European Digital Innovation Hubs Network

Driving the EU’s digital transformation

European
Digital Innovation
Hubs Network

Iceland

1
Member

1/1 *EDIH

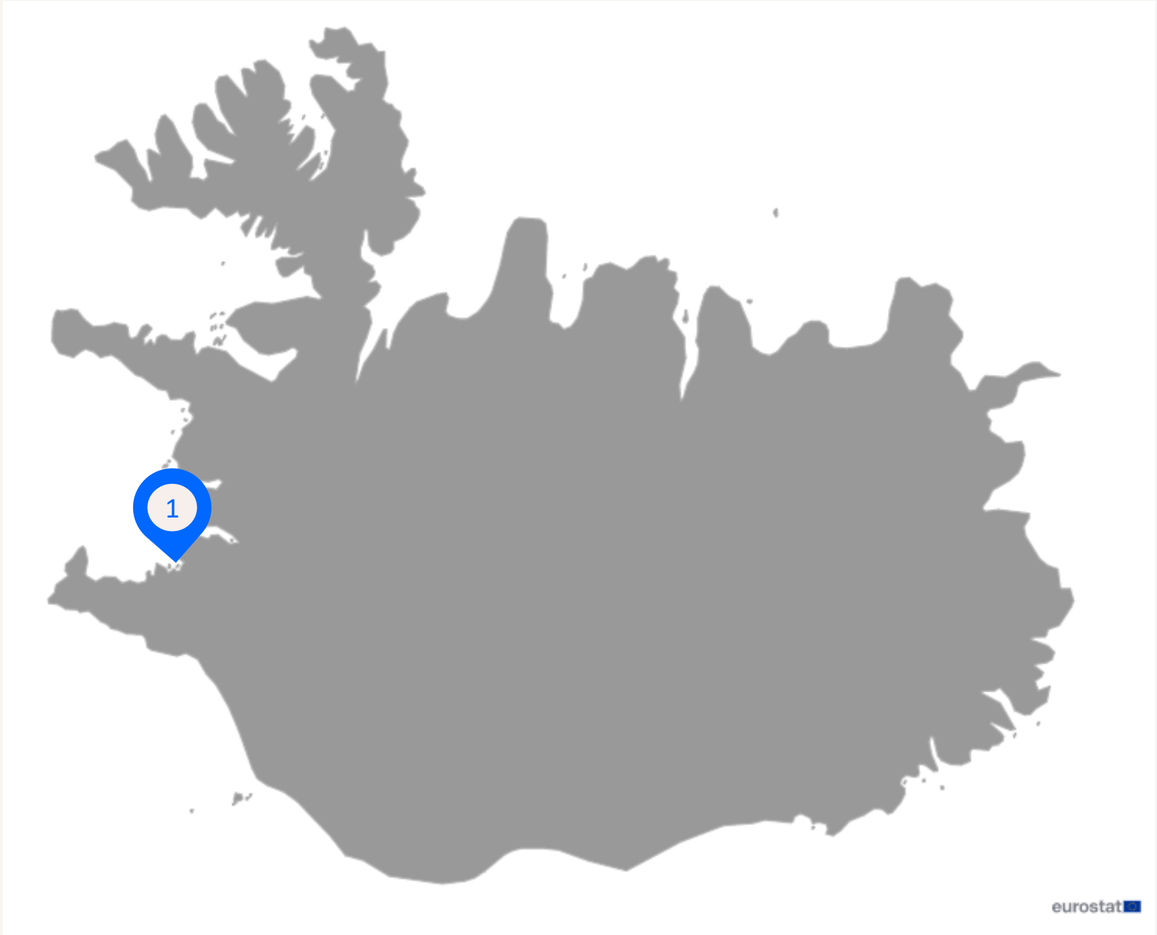
2
Sectors

EDIHs in Iceland

Specialises in the energy and education sectors, leveraging digital innovation to propel advancements and enhance operational efficiencies in these critical areas.

Plays a pivotal role in fostering innovation in energy and education, employing digital solutions to drive transformative changes and elevate standards in both sectors.

EDIH



*European Digital Innovation Hubs

*Funded under Digital Europe Programme

Network overview: 1 member – 1 EDIH

EUROPEAN DIGITAL INNOVATION HUB
EDIH ICELAND

EDIH-IS

4 Technologies

Leverages cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence and decision support, high-performance computing, and cybersecurity.

Places a strategic emphasis on innovation, leading the way in deploying internet of things (IoT) solutions.

Services

Excels in technological innovation, using expertise in AI, high-performance computing, and cybersecurity to drive digitalisation.

Prioritises innovation management by orchestrating skill-building, knowledge transfer, and SME support, facilitating the adoption of digital solutions.

Disseminates research insights through technology transfer, while serving as a unique test bed, enabling field trials and prototyping. It also fosters ecosystem building and provides essential financial services, promoting regional development and small enterprise growth within Iceland's digital innovation landscape.

Good practices

AI Seminar management: pioneering the future of event planning

EDIH

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EDIH ICELAND

Services

Training and skills development

Technologies

Artificial intelligence and decision support

Sectors

Education

Challenges

AI is fundamentally transforming various sectors of our contemporary society. Its influence spans across healthcare, finance, entertainment, governance, and education, leaving an unmistakable mark on each field.

Reykjavik University (RU) identified a crucial gap in its AI education: the **absence of a dedicated ethics course within the Department of Computer Science**. To address this gap, RU created the AI Seminar, a course designed to integrate ethical considerations into the AI curriculum, ensuring that students are equipped to navigate the complex ethical landscape of AI.

HÁSKÓLINN Í REYKJAVÍK
REYKJAVIK UNIVERSITY

Solutions

RU created an AI course to equip students with knowledge and analytical tools to assess AI technologies and their societal integration. Through a series of lectures, discussions, case studies and group projects, the students can explore areas including:

- the **implications of AI-driven decision-making** in fields like government, business, healthcare, and education;
- **balance between AI's potential benefits and the risks of perpetuating biases**, inequality and potential existential threats;
- design of AI systems that respect human rights and dignity.

Good practices

AI Seminar management: pioneering the future of event planning

Results and benefits

AI assessment

The training allows students to properly assess AI technologies, including their implications and development.

Societal implications

Training provides students with the tools to evaluate the societal implications of AI and its potential impact on decision-making on various fields such as government, business, healthcare and education.

Ethical AI awareness

A mandatory training on ethical AI equips future leaders with a solid grounding in ethics and responsible innovation development.

Lessons learnt

Do's

- ✓ Start marketing efforts at least six months in advance, as it is a challenging task that can take significant lead time.
- ✓ Allow for flexibility within selected course material, as the policy and governance landscape is rapidly changing.

Don'ts

- × Avoid rushing into creating coursework before fully analysing the current policy landscape locally and regionally.

Success stories

SME Miðeind secures EU Horizon funding for breakthrough HPC solutions: TrustLLM

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CUSTOMER

- Miðeind
- Website
- Small-sized enterprise (10-49 employees)
- Specialised in genetic testing.

Service type

Test before invest and support to find investment

Technologies

High performance computing and artificial intelligence and decision support

Sectors

Language technologies

Challenges

Enable Icelandic LLMs by bringing Miðeind together with other European experts to obtain a Horizon Europe grant: TrustLLM. **Miðeind required advanced HPC resources, and skilled personnel** to fully capitalise on the potential of advanced LLMs.

Solutions

- Miðeind was provided with **HPC resources** to be employed in its own facilities in order to improve its Icelandic LLMs.
- The need for skilled personnel was addressed strategically by jointly **engaging in European grants**, enabling the creation of additional positions at Miðeind.

Success stories

SME Miðeind secures EU Horizon funding for breakthrough HPC solutions: TrustLLM

Thanks to EDIH-IS the SME achieved:

- **outreach in Europe:**

EDIH-IS has played a crucial role in fostering Miðeind's participation in outreach efforts within the European LLM communities to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing;

- **computing time access:**

computing time access has increased through the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking in collaboration with the National Competence Centre for HPC.

Results and benefits

Access to HPC resources

High-performance computing (HPC) resources, put at disposal of Miðeind, are essential for developing advanced Icelandic Large Language Models (LLMs).

European Grant TrustLLM

Through the TrustLLM grant, Miðeind gained the opportunity for extensive collaboration with European LLM experts, such as those at AI Sweden. This collaboration provides Miðeind with valuable knowledge and expertise.

'Test before invest' environment

This allowed Miðeind to refine and test their LLM-derived products and services, such as chatbots that communicate in Icelandic more effectively than ever before.

Lessons learnt

- ✓ Providing tactical consulting and ad hoc support is useful.
- ✓ Investing in capacity-building for personnel is a powerful tool for growth.
- × Relying solely on external support and overlooking long-term knowledge building.