

Kick-off meeting Digitalisation WG - Q&A session

11/03/2021

Lidia Betoea

Q: The Open Call for EDIHs will be launched at the end of May 2021?

A (Graciela Garrido - FundingBox): It will probably open at the end of May and close at the end of September.

Karolien de Bruine, Oost NL

Q: We are keen on the possibility of vouchers for SMEs as mentioned by Mayte. For now, the EC states it is not possible currently. What are your views on this?

A (Mayte Carracedo - FundingBox): This will indeed not be possible with the Digital Europe Program. The EC wants to dedicate these funds for EDIHs to give services to companies directly. However, ERDFs can be a good alternative to consider.

Lara Porciatti, ART-ER

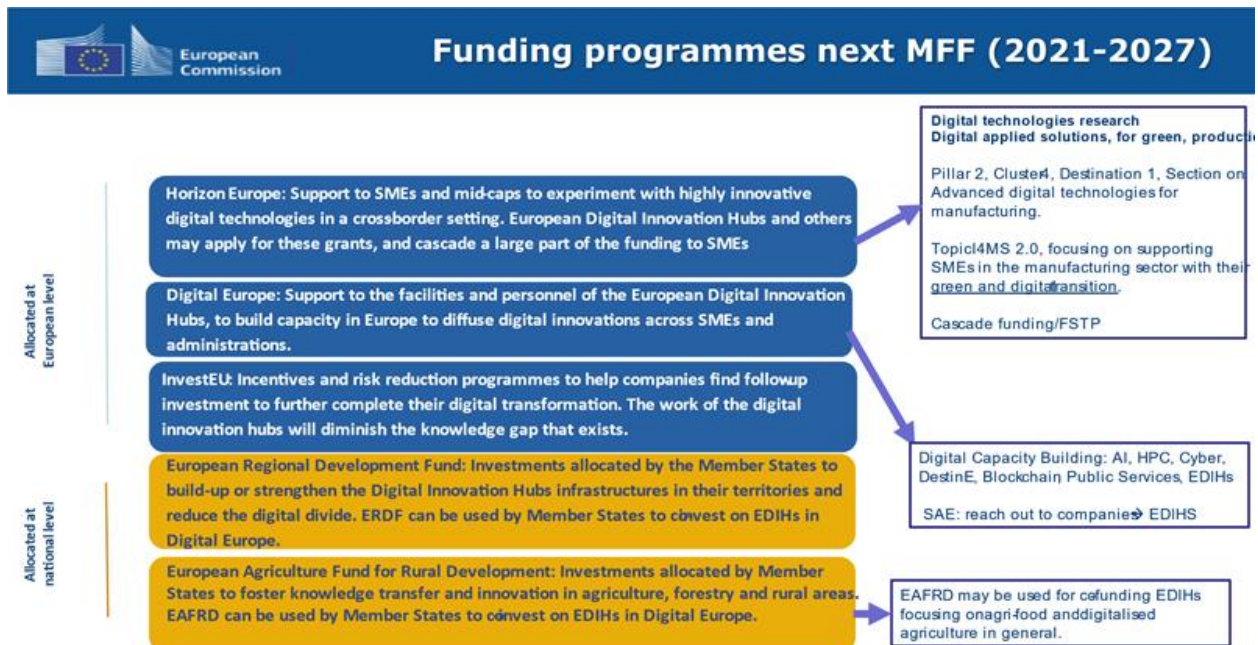
Q: Can you tell more on EDIH services regarding training and skills?

A (Graciela Garrido - FundingBox): The draft regulation mentions: "They will also provide support in the area of advanced digital skills (e.g. by coordinating with education providers for the provision of short-term training for workers and internships for students)". To ensure the appropriate level of digital skills within the supported organisations to make the most of digital innovations technologies, EDIHs' services should include advertising, hosting or providing of training, boot-camps, traineeships, as well as supporting the implementation of the short-term advanced digital skills training courses and job placements developed as part of the DEP Advanced Digital Skills pillar.

Viktor Milosevic, Styrian Reg. Gov.

Q: Is it possible to combine the funding of EDIH with other EU funding Programmes?

A (Graciela Garrido - FundingBox): Yes, a combination of funds is possible. We share the slide about the combination of funding that an EDIH can take into account from EC presentations.



Cinar Uysal

Q: What about the eligibility of an RDA based in an Associate Country of the EU?

A (Graciela Garrido - FundingBox): At this stage, as the Digital Europe Programme is not approved, we have no information about the associated countries to the programme. We provide the information available at this stage where there is a table with all countries currently involved in the programme.

The table below illustrates the number of hubs foreseen for each country. This table will be updated with Associated Countries, once agreements between these countries and the EU have been reached.

Country	Population	EP seats 2020	Projected budget (1000 €)	Min # of hubs	Max # of hubs (recommended)	NUTS 2 regions	Budget per year (1000 €)
Belgium	11,351,727	21	22,251	3	6	11	3,179
Bulgaria	7,101,859	17	18,013	3	5	6	2,573
Czech Republic	10,578,820	21	22,251	3	6	8	3,179
Denmark	5,748,769	14	14,834	2	4	5	2,119
Germany	82,521,653	96	101,719	15	29	38	14,531
Estonia	1,315,635	7	7,417	1	2	1	1,060
Ireland	4,784,383	13	13,774	2	4	3	1,968
Greece	10,768,193	21	22,251	3	6	13	3,179
Spain	46,528,966	59	62,515	9	18	19	8,931
France	66,989,083	79	83,706	12	24	27	11,958
Croatia	4,154,213	12	12,715	2	4	2	1,816
Italy	60,589,445	76	80,528	12	23	21	11,504
Cyprus	854,802	6	6,357	1	2	1	0,908
Latvia	1,950,116	8	8,477	1	2	1	1,211
Lithuania	2,847,904	11	11,655	2	3	2	1,665
Luxembourg	590,667	6	6,357	1	2	1	0,908
Hungary	9,797,561	21	22,251	3	6	8	3,179
Malta	460,297	6	6,357	1	2	1	0,908
Netherlands	17,081,507	29	30,728	4	9	12	4,390
Austria	8,772,865	19	20,132	3	6	9	2,876
Poland	37,972,964	52	55,098	8	16	17	7,871
Portugal	10,309,573	21	22,251	3	6	7	3,179

²¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-member-states-join-forces-digitalisation-european-agriculture-and-rural-areas>

Romania	19,644,350	33	34,966	5	10	8	4,995
Slovenia	2,065,895	8	8,477	1	2	2	1,211
Slovakia	5,435,343	14	14,834	2	4	4	2,119
Finland	5,503,297	14	14,834	2	4	5	2,119
Sweden	9,995,153	21	22,251	3	6	8	3,179
Total		705	747	107	211	240	106,714

Table 1: Foreseen distribution of funding of Digital Europe Programme for EDIHs in all MS. This will be adapted once a decision about budgets have been taken.