

# NEWSLETTER USSUE 4/2022

Dear partners and friends of EIT Digital,

The past months have been busy ones on many fronts. We concluded the strategy update and streamlining of our organisation from one based on nine national Nodes to one based on four regional Nodes. This allows us to have more integration, a more effective management structure, and room to invest into partner engagement through an expansion of the number of ecosystem leads working in these regions closely together with our ecosystem partners to help them in engaging in our innovation, education and entrepreneurship activities. Also we are further expanding our ecosystem, mostly towards so-called RIS countries. After the recent official launch of our Tallinn office, we expect soon to announce further local offices, in South and Eastern Europe. More on this soon on this channel!

Also in Tallinn, we saw the recent kick-off of this year's master school cohort, with more than 200 new students gathering to start their journey towards becoming digital innovators and entrepreneurs. The application portal for the next 2023 cohort will open in less than a week. Make sure to inform prospective students about this opportunity.

October also saw the final event of this year's EIT Digital Challenge competition, with five more than worthy winners! However, all finalists were outstanding, and I was amazed about the fantastic scaleups and the solutions they offer! When looking back at the evolution of our Challenge and Accelerator, we witness a significant increase in the quality of the scaleups competing in our Challenge and being supported by the EIT Digital Accelerator.

We are also in the final weeks to collect proposals for this year's Innovation Factory intake. Until the end of the month, you can still get back to us with your proposals for launching or boosting your tech start-up. Don't miss your chance.

In this newsletter, you can also read the fascinating story of OMNIO, a Bulgarian start-up that was launched as part of our Venture Program and has within a few months turned from innovative idea to successful player on the RegTech market.

At the time you read this latest newsletter, I will have taken my farewell as CEO of EIT Digital. After 12 years in service, I have decided to move on and assume a new challenging and exciting role as chairman of the new Dutch national AI program. The Supervisory Board has named EIT Digital CFO/COO Federico Menna as Interim CEO until a permanent successor has been selected. I am very proud of what we have jointly achieved since EIT Digital was launched in 2010 and I am more than confident that the current setup and strategy lead EIT Digital into a successful and sustainable future. You can read more about some personal observations about EIT Digital's past, present, and future in a short interview. I will of course keep closely following EIT Digital and its impact on the European landscape. EIT Digital remains close to my heart and I will observe its success with great interest.

Many, many thanks to all colleagues, partners, and friends of <u>EIT Digital</u> for our joint great journey on <u>digital innovation</u>, <u>education</u>, and <u>entrepreneurship</u> in <u>Europe</u>.

EIT Digital, het ga U goed!

Willem Jonker



### It has been a great journey at EIT Digital!

On occasion of leaving his post as EIT Digital CEO, Willem Jonker provides his

views on the past, presence and future of EIT Digital, the evolution of the digital sector and his personal plans for the years to come.

**Read more** 













#### Join the sustainable cities climate impact challenge!

With the support of express transportation provider FedEx, EIT Digital and EIT Climate-KIC are running the Sustainable Cities Climate Impact Challenge for European cities to identify impactful and innovative projects which seek to decarbonise transport in cities and accelerate the take-up of active, shared, collective and/or electric mobility.

Read more and apply by 20 November!



## EIT Digital names winners of 2022 Challenge scaleup competition

It was a close race, but at the end of an exciting, exclusive, closed-door event in Brussels, EIT Digital has awarded the 5 winners of the EIT Digital Challenge scaleup contest 2022. The prizes went to Covision Quality (Italy), Vottun (Spain), Loupedeck (Finland), W-Sense (Italy), Jentis (Austria).

At the finals, the 20 most promising European deep tech companies pitched to a jury of high-profile corporates and investors, who chose the winners based on an indepth assessment of the finalists' offering, based on technology and market appeal.

The five awarded companies will join the EIT Digital Accelerator program for their European expansion and receive expert support both for fundraising and customer acquisition.

Read more



# EIT Digital Venture Program graduate OMNIO helps automating the fight against financial crime

Launched in 2021 through the EIT Digital Venture Program, Bulgarian startup OMNIO provides a digital system that supports financial institution's compliance experts in their efforts to detect potential fraud or money laundering.

OMNIO developed its MVP through the Venture Program, and connections provided by EIT Digital led to the opportunity to conduct a proof-of-concept pilot for Alpha Bank in Greece.



# EIT Digital Alumni DeepHack on effects of digital transformation for the future of work and talent development

On 12 and 13 November 2022, teams of EIT Digital Alumni will meet for a 2-day DeepHack in Vienna, Austria, focussing on the question how digital transformation is affecting the future of work and talent development.

In this collaboration between EIT Digital and Talent Garden, the teams will get practical training not only on idea incubation approaches, but also on design thinking techniques and co-creation methodology.

Read more and apply now!



#### Last call to submit proposals to Innovation Factory 2022

Until 30 November, current and prospective partners can submit proposals to the <u>EIT Digital Innovation Factory 2022</u> to launch or boost their deep tech start-up. They can receive comprehensive support to package their technology, sign up customers and attract investment.

Interested parties are invited to the final <u>Innovation Factory 2022 Brokerage Event</u> on 15 November 2022. EIT Digital already received many ideas for its Innovation Factory 2022 programme. Current partners and prospects have presented their innovative projects in recent Brokerage Events on November 3 and November 8. You can <u>see on our website at a glance</u> who took part in the events, read a description of their proposals and discover what kind of support they are looking for. The site also features video recordings of previous Brokerage Events, providing exact timestamps of each proposal, allowing you to easily jump to that specific part of the video.

Please let us know if you would like to get in touch with any of the showcased projects.

Read more and apply now!



## EIT Digital Master School kicked off academic year 2022

On 6-7 October, over 200 students from 27 countries gathered in Tallinn, Estonia, to officially launch the new academic year for the EIT Digital Master School. The two-day event marked the starting point of our new students' journey to become tomorrow's digital innovators and entrepreneurs.

Following welcome words and inspiring keynotes, the students were busy with the main activity of the Kick-Off days – the Business Challenge. Divided into small teams and supported by business coaches, the students received concrete cases by 17 contributing companies and were tasked with developing within 24 hours solutions to the companies' challenges. Only one team could win...

Read more and find out about the winner



### **EIT Digital Master School opens new application** period

The Master School opens its application period again on the 14th of November, offering 7 different deep-tech master's programmes to be taught by 15 top-tech universities around Europe. Our future students can build a tailor-made curriculum based on their unique skills and interests, graduating after 2 study years with a double master's degree in their subject of choice.

Learn more

#### **Upcoming Events**

November 12-13

DeepHack: EIT Digital Alumni in Vienna

November 15

Innovation Factory 2022 Brokerage Event

November 16-18

Executive Course: Business Strategy and Artificial Intelligence

November 26

Master School Graduation Ceremony

### **Working at EIT Digital**

Interested in working for us?

Check out our open vacancies!













