



The future EDIH network and regional DIH's in 2022

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A photograph of the European Union flag, which is blue with twelve gold stars arranged in a circle. The flag is being held up by two hands, and it is waving in the wind. The background is a blurred green landscape with trees.

Strengthening SAE Communities and Technologies Workshop

Horizon 2020 vs Digital Europe Programme

- Smart Anything Everywhere (SAE) is funded through H2020 – aim is to support SMEs that want to include digital innovations into their products, with the help of digital innovation hubs
 - Uses open calls to select SMEs to carry out innovation experiments
- Digital Europe Programme will select 200 European Digital Innovation Hubs, and will give each of them a grant to strengthen their capacity by investing in better hardware and software, and hiring more people. Each of these hubs will provide innovation services to SMEs and/or public sector.
 - 2 Step selection process by national authority and European Commission

SAE results should now, as much as possible, be reused by EDIHs

Reuse SAE network in EDIH network

- Tech transfer organisations involved in SAE will hopefully be part of EDIHs in the same geographical area
- SAE project partners part of different EDIHs might continue to collaborate in the context of the EDIH network
- Some SAE services in individual EDIHs, others could be part of the DTA

Digital Innovation Hubs

Search
Enter any pseudosearch term

Countries
None selected

Technologies
None selected

Services Provided
None selected

Sectors
None selected

SEARCH

Contact us in the following email: JRC@DIH@ec.europa.eu

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Candidate European DIH

Hub Name	Location	Contact	Phone	Email	Website
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Funding programmes MFF (2021-2027)

Allocated at
European level

Horizon Europe: Support to SMEs and mid-caps to experiment with highly innovative digital technologies in a cross-border setting. European Digital Innovation Hubs and others may apply for these grants, and cascade a large part of the funding to SMEs

Digital Europe: Support to the facilities and personnel of the European Digital Innovation Hubs, to build capacity in Europe to diffuse digital innovations across SMEs and administrations.

InvestEU: Incentives and risk reduction programmes to help companies find follow-up investment to further complete their digital transformation. The work of the digital innovation hubs will diminish the knowledge gap that exists.

Digital Capacity Building: AI, HPC, Cyber, Public Services, EDIHs

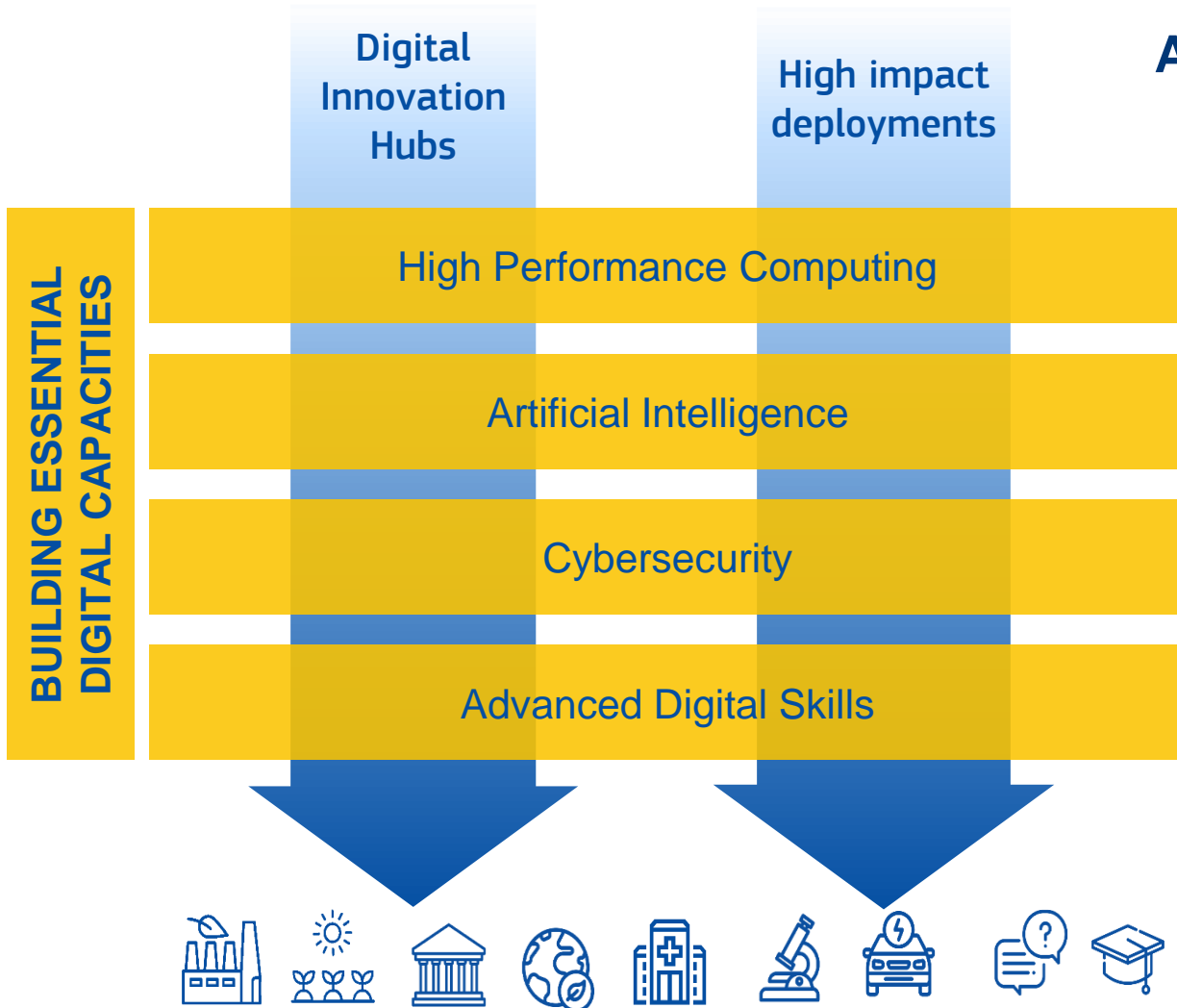
→ EDIHs

Allocated at
national level

European Regional Development Fund: Investments allocated by the Member States to build-up or strengthen the Digital Innovation Hubs infrastructures in their territories and reduce the digital divide. ERDF can be used by Member States to co-invest on EDIHs in Digital Europe.

European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development: Investments allocated by Member States to foster knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry and rural areas. EAFRD can be used by Member States to co-invest on EDIHs in Digital Europe.

Digital Europe programme structure & EDIHs



Accelerating the best use of digital technologies

Task of the hubs :

1. Focus on digital transformation of SMEs and public sector (Adopt AI)
2. EDIH will collaborate with all existing networks funded by other programmes and avoid overlap.
3. Member States involvement in designating the entities consortia which can participate to the call for proposals.
4. DIHs specialised in core technologies could be of great help to the regional/national systems and industry to provide better digital advances.

EDIH Call - objective

- **Select** the **Initial Network of European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH)** from all designated candidate entities resulting from the Expression of Interest.
- **Upgrade** these entities to **provide the complete set of services** of an EDIH, including the necessary infrastructure, in a specific geographical area, covering the needs of the local SMEs, small mid-caps and/or public sector organisations with respect to their digital transformation.
- **Network** these EDIHs **with each other and with other projects** selected in Digital Europe Programme developing capacities in High Performance Computing, Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Advanced Digital Skills and accelerating the best use of technologies.

Budget

Country	Projected budget from DIGITAL for 3 years (in 1 000 EUR)	Budget per year (in 1 000 EUR)	Recommended number of hubs
Austria	8 390	2 797	3-6
Belgium	9 273	3 091	3-6
Bulgaria	7 507	2 502	3-5
Croatia	5 299	1 766	2-4
Cyprus	2 649	883	1-2
Czech Republic	9 273	3 091	3-6
Denmark	6 182	2 061	2-4
Estonia	3 091	1 030	1-2
Finland	6 182	2 061	2-4
France	34 883	11 628	12-23
Germany	42 390	14 130	14-28
Greece	9 273	3 091	3-6
Hungary	9 273	3 091	3-6
Iceland	2 123	708	1

Country	Projected budget from DIGITAL for 3 years (in 1 000 EUR)	Budget per year (in 1 000 EUR)	Recommended number of hubs
Ireland	5 740	1 913	2-4
Italy	33 559	11 186	11-22
Latvia	3 532	1 177	1-2
Liechtenstein	1 500	500	1
Lithuania	4 857	1 619	2-3
Luxembourg	2 649	883	1-2
Malta	2 649	883	1-2
Netherlands	12 805	4 268	4-9
Norway	6 182	2 061	2-4
Poland	22 961	7 654	8-15
Portugal	9 273	3 091	3-6
Romania	14 571	4 857	5-10
Slovakia	6 182	2 061	2-4
Slovenia	3 532	1 177	1-2
Spain	26 052	8 684	9-17
Sweden	9 273	3 091	3-6

Fixed budget per country

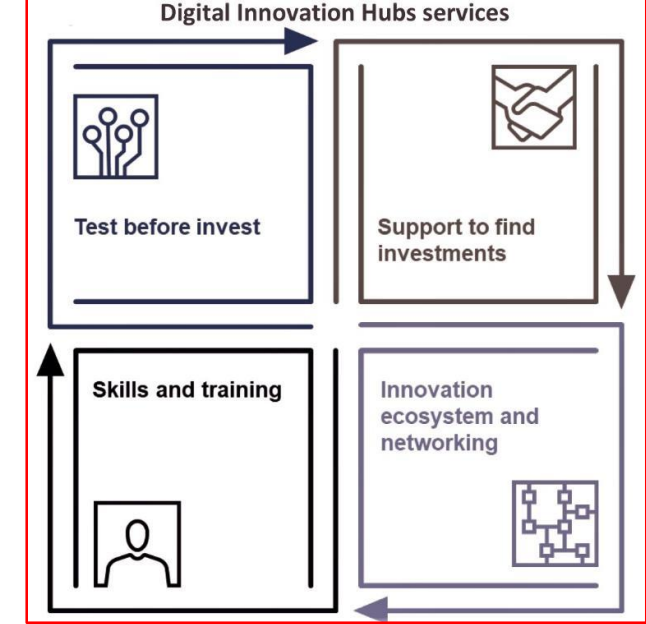
Every EDIH is expected to have a budget between 1-2 M€ per year
(DIGITAL grant will cover 50%)

MS are free to propose more smaller EDIHs or less larger ones

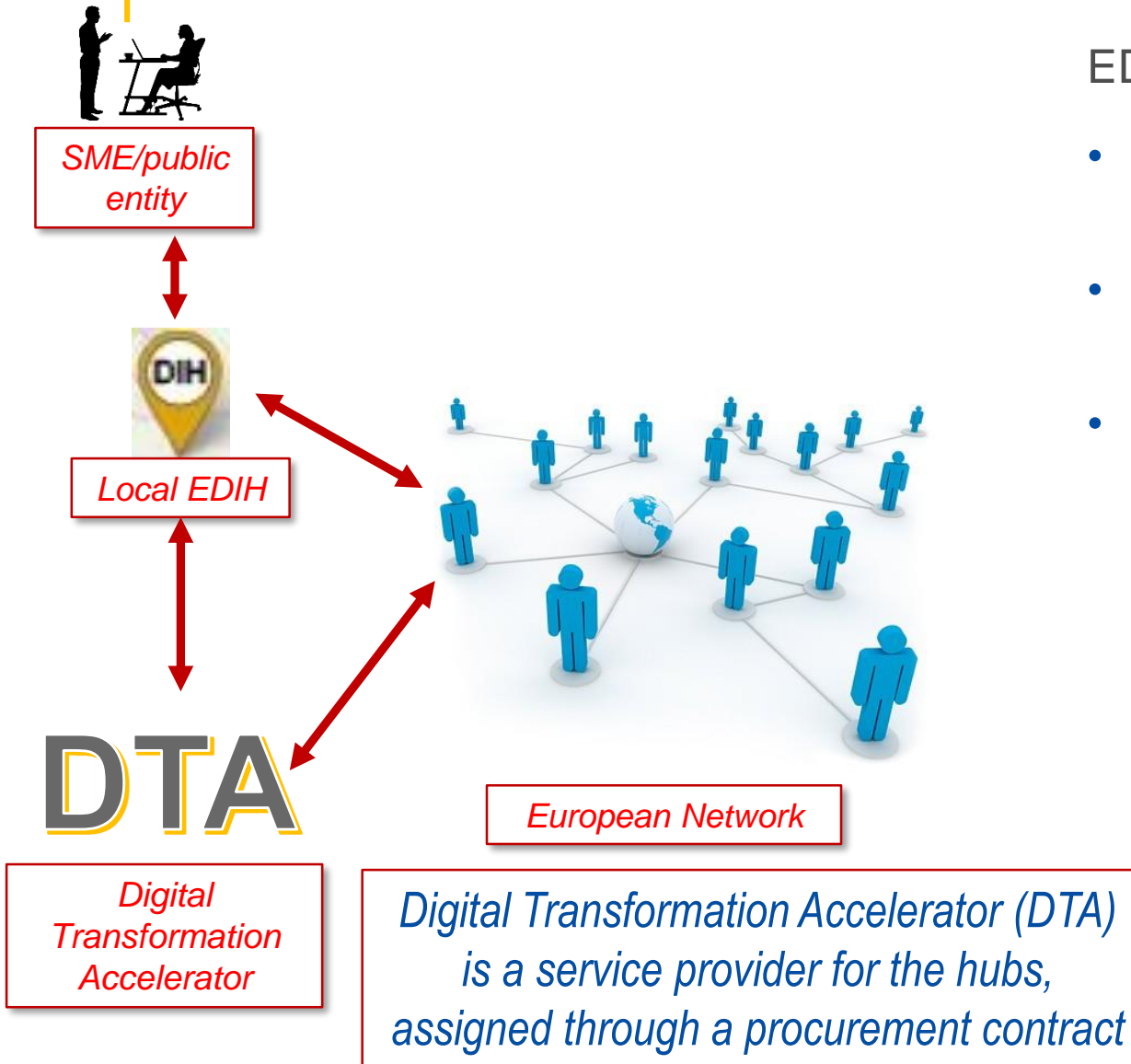
What is an EDIH?

Each EDIH will:

- provide services based on a specific focus/expertise; select SMEs on a transparent basis
- make available the relevant experimentation facilities related to its specialisation
- offer a seamless service with Enterprise Europe Network and Startup Europe
- act as interface with the European Commission to support the implementation of specific sectorial, SME or eGovernment policies



Network of 200+ European Digital Innovation Hubs “EU-local” approach

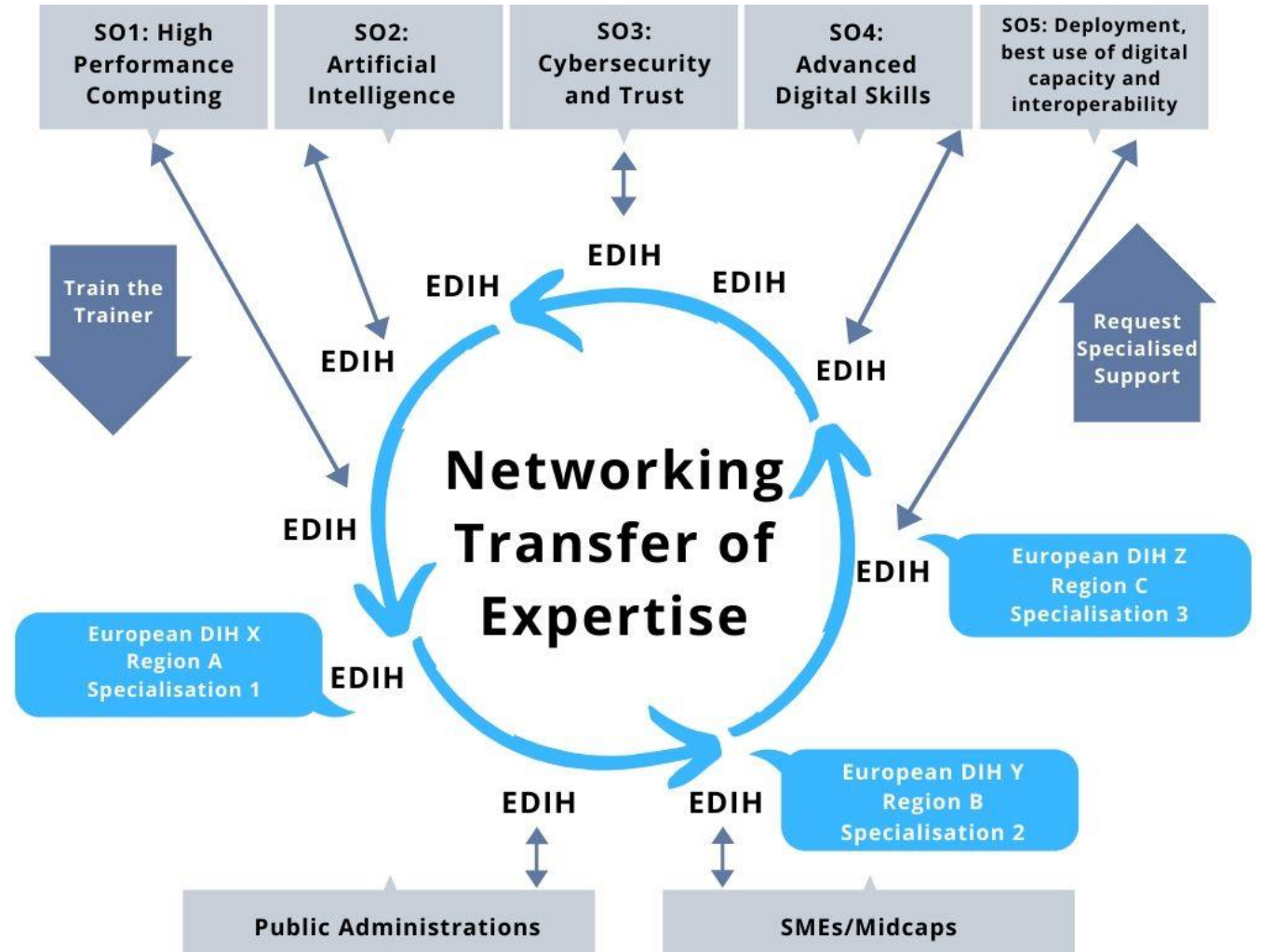


EDIHs will:

- Offer support for digital transformation which is adapted to local needs, based on a specialisation
- Build regional ecosystems of users and suppliers, strengthening local innovation environment
- Connect to the whole of Europe through the network:
 - Share best practices with other hubs
 - Connect local SMEs to SMEs outside the region, building new value chains in Europe
 - Seek synergies with innovators, include artistic experimentation to find new uses of digital
 - Disseminate digital capacities of Digital Europe Programme to local community

Train the trainer - ensure the best use of DIGITAL capacities

- EDIHs will act as a **multiplier** and **widely diffuse** the use of all the digital capacities built up under the different specific objectives of DIGITAL



Why do EDIHs want to collaborate?

- They **do not have the required expertise/facilities** to help their customers (because specialised in something else)
- They want to **serve all European companies** that can benefit from their expertise
- They want to **learn from others** in the network and show others their best practices
- They want to **achieve economies of scale** and invest in common services and facilities with other EDIHs
- They want to **support their local SMEs** to become part of European value chains

Types of networking

Structural

- Common services
- Joint investments in infrastructure
- Based on trust and win-win situations

One off

- Based on specific needs of customers
- Through match-making facilitated by the Digital Transformation Accelerator

Exchange of best practices

- Through subnetworks sharing certain interests, e.g. technological, sectorial, demographics, etc
- Organised by the Digital Transformation Accelerator

What do we expect – number of events

- Participating to “train the trainer” events can improve the capacity of each hub, and give them access to many useful resources. Many train-the-trainer events will be on-line and easily accessible. **About 40 events per year will be organised; EDIHs should attend those which are relevant for them (possibly at least 20).**
- Sharing best practices through participation to “sub-networks” can also improve capacity of each hub, and can build trust among hubs in the sub-network. Such events can also be **mostly on-line, 2-4 times a year, but if desirable occasional physical meetings** can be foreseen, for instance for visits to EDIHs
- One time a year the **annual EDIH event**, 2 days, combination of physical and on-line

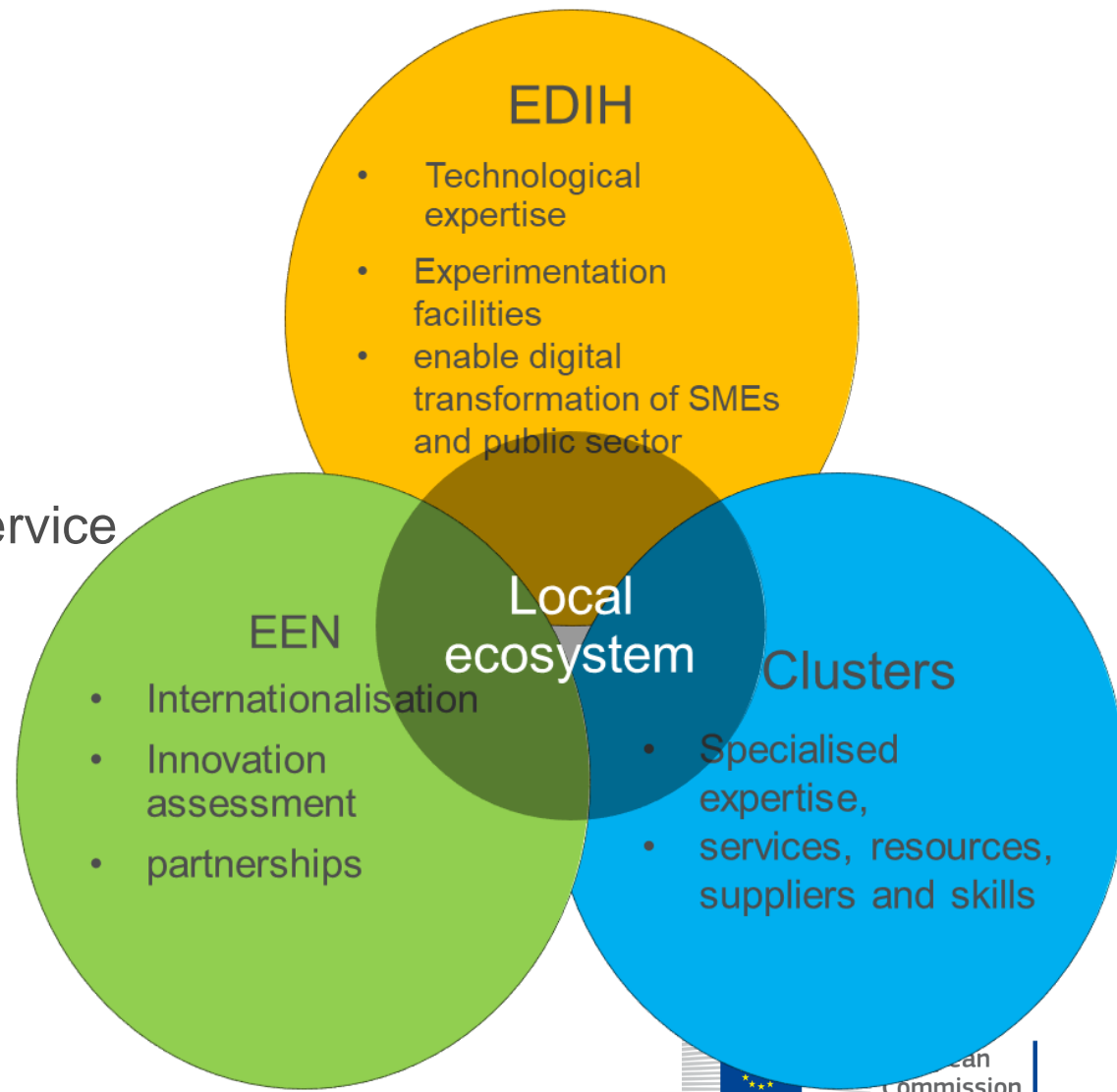
What do we expect – one-off collaborations

- One-off collaborations: On average **5-20%** of your customers to other EDIHs, and 5-20% of the total amount of customers you can help come through referral of other EDIHs.
- Over time you can see what real needs are and adjust these numbers.
- Note: in general, **each EDIH will pay their expenses** for collaborations from their own grant.

Collaboration with Enterprise Europe Network/Clusters

Synergy potentials:

- Local/regional embedding of the networks
- SME strategy –
key focus on digitalization: providing a seamless service



Collaboration with Enterprise Europe Network/Clusters

EDIHs, EEN and Clusters in the same territory could conclude a service-level cooperation which clearly describes how the two will complement each other and will work synergistically together, offering a seamless service to SMEs. E.g.:

- Joint investor related events
- Organisation of common trainings/workshops/info-days for SMEs
- Referrals of SMEs (from EEN to EDIHs and from EDIHs to EEN)
- Digital scans/audits/assessments
- ...

See also [specific guidance document](https://europa.eu/!gvWyWP) <https://europa.eu/!gvWyWP>

Impact and expected outcomes



- **Main outcome: a balanced network of EDIHs**
- Impact indicators to evaluate the performance of the hub
 - Number of **businesses and public sector entities, which have used the EDIH**. Where relevant, this will include a description of which Digital Europe capacities have been used.
 - **Amount of additional investments** successfully triggered
 - **Number of collaborations** foreseen with other EDIHs and stakeholders outside the region at EU level, and description of infrastructures jointly shared / joint investments with other EDIH.
- A set of additional impact indicators will be collected and analysed with the support of the Digital Transformation Accelerator:
 - Increase in **digital maturity of organisations** that have used the services of the EDIH network.
 - **Market maturity and market creation potential of innovations**, as defined in the JRC's Innovation Radar methodology.

The Digital Transformation Accelerator

Community building and training

- guidance for hubs
- training services and material
- matchmaking support
- community building events



Train the trainer

on HPC, Cybersecurity, AI...



Connect to relevant initiatives

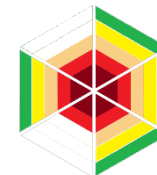
Startup Europe, EEN, Horizon Europe projects, NCP, other hubs, etc.

Business Support on Your Doorstep

Startup Europe Partnership

Impact assessment and roadmapping

help EC collect and analyse KPIs



Online presence, communication, tools and support

high-quality multi-lingual web portal, success stories, catalogue, media presence, IT tools



In collaboration with the JRC

Timeline

<https://europa.eu/!HNkG6X>

EDIH call on the Funding & Tenders Portal

- Call 1 – for designated entities

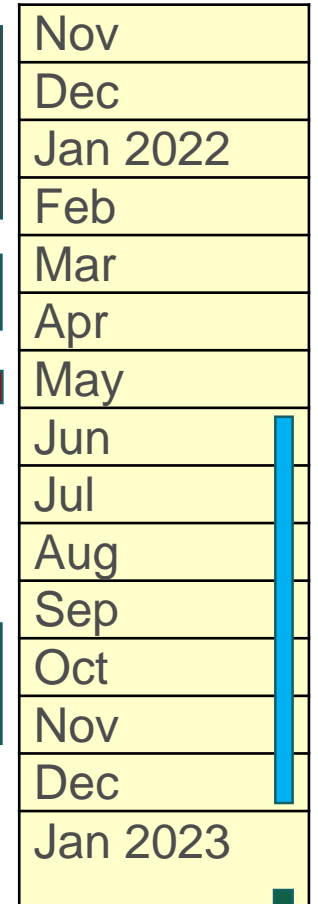
- Open: 17 November – 22 February
- Evaluation: 14 March to 29 April 2022
- Information on evaluation results: End of May 2022
- Signature of the grant agreements: earliest end of September, latest 21 November 2022

- Call 2 – for designated entities, second chance

- Open: Q3 2022 – Q4 2022

- Call 3 – only in case the network has gaps. Will be a fully open call.

- Open 2023



Documentation available on European Digital Innovation Hubs

- **EDIH call on the Funding & Tenders Portal:** <https://europa.eu/!HNkG6X>
- **European Digital Innovation Hubs** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/edihs>
- **European Digital Innovation Hubs in Digital Europe Programme** -Draft working document – update 25-01-2021 <https://europa.eu/!Tv43JN>
- **Practical Handbook on Digital Innovation Hubs** as policy instruments to boost digitalisation of SMEs <https://europa.eu/!tH89cf>
- **FAQ** http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=68322
- **Specific guidance document** for collaboration between EDIH, EEN and Clusters
- **Webinars on various topics** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/cycle-workshops-european-digital-innovation-hubs>

Newsletter

- Subscribe to Information on upcoming events and further news from CNECT A4 unit at the following link: [Europe's eusurvey Newsroom \(europa.eu\)](http://europa.eu)

Thank you

Contact



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