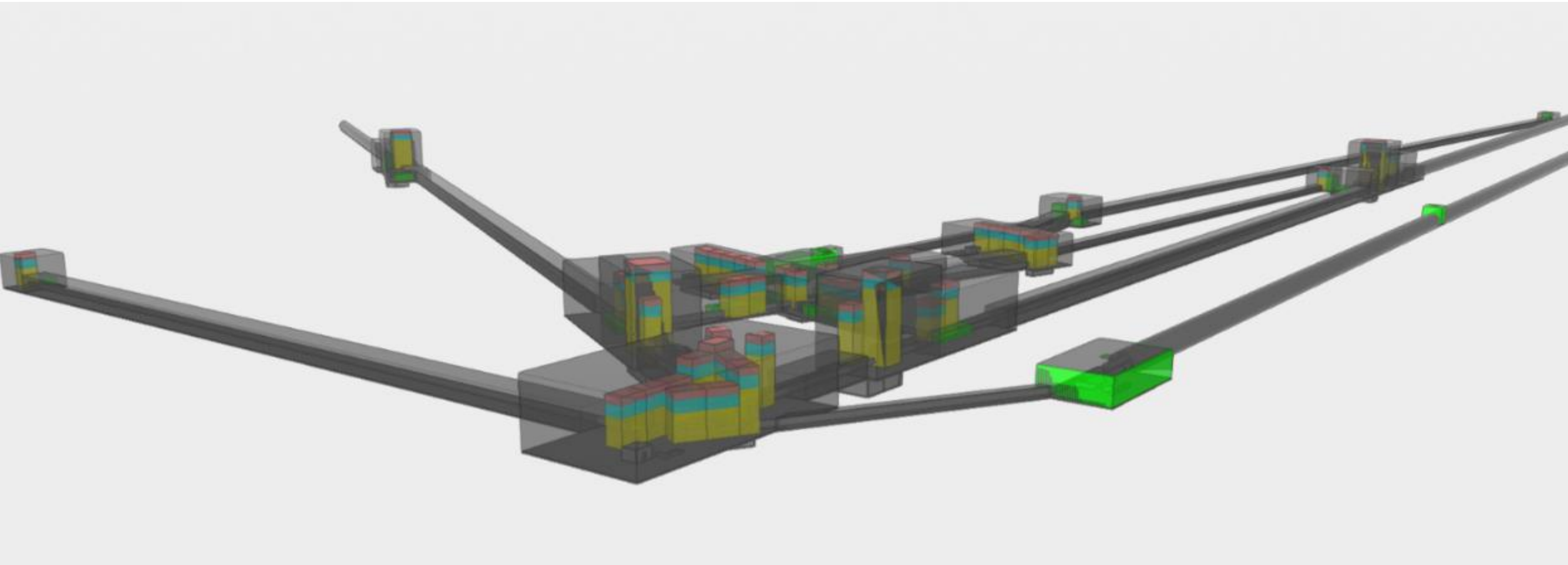
Triangular & L-shaped
configurations



Tunnel & cavern volumes

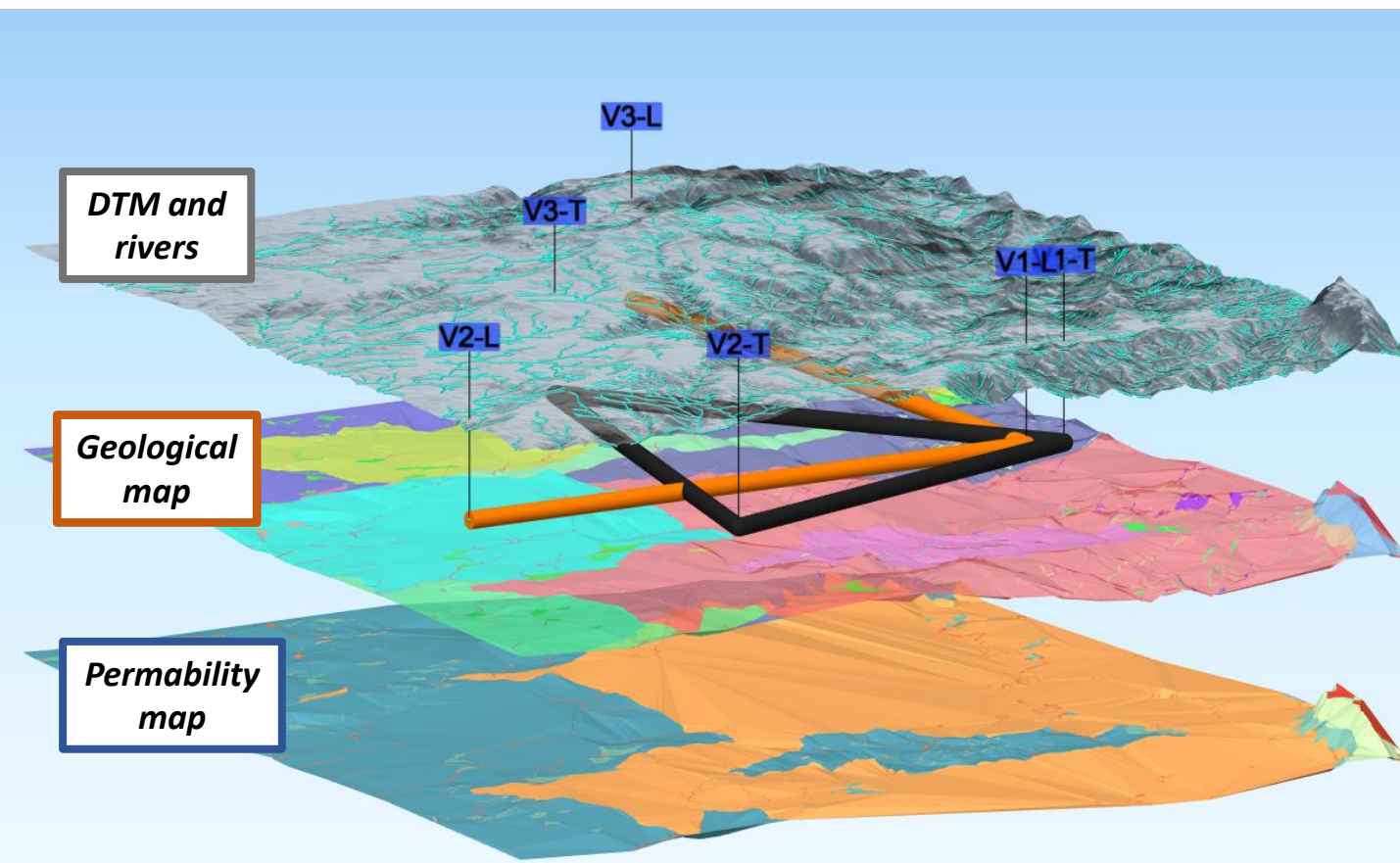


Data - BIM models – Preliminary layout



https://web.connect.trimble.com/projects/bgr1skWvm0U/viewer/3d/?modelId=QNb2MUCPiA8,ajUpeNC21Qk&=&origin=app21.connect.trimble.com&token=2WLZXPanBTpixPBDvol6sH-zXipiZ4udqH5_sjqhgmukdXt-S1nt7iNXV9Pk-0XZ

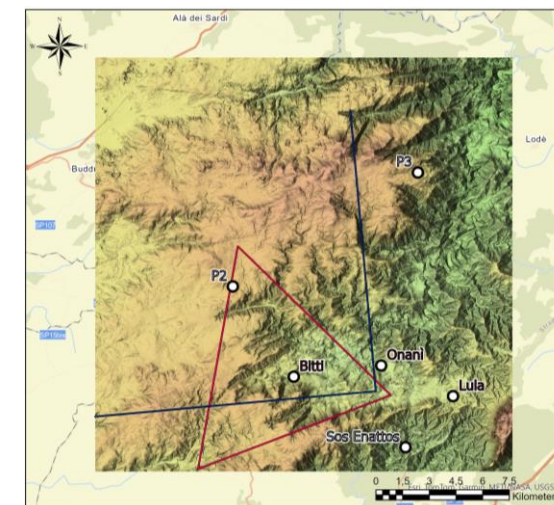
Data – GIS layers



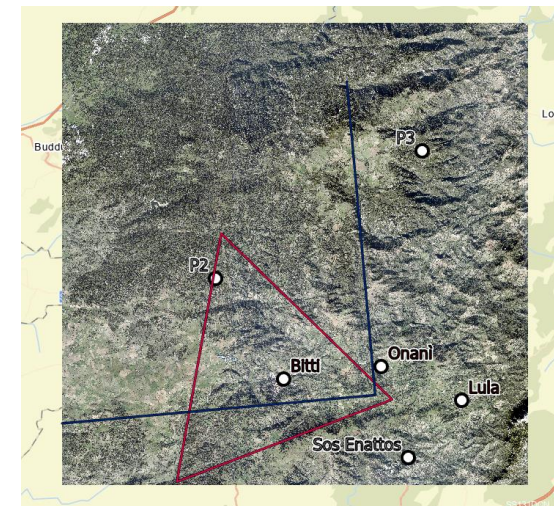
DIGITAL MAPS institutional geoportals



DTM – Airborne Lidar Survey



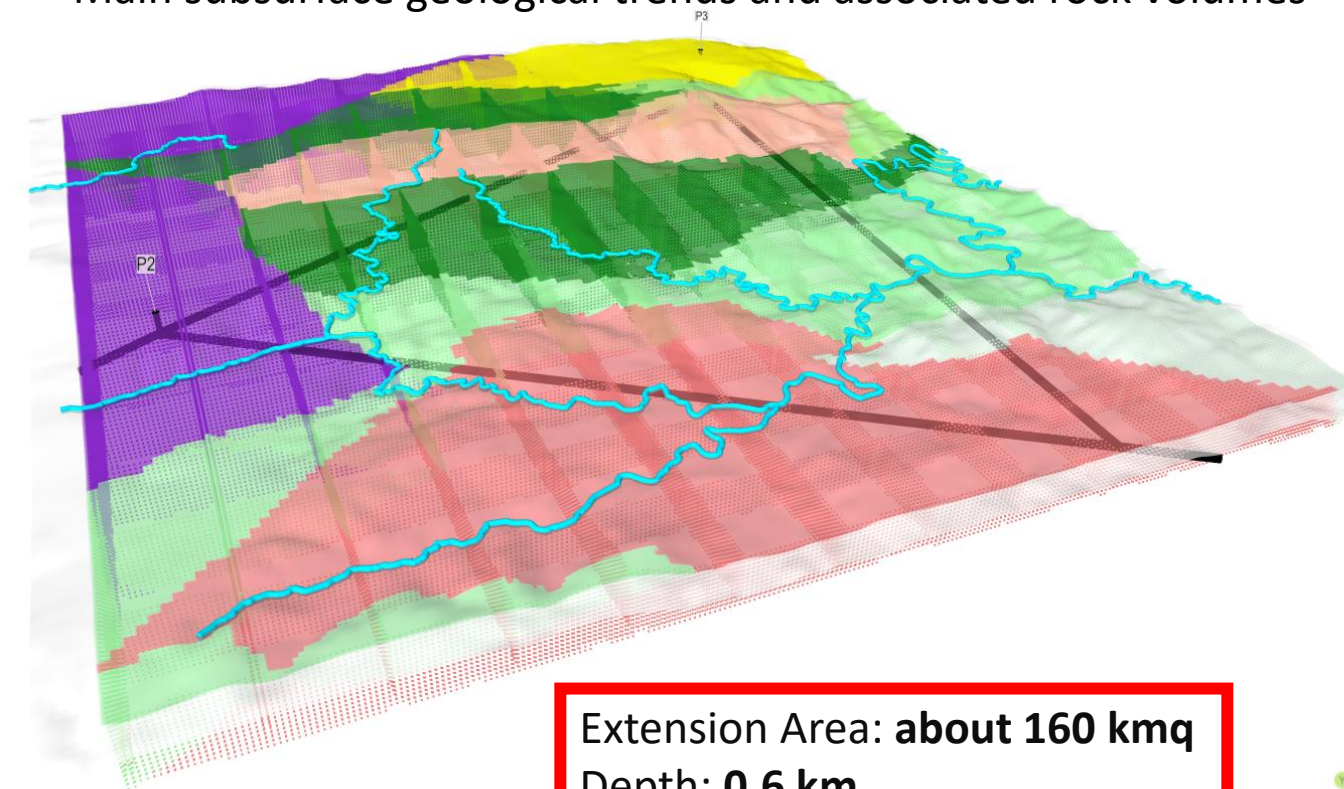
ORTHOPHOTO - Airborne survey



Robust basis for spatial and environmental analysis

Data - Geological Model V.1

- Based on available geological and geophysical data
- Main subsurface geological trends and associated rock volumes



Extension Area: **about 160 kmq**
Depth: **0.6 km**

Objectives of the model

- Subsurface reconstruction (lithology, structures, hydrogeology)
- Integrated surface–subsurface understanding
- Geotechnical risk reduction & construction planning
- Scenario-based design for sustainable site development

Mixed grained Leucogranite (Permian)

MS0 - Oligoclase and gametmicaschist and paragneiss (pre-Cambrian/early Ordovician)

Onani-Bitti granodiorite (Permian)

OGA - Augengneiss (middle Ordovician)

MSS Staurolite and gamet paragneiss and micaschist (pre-Cambrian/early Ordovician)

MAM - Mamone granodiorite orthogneiss (pre-Cambrian/early Ordovician)

MSA - albite and gamet micaschist and paragneiss (pre-Cambrian/early Ordovician)

OGG - Fine grained orthogneiss with mica (middle Ordovician)

Construction of a preliminary geological and geotechnical 3D model of the subsurface of the ET study area in Sardinia

L. Lipparini - 2022/2023

Data - Geological Model V.2 (to be finalized by the end 2025)

Geological data

Geological maps, field surveys, and sample analyses
Rock fracture studies for 3D model characterization

Geotechnical data

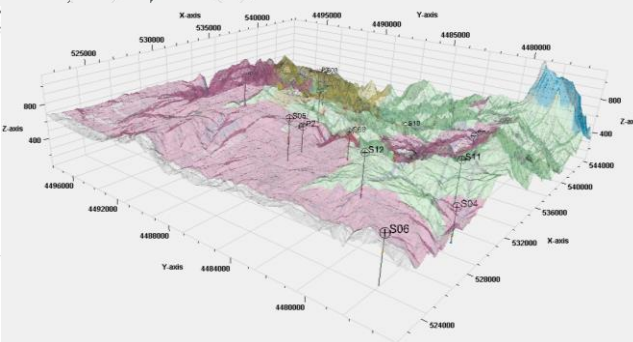
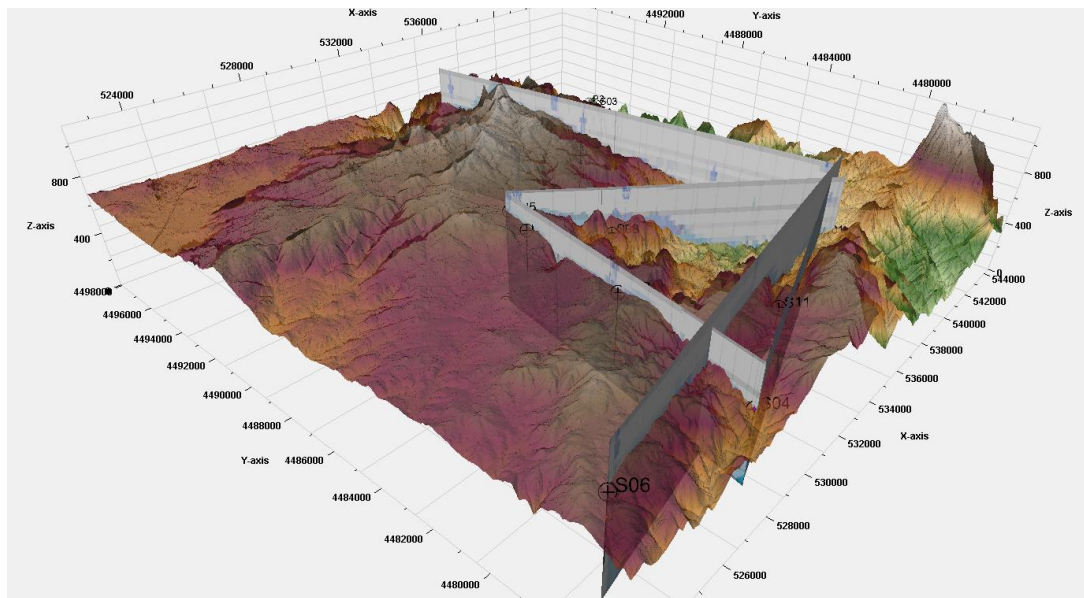
Boreholes (11 deep weels), coring results, and in-situ/laboratory geotechnical tests - 224 laboratory tests on undisturbed soil samples and more than 100 permeability, dilatometric and fracturing tests.

Geodetic and Geophysical data

LiDAR acquisitions (airborne & UAV)
Gravimetric, magnetometric, and seismic surveys

Hydrogeological data

Groundwater studies and hydrogeological models of the area
Reference material
Updated bibliography and technical documentation



Extension Area: **about 450 kmq** - Depth: **1 km**

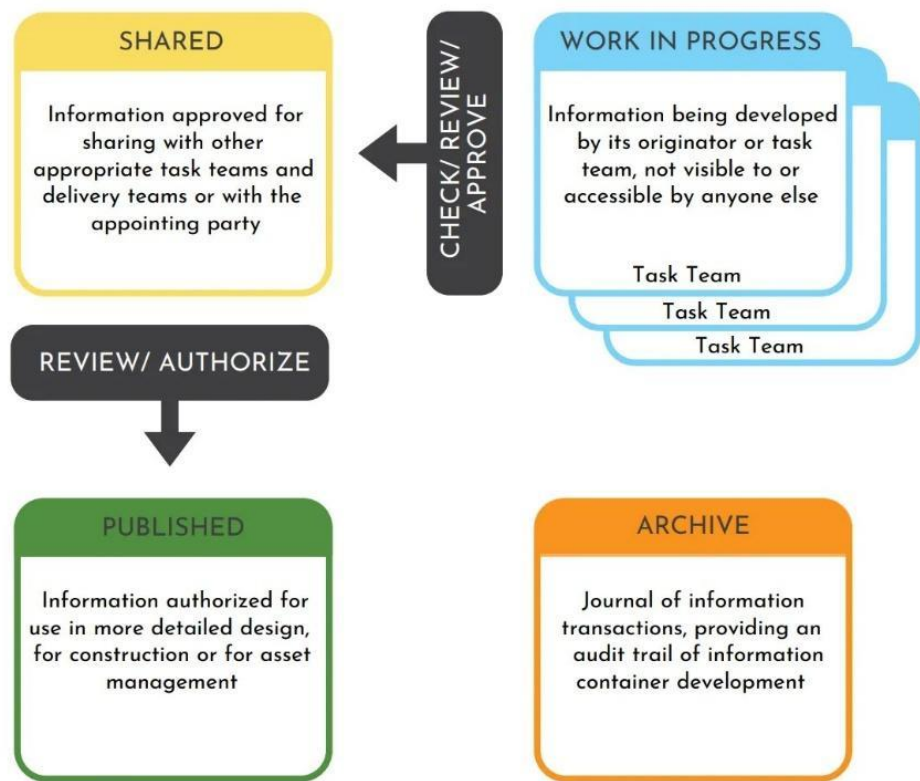


Work environments - BIM-GIS Integration Platform

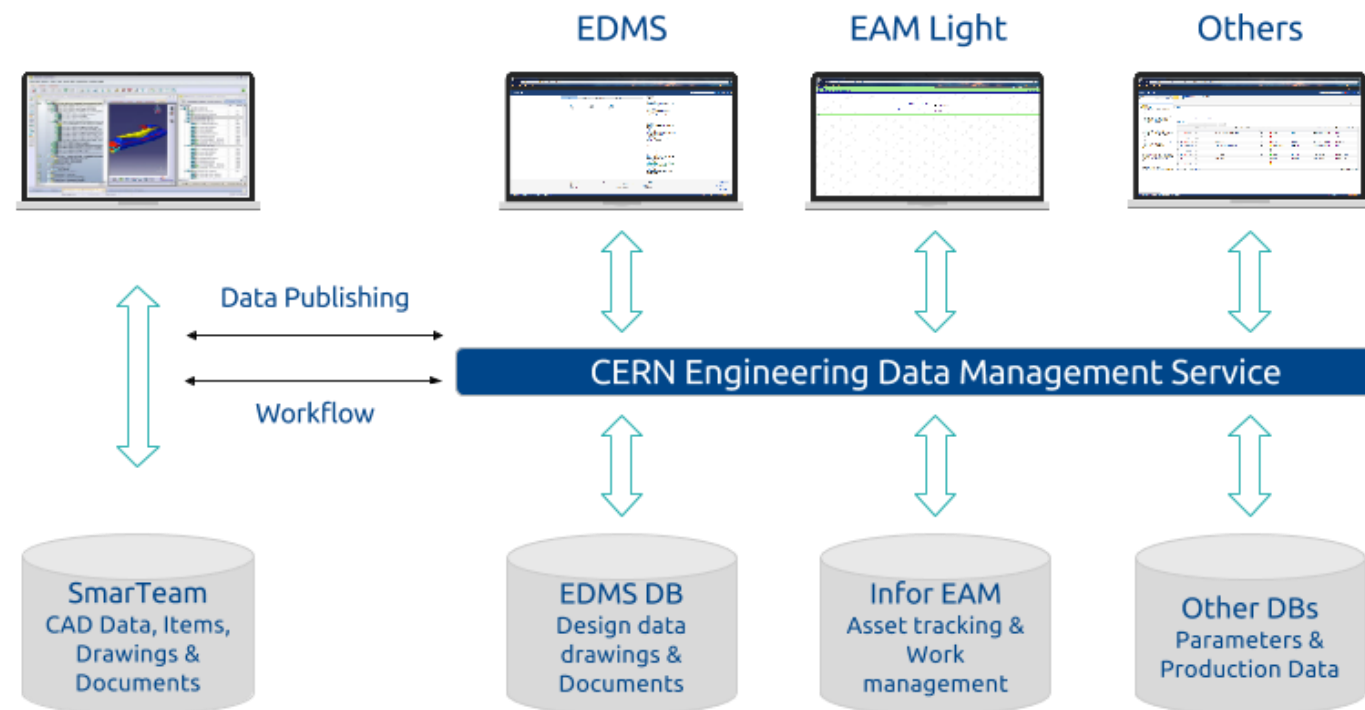


Work environments - CDE Platform

Structured workspace where information is stored, versioned, validated, and shared across teams



ISO 19650 - Common Data Environment Workflow



CERN's EDMS System Overview

Analysis and Simulations – Rule-based Validation



Early conflict detection across disciplines



Verification of spatial and technical interfaces



Design consistency before construction



Alignment with complex-facility practice



Supports aggregated model review and 4D schedule-linked clash checks



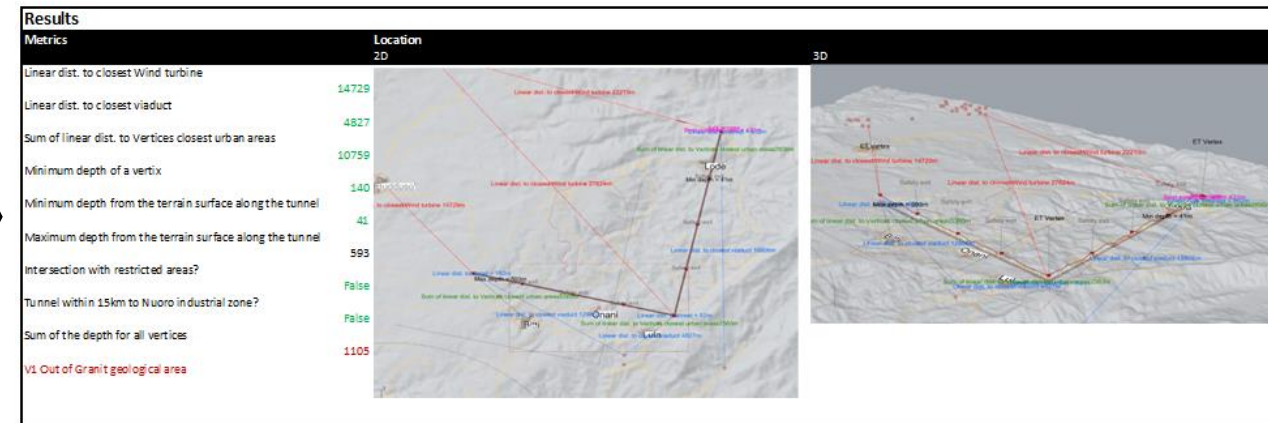
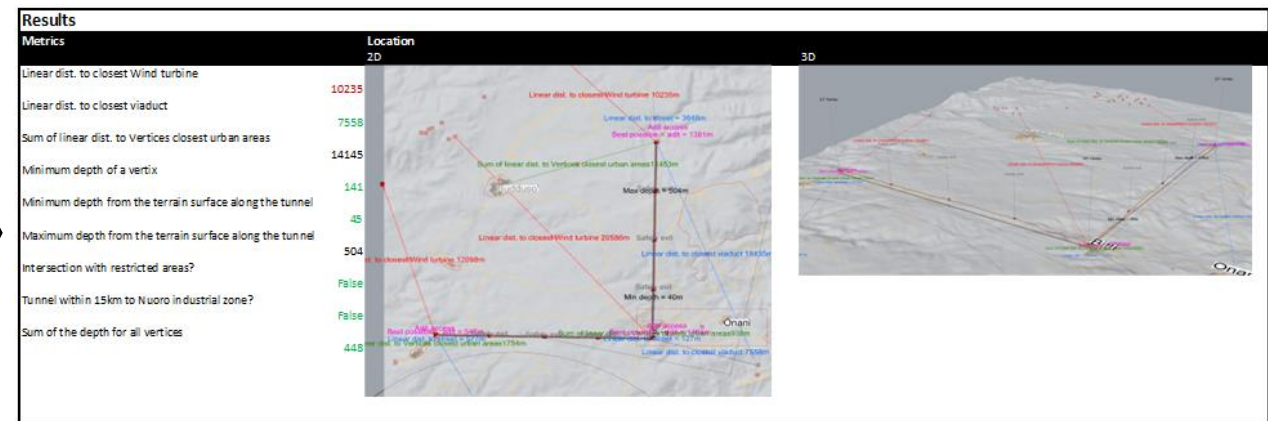
Offers rule-based validation, openBIM support, and BCF issue tracking



Analysis and Simulations - Optimisation using multi criterial analysis

Optimization criteria inputs

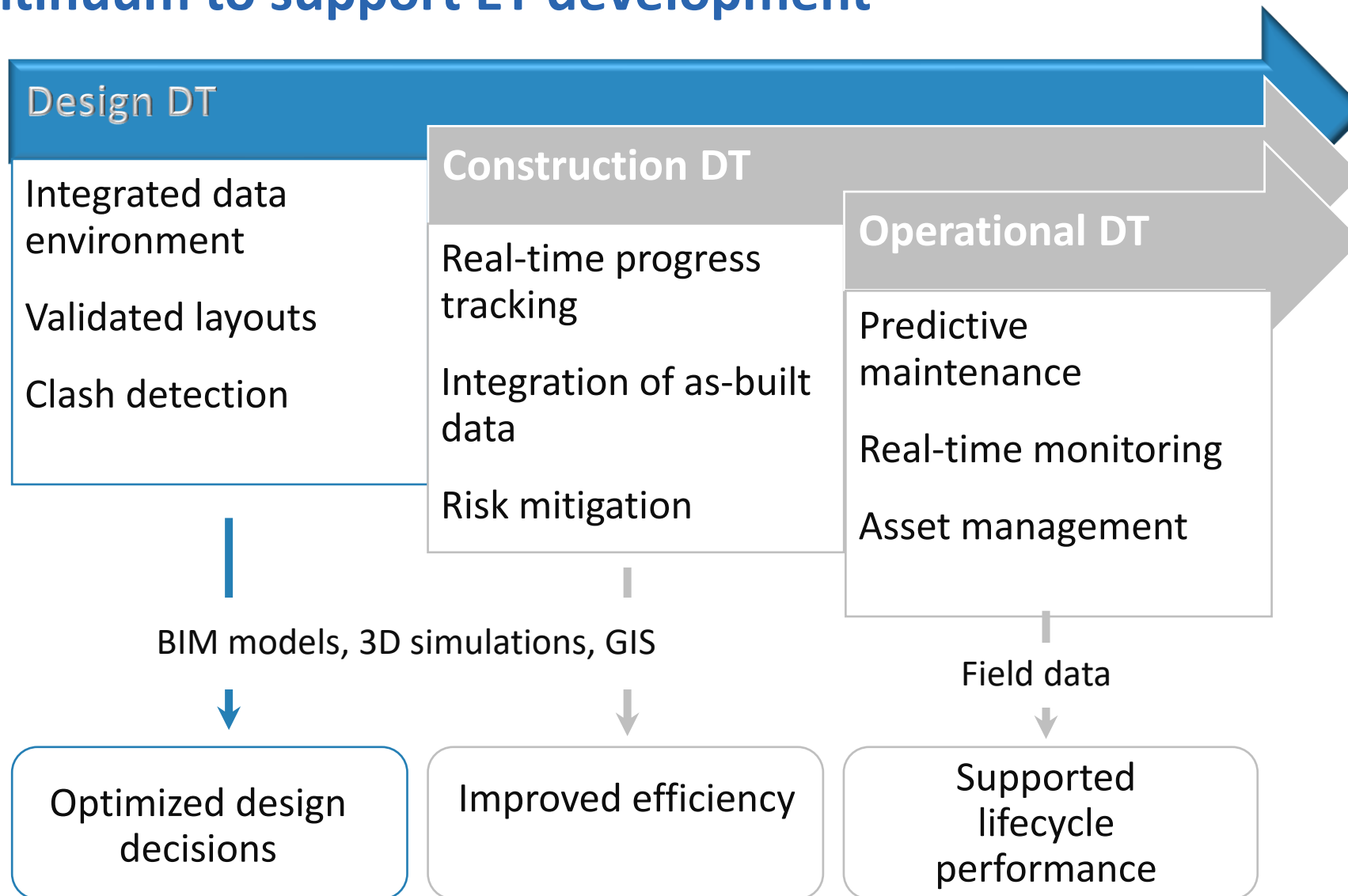
Criteria & optimising parameters					
ID	Criteria	Aim	Optimisation	Constraints min max	Weight
1	search limits				
1.1	Vertex V1 location X (East west)	Vertex 1 inside granit area		Bitti -1000 Bitti +8000	
1.2	Vertex V1 location Y (North south)	Vertex 1 inside granit area		Bitti -1000 Bitti +2000	
1.3	Vertex V1 Altitude			200 800	
1.4	Rotation (V1 as base point)			N(-10°) N(+45°)	
2	SCIENTIFIC REQUIREMENTS				
2.1	No scientific requirements				
3	MORPHOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL CHARACTERISTICS				
3.1	Tunnel earth cover (Vertical)	Minimising the cover for the closest part of the tunnel to earth surface	Minimise dis.	40 M	7
3.2	Cavern earth cover (Vertical)	Minimising the cover for the closest vertex to earth surface	Minimise dis.	120 M	10
3.3	Cavern earth cover overall (Vertical)	Minimising the sum of vertical cover of the 3 Vertices	Minimise dis.		10
4	ENVIRONMENTAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONSTRAINTS				
4.1	Restricted areas	No 2D intersection	Avoid zone		
4.2	Existing roads	Close to the vertices	Minimise dis.		5
4.3	Viaducts	Min distance 3 km from vertices, try "The farer the better"	Maximise dis.	3	10
5	INSEDIATIVE AND ANTHOPIC INTERFERENCES				
5.1	Industrial Area Nuoro	Far from the Vertices (Out of GIS Radius)	Avoid zone	15 KM	10
5.2	Wind turbines Budduso'	Far from the Vertices	Maximise dis.	15 KM	10
5.3	Towns / populated zones	Close to the vertices	Minimise dis.		2
5.4	Industrial Area Sologo	Far from the Vertices	Maximise dis.		7
6	Geological Criteria				
6.1	Vertex 1 inside granit area				



Multicriteria Analysis Tool – W. Wahbeh 2022/2023



Digital continuum to support ET development





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Piano Nazionale Ripresa e Resilienza
Missione 4 – Componente 2 – Investimento 3.1
Codice progetto: IR0000004



ET – 3G Lab

ETIC

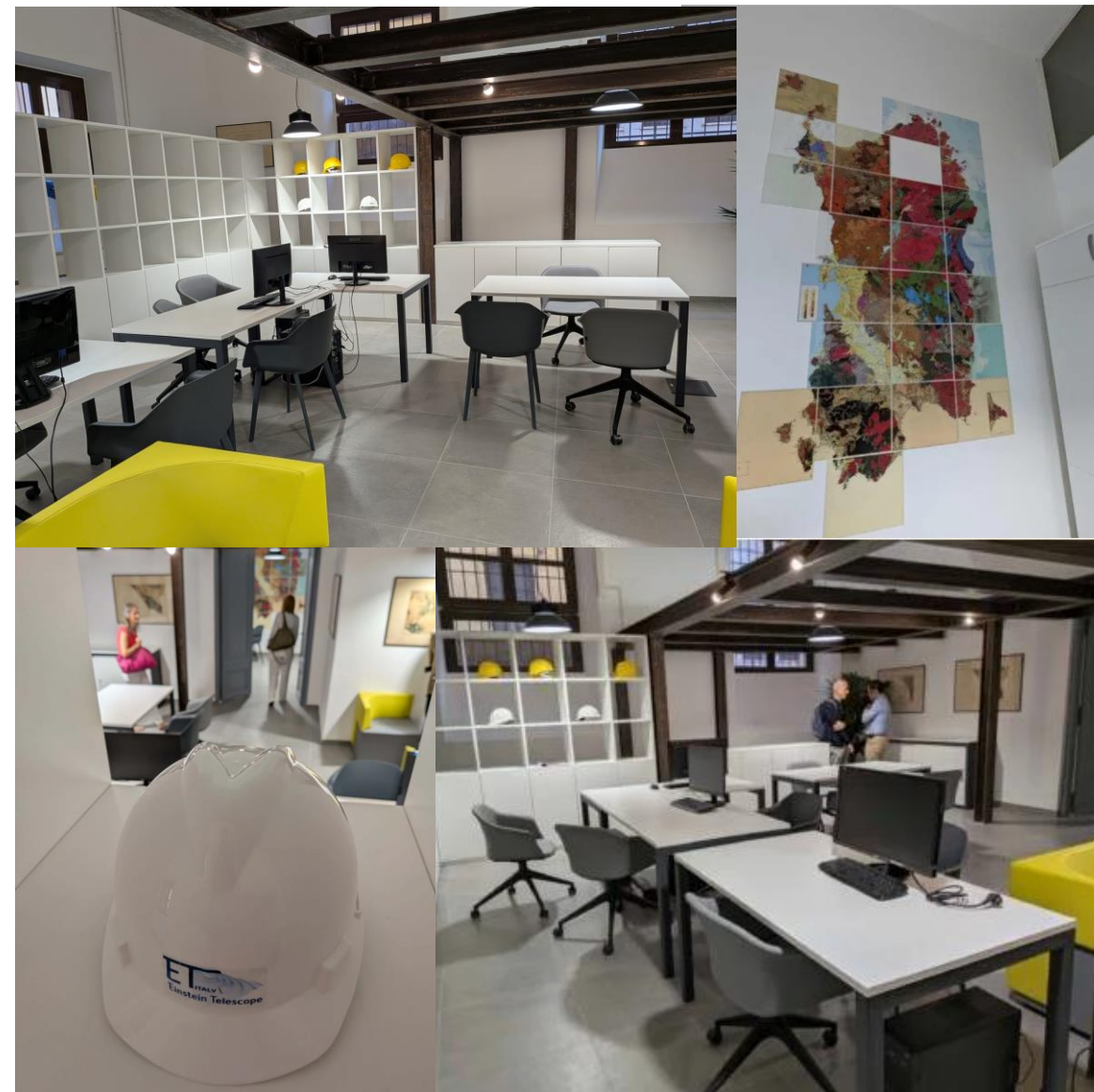
Einstein Telescope Infrastructure Consortium

Il laboratorio, dedicato alla ricerca avanzata nell'ambito dell'ingegneria civile e ambientale, sviluppa soluzioni progettuali ottimizzate e tecniche innovative per la realizzazione e gestione di opere civili."



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- Multidisciplinary laboratory focused on geomatics, geology, geotechnics, 3D modelling and digital workflows
- Support the design and construction phases of the ESFRI ET research infrastructure
- Cross-disciplinary collaboration (structures, aerospace, architecture) for joint research initiatives



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Einstein Telescope Infrastructure Consortium (ETIC - IR0000004) PNRR M4, C2, Investment 3.1





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Thank you for your attention



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Einstein Telescope Infrastructure Consortium (ETIC - IR0000004)PNRR M4, C2, Investment 3.1

