

# NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2020

Dear partners and friends of EIT Digital,

Two months into 2020, all of our joint activities are up and running at full speed. At the same time, we are wrapping up the reporting for 2019 and get ready to launch the Call 2021. Your selected proposals will lead to further strengthening and focussing of our activities, both in the Innovation Factory with emphasis on Venture Creation as well as the Entrepreneurship Academy with strong focus on sustainability of activities and income generation through Professional and Summer Schools.

At a somewhat higher level you certainly witnessed the ongoing debate on the EU Multiannual Financial Framework. Member States in the Council still have not reached a common position on the EU longterm budget and, as a result, also the Horizon Europe budget. As long as discussions continue, our innovation community must continue to raise its voice at European and national levels to point at the importance of innovation - especially considering that digital is one of the key priorities of the van der Leyen Commission. This was underlined once more by last week's presentation of the Commission's European Strategy on Data, pointing at digital as top investment area and focussing amongst others on topics like AI and cybersecurity.

EIT Digital is well positioned to contribute to the Commission's digital strategy through concrete actions in education and innovation. In the remainder of this newsletter, you can read in more detail about such concrete examples, like Hexa-light and CashDirector.

I wish you good reading and encourage you once more to raise your voice and stress the importance of digital innovation with your political stakeholders!

Willem Jonker CEO, EIT Digital

Get ready for Call 2021 - Portal opens on March 5



On March 5, 2020, EIT Digital launches the construction of the 'EIT Digital 2021' activities and accepts submissions until May 7, 2020.

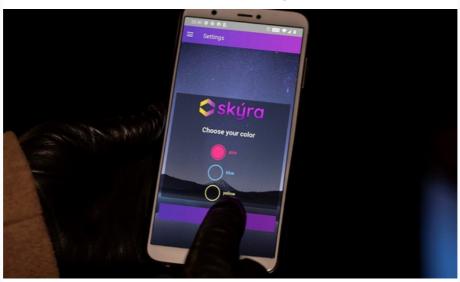
EIT Digital 2021 is aimed at **entrepreneurial minds planning to launch a digital tech startup or product (Innovation Factory), or to deliver entrepreneurial digital tech education programmes (Entrepreneurial Academy)**. The selection will be finalised by the end of June 2020. Activities are typically expected to start on January 1, 2021.

Current partners as well as companies and institutions willing to join the EIT Digital ecosystem are encouraged to submit proposals in one of our five strategic areas:

- **Digital Tech** secure IoT, data sovereignty and Artificial Intelligence based solutions
- **Digital Cities** "city as a data platform" based solutions for sustainable cities
- Digital Industry data platform-based sustainable digital industry solutions
- **Digital Wellbeing** solutions for quality of life improvement through sensing and data analysis
- **Digital Finance** sovereign embedded payment solutions in digital finance

Join us in boosting entrepreneurship and education for a strong digital Europe and bookmark already the following link! https://www.eitdigital.eu/eitdigital2021

## EIT Digital innovation helps Helsinki citizens to 'Get Home Safely'



Dark urban areas are often perceived as potentially dangerous. Hexalight, an IoT based lighting system designed to create an illuminated

path for better navigation and wayfinding, was tested in Helsinki's Hyväntoivonpuisto park last November, earning positive reviews.

#### Read more!

## Business matchmaking with leading cybersecurity actors

EXAMPLE 2012 EX

Join us on 13-14 May in Brussels at "Cyber Investor Days", a B2B matchmaking event for and with leading corporates, investors, and scaleups in cybersecurity. The event is organised by the EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup program in cooperation with the European Cyber Security Organization (ECSO).

Reserve your seat now!

### **Deephack: From Farm to Fork**



How can we better connect consumers with local producers for more fresh and sustainable products? Register for our Deephack on 13-15 March in Groningen and develop new technologies or business models to upgrade links in the farm-to-fork food chain. The prize is  $\notin$ 5,000 shared among winning teams.

Register your winning team now!

## The Summerschool that changed the life of a CFO



Until recently, Taru Itäpelto from Finland was a University lecturer who wanted to learn more about IT. The experience she made at EIT Digital's Summer School in Eindhoven had a huge impact on her daily life and eventually made her quit the teaching job to become a full-time EIT Digital Master School student.

Read more!

### Learn to lead digital transformation at EIT Digital Doctoral School seminars



The leadership seminars for students of the EIT Digital Doctoral School are now also open for professionals and PhD students of other universities. The seminars are designed to boost leadership skills in digital transformation and deep tech innovation.

Read more!

### **Post-Master Positions 2020**

The Post-Master positions are open to all graduates of the EIT Digital Master School. The Post-Master Professional works on activities in the context of the EIT Digital Innovation activity portfolio within key focus areas.

#### Read more!

#### **Events**

Al in the new decade, where will it take us? (Stockholm) March 12, 2020

Deephack: From Farm to Fork (Groningen) March 13-15, 2020

Research to Value (Trento) April 20-24, 2020

Cyber Investor Days - B2B Matchmaking (Brussels) May 13-14, 2020

Save the Date: EIT Digital Annual Conference and Partner Event 2020. September 8 and 9, 2020. Brussels, the Egg.



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