Digitising European Industry: A key role for Digital Innovation Hubs in the regions

Dr. Anne-Marie Sassen, Deputy Head of Unit
DG CONNECT/A2 - European Commission
anne-marie.sassen@ec.europa.eu

#DigitiseEU
What is this about?

Measures that enable all sectors to benefit from digital innovation

Foreseen Activities:
- Mainstreaming digital innovations across all sectors
- Strengthening leadership in digital technologies
- Preparing people for the digital age
- Regulatory framework

Coordination of various initiatives - MS, regional, EU
- Pool resources, avoid fragmentation, support DSM

Europe will only be able to maintain its leading role if the digitisation of its industry is successful and reached fast.

Günter H. Oettinger
@GOettingerEU

Level of digitisation differs according to region, size of company, sector.
Digital value chains across all sectors

**Critical Value chain**

- **IoT**
  - CPS, sensors, Cloud, HPC,

- **Big data**
  - Analytics, storage, HPC,

- **Electronics, photonics**
- **ICT devices**
- **3D printing**
  - Additive manufacturing, laser based,

- **AI**
  - Robotics, automation, machine learning
Mainstreaming digital innovations across all sectors

**Target:** Access to digital technologies and expertise

- within "working distance"
- for any industry in Europe
- with a focus on: SMEs, mid-caps, non-tech

**How:**

- "Digital Innovation Hubs" across Europe:
  - Provide industry with access to technology, expertise, testing,... based on world-class specialised competence centre
  - In line with smart specialisation strategy

- Thematic smart specialisation platform on industrial modernisation
  - Support new partnerships for interregional joint demonstration

- Public procurement of innovations
Competence Centres are the core of Digital Innovation Hubs

Digital Innovation Hubs focus on mixing technological competences within an ecosystem delivering innovation services

Organised to provide services to industry
- Access to competence centres
- Development of innovation ecosystem
- Brokerage
- Access to finance
- Market intelligence
- Training and education
- Incubator/mentoring services

Competences in Digital Technologies
- Provide access to infrastructure and technology platforms
- Provide digitisation and application expertise
- Support experimentation in real-life environments
- Support fabrication of new products
- Demonstrate best practices
- Showcase technologies in pilot factories, fab-labs
Who does what?

Regions/MSs
- **Establish/reinforce competence centres and DIHs**
  - Across Europe – specific support for regions without DIH
  - Implement relevant activities if needed (incentives, ...)
- **Collaborate with** digital innovation hubs of **other regions**
  - to fill gaps and facilitate specialisation and excellence

Commission
- Support pan-European networking of Digital Innovation Hubs
  - Share best practices, success stories, training
  - Develop catalogue of Hubs, competences, etc
- Smart specialisation platform for industrial modernisation will provide tailored support to develop joint investment projects.

Industry
- Engage with DIHs, help set priorities, ..
Digital Innovation Hubs: Building on successful experiences, e.g.

Netherlands Field Labs

- 3Dmultimaterial (3D printing)
- Digital Factory
- Flex Manufec. (robotics)
- RoS Factories
- Zero defects
- Smart Food

- Noord-Brabant en Limburg
- Delft, Eindhoven, Enschede, Drachten
- Drachten, Hoogvliet, Almere, Grootegr
- Zuid-Holland
- Amsterdam, Delft, Eindhoven, Enschede
- Overijssel
- Venlo (Limburg)
- Grote, Glo-Rijn (Noord-Brabant)
- Noord en Oost Nederland

- Ultra Personalized Design (creative)
- Secure Connected System Garden
- Smart Bending Factory
- CAMPione
- Zero surprises
- Smart Dairy Farming

Mittelstand- Digital

La FRENCH TECH

VANGUARD INITIATIVE
Tailor made shoes for customers with feet anomalies

- 3D insole scan & design is processed on HPC resources via the cloud
  - Paving the way for 3D printing of soles/shoes in the back-shop in Europe
- **Benefits for the shoe industry:**
  - No need for specialised CAD knowledge
  - No hassle with SW licenses
  - Immediate validation and perfect fit
- **Benefits for the customer:**
  - Faster availability of the shoe
  - Lower cost for special shoes
- **250k€ Funding**
  - Tripling Base Protection's turnover within 3 years

**Partners:**
End-user SME: BASE PROTECTION – IT
End user SME: PODOACTIVA -ES
Technology provider SME: INGECON - ES
Call for action

- Interested in supporting the industry in your region with a digital innovation hub?
  - Try to use the Smart Specialisation platform for industrial modernisation for finding partners and ideas for viable business models
    - Co-investment of regions in shared infrastructures and services benefitting industry of those regions and strengthening value chains
  - Participate in the Working Group on DIHs, next meeting 9 December in Brussels
  - Participate to the stakeholder conference on 31 January-1 February in Essen, Germany
    - [https://www.bmwi registrierung.de/digitising-european-industry/](https://www.bmwi registrierung.de/digitising-european-industry/)


• Digitising European Industry: http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/digitising-european-industry