

European Digital Innovation Hubs

European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) will function as one-stop shops that help companies dynamically respond to the digital challenges and become more competitive.



By providing access to technical expertise and experimentation as well as the possibility to “test before invest”, EDIHs help companies improve business/production processes, products, or services using digital technologies. They also provide innovation services, such as financing advice, training, and skills development that are needed for a successful digital transformation. Environmental issues are also taken into account, in particular with regard to energy consumption and low carbon emissions.

How will the EDIHs work?

European Digital Innovation Hubs will have both local and European functions. EU funding will be made available for hubs that are already (or will be) supported by their Member States (or regions), in order to increase the impact of public funding. The Digital Europe Programme will increase the capacities of the selected hubs to cover activities with a clear European added value, based on networking the hubs and promoting the transfer of expertise. Member States have an essential role in the selection process of the EDIHs; the initial network of EDIHs will be established from a list of hubs designated by the Member States.

The European Commission has developed a document (.pdf) that explains how the EDIH will be implemented in the Digital Europe Programme as well as a series of answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ as pdf).

The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission has developed a practical handbook with good practices on investments in Digital Innovation Hubs. The handbook aims to support regional, national, and RIS3 (Regional Strategy for Research and Innovation for Smart Specialisation) Implementation policymakers.

Next Steps

Following the ongoing negotiations on the Multi-annual Financial Framework in general and the Digital Europe Programme in particular, a first restricted call for EDIHs is expected to be launched at the end of May 2021, to enable selected EDIHs to start their operation early in 2022.

Country contact points for EDIHs

Webinars

Resources

Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) as policy instruments to boost digitalisation of SMEs

Given the urgent need of SMEs and public administrations to rapidly deploy advanced digital technologies to mitigate the negative consequences of the recent COVID19 crisis to their businesses, the role of DIHs is more important than ever. The Handbook introduces a step-by-

step approach to provide support to policy makers that envisage strengthening DIHs in their regions/countries with a view to accelerate digital transformation of the economy and society. This approach allows to use the Handbook as a reference tool depending on the specific needs and level of implementation of DIHs.

Digital Innovation Hubs: helping companies and public administrations make the most of digital opportunities

Digital technologies such as High Performance Computing, Internet of Things, Big Data, blockchain, robotics and artificial intelligence allow businesses to produce higher value products and improve production processes. However, European companies are not making the most of all the opportunities digital has to offer. This slow uptake of digital technologies poses a risk to the European Unions ability to compete in the global economy, to create new jobs and to grow.

Explore all resources in relation to EDIHs

[Browse Digital Innovation Hubs](#)

Related Content

Big Picture

The Digital Europe Programme

The Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) is a new EU funding programme focused on bringing digital technology to businesses, citizens and public administrations.

See Also

How to get funding under the Digital Europe programme

Learn about the work programmes, the calls for proposals and the application process for the Digital Europe Programme.

Skills in the DIGITAL Europe programme

The DIGITAL Europe programme will fund the design and delivery of specialised programmes and traineeships for future experts in key capacity areas like data and AI, cybersecurity, quantum and HPC.

Cybersecurity in the DIGITAL Europe programme

In the area of cybersecurity, one of the goals of the DIGITAL Europe programme is to strengthen cybersecurity coordination between Member States' tools and data infrastructures.

Artificial intelligence in the DIGITAL Europe programme

The DIGITAL Europe programme will open up the use of artificial intelligence by businesses and public administrations. As data fuels the development of AI, DIGITAL also aims to set up true European data space and facilitate safe access to and storage of large datasets and...

Supercomputing in the DIGITAL Europe programme

The DIGITAL Europe programme aims to build up and strengthen the EU's supercomputing and data processing capacities, helping us to reach exascale supercomputing – computing with a power comparable to aggregating the computing capabilities of the mobile phones of the EU's entire...

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