Digital Europe: presentation

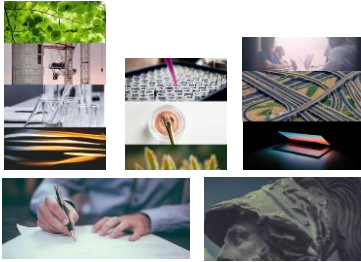EuroGeographics webinar series

27/01/2022

Julie Signoret / Consultant

Who are we?

Shed light on your innovation choices to imagine and build the future

Creating value through innovation

Large sectorial coverage

Our team: 30 consultants at your service

Paris \ Rennes \ Lyon \ New-York

A recognized professionalism

CIR \ OPQCM \ experts Bpifrance, Europe \ Training organization

35 years of existence

Our values

Intellectual honesty \ Fulfilment of commitments \ Agility \ Team spirit \ Work/life balance

Our customers: all stakeholders in innovation ecosystems

Companies \ Academic world \ Support networks \ Public authorities

They trust us
Driving forces of innovation

Companies

Start-up & interfaces

Academic research

Public authorities

Shed light on your innovation choices to imagine and build the future

Creating value through innovation

ANTICIPATE
Set-up your strategy

- Strategy, prospective
- Market study, sector study
- Ideation

ACT
Implement your projects

- Set-up and management of projects
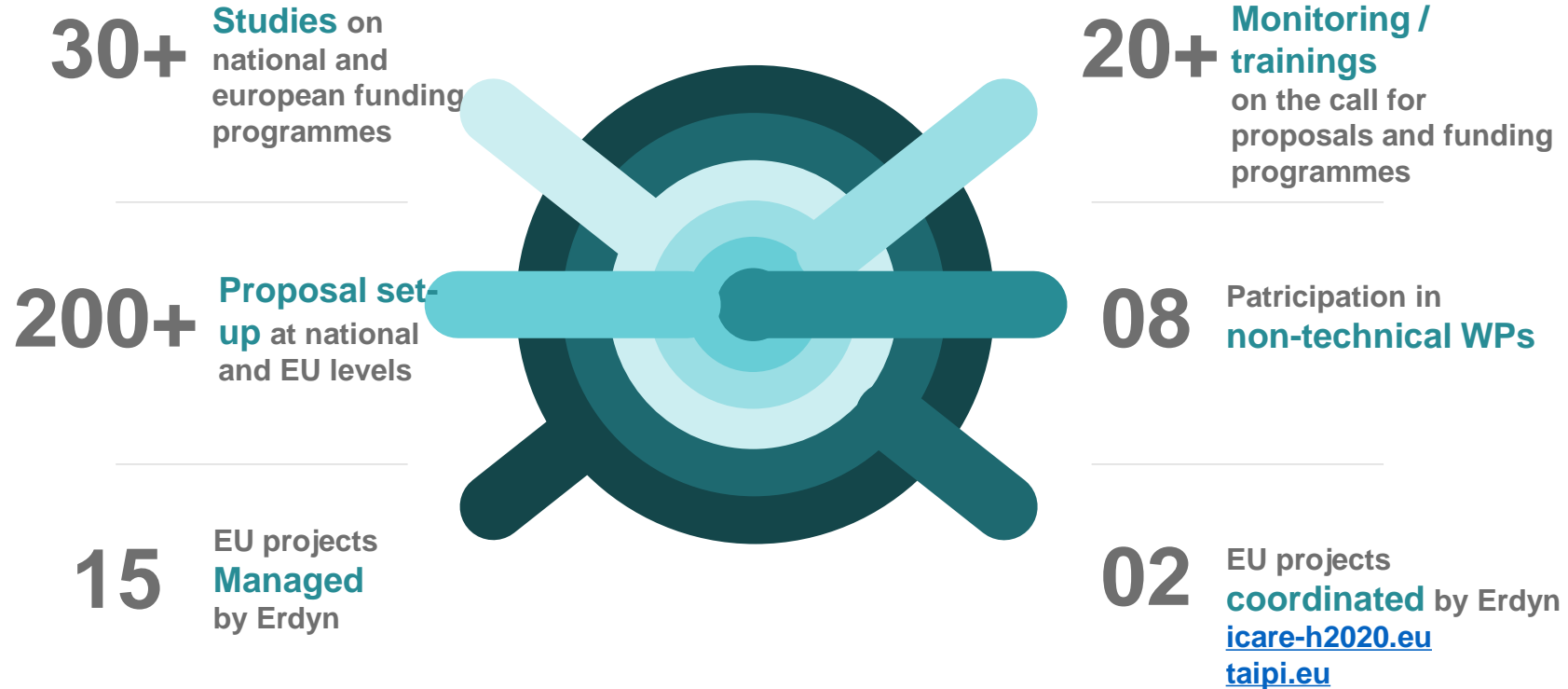- Scouting
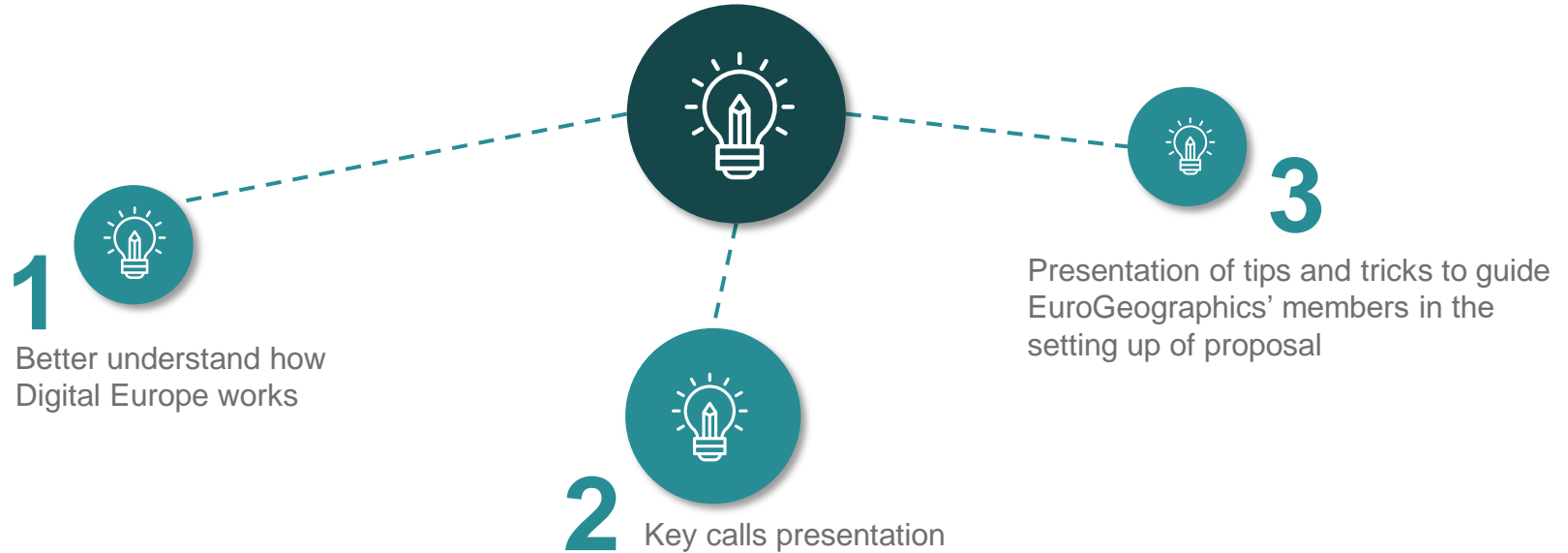- Externalized R&D

ASSESS
Evaluate your achievements

- R&D project assessment
- Due diligence
- Public R&I policies assessment

Long lasting experience and track record on national and European funding

Several services for different research and innovation actors

30+ **Studies** on national and european funding programmes

20+ **Monitoring / trainings** on the call for proposals and funding programmes

200+ **Proposal set-up** at national and EU levels

08 Patricipation in **non-technical WPs**

15 EU projects **Managed** by Erdyn

02 EU projects **coordinated** by Erdyn **icare-h2020.eu taipi.eu**

Objectives of the presentation

1 Better understand how Digital Europe works

2 Key calls presentation

3 Presentation of tips and tricks to guide EuroGeographics' members in the setting up of proposal

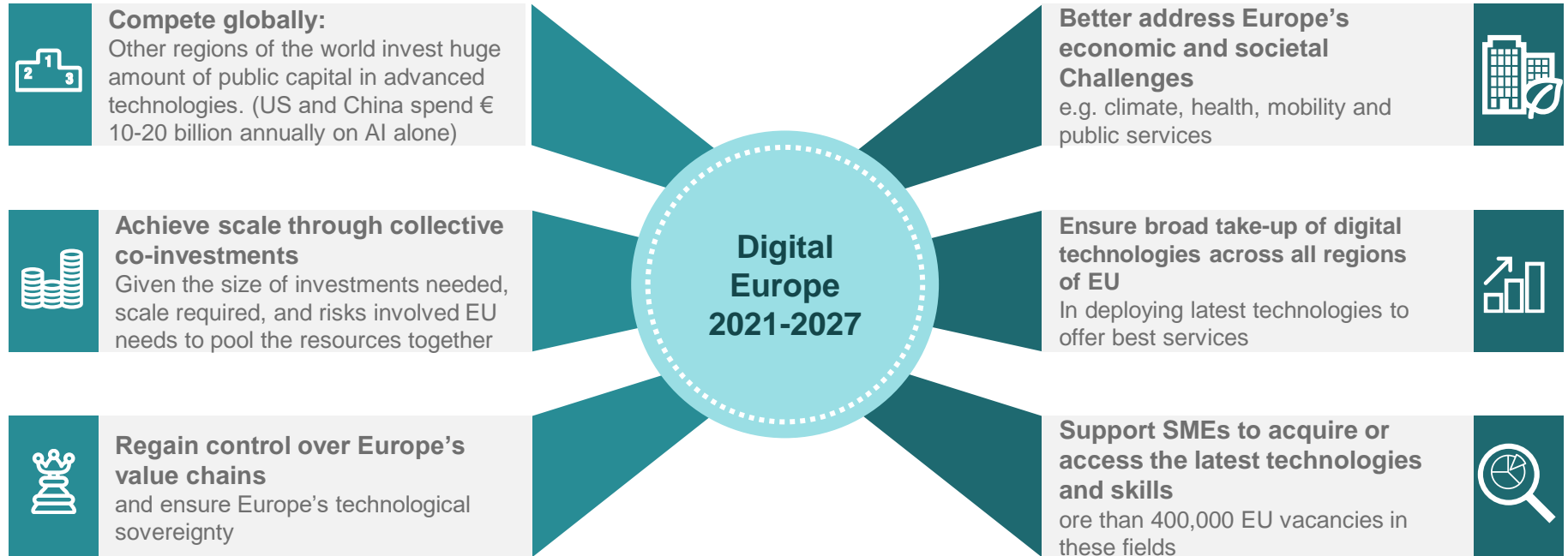**Digital Europe – presentation of the programme**

Positionning with other EU programme

Digital Europe is complementary to other programmes with investments in digital

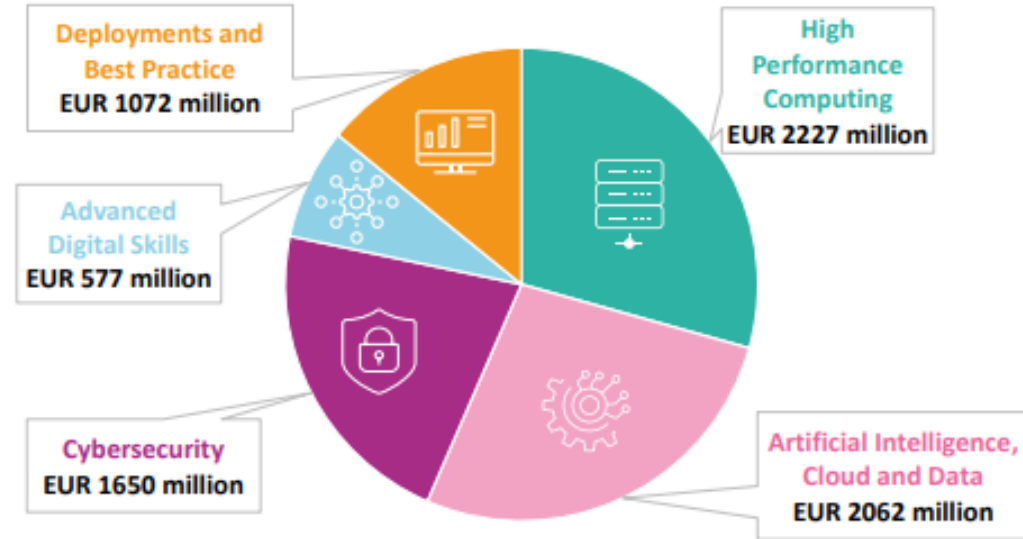| EU-wide collective effort					National regional and local			Financial instrument
Horizon Europe	Digital Europe	CEF	Creative Europe	Health	Cohesion	Agriculture Funds	RRF	InvestEU
Research Innovation	Strategic capacities: computing, data, testbeds, etc. Advanced digital skills EU-Wide deployment	Broadband and 5G roll out Connecting Communities	Creative industry Media	Telemedicine eHDSI	Digital connectivity in white and grey areas Support to enterprises in line with Smart specialisation Digital skills for all citizens	Making use of Big Data for CAP monitoring Broadband rollout in rural areas	Connect Scale-up Modernise Reskill and Upskill 20% digital	Leverage private capital for investments in SMEs, research, digital, infrastructure, skills...

Digital Europe

Main objective: aims to support the digital transformation of the European economy and society

Compete globally:
Other regions of the world invest huge amount of public capital in advanced technologies. (US and China spend € 10-20 billion annually on AI alone)

Achieve scale through collective co-investments
Given the size of investments needed, scale required, and risks involved EU needs to pool the resources together

Regain control over Europe's value chains
and ensure Europe's technological sovereignty

Digital Europe 2021-2027

Better address Europe's economic and societal Challenges
e.g. climate, health, mobility and public services

Ensure broad take-up of digital technologies across all regions of EU
In deploying latest technologies to offer best services

Support SMEs to acquire or access the latest technologies and skills
ore than 400,000 EU vacancies in these fields

Digital Europe

A new programme dedicated to digital transformation

- **Objective:** aims to support the digital transformation of the European economy and society

- **Budget:** €7.5 billion in total for 5 areas

- **Eligibility:** Legal entities established in a Member State or a European Free Trade Association (EFTA) country; eligibility criteria regarding the type and composition of the consortium may vary depending on the calls for proposals.

- **Type of projects:** research & development and innovation activities, as well as the design and delivery of specialised programmes and traineeships for future experts in key capacity areas like data and AI, cybersecurity, Advanced digital skills and High Performance Computing

Deployments and Best Practice
EUR 1072 million

High Performance Computing
EUR 2227 million

Advanced Digital Skills
EUR 577 million

Cybersecurity
EUR 1650 million

Artificial Intelligence, Cloud and Data
EUR 2062 million

Digital Europe: work-programme

Different work-programmes

High-performance computing

- Independent annual work programme
- Adopted by the EuroHPC JU Governing Board

Artificial intelligence, Data and Cloud

- In the "main" work programme, covering two years
- Adopted and managed by the Commission

Cybersecurity

- Independent work programme
- It will be managed by ECCC, but for the moment is with DG CNECT

Execption

- Quantum communication infrastructure – QCI which is covered in the "main" work programme

Advanced digital skills

- In the "main" work programme, covering two years
- Adoption by Commission of 2021-
- Managed by HaDEA

Deployments

- In the "main" work programme, covering two years
- Adopted by the Commission
- Mainly managed by HaDEA

European digital innovation hubs

- Independent work programme covering three years
- Managed by DG CNECT

Digital Europe: work-programme

Different work-programmes

Main Work-programme

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Main Work-programme actions

❯ **Type of actions:**

\ **Simple Grants:** The Simple Grants are **a flexible type** of action used by a large variety of topics and can cover most activities. The consortium **will mostly use personnel costs** to implement action tasks, activities with third parties (subcontracting, financial support, purchase) are possible but should be limited. **(Funding rate: 50% of total eligible costs for all beneficiaries)**

\ **Procurement: T**he main goal of the action and thus most of the costs consist of **buying goods or services and/or subcontracting** tasks. **Personnel costs should be limited** in this type of action; they are used to manage the grant, coordinate between the beneficiaries and prepare the procurement. (**Funding rate: 50% of total eligible costs for all beneficiaries)**

\ **CSA: Small type of action** to promote cooperation and/or provide support to EU policies (Coordination between different actors for standardisation, dissemination, awareness-raising and communication, networking, coordination or support services, policy dialogues and mutual learning exercises and studies, including design studies for new infrastructure. CSA may also include complementary activities of strategic planning, networking and coordination between programmes in different countries. (**Funding rate: 100% of eligible costs).**

❯ **Calls planned:**

\ 1st call ➔ Q4 2021 – Q1 2022 ➔ submission on the 22/02/2022 (calls here)

\ 2nd call ➔ Q1 2022 – Q2 2022 ➔ Not published

\ 3rd call ➔ Q3 2022 ➔ Q4 2022 ➔ Not published

Digital Europe: work-programme
Focus on artificial intelligence, data and cloud

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DATA AND CLOUD

Data spaces	Support to Data Spaces	Cloud to Edge	AI-on-demand platform	Testing and Experimentation facilities

Data spaces
- **Greendeal**
- **Smart communities**
- **Mobility**
- Manufacturing
- **Agriculture**
- Health
- Media
- Finance
- Skills
- Languages
- Public administrations
- Tourism

Support to Data Spaces
- Support centre
- **Open Data Portal**
- **High Value Data Sets**

Cloud to Edge
- Smart Middleware
- Large scale for cloud-to-edge based services solutions
- Market places for services

AI-on-demand platform
- Central access point to AI resources

Testing and Experimentation facilities
- Manufacturing
- Health
- Agri-food
- SCC
- Edge AI HW

ADVANCED DIGITAL SKILLS

Design and implement master classes	Traineeships In key capacity areas	Trainings in advanced technologies	Digital skills platform	Digital transformation of Education

DEPLOYMENT AND BEST USE OF TECHNOLOGIES

Green deal	Block chain	European Digital Government eco system	Enhancing Confidence in Digital transformation

Digital Europe: work-programme

Focus on artificial intelligence, data and cloud

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DATA AND CLOUD

Of interest for Eurogeographics

Data spaces	Support to Data Spaces	Cloud to Edge	AI-on-demand platform	Testing and Experimentation facilities
• **Greendeal** • Media • **Smart communities** • Finance • **Mobility** • Skills • Manufacturing • Languages • **Agriculture** • Public administrations • Health • Tourism	• Support centre • **Open Data Portal** • **High Value Data Sets**	• Smart Middleware • Large scale for cloud-to-edge based services solutions • Market places for services	• Central access point to AI resources	• Manufacturing • Health • Agri-food • SCC • Edge AI HW

ADVANCED DIGITAL SKILLS

To be folowed

Design and implement master classes	Traineeships In key capacity areas	Trainings in advanced technologies	Digital skills platform	Digital transformation of Education

DEPLOYMENT AND BEST USE OF TECHNOLOGIES

Green deal	Block chain	European Digital Government eco system	Enhancing Confidence in Digital transformation

Eligibility conditions

- **In order to be eligible, participants must be:**

Legal entities – public or private body

And

Established in a EU member states (including overseas territories)

Or

Eligible non-EU country (Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Israel, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine, Moldova)

➔ *It might evolve*

Some topics may restrict the participation to entities established in MS and Associated countries

Digital Europe – Focus on key calls

DIGITAL-2021-CLOUD-AI-01-PREP-SMART-COMM: Preparatory actions for the data space for smart communities

DIGITAL-2021-CLOUD-AI-01-PREP-SMART-COMM: Preparatory actions for the data space for smart communities	
Deadline	22/02/2021
TRL	n/a
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	Budget per project: 1M Funding rate: CSA - 100%
Topics	Data, twin digital, green transition, green deal, local data ecosystems
The action will contribute to the definition of the technical infrastructure for data sharing across relevant domains (in particular, traffic, electricity, pollution, urban infrastructure, extreme weather events, water and waste management, etc.) in order to create cross-domain innovation and move towards the Green transition in each local context. The data space will offer data related to several critical city infrastructures such as energy supply and consumption, water management, waste management, traffic information, etc. which could then be exposed to vulnerabilities and impact EU public order.	
More information	Website for the call for proposals

DIGITAL-2021-CLOUD-AI-01-PREP-DS-MOB: Data space for mobility

DIGITAL-2021-CLOUD-AI-01-PREP-DS-MOB: Data space for mobility	
Deadline	22/02/2022
TRL	n/a
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	Total budget: 8M Budget per project: 4M Funding rate: CSA - 100%
Topics	Data, mobility, data infrastructures, mobility, transport
The objective of this call is to contribute to the further development of the common European Mobility data space. The specific aim is to support the creation of a technical infrastructure combined with governance mechanisms that will facilitate easy, cross-border access to key data resources in this area. The expected outcomes are: 1. An inventory of existing platforms sharing data relevant for mobility 2. An analysis regarding gaps and overlaps of data, and identifying potential common building blocks, feeding into the Commission preparatory work establishing the mobility data space	
More information	Website for the call of proposals

DIGITAL-2021-CLOUD-AI-01-PREP-DS-GREEN-DEAL: Preparatory actions for the Green Deal Data Space

DIGITAL-2021-CLOUD-AI-01-PREP-DS-GREEN-DEAL: Preparatory actions for the Green Deal Data Space	
Deadline	22/02/2022
TRL	n/a
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	Budget per project: 2M Funding rate: CSA - 100%
Topics	Data, environment, green deal, High Value Datasets

The goal of this open call is to establish a data governance mechanism, with a detailed roadmap on how the data space should progressively develop into a pan-European Green Deal data space, by connecting EU programmes, national, regional and local data ecosystems at the EU level."
The expected outcomes are:
1. A sustainable data governance scheme as well as a blueprint that connects existing national, regional and local data ecosystems and enables public and private stakeholders to access relevant data
2. A priority list of datasets relevant to the European Green Deal Strategy;
3. A roadmap towards the common European Green Deal data space

More information	[Website for the call of proposals](#)

Data space for smart communities (deployment)

Data space for smart communities (deployment)	
Deadline	Q2 2022 (second call scheduled)
TRL	n/a
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	Indicative budget for the topic: 18M Budget per project: 18M (1 project granted) Grant for Support to Third Parties: (50% co-funding rate)
Topics	Data, cities, weather, energy, mobility, pollution

Activities in this topic will pilot and apply the principles of the data space for smart communities defined in the topic "Preparatory actions for the data space for smart communities", on a large scale and with good geographical coverage, to build EU capacity for connecting data from all relevant domains"

The action will support pilots, using data available from the data space for smart communities, which should create added value by combining data from at least two of the area

- Predictive traffic management/sustainable mobility planning, exploiting synergies with the data available on the mobility data space.
- Data-services related to extreme weather events to facilitate climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience;
- Management of energy flows in a city/community specific context and in conjunction with other sectors;
- Targeting zero pollution (e.g. air, water, soil pollution or waste)

More information	n/a

Testing and experimentation Facility for smart cities and communities

Testing and experimentation Facility for smart cities and communities	
Deadline	Q2 2022 (second call scheduled)
TRL	n/a
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	Indicative budget for the topic: 20M Budget per project: 20M (1 project granted) Simple grant (50% of total eligible cost)
Topics	Data, testing, cities, AI, robotics, digital twin

The objective of this call is to provide a testing and experimentation facility for AI and robotics in cities and communities and make their resources accessible to EU cities, enabling to validate novel AI-driven services in close-to-real-life environments before their further massive deployment.

Expected outcomes include increased and faster integration of various AI and robotics systems in smart cities and communities, which will contribute to environmental goals such as carbon neutrality, increased robustness, security, and agility of smart community infrastructure, etc. Technological benefits will include validation in real conditions of next-generation AI-powered robotics and AI-based automation, decision-support and decision-making tools, benefitting from large-scale data access, sharing and integration, as well as increased competitiveness of European developers of AI solutions to bring their products to market.

More information	n/a

Public Sector Open Data for AI and Open Data Platform

Public Sector Open Data for AI

Public Sector Open Data for AI	
Deadline	Not published – scheduled in the second call - Q1 2022-Q2 2022
TRL	**24 – 36 months**
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	**5 – 6M€** **Simple grant (50% co-funding rate)**

- Support public administrations in **increasing semantic, technical, legal interoperability and data portability of the HVDs.** Dataset can be selected among **Geospatial, Earth observation and environment,** Meteorological, Statistics, Companies and company ownership, Mobility HVD.
- Contribute to Green deal applications and other common data spaces where relevant, in **providing a test platform and tools for accessing multiple sources of data**, and **provide a harmonized single entry point.**

Deliverable:
- HVD **held by the public sector** are available via APIs in a machine-readable format

The datasets will:
- Help companies (SMEs, start-ups) and public organizations to use cross-EU data to scale up and offer EU-wide services, benefiting from the size of the EU's digital market
- Greatly facilitate machine learning based on public data, especially in the data-demanding areas such as climate change, pollution or weather predictions.
- Will continue to facilitate and improve access and re-use by the private and public sectors of the datasets generated by European public administrations

Public Sector Open Data for AI and Open Data Platform

Open Data Platform

Open Data Platform	
Deadline	Not published – scheduled in the second call - Q1 2022-Q2 2022
TRL	24 – 36 months
Consortium	Collaborative project with at least independent entities from 3 different eligible countries (member states or affiliated countries)
Budget	5M€ Procurement (indicative time of procurement 2021 and 2022)

Service contracts will maintain and further expand the Open Data infrastructure deployed since 2015 under **the Connecting Europe Facility** programme:
- Consolidation and expansion of the data.europa.eu Data Portal, including the integration with the EU and the Member States, Open data and INSPIRE geoportals
- Maintenance and further expansion of the **Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI) Building Block**, including the possibility for the public sector to use it for testing Business-to-Government (B2G) data-sharing collaborations for the public good

Deliverable:
- HVD **held by the public sector** are available via APIs in a machine-readable format

The datasets will:
- Help companies (SMEs, start-ups) and public organizations to use cross-EU data to scale up and offer EU-wide services, benefiting from the size of the EU's digital market
- Greatly facilitate machine learning based on public data, especially in the data-demanding areas such as climate change, pollution or weather predictions.
- Will continue to facilitate and improve access and re-use by the private and public sectors of the datasets generated by European public administrations

Calender

Milestones	First call	Second Call	Third Call
Call Opening	Q4 2021	**Q1 2022**	Q3 2022
Deadline for submission	Q1 2022	**Q2 2022**	Q4 2022
Evaluation	Q2 2022	**Q3 2022**	Q1 2023
Information to applicants on the outcomes of the call	Q3 2022	**Q4 2022**	Q2 2023
Signature of contracts	Q4 2022	**Q1 2023**	Q3 2023

Q&A

Digital Europe – Proposal set-up -Tips & Tricks

Award criteria

RELEVANCE

- Alignment with the objectives and activities of the call

- Contribution to long-term policy objectives, relevant policies and strategies, and synergies with activities at EU and national level

- Extent to which the project would reinforce and secure the digital technology supply chain in the EU

- Extent to which the project can overcome financial obstacles such as the lack of market finance

IMPLEMENTATION

- Maturity of the project

- Soundness of the implementation plan and efficient use of resources

- Capacity of the applicants, and when applicable the consortium as a whole, to carry out the proposed work

IMPACT

- Expected outcomes and deliverables achievements. Plans to disseminate and communicate project achievements

- Extent to which the project will strengthen competitiveness and bring important benefits for society

- Extent to which the project addresses environmental sustainability and the EU Green Deal goals

Proposal structure

What is the Application Form?

The Application Form is the template for EU grants applications; it must be submitted via the **EU Funding & Tenders Portal** before the call deadline. The Form consists of 2 parts:

- **Part A** contains structured **administrative information** : generated by IT system

- **Part B** is a **narrative technical description** of the project needs to be uploaded as **70 pages PDF**

- **Annexes: depending on the topic - if required it will be informed in the call**
  - *Annexe 1: Detailed budget table/Calculator*
  - *Annexe 2: CVs*
  - *Annexe 3: Annual activity reports*
  - *Annexe 4: List of previous projects*
  - *Annexe 5: Other annexes*

- **ETHICS ISSUES TABLE**

- **OWNERSHIP CONTROL DECLARATION:** To be filled in by the project participants as part of the application. All declarations must be assembled by the coordinator and uploaded in a single file in the Portal Submission System. Supporting documents do not have to be provided at application stage, but will be requested later on.

- **SECURITY ISSUES TABLE**

All documents and templates are available on the submission system

Proposal structure – PART B

◉ 1. RELEVANCE

Objectives and activities : How the project is aligned with the objectives and activities as described in the Call document ?

Synergies: How the project contributes to long-term policy objectives of the call's and to the relevant policies and strategies ?
How is it based on a sound needs analysis in line with the activities at European and national level ?

Digital technology supply chain: To what extent the project would reinforce and secure the digital technology supply chain in the EU ? ⚠ *This criterion might not be applicable to all topics*

Financial obstacles: To what extent the project can overcome financial obstacles such as the lack of market finance ? ⚠ *This criterion might not be applicable to all topics*

◉ 2. IMPLEMENTATION

Maturity : Explain the maturity of the project

Implementation plan and efficient use of resources:
- Implementation plan
- Project management, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy
- Cost effectiveness and financial management
- Critical risks and risk management strategy: describe risk and mitigation measures

Capacity to carry out the proposed work:
- Consortium cooperation and division of roles
- Project teams and staff
- Outside resources (subcontracting, seconded staff, etc)
- Consortium management and decision-making risk

Proposal structure – PART B

❯ 3. IMPACT

Expected outcomes and deliverables — Dissemination and communication:
- Expected outcomes and deliverables
- Dissemination and communication of the project and its results

Competitiveness and benefits for society: Describe the extent to which the project will strengthen competitiveness and bring important benefits for society

Environmental sustainability and contribution to European Green Deal goals: Describe the extent to which the project will contribute to environmental sustainability and in particular to European Green Deal goals

❯ 4. WORK PLAN, WORK PACKAGES, TIMING AND SUBCONTRACTING

Work plan: brief description

Work packages and activities: Describe each WP – take car of the EC templates – many tables are mandatory (WP description, Overview of work-packages, staff effort per participants)

Timetable: GANTT

Subcontracting

❯ 5. OTHER
ETHICS
SECURITY: Describe security issues that may arise during the project implementation in the annexed Security issues table.
DECLARATIONS

Proposal – tips

DO

Choose the right partners- *(re)active, motivated to contribute, with good technical and EU network)*

Build a balanced partnership - *active cooperation between all partners, risk sharing, geographical balance, ...*

Follow the templates given on the participant portal, read carefully work plan and call documents

Do not disperse the argumentation and be realistic

Keep in mind that the evaluator does not have a lot of time for the proposal: be direct, clear and consistent

DON'T

Submit a proposal outside your core area of expertise

Surround yourself with a weak and unmotivated consortium

Not taking into account the evaluation criteria

Not studying the call for proposals in detail

Not submitting before deadline

Q&A

Thank you for your attention !

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Anticipate
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