



**Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology**



**RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION**

AI FOR A SMARTER CYPRUS: STRATEGY, DATA & INNOVATION

**Presented by Demetris Skourides, Chief Scientist of the Republic of Cyprus
Chairman of the Board of the Research and Innovation Foundation of Cyprus (RIF).**

September 11, 2025

BOUSSIAS Cyprus 2nd Tech Summit.



Re-imagining the AI Future

The Information shared in the presentation is a draft direction and not intended to influence, or impose AI decisions influencing investment decisions. The Deputy Minister of Digital Policy Research and Innovation is accountable for Policy matters and responsible to ensure that the Strategic document is inline with EU requirements given that strategic direction and implementation timelines may change to align with EU priorities subject to the discretion of the Deputy Ministry



Re-imagining the AI Future

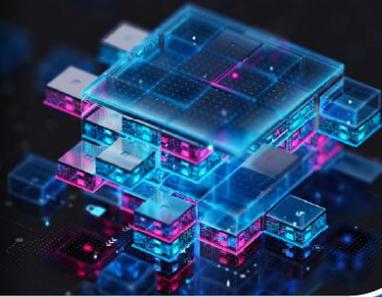


Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology



RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION

DATA



INDUSTRY-
TECH



RESEARCH &
INNOVATION



What Will It Do for US?



Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology



RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION

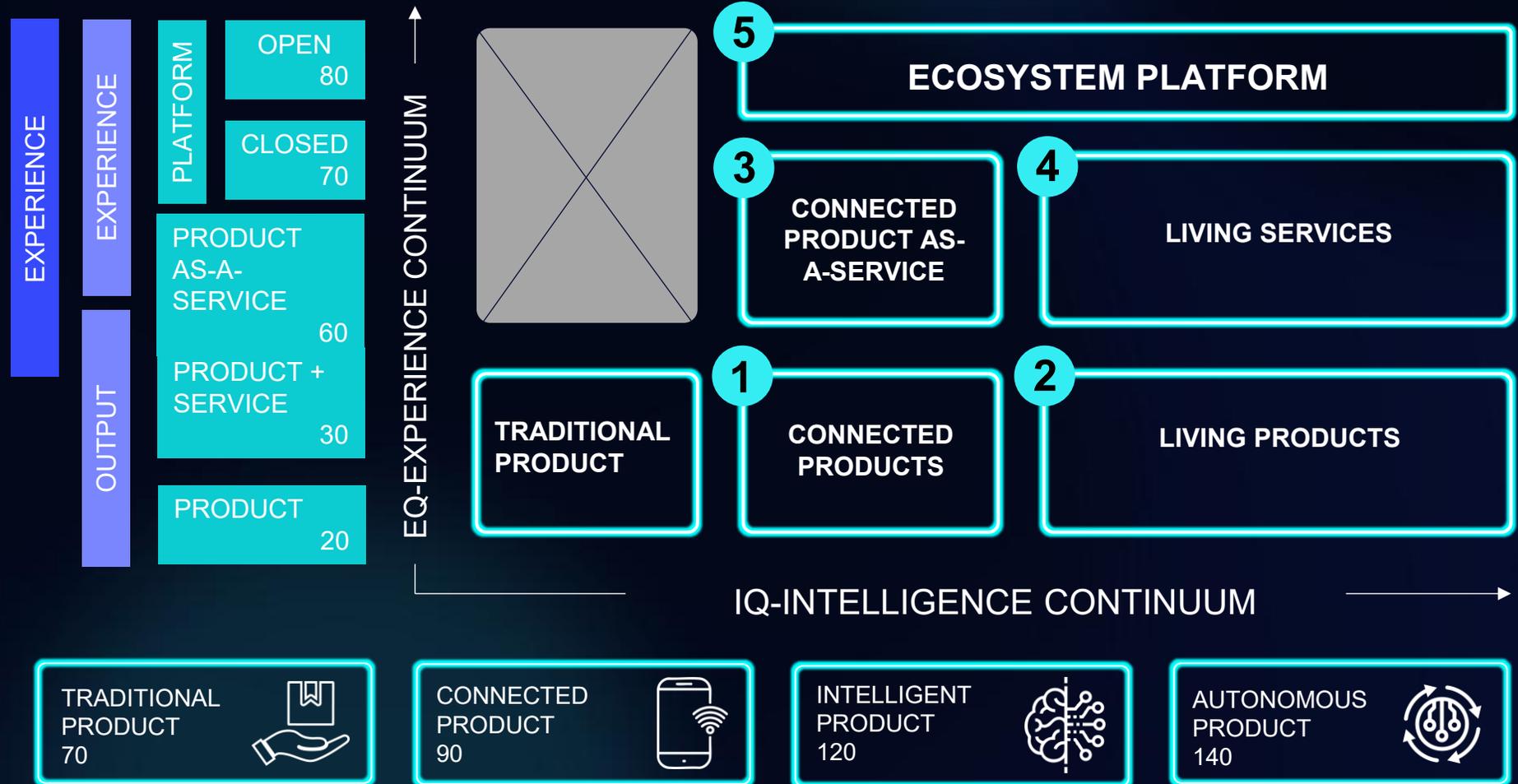
Do We Need AI to Truly Transform the Customer Experience for the Better?



THE PRODUCT REINVENTION GRID

Experience Quotient (EQ)
measures the degree of sophistication achieved in terms of services levels.

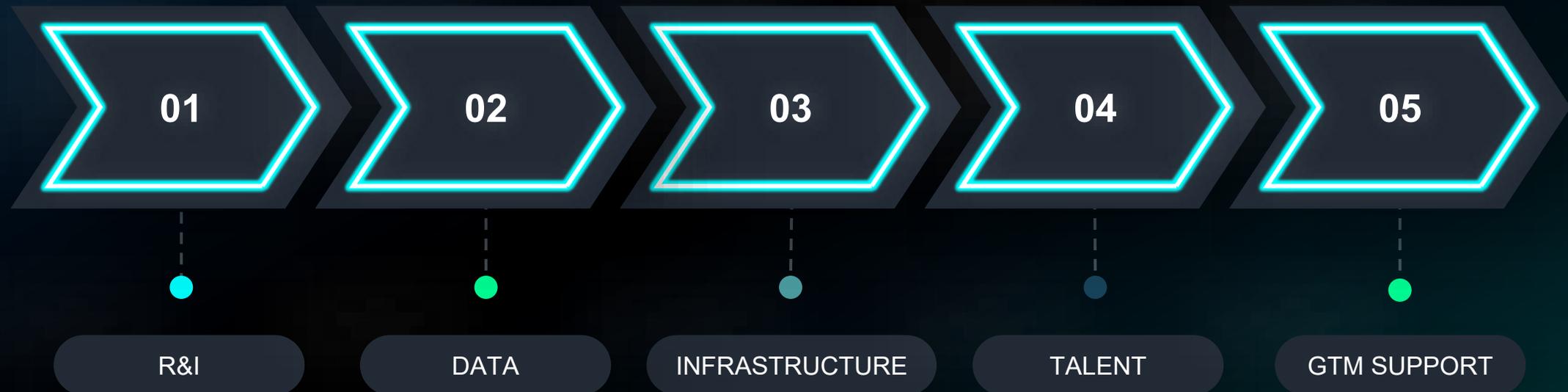
Intelligence Quotient (IQ)
measures product's degree of technical sophistication





Futureproofing Cyprus

Cloud 1st, Mobile 1st, AI 1st Policies - Goal





AI AND DATA SOVEREIGNTY



Where are We Today?



Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology



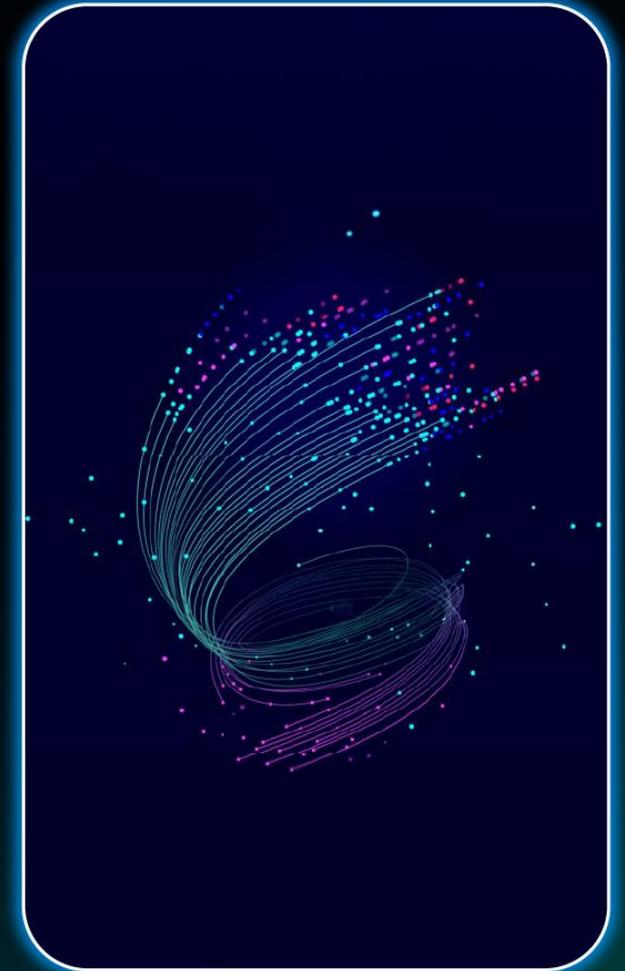
RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION

AI in Gov't Call (Q2 2025, 5m€): to support the development of innovative Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions addressing challenges faced by public sector entities.

AI Taskforce: a National Specialised Committee on Artificial Intelligence; established in January 2025 by the Council of Ministers. Its responsibilities include shaping the country's AI strategy and action plan.

AI Factories: participation of Cyprus in Greece's effort to establish the Greek AI Factory "Pharos"

AI Act: Alignment with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 and establishment of the governance framework in January 2025 through the designation of a Notifying Authority and Market Surveillance Authorities





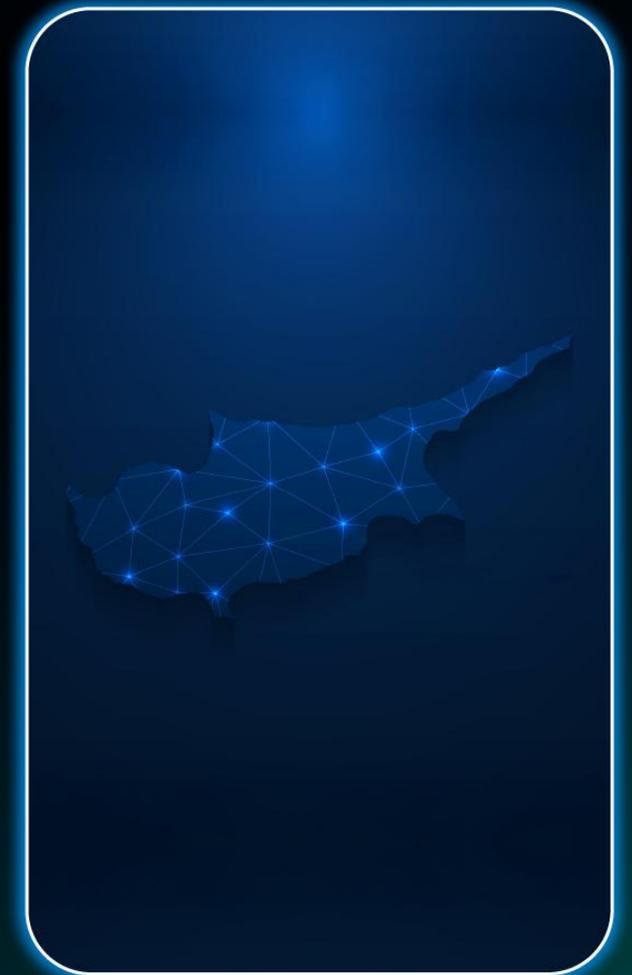
Futureproofing Data platform

- Aim: To establish a **comprehensive data management framework** in Cyprus through
 - the integration of relevant European regulations, directives, and policies
 - the development of a robust Data Policy and Governance System

Public and Private Sector

At a minimum, the following will be taken into consideration:

1. Regulation (EU) 2022/868 on European data governance and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (**Data Governance Act - DGA**).
2. Regulation on harmonized rules on fair access to and use of data (**Data Act**).
3. **Directive (EU) 2019/1024** on open data and the re-use of public sector information.
4. **Regulation (EU) 2018/1807** on a framework for the free flow of non-personal data in the European Union



Growing Diversification of the Economy



Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology



RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION

ENERGYTECH



HEALTHTECH



SHIPTECH
& MARITIME



TECHNOLOGY
& INFRA



Education

€1415 million
5.80%

Shipping

€929 million
3.80%

2022

Financial and
Insurance Services

€2406 million
9.80%

Information and
Communication
s Technology

€3400 million
13.90%

Education

€1451 million
5.50%

Shipping

€942 million
3.60%

2023

Financial and
Insurance Services

€2740 million
10.50%

Information and
Communication
s Technology

€4000 million
15.30%

Percentage Change

18%

Information and
Communications
Technology

14%

Financial and
Insurance
Services:

3%

Education

1%

Shipping

FINTECH GROWTH - CYPRUS

Digital Payments & Market Growth

- Digital Payments Market Value
 - 2025 (proj.): **€2.54 billion**
 - 2030 (proj.): **€6.16 billion**
 - CAGR 2025–2030: **19.35%**
 - Users by 2030: **~869,770**

AI & Digital Transformation

- AI adoption (all firms, 2024): **7.9%**
- AI adoption (large firms, 2024): **34.9%**
- Businesses receiving online orders (2023): **23.5%**
- Businesses selling B2C online (2023): **21.2%**

PROPTECH GROWTH - CYPRUS

Market Growth

- 17% GDP from real estate | 15% from tech
- 46% of registrations by foreign investors (2023)
- +15% property sale contracts in Q1 2025

AI & Digital Transformation

- Virtual tours • Blockchain • AI analytics
- Smart homes • Sustainability tech
- PropTech Working Group established (TechIsland)
- Digital real estate IT market expanding (PropMgmt software, smart buildings, analytics)

What to Expect by 2026



Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology



RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION

- Digital Citizen
- Digital Assistant
- AI for Government program - AI Apps & Use-cases*
- New AI Companies, Startups i.e. Tenstorrent
- AI Strategy 2025 End
- Public Sector Productivity Boost
 - AI Automation*
 - Digital Advisor for Policy & Decision Insight for Chief Scientist*
- Vision: Personalized Digital Citizen 2028 (TBD)

* Select use-cases / industry



Our Approach



Chief Scientist
for
Research, Innovation
and Technology



RESEARCH
& INNOVATION
FOUNDATION

- Draft Version of Strategy Mid September 2025
- Review Existing AI Strategy documents – GR, UK, FR, UAE
- Leverage MoU & Best practice from Advanced countries: Israel, UAE, Singapore
- Assessing & Prioritizing Focus Areas of AI Research
- Identify & Assess Areas of High Potential Wins – Linked to CY Economy
- Change Management: Workforce development & Education in the Age of AI (Ecosystem)
- What is Required: Infrastructure, Technology (Ecosystem)
- Prioritize Use case adoption per Industry - PS
- Legal & IP opportunities



Q&A

