EDIH Network in Europe

228 EDIHs

151 receive funding from the European Commission's Digital Europe Programme,

77 are funded by national or regional resources

Distributed across 85% of European regions, covering almost 90% of the EU's working population

More data: https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC134620

EDIH Selection and activation process

The selection of the EDIHs followed a **two step process** first, an Expression of Interest requested **Member States** to designate potential EDIHs through a national process, and secondly the European Commission launched **two restricted calls** for proposals in which only designated potential EDIHs were eligible to participate

- **November 2021:** First call for EDIH completed with **136 projects chosen**: 50% funding from EU - 50% from Member States
- **September 2022**: Second call completed with:
  - **15 project chosen:** 50% funding from EU - 50% from Member States
  - **75 Seal of Excellence (SOE):** Positively evaluated in a European competitive call but funded exclusively by national or regional resources (only 50% funding)

Other **205 Digital Innovation Hubs** are present in the EDIH Catalogue that are Funded by other initiatives. They are digital innovation hubs with similar activities to EDIHs but not directly connected to the network

From DIHs to EDIHs

Digital Innovation Hubs in Horizon 2020

- €500 million EU funding for DIH 2016-2020
- Support to more than 2000 Start-ups, SMEs and mid-caps to test digital innovations - industry 4.0
- In collaboration with more than 200 Digital Innovation Hubs across the EU
- Coaching more than 60 potential Digital Innovation Hubs in regions with slower adoption of digital technologies, with focus on Central and Eastern Europe
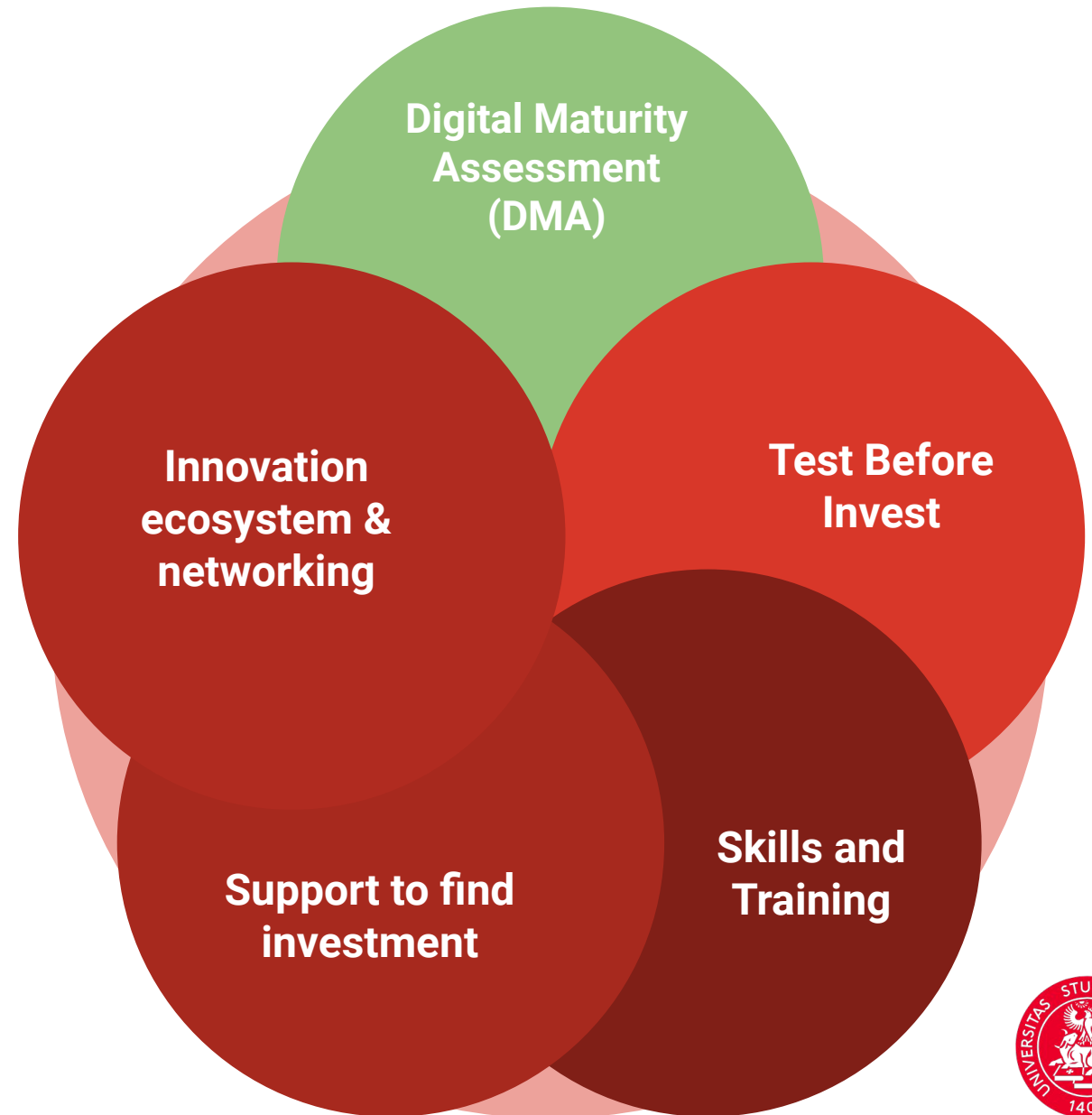
European Digital Innovation Hubs in the Digital Europe programme

- From support to **capacity building**
- **Co-funding** from Member States
- EDIH **"within working distance"** for every company in EU
- E-government targeted
- Environmental aspects
- Member States in the selection process
- European network

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EDIH services

- EDIHs provide **technological expertise** and **experimentation facilities**
- The aim is to enable the **digital transformation** of **companies** (particularly SMEs) and the **Public Sector Organisations** (PSOs)
- **Tailored services** "on demand"
- **Digital Maturity Assessment** as an entry and exit point
- Each EDIH decides their **pricing strategy** which is best suited to support SMEs and PSOs in their area
- Services can be **free** or **partially subsidized** (state aid rules in the MS support)

Digital Maturity Assessment (DMA)

Innovation ecosystem & networking

Test Before Invest

Support to find investment

Skills and Training

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Needs assessment and technologies selection

- **Digital Maturity Assessment (DMA):** a tool for EDIHs developed by JRC to measure the digital progress of their customers that allows EDIHs to understand each company's **digital needs** and provide **tailored interventions**. By evaluating a company's digital readiness before and after collaboration, the DMA Tool provides valuable insights into their digital growth.
- The digital technologies selected can be adopted in relation to business and production **processes**, **products**, or **services**.
- Each EDIH provides services based on a specific and **different focus/expertise** and on a **range** of different advanced technologies (e.g. artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, cyber security, blockchain..) - can be browsed in the EDIH Catalogue
- Companies and Public Sector Organisations will be able to **test the technologies proposed**, including where relevant their environmental impact, and the feasibility of applying these technologies to their business before further investing in it

EIDH partnerships

- Many EDIH partnerships are based on **existing clusters**
- Different competences according to the partnership and the local needs

Typical participants:

- Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs), Technical Universities

In collaboration with:

- Industry associations
- Clusters
- Enterprise Europe Network
- Accelerators/Incubators
- Innovation agencies
- Vocational training institutes…

The "EU-local" approach

EDIHs combine the benefits of a regional presence with the opportunities available to a pan-European network

- **At local level**
  - A network to put any company in contact with the competence they need, wherever in the EU, at a working distance
  - A dedicated expertise, based on the available local strengths and the current and emerging needs of the local industry or public sector in the area
  - Local language, facilities and innovation ecosystem

- **At EU level**
  - Trans-regional collaboration supports shared use of expertise and strengthens Pan-EU value chain
  - The European coverage of the network facilitates the exchange of best practices across hubs in different countries as well as the provision of specialised services across regions when the required skills are not locally available

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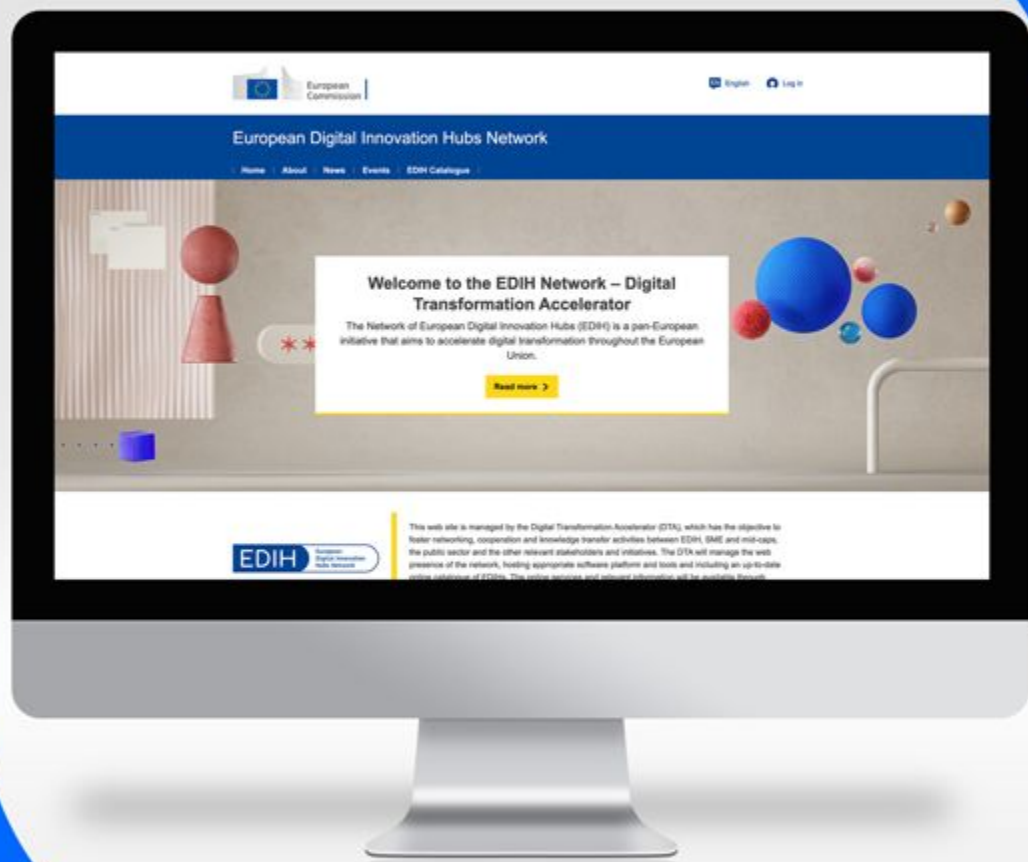
Digital innovation and **beyond**

Visit the brand new EDIH website

#EDIH_Network

EDIH | European Digital Innovation Hubs Network

European Commission

PAI - EDIH - Public administration Intelligence

Public Administration Intelligence European Digital Innovation Hub (PAI) is focused on the **applicative area** of <u>public services to citizens</u> delivered by **public administrations** (PA) and, increasingly, by **social economy organisations** (SEO).

The **convergence** of these two actors in **delivering services** is particularly strong in **Italy** where, following the **reform** of the **third sector**, SEOs were given the role of **co-programming and co-designing services** with PAs. PAs must ensure that SEOs are **actively involved** in **local planning and organisation** of actions and services in sectors of general interest.

Thus, the **twin targets** of the PAI project are PAs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) from the **social economy (SE)** sector **delivering public services to citizens** in <u>**Friuli-Venezia Giulia**</u>, <u>**Piedmont**</u> and the <u>**Aosta Valley**</u> in northern Italy.
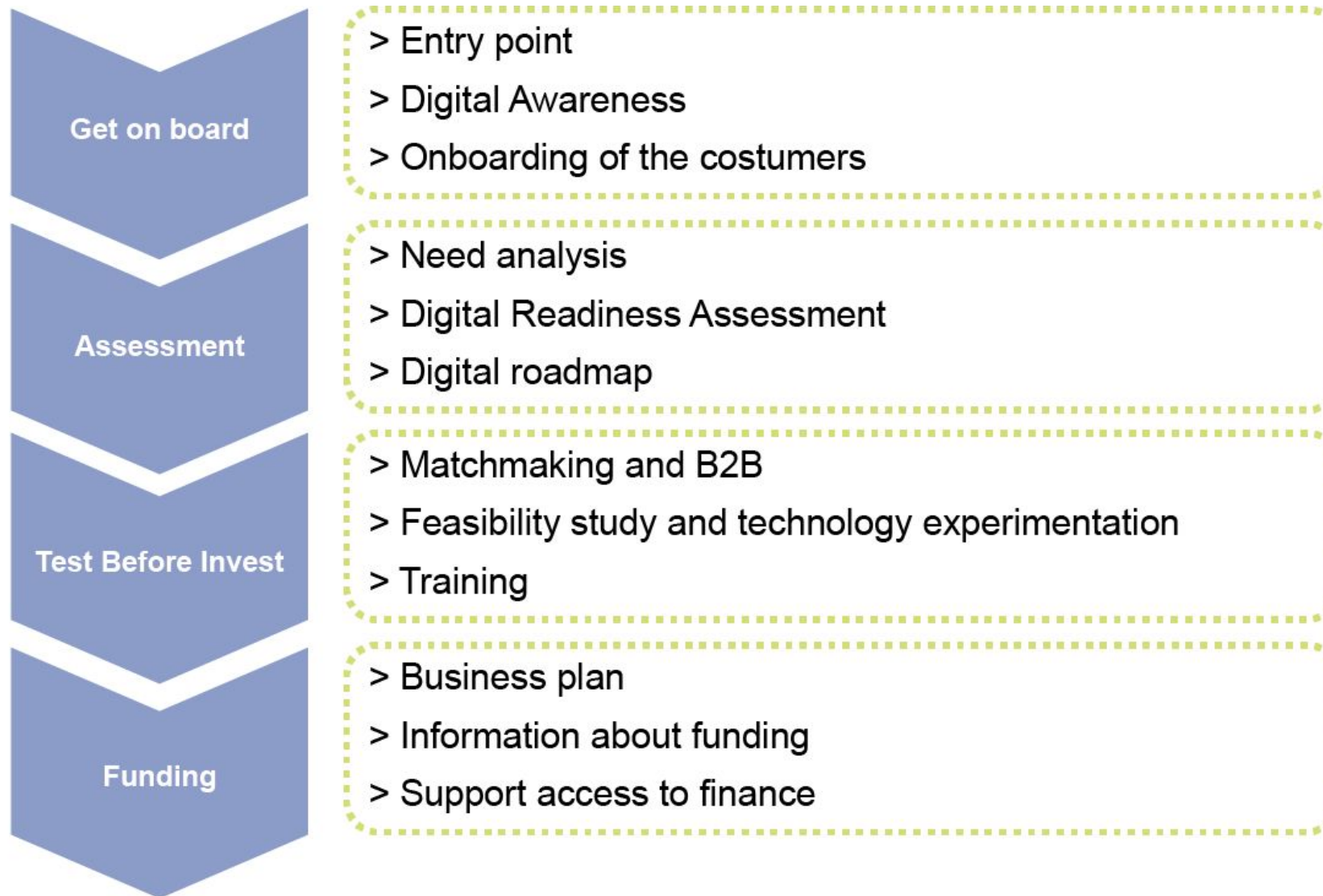
Partnership
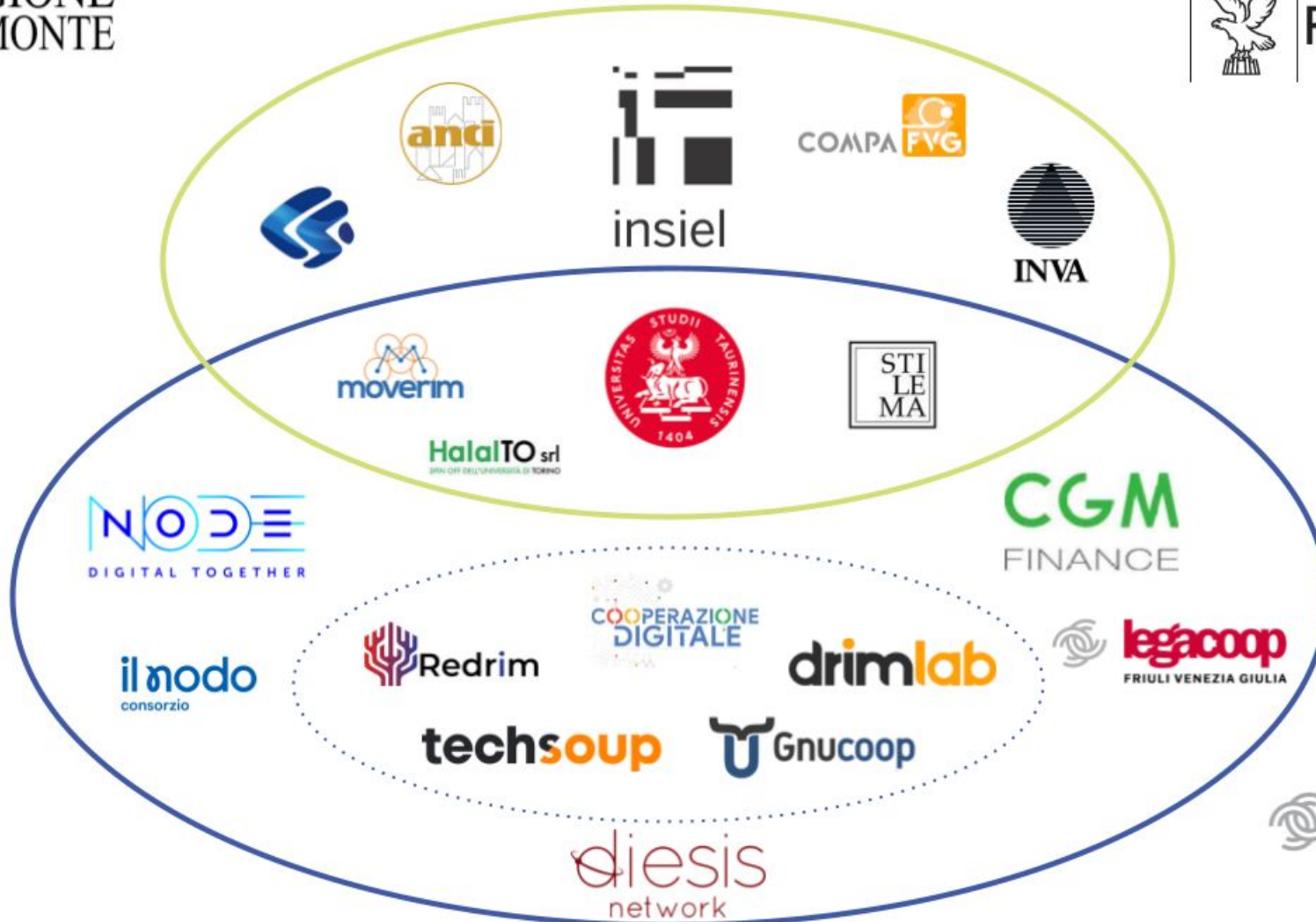
PAI will coordinate public and private **ICT providers**, a **university** with an **incubator** and a spinoff on **sustainability**, a **digital innovation hub**, a research centre, **training agencies** from the SE, an **independent financial advisor**, **representatives** of the targets also at the EU level, a communication SME and a project writing SME, and chambers of commerce participating in the **European Enterprise Network** (**EEN**).

The **expertise** is **focused** on **artificial intelligence** (AI), high performance computing (**HPC**) (as part of the EuroHPC **Digital Europe** programme), **cybersecurity**, **blockchain**, **technologies for social good**, and citizen **participation**, but PAI is also open to **higher technology readiness level** (TRL) solutions given the **low level of digitalization** on the part of its **customers**.
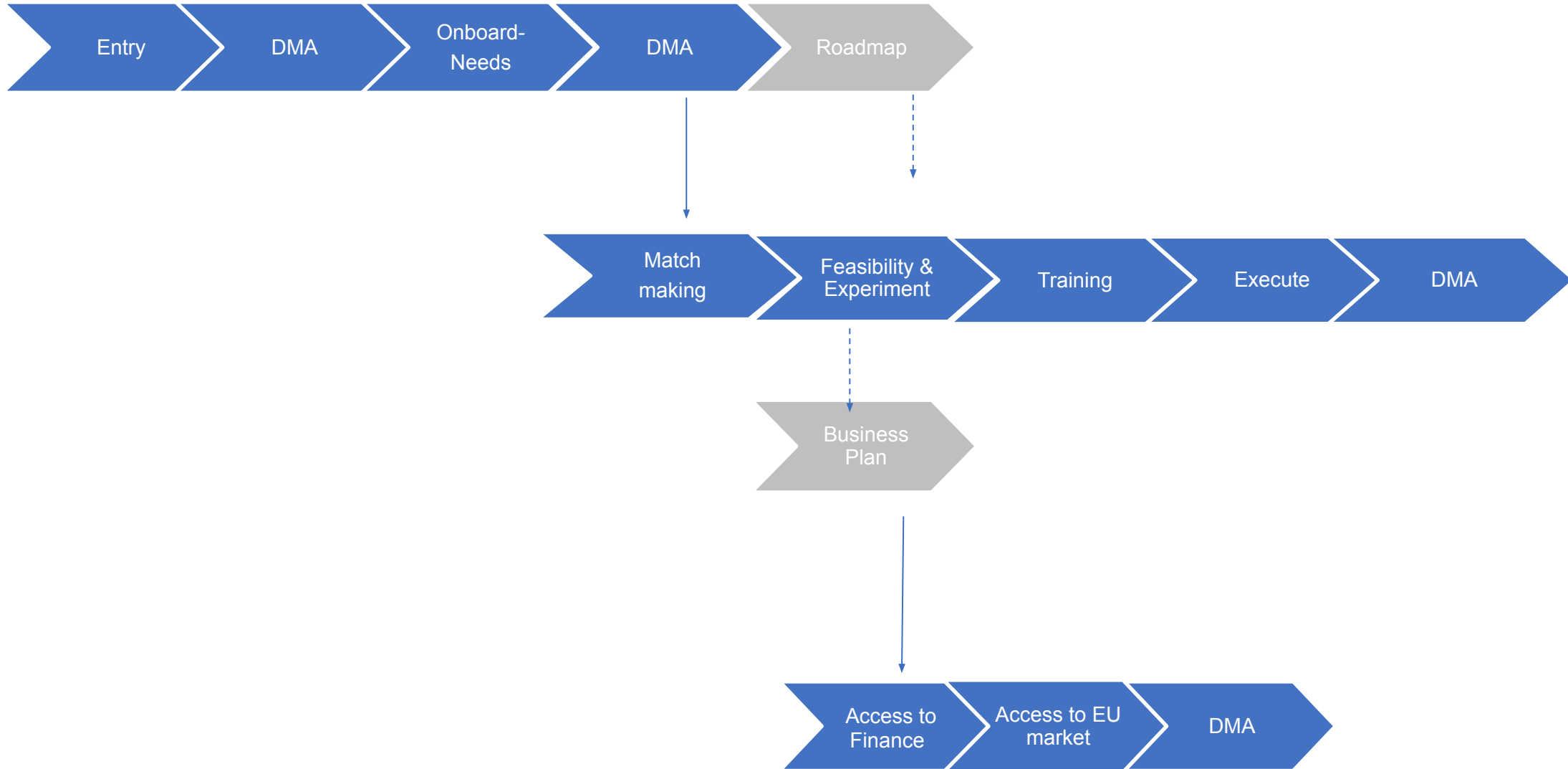
To ensure a truly **European dimension**, PAI will not only coordinate and connect with other **EDIHs** around the EU but will also liaise with the **world of social economy** around Europe and beyond via **Diesis Network (DIESIS)** partner, a **network of associations of SEOs**.

PAI services processes

Get on board	> Entry point > Digital Awareness > Onboarding of the costumers
Assessment	> Need analysis > Digital Readiness Assessment > Digital roadmap
Test Before Invest	> Matchmaking and B2B > Feasibility study and technology experimentation > Training
Funding	> Business plan > Information about funding > Support access to finance

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PAI services delivery

PAI's **pipeline of services** includes:

1. **networking** to **engage** customers, also using **innovative solutions** for **communication**;
2. a **<u>digital maturity</u> <u>assessment</u>** to produce a personalised **<u>digital roadmap</u>** that identifies technology and **training needs**;
3. **<u>co-creation</u> of services** with citizens/users via participation platforms, **<u>testing before investing</u>** to exploit the technological expertise of the university and ICT providers;
4. **advanced digital skills <u>reskilling courses</u>** and massive **online** open courses and integration with the wider higher education system;
5. supporting customers in creating **<u>business plans</u>** and finding **<u>public or private funding</u>** also via EEN, InvestEU and Startup Europe.

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Thank you for your attention!

For any question you can contact me at alice.zanasi@unito.it