

# EDIH

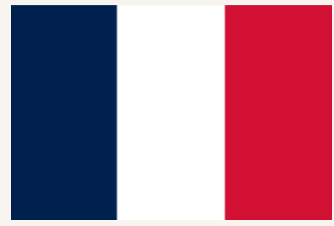
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## **European Digital Innovation Hubs Network**

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Driving the EU's digital transformation

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# France

16

Members

Coverage

Perfect

16/16 \*EDIHs

0/16 \*\*SoEs

30

Sectors

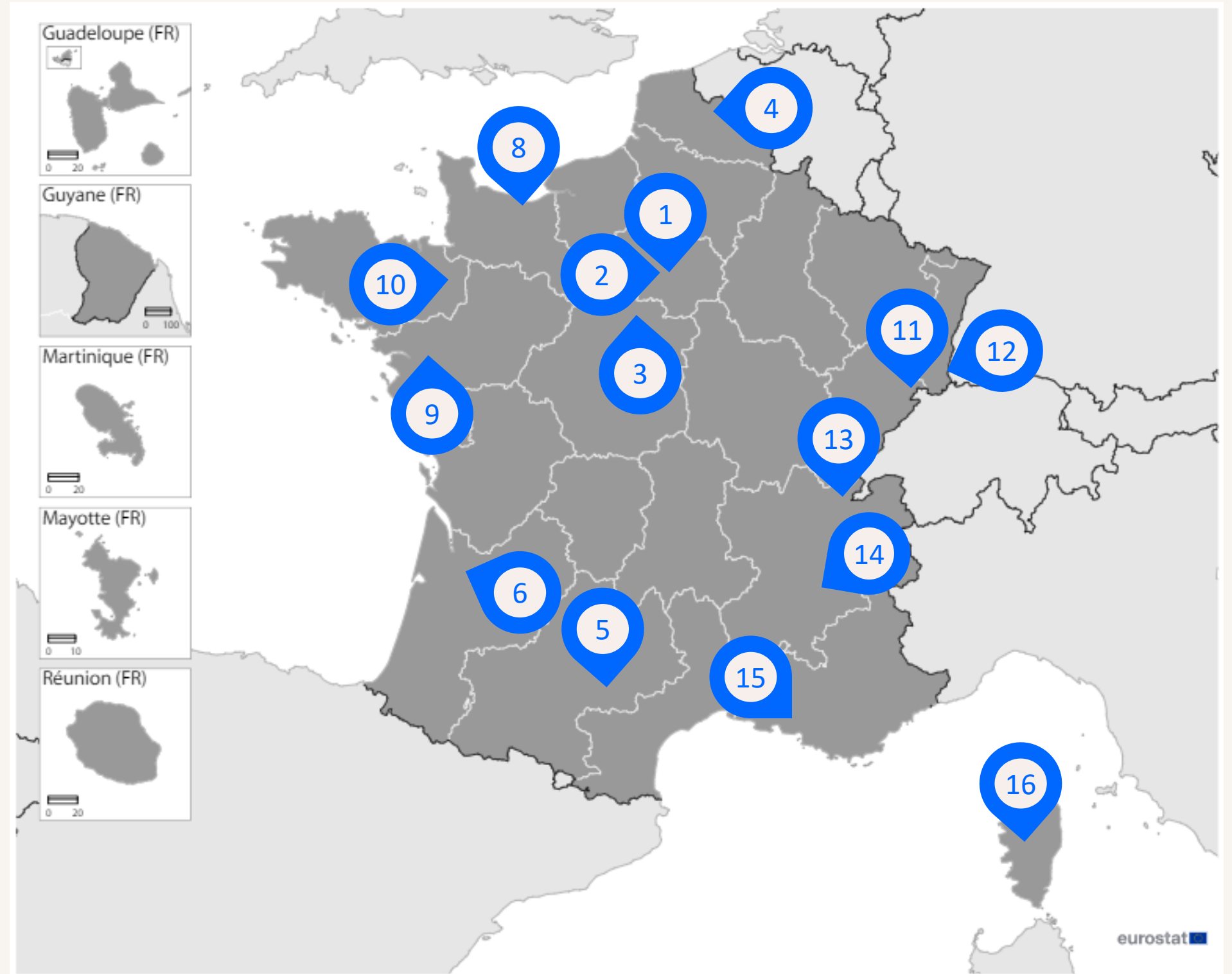
## EDIHs in France

Cover a variety of sectors, including manufacturing, aeronautics, healthcare, energy, and defence. This diversity showcases their commitment to advancing digital innovation.

Play a key role in fostering innovation across automotive, transport and mobility, education, public administration, and smart city initiatives.

Contribute significantly to sectors including environmental sustainability, space and telecommunications, positioning the country at the forefront of technological advancements.

EDIH SoE



\*European Digital Innovation Hubs

\*\*Seal of Excellence (SoE)

\*Funded under Digital Europe Programme

# Network overview: 16 members – 16 EDIHs and 0 SoEs





## 28 Technologies

Use AI and decision support, big data, and digital twins for innovative data analytics and simulation techniques across diverse industries.

Lead with high-performance computing, IoT, and robotics, fostering smart solutions in manufacturing, logistics, and human-computer interaction.

Focus on cybersecurity, virtual reality, and additive manufacturing, ensuring secure digital ecosystems and pioneering immersive experiences and innovative production processes.



## Services

Excel in technological innovation, providing advanced solutions for a range of industries.

Play a key role in innovation through services such as prototyping and technology transfer, translating research into practical applications.

Prioritise ecosystem building, SME support, and finance services, fostering innovation ecosystems, aiding small enterprises, and supporting projects financially.

# Success stories

## Support to PSO's green digitalisation

EDIH



### CUSTOMER

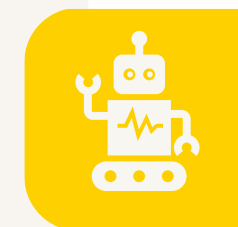
- Somme Numérique
- Website
- Small-sized enterprise with 10-49 employees.

somme  
*Numérique*



### Service type

Networking and access to innovation ecosystems, support to find investment, test before invest, training and skills development



### Technologies

Internet of Things, Cloud Services and Big Data



### Sectors

Public administration and Smart City



### Challenges

Somme Numérique (SN), a public service organisation (PSO) in Hauts-de-France, **was tasked with expanding into smart and sustainable territories but lacked expertise in scalable digital solutions.** It sought support from EDIH GreenPowerIT for an efficient transition.



### Solutions

- **Smart platform** deployed an interoperable digital platform using FIWARE, enabling 10 pilot communities to manage energy, water, waste, and lighting.
- **Technical support** developed and launched prototypes with a local SME by June 2024.
- **Funding and networking** secured H2020 dRural funding and connected with other French cities for knowledge exchange.



# Success stories

## Support to PSO's green digitalisation



### Thanks to EDIH GreenPower IT the SME achieved:

- **launch of an interoperable smart platform** using FIWARE and MIMs, ensuring scalability and digital sovereignty;
- **securing of €120,000 in H2020 dRural funding** to expand smart services in rural communities;
- **improvement in digital maturity (DMA score from 65% to ~80%)**;
- **reduction of time to market by six months**, accelerating the delivery of digital services to 10 pilot rural communities;
- **development and deployment of prototypes** for smart energy, water, waste, and lighting management with local SMEs by June 2024;
- **facilitation of knowledge exchange** by connecting SN with other French cities and communities facing similar digital transformation challenges.



### Results and benefits

#### Accelerated service deployment

SN reduced its time to market by six months, delivering smart digital services to 10 pilot rural communities faster.

#### Operational cost savings

Achieved 40% energy savings in public buildings, 25% cost reduction in recyclable waste collection, and 25% savings in street lighting costs, improving sustainability and efficiency.

#### Enhanced digital sovereignty

SN now operates a fully interoperable, open-source digital platform, ensuring long-term replicability, scalability, and security under 100% public governance.



### Lessons learnt

- ✓ Engage local communities early: involving local pilot communities from the start ensures solutions address real needs and are widely adopted.
- ✓ Balance customisation with scalability: while local adaptation is necessary, maintaining interoperability and replicability is key for broader adoption and long-term sustainability.

# Good practices

## French EDIHs Coordination – Network of the 16 French EDIHs

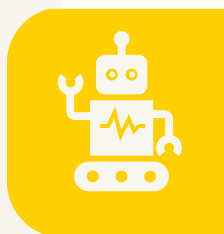


**EDIH**  
**GE** Hub Européen  
d'Innovation Digitale  
du Grand Est



### Services

Networking and access to innovation ecosystems



### Technologies

Artificial intelligence and decision support, cybersecurity, big data and high-performance computing



### Sectors

Manufacturing and processing, automotive, agricultural biotechnology and food biotechnology, polymers and plastics, energy and environment



## Challenges

The main challenge faced by the French EDIHs was the **lack of coordinated efforts across sectors and technologies.**

Fragmented communication and inconsistent collaboration led to duplicated efforts, ineffective service offerings, and missed opportunities for synergistic innovation. The need to establish a structured and efficient interaction platform became evident to address these issues and unlock the full potential of the French EDIHs.



## Solutions

To address this challenge, an **informal network of 16 French EDIHs was established.**

Monthly meetings were organised, both online and in-person, to **foster regular exchanges, set common objectives, and discuss national and regional developments.** Key working groups were created to focus on specific topics, such as AI and cybersecurity, while stakeholders like the French Public Investment Bank (BPI) and the French National Union of SMEs (CPME) were engaged to leverage synergies between grant programmes and services offered by EDIHs.

# Good practices

## French EDIHs Coordination – Network of the 16 French EDIHs



### Results and benefits

#### Strengthened national network

The creation of a national network of 16 EDIHs has provided a unified platform for collaboration, resource sharing, and enhanced coordination across various regions.

#### Enhanced stakeholder engagement

Regular interactions have opened up new funding opportunities and provided EDIHs with essential insights into national programmes.

#### Optimised DMA Tool

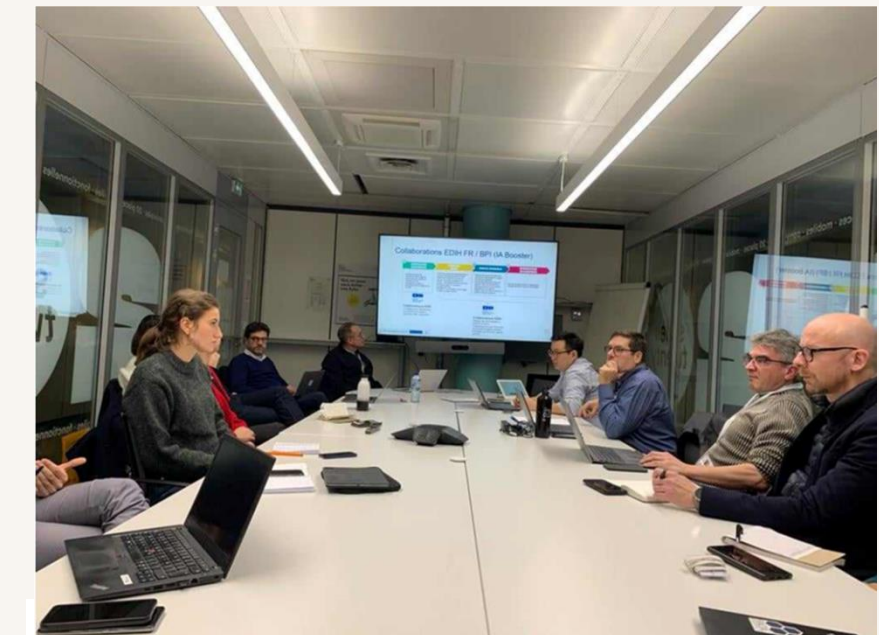
French EDIHs have refined their Digital Maturity Assessments.

Promotion of the French EDIH Network through key events, such as the AIXIA event, highlighting cross-corridor collaboration.



### Lessons learnt

- ✓ Foster regular exchanges between EDIHs to ensure best practice sharing and collaborative participation.
- ✓ Blend online and in-person meetings to maintain flexibility while promoting team cohesion.
- ✓ Establish specialised working groups to drive focused collaboration on key topics.
- ✓ Provide shared resources, such as common working spaces and communication tools, to enhance teamwork.
- ✓ Avoid top-down leadership structures to encourage collective decision-making and shared objectives.



Enregistrement et Transcription des Réunions ...

EDIH France - Corridor-  
20231013\_103510-Enregistrement de la...

French EDIH Network