

**Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs)**<sup>1</sup> provide a guide to the stage of development. TRLs are used in the work programme for guidance, but do not preclude support for non-technological innovations. A strong degree of importance will also be given to market readiness and business readiness, as described in the evaluation criteria of the call texts. The following definitions of TRLs apply, recognising that there are important differences between technological fields:

**TRL1** - basic principles observed

**TRL2** - technology concept formulated

**TRL3** - experimental proof of concept

**TRL4** - technology validated in lab

**TRL5** - technology validated in relevant environment

**TRL6** - technology demonstrated in relevant environment

**TRL7** - system prototype demonstration in operational environment

**TRL8** - system complete and qualified

**TRL9** - actual system proven in operational environment

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<sup>1</sup> Quelle: EIC Work Programme 2021