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CONTENTS

FOREWORD	04
HIGHLIGHTS 2019	05
CEO STATEMENT	06

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

INNOVATION EDUCATION	12 14
DIGITAL TECH INNOVATION EDUCATION ACCELERATION	16 18 20
DIGITAL CITIES INNOVATION EDUCATION ACCELERATION	22 24 26
DIGITAL INDUSTRY INNOVATION EDUCATION ACCELERATION	28 30 32
DIGITAL WELLBEING INNOVATION EDUCATION ACCELERATION	34 36 38
DIGITAL FINANCE INNOVATION EDUCATION ACCELERATION	40 42 44

PAN EUROPEAN ECOSYSTEM

BENELUX	48
FINLAND	49
FRANCE	50
GERMANY	51
HUNGARY	52
ITALY	53
SPAIN	54
SWEDEN	55
UNITED KINGDOM	56
SILICON VALLEY HUB	57
ARISE EUROPE	58

COMMUNICATIONS 60 HUMAN RESOURCES 61 ALUMNI 62 FINANCIAL REVIEW 64 OUTLOOK 66 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 70 SUPERVISORY BOARD 71 **EIT DIGITAL PARTNERS** 71 ABOUT EIT DIGITAL 74

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FOREWORD

Please allow me to start this foreword, written in April 2020 with the general notion that the World has changed, and in many aspects permanently. Future prospects of many organizations, including EIT Digital are based on the enabling capacities, built over last years. I am confident that 2019 reinforced the importance of our mission and let me share some of the findings.

2019 has been another year of growth for our organisation. Our membership has grown to almost 300 partners, we have opened two new satellite centres, our activities under the Regional Innovation Scheme expanded, and the output of our innovation and education activities has grown. This was driven by increased recognition of our impact through our results, our partners, our students, our entrepreneurs, as well as our alumni. EIT Digital has grown into an impactful organization focused on contributing to a strong digital Europe. Thanks to everyone in our community for your commitment to this mission.

At the start of 2019 we presented our Strategic Innovation Agenda 2020-2022 (SIA) officially to then European Commission Vice-President Andrus Ansip and Member of the European Parliament Eva Kaili. The SIA forms the basis for our work in the coming years and for the call for proposals for Business Plan 2020. We received a record number of proposals, which allowed us to build a strong business plan with an increased impact and sustainability potential, which is needed given the reducing EIT financial support. At the European level we have seen the new EU Commission under President von der Leven taking office. The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and Horizon 2020 are now under a single Commissioner, Mariya Gabriel, the former Commissioner for Digital. Also, digital transformation and innovation have grown in importance in the Commission as one of the three key priorities headed by Executive Vice President for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age, Margrethe Vestager, and further supported by Internal Market Commissioner Thierry Breton. All these are positive developments both for the EIT and EIT Digital.

Where in 2018 the Supervisory Board of EIT Digital mainly worked on the Strategic Innovation Agenda, in 2019 the focus has been on sustainability, good governance and the transition of EIT and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) into the new Horizon Europe program. Good governance is a key priority of the European institutions and thus of the EIT. The EIT requires effective, transparent, inclusive and independent governance structures for the KICs and this was also a key priority for EIT Digital during 2019.

Developing KICs into sustainable organizations is key for the EIT. Although, we have sustainability measures in place, we observe that additional actions are needed in order to generate adequate financing for our operations while facing decreasing EIT financial support. Therefore, the Supervisory Board finance committee has together



with the management developed additional instruments to implement the EIT Digital sustainability strategy. The added instruments are a mix of public private financing combined with increased asset and income generation measures. Together with the EIT and the other KICs we have been very active in the discussions that take place in the European Commission, Parliament and Council. Some progress has been made with respect to the regulation, strategic agenda, the budget allocation, and the possibilities for a continued EIT financial support after the period of 15 year envisaged by the current regulation. The negations are still going on and the EIT and the KICs remain actively involved in the discussions.

To conclude, on a personal note, I just started my role as Chairman, and I take this opportunity to thank all people that contribute to EIT Digital. I already visited some Nodes and really enjoy the engaged discussions with our employees, students, entrepreneurs, partners, teachers, startups focused on creating true impact with our education and innovation activities. Unfortunately, as I write this Foreword, the world is experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic. This impacts all of us and of course EIT Digital. It is important to act as a true community taking care of each other and those around us. As soon as the situation allows physical visits, I will continue my tour around our Nodes. I look forward to meeting many of you. Take care, stay safe.

LINNAR VIIK CHAIRMAN EIT DIGITAL SUPERVISORY BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS 2019

PAN-EUROPEAN ECOSYSTEM

EIT Digital has grown its ecosystem to 278 partners. More than 90 new partners joined in 2019, including 82 from industry.

ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION

More than 380 new students enrolled in EIT Digital's Master and Doctoral programmes. In total more than 2,280 students have enrolled since 2011.

EIT Digital executed 12 Summer Schools with 480 participants.

EIT Digital's Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) on Coursera are increasingly popular attracting over 100,000 learners.

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

15 new companies created as a result of innovation activities and 70 products and services commercially launched.

69 scaleups supported by the EIT Digital Accelerator. More than €110M total capital raised for scaleups.

279 innovative companies from 33 countries applied to the EIT Digital Challenge.

5 DeepHacks delivered with 148 applicants working in 46 teams related to assignments from 13 corporations.

4 editions of the Venture Programme run, with more than 180 applications and 28 finalists.

CEO STATEMENT

While writing this section, the world is struck by the largest pandemic of our lifetime. My first thoughts are with all of those affected by this crisis. EIT Digital is a Knowledge and Innovation COMMUNITY (KIC). Communities are there to help each other to achieve great things, but communities are also there to help each other in times of crisis. Let us take care of each other in these unprecedented times, stay healthy, stay strong, take care, be a support to those around us.

Our motto for 2019 has been Deepen and Scale. A motto relevant for all aspects of our work. The ecosystem has grown significantly, not only in numbers but also in locations which increased the scale of our activities and at the same time deepened the connection to our ecosystem.

Our innovation activities combined with our Accelerator, DeepHack, and Venture Program reinforce each other with a strong focus on scouting, creating, and scaling of deep tech ventures. Our education activities have taken several measures to increase their operational excellence and sustainability. Our schools maintained the student levels, and the measures installed provide a sound basis for further scaling in the coming years. The steady increase of graduates leads to a growing alumni community that is very active and gradually creates a world-wide network of ambassadors for our organization. Not only through our alumni we experience a deepening recognition and impact. Our accelerator was recognized as one of the top public accelerators world-wide, our open call received an all-time-high number of proposals, our venture program more than doubled, and we get recognized for our thought leadership via our strategic agenda, our digital industry policy report, invited key-notes, articles in tier-1 media, and our numerous events. Impressive results have been demonstrated at our partner event in September in Brussels and during the innovation days in our Nodes. This illustrates the strength of our community which makes EIT Digital an influential actor in building a strong digital Europe.

Regarding sustainability, the diversification of our income streams is an essential element of our strategy to anticipate the reduced EIT financial support now EIT Digital has become more and more established, recognized and impactful. We are happy to see that we have been able to come close to the realization of our sustainability targets for 2018. Based on the experience gained we will further refine our strategy in order to sustain our ecosystem and its innovation and entrepreneurial education activities.

ECOSYSTEM

After the strong growth in 2018, our increased delivery, impact and recognition has led to an even stronger growth of our ecosystem in 2019. The total number of partners has increased to 278, of which 186 from industry. This was partly driven by enhanced inclusiveness through a fully open call that attracted many new partners. We intensified our activities in the so-called RIS countries, and we opened two new satellites, one in Edinburgh, Scotland and one in Braga, Portugal. These two satellites will form the basis for further expansion of our partnership and deepen our engagement with the Scottish and Portuguese digital ecosystems. We also received interest in the establishment of additional satellites which we expect to take place in 2020.

Our collaboration with the other KICs has increased through the opening of an official EIT Hub in San Francisco. This joint hub will increase the visibility, impact and collaboration of EIT KICs in Silicon Valley and further strengthen



our EIT Digital San Francisco Hub. Another EIT Hub was opened in Israel and a third one is anticipated in China driving the global impact of EIT and its KICs. Also, the EIT House in Brussels showed strong activity with over 5,700 visitors participating in more than 200 events.

EIT has established itself as a strong and influential actor in the European entrepreneurship innovation and landscape. EIT is firmly embedded in the new Horizon Europe program and we are starting to build links with the two other instruments in the innovation pillar, being the European Innovation Council and the Ecosystem support instrument. Together with the EIT and the other KICs we are deeply involved in the discussions around the future Horizon Europe program in order to ensure the continued delivery and impact of EIT and the KICs on building a strong innovative Europe.

INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Our innovation and entrepreneurship activities are concentrated in our five strategic areas: Digital Cities, Digital Finance, Digital Industry, Digital Tech, and Digital Wellbeing.

An impressive total of 15 start-ups was created and 70 new products launched. Contribution to the sustainability of EIT Digital is an important element of our innovation activities. Overall, the innovation activities are stepping up the creation of ventures which has led to an emerging portfolio of equity positions; during 2019, the innovation activities and Venture Program combined resulted in a portfolio of 42 equity positions for EIT Digital, thus contributing to our long-term sustainability.

From our Digital Cities focus area, we saw strong delivery from our UAV Retina activity, delivering a solution to firefighters assisting them with drones and telling them the exact position of people detected in fires. The activity created the startup Eole Eyes which is selling to fire departments in France and Italy. The solution involves a control platform, drone augmented vision and data analytics, and can quickly scan large fires with multiple drones to detect and rescue people.

Digital Industry innovation activity HyperCRC created the HYPER startup which has launched a spatial design platform that fuses virtual reality with real, motion-tracked models, enabling companies and clients to physically experience their visions. The solution allows companies to save time and money, while drastically reducing waste during the prototyping design phase. Industry traction is already achieved with Virgin Galactic and Thales providing the first cases.

The Digital Finance innovation activity REALM has launched a new startup addressing the need for integrated, effective and efficient asset and liability management tooling in the international social housing market. In addition to the business value proved by their initial customers, it will cause a positive social impact allowing more affordable housing for the less favoured people.

The Digital Tech innovation activity People Movement Analysis and Optimization of Infrastructure has created a data analytics solution for movement analysis to maximize the infrastructure efficiency at airports or railway stations. The AriadneMaps startup has been created to bring the solution to market. AriadneMaps' service uses advanced artificial intelligence algorithms for precise and anonymous tracking of passengers, enabling airports to minimize congestion. First customers include Glasgow Airport and Deutsche Bahn.

Digital Wellbeing innovation activity SARA (Social & Autonomous Robotic health Assistant) created a startup aiming at introducing robots as social entities in nursing homes and hospitals to improve the quality of care. It not only addresses shortage of nursing staff at care institutions and hospitals all over Europe, but also offers elderly a personalized and engaging social experience on a regular basis. During the current COVID-19 crisis SARA proves her value and is deployed in some care homes for elderly.

We have four so-called AAA activities. Out of them, Pay-with-a-Smile in Digital Finance created its venture in Q4 2019 and the Last-Mile-Autonomous-Delivery in Digital Cities will create its 'LMAD' venture in early 2020. Two new AAA were started with Secure Control of Ubiquitous Technology in Digital Tech and Combating Child Obesity in Digital Wellbeing, the latter in collaboration with EIT Health. To build our 2020 activity portfolio, our call for proposals attracted 153 innovation activity proposals, an increase of 42% with respect to the call of last year. It demonstrates the attractiveness of our community for innovators and entrepreneurs and provides the basis for a strong innovation activity portfolio in our 2020 Business Plan.

Our EIT Digital Accelerator was selected by UBI Global as one of the top five Public Business Accelerators worldwide and the best pan-European one. The supported portfolio of scaleups contained at least ten centaurs by the end of 2019. Our Accelerator further expanded its operations by signing up 32 new scaleups, bringing the total number of supported scaleups in 2019 to 69. Scaleups are supported mainly in acquiring customers and investments. Close to 2,300 customer leads were provided to the scaleups in our portfolio, of which 80% international, showing the power of our pan-European approach. Scaleups and alumni scaleups from the last three years raised an impressive €113m of investments, of which €5m directly via our Accelerator. The latter also illustrates that the generation of income from this portfolio for EIT Digital can and needs to be further improved. The EIT Digital Challenge is the largest deep tech scaleup contest in Europe and acts also as an instrument for sourcing new scaleups from the whole of Europe. More than 270 scaleups from 33 European countries applied to the 2019 EIT Digital Challenge edition. This 40% growth with respect to 2018 is another sign of our strengthened brand and reputation.

Our Venture Program scaled up significantly with respect to 2018 by organizing 4 rounds resulting in 187 applications and 28 finalists qualifying for our support package. The Venture Program has a specific focus on RIS countries, but the format is definitely suitable to be expanded to our ecosystem as a whole. Finally, the DeepHack team ran 5 DeepHacks across our ecosystem with a total of 46 teams participating.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

Providing Europe with entrepreneurial digital talent is one of the core contributions of EIT Digital to a strong digital Europe. Our education programs show a steady inflow of students. Our EIT Digital Master School has welcomed an intake of 374 freshmen at the kick-off event in Trento. 58% of the students are from the EU, and 27% are female. The Master School also delivered 278 digital entrepreneurs at the graduation ceremony in Berlin.

Recruitment for our Doctoral School remains challenging given the overall shortage of digital skills. In 2019, 12 students joined the Doctoral School and 10 graduated, most of them present at the graduation ceremony in Helsinki. Even though numbers are increasing, also recruitment for our Post-Master remains challenging. In 2019, we only filled nine of the available positions. Our professional school produced eight new courses and delivered three. With 480 participants we had a successful 2019 edition of our Summer Schools.

Just like we focus our innovation activities on the five strategic areas, we increasingly align our education activities with these areas. In the Master School this has resulted in two new programs: Fintech and Digital Manufacturing. Our Summer Schools are fully aligned as well as our Professional School and finally also our newly admitted students to our Industrial Doctoral School.

Due to several adjustments, applied to the various schools and programs to increase sustainability, we expect to scale our education programs through an increase inflow of students in the coming years. Also, further integration of innovation and education activities will strengthen the unique advantage of combining innovation and education in EIT Digital.

Finally, in 2019 we offered 40 MOOCs via on-line platforms, counting more than 100,000 visitors, close to 36,000 unique learners and over 3,000 course completions.

THANK YOU

First of all, I want to thank all of you for your contributions to EIT Digital in 2019. Thanks to your efforts 2019 has been a very productive year for EIT Digital with strong growth and delivery. Together we are building on a strong digital Europe. At the same time we are currently facing the COVID-19 pandemic that puts severe challenges on our society and our community.

I thank all of you for the responsiveness and the efforts you are currently taking to not only mitigate the impact on our work, but also to contribute as EIT Digital with our digital technology and solutions to the fight against COVID-19. Once again, a big thanks to all of you. Stay safe, keep doing the great work, and take care of each other.

WILLEM JONKER

CEO EIT DIGITAL



Digital

"Thanks to your efforts, 2019 has been a very productive year for EIT Digital with strong growth and delivery. Together we are building on a strong digital Europe."



0

DIGITAL

DIGITAL WELLBEING

DIGITAL F**INANCE**

140 HEART RATE

27 - 572 0

Strategic focus areas

EIT Digital has identified five focus areas that are strategic for Europe, with significant European relevance and leadership potential. They are where the organisation concentrates its investments: Digital Tech, Digital Cities, Digital Industry, Digital Wellbeing and Digital Finance.

These strategic focus areas enable EIT Digital to focus its expertise, critical mass and ecosystem – thereby increasing its impact.

Each focus area is described as follows:

Digital Tech covers secure Internet of Things (IoT), data sovereignty and artificial-intelligence-based solutions. This core area addresses digital technologies that are the basis of the deep digital transformation of our economy and society. Europe needs to stay in the lead in the areas where it is currently strong (networking, 5G, IoT), play a leadership role in digital's next platform revolution (artificial intelligence) and establish broad trust in digital (cybersecurity, privacy).

Digital Cities is about supporting the sustainability of European cities by modelling the city as a data platform. These solutions address urban mobility, citizen inclusiveness and engagement, and city safety and involve the various city actors – government, city service providers, industry, citizens – making our cities participative, liveable and sustainable.

Digital Industry addresses the sustainable digital transformation of industry, from production to logistics to retail, based on data-platform solutions. Indeed, within the value chain, a large amount of data and knowledge is produced, captured and shared for digitising manufacturing, production or logistics processes, or consumer activities. This data is key in creating systemic changes in the market and introducing new innovation affecting the whole business domain.

Digital Wellbeing covers solutions for improving quality of life through sensing and data analysis. Slowing down healthcare costs is a key driver for innovation in the health domain. The objective is to lower the demand for treatment and long-term care, enabling young people, working professionals and the elderly to maintain a good quality of life.

Digital Finance is about building sovereign-embedded payment solutions in Europe. This area leverages technologies that enable transparency, efficiency, security and trust in financial transactions. It relates to the retail banking, insurance, asset management and corporate financial services industries.

The impact of EIT Digital is best understood by considering our pan-European programmes and their contribution to the five focus areas.

The EIT Digital Entrepreneurial Academy produces T-shaped entrepreneurial digital talent focused on innovation through a blended-education strategy that includes a Master School, an Industrial Doctoral School and a Professional School, aligned with the five focus areas.

The EIT Digital Innovation Factory invests in the market uptake of deep tech (sophisticated digital technologies rooted in research), increasingly through entrepreneurship in each of the five focus areas.

The EIT Digital Accelerator provides growth support for European tech scaleups by helping them secure international customers and raising capital. These scaleups operate in markets aligned with our five focus areas.

Innovation

Innovation Factory

The EIT Digital Innovation Factory provides pre-incubation support with the motto 'from deep tech to venture or minimum viable product'. EIT Digital creates digital disruption (through venture creation) and supports digital transformation (through the launch of a Minimum Viable Product – or MVP), with top European deep tech (sophisticated technologies rooted in research).

In order to achieve this, EIT Digital launches an annual open and transparent call for innovation activity proposals. This brings together universities, research and technology organisations, startups, SMEs, and large industry players to build solid proposals with an entrepreneurial focus. Proposals target societal and business impact on the one hand, and EIT Digital's sustainability objectives on the other. Selected innovation activities, undertaken in conjunction with partners in each of the five strategic focus areas, receive co-investment from EIT Digital, along with the activity partners' own contribution. The activities are developed so that by the end of the year, a venture or an MVP is created.

To complement the call for proposals, EIT Digital introduced AAA activities on breakthrough topics in 2019. Designed by EIT Digital and executed in a couple of nodes, they have a three-year vision and venture creation as the innovation vehicle. The mix of strategically-designed AAA activities and the call for proposals made the 2019 innovation portfolio especially compelling. The AAA activities were:

• Last Mile Autonomous Delivery (in Digital Cities, conducted by the nodes in France and Finland): a software platform to manage parcel-delivery logistics using self-driving vehicles.

• Pay with a Smile (in Digital Finance, conducted by the nodes in Hungary and Spain): disruptive payment processes using biometric identification, letting the user pay without device or cash.

• Secure Control of Ubiquitous Technology (in Digital Tech, conducted by the nodes in Sweden and Italy): secure and intelligent lifecycle management of Internet of Things devices for smart factory operations.

EIT Digital supported a total of 60 innovation activities in our five focus areas in 2019. Of these activities, 57 were selected as a result of the open call; the other three were the AAA activities mentioned above.

As an outcome of these activities, EIT Digital launched 71 products and created 15 startups in 2019. The number of startups created in 2019 more than doubled compared to 2018 – a healthy sign of the increased focus on entrepreneurship.



Acceleration

The EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup programme supports fast-growing deep tech ventures in scaling their businesses in Europe and beyond. The programme is tailor-made and designed to meet the internationalisation and financing needs of European scaleups.

In 2019, the EIT Digital Accelerator focused on expanding its corporate network and increasing the quantity of admitted companies. A record number of 32 new European scaleups joined the accelerator, and in total, 69 were supported throughout the year. The average revenue of the scaleups entering the portfolio was \leq 1.9 million.

The EIT Digital Accelerator supports scaleups in two ways: Access to Market (A2M) and Access to Finance (A2F). The team is made up of over 30 business developers and fundraising experts in our nine European nodes, as well as our Silicon Valley Hub.

In Access to Market, the team supports scaleups with qualified lead generation through targeted introductions and corporate matchmaking events across Europe. In 2019, it made 2,300 direct introductions to potential customers in 21 EU countries and the USA. Eighty per cent of them are international leads. This is a big help for scaleups that are facing very long sales cycles doing business with EU corporations.

In Access to Finance, the team provides scaleups with the required fundraising guidance, preparation and investor connections to raise Series A or Series B investments (from $\notin 2$ million to $\notin 15$ million). In 2019, the Accelerator portfolio companies and alumni globally raised $\notin 113$ million.

Several EIT Digital Accelerator alumni made a successful exit in 2019: two Italian companies Stamplay (business automation) and Kiunsys (IoT) were acquired by Apple and Engineering Group respectively, while French company Sentryo became part of Cisco. Amongst the EIT Digital Accelerator alumni companies are more than 10 centaurs – companies with a valuation over €100 million.

2019 was a record year for the EIT Digital Challenge – the competition that identifies the best fast-growing digital technology scaleups in Europe. 279 companies from 33 countries applied – a 40% increase compared to the previous year and the most varied country-representation ever in the scaleup competition's six-year history.

The top five scaleups from each category were invited to pitch their technology at a final event in front of an international jury of experts. The winner of each category received a prize package worth €100,000, while the runners-up enjoyed a second prize worth €50,000. Additionally, the logos of all ten winners were featured on the NASDAQ banner in New York's Times Square giving the companies strong international exposure. All ten winners joined the EIT Digital Accelerator and will receive international growth support for one full year.

In 2019, we also ran five DeepHack events (deep tech hackathons sponsored by an Industry partner) in five nodes with a total of 148 participants, of which 36% were EIT Digital students and alumni. The five DeepHacks were held in Finland and Italy (on smart payment terminals), Germany (on harbour-traffic congestion), in the Netherlands (on logistics), and in Hungary (on digital banking for SMEs).

Education

Entrepreneurial Academy

The contribution to the development of society that Europe must deliver requires resources. The sum of individual contributions can never be equal to that which can be achieved by developing people's abilities. Education plays a part in this and by connecting people's knowledge, society can advance further and faster. Every day it is more evident that, in order to overcome society's greatest challenges, it is necessary to share and connect everyone's knowledge.

EIT Digital is one of the few instruments available to the European Commission in which innovation activities are combined with education, which is a key element in contributing to the digital transformation of Europe in an efficient way. The integration of education with innovation is key to this advance.

Europeans must work together to respond to the different challenges that arise with any innovative activity. Education is not an exception, and the collaboration of higher education institutions to jointly create and offer high-quality educational programmes allows us to provide knowledge that otherwise would not be possible. The educational ecosystem of the EIT Digital Academy allows educational projects to be approached in a cooperative way.

A unique aspect of EIT Digital's education programmes is that they have always sought to develop the integration and connection of all participating partners. There are a number of common elements in all EIT Digital education programmes: the connection between partners, the mobility of students, the integration of business-orientated and technical education and the use of true business cases to educate. The EIT Digital model of education continues to feel unique in its four schools, the Master School, the Doctoral School, the Professional School and the Summer School.

2019 was the year in which the EIT Digital Entrepreneurial Academy consolidated itself as one of the best options to receive an innovative, high quality education in Europe.

In 2019, the EIT Digital Master School consolidated the trend for rising student numbers, while taking steps to become financially more sustainable and less dependent on public funding. Additionally, the work done to transform the programmes into blended education continued. A successful pilot of the Embedded Systems programme was expanded to include new courses, as well as the Data Science programme. Three partner universities agreed a framework to issue academic credits for online courses taken by students, opening up the School's programmes to a wider audience.

The EIT Digital Industrial Doctoral School (IDSL) fosters structured and strategic university-industry collaboration through the realisation of applied-research doctoral projects that help companies solve real-life challenges, leading to innovative products. The School is a key element of the EIT Digital Entrepreneurial Academy's aim to provide Education-Research-Business (ERB) integration. Thesis topics integrate research and innovation. The IDSL programme ensures greater impact, sustainability and ERB integration, but requires full alignment with EIT Digital's focus areas, local academic requirements and, last but not least, industry interests during the formulation of thesis proposals. Additional efforts were made in 2019 to develop strategic collaboration with partner universities in order to establish Doctoral Training Centres (DTCs) in key leading deep tech areas where



existing industry clusters were motivated to promote industrial doctoral projects.

The EIT Digital Professional School is EIT Digital's means of providing high-quality professional education to service the demand for up-to-date training in digital technologies. All Professional School courses have their own website with detailed information and a free-of-charge nanoMOOC. In addition to the new courses, one early bird activity called 'Upskilling the Digital Workforce' was completed successfully and a new workshop format called the 'Upskilling Studio' was developed. Using the experience of EIT Digital's partners, the courses are now blended, which allows professionals to access this training in an agile and user-friendly way.

The EIT Digital Summer School is one of the most successful in Europe. Each local Summer School is themed around one of EIT Digital's five focus areas and offers a real experience of business development through genuine cases proposed by EIT Digital's industry partners. Over two weeks, participants work in teams to investigate relevant problems and find solutions to the proposed challenges. All students are guided by EIT Digital teachers and coaches, offering great experience in entrepreneurship and business planning.

In summary, the EIT Digital Academy's brand visibility is improving every year because of its high satisfaction ratings and commitment to quality. The results obtained in 2019 will allow the EIT Digital Academy to continue designing its programmes to enrol more students and participants.

EIT Digital believes that Europe's digital transformation requires a solid base of training and continuously updated knowledge, and that this training must combine technical knowledge with Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E) education. EIT Digital worked during 2019 to continue the consolidation of its Academy as a source of digital education in Europe.

2019 STATISTICS

Master School programmes, 2019	7
Students enrolled, 2019	374
Students graduated, 2019	238
New programmes developed	2
(Fintech and Digital Manufacturing)	
Programmes, 2020	9
Industrial Doctoral School	
Students enrolled, end of 2019	127
IDSL track	47
PhD proposals validated	22
Organisations participating	28
Number of locations, 2019	11
Professional School	
Courses developed, 2019	8
Courses piloted, 2019	3
New courses produced in 2020	5
Summer School	
Number of Summer Schools	12
Participants	480
External participants	100
Business cases analysed	60

Digital Tech



Innovation

The Digital Tech focus area covers solutions based on secure Internet of Things (IoT), data sovereignty and artificial intelligence (AI). These core digital technologies are the basis of our economy's and society's deep digital transformation.

Ariadne Maps



In the big data era, digital businesses have access to a huge

amount of information on customers' preferences and needs. However, physical businesses, such as shopping malls, train stations, airports or museums, have very little information about their visitors and their behaviour while using their locations. As a result, when designing their infrastructure, the only guidance to go on is gut feeling.

The 'People Movement Analysis and Optimisation of Infrastructure' (PMAOI) innovation activity has developed a technology, which senses signals generated by smartphones to detect their locations. It does not require a smartphone application or a network connection: the receivers capture the signals smartphones send on different frequencies, triangulate them and use them to detect people's movements and location. All of this while respecting the privacy of users.

To commercialise the solution, the 'Ariadne Maps' startup was created in March 2019. By June, it had already signed a deal with Deutsche Bahn, the German company considered to be the largest railway operator and infrastructure owner in Europe. A pilot test was run in one railway station, with Deutsche Bahn committing to adopt the technology in 75 other stations once the initial small-scale testing phase was over, and then, possibly, rolling-out across its entire network.

Ariadne Maps' technology is now being used by Glasgow Airport (UK) to help managers understand how much time it takes passengers to reach the departure gate, from the moment they enter the airport. The startup has also signed contracts with two large shopping malls in Dubai.



Europe needs to stay in the lead in the areas where it is currently strong (networking, 5G and IoT), play a leadership role in digital's next platform revolution (artificial intelligence) and establish broad public trust in digital systems through cybersecurity and privacy. The focus area is also a foundation for all other vertical strategic areas, providing the enabling digital technologies for the relevant application domains.

Altogether, 13 activities were executed this year, launching 14 new products to the market and creating two new startups, AriadneMaps and VeryID.

AriadneMaps' service uses advanced artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms for precise and anonymous tracking of passengers. This enables airports and other mobility-related



organisations to make the best use of their infrastructure to minimise congestion – and hence dwell time – while optimising passenger satisfaction and experience. Its first customers are Deutsche Bahn and Glasgow Airport. VeryID has launched a system to manage automated real-time response to threats and cyber-attacks against critical infrastructure.

One of the strategic objectives of the Digital Tech focus area is to provide enablers to



develop meaningful applications for use over the 5G network. The 5G Biller innovation activity created a rating module to manage revenue sharing built on multiple heterogeneous microservices for complex 5G products.

As the volume of encrypted traffic is increasing, the DeepAugur innovation activity launched a generator of smart-traffic analysers for routing and screening traffic flows without monitoring the payload content. Spanish mobile operator Telefónica is the pilot user.

The HC & IoT – Privacy Management of Automated Data Generation innovation activity addressed the challenge of vast amounts of data being hosted by different organisations. It launched the BigUCON solution to manage and authorise data-access control in a multi-source big data scenario. Its first customer is a software company supporting the health sector.

For challenges relating to big data, uncertainty and disinformation, the REVEAL innovation activity introduced a solution to investigate the origin and dynamics of online disinformation. The software detects, identifies, browses and analyses online news and communication campaigns by individuals or entities to see if they pursue specific interests, e.g. influencing trade markets or denigrating competitors. REVEAL's first customer is from the banking sector.

The natural language processing (NLP) Disrupting Legal Document Classification innovation activity introduced an NLP-based solution to categorise legal documents by using machine learning to extract relevant information without human intervention. This saves significant effort in procurement and administrative processing.

Finally, the E-Fly innovation activity created an edge-processing product to address the constraints of connectivity and limited bandwidth for unmanned aerial vehicles, with Ferrovial as the pilot user.

SOAIM

SOIAM

Digital has become central to most of business and society

in general. That makes IT infrastructures critical and, therefore, they need to be protected as a really valuable asset. But the more value they support, the more they are exposed to advanced persistent threats (APT). And these threats are expected to grow significantly in future.

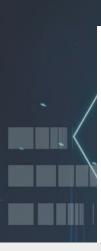
Identity theft is recognised as one of the main causes of incidents. Online identity protection is much more difficult than a real-world threat. The response is slow, usually needs human intervention and is frequently incorrect due to limited information.

EIT Digital SOIAM (Security Orchestrated Identity Access Management) innovation activity aims to mitigate the risk for IT infrastructures, combining cross-border identity management services with an efficient incident response based on a security orchestration approach. Here, an automated response is the first defensive wall and human intervention is requested as a backup action in those cases where it is needed.

The SOAIM solution will provide private partners (i.e. banks fulfilling the KYC "know-yourcustomers" procedures) with authentication, identification and authentic data retrieval of trusted personal data to minimise fraud risk at a very affordable cost, even cross-border. This will make electronic channels even more efficient.

A new startup, called VeryID, has been created in Hungary to exploit the solution created, It has made a promising start with a Hungarian customer and developed a healthy sales pipeline among public and private players in other European countries, especially the Nordics, where the identity-management business model offers good opportunities.

Digital Tech



Education

Digital innovation cannot take place without robust, secure and scalable infrastructures to facilitate it. These range from the underlying embedded systems supporting Internet of Things (IoT) applications, to 5G networks and edge computing. Digital innovators and entre-

Carmen Martinez

'When looking for embedded systems Master's, I found one at the University of Eindhoven. There, I also discovered the EIT Digital Master programme for Embedded Systems. That appealed to me because it has an entrepreneurial part in it, which I think is very important for technical specialists. You cannot just focus on technology. You need a business view, whether you are going to have a startup or work in a company. It is good to have the vision to know how you can make a business from technology,' Carmen Martinez says.

For Carmen the best thing about the EIT Digital Master School is the community: 'EIT Digital organises a lot for the students. I have studied in Eindhoven and in Finland. I had a Kick-Off in Paris, and a Summer School in Estonia.'

Carmen from Madrid, Spain, is doing her internship in Finland at the 'Turku Intelligent Embedded and Robotic Systems' research group at the University of Turku. 'We are trying to develop a localisation system based on a new technology called ultra-wideband. Embedded systems are already everywhere. This technology has the potential to change lives, and I might even do a PhD as my supervisor and coordinator are willing to offer me one.'

Carmen likes to see herself doing something relevant for the world: 'I like to see technology being used for the good. One day maybe I might create a startup, but I would prefer to do it with a team of people with different skills.'



preneurs need to develop a deep understanding of these technologies in order to imagine new applications and take them to the next level.

The EIT Digital Master School programmes in Embedded Systems, Cloud and Network Infrastructures and Cybersecurity, for example, provide students with both the technical know-how and growth mindset to develop, grow, and consolidate these infrastructures.

The EIT Digital Industrial Doctoral School supports deep digital transformation through communication, computing and cybersecurity technologies. Currently, it is running research projects with several of the main tech and communication players, for instance Ericsson, Nokia and Deutsche Telekom, covering the following topics: 5G (5G edge computing and planning and integration challenges for 5G);



networks (softwarisation of network architecture, solutions for and cooperation with end-hosts in next-generation networks, and network technologies for big data); and security (cryptographically secure, on-chain pseudorandom number generation (PRNG), anonymity and authentication in large databases).

The EIT Digital Professional School offers several courses within the Digital Tech focus area, covering various topics: digital transformation, big data, blockchain, security, artificial intelligence and digital twins. For example, the



course Blockchain for the Decision Maker by Budapest University of Technology and Economics serves as an introduction to blockchain technology. Its primary areas of focus are the benefits of blockchain platforms to various business applications and translating business requirements into blockchain design decisions. The objectives of this course are to learn about blockchainification and its business application patterns and to get closer to blockchain-complete solutions.

The course aims to help participants get a grip on the advantages and essentials of the blockchain paradigm and to recognise services that are potential subjects for blockchainification. The target audience is CIO-/CTO-level managers, product owners and managers, business solution architects and business professionals with an interest in digitalisation and novel IT solutions.



In 2019, EIT Digital held three Summer Schools in the Digital Tech focus area: IoT Platforms for Industry 4.0, Disrupting Retail Digitalisation and User Engagement, and Data Driven Manufacturing with Industry 4.0. Each school had, on average, 47 participants. Students worked on business challenges in teams of about six. In each Summer School, One typical Summer School business case came from the consumer rental industry. It is a multi-billion market, where B2C rental shops operate mostly with paper contracts or outdated information systems, leading to missed revenue opportunities

Abdelhadi Azzouni

PacketAl, a French deep tech startup with 2019 EIT Digital Doctoral School graduate Abdelhadi Azzouni as one of its two founders, closed its first funding round in October 2019, raising \in 2.1 million. The round attracted investors such as Aster Capital, BNP Paribas Development, Entrepreneur First and SGPA.

PacketAI provides an IT operations (ITOps) solution promising best-in-class service to users while improving the bottom line. It delivers this by using a combination of supervised and unsupervised learning techniques.

PacketAl's algorithms analyse large amounts of data and aggregate grouped event alerts, executing correlation algorithms to accurately predict incidents. Once an incident is predicted, artificial intelligence (AI) guides the engineers to the cause of the problem and reduces the average repair time (MTTR) by up to 50%.

"I personally share the frustration of engineers who have to perform repetitive tasks and who must always struggle to resolve service incidents as quickly as possible. We want to release them from this burden so they can focus on innovation rather than incident resolution," he explains.

"I always wanted to build a company, as I believe entrepreneurship is one of the most effective ways to make a tangible impact on the world. The EIT Digital Industrial Doctoral School has helped in many ways – and helps me every day – in meeting this ambition. Especially the business training during my PhD studies and the business development experience provided me with great resources to bootstrap my company."

PacketAl's plan is to serve customers throughout France and Europe, then scale up and expand beyond.

there were around six teams. In total, there were about 20 business cases to be developed. across the value chain and a poor consumer experience, as players lack the tools to respond to modern consumer expectations.



Digital Tech

Acceleration

In 2019, the EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup programme supported 24 Digital Tech scaleups from ten European countries. Its business development team created unique European marketplaces connecting innovation buyers and investors with selected EIT Digital

Easybroadcast



Offering an end-to-end video-streaming solution for

broadcasters and enterprises, French company EasyBroadcast solves the cost and quality challenges of broadcasters and over-the-top (OTT) players streaming video and audio content.

EasyBroadcast developed a patented, hybrid streaming technology that delivers audio and video content by combining a standard client-server model and a distributed viewerto-viewer broadcasting model. Each user acts as a microserver as soon as they receive segments of video or audio content. Users are selected via geolocation and quality of service (QoS), matching algorithms to optimise connections and turn large audiences into assets.

EasyBroadcast solves the important cost and quality challenge. Its solution reduces infrastructure dependency and ensures that users can continue watching live events even if parts of the infrastructure fail. Furthermore, the bandwidth costs can be reduced by up to 75% for video content and up to 90% for audio content.

EIT Digital Accelerator Scaleup programme has introduced EasyBroadcast to numerous potential clients in Europe and the Middle East, and actively supported customer engagement with major companies including large telecom operators, multinational resellers, broadcasters, leading social network brands, and businesses engaged in industry and transport.

EasyBroadcast is the type of scaleup that EIT Digital loves accelerating – great and patented deep tech, existing strong commercial references, and a strong team able to execute a growth plan in Europe and internationally.

"The EIT Digital Accelerator grew our pipeline and engaged with large multi-billion euro clients and resellers. It made our unique technology visible on several continents," says Soufiane Rouibia, CEO of EasyBroadcast.



scaleups for deals and matchmaking. The technology focus of the portfolio companies corresponded to the main topics within the Digital Tech focus area: enabling all Europeans digital future with novel communication, computing and cybersecurity technologies – especially software.

With this portfolio composition, the EIT Digital Accelerator targeted a variety of market segments – banks, insurance companies, telecommunications providers, energy and utility companies and businesses in the manufacturing and the logistics sector – with Accessto-Market support services. Since many of the portfolio companies targeted the German market, special relationships were established with several organisations across Germany, including Deutsche Bank, KfW, Arthur D. Little, KPMG, SAP, ORACLE, Siemens, WAYRA, Rewe, E.ON and Pfizer, to name a few examples.



The portfolio companies supported by the EIT Digital Accelerator provided significant value for customers looking for cybersecurity solutions (IoT security, critical infrastructure security and prevention security), solutions supporting multi-channel communication and human-machine interaction, or for any kind of data analysis, data-management or data-reporting solutions. Examples of portfolio scaleups that created success stories are: Smart Global Privacy (France; AI-supported GDPR



compliance); CyberTrap (Austria; deception security); Datumize (Spain; data analysis); MatchX (Germany; LPWAN-based IoT applications); and GRAPE (Austria; integrated communication channels).

Many hundreds of leads were generated, especially through strong collaboration with the regional ecosystems (access to corporates and SMEs) in many European countries, involvement of regional players in deal-generation processes, and win-win collaboration in the scaleup-support ecosystems – especially by the organisation of so-called 'matchmaking' events.



In addition to the regularly-admitted portfolio scaleups, five companies were selected to take part in the final of the EIT Digital Challenge 2019. Two of them were awarded the main prize – a full year of international growth support from the EIT Digital Accelerator – and hence joined the portfolio.

The EIT Digital Challenge first-prize winner, R3Communications from Germany, offers ultra-reliable real-time radio networks for wireless industrial automation and communications. The second-prize winner, QuoScient from Germany, offers defence technologies that understand the threat landscape and help to protect secure, intelligent operations. Furthermore, EIT Digital Accelerator alumnus, the French scaleup METRON, raised €10 million in investment funding in 2019. METRON offers customers an Al-driven energy-intelligence platform, which collects, aggregates, and analyses in real time

Smart Global Privacy



Olivier Guillo (CEO) and Benoît Guignard (CTO) started Smart

Global Privacy in 2017 to help address the three fundamental privacy regulation questions any organisation faces – how to become compliant, how to stay compliant and who to work with?

With Smart Global Compliance Booster™, they have developed a software as a service (SaaS) solution that enables customers to simplify, accelerate and secure compliance with the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other major privacy regulations as well as the corresponding maintenance processes.

The software uses artificial intelligence, blockchain and machine learning to enable organisations of all kinds to comply with legislation across different jurisdictions. In addition, Smart Marketplace® offers customers access to find complementary products and services that are compliant with privacy regulations, such as consultants, trainers, lawyers and software vendors.

The company originally started in Monaco and operates three centres of excellence in Paris, Montpellier and Barcelona. In order to boost business growth and international expansion, Smart Global Privacy joined the EIT Digital Accelerator in 2019. Together with EIT Digital, Smart Global Privacy has been focusing on Europe as well as the US, addressing city authorities, universities, hospitals, insurance companies, banks and utilities.

"EIT Digital Accelerator has helped Smart Global Privacy meet interesting prospects and tech partners. Thanks to them, we have attended large specialised events. EIT Digital has also helped us with our fundraising. We're impressed by the professionalism of EIT Digital's team," says Olivier Guillo.

The other three finalists were Blueliv form Spain, LogoGrab from Ireland, and ReaQta from the Netherlands. all types of data generated by industrial systems.



Digital Cities



Innovation

By 2050, the global urban population will increase by 75% to 6.3 billion (i.e. two-thirds of the world population). The challenge of developing and maintaining attractive, inclusive and safe urban environments needs to be met on multiple fronts. Urban mobility, citizen safety

UAV Retina

providing them with a decision-support tool.



When used for inspection or mapping, the drone itself is simply a carrier for sensors. Therefore, components and systems are becoming an increasingly significant part of the drone ecosystem. Cameras, imaging and vision systems are now

lighter and lighter in weight, and new sensors allow for new application fields. UAV Retina automates the deployment of a fleet of drones within a defined geographic location and leverages the data collected by their sensors to help rescue teams by efficiently

Scanning large areas of avalanche terrain so that victims can be rescued in less than 15 minutes or detecting people at the top of a burning building are obvious cases where the augmented vision offered by drone sensors can literally save lives. Piloting one or several drones on such sites is a hard task that is made easier with an objective-based drone control platform.

The outcome of this activity is a software and hardware platform that can handle many use cases. The solution is fully autonomous which allows for communication with the drones, data collection and analysis delivery. A startup, Eole Eyes, has been created and, having already acquired all the special flight authorisations for the professional usage of drones, is ready to offer the solution as a service to rescue teams.

After two successful tests with fire departments in Trento (Italy) and Rennes (France), the company has already received multiple orders for the platform and additional trials from companies like Keolis.



and urban information ecosystems powered by data are key areas that are affected.

The Digital Cities strategic focus area is about serving the sustainability of European cities by modelling the city as a data platform. It leverages their digital transformation through centralised, participative and collaborative interactions between city actors: government, city service providers, industry and citizens. This transformation enables the deployment of disruptive information, mobility and safety services in cities. In 2019, the Digital Cities strategic focus area portfolio included 16 innovation activities: five related to urban mobility, six to city analytics and five to safety. The outcome was 16 products delivered and five startups created. Main trends were applications for citizens targeting data protection, inclusiveness and collaboration, optimised delivery of goods, use of autonomous vehicles and citizen security through optimised security services.



Several of the innovation activities created startups and entered the market. UAV Retina delivered a solution based on a drone platform to assist firefighters. After two successful tests with fire departments in Trento and Rennes, the Eole Eyes startup, created as an outcome of the innovation activity, received



multiple orders from companies like Keolis.

The Drivetrust innovation activity delivered a hardware solution enabling drivers' behaviour to be filmed and analysed in real time to produce a confidence score. The product was tested with numerous end-users, such as driving schools and insurance companies.

The Insight+ innovation activity provided an easy-to-use, multi-lingual, data-driven platform which simplifies and accelerates the analysis of urban economic metrics.



Get Home Safely delivers 'Connected Lights' that can be used at public events to guide people in the dark when there are no available signs. With numerous sensors embedded, the lights can detect people's presence and automatically switch on or count numbers of visitors. The solution was deployed in Matera and Helsinki. In 2019, the AAA activity Last-Mile Autonomous Delivery was launched to address the growing demand for low-cost, flexible parcel deliveries. This activity delivered a software platform connecting various modes of transport, with a special focus on in Rennes, Tallinn, Ljubljana and Trento. Each involved around 40 students. Based on real local use cases, they covered topics applied to cities including resilience, data power and mobility. All Summer Schools were highly appreciated by the participants as they

SMART DELIVERY NETWORK



E-commerce growth is fuelling the need to transport

goods to end users. Over 300 million people in the European Union are online shoppers. The number of parcels sent annually is over four billion. Numerous consumers want their parcels delivered at home. This can result in first-delivery failure if nobody is at home at the time of the delivery.

Consumers demand more control over their deliveries. The last mile of delivery can make up to 28% of a product's total transportation cost. Additional delivery trips create more traffic congestion and air pollution in city areas.

Smart Delivery Network (SDN) is a business solution for clean and congestion-free parcel delivery for logistics operators. It addresses the rapidly increasing parcel traffic and the growing need to reduce operating costs. This solution creates optimised and smart delivery networks for parcels.

EIT Digital partners have developed the Smart Delivery Network so that parcel deliveries are intelligently optimised to reduce congestion, diminish air pollution and create more satisfied customers.

SDN has been created by designing an efficient cloud-based, secure and easy-to-use communications platform between the control room and vehicles. Nowcasting technology and novel methods of collecting and analysing existing heterogeneous data sources are also integrated into the solution.

Sold as a service, Smart Delivery Network - SDN has been successfully trialled with the Finnish company Collico Oy, which became an official customer in the activity year.

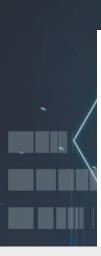
Autonomous Delivery Vehicles (ADV).

Four Summer Schools took place related to Digital Cities in 2019:

combined big data/artificial intelligence (AI)-related technologies and creativity for sustainability.



Digital Cities



Education

Education and skill needs in the area of Digital Cities are covered within EIT Digital Master School programmes. Courses such as Embedded Systems; Cloud and Network Infrastructures; Cybersecurity; and Data Science, are very much in demand. In smart

DriveTrust

The smart-tracking device DriveTrust exemplifies how an EIT Digital Summer School case can first become an innovation activity and then end up as a startup.

Technology and entrepreneurship fans Roman Prytkov and Tolga Varol jointly sowed the seeds for their startup DriveTrust during the EIT Digital Summer School, which is mandatory for EIT Digital Master school students. Together with two other team members, they came up with a smart tracking device that could analyse driving behaviours and help drivers to support traffic safety and eco-friendly driving.

Prytkov saw a chance to leverage the EIT Digital Master School's infrastructure to further develop the idea; he could base one technical project and one Innovation & Entrepreneurship project around DriveTrust. "I got accepted into the Incubator, a programme within the EIT Digital Master School in Rennes in which you can work on an idea and develop a business case."

One day, Alvaro Pina Stranger, the Co-Location Manager of the EIT Digital satellite office in Rennes, suggested to Prytkov that he should put DriveTrust forward for an Innovation Activity at EIT Digital. He analysed EIT Digital's partner list of over 270 European organisations and began cold calling all of them, with some success. The proposal was submitted in partnership with IMEC (Belgium), the University of Rennes (France) and CRF (Italy).

Today, DriveTrust sees opportunities for its device in the business-to-business market; car fleet owners and, in particular, the shared-mobility and carpooling markets, with companies like Uber and BlaBlaCar, who wish to ensure that drivers drive safely.



cities, the generation and flow of data are just as important as the flow of people, goods and vehicles. Knowing how to process and use this data in a way that creates value for city inhabitants requires the customer- centric approach and deep tech skills that are the trademark of EIT Digital Master School graduates. A notable example is the alumni-founded Drivetrust.

The Industrial Doctoral School contributes to the digitalisation (smartification) of cities, understanding it as a continuous, never-ending process of increasing complexity. Its current research-based innovation topics are: leveraging city data for vital urban living; fostering autonomous driving in cities (vehicle to everything and AI for autonomous driving); municipality services and infrastructures; service-support platforms; and security and safety in smart cities.



The EIT Digital Professional School supports the Digital Cities focus area, for example with the 'Security and privacy for Big Data' course, which is useful for modern city-services planning. The course teaches data protection



and the basics of the application of security solutions in big data environments. Much city data is big data, and it is important to understand the implications of the GDPR for big data. The course covers cryptographic principles, mechanisms to manage access controls in big data systems, privacy-preserving methodologies, and data protection regulations and concepts. All these topics may be needed when making city data available to the public.

EIT Digital held four Summer Schools in the Digital Cities focus area: 'Unleashing the Power of Data for Better Cities', 'Integrating Personalised Mobility Solutions', 'Digital Cities as Infrastructures for Smart Mobility' and 'Digital Transformation for Resilient Cities'. Each school had about 36 participants. Summer School participants work on business challenges in teams of about five students. In each school there were about five teams. In total, there were around 20 business cases to be developed.

The Data for Better Cities summer school in Rennes, France, had a typical EIT Digital Summer School programme. In Rennes, there were 39 participants, including 12 external participants. During the first week, the topic of Digital Cities was introduced through lectures and business cases. Students explored market and user profiles, as well as producing initial service concepts. They were also introduced to data analytics. Specifically, this course addressed market and user profiles and product and service concepts. It covered technological aspects, with students performing market studies and competitor analysis, and exploring social and usability aspects of the proposed business cases.



Digital Cities



Acceleration

Aligned with the innovation needs of European cities, the Digital Cities focus area addresses three domains: urban mobility; citizen information; and city safety and resilience, with respect to environmental, economic, and demographic developments. The EIT Digital

Cerbair



CerbAir is a French defence and security company that offers complete anti-drone solutions to secure sensitive sites and events against malicious drone use.

Easy to purchase at affordable prices, drones have become a tool for malevolent actors. Therefore, the security and defence industry needs to be fully prepared to protect near airspace from this growing, unconventional threat.

With CerbAir's state-of-the-art radiofrequency technology embedded in mobile or fixed anti-drone solutions, civilian drone threats can be detected from a distance of up to two kilometers. Once it has been detected and characterised, countermeasures can immediately neutralise the drone by forcing it to land through a mix of advanced jamming and hacking technology.

In 2019, CerbAir won first prize in the Digital Cities category of the EIT Digital Challenge and joined the EIT Digital Accelerator as part of the winning package. The overall international visibility helped CerbAir strengthen its image in front of investors. Shortly after, the company closed \in 5.5 million of funding in early 2020. In the coming year, CerbAir will continue its international market expansion and EIT Digital's Access to Market and Access to Finance teams are happy to support the scaleup's journey.

"Winning the EIT Digital Challenge helped us close a couple of major client deals which we were waiting on for a final decision. In less than six months, EIT Digital provided us huge media coverage and some welcome financial support as well as numerous sales opportunities in Europe, for which we are very grateful," says Lucas Le Bell, CEO and Co-Founder of CerbAir.



Accelerator scaleup programme supports young, fast-growing, innovative companies leveraging deep digital technologies for the benefit of cities.

In total, eight companies from six countries were supported by the EIT Digital Accelerator within the Digital Cities focus area in 2019. Several of them leverage the Internet of Things (IoT) and low-power wide-area network (LoRaWAN) technologies to provide cities with the digital infrastructure needed to offer better services for citizens. These include improved mobility and transportation, reduced CO2 emissions from buildings, and enhanced security.

For example, Swedish scaleup Sensative developed an open IoT integration platform combined with non-intrusive, no-maintenance sensors that provide users, services and digital twins with live data and control of



assets. Sensative's solution can be used for applications such as waste and sewage management, smart agriculture, port sea-level monitoring, and management of critical assets and infrastructure (e.g. monitoring manhole covers, power cabinets or pump stations).

Another company, Belgian scaleup Rombit, uses the Internet of Things to build digital solutions for maritime services, port terminals and petrochemical plants. Rombit improves



workflows, planning efficiency, worker safety and site security for the port sector. With the help of the EIT Digital team, the company established contact with over 30 customer prospects and closed two deals during 2019.

Great news came from one of the EIT Digital Accelerator alumni, Italian scaleup Kiunsys: it was acquired by a subsidiary of the Italian multinational Engineering Group. By the time of the acquisition, the scaleup's solutions



for urban mobility were already operational in over 80 cities – including Hamburg, Bucharest, and Milan – and providing services to tens of millions of citizens.

The sixth edition of the EIT Digital Challenge proved to be a great source of deep tech companies. Over 50 scaleups applied in the Digital Cities category. The first and second prize winners were: Cerbair of France (drone detection and neutralisation solution), and Loriot of Switzerland (a secure and scalable long-range loT infrastructure provider). Both companies enjoyed extensive international visibility as the winners of the contest and joined our Accelerator programme. More

LORIOT



Swiss company LORIOT was founded in 2015 with a mis-

sion to implement long-range Internet-of-Things (IoT) solutions in every corner of the globe. One of the company's founders was involved in the development of the LoRaWAN protocol, the technology that facilitates the deployment of large-scale IoT solutions at a fraction of the cost and complexity. LORIOT is now a global player, operating in over 140 countries.

The LORIOT Network Server makes it possible for many IoT solutions to coexist on the same infrastructure. This enables smart-city services such as smart parking, smart lighting, waste management and others, creating a positive impact for both society and the environment.

In 2019, the company was awarded second place in the Digital Cities category of the EIT Digital Challenge and enjoyed international visibility as one of Europe's leading deep tech scaleups. Leveraging the EIT Digital Challenge prize package, LORIOT joined the EIT Digital Accelerator's scaleup growth programme. Already active in Eastern and Central Europe, Austria, Germany, the Nordics and Switzerland, LORIOT plans to use EIT Digital's support to further expand in other European countries such as France, Italy, Spain and the UK and to prepare for its next fundraising round.

"The EIT Digital team has been extremely supportive in opening up its network of companies and investors and giving us the opportunity to participate in international tech events. We are confident that we will soon be able to share some great success stories. The best is yet to come," says Yannik Kopp, Business Development Lead at LORIOT.

detailed information about their innovative solutions and growth plans can be found in the Case Studies section of this report.

Digital Industry



Innovation

The Digital Industry focus area covers the seamless process from production to logistics and retail. Its key drivers are to improve efficiency in production and retail, better address customer needs and help save natural resources in manufacturing and logistics.

Hyper



With its spatial design platform that fuses virtual reality with real, motion-tracked models, Hyper, the London-based startup born from the EIT Digital HyperCRC innovation activity, is helping companies and clients to save time and money, while drastically reducing waste during the prototyping-design phase.

Hyper uses leading virtual reality (VR) technology to visualise customers' 3D spaces in detail. Modular tracked objects are then used to accurately recreate the point of view of the person exploring the virtual environment. Real materials are added to each surface, seamlessly blending the physical and the virtual world.

Hyper's standard design package allows customers to switch between 40 materials and customise four objects, within four immersive 3D environments. Materials and object customisation are experienced through touching physical samples and surfaces, while objects can be moved physically around the environment. Mixed-reality programming translates these gestures into changes within the virtual scene.

The platform also enables users to collaborate and co-design remotely: customers and developers can dial in from around the world and participate remotely as VR spectators in a review session. Hyper also has the powerful benefit of interfacing in real-time with a customer's computer-aided design (CAD).

The Hyper team has been mentored by Virgin Galactic through workshops and the testing of Hyper demonstrators; the startup's mixed reality co-design platform could even be used to help design future Virgin Galactic spaceports. Hyper also demonstrated its capabilities while successfully supporting Thales Group at a customer day, showcasing leading-edge technology that could be used in the evolution of the group's world-leading Maritime Autonomy Centre in Plymouth.



The focus area is addressing an area that is extremely essential for Europe. There is a big opportunity to use large amounts of data to optimise all stages of operations, and move to service-product bundles, with the help of real-time feedback from products in use. In 2019, the portfolio included twelve innovation activities distributed across manufacturing and product design, logistics and retail. The activities delivered 20 new products and two new startups: Hyper and Innotractor.

Hyper combines Virtual Reality (VR) immersive tools with tracked mock-3D objects to help in the design of complex interiors. The platform transforms the process of prototyping interiors with mock shapes because it can integrate rough spatial arrangements with realistic VR settings. Virgin Galactic and Thales provided the first use cases.



Innotractor introduced a distributed ledger solution for logistics and supply chain management as a single source of truth and transparency between different logistics companies, as well as between logistics companies and (end-) customers. Hopperpoint was its first customer.

In manufacturing, the DigiFlow innovation



activity introduced a second version of the factory workflow management solution, with customers from the fine instrument and metal industries.

The High Impact Initiative, Operate European Digital Industry with Products and Services (OEDIPUS) was completed.

OEDIPUS launched five Industry 4.0-related products for quality enhancement, predictive maintenance and additive-manufacturing support software.

In logistics, the AWARD innovation activity introduced the OWL logistics platform for the coordination of autonomous vehicles for moving goods within warehouses and delivering items across the last mile using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The first solution was delivered to a major logistics provider.

In the retail segment, new products for post-sale customer engagement and in-store solutions were launched. The Voxana customer-engagement platform is based on conversational technologies and Internet-of-Things (IoT) sensors. It helps companies provide connected products with vocal capacity to collect qualitative end-user feedback. Groupe SEB is a pilot customer.

The Augmented Retail innovation

activity introduced an augmented reality tool for retail staff. The tool helps check product placement, price compliance, in-stock availability and order state. The Cash Register 4.0 product is a hub for in-store digital services. It provides a new way for shop owners to Digital Industry were co-organised in 2019 within the EIT Digital Master School programme: IoT Platforms for Industry 4.0 took place in Munich with 45 students; Data Driven Manufacturing with Industry 4.0 in Bologna with 50 students; and Digital Retailing in

DiLLaS

DiLLaS

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{DiLLas}}$ (Distributed Ledger for Logistics and Supply Chain

management) is an internet-of-things (IoT) and blockchain solution offering a unique view on shipment events data for logistics companies and their partners. DILLaS has been developed by the Gravity innovation activity.

The DiLLaS solution is a new way of handling delivery and accelerates the implementation of more reliable and financially sustainable delivery processes. It does not replace corporates' existing shipping functionalities; instead, it aims to act as a glue between all parties in the logistics ecosystem.

By recording the events, DiLLaS improves service accountability in the chain versus service level agreements (SLA) and allows stakeholders to intervene if something goes wrong, and thus limit the damage before it's too late. All of this translates into a reduction of hours spent solving issues, simplification of document handling (which in turn helps security, preventing counterfeiting), and improved origin tracing.

Having a clear overview of all events related to the supply chain and logistics process is important especially when perishable, valuable and fragile goods are involved. A typical case in point is that of medicines. Every year, millions of drugs and medications reach their destination degraded because of incorrect shipping and have to be scrapped.

The DiLLas distributed ledger can also be used to enhance and streamline any other kind of value chain where logistics is involved, from managing company fleets or bike-sharing services to shipping electronic goods.

to connect to their customers via apps, such as various smart payments, sales, delivery, loyalty and in-store IoT devices. Three Summer Schools related Helsinki with 41 students.

Digital Industry



Education

Education and skill needs in the area of Digital Industry are covered by several of EIT Digital Master School programmes including topics fully aligned with the challenge of Industry 4.0. As examples, Autonomous Systems, Embedded Systems and Human Computer

Discover hackathon team

Some friends just hang out at weekends. Others, like the three EIT Digital Master School students Peter Lakatos, Gergely Bihary, and Márton Elődi, prefer to spend their time at hackathons. They have been to seven in the last three years.

Junction, Europe's largest hackathon, is an example of how this team has been able to open doors together. From the hackathon's list of 45 challenges, they picked one from the world's biggest manufacturer of commercial vehicles, The Daimler Group. This challenge was about finding a way to travel as seamlessly as possible through Europe in a smart electric car.

The hackathon crew – calling themselves 'Discover' – came up with a new service model for Smart Points of Interest (PoIs) with charging and paying as an integrated service. Providers can upload integrations within the Daimler ecosystem to give PoIs additional functionality.

The team won the first prize in the Daimler competition and the second prize for the electric charger challenge. Two weeks after Junction, Daimler invited the boys to present their solution at its booth at CES 2019 in Las Vegas.

Daimler asked the students if they would be interested in further developing their solution in the digital life department of its startup incubator. The students had to decline because they already have a startup and also need to study. Instead, they are speaking to Daimler experts about if and how Daimler can implement their solution.

"WE were taught at the EIT Digital Master School that we need to find solutions to problems that truly exist, " says Team Discover.



Interaction and Design are topics that are needed for the digital transformation of Industry. Students also have access to online courses.

Online courses cover many topics to do with Digital Industry, like the Development of Real-Time Systems, which is a key part of enabling the digital transformation of industrial processes. Digital industry can benefit from the ingenuity and creativity of our digital innovators, for example, by adopting digital solutions for the circular economy like Construqt, which aims to make sustainable building materials more accessible. Moreover, in order to highlight the strategic importance of industry in Europe, the Master School started to develop a new programme in Digital Manufacturing in 2019, which will enrol students in 2020.

The Industrial Doctoral School focuses on the development of doctoral applied-research projects in which deep tech is helping to re-



volutionise the manufacturing industry across the whole value chain. The current topics are: production side (data driven solutions, factory floor solutions; predictive maintenance; circular economy and waste management) and retail side (customer insight understanding, product customisation at retail point, product service customisation, online shopping and automatic offer portfolio).

EIT Digital Professional School's course Data Science for Business Innovation at Politecnico di Milano has been specially developed for



managers and decision-makers who need to grasp the fundamentals of data analysis in order to make informed decisions on data-driven business strategies and innovation paths within an enterprise.

The course consists of introductory lectures spanning big data, machine learning, data valorisation and communication. It covers terminology and concepts, tools and methods, use cases and success stories of data science applications. The objective of this course is to get a solid grounding in data



analysis in order to take informed decisions on data-driven business strategies and innovation paths within your enterprise. The course was successfully piloted in Amsterdam and Milan in 2019.

EIT Digital held three Summer Schools in the Digital Industry focus area: 'IoT Platforms for Industry 4.0', 'Disrupting retail Digitalisation' and 'User Engagement, and Data Driven Manufacturing with Industry 4.0'. Each school had an average of 47 participants. The Summer Schools work on business challenges in teams of about six students. In each summer school there were around six teams. In total there were about 20 business cases to be developed.

Balázs Horváth

Balázs Horváth, an industrial doctorate student at EIT Digital's Doctoral School, has the vision to make normal life available to every family: "That is why I'm doing my industrial doctorate. I believe my research can be applied in various domains to improve people's lives. If I can achieve that, then I will have made an impact."

As an EIT Digital Industrial Doctorate student, Horváth researches how to use data efficiently at Magyar Hungarian Telekom and Deutsche Telekom, under the academic supervision of Elte University. His focus is time series, forecasting, and anomaly detecting – in other words, predicting potential problems to prevent them from happening. Problems that the telecom operators want to avoid include, for example, losing data or servers going down due to peaks in network usage.

"My research will create a prototype of an in-house model for predictive maintenance based on real-time data. It can replace the outsourcing service and even do it better whilst saving the company a lot of money. I've already got very good results and will publish an article this year."

Even though he is conducting his research in the telecom sector, Horváth believes its core subject – time series with machine learning and neural networks – applies to many other sectors that use the Internet of Things (IoT) sensors and where sensors provide overtime measurements.

"Industrial doctorates completely change the way research is done. Now, the research gets attention right from the start and I can do it together with industry," he says.

Digital Industry

Acceleration

In 2019, the EIT Digital Accelerator supported seventeen Digital Industry scaleups from ten European countries, including – for the first time – Switzerland, to grow internationally and/or raise venture funding. The focus of the portfolio companies corresponded to the

Synerise

SYNErise

Founded in Cracow, Synerise is one of the 30 fastest-

growing technology companies in the world according to the multinational professional services firm Ernst & Young (EY), and a great example of the booming Polish tech ecosystem. Already official partners with Microsoft, Orange and EY, the company joined the EIT Digital scaleup support programme in 2019 to accelerate its expansion across Europe and the US.

Synerise is the force behind the AI Growth Cloud, an all-in-one platform for business providing in-depth knowledge about customers and real-time artificial intelligence (AI) based analytics and insights, as well as other solutions aimed at increasing sales, preventing churn and boosting customer loyalty. It orchestrates communication campaigns, optimises prices and personalises the entire customer journey.

The company develops its solutions by investing in its own intellectual property and employing top artificial intelligence researchers and data scientists to ensure that AI Growth Cloud is free of vendor locks and fully scalable. The goal is to meet the requirements of international enterprises at the leading edge of innovation and digital transformation. Synerise's enterprise customers include Carrefour, Orange, Oriflame, Raiffeisen Bank and Zabka, among others.

The EIT Digital Accelerator has been supporting Synerise in executing its global expansion strategy. Through the scaleup program, Synerise has been able to acquire its first enterprise customer in the insurance sector, a top multinational player based in Spain.

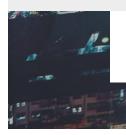
"EIT Digital plays a very significant role in Synerise's global expansion. This cooperation helps us to grow abroad and became an international player," says Jarosław Królewski, CEO, Synerise. omni-channel retail, sales and marketing and customer engagement.

Specifically, the 2019 portfolio composition had a strong focus on retail, with nine scaleups targeting retail companies across Europe. Their solutions ranged from conversational artificial intelligence (AI) for multi-channel communication and workflows (Omnibot, Germany), to powerful customer-feedback analytics (Wonderflow, Italy). They also included a 3D product visualisation platform for e-commerce (Expivi, the Netherlands), a robotics system for warehouses (Eiratech, Ireland) and an AI-powered omni-channel retail platform (Synerise, Poland).



Case studies of Eiratech and Synerise can be found in detail later in this report. The EIT Digital Accelerator was able to provide both scaleups with a high number of quality leads, with some already resulting in deals and the others expected to be closed in 2020.

In addition to the regularly-admitted portfolio scaleups, five companies were selected as finalists of the EIT Digital Challenge 2019. Two of them were awarded the main prize – a full year of international growth support



main topics within the Digital Industry focus area: product design, logistics, maintenance,



from the EIT Digital Accelerator – and hence joined the portfolio. First-prize winner oculavis from Germany offers remote maintenance support and workflow guidance for machine and equipment manufacturers. The second-prize winner, Wonderflow from Italy, offers a solution for customer and employee feedback based on natural-language processing





(NLP). The other three finalists were DCBrain and Ubudu from France and Reliability Solutions from Poland.

Furthermore, EIT Digital Accelerator alumnus KONUX, a global provider of predictive maintenance for railways, showed tremendous international growth in 2019, raising an additional USD13 million and winning multiple international awards and nominations.

Eiratech Robotics



Eiratech Robotics is the Dublin-based innovator of a com-

plete goods-to-person robotics automation platform for warehousing and industrial applications. It brings a six-fold increase in picking performance, improves accuracy and efficiency, maximises the use of warehouse floorspace, and can be deployed in two to three months at a cost which is a fraction of that of traditional construction-heavy solutions.

Eiratech Robotics offers a comprehensive end-to-end solution that includes: a robotic fleet-management software suite (centralised-decentralised) with open APIs and multi-vendor integration capabilities, a technically superior robot (with advanced power management and suspension), customisable picking stations and racks.

Eiratech's solutions have been deployed by clients such as a major UK retailer, a global Japanese carmaker, a UK branded-clothing company and an American diversified industrial manufacturing company.

The company joined the EIT Digital Accelerator in January 2019 and leveraged the support of EIT Digital's Access to Market teams to accelerate its plans for growth and gain access to new European markets. In addition to that, Eiratech Robotics participated in numerous networking events, including the business matchmaking at the EIT Digital Conference, and the Retail Matchmaking event in Paris.

Eiratech Robotics is a genuine European champion, enabling e-retailers to deliver superior ROI while having a flexible and easy-to-deploy solution.

"The EIT Digital Accelerator team enabled us to reach out to major European prospects, including very large French and Spanish e-retailers, FMCG companies, and industrial groups from the Nordics and Western Europe," says Frank Deasy, Chief Solutions Officer at Eiratech Robotics.



Digital Wellbeing



Innovation

The Digital Wellbeing focus covers solutions for quality-of-life improvement through sensing and data analysis. Slowing down healthcare costs is a key driver for innovation in the health domain. The objective is to lower the demand for treatment and long-time care, while al-





Europe's rapidly ageing population is bringing new challen-

ges to society: while the number of old and sick people is constantly on the rise, care institutions and hospitals are facing serious staffing shortages. Doctors and nurses have to deal with increasing workloads and time pressure, which directly influences the quality of care.

The Social & Autonomous Robotic Health Assistant (SARA) offers a turnkey hardware and software solution for care institutions and hospitals to improve care recipients' quality of life and provide support to alleviate caregiver-staffing shortages.

SARA functions as a social entity in nursing homes and hospitals to improve the quality of care. The goal is to reduce the workload of healthcare professionals so they have more time to do what they value most in their job: spending time with their patients.

The robotic assistants are designed to be largely autonomous, since nurses can access the SARA system from a computer or a tablet to create a personalised profile and health plan for every client. The robot will then perform the selected interaction routines. It can also play games, support music therapy and perform repetitive tasks, such as reminding staff or clients when it's time to take medication.

In July 2019, the startup SARA was created as a result of the innovation activity. Three pilot tests were carried out in nursing homes in Finland and the Netherlands.

lowing young people, working professionals and the elderly to maintain a good quality of life. Both physical and mental wellbeing are included. The Digital Wellbeing focus area deals with business models which allow for large-scale deployment, while maintaining user-data privacy and security. The solutions are generally based on individual, tailored prevention, early detection of disorders, personalised decision support or home-care monitoring. The digital technologies being used include accurate sensing, remote monitoring and security platforms, as well as domain-specific data analytics based on artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms.

The 2019 innovation activity portfolio included 11 activities that found several effective



means to lower the demand for medical interventions and long-time care. Most efforts concentrate on changing individuals' behaviour, in partnership with relevant stakeholders in the health and wellbeing domain, including employers, health insurance companies, care providers and hospitals, etc.

The portfolio activities delivered 12 new products and three new startups: SARA, Dermal Choice and My Skin Companion.



SARA combines robot interaction with machine-learning principles to study a user's personality and improve elderly care in nursing homes. Pilot tests of the robot were carried out in the Dutch facilities of Zorggroep Elde Maasduinen and TanteLouise. Dermal Choice is a cloud-based solution which takes skin images with a sensor device, uploads them to a platform and provides a skin-cancer classification. This solution was tested by a hospital in Rome.

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My Skin Companion provides a mobile application for patients and health professionals to take pictures of skin lesions in order to automatically detect melanoma via Al algorithms.

Among the products created, the Cyberbullying Effects Prevention (CREEP) innovation activity delivered an integrated and privacy-compliant set of tools to prevent the psychological problems caused by cyberbullying at the European Union level. The DMCoach+ innovation activity delivered an application suite for personalised coaching and lifestyle awareness based on gaming experience. various hazards to preserving good health and wellbeing at home, at work and in urban settings. The specific focus in 2019 was on Longer Independent Living and on Healthy Lifestyle and Behavioural Change. The Longer Independent Living Summer

DMCoach



Almost 60 million people currently live with Type 2 diabetes

(T2DM) across Europe. To the European Union healthcare, Type 2 diabetes costs €145 billion annually. Indirect costs include productivity losses, such as increased welfare payments, a sickness-absence rate two to three times greater than usual, lower employment and earnings, and a 30% increase in the rate of labour-force exit.

DMCoach+ innovation activity aims to significantly improve people's health, wellbeing and lifestyle as well as reduce the growing economic burden across Europe for direct healthcare costs and indirect welfare costs. It is not an app simply available within the vast marketplace, but an app suggested by occupational doctors, effective and impactful for the welfare system, on the one hand, and for health and wellbeing, on the other.

DMCoach+ provides workers with technologies that can significantly improve their wellbeing, prevent the insurgence of chronic diseases, and contribute to their welfare at work. For private companies, the app offers digital health and wellness programmes that provide a more comfortable workplace for their employees, improving labour productivity and reducing disease-related costs. Occupational medicine organisations get innovative digital tools that broaden their product portfolio by adapting to customers' new needs. It can better monitor workers at risk of chronic diseases and optimise work scheduling.

The value proposition for the end-user consists of an easy-to-use app to manage health and lifestyle in order to reduce personal out-of-pocket payments for healthcare.

Two Summer Schools related to Digital Wellbeing were co-organised in 2019 within the EIT Digital Master School programme. Participants explored School took place in Lisbon with 34 participants. The Healthy Lifestyle and Behavioural Change Summer School took place in Eindhoven with 43 participants.



Digital Wellbeing



Education

Education and skill needs in the Digital Wellbeing focus area are covered by several EIT Digital Master School programmes that provide general education on data science and human-computer interaction and design. These topics are required for Digital Wellbeing.

Roosa Kallionpää

EIT Digital Master School Student Roosa Kallionpää attended the Digital Wellbeing Summer School in Eindhoven, where she was working on a skin cancer case.

"Working on skin cancer has been quite challenging and sometimes difficult in the sense of instead of having to create some completely new solutions to a problem we addressed. It is more concrete and requires more research, which I like because we can investigate options in more detail. At the same time, it is inspiring and difficult. We have to research a lot of things regarding healthcare systems which we do not know much about, and that is quite challenging for us as we brainstorm and innovate."

Kallionpää studies Human Computer Interaction and Design at the EIT Digital university partners Sorbonne University and KTH. Taking part in one of the EIT Digital Summer Schools is mandatory for all students on one of the seven EIT Digital Master School Programmes. Here, building business solutions alongside classes on how to turn technology into business ideas - working with real-life case studies - are core aspects of the summer schools. At the end of the course, students get the chance to pitch their ideas in a competition.

"I think in the context of wellbeing you can really see how it is not about the technology but how you use it. As for wellbeing and behavioral change, I have recently taken mine more seriously and thinking about this through technology and business life could help me with finding ways to help the masses."



Development of secure embedded systems is very important for the development of digital medical devices, and it is one example of the online courses included in EIT Digital's blended education. Perhaps more than in any other digital discipline, a certain amount of human touch is critical to the success of Digital Wellbeing applications. A case in point is the alumni scaleup Speechlabel, which provides accessibility solutions for the visually impaired. The EIT Digital Industrial Doctoral School works on leading applied-research projects, in which digital technologies bring a real impact to quality of life, health and wellbeing. The current projects focus on: behavioural changes (increasing personal awareness through sensors, wearables, data analyses and assessing the economic impact of healthier lifestyles); and support to chronic ailments (detection of early signs of depression, supporting cancer treatment, improving quality of life and addressing autism syndromes, from early detection and early-stage therapy to supportive life-long therapy).

EIT Digital staged two Summer Schools within the Digital Wellbeing focus area in 2019: 'Longer Independent Living' with 34 students,



including five external students, and 'Healthy Lifestyle and Behavioural Change', with 40 students, also including five external students.

'Healthy Lifestyle and Behavioural Change' took place in Eindhoven, with a focus on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) and a balanced mix of lectures, teamwork on partner case studies, company visits and side events.



The overall objective was to encourage students to become aware, involved and active in the field of Digital Wellbeing, using digital solutions to enable people to obtain or keep a good state of physical, mental and/or social wellbeing. Important objectives of the Digital Wellbeing field are to foster a healthy lifestyle in all phases of life (during youth, while at work and when retired) and to help people live a healthy and independent life for longer and cope better with chronic diseases. Solutions are based on, for example, individually tailored prevention, early detection of disorders, personalised therapy or home care monitoring.

The business challenges that the students cracked came from companies within EIT Digital's Netherlands ecosystem. From the total of four challenges, three were derived from currently running innovation activities. In total, there were four business challenges, each assigned to two different teams.

EIT Digital Professional School courses support digital technologies in any area of business, but they did not have any courses focusing on Digital Wellbeing in 2019.





Digital Wellbeing



In 2019, seven scaleups joined the EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup programme in the Digital Wellbeing focus area.

All of them brought to the market significant deep tech innovations. They included: the

Medicus Al



Headquartered in Vienna, Medicus AI explains and in-

terprets medical reports and health data, turning numbers into meaningful insights. The company works with diagnostic labs to deliver smart features and insights to both doctors and patients in the form of visual and interactive reports.

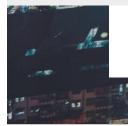
Medicus AI has ambitious plans to go public and employ 2,000 people worldwide by 2025, and the company is well-positioned to reach its goals. After closing a \leq 5 million Series A funding round and successfully expanding in China with an additional \leq 1.2 million seed fund, the company has announced the launch of a \leq 20 million Series B round, due to close in the first half of 2020.

After winning the Digital Wellbeing category in the EIT Digital Challenge 2018, Medicus AI joined the EIT Digital Accelerator programme where it has been supported by the Access to Market and Access to Finance teams. Throughout 2019, the EIT Digital Accelerator supported Medicus AI to boost its market awareness across Europe.

In particular, Access to Market introduced the company to about 30 interested customers: seven of them (from Italy, Spain and Finland) are now in direct contact with the scaleup to close potential deals. Among them is commercial cooperation with Reply Health to develop the healthcare service of the future.

The EIT Digital Access to Market team has helped Medicus AI expand into Italy and explore other markets, like the Netherlands and the Nordics, with more coming in next year. Medicus AI has set a goal to expand really fast.

"When you feel this is the right opportunity and the right time, you need to utilise all the assets you have - and EIT Digital is one of the most valuable assets in Europe. Their mission is to help company startups expand in Europe and globally," recognises Baher AI Hakim, CEO and Co-Founder of Medicus AI.



artificial intelligence (AI) engine of Medicus AI that explains and interprets medical reports and health data, turning numbers into meaningful insights; the 3D imaging solutions for clinical trials and aesthetic specialists from Quantificare; and OpenTeleHealth and Tessan io's telemedicine solutions for remote patient monitoring and diagnosis.

With this portfolio, the EIT Digital Accelerator targeted hospitals, clinics, healthcare providers and health authorities to generate leads for its supported companies. For instance, Medicus AI has been working with Reply Health's telemedicine solution to develop future digital healthcare services. Meanwhile, the French scaleup Quantificare closed a €5 million fun-



ding round, with the direct support of the EIT Digital Accelerator's Access to Finance team.

The Digital Wellbeing category of the EIT Digital Challenge attracted a significant number of applicants, resulting in two companies being awarded prizes: Mecuris, which provides 3D printing solutions for customisable prosthetics and orthotics; and SidekickHealth, which provides a digital-therapeutics platform to prevent and manage chronic diseases.



At the end of the year, CoRehab, a company that had already been part of the EIT Digital Accelerator several years ago, re-joined the programme. CoRehab offers comprehensive sensor-powerehabilitation solutions red used by physiotherapists and their patients. Back in 2013, the company won the EIT Award Innovation category. In recent years, CoRehab has gained numerous customers in Italy.

CoRehab is now working with the EIT Digital Accelerator team to expand its business into other European markets. This collaboration came at the right time as to validate CoRehab's product and business model, while its network

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of international distributors was growing, and it looked for help to attract new institutional and iconic customers.

QuantifiCare



French company QuantifiCare is a global leader in 3D ima-

ging solutions specialising in skin evaluations for clinical trials in dermatology, aesthetics, wound care and oncology. Building upon state-of-the-art, patented technology, QuantifiCare also offers a full range of high-quality 3D cameras and software applications which are revolutionising the way plastic surgeons, dermatologists and aesthetic specialists are visua-lising pre- and post-surgery, making treatment recommendations and, ultimately, improving communication with their patients.

QuantifiCare's patented award-winning 3D LifeViz® systems are already used in over 60 countries. The company is expanding its patented technologies and services to include artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud applications. With headquarters in France and operations in the USA, Latin America and Asia, QuantifiCare is poised for tremendous growth in the future.

In 2019, the EIT Digital Accelerator's Access to Finance team supported Quantificare in initiating and organising a fundraising round resulting in a \in 5 million investment from LBO France. This will help accelerate the scaleup's expansion plans and strengthen its prominent position in skin imaging worldwide. The EIT Digital Accelerator supported QuantifiCare in its fundraising, focusing on deep tech and image processing, which are areas covered in depth by the EIT Digital Accelerator.

"The Access to Finance team are knowledgeable and effectively introduced us to prominent investors from all over Europe. It was also extremely stimulating to exchange our experience with the other scaleups in EIT Digital's portfolio. EIT Digital's support was key in the successful timing of our fundraising," says Jean-Philippe Thirion, Founder & CEO of QuantifiCare.



Digital Finance



Innovation

Everything is digital in the finance and insurance industries these days. Traditional players – formerly safe in a sector stable for decades – have found they need to digitally transform to avoid disruption and continue as leaders. This impetus can come from agile

PeasyPay



In increasingly cashless societies, users require a seamless

purchasing experience, even in situations where there is no bank card or mobile phone present. PeasyPay, a startup incorporated in Hungary at the end of 2019, is going to let people pay by just showing their faces and taking a picture of the palm of their hands, making the whole process faster and more convenient.

PeasyPay has been launched as a result of the 'Pay with a Smile' innovation activity aimed at developing the next evolutionary step in digital payments, the simplest solution to pay for frequent purchases.

The solution is composed of three elements: the smartphone application for the customer, a smartphone application for the merchants and the payment terminals, which uses biometric authentication. The combination of face and palm scanning fixes the issue of false positives.

Digital profiles of the customers' palms and faces are created through the application, available on both Android and iOS. The credit card details are registered on an integrated payment gateway.

PeasyPay, customers always remain in control of the process: they have to explicitly authorise their biometric data usage and are able to set expense limits. While the solution is focusing on small payments, PeasyPay is also designed to have elaborated consent mechanisms for higher value transactions.

Another factor that makes the startup's technology stand out from the competition is that PeasyPay is based on an open system, which any bank and merchant can join. The startup's business model is based on getting a small fee for each transaction.



startups (fintechs or insurtechs) or strong entrants from other industries mastering the use of digital technologies. Now, all players in the sector are collaborating and competing at the same time for the ultimate prize of leadership. Times are challenging for the industry.

Digital Finance is the newest focus area in EIT Digital, focused on building sovereign payment solutions that leverage advanced technologies to ensure the transparency, efficiency, security and trust of financial transactions. Eight innovation activities were executed in 2019 to develop innovative solutions for Digital Finance. Key industry areas addressed were retail banking, insurance, asset management and corporate banking.



These Digital Finance innovation activities resulted in the launch of eight innovative products to the market – three of them supported by the creation of promising new startups.

The retail banking innovation activities were focused on: Open Banking cybersecurity (TEÎCHOS); the implementation of cross-border, sovereign, decentralised identity management to facilitate the European Single Financial



market; and disrupting payment processes with embedded multi-modal biometric technologies with the objective of launching startup PeasyPay.

The asset management activities aimed to develop better solutions and algorithms using advanced technologies for improving portfolio management. The REALM innovation activity developed new algorithms to optimise social-housing portfolios through a new startup. Five key players in the Netherlands and France that trialled the solution showed significant improvements in their medium and long-term strategies. In addition to this proven value to business, REALM will have a positive social impact, creating more affordable housing for hardto-house people.

Several innovation activities in the corporate banking sector focused on SME financing. Startup eBIZ applied the Open Banking paradigm to integrate company systems with banks through APIs.

Farmshopper is a new startup offering a three-layer marketplace to provide better financial products to small farmers. More than 50 have already signed up. Smart Credit Management for SMEs developed a platform, based on a permissioned blockchain, to simplify banks' and guarantors' trading. DESOLATE applied artificial intelligence techniques to help leading insurers, such as Poste Italiane, fight claims fraud.

Regarding Education, Innovation & Entrepreneurship integration, 42 students from all over the driving the students to design a business proposal using artificial intelligence to solve business challenges experienced by EIT Digital partners.

EY REALM

REALM

Article 31 of the European Social Charter declares the right

of people to have adequate and affordable housing. Many European countries tackle this issue through social housing companies that manage a portfolio of properties to provide the harder-to-home with accommodation at reduced rents. However, many of these companies have few resources to manage a huge portfolio of properties.

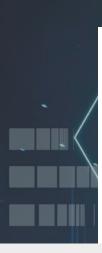
Innovation activity REALM (Real Estate Asset and Liabilities Management) has developed a new advanced tool that captures both sides of the business: the assets (properties) and the liabilities (usually bank loans), with the possible actions that the owner can take on any of them (e.g. sell, renovate, rebuild, etc.). Those constraints are added to the model and the optimisation algorithm calculates the actions on the portfolio to obtain the best possible outcome for the ensuing years.

In the case of social housing companies, the result does not translate into profits but into a 'social dividend' that is applied to make housing rents more affordable or to provide additional units for those who are harder to home.

Although the initial target has been social-housing companies, the REALM model and its algorithm can be adapted for commercial real estate corporations looking to optimise profits for their stakeholders. In fact, one of the five pilots has been deployed for that use case. Based on the results in these five initial pilots, the partners decided to create a new start-up to continue exploiting the product as an independent entity, approaching additional investors to boost growth.

world attended a two-week Summer School in Budapest on Machine Learning in Digital Finance. This deep tech theme was complemented by Innovation & Entrepreneurship subjects,

Digital Finance



Education

Education and skill needs in the Digital Finance focus area are covered by several EIT Digital Master School programmes, including topics such as Cloud Computing, Cybersecurity and Data Science. Some courses are blended, providing online education in topics like Model

Taru Itäpelto

She is ranked ninth in the world of Olympic weightlifting, holds a Master's degree in computer science and music, and is CFO/CIO of a childcare institution.

"After many years, I felt my knowledge in the IT field was outdated. I wanted to know about the newest tech in wellbeing and where we are going with it. Entrepreneurship studies are a very good extra which EIT Digital offers. I had never taken a single course about entrepreneurship before."

Itäpelto signed up for the EIT Digital Summer School in Eindhoven on healthy lifestyle and behavioural change.

"In my team, I oriented on giving ideas and testing them and calculating profit possibility and potential. This was good for me as I learned to be more business savy. When I got back home, our CEO had the idea of expansion and buying an additional home. I validated the idea and checked first the profit possibility. The idea of establishing a new home was good, but there were too many risks regarding the decision in terms of costs and maintenance and the operation of the company during that renovation."

Attending the EIT Digital Summer School in Eindhoven inspired Itäpelto to become a full-time student at the EIT Digital Master School. She starts in autumn 2020 at the EIT Digital Master School CyberSecurity Programme at the University of Twente. Itäpelto's wife encouraged her in the decision-making by saying that she had already sacrificed six years and her passion for IT in lifesaving her wife's company. Now it is Taru's time.



Checking and System Validation. In an effort to reinforce this rapidly growing industry with new talent, the Master School developed a new programme in Fintech during 2019. This new programme will start accepting students in 2020.

The Industrial Doctoral School develops

applied-research projects for a creative reshaping of digital finance services for better, faster and more secure solutions to improve the customer experience using deep tech. The topics focus on: the future of retail banking (improving customer relationships; a cashless society and micropayments); modernising corporate banking and insurance tech (point-topoint (P2P) risk distribution; the digitalisation of equity capital markets; cybersecurity and blockchain); and digitalising wealth asset management (artificial intelligence and machine learning for investment decisions).

EIT Digital held one Summer School in the Digital Finance focus area: Machine Learning for Financial Data. It had 41 students, including eight external participants.



One of the business cases the students explored related to the booming e-sport market, which is currently (2019) worth more than \$1bn worldwide and is expected to grow by 300% in three years. Players can make millions of dollars each time they win one of these competitions.

The team proposed that players use a



Mucosal-associated invariant cells (MAIT) platform to solve the issue of finding compatible teammates, which is a problem for both professional and amateur players. The solution created an easy-to-understand MAIT-score for each proposed player, based on three parameters: their personality in the game; their skill, based on several statistics; and team compatibility, based on academic research. In this instance, the MAIT platform focused on a multiplayer online battle arena video game called Dota 2 and used the OpenDota data platform to access information about players' hard skills.

MAIT'S revenue stream consists of three subscription tiers; Amateur, Semi-Pro and Pro. Each tier offers the same features but is distinguished by the database of relevant players that can be contacted. The player bases that can be contacted and their prices are respectively: lowest 50% for 0 €/quarter, lowest 80% for 15€/ quarter and full player base for 150€/quarter. An investment of €220,000 is proposed. An expected profit of more than €2m is forecasted after two years of operations.

EIT Digital Professional School courses support digital technologies in any area of business, but there were no courses focusing on finance in 2019.



Digital Finance



Within the Digital Finance focus area, the EIT Digital Accelerator supports European ventures that are driving digital transformation in the financial industry and disrupting institutions with technologies that enable transparency, efficiency, security and trust. In 2019,

Zelros



Founded in 2016 in France, Zelros provides a Software

as a Service (SaaS) solution based on artificial intelligence (AI) for the insurance industry. It provides insurance advisors with in-depth insights about their customers and helps them recommend the right products in real-time. Relying on the power of machine learning and AI, Zelros leverages structured and unstructured data such as voice, emails and documents to enrich its predictions and recommendations.

Zelros aims to offer solutions for the whole insurance value chain. Today it covers two use cases over the entire insurance product range: increasing sales efficiency (Zelros For Sales) and enhancing customer service (Zelros For Customer Service).

Some of the company's clients are insurance industry leaders in France and overseas. Several thousands of their employees are currently using Zelros' solution daily, serving millions of customers and enjoying a 40% reduction in customer-request processing time as well as a 5-20% increase in conversions.

Zelros joined the EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup programme in November 2019, after winning the Digital Finance category in the EIT Digital Challenge. The company highly appreciated its international visibility across Europe.

Being part of the EIT Digital Accelerator, Zelros leverages the expertise of the Access to Market team, to expand its business across Europe, specifically in Germany and Italy.

"EIT Digital's communication initiatives helped us gain more visibility in our target markets in Europe, and we look forward to the results of our joint business development efforts," says Christophe Bourguignat, CEO of Zelros.



the EIT Digital Accelerator supported seven Digital Finance scaleups from six European countries. Several EIT Digital Accelerator portfolio companies target the banking sector, enabling banks to deliver a modern user experience to their customers. For instance, Irish scaleup LEVERIS has built a modular end-to end banking platform enabling the launch of greenfield banks at a fraction of the cost and time usually required. Another company, eID from Portugal, helps banks onboard new users online, through a secure AI-powered video identification process that validates their digital identity.

Insurance represents another important industry for scaleups in Digital Finance. The UK company KASKO is a good example. KASKO helps insurers to design, launch and scale flexible insurance services – cost-effectively and at lightning speed. In 2019, the scaleup entered a partnership with Co-op UK to launch a new insurance product for UK-based students.

With this portfolio composition, the EIT Digital Accelerator's Access to Market team targeted banks and insurance companies to establish business relationships and facilitate deal making with corporates. Tens of leads were generated per scaleup, leading to a high degree of corporate engagement and a closed deal for French scaleup CopSonic, with a world leader in payment solutions.

In addition to the regularly-admitted portfolio scaleups, five exceptional companies were selected to participate in the final of the EIT Digital Challenge 2019 in the Digital Finance category. In total, the category received close to 50 applications from European deep tech scaleups. The finalists presented solutions



ranging from online-bankingfraud identification to AI-powered tools for real-time accounting.

The first place was awarded to Zelros from France. Zelros offers an 'Al solution for augmented insurers' which helps call centre staff understand the profiles of customers better and therefore recommend the most suitable products.

The second prize went to Minna Technologies, a Swedish company providing a subscription-management platform for retail banks.



Additionally, one of the finalists – Cash Director from Poland, an artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled Digital Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for small to medium enterprises – decided to join the EIT Digital growth programme to leverage the Access to Market and Access to Finance support packages to enable their international expansion.

Copsonic



French company CopSonic enables highly-secured

communication and interaction between devices through a unique system of ultrasound waves. CopSonic's technology is hardware agnostic – data transfers for contactless secured payments, controlling smart home devices or contactless computer logins in a highly secured way are achieved through existing microphones and speakers. No specific additional hardware is required (unlike Bluetooth LE, NFC, or Lifi). The authentication and control of the system occur on CopSonic's online and offline platforms.

The company joined the EIT Digital Accelerator in 2017 after being selected as a finalist in the EIT Digital Challenge the year before. Over two years, the company leveraged the support of EIT Digital's Access to Finance and Access to Market teams to accelerate its plans for growth and gain access to new European markets and financing.

In addition to that, CopSonic participated in numerous networking events, including the business matchmaking at the EIT Digital Conference. One of the company's most recent wins, facilitated by the EIT Digital Accelerator, has been an important deal for an undisclosed amount with a world leader in payment solutions.

CopSonic is taking the payment industry one step forward with a unique, advanced patented codec. EIT Digital is helping it to become a European champion.

"The EIT Digital Accelerator team helped us engage with a large multibillion-euro client, prove that CopSonic was the most advanced offering and secure a game-changing deal," says Emmanuel Ruiz, CEO of Copsonic.





Pan-European ecosystem



"Delivering transformation" was the EIT Digital Benelux Node's motto for 2019. It witnessed good growth in EIT Digital's pan-European ecosystem during the year, with 11 new members joining, including ten from industry.

The participation of the Benelux Node members in innovation activities resulted in 19 projects involving Belgian/Dutch members. With the support of EIT Digital's business developers and Access-to-Finance specialists, five contracts were signed with European scaleups. And, with six out of seven master programmes run by Dutch universities, and with 90 Master School students attending these three Dutch Universities, the Node is quite successful. All in all, the Benelux Node remains an attractive centre for education and innovation activities.

ECOSYSTEM

During 2019, the Benelux Node attracted 10 new industrial members: Achmea Risk Insurance; ATC International; Datacon BSS Solutions and Datacon Integration Solutions; DroneMatrix; Dynasec; InnoTractor; Kinetic Analysis; Stokhos; and UCB Biopharma. By involving the new members from the start in innovation activities, these new relationships were rapidly cemented.

By the end of the year, EIT Digital had 37 partners in the Benelux region; four universities, three research centres, two ecosystems and 28 industrial organisations, of which 16 were SMEs. Most were highly engaged in the entrepreneurial, innovation and education activities. Their commitment was further confirmed by their strong participation and industrial leadership in bids for future innovation and education activities, in the form of Calls for Proposals for 2020.

INNOVATION FACTORY

The Belgian and Dutch partners attended and engaged deeply in 19 innovation activities. In nine of these activities they took the lead. These efforts show the real value EIT Digital brings to the Benelux region in the form of collaboration, engagement and inspiration.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

The Benelux Node continued to educate the next generation of digital entrepreneurs and industry leaders, with 90 Master School students enrolled in Delft, Eindhoven and Enschede. With a strong emphasis on online education (blended learning and MOOCs), EIT Digital is taking a proactive role in helping to tackle the technical skills gap. The business case studies and internships our industrial partners provided proved invaluable to the Master School students, showing that the now established Education-Research-Business integration model is working.

The EIT Digital Master School was nominated by the Computable Awards 2019 for Best ICT Educator of the Year.

OUTLOOK

Looking ahead to 2020, the Benelux Node will strengthen its ecosystem in the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area by setting up a Doctoral Training Centre, as well as being closely involved in the successful establishment of a new satellite office and Doctoral Training Centre in Antwerp (Belgium).

The Benelux Node is continuing to drive digital transformation with an even stronger industrial footprint, including innovative SMEs. During 2019, the first Industrial Doctorate School PhDs were recruited in Eindhoven.



The year 2019 in the Finland Node was characterised by: growth in education programmes, particularly the Master School; expansion of the ecosystem, with new partners joining the EIT Digital partnership; and high visibility events connected to the Finnish presidency of the EU Council.

ECOSYSTEM

The Finnish EU Council presidency gave the Node the opportunity to raise awareness of EIT Digital and encourage dialogue about European innovation. The Node was one of the main organisers of the presidency event, European Days for Sustainable and Circular Economy 2019 (EDSCE), which took place on September 30 and October 1.

EIT Digital joined forces with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and our fellow EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KIC), EIT Raw Materials and EIT Food, to organise the EIT Festival at the beginning of October. The EIT Festival brought together ten different EIT events with a total of over 600 participants. One of the highlights of the Festival was the opening session, featuring the Director of the EIT, three KIC CEOs and other representatives from different KICs presenting the EIT and the KICs.

A wide range of events – from lunch talks to thematic networking events, an Innovation Day, the Digitally Circular event series, and the EIT Digital Doctoral School Graduation ceremony – brought together over 2,000 participants during the course of the year. Innovation Day 2019 showcased results of EIT Digital innovation activities. Finland's theme was Trust and Security and the event gathered top experts and businesses in the field to present and discuss the opportunities for European organisations.

The Node's partners were involved in 14 innovation activities. The Last Mile Autonomous Delivery AAA project was started with three Finnish partners and one post-master professional working on the activity at the Co-Location Centre (CLC).

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

The number of students taking part in the education activities increased significantly, particularly in the EIT Digital Master School, where it reached well over 100 in Finland. The students actively engaged with partners in the Co-location Centre, through internships, assignments in the summer school, course assignments and various events in the CLC. Student satisfaction remained at a high level.

OUTLOOK

Looking forward to 2020, the Finland Node aims to expand the ecosystem – in particular through tighter engagement with the startup ecosystem in the Node region. Geographically, the Node aims to further expand the ecosystem in the Baltic countries.

The EIT Digital Finland partner network continued to grow, with six new entities joining the network, bringing the total to 25 – seven academic institutions, one research body, two cities and 15 industry partners.



EIT Digital and its French partners made 2019 a great year for digital innovation, confirming EIT Digital's impact in delivering concrete transformation for Europe.

ECOSYSTEM

The Paris Co-Location Centre (CLC) took advantage of France's exceptional digital dynamics to reinforce EIT Digital's role in Europe. The CLC benefits from its location in the heart of the city, close to the biggest European startup incubator, the digital talents of Sorbonne Université, the researchers of INRIA and major businesses.

In 2019, EIT Digital's Paris Node hosted around 200 events involving more than 3,000 businesspeople, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, researchers, students and individuals from public organisations. The Paris Node strengthened EIT Digital's role in the Digital Finance ecosystem, organising its Innovation Day in December, with 150 participants and keynotes from Ingenico's and INRIA's CEOs.

EIT Digital continued to enhance the attractiveness of its offering in France. It welcomed six new industrial partners – including major companies like Ingenico, TechnipFMC and British Steel, and innovative SMEs like Bestmile – bringing the total number to 44. These partners appreciate the innovation activities of EIT Digital's European ecosystem, the business collaboration between European scaleups and major companies and the access to talent.

INNOVATION FACTORY

In 2019, EIT Digital France brought European value to the French innovation ecosystem. The node ecosystem created four deep tech startups in France.

EIT Digital's French partners demonstrated, once again, their strong commitment by participating in 16 impactful innovation activities, among which eight were led by French partners, with an emphasis on Digital Industry, Digital Tech and Digital Cities.

In 2019, the EIT Digital Accelerator in France supported 34 scaleups to achieve European growth. One of the highlights was that the French accelerated scaleups raised ≤ 17 million in 2019, ≤ 5 million of which was raised by currently accelerated companies. 2019 was also the year of the acquisition by CISCO of Sentryo, an alumnus scaleup.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

The real challenge for startups is finding the right people. A total of 117 digital students graduated from the EIT Digital Master and Doctoral Schools, in combination with EIT Digital's French education partners. A Digital Cities Summer School was organised at EIT Digital's Rennes satellite, gathering international students and professionals.

One 2019 doctoral graduate created a deep tech startup, PacketAI, before graduation and raised €2.1 million Series A funding from venture capitalists one month after graduation.

OUTLOOK

The great successes achieved in 2019 will be instrumental in the near future in positioning Europe as an innovation leader.

The French accelerated scaleups raised €17 million in 2019, €5 million of which was raised by currently accelerated companies.



Nine new partners joined the EIT Digital German Node in 2019: Airbus Operations GmbH; audEERING GmbH; Curamatik GmbH; JIC; JRC Capital Management Consultancy & Research GmbH; Karlsruhe Information Technology Solutions - kites GmbH; Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT); Sensorberg GmbH; and TUBS GmbH. JIC was the first partner from the Czech Republic to join EIT Digital via the German Node.

EIT Digital's partners connected with the German Innovation & Education ecosystem at the Berlin Co-Location Centre (CLC) through roughly 100 events, workshops and meetings. The Node held networking events for Digital Wellbeing as well as for Digital Tech.

INNOVATION FACTORY

In 2019, 14 German Node partners contributed to 24 innovation activities. For 10 of these they provided

the activity lead, and for six the Business Champion. TU Berlin and DFKI were the most active partners in 2019. The German Node contributed to one cross-KIC activity and three early bird activities that will continue in 2020.

The activities of the EIT Digital Accelerator within the German Node led to the signup of one scaleup company and one Access-to-Market success. For Access-to-Market, more than 300 leads were generated for the Accelerator portfolio companies. For Access-to-Finance, more than 30 meetings between investors and portfolio scaleups were organised.

An EIT Digital DeepHack with 36 participants, selected from 82 applicants, took place in Hamburg at the Digital Hub Logistics under the headline 'Hacking Hamburg Harbour Traffic Congestion'.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

The EIT Digital Master School again recruited 50 new students to Berlin for the entry year of their Master's programme at TU Berlin. In combination with 34 students who came to Berlin for their exit year, this totals more than 80 EIT Digital Master School students currently studying in Berlin, with Autonomous Systems being the most popular programme. Given this size of the EIT Digital Master School programme in Berlin, the city provided an excellent location for the 2019 EIT Digital Master School Graduation Ceremony, which was facilitated in collaboration with Partners TU Berlin and TUBS. At the event, about 300 international Master School students received their Master's degree from both universities and their EIT certificate that documents their skills in innovation and entrepreneurship.

OUTLOOK

In addition to further evolving the German ecosystem, the EIT Digital Node in Berlin looks forward to increased engagement from those surrounding countries that are connected to the German Node: Austria, the Czech Republic and Poland.

As well as welcoming nine new partners and having 14 involved in a total of 24 Innovation Activities, one of the highlights for EIT Digital Germany in 2019 was hosting the Master School Graduation Ceremony, in collaboration with TU Berlin and TUBS, at which about 300 international students proudly received their diplomas. 2019 was about consolidation and further growth for the Hungary Node. At the end of 2019, the Node's ecosystem consisted of 23 partners from five countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia and Romania). It includes universities, a research organisation and 19 businesses, both large and small, including ones with a regional presence.

Hungary

ECOSYSTEM

EIT Digital's Hungary Node was successful in integrating the new partners in its ecosystem, as testified by the seven innovation activities (including one strategic AAA activity) that Budapest Node partners were part of. These activities resulted in eight new products and four new startups in 2019. Of EIT Digital's five focus areas, the Hungary Node remained particularly active in Digital Finance, Digital Tech and Digital Industry.

In October 2019, EIT Digital's efforts and position in the Hungarian innovation ecosystem were recognised by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between EIT Digital CEO Willem Jonker and Mr László Palkovics, Hungary's Minister of Innovation and Technology. The memorandum outlines directions for collaboration with the Hungarian government to support the digital transformation of Hungarian industry, fulfilling EIT Digital's mission to integrate education, research and business.

The main venue of the Hungary Node's ecosystem, the Budapest Co-Location Centre, was regularly used for organising high-impact events, some of the highlights being the Digital Finance Networking Event in the spring and the DeepHack Hackathon on SME banking in December.

The Hungary Node has a strong commitment to the ARISE Europe programme, EIT Digital's implementation of the Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS). In 2019, the Hungary Node continued to be responsible for education across the entire RIS region, as well as for innovation and scaleup activities in parts of Central and Eastern Europe, including contributions to the EIT Digital Venture Programme West Balkan Edition.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

The Hungary Node hosted the largest cohort of doctoral students (39) within EIT Digital, of which 22 form part of EIT Digital's new Industrial Doctoral School.

The Master School offering from the Hungary Node's partner universities was extended in 2019 to Data Science and Autonomous Systems. At the end of the year, recruitment began for students in the Fintech and Digital Manufacturing programmes for the 2020/21 academic year. Two summer schools were organised in 2019: one in Budapest on Digital Finance and one in Ljubljana on Digital Transformation for Urban Resilience. The Budapest Node played a pioneering role in the roll out of EIT Digital's Professional School offering.

OUTLOOK

In 2020, EIT Digital Hungary seeks to deepen collaboration with the Hungarian government and to extend its regional impact.

The EIT Digital Hungary Node drives digital transformation in the extended region around Hungary, building on the integration of an increasing number of industrial partners, small and large alike, with the traditional excellence of its academic collaborators.



The EIT Digital Italy Node had a transformative year in 2019, with the complete integration of the Milan Satellite into the Node activities and partner ecosystem. Of the 39 innovation activities involving Italian partners, 19 were led by it, including one High Impact Initiative. Of the 12 education proposals accepted, four were led by Italian partners.

ECOSYSTEM

By the end of 2019, the Italy Node had 47 partners in Italy: seven universities, two research institutes, 20 industrial organisations, 15 SMEs and two ecosystems. EIT Digital attracted three new industrial partners (Exprivia, Resiltech and Teicos Group), one ecosystem partner (Fenice Foundation), eight external partners (ATC, Nexi, Telekill, UPMC Italy, Mea, MediaClinics, Rulex and Translated), and three third-party links (Engie Servizi, Italtel and Exon Group).

In addition, the following scaleup companies were supported during

2019 by the Italian Accelerator team: Creactives, T.NET and Medicus AI, as a continuation of support from 2018; and CoRehab and VRGineers as new sign-ups.

INNOVATION FACTORY

EIT Digital helped to accelerate innovation in Italy with the launch of 22 new products or services onto the market. OEDIPUS, a multi-year High Impact Initiative creating digital solutions and services for the manufacturing industry, came to an end in 2019, resulting in five fully-operational European iCentres, with ten SMEs per iCentre involved in deeper experimentations.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

The EIT Digital Trento Node saw 105 Master School students enrolled in Trento and Milan in 2019, one doctoral student in Trento and one in Milan. Two successful Summer Schools were also run: Digital Cities as Infrastructures for Smart Mobility in Trento, with 35 participants, and Data Driven Manufacturing for Industry 4.0 in Bologna, with 50 participants.

EVENTS

An extremely successful hack, 'The Future of Shopkeeping', was run at the Co-Location Centre (CLC) in Trento, in collaboration with Olivetti. The 33 participants, among them master students, EIT Digital Alumni and external students, literally camped on the Node premises for three days, working towards the delivery of a digital solution for merchant stores that leveraged the Cash Register 4.0 Innovation Activity managed by Olivetti. The result of the hackathon will be displayed in the Demo Room at the CLC in 2020.

The theme of the 2019 Trento Node Innovation Day was 'The AI revolution: hype or reality?' The event, held at the Trento CLC, brought together about 200 industry leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers and public authorities and included 30 demos of innovative products and services.

OUTLOOK

In 2020, the EIT Digital Italy Node will have a special mandate for greater diversity and inclusion. The Node's geographical jurisdiction will extend beyond the Italian borders to partners in Greece, Cyprus and Malta, and its focus will shift towards the integration of small and medium-sized businesses into the ecosystem.

> The prominent focus areas for the Italian Node in 2019 remained Digital Tech and Digital Cities. The 80+ events organised in 2019 attracted more than 2,000 participants from within and beyond the EIT Digital community.



2019 was the year of ecosystem expansion and integration with regional players. The EIT Digital Spain Node grew in terms of partners, with a focus on industrial partners from Spain and core partners from Portugal, at the newly inaugurated Braga satellite office.

The Node also focused on deeper integration with local relevant actors and public bodies in the Madrid Region. In 2019, the Node staged about 25 entrepreneurship and innovation-oriented events, becoming one of the most relevant players in the ecosystem.

ECOSYSTEM

New industrial partners that joined in 2019 included three subsidiaries from Indra, the major IT company in Spain; Worldline, a leader for e-payment solutions; and key innovation players from Portugal: University of Minho, DTx CoLab and INESC TEC.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

EIT Digital educational activities in Spain are concentrated around the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, with three programmes in the EIT Digital Master School: Data Science (DS), Human Computer Interaction and Design (HCID) and Internet Technology and Architecture (ITA). Nowadays, the Madrid Co-Location Centre (CLC) hosts Innovation & Entrepreneurship lessons for all the programmes with weekly attendance from about 60 students, many of whom use the CLC as an operation base for daily work. The doctoral programme has ten students enrolled.

The Professional School ran a course called Cybersecurity for Business, coordinated by the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid and supported by Ferrovial. This covered the main detection and protection mechanisms needed by an organisation to empower its staff and optimise its processes in order to defend itself against the most common cybersecurity threats.

INNOVATION FACTORY

The Spain Node business team contacted and established collaboration agreements with relevant venture capital firms and investment bodies. Several scaleups applied to its coaching programme, such as Datumize and Galgus from Spain and Synerise and CashDirector from the ARISE Europe programme. The most valuable contribution to scaleups in the EIT Digital Accelerator programme were the several hundred introductions and leads from EIT Digital business developers.

Strong Spanish industrial partners, such as Ferrovial, Indra and ATOS, position the Node's activities around the Digital Tech focus area with other applications covering focus areas such as Digital Cities, Digital Finance, Industry or Wellbeing. Spanish partners participated in activities including creating three new ventures and more than 20 new products.

OUTLOOK

The EIT Digital Spain Node has prepared the ground for full deployment in Portugal during 2020, operating across all pillars of EIT Digital.

EIT Digital's Spain Node saw a great increase in activity and impact in 2019: performing its business acceleration activity, consolidating its access to finance services, coaching four new companies, and fully deploying education activities in Master's programmes and the Professional School.



In 2019, the EIT Digital Sweden Node attracted 11 new partners into the EIT Digital ecosystem; advanced Swedish SMEs that are interested in innovation collaboration and the entrepreneurial deep-tech talent in our Academy. The EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup programme signed up six Scandinavian scaleups, including one from Denmark.

ECOSYSTEM

Partners in Denmark and Norway were also engaged in preparations for innovation activities taking place in 2020. As a result, node partners are engaged in 10 new one-year innovation activities and the AAA activity SCOUT (Secure Control Of Ubiquitous Technologies).

In order to engage local partners, the Sweden Node organised and hosted 20 events, including eight deep tech seminars co-organised with KTH, mobilising more than 1,500 participants. The EIT Digital Sweden Innovation Day, themed 'Deep Tech - Europe's competitive edge in the digital economy' attracted more than 270 participants. The audience represented current and potential new partners and collaborators, as well as stakeholders from business and politics. They enjoyed a panel discussion and presentations on the importance of deep tech for the future of Europe's digital economy and global competitiveness. These were followed by pitches and an exhibiton of EIT Digital innovation activities, partners, accelerator companies and student startups.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

Several events were held to connect the 230 Master Students with the local ecosystem by providing matchmaking for internships and recruitment. Partner companies participated in the education activities and reached out to EIT Digital students when seeking much-needed talent.

At the two Summer Schools, industrial partners offered participants inspiring business challenges . Student satisfaction was very high.

OUTLOOK

In order to engage larger parts of the Scandinavian digital innovation ecosystem, discussions on the establishment of regional satellites will continue with, amongst others, Gothenburg in Sweden, Copenhagen in Denmark and Trondheim in Norway being considered. More than a 100 students will finish their internships and look for Swedish employment. New Industrial doctoral students will be recruited to the Kista Co-Location Centre and the satellites under discussion.

EIT Digital has consolidated the position of the Sweden Node within the Swedish data-driven innovation ecosystem and the industrial footprint in the same direction. In parallel, it has been able to bring forward many Master School graduates to meet the high need for advanced digital talent in Sweden. The Sweden Node is particularly proud of having started to build the Doctorate Training Centre (DTC) with industrial doctorate positions, together with the local AI industry.

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom has a large and highly advanced digital economy which is valued at in excess of €330 billion per annum and accounts for more than 12% of national GDP – the highest proportion of GDP at global level across all national and regional economies.

ECOSYSTEM

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Fourteen companies from across the UK joined the membership of EIT Digital as new industrial partners in 2019, and all successfully participated in EIT Digital's Call 2020 programme, through collaboration with other members from across the European Union.

City, University of London also joined the membership of EIT Digital in 2019 as a new academic partner, joining a strong national network of six leading UK universities. During the course of 2019, City successfully engaged its own spin-out companies in EIT Digital's innovation programme, and also launched two new doctoral programmes, focsed on artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, at EIT Digital's Co-Location Centre (CLC) in London.

In April 2019, the United Kingdom Node formally opened a new satellite office in Edinburgh, Scotland, during an opening ceremony which was presided over by Ivan McKee MSP, the Scottish Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation.

The new satellite office has a remit to deliver national-level impact and is actively supported by Scottish Enterprise, the Scottish Funding Council, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Fintech Scotland, Edinburgh Innovations and the University of Edinburgh. During the course of 2019, strong initial engagement was achieved with Scotland's thriving digital sector, which included the successful participation of large corporations and early-stage companies within the innovation programme, and the launch of doctoral programmes focused on domains of national strategic importance, including fintech and cybersecurity.

Three promising young scaleup companies were also added to the EIT Digital Accelerator portfolio within the UK in 2019: webIO, Armadillo and Bloola. The United Kingdom Node also provided support to 35 non-UK scaleups seeking structured initial access to the large UK digital economy.

The Node devised and delivered a rich ongoing programme of events in London and Scotland which engaged stakeholders from all parts of the

EIT Digital ecosystem and the wider international digital economy.

OUTLOOK

Looking ahead into 2020, the United Kingdom Node will focus closely on building a deeper multi-faceted position within the UK's very large digital market by involving additional industrial partners across all of EIT Digital's strategic focus areas and launching further doctoral programmes in conjunction with its university partners.

During 2020, EIT Digital's United Kingdom Node continued to make rapid progress in engaging new participants from the industrial and academic sectors and working with economic development agencies at national level to advance EIT Digital's mission.

Silicon Valley HUB



The network of the EIT Digital Silicon Valley Hub was further expanded in 2019 by co-organising 25 events with a combined total of more than 1,000 participants. Public highlights included: the 'EU-US Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence', which was organised in collaboration with the official EU Delegation to the US; the 'Industrie 4.0 Startup Showcase' event that was embedded in a week-long programme for German startups in the context of the 'Year of German-American Friendship'; the 'Connect with Greece' event; and the 'Meet Latvia' event.

ECOSYSTEM

The local EIT Digital team led the launch of the EIT Hub Silicon Valley, expanding the local EIT Digital office into a cross-KIC presence. The EIT Hub Silicon Valley will represent EIT Digital, EIT Climate-KIC, EIT Food, EIT Health, and EIT Raw Materials initially.

The EIT Hub Silicon Valley stimulates stronger collaboration between the EIT Community and Silicon Valley by supporting European ventures with selling on the US market, attracting US students to the EIT KIC's entrepreneurial education programmes in Europe, providing a gateway to Europe for US-based organisations and facilitating joint open innovation initiatives.

ACCELERATION

The EIT Digital Accelerator supported 14 European scaleup companies with Access-to-Market services in Silicon Valley. Its renewed Silicon Valley Access-to-Market programme involves a dedicated network of well-connected local Access-to-Market champions as expert deal brokers, who introduce the EIT Digital Accelerator scaleups to US-based customers. The Silicon Valley Readiness Assessment, designed to ensure that the scaleup companies that are supported in their Access-to-Market efforts in the US have a realistic chance of achieving tangible success, is a key element of this model.

The deep hack concept that emerged from the EIT Digital Silicon Valley Hub has been increasingly deployed in Europe, with five deep hacks taking place in different countries, with different partners and for different focus areas.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

In education, the focus lies on the recruitment of US students into the EIT Digital European education programmes, especially the Master School and the Summer School, and the facilitation of transatlantic professional education programmes in collaboration with well-known US universities.

EIT Digital Silicon Valley Hub concentrated on creating new connections and fostering relationships with the University of California to develop strategic partnerships for both the EIT Digital Summer Schools and the Professional School.

Building on the accomplishments and the network of the EIT Digital Silicon Valley Hub, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) opened the EIT Hub Silicon Valley in 2019 as its first community hub outside of Europe. It is supporting European innovators to attract US customers, partners and investors by showcasing innovation made in Europe to the Silicon Valley innovation and education ecosystem.

ARISE Europe

ARISE Europe, EIT Digital's Regional Innovation Scheme (RIS) programme, supports growth in countries where EIT Digital does not have a Node present, by connecting local innovation and education ecosystems to EIT Digital and its core functions.

ECOSYSTEM

Twelve organisations from nine countries participated in the ARISE Europe programme in 2019 – two more than in 2018, now with Bulgaria and Romania. Attracted by the footprint created, seven more organisations joined EIT Digital beyond the RIS programme, bringing the total engagement from RIS countries to 19 by the end of year.

In June 2019, EIT Digital inaugurated the Braga Satellite. ARISE Europe organised 40 co-branded events across the RIS countries, engaging more than 2,100 participants, and amplified EIT Digital's impact through the production of four co-branded reports: the 'Portugal Startup Outlook 2019' report (with BGI); the 'Greek Startup Report 2019' and the 'Digital Transformation in Greece' report (with Foundation); and the 'Baltic Tech Scene' report (with ABC).

INNOVATION FACTORY

Launched in 2018, the Venture Programme is a two-stage competition for entrepreneurial teams from RIS countries. Winners receive support to develop their minimum viable product (MVP) and establish their venture.

In 2019, EIT Digital ran four regional editions, in cooperation with ABC, Found.ation, SWG and BGI, addressing the West and the East Balkans, the Baltics, Portugal and Malta. Out of the 187 entrants, 28 teams were selected, with 27 of them successfully advancing their MVP and incorporating their venture. By the end of 2019, four Venture Programme graduates had received additional funding from third party investors and five had undertaken their first proof of concept or pilot.

Together with the local collaborating organisations, ARISE Europe scouted out 152 scaleups, introduced 84 of them to the EIT Digital Accelerator and had six sign up to the Scale-up Support Agreement (SSA), bringing the total number of RIS countries' scaleups within the EIT Digital Accelerator portfolio to 12.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

Three Summer Schools were organised in 2019 (up from two in 2018), in Lisbon, Tallinn and Ljubljana – the latter being a new location. ARISE Europe financially supported 31 RIS students to participate in EIT Digital's Summer Schools. The promotion of the Master School resulted in 116 applications from RIS countries and 61 admitted students. In total, 110 RIS students attended the Master School courses in 2019, with 76 of them receiving a scholarship.

ARISE Europe worked systematically to engage RIS corporates with the EIT Digital portfolio of scaleups. The new Virtual Tech Market format – a curated match-making service between portfolio scaleups and corporates – produced 53 qualified corporate introductions, leading to ten corporate engagements.

Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Estonia Greece Latvia Lithuania Malta Poland Portugal Romania Slovakia Slovenia



COMMUNICATIONS

In 2019, the EIT Digital communication strategy was to develop engagement and impact amongst a series of key audiences, with the implementation of the new Strategic Innovation Agenda 2020 – 2022 being a prime focus.

The main drivers for the communication work over the year consisted of ecosystem and corporate, innovation and education perspectives.

The education perspective focuses on reinforcing European Union institutional stakeholders' awareness of EIT Digital's impact through media, social media, events and dedicated integrated programmes, and strengthening the relationship with existing partners of our ecosystem while supporting the recruitment of additional ones.

The main drivers of the innovation perspective consist of developing the visibility of the EIT Digital Accelerator scaleup programme, promoting a portfolio of scaleups through integrated success-storytelling campaigns, and supporting scaleup sourcing for new innovation activities. The education perspective focuses on promoting EIT Digital's Entrepreneurial Academy and supporting student and course participant recruitment. To achieve this ambition, the communication model shifted from a local approach to a project-based approach around a team made up of content leaders (ecosystem, innovation and education) and channel leaders (media, social media and events).

A more data-driven strategy has been implemented to support the outcome for key innovation and education programmes.

Our integrated approach last year resulted in 422 traditional media articles, a year-on-year increase of social media followers by 6% to 127,000 and 10% more visitors to the EIT Digital websites.

The EIT Digital 2020 call for innovation and education activities saw a 56% increase in applications. With a record number of 279 scaleups from 33 countries applying, the EIT Digital challenge achieved 40% annual growth.

The number of participants at our annual flagship event, the EIT Digital Annual Conference and Partner Event, reached 1,000.

In 2019, EIT Digital implemented the 'Makers & Shapers' programme, a series of videos featuring conversations between EIT Digital executives and thought leaders from industry or high-profile startups (the Makers), as well as political leaders from EU institutions and governments (the Shapers), to support the ambition of becoming the catalyst for a strong European ecosystem. EIT Digital also developed industry policy reports that generated great interest from key stakeholders and Brussels-based institutions.

The shift implemented in 2019 will continue in 2020 in order to support strong brand recognition. This will contribute to an increase in the number of partners, enrolment of even more students and the creation of a growing number of startups and ventures, aiming at global impact through European innovation, fueled by entrepreneurial talent and digital technology for a strong digital Europe.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Foster a workplace advocating diversity and Europeanisation to support the team's success in building a strong digital Europe.

2019 was another exciting journey for Human Resources at EIT Digital as it continues implementing the core HR processes to lead the organisation's transformation, enhancing focus on the quality of the key Human Resources' policies. Some of the most significant accomplishments and achievements are reported below.

One of the most notable success in 2019 has been the enhancement of the Performance Appraisal System that cascades strategic objectives with employee's personal work objectives.

EIT Digital's approach to performance management comprises three main steps: defining expectations and setting objectives at the beginning of the year, holding regular feedback conversations throughout and reviewing performance at the end.

EIT Digital introduced the HR self-service platform that allows employees to manage their own data, and that supports the digitisation of personnel files.

Throughout the year, EIT Digital's commitment to attracting and building talent with an intimate understanding of digital technologies has led to a diversified approach to talent acquisition, with a streamlined recruitment process and initiatives to position our organisation as an employer of choice.

EIT Digital is committed to an inclusive work culture that values the diversity of ideas, experience and background that are essential to building a strong digital Europe. EIT Digital strives to attract, develop and retain the best people from all cultures, countries, races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, beliefs, backgrounds and experiences.

EIT Digital has a diverse workforce with 30 per cent of female and 17 nationalities are represented fostering an inclusive

workplace across the generations, and 28% female in managerial roles.

Age	2019	STEM	Non-STEM	
		Education*		
Up to 39 years	29%	70%	30%	
40 - 49 years	39%			
Over 49 years	32%	* STEM: Science, Technology,		
		Engineering, and Mathematics		

In September 2019, EIT Digital celebrated Employee Day with approximately 130 people teaming up to show appreciation for the efforts and hard work of all the workforce.

OUTLOOK

2019 has seen many highlights and EIT Digital will continue into 2020 strengthening management and leadership capabilities, by developing a set of programmes around trainings, coaching and cross-function exposure, further progress in attracting women with deep technology skills and capabilities, developing a talent acquisition plan, and using development plans and learning opportunities to build competencies for current and future roles.

EIT Digital will continue exploring technology options for Human Resources that can help create efficiencies and streamlined processes, resulting in increasingly automated people management processes and empowering employees. As a learning organisation EIT Digital is committed to foster knowledge acquisition and continuous improvement.





The year 2019 was eventful for the EIT Digital Alumni Foundation. The community continued to grow and involve more engaged alumni than ever before, as shown by the increasing number and quality of events that took place around the continent. At the same time, the EIT Digital Alumni continue to provide support to EIT Digital and its educational programmes.

2019 was also marked by another successful Annual Alumni Meeting in Porto, Portugal, and the creation and election of new roles on the EIT Digital Alumni Board. The fact that 23 people applied for one of seven board positions demonstrates the incredible interest and engagement of our alumni. The Alumni Foundation continues to provide direct value to all its members, thanks to its local groups and other bottom-up initiatives.

The EIT Digital Alumni community has continued its stable growth, reaching almost 1,900 members. Aside from this overall increase of 27%, the foundation has seen an even bigger increase in full alumni (up 41%), thanks to active recruitment and participation in various events. For example, following the 2019 Graduation Ceremony, over 90% of graduates are now members of the EIT Digital Alumni Foundation.

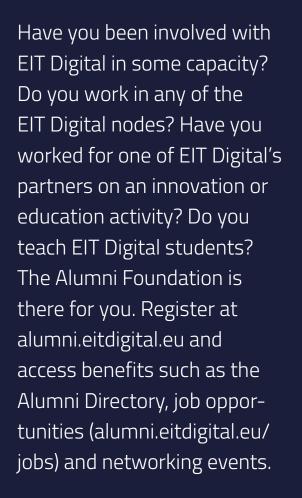
Online communication is a key aspect of the EIT Digital Alumni Foundation. In 2019, the Alumni Board placed an emphasis on the creation of more quality content for the website and newsletter. At the same time, the foundation managed to expand its reach and engagement on social media channels.

Volunteers are the cornerstone of the alumni community and it is exciting to see a steady increase in local working groups and other bottom-up initiatives.

To better structure the support and funding for such initiatives, a semesterly 'Working Group Survey' was introduced. Furthermore, a call was launched to form a working group for the organisation of the next Annual Alumni Meeting, with four quality applications brought forward by engaged alumni.

2019 was also the year of new Board elections and an expansion to seven members, strengthening the Board's work in IT, partnerships and outreach. For its 2019-2021 mandate, the Alumni Board will focus on the creation of a strategic framework ensuring sustainability of the foundation for the years to come. A great emphasis will be placed on community engagement, stakeholder relationships, Board support and community management, all jointly aiming to create value for the alumni and increase the quality of events and other initiatives. 2019 will be also remembered for the wide variety of events organised by the EIT Digital Alumni. From talks on an island close to Helsinki to a LoRaWAN workshop in Berlin, there was something for everyone. Furthermore, the alumni successfully organised their third Annual Alumni Meeting in Porto. This event gathered over 120 alumni for three days of talks, workshops, networking and more. Additionally, the alumni showcased their community on multiple occasions, both within and outside the EIT ecosystem.

None of this would have been possible without the work of all the dedicated volunteers involved in the Alumni Board, working groups and other initiatives. 2020 promises to be another great year with the next Annual Meeting taking place in the beautiful city of Split, and many more incredible events to come.



ALUMNI





FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2019 Business Plan was assigned to 173 partners that have reported costs against 124 Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) Activities. The Grant Agreement 2019 and associated Business Plan were signed on February 15th, 2019 for a total budget (KIC Added Value Activities and KIC Complementary Activities) of €329,939,199. The KAVA budget was estimated at €102,116,772 with a maximum EIT contribution of €78,017,213 or a single reimbursement rate of 80.4%.

This budget was the basis for the Internal Agreements Grant 2019 that were signed with the partners.

In September 2019, the Business Plan Addendum was submitted to EIT to reflect the evolution of the KIC Activities over the first eight months as reported by the partners in their budget change requests. This resulted in Amendment 1 of the Grant Agreement 2019 signed on December 20th 2019. These budgets (against which the reporting has taken place) were €329,939,199 for the total budget, €102,116,772 for the KAVA with a maximum EIT contribution of €78,017,214 or a single reimbursement rate of 76.4%.

The actuals over 2019 reported by the partners on March 31th 2019 are €328,812,556 or 99.7% of the overall budget, €95,447,441 or 93.5% of the KAVA budget and an EIT Request of €70,211,522 or 90.0% of the EIT Amended budget with a single reimbursement rate actual of 73.6%.



Area / Segment	EIT budget	KAVA budget	Total budget	EIT actual	KAVA actual	Total actual
1. Education	€ 17 580 862,00	€ 21 754 562,47	€ 45 140 179,47	€ 15 182 566,51	€ 19 322 709,27	€ 45 204 688,50
1.1 EIT Digital Master School (MSL)	€ 11 386 109,00	€ 14 244 206,81	€ 22 905 206,81	€ 10 279 349,00	€ 13 164 921,25	€ 24 295 908,16
1.2 EIT Digital Industrial Doctoral School (IDSL)	€ 1612487,50	€ 2 218 469,66	€ 3 357 376,66	€ 1 159 605,65	€ 1 668 168,58	€ 2 682 805,58
1.3. EIT Digital Professional School (PSL)	€ 1422325,50	€ 1 809 196,00	€ 13 934 906,00	€ 1 166 831,90	€ 1 574 865,53	€ 13 808 857,03
1.4. EIT Digital Summer School (SSC)	€ 1567690,00	€ 1811540,00	€ 3 271 540,00	€ 1459599,83	€ 1 733 775,11	€ 3 236 138,93
1.5 Education Development Support (EDS)	€ 1 592 250,00	€ 1 671 150,00	€ 1671150,00	€ 1 117 180,13	€ 1 180 978,80	€ 1 180 978,80
2. Innovation and Research		€ 56 949 403,99	€ 260 146 366,99	€ 35 531 825,24	€ 55 993 971,09	€ 262 290 152,61
2.1 TEC (Digital Tech)	€ 6 522 017,50		€ 46 394 568,54		€ 10 015 313,75	
2.2 IND (Digital Industry)	€ 8661217,60		€ 64 975 470,55		€ 13 629 756,75	€ 69 072 405,52
2.3 WEL (Digital Wellbeing)	€ 6 645 310,50	€ 9 629 983,40	€ 47 523 652,40	€ 6 417 760,21	€ 9 657 796,07	€ 47 876 615,04
2.4 CTS (Digital Cities)	€ 9 218 035,65	€ 13 698 543,75	€ 65 685 874,75		€ 13 458 111,94	€ 64 550 338,32
2.5 FIN (Digital Finance)	€ 5 267 442,66	€ 7 951 267,75	€ 33 855 800,75	€ 4 968 928,79	€ 7877231,06	€ 33 417 414,52
2.6 IDS (Innovation Development Support)	€ 1711000,00	€ 1 711 000,00	€ 1711000,00	€ 1 355 761,52	€ 1 355 761,52	€ 1 355 761,52
3. Entrepreneurship	€ 6 061 688,50	€ 6 061 938,50	€ 6 061 938,50	€ 5 317 702,95	€ 5 321 870,81	€ 5 321 870,81
3.1 ACC (Accelerator)	€ 4 721 688,50	€ 4 721 938,50	€ 4 721 938,50	€ 4 180 017,28	€ 4 180 652,22	€ 4 180 652,22
3.2 IBD (Industry Business Development)	€ 1 340 000,00	€ 1 340 000,00	€ 1 340 000,00	€ 1 137 685,67	€ 1 141 218,59	€ 1 141 218,59
4 Management	€ 10 586 884,08	€ 10 918 634,08	€ 11 418 634,08	€ 9 015 426,97	€ 9 378 863,67	€ 9825971,71
4.1 MGT (KIC Management)	€ 4 296 000,00	€ 4 296 000,00	€ 4 296 000,00	€ 3 913 188,58	€ 3 913 188,58	€ 3913188,58
4.2 CLI (Nodes and CLCs)	€ 6 290 884,08	€ 6 622 634,08	€ 7 122 634,08	€ 5 102 238,39	€ 5 465 675,09	€ 5912783,13
5 Communication, Dissemination and Outreach	€ 1 483 550,00	€ 1 483 550,00	€ 1 483 550,00	€ 1 448 931,36	€ 1 448 931,36	€ 1448931,36
5.1 MKT (Communications, Dissemination and Outreach)	€ 1483550,00	€ 1 483 550,00	€ 1483550,00	€ 1448931,36	€ 1448931,36	€ 1448931,36
6. EIT RIS	€ 2 976 539,00	€ 3 122 998,25	€ 3 122 998,25	€ 2 734 448,95	€ 2 894 113,40	€ 2894113,40
6.1 Engaging RIS players	€ 2 483 266,00	€ 2 537 829,50	€ 2 537 829,50	€ 2 273 735,56	€ 2 328 722,01	€ 2 328 722,01
6.2 Mobilising RIS networks	€ 493 273,00	€ 585 168,75	€ 585 168,75	€ 460 713,39	€ 565 391,39	€ 565 391,39
7. Cross-KIC	€ 1 302 666,75	€ 1 825 684,75	€ 2 565 531,75	€ 980 620,70	€ 1 086 981,83	€ 1826828,33
Cross-KIC CLC Consolidation	€ 2 000,00	€ 2 000,00	€ 2 000,00	€ -	€ -	€ -
Cross-KIC Common Outreach	€ 255 000,00	€ 255 000,00	€ 255 000,00	€ 176 212,94	€ 176 212,94	€ 176 212,94
Cross-KIC EIT RIS	€ 30 000,00	€ 30 000,00	€ 30 000,00	€ 10 550,81	€ 10 550,81	€ 10 550,81
Cross-KIC Human Capital	€ 468 823,75	€ 986 841,75	€ 1726688,75	€ 386 120,68	€ 492 481,81	€ 1 232 328,31
EIT House	€ 546 843,00	€ 551 843,00	€ 551 843,00	€ 407 736,27	€ 407 736,27	€ 407 736,27
Grand Total	€ 78 017 214,24	€102 116 772,04	€ 329 939 199,04	€ 70 211 522,68	€ 95 447 441,43	€ 328812556,72

OUTLOOK

While writing this section, we are experiencing the unprecedented world-wide COVID-19 crisis. This will have an effect on our organization and our Business Plan 2020 activities, although it is too early to say what the concrete impact will be. Our first priority is the health of the people, second is the mitigation of the impact. As EIT Digital we are able to work remotely and move a significant part of our activities on-line. However, this will not take away the fact that in areas such as Accelerator, Venture Program, student recruitment, summer and professional schools our activities are suffering from the current crisis situation.

The motto of our Business Plan 2020 is "Include and Succeed", which is truer than ever under the current circumstances. This is the first business plan implementing the EIT Digital Strategic Innovation Agenda 2020-2022 "For a strong digital Europe". It outlines our strategy for the coming years, driven by impact and value creation, as well as our sustainability strategy, focusing on diversification of financing and revenue generation. Business Plan 2020 sets ambitious goals when it comes to ecosystem expansion, delivery from innovation activities, growth of our venture portfolio, student intake, impact and sustainability. In this way EIT Digital is contributing to a strong digital Europe by building European digital innovations with global impact and by attracting and educating digital talent for Europe.

2020 is also a special year for EIT Digital, as we are celebrating our tenth anniversary after having officially been established in 2010. We had planned a couple of specific activities to celebrate this anniversary, amongst others related to our annual conference and partner event. It is too early to estimate the impact of the current crisis, but we will find the right way to commemorate our ten years of existence.



2 0 1 0 - 2 0 2 0 CELEBRATE INNOVATION

ECOSYSTEM

In 2020 our ambition is to further expand our ecosystem. A new satellite will be opened in Antwerp in our Benelux Node and at least one and maybe more additional satellites are expected to open in the RIS countries, most likely the Baltics, Eastern Europe and Southern Europe.

The new Antwerp Satellite will allow



EIT Digital to deepen the connections with the Flemish innovation ecosystem and to intensify our connection with the region which with the port of Antwerp is an important logistics hub. Supported by the Antwerp Municipality, the Port of Antwerp, various business partners, and the University of Antwerp, the Satellite will deploy activities concentrated in our Digital Cities and Digital Industry strategic areas. The Satellite will be hosted in The Beacon, an innovation community hub focused on smart cities, mobility, logistics and industry.

The envisaged establishment of one or more satellites in the RIS countries is aimed at further strengthening our activities in those countries. While we see an increase in participation from the RIS countries in our activities through our education and venture programs, we also notice that the presence of a satellite can give a significant boost.

Next to the regular community building carried out by our Node teams, we attract partners via events, media and showcasing of our results and impact. Our annual call for proposals, our Venture Program, our EIT Digital Challenge, our student recruitment; all these are contributing to the expansion of our community. Although some of this work is hampered by the current crisis measures, we nevertheless expect to further grow our community. Global outreach of the EIT and KICs has gradually developed in 2019 through the EIT Hub in San Francisco, that also strengthens the impact of our EIT Digital Hub, and the new EIT Hub in Tel Aviv, that enables closer connections between the EIT KICs and the vibrant ecosystem in Israel. Further expansion into China is expected in 2020, although the current pandemic may slow this down. This global outreach of the EIT and the KICs is the next step in worldwide recognition and impact of European innovation and entrepreneurship.

"Include and Succeed."

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Our 2020 innovation and entrepreneurship activities are concentrated around our Innovation Factory, focusing on innovation through product, service, and venture creation; our Accelerator, focusing on scaleups; our DeepHacks, focusing on specific challenge driven innovation; and our RIS Venture Program, focusing on venture stand-up. These four innovation instruments are increasingly integrated to cover the stand-up, start-up, and scale-up of innovations in a venture like way. Sustainability from these instruments is driven by a combination of income generation through services (Accelerator, DeepHack), building an equity portfolio (Innovation Factory, Venture Program) and finally to a lesser extent by means on Return on Investment (RoI) from products and services resulting from our Innovation Factory.

Our Innovation Factory is focusing on the five strategic focus areas of our Strategic Innovation Agenda. In 2020 there will be 54 innovation activities generating 70 products and services, as well as 26 ventures. To get a flavour of the kind of activities that will be carried out, we provide an example from each of our strategic areas.

Digital Cities innovation activity EZY-CRD-GO enables real-time crowd steering to guide people out of large events safely (e.g. football matches, festivals). It measures crowd flows using Wi-Fi monitoring combined with Internet of Things (IoT) lighting guidance systems, while artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms are used to predict crowd movements. The Activity will create a startup to bring the solution to the market; first customers include leading exhibition facilities like Fiera Milano and Fiera Como in Italy.

Digital Industry innovation activity TAKEOFF for Future Intelligent Industries develops a Digital Twin simulation platform to design, to build and operate the industrial plants of the future. The activity is a nice example of "no innovation without education" since it also aims at upskilling the industrial workforce by leveraging the results of an EIT Digital professional school course launched in 2019.

The Digital Finance SELF / NO CHECKOUT innovation activity offers the easiest way to pay in physical stores: thanks to computer vision, tokenization and device recognition solutions, customers are able to collect their products instore and leave the shop without having to perform a physical transaction. The solution will be brought to the market by leading payment solution providers and sold to more than 30,000 stores in Europe.

The Digital Tech innovation activity I-Fly will provide a secure platform for collecting, storing, processing and analysing drone sensor data. The solution allows to handle and analyse large amount of data (including images and video streams) collected during Unmanned Aerial Vehicle flights and will be deployed for use cases related to construction, agriculture and industry.

Digital Wellbeing innovation activity Wearable Intelligent Sensing produces a device to provide real-time body physiology feedback through the chemical analysis of sweat. It allows a continuous control of the fitness level and minimizes health risks for athletes and sport practitioners. Pilot user will be the Swedish Olympic Committee that will test the minimum viable product with its athletes.

In 2020 we run four so-called AAA activities, Pay-with-a-Smile in Digital Finance, Last-Mile-Autonomous Delivery in Digital Cities, Secure Control of Ubiquitous Technology in Digital Tech and Combating Child Obesity in Digital Wellbeing, the latter in collaboration with EIT Health. An additional AAA activity will be set up in Digital Industry.

Our EIT Digital Accelerator will consolidate its operations by signing up 35 new scaleups bringing the total number of supported scaleups in 2020 to 75. Specific measures will be taken to increase the revenues from our Accelerator, especially when it comes to income generation from access to finance and access to market services. Intake of high quality high potential scaleups is key, and improved scouting and selection will be an important part of the improvement actions. Part of this is to further finetune the annual Challenge that contributes a lot to the visibility and recognition of our Accelerator. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 crisis will have a serious impact on scaleups and thus on the results of our Accelerator in 2020. We are putting a whole range of contingency measures in place to mitigate this impact as much as possible and to support our scaleups the best we can.

Our Venture Program will further scale up in 2020 by organizing five rounds. We expect an increase in applications and adjusted the program to better address the early stage financing of the created ventures. Here as well, we have to deal with the COVID-19 impact. Events are moved to online as much as possible and other measures are taken to reduce the crisis impact.

In 2020 we will continue our DeepHacks with an ambition to run six instances. Unfortunately, the crisis does not allow us to run them in the first half of the year. We are investigating the possibilities of online versions and will surely experiment with this during the year. Although hampered by the current crisis, we nevertheless focus on the sustainability of our DeepHack by increasing income from the events. While writing this, we are launching a special online DeepHack with the theme "DATA against COVID-19", focusing on data driven solutions for epidemic and pandemic lifecycle management.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY

After several measures taken to improve the operational excellence and sustainability of our education programs, 2020 will see a focus on growth and operational excellence for our Master School and Industrial Doctoral School and sustainability for our Summer School and Professional School. Unfortunately, also in our education activities we face serious impact of the COVID-19 crisis, such as recruitment for especially the Master School, as well as cancelations of physical Professional School courses at least before the summer, and likely impact on the execution of the Summer Schools.

With a foreseen intake of 600 students, the ambitions for our Master School are high. The blended Master School programs now show their value during the COVID-19 crisis, since they allow to enrol in our Master School while doing the first semester online. It goes without saying that the current crisis accelerates the development of the blended programs and we are discussing with our university partners how to speed up the deployment of blended programs for the 2020 – 2021 entries to address possible travel restrictions that still may be there in the second half of 2020. With respect to the students that are in their second year and starting their internships, additional efforts will be made to further integrate our education and innovation activities by having an increasing number of students doing their internship in the context of our innovation activities.

For our Industrial Doctoral School, we aim to recruit 50 industrial doctorates into our expanding network of industrial doctoral training centres. New doctoral training centres are foreseen in Amsterdam, the UK and Belgium. These training centres are aligned with our strategic focus areas and closer collaboration between our industrial doctorates and our innovation activities is a priority.

Ambitions to increase revenues from

the Professional School and Summer School are severely hampered by the current COVID-19 crisis. The Professional School is already directly affected by the travel and meeting restrictions in all European countries. The impact on the Summer Schools is not fully clear yet and alternative ways of executing them are explored.

Next to our schools the recruitment of post masters to strengthen the integration of innovation and education will continue as well as the deployment of MOOCs via our collaboration with Coursera. Our MOOCs remain an important outlet, whose importance is only increasing in the current crisis.

CONCLUSION

For all and foremost 2020 will be the vear of the COVID-19 pandemic. This crisis has touched the lives of almost all citizens on earth. The social and economic effects are enormous, and the crisis and its aftermath will have a long-lasting impact. Although it is too early to tell what exactly the impact on EIT Digital will be, it is clear that the EIT Digital Business Plan 2020 and 2021 will be affected by this crisis. In hindsight the motto "Include and Succeed" of our BP2020 could not have been chosen better. As a community we will team up and include everyone to jointly succeed in overcoming this crisis. EIT Digital has shown during the ten years of its existence to be a strong, vibrant, productive, impactful pan-European community. And if there are two things that we learn from this crisis, then it is that innovation and disruptive approaches are key to address difficult challenges; and, second that digital technology has proven to be a powerful tool to keep major parts of our society and economy going. A strong digital Europe is all about including and succeeding!

I want to thank all of you for your efforts. I am impressed how swiftly we as an organization were able to respond to the crisis and how quickly we could move many of our vital processes and events online. I am thankful for the commitment of all of you to help EIT Digital, our partners, our students, our entrepreneurs, our vulnerable ventures through these difficult times. We will do whatever it takes to mitigate the impact of this crisis on our work and our results. And one thing is sure, when this crisis is over, we will be in an even more digital world than we are today. A world that will even more need our community to deliver on digital innovations, talent, skills, and entrepreneurship.

Where normally I meet many of you during my travels to our locations and events, now I meet even more of you online. More than ever I see how this crisis fuels the drive, commitment, and energy that makes our organization so successful. Once again a big thanks to all of you. Stay safe, keep doing the great work, and take care of each other.

WILLEM JONKER CEO EIT DIGITAL

MANAGEMENT **COMMITTEE**



- Top row:(From left) Willem Jonker, CEO; Vanessa Perez, Head of Communications; Guillaume Toublanc, Node DirectorFrance; Chahab Nastar, Chief Research & Innovation Officer; Eric Thelen, Silicon Valley Hub Director, 2019.
- Middle row: (From left) Göran Olofsson, Node Director Sweden; Diva Tommei, Node Director Italy; Morgan Gillis, Node Director United Kingdom; Fabio Pianesi, Head of External Collaboration; Arnaud Delmarcelle, Chief Finance and Operations Officer.
- Bottom row: (From left) Jesus Contreras, Node Director Spain; Lea Myyryläinen, Node Director Finland; Roberto Prieto, Chief Education Officer; László Gulyás, Node Director Hungary; Clarisse Ndjel-Porchet, Head of Human Resources; Patrick Essers, Node Director Benelux.

SUPERVISORY **BOARD**

Chairman of the Supervisory Board Linnar Viik, GLOCL Ltd

Independent Board Members

Brigitte Zypries, Former Minister of Economy and Energy Germany Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl, Director-General of technology industry association DIGITALEUROPE Clara Neppel, Senior Director of the IEE European Office Katrin Geyskens, Capricorn Partners Node Representative Board Members Berlin Guido Stephan, Siemens Budapest Zoltan Horvath, Eötvös Loránd University Eindhoven Serge Beniers, Bright Cape Helsinki Hannu Kauppinen, Nokia London Graham Reeve, British Telecom Madrid Alberto López-Oleaga, Ferrovial Paris Bruno Sportisse, Inria Stockholm Jan Gulliksen, KTH Trento Flavio Deflorian, University of Trento

EIT DIGITAL PARTNERS

EIT Digital is a leading European organisation for a strong digital Europe. By bringing together a partnership of 278 top European corporations, SMEs, startups, universities, cities and research institutes, EIT Digital invests in strategic areas to accelerate market uptake of research-based digital technologies and to bring entrepreneurial talent and leadership to Europe.

Α

Aalto University ABB Oy ABC Accelerator Abstract SRL Achmea Insurance Achmea Risk Insurance ActiveEon AGS Alcatel-Lucent International Alfstore Alkit Alter Way Amey UK Amiko Apptension Apsys Artefacto ATC ATC Greece

ATOS audEERING AV Living Lab

В

Babcock Marine Rosyth Bestmile SA BGI Bicore Bittium BME Bookit Bookit Finland Bosch - Engineering Center Budapest Bosch Security Systems Bright Cape Bright Cape Holding British Steel British Telecommunications PLC BT Italia

C

Campden Canon Production Printing Cap Digital CEA CEFRIEL Ci3 City, University of London CityDefend Limited CNR Comau Consultora de Telecomunicaciones Optiva Media SL Copsonic Coventry University Enterprises CPCardio Cresset Biomolecular Discovery Curamatik

D

Data-Moove Datacon Datacon BSS Solutions Degetel Demetrix Digital Catapult DroneMatrix DTx Colab Dynasec NL

E

E-Group EIT Digital Alumni Foundation Electrolux ELTE ELTE-Soft **Emu Analytics** ENGIE Engineering Enigio Eole Eyes Ericsson Hungary Espoo Marketing Eurapco Eurecom evopro InnovationExpert System Exprivia EY Netherlands

F

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ResilTech RIoT Secure RISE ROBOTICS CARE Rulex Innovation Labs

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ValidSoft Viewport Studio VividWorks Voxpass VTT VTT Ventures

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ABOUT **EIT DIGITAL**

EIT Digital is a leading European digital innovation and entrepreneurial education organisation driving Europe's digital transformation.

EIT Digital delivers breakthrough digital innovations to the market and breeds entrepreneurial talent for economic growth and improved quality of life in Europe. It does this by mobilising a pan-European ecosystem of over 270 top European corporations, SMEs, startups, universities and research institutes.

EIT Digital supports the members of its pan-European ecosystem to be effective in today's complex open innovation ecosystems in order to address some of their specific innovation needs related to digital innovation and education. Examples include finding the right partners to bring technology to the market, supporting the scale-up of digital technology ventures, attracting talent and developing their digital knowledge and skills.

EIT Digital is focused on entrepreneurship and is at the forefront of integrating education, research and business by bringing together students, researchers, engineers, business developers and entrepreneurs. This is done in our pan-European network of Co-Location Centres in Berlin, Budapest, Eindhoven, Helsinki, London, Madrid, Paris, Stockholm and Trento. We also have a hub in Silicon Valley.

Since its launch, EIT Digital has equipped more than 2,280 students with the skills to innovate and become entrepreneurs. EIT Digital has supported more than 370 startups and scaleups to grow internationally, created more

than 180 new ventures and launched more than 430 products and services commercially.

EIT Digital continues to build on these strong achievements and in the coming years will focus on further increasing the global impact of European actors in the digital world. EIT Digital will do so by selecting and growing the most promising European digital technology from its ecosystem and beyond, and by supporting the attraction and education of necessary digital talent. This will be based on a gradual further growth of the ecosystem and the innovation and education activities.

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