Expanding outside the EU – status, current topics

Date: 1 June, 14:00-15:30 CET

Objective:

This interactive session will look beyond the European Union based EDIHs, namely towards the Eastern Partnership (EaP) region, consisting of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The speakers from Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine will host different tables discussing the differences and similarities between EU & EaP countries regarding the digital transformation of small and mediums-sized enterprises, as well as practical experiences in operating a DIH in an EaP country. Moreover, the importance of cross-border cooperation with other (E)DIHs will be discussed as well as the importance and role of the policy level, setting an enabling environment for (E)DIHs to operate in.

Target audience:

This meeting will be the occasion to share best practices between practitioners from EDIHs and DIHs from Ukraine and Moldova, as well as policy perspectives from Georgia. It will give the opportunity to all participants to contribute and opening new perspectives on this region in EU's Eastern Neighborhood.

Proposed workshop agenda

Time	Description	Presenter
14:00 – 14:05	**Introduction** • Welcome word (EC), • Outlining the context of the working group and objective (GIZ)	EC and/or GIZ
14:05 – 14:30	**Presentation of EaP DIHs and GIZ project "DT4SME"** • Digital Transformation of SME in EaP project • DIHs from Ukraine (Digital Innovation NOSC-UA DIH, Center Igor Sikorsky 4.0 – KPI DIH, DIH I4MS Ukraine: Hub-laboratory Internet of Things) • DIH from Moldova (DIH of Moldova) • Georgia (Enterprises Georgia)	EaP DIHs, GIZ
14:30 – 15:15 / 15:20	**World café - EU-EaP Digital Innovation Hub Bridge** • Table 1 – How to create and maintain an enabling policy environment for (E)DIHs? • Table 2 – Differences and similarities between EU & EaP countries regarding the digital transformation of SME and practical experiences in operating a (E)DIH • Table 3- Importance of cross-border cooperation with other (E)DIHs	EaP DIHs, GIZ, participants
15:15 / 15:20 – 15:30	**Wrap-up & Next steps** • Wrap- and next steps regarding the development of an EaP-wide (E)DIH network (GIZ) • Concluding remarks (EC)	GIZ, EC