EDIH Network Summit 2024

26 – 27 The Egg

November Brussel

Session 5: Networking the Networks

Summary of the discussions

The European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH) convened for Session 5: Networking the Networks on 27 November 2024 at The Egg in Brussels. This event highlighted the growing collaboration between EDIHs and other EU initiatives to accelerate digital transformation across Europe, particularly for SMEs.

In particular <u>Gaspard Demur</u>, Deputy Head of Unit for AI Innovation at the EU AI Office, opened the session emphasising the importance of EDIH cooperation with other European networks such as Enterprise Europe Network and the Test and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs)This showcasing initiatives such as the <u>2023</u> <u>Cooperation Guidelines</u> launched at the EEN Annual Conference and the <u>Open DMA Tool</u> in 2024.

The Panel discussion helped to clarify these concepts further. <u>Alberto Valenzano</u>, Team Leader at the European Commission, DG GROW, provided the examples of how SMEs profited in their digitalisation journey from the augmented services thanks to the cooperation between EDIHs and EEN nodes.

<u>Stina Jonsson</u>, Senior Project Manager at RISE, provided examples of how the cooperation between the networks can practically support companies, citing the Swedish case of RI.SE.

<u>Giovanna Galasso</u>, CoordinaTEF, elaborated how TEFs are ramping-up to offer European technology provider added value in setting up world-class facilities to test AI solutions. Practical Examples on how this added value can be also achieved through the collaboration between EDIHs and TEFs were provided by the panellists <u>Petra Dalunde</u>, TEF Citcom.AI, <u>Dimitri Schuurman</u>, TEF Citcom.AI, and Dr. ir. Jürgen Vangeyte, TEF AGRIFOOD.

Q&A and Closing: The audience engaged with panellists on challenges and pathways for enhanced cooperation. The session concluded with a call for increased integration among EU networks to support innovation and digital adoption.

The event showcased best practices and fostered cooperation among EDIH Network and other EU initiatives, and laid the groundwork for future cooperation strategies, emphasizing the value of "networking the networks" for Europe's digital future.



