

HITCH

Healthcare Interoperability Testing
and Conformance Harmonisation

2- Background and Motivation

- ▶ **eHealth systems must communicate with surrounding infrastructure**
 - ▶ Goal: semantic interoperability between eHealth systems
 - ▶ Means: utilisation of common, international standards and profiles to reuse applications

- ▶ **To ensure interoperability, systems should be tested and verified**
 - ▶ against standards and profiles (conformance testing)
 - ▶ and against each other (interoperability testing)

- ▶ **Successful testing is expressed by means of certification and quality labelling**
 - ▶ There is no labelling/certification in the area of interoperability unless there is underlying robust and well-defined, standards-based profile testing.
 - ▶ Missing tools for comprehensive interoperability testing

- ▶ **A comprehensive quality management system (QMS) is needed for interoperability and conformance testing**
 - ▶ A QMS sets the framework for the testing process and the labelling/certification process.
 - ▶ An agreed QMS is an important foundation

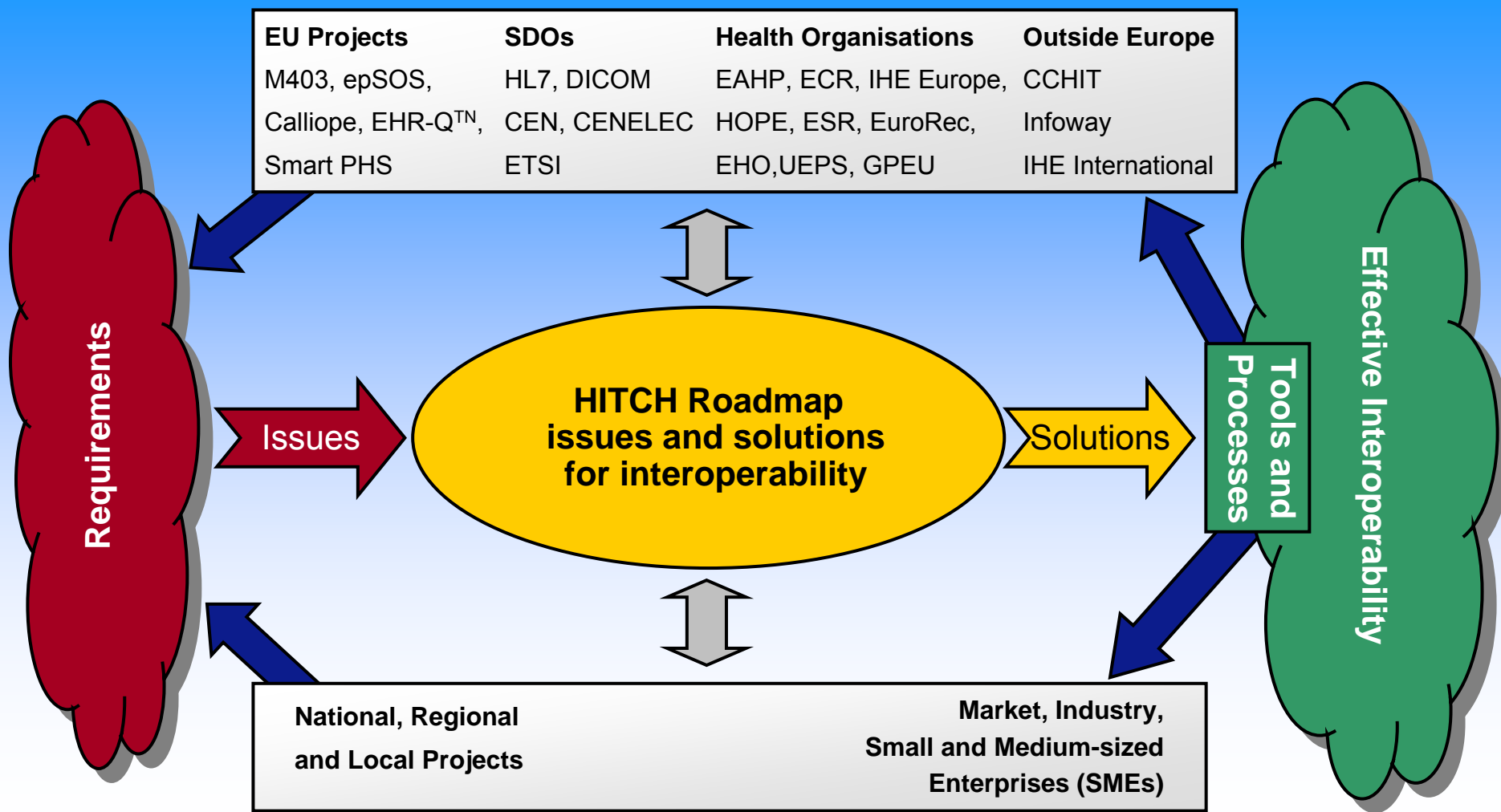
3- HITCH Overview

- ▶ **HITCH stands for “Healthcare Interoperability and Conformance Harmonisation”**
 - ▶ Goal: provide roadmap on eHealth interoperability testing Quality Management System
 - ▶ Means: Define QM processes, test tooling, quality labelling, certification.
- ▶ **Approach:**
 - ▶ Identify state of the art of interoperability/conformance testing
 - ▶ Identify gaps to what is needed for the future
 - ▶ Propose a plan needed to close these gaps
- ▶ **HITCH partners from Belgium, Denmark, France and Germany, with IHE, ETSI and EuroRec engaged at the European level.**



- ▶ **18 months project**
 - ▶ January 2010 to June 2011
 - ▶ Partially funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme

4- HITCH Overall Concept



5- HITCH Tasks

- ▶ **Interoperability Testing Quality Management System (QMS)**
 - ▶ Define an Interoperability Testing QMS
 - ▶ Include procedures and policies to manage/ensure the quality of eHealth systems interoperability testing
- ▶ **Testing Tools**
 - ▶ Survey and analyse available eHealth testing tools and libraries
 - ▶ Determine future tools needed for interoperability testing. Recommend priorities.
- ▶ **Testing Process and Evaluation**
 - ▶ Evaluate/Practical feedback QMS and tool strategy by applying it to two scenarios:
 - ▶ Patient Identification
 - ▶ Exchange of Patient Summaries
- ▶ **Quality Labelling for Interoperability**
 - ▶ Propose a quality labelling strategy for interoperability

6- Important Dates and Current Status (08/2010)

- ▶ **Basic requirements for interoperability testing QMS have been defined**
(Available on HITCH website)
- ▶ **Evaluation of existing eHealth testing tools nearly completed**
(Soon available on HITCH website)
- ▶ **Evaluation of first HITCH results at IHE Europe Connectathon 2011**
- ▶ **Save the Date – IHE Europe Connectathon 2011: April 11-15th Pisa, Italy!**
 - ▶ **HITCH Workshop on eHealth Interoperability Testing at Connectathon 2011 site on Tuesday April 12th, 2011**
 - ▶ Learn about the future of interoperability testing in Europe and beyond!



<http://www.hitch-project.eu>