The future of the European DIH community

26th October 2021

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The opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission

Why a European DIH community?

Project Europe: to create value for all

exchange experiences

pan-EU value chains

leading edge technologies

synergies & complementarities

new business opportunities

impact public funding

Project Europe

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Regions & European networks collaborate

exchange experiences

pan-EU value chains

leading edge technologies

regional

synergies & complementarities

European

new business opportunities

impact public funding

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# The evolution of DIH community over the years
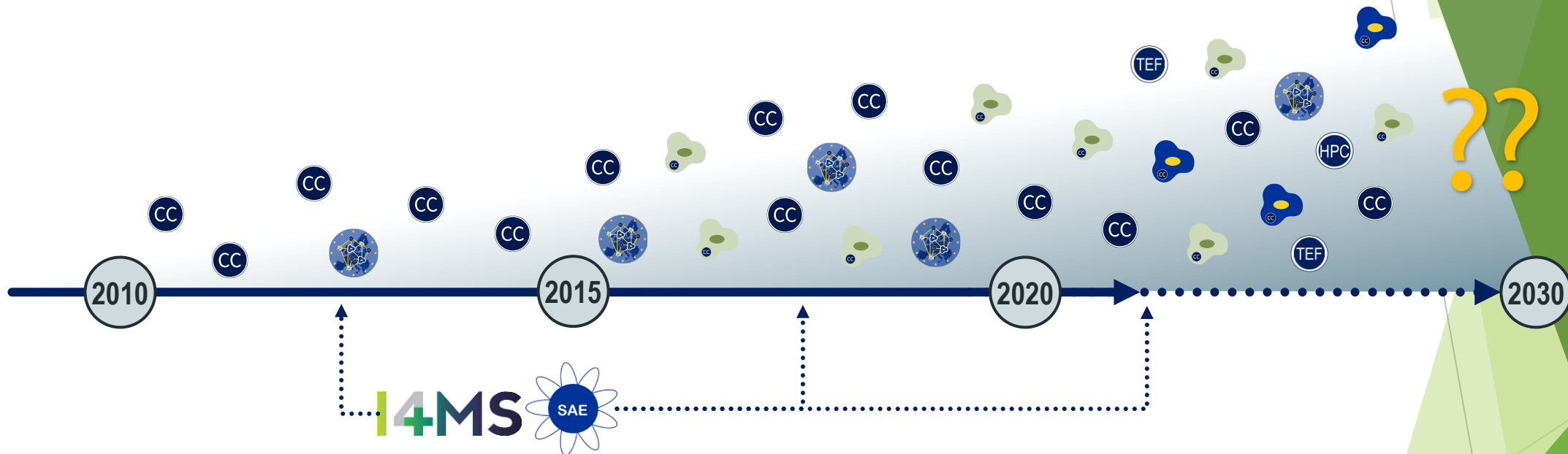
Developments in our community

▶ **Advanced Digital technologies have become pivotal**

  ▶ Competitiveness, greening, circular, resiliance, the pandemic, social inclusion

▶ **Expanding "hubs" to other policies**

  ▶ DIGITAL, Horizon Europe, ERDF, national/regional policies, SmartSpecialisation, ATI

▶ **From manufacturing to other sectors**

  ▶ Agro, chemical, bio, energy, transport, public, defence

!!!!European Digital Innovation Hubs!!!!

▶ **DIHs in all kind of shapes**

  ▶ ERA-hubs, EIT innovation hubs, Open Innovation Testbeds, Technology Centres, EEN/clusters, Technology Infrastructure Hubs

▶ **From EU policy towards regions**

  ▶ Key in national policies and regional policies

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From four to many building blocks in the community
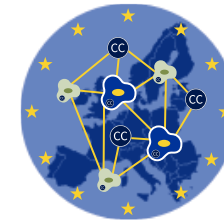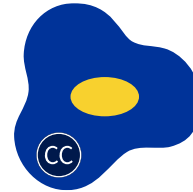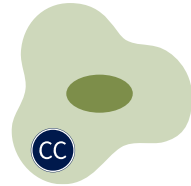
But it is getting busy!
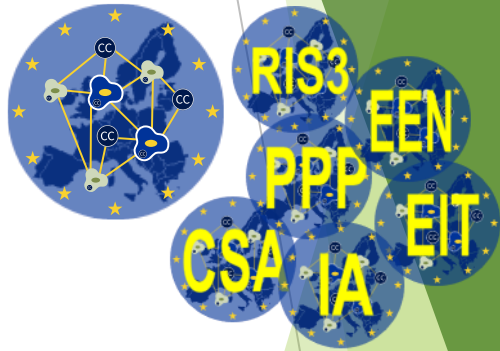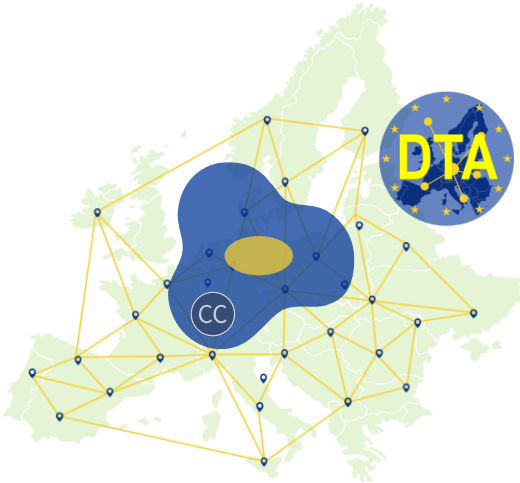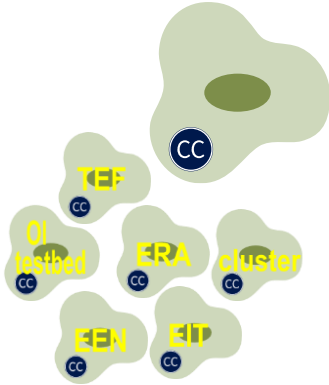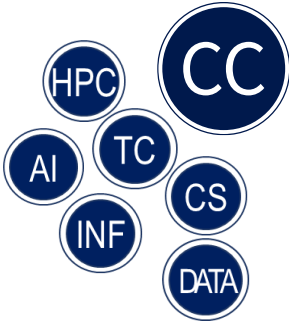
Challenges for the future

▶ Reducing **overlap**, increasing synergies and aligning efforts

▶ Getting "**private**" involved, including industry and finance

▶ Organising high quality, relevant **information**

▶ Creating viable **interregional collaborations** connecting the regions in Europe

Our vision on the future of the European DIH community

Alignement of the regions and Europe

regional

- orchestrate **regional** collaboration on innovation
- acces to **regional RDI** capacities/capabilities
- conduct applied **research**
- boost regional **use of advanced technologies**
- transform **research into application**

European

- orchestrate **EU collaboration** on innovation
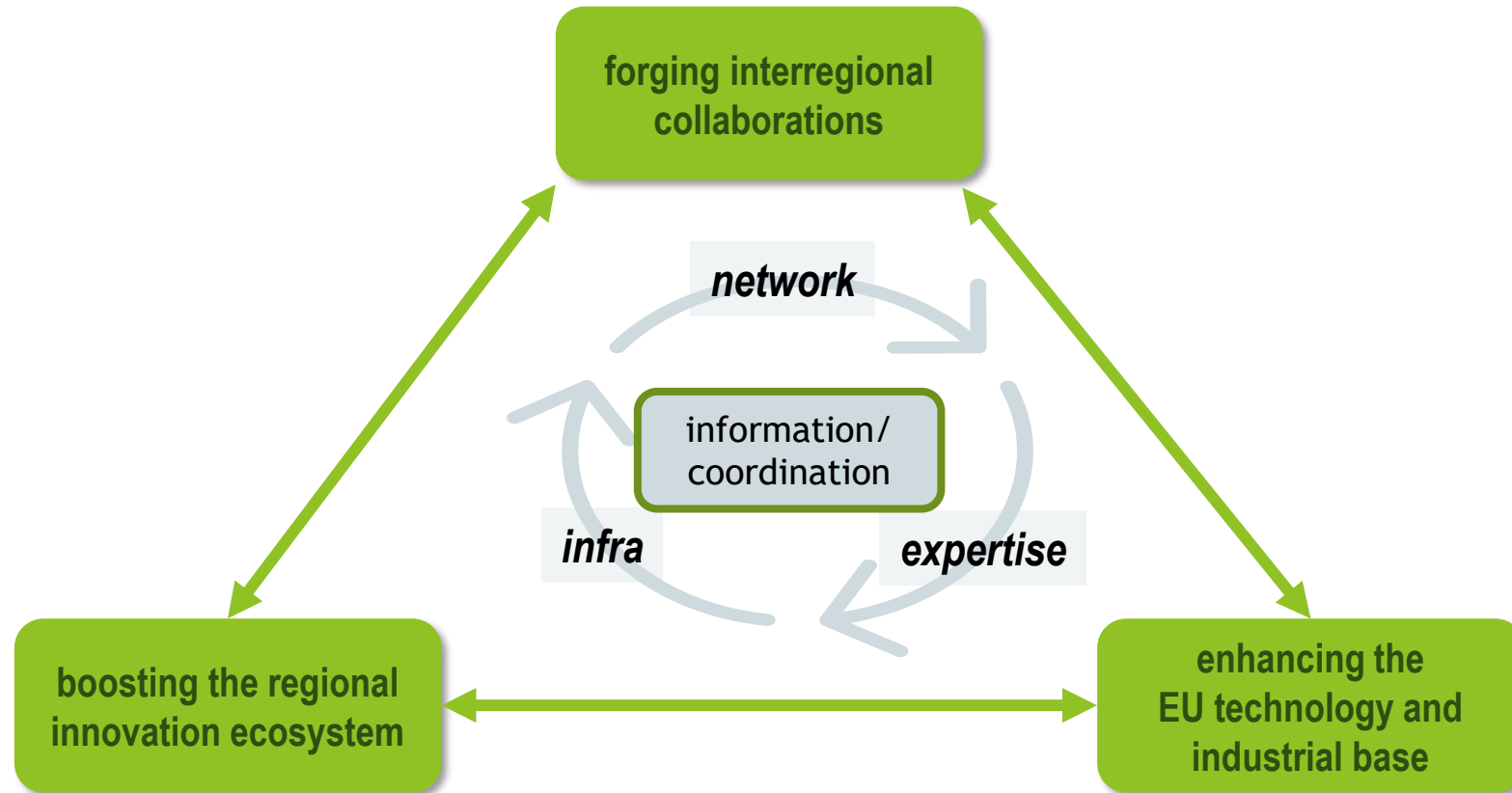- access to **EU RDI** capacities/capabilities
- forge EU **collaboration** on critical technologies
- support **access to markets** in Europe
- create **European** innovation **strategies**

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Main functions in the community

forging interregional collaborations

network

information/ coordination

infra

expertise

boosting the regional innovation ecosystem

enhancing the EU technology and industrial base

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A visualization of the ecosystem

technology industry base

technology industry base

CC

region

DTA
EIT EEN

interregional collaboration

CC

region

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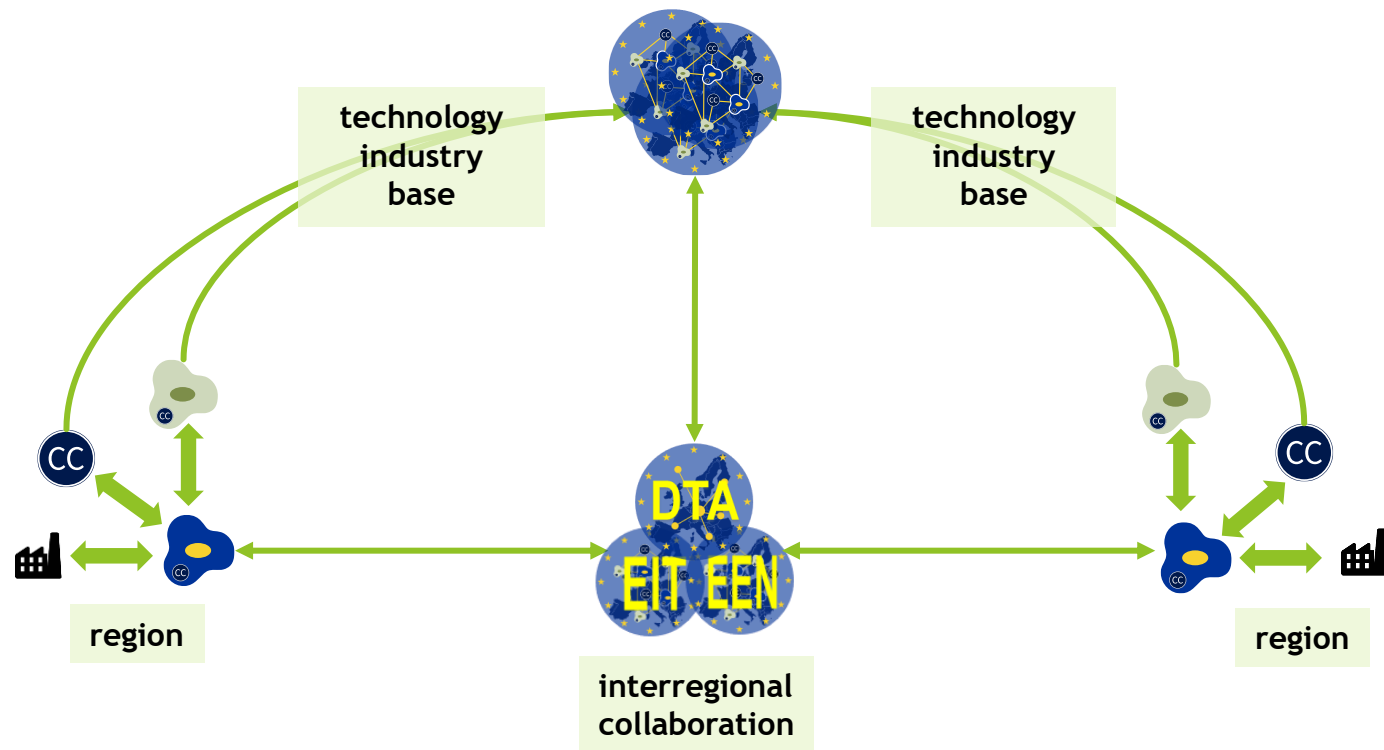
The future EU DIH community is about:
Demarcating and aligning responsibilities

	Forging collaboration	*Enhancing the base*	*Boosting the region*	*Information & coordination*
	regional brokerage	aligning regional RDI	coordinating regional capacities	coordinating regional information
	offering capacities	transforming research into business	connecting industry-research	providing regional RDI information
	actual collaboration	conducting RDI	providing infra/expertise	regional RDI data collection
	coordination interregional collaborations	aligning EU RDI activities	connecting interregional capacities	EU RDI data collection
	brokering EU-capacities	connecting interregional expertise	access to experiences	make available data on RDI
	EU specific RDI strategies	EU RDI awareness creation	access to SOTA infra/expertise	coordinating RDI data collection

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The future EU DIH community is about:
Providing high quality information

▶ Collecting information: Coordination and distributed

  ▶ Use a shared data structure, but allow tweaking for specific purposes

  ▶ Distribute the data collection activities, using existing partners/networks

  ▶ Organise the evaluation of data through the community

  ▶ Synchronised use of existing data collection mechanisms (EEN, IAs, CSA, PPPs)

▶ Sharing information: Creating value for all

  ▶ Connect to the different levels: Regions, Member States, EU

  ▶ Connect the different users: Industry/research/government

  ▶ Use regional platforms to deliver the information

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The future EU DIH community is about:
Getting private involved

▶ **Interaction with the industry**

  ▶ Commercial service providers are active part of the community

  ▶ Core service is available to help initialisation of interregional industry/research projects

  ▶ The networks support the exchange of interregional market

  ▶ Industry can access support on multiple levels

▶ **Getting finance involved**

  ▶ A EU brokerage place is available for EDIHs and venture capital, connecting private/public VC funds to regional stakeholders

  ▶ An European fund is directly available to EDIHs to support creation of new digital transformation activities for their regional stakeholders

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The future EU DIH community is about:
Interregional collaborations

▶ **Creating corridors**

  ▶ Many showcases are available how to engage with other regions and its added value

  ▶ Financial incentives are in place to overcome the barries (EU and region!)

  ▶ The brokerage at community level is actively supported with initiation and creation of these corridors

▶ **Sustainable business models for collaboration**

  ▶ EU-funds/initiatives are available to exploring opportunities and initiating the collaborations

  ▶ Actual industry/research projects and corridor activities are financially supported by the regions

  ▶ Standardized contracts are available and supported to quickly get actions

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The future EU DIH community is about:
Building on the EDIH backbone

▶ **The individual EDIHs are pivotal to the region**

   ▶ EDIHs are *the* key orchestrator in the regional ecosystem "at large" and a collaboration between EEN/EIT/Clusters

   ▶ They are established forger of collaborations between regional research and industry

   ▶ EDIHs are pivotal boosting uptake of advanced technologies at large

   ▶ Supporting innovation at large and smart specialisation in the regions

▶ **Core to create the European network**

   ▶ Gateway to European capacities and capabilities, both other regions and EU-initiatives

   ▶ EDIHs reduce the barriers establishing interregional collaborations through economy of scale

   ▶ They connect research/research, research/industry and industry/industry. And public/public!

Facilitated by a joined coordinator, integrating the DTA/EEN/EIT

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So, concluding

▶ Limiting overlap and maximizing on synergies of existing initiatives, in a layered and demarcated approach

▶ Alignment of information collection, but with a distributed approach

▶ Strong interaction with private industries, actively involving commercial service providers and a European VC mechanism

▶ Active pursue and support of creating sustainable corridors to limit long-term collaborations

▶ *On the backbone of the EDIH network, but expanding its scope to other technologies*

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Thank you!

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Panel: Future of the EU DIH Ecosystem

26 October 2021

Our panelists

George Megas

Pierre-Damien Berger

Zeljko Pazin

Maurits Butter

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What is your vision of the EU DIH ecosystem in about 7-10 years?

George Megas

Pierre-Damien Berger

Zeljko Pazin

Maurits Butter

Thank you!!!

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Want to token of DIHNET appreciation?

▶ **250 DIHNET pins** to give to our community members.

▶ Send an email to info@dihnet.eu before the **27th of October** with the subject: **"I want a DIHNET pin"** including the following information:
a. Name & Surname:
b. Address (including number and floor):
c. Postcode:
d. City:
e. Country:

▶ More information in the DIHNET community here

This information is intended to be used only for the purpose of sending you the letter with the pin.

Your personal information will be deleted/destroyed once the letter is sent to you, or the pins' stock is finished.

By providing your address, you agree for the letter with the pin to be sent to you.

The pin is free of charge and shipping expenses are covered by the DIHNET project. DIHNET is not responsible of any damage or lost during the shipping.

Silver refers to the colour, not the metal.

This is a limited series of 250 units; pins will be sent on first come first served basis until stock is finished.

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Says goodbye

Thank you for being engaged!

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EVERY END IS A NEW BEGINNING.

- ANONYMOUS

Thank you!!!

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