

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.

Many European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH) will be based on existing clusters, or include organisations that are part of an EEN consortia. The SME Strategy also commits to expand Digital Innovation Hubs in connection with Startup Europe and the EEN and provide a seamless service within local and regional ecosystems. Access the guidance document (.pdf) to establish these collaborations.

Next Steps

Following the ongoing development of the workprogramme of the Digital Europe Programme, a first restricted call for EDIHs is expected to be launched in September 2021, to enable selected EDIHs to start their operation towards the second quarter of 2022.

Country contact points for EDIHs

Webinars

News & Views

15-03-2021

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12-06-2020

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Final Webinar on the study on technological and economic analysis of industry agreements in current and future digital value chains

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

Skills in the DIGITAL Europe programme

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Cybersecurity in the DIGITAL Europe programme

The Digital Europe Programme will help the EU achieve a high common level of cybersecurity.

Artificial intelligence in the DIGITAL Europe programme

The DIGITAL Europe programme will open up the use of artificial intelligence by businesses and public administrations.

Supercomputing in the DIGITAL Europe programme

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