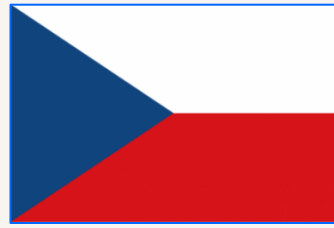


EDIH

European Digital Innovation Hubs Network

Driving the EU's digital transformation



Czechia

6

Members

6/6 *EDIHs



26

Sectors

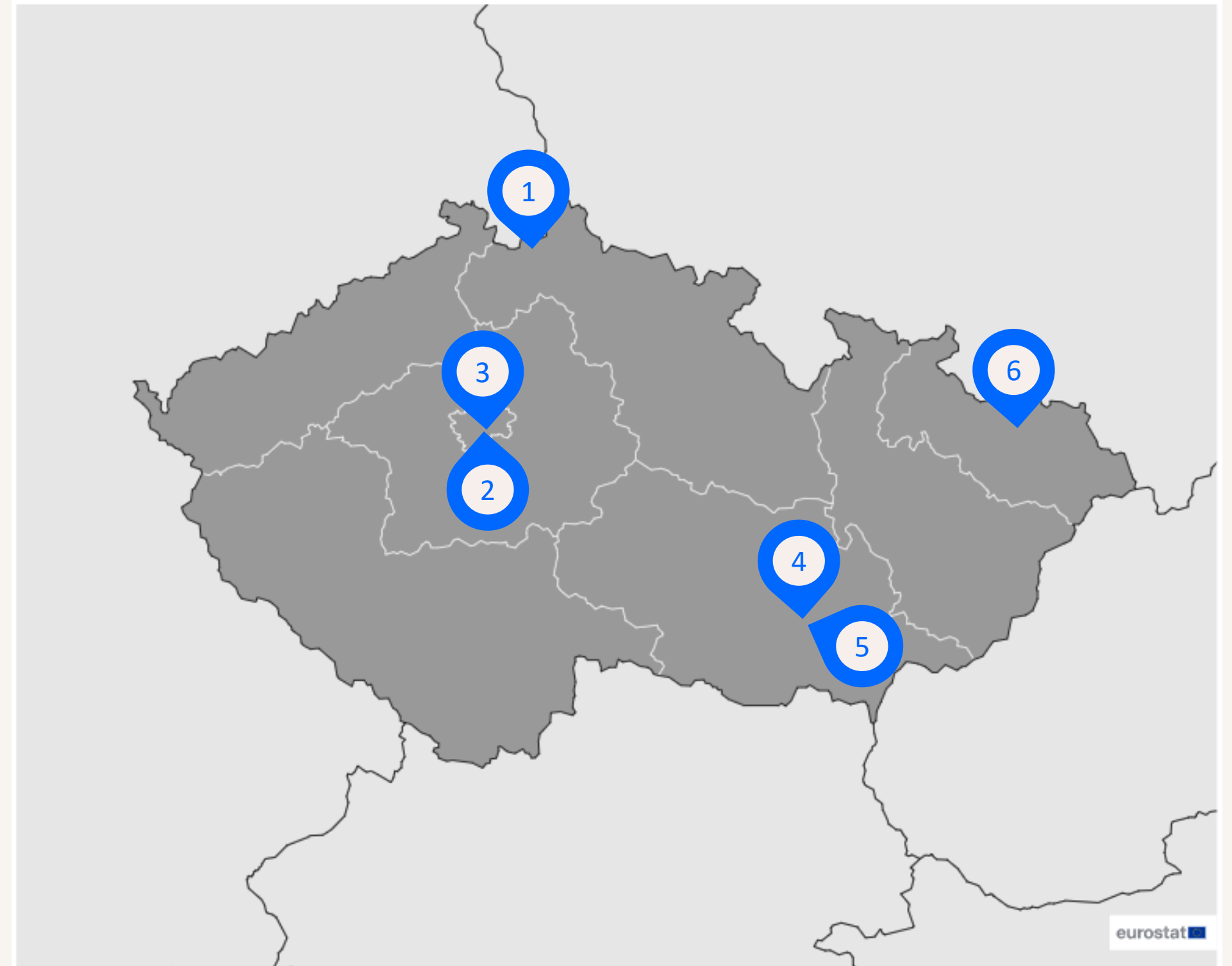
EDIHs in Czechia

Drive digital innovation across diverse sectors like defense, education, energy, and public administration.

Innovate in key industries such as transport and mobility, automotives, and space.

Focus on healthcare, manufacturing, and smart city initiatives, contributing to cutting-edge technologies in healthcare, industry, and urban solutions.

📍 EDIH



■ *European Digital Innovation Hubs

*Funded under Digital Europe Programme

Network overview: 6 members – 6 EDIHs

CyberSecurityHub^{CZ}

CIH

B4I

EDIH B4I

EDIH
CTU

EDIH-CTU

dih
NORTHEAST

EDIH NEB

EDIH
OSTRAVA

EDIH OVA

EDIH-DIGIMAT

EDIH-DIGIMAT

26 Technologies

Leverage artificial intelligence and decision support, cloud services, and cybersecurity to drive advancements in diverse industries.

Help integrate high-performance computing, internet of things, and robotics, contributing to intelligent solutions into manufacturing, logistics, and human-computer interaction.

Prioritise secure digital ecosystems through expertise in areas like digital twins, quantum technologies, and additive manufacturing.

Services

Excel in the realm of technological innovation, delivering cutting-edge solutions across diverse industries.

Foster innovation, emphasising services such as innovation management, knowledge transfer, and technological innovation.

Actively contribute to regional development and smart specialisation strategies, aligning their efforts with the broader innovation landscape in Czechia.

Success stories

Revolutionising car rentals: how digitisation and data drive success

EDIH



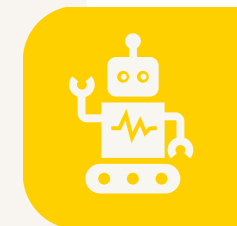
CUSTOMER

- Speed lease
- Medium-sized enterprise with 50-249 employees
- Specialised in car rental.



Service type

Networking and access to innovation ecosystems



Technologies

Data



Sectors

Retail, wholesale or distribution



Challenges

Challenges include limited ERP functionality, inadequate understanding of digital tools, inefficient administrative processes, and poor data utilisation. The goal is to **streamline workflows, automate processes, and better leverage data for improved business performance and strategic decision-making.**



Solutions

- Identification of key development opportunities through digital tools;
- Creation of activity plans for digital advancement starting in 2024;
- Specialisation in technologies and processes and maintenance of independence from specific suppliers;
- Improvement of the EPR system identifying particular IT development needs.

Success stories

Revolutionising car rentals: how digitisation and data drive success



Thanks to EDIH B4I the SME achieved:

- **expected investment amount:** approximately €300,000 to €550,000;
- **estimated annual savings:** approximately €440,000 per year;
- **increase in productivity:** equivalent to saving approximately three full-time equivalents (FTEs);
- **increase in sales;**
- **improvement in SPEED LEASE business/operational performance.**



Results and benefits

Qualitative indicators

The strategy implementation began in the first quarter of 2024. **Approximately 40 projects have been identified for execution.** As of May 2024, a tender process for selecting a new ERP supplier is underway. The completion of all project activities is anticipated by the first quarter of 2026

Improvement in SPEED LEASE business/operational performance

EDIH B4I's collaboration with SPEED LEASE has yielded several benefits. They have gained insights into the unique challenges of different SMEs, enhanced their ability to **transfer experiences between customers, and facilitated matchmaking.** Additionally, this partnership has led to the **development of a training package** for SPEED LEASE staff in the B4I Digital Academy.



Lessons learnt

- ✓ Get to know the customer and their operations thoroughly.
- ✓ Communicate not only with managers but also with 'blue-collar' staff, those who understand operational details and might bring good ideas for specific improvements.
- ✓ Do not take quick conclusions: it is always necessary to get to know the customer and its operation in details.

Good practices

Academy of Digital Transformation



EDIH-DIGIMAT



Challenges

The Czech manufacturing sector is characterised by the low adoption of digitalisation and automation among SMEs and small mid-cap companies, with only 19% having an approved strategy. Key obstacles include a lack of qualified employees, insufficient funding, and uncertainty about ROI, leading to only 33% of SMEs planning to invest in digitalisation.

Given that manufacturing contributes 26% to the national GDP and employs 27% of the workforce, accelerating digital transformation is a national priority. However, many SMEs struggle with limited financial and human resources and often skip the crucial process analysis phase, leading to ineffective technology adoption.



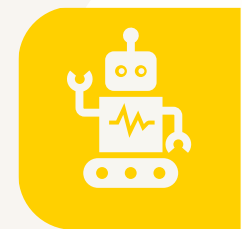
Solutions

- **Process optimisation training:** companies first learn to analyse and optimise their internal processes using lean principles and tools such as value stream mapping, 5S, visual management, and problem-solving methodologies;
- **Practical hands-on learning:** participants work on their own optimisation projects, applying lean tools in their environment with support from experts;
- **Exposure to digital solutions:** training includes an overview of Power BI, MES and ERP systems, low-code tools, digital twins, robotics, 3D printing, AI, 5G, and vision systems, with practical demonstrations in testbeds and benchmarking visits.



Services

Training and skills development



Technologies

Robotics, digital twins, sensors and vision processing systems and additive manufacturing



Sectors

Manufacturing and processing, and metal working and industrial production

Good practices

Academy of Digital Transformation



Results and benefits

High engagement with EDIH services

Out of the 14 companies that participated, 12 requested consulting services and two engaged in experiments, showing a strong interest in further collaboration.

Long-term business cooperation

Two companies (14%) decided to establish long-term commercial cooperation with EDIH-DIGIMAT based on their Academy experience.

Continuous growth and demand

Every Academy session has been fully booked since the pilot phase, with increasing interest and space for two to three more Academies until the end of 2025.

86% of participating companies requested consulting services, demonstrating the Academy's effectiveness in guiding SMEs toward digital transformation and deeper engagement with EDIH services.



Lessons learnt

- ✓ **Balance complexity and practicality** by extending modules and tailoring content to address participants' specific needs.
- ✓ **Optimise content for the target audience** by revising the programme to better balance theory, practical training and consulting.
- ✓ **Improve communication and service growth**: after refining the strategy, the number of service providers increased, expanding the available expertise and impact.



Images from the Academy Digital Transformation