

RAILWAY RESEARCH & INNOVATION:

What is UIC's role?



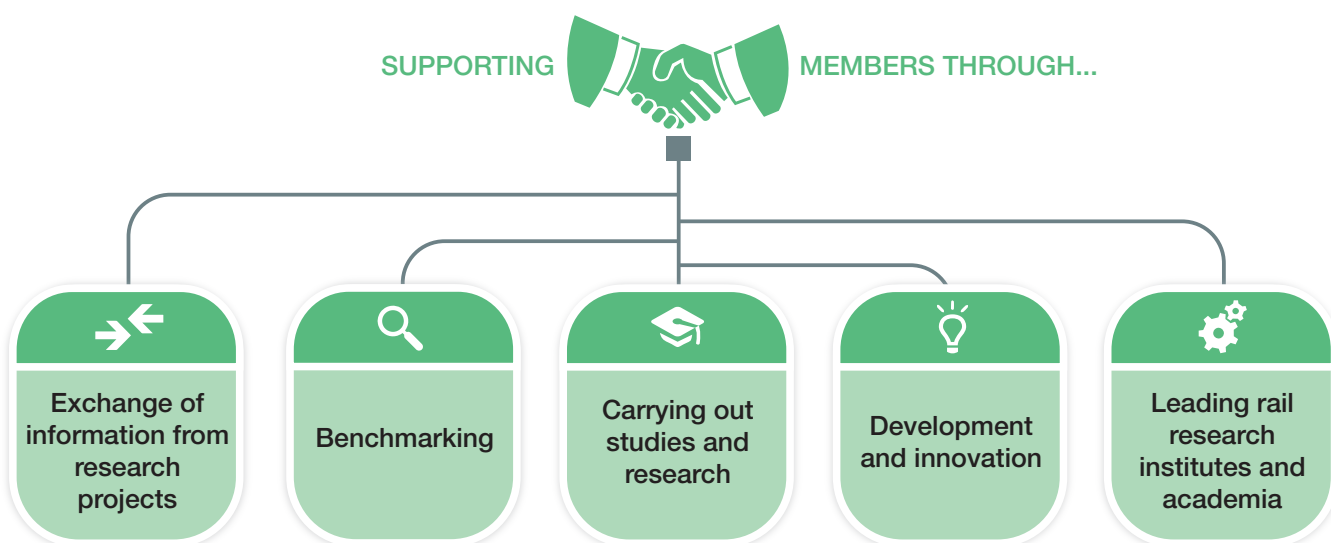
INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF RAILWAYS

Strategic Objectives

Research is a core and fundamental task of UIC, supporting the efforts of its members in their need to resolve operational issues and problems.

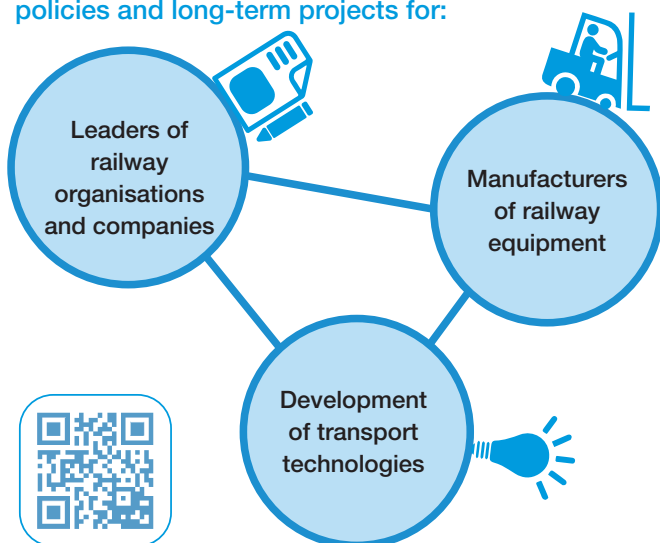
For the last 20 years UIC has been involved in research and development programmes. The value of carrying out research in close cooperation with other partners, and jointly delivering its results, is 100 times more efficient than for it to be developed individually.

UIC plays a crucial role as **driver, disseminator, knowledge manager**, as well as a **platform for discussion and exchange of experience and best practice**.



Vision & Innovation

The GVRD is a benchmark to help create policies and long-term projects for:



UIC has developed a strategic document called the **Global Vision for Railway Development (GVRD)**, to meet the challenges of research and innovation in the rail sector. It provides a broad spectrum of possible measures and targets for the innovation of rail transport for the coming decades and is reviewed periodically in consultation with the UIC working bodies and its Regional Assemblies.

On a European level, UIC helps to deliver the objectives of the vision document "Challenge 2050" through the Research and Innovation Coordination Group (RICG) and is involved in the joint undertaking programme called "Shift2Rail"*.

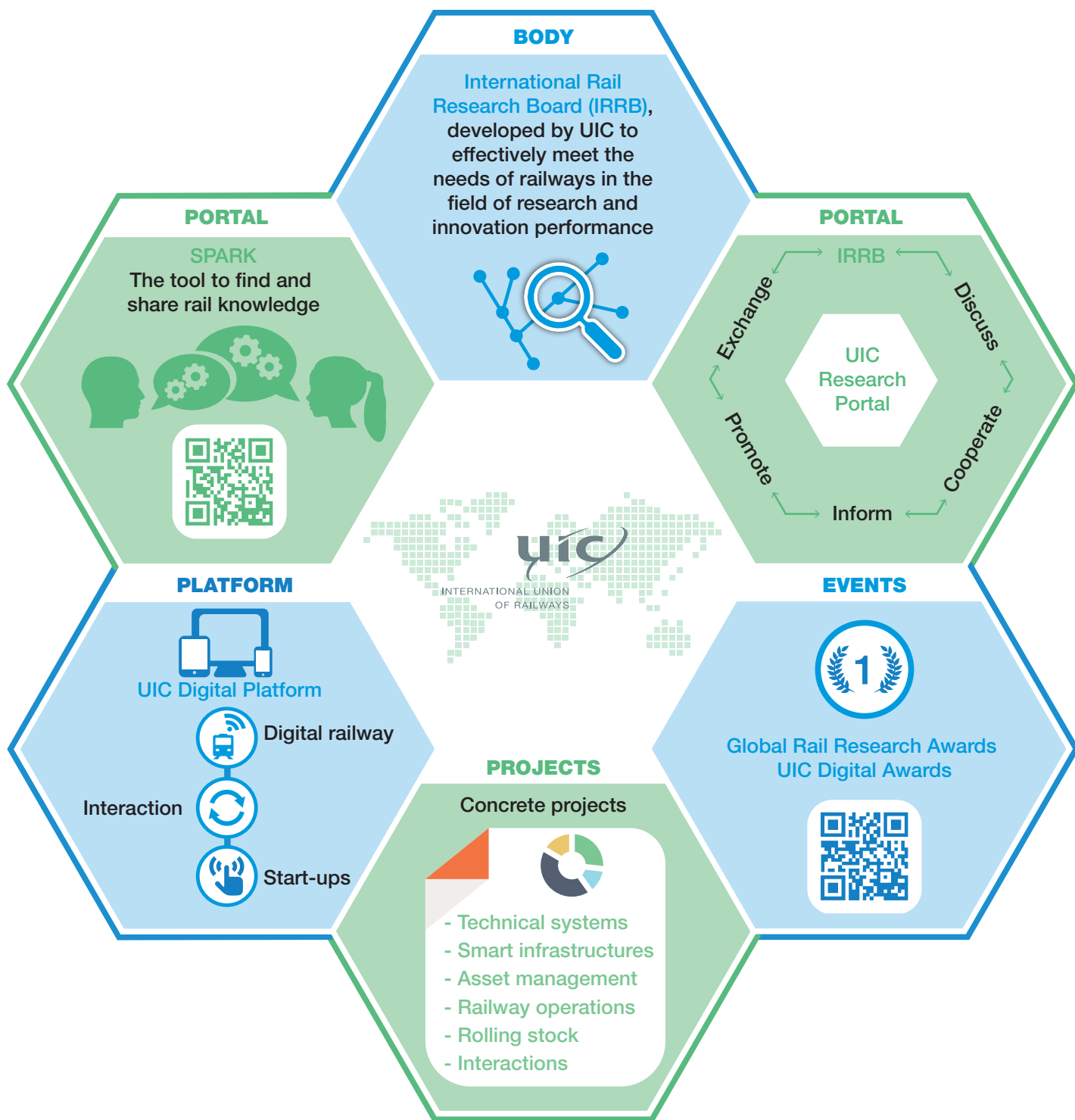
*Shift2Rail: First European rail initiative to seek focused research and innovation (R&I) and market-driven solutions by accelerating the integration of new and advanced technologies into innovative rail product solutions.

Shift2Rail promotes the competitiveness of the European rail industry and will meet changing EU transport needs. R&I carried out under this Horizon 2020 initiative will develop the necessary technology to complete the Single European Railway Area (SERA).

Moreover, Shift2Rail has ambitious targets and a robust framework in which to meet them. Specifically, the initiative aims to double the capacity of the European rail system and increase its reliability and service quality by 50 %, all while halving life-cycle costs.

UIC leads and promotes research activities

through a number of bodies, platforms, portals and events:



“ Research is crucial for the future of Railways & Mobility. ”

