

EDIH Czech Technical University in Prague

EDIH CTU

European Digital Innovation Hub in the Czech Republic in the field of
Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)

GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 101083359

Deliverable D1.5

Periodic Report on Collaboration with Digital Transformation Accelerator (DTA)

(version 3 – update 30 November 2025)



Co-funded by
the European Union

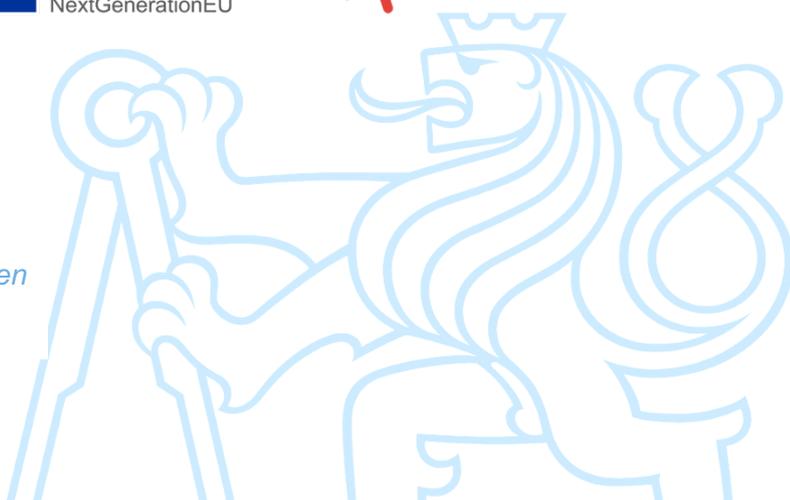


Funded by
the European Union
NextGenerationEU



CZECH
RECOVERY PLAN

*Inspire and make the Czech AI-driven
Industry*



Project title	EDIH Czech Technical University in Prague (EDIH CTU)
Grant Agreement number	101083359
Funding scheme	Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) Call: DIGITAL-2021-EDIH-01 Topic: DIGITAL-2021-EDIH-INITIAL-01
Type of action	DIGITAL Simple Grants
Project duration	1 January 2023 – 31 December 2025 (36 months)
Project coordinator name	CTU - CESKE VYSOKE UCENI TECHNICKE V PRAZE
Deliverable number and title	D1.5 Periodic Report on Collaboration with Digital Transformation Accelerator (DTA)
WP contributing to the deliverable	WP1
Deliverable type	R - Report
Dissemination level	Public
Due submission date	30 June 2024, updated version 30 November 2025
Actual submission date	27 June 2024, updated version 30 November 2025
Deliverable Lead	Barbora Zochova
Contributor(s)	David Pesek
Internal reviewer(s)	Vit Sumpela
Final approval	Barbora Zochova, Mikulas Cizmar

Status

This deliverable is subject to final acceptance by the EDIH Chairman and Business Development and Technology Transfer Manager.

This deliverable was approved on 25 June 2024, the updated version was approved on 27 November 2025.

Disclaimer

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the national granting authority, i.e. the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

History of changes		
When	Who	Comments
November 2025	Barbora Zochova	Revised version of the text.

Confidentiality	
Does this report contain confidential information?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the report restricted to a specific group?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Table of Contents

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms	6
Executive Summary	7
1. Introduction	8
1.1 Purpose of the Report	8
1.2 Role and Key Tasks of the DTA	8
2. EDIH CTU's Collaboration with Other EDIHs	9
2.1 Joint Projects and Initiatives	9
2.1.1 Cross-Border Projects	9
2.2 Participation in EDIH Network Events	10
2.2.1 EDIH Network Annual Summit 2023	10
2.2.2 Thematic Workshops and Seminars.....	10
2.3 Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building.....	10
2.3.1 EDIH Academy	10
2.3.2 AI Innovation Ecosystem web resources, AI Innovation Training Package for EDIHs, AI ACTor badge award system.....	10
2.3.3 Forward actions (Months 36+).....	10
2.3.4 EDIH CTU's Knowledge Hub	11
2.4 Resource and Expertise Sharing.....	11
2.4.1 Technical Expertise Exchange	11
2.4.2 Formal Collaboration and Shared Resources (MoUs, TEFs, EU AI Infrastructures)	11
2.4.2.1 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)	11
2.4.2.2 Cooperation with TEF AI-Matters	11
2.4.2.3 EU AI Infrastructures: pathway to AI Factories.....	12
2.5 Collaborative Platforms and Tools.....	12
2.5.1 Digital Transformation Accelerator (DTA) Portal	12
2.5.2 EDIH Catalogue.....	12
2.6 Thematic Working Groups under the DTA	12
2.6.1 Overview of Thematic Working Groups.....	12
2.6.2 EDIH CTU's Engagement with Thematic Working Groups	13
2.7 Impact and Outcomes	13
2.7.1 Enhanced Digital Capabilities.....	13
2.7.2 Strengthened EDIH Network	13
2.7.3 Strengthen EU Innovation Ecosystem.....	13
2.7.4 Increased Innovation and Adoption	13

3.	DTA Reporting Portal and Lessons Learned	13
3.1	Overview of the DTA Reporting Portal	13
3.1.1	Purpose and Functionality	13
3.1.2	Reporting Process	14
3.2	Digital Maturity Assessments by DTA	14
3.3	Lessons Learned	14
3.3.1	Benefits.....	14
3.3.2	Challenges.....	14
3.3.3	Best Practices and Recommendations.....	14
4.	Forward Look and Sustainability Linkages.....	15
5.	Conclusion	15



List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
CTU	Czech Technical University in Prague
DMA	Digital Maturity Assessment
DTA	Digital Transformation Accelerator
EC	European Commission
EDIH	European Digital Innovation Hub
EDIH CTU	European Digital Innovation Hub at the Czech Technical University in Prague
GA	Grant Agreement
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
PSO	Public Sector Organization
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprise

Executive Summary

This updated deliverable summarises EDIH CTU's collaboration with the Digital Transformation Accelerator (DTA) and the wider EDIH network across the full implementation horizon to date (January 2023–November 2025). It consolidates lessons learned from data provision, KPI submission, Digital Maturity Assessments (DMAs), participation in network activities, and knowledge-sharing initiatives, with a focus on practical improvements that strengthened internal processes and cross-hub cooperation.

Key progress since the mid-term report includes: (i) stabilised internal routines for DTA reporting aligned with our Quality Management Plan; (ii) broader use of the DTA portal for KPI tracking and DMA coordination; (iii) continued engagement in DTA-facilitated workshops/webinars and catalogue-based referrals; and (iv) expansion of EDIH CTU's own knowledge-sharing instruments, including our public knowledge hub and AI Transformation Academy short courses.

The experience confirms the DTA's role as a coordination and reporting backbone for the network, while also revealing areas for refinement such as questionnaire complexity in DMAs and harmonisation of service taxonomies for comparable KPI evidence. We outline pragmatic process fixes and recommendations for the final project review and for future network cycles.



1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this Deliverable is to provide an updated and evidence-based account of EDIH CTU's collaboration with the Digital Transformation Accelerator (DTA) during Months 1–35. It covers cooperation on data provision and KPI reporting, use of the DTA platform and catalogue, participation in Academy and capacity-building activities, matchmaking, and inter-EDIH knowledge exchange.

This report delivers Task T1.4 under WP1. It complements the project-wide quality and reporting arrangements defined in the Quality Management Plan and is explicitly grounded in WP2 and WP4 operational controls: WP2 supplies the governed processes and evidence for service delivery, Digital Maturity Assessments, 'test-before-invest' actions and referrals; WP4 provides the planned outreach, events and knowledge-sharing outputs (agendas, attendance records, training materials).

1.2 Role and Key Tasks of the DTA

The Digital Transformation Accelerator is a key initiative within the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH) network. It aims to support and accelerate digital transformation across Europe by providing expertise, resources, and coordination among the various EDIH members. The DTA also serves as a portal for reporting Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), making it an essential tool for monitoring and evaluating the progress of digital transformation initiatives.

The DTA performs several crucial functions to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness of the EDIH network:

- **Coordination and Support:** The DTA acts as the central coordinating body for the EDIH network, ensuring that activities are aligned with the overall objectives of the Digital Europe Programme. It provides strategic guidance and operational support to EDIH members, helping them to implement their initiatives effectively.
- **Resource Provision:** The DTA supplies valuable resources, such as online tools, methodologies, and best practices, to support digital transformation projects. These resources are designed to help EDIHs optimise their operations and deliver high-quality services to SMEs and public sector organisations.
- **Knowledge Sharing and Networking:** One of the primary roles of the DTA is to facilitate knowledge exchange within the EDIH network. It organises and promotes events, workshops, and seminars where members can share their experiences, learn from each other, and collaborate on joint initiatives. The DTA also supports a repository of case studies, success stories, and educational materials accessible to all EDIH members.
- **Educational Programmes:** The DTA oversees the EDIH Academy, which offers a range of educational activities aimed at enhancing digital skills and competencies. These programmes cover various aspects of digital transformation, from basic digital literacy to advanced technology adoption, providing tailored learning opportunities for different levels of expertise.

- **KPI Reporting and Evaluation:** As the designated portal for KPI reporting, the DTA plays a vital role in recording the performance of EDIH members. It collects, analyses, and reports data on key performance indicators, ensuring that the progress of digital transformation initiatives is tracked accurately and transparently. This function is critical for maintaining accountability and informing strategic decision-making.
- **Innovation and Technology Transfer:** The DTA supports the transfer of innovative technologies and solutions across the EDIH network. It fosters partnerships between research institutions, technology providers, and industry, promoting the adoption of cutting-edge technologies by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and public sector organisations (PSOs).

EDIH CTU, as part of this network, plays a crucial role in promoting digital innovation and enhancing the digital capabilities of SMEs and PSOs within the region. EDIH CTU has actively participated in a variety of educational activities available under the EDIH Academy, which provides training and skill development programmes designed to advance EDIHs' digital competencies.

EDIH CTU also plays an active role in sharing knowledge about the EDIH Network, contributing to the EDIH Catalogue, and participating in various knowledge dissemination activities. This involvement helps in building a stronger, more informed digital innovation ecosystem across Europe.

2. EDIH CTU's Collaboration with Other EDIHs

EDIH CTU is actively engaged in collaboration with other European Digital Innovation Hubs to promote and facilitate digital transformation across Europe. This cooperation is crucial for leveraging collective expertise, resources, and best practices, thereby enhancing the impact of digital innovation initiatives. To achieve this, we use, i.a., information in the EDIH catalogue under the DTA. The following sections detail the various aspects of EDIH CTU's collaboration with other EDIHs.

2.1 Joint Projects and Initiatives

2.1.1 Cross-Border Projects

To enhance the reach and impact of digital transformation, EDIH CTU tries to find ways how to engage in cross-border projects with EDIHs from neighbouring countries. These projects should be designed to address transnational challenges and promote the adoption of digital technologies across multiple countries. By spreading knowledge about digital skills and AI technologies, the involved EDIHs can share insights, overcome regional barriers, and implement scalable solutions.

Closer cooperation (e.g., on joint delivery of specific technologies/services) with foreign EDIHs is not allowed by the decision of the national donor, therefore EDIH CTU tries to fulfil its cross-border commitments by cooperating with EDIHs from other countries by organising international matchmakings, networking, and educational activities, thus connecting EDIHs and their potential clients internationally.

In many cases, we have also referred the client to a potential foreign supplier (EDIH) of the requested service through a reference in the EDIH catalogue.

2.2 Participation in EDIH Network Events

2.2.1 EDIH Network Annual Summit 2023

EDIH CTU's participation in the 2023 Annual Summit enabled targeted exchanges on service design, technology adoption and pipeline development; contacts established there fed into subsequent peer-to-peer consultations and webinar contributions across 2024–2025.

2.2.2 Thematic Workshops and Seminars

Over Months 1–35, team members regularly joined DTA-facilitated thematic workshops/webinars focused on digital skills, DMA practices, and sector-specific adoption patterns. This sustained attendance ensured our methods remained aligned with current network practice and informed incremental updates to internal guidance.

2.3 Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building

2.3.1 EDIH Academy

EDIH CTU staff continued to participate in Academy offers as learners and contributors to discussions, using the content to calibrate our own training paths and micro-learning artefacts.

2.3.2 AI Innovation Ecosystem web resources, AI Innovation Training Package for EDIHs, AI ACTor badge award system

Across Months 30–35, EDIH CTU complied with the network-wide requirement that EDIH personnel complete mandatory trainings and pass knowledge tests covering: (i) the AI Act (scope, obligations, roles, and key compliance processes), (ii) EU AI Innovation Ecosystem), and (iii) Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs). The aim was to ensure that client-facing staff could provide accurate first-line guidance, route clients to suitable facilities, and prepare evidence that aligns with EU policy and infrastructure use.

Curriculum and required modules.

The compulsory learning path comprised three modules, each ending with an online test:

- AI Act fundamentals: system classification, intended purpose, data and model governance, risk management, transparency, human oversight, accuracy/robustness, post-market monitoring, and basic documentation practices.
- AI Innovation Infrastructures: concept and governance of AI Factories (e.g., national nodes and pan-European facilities), access models, typical services (compute, data, expert support), and escalation routes from experimentation to scale-up.
- TEFs (e.g., AI-MATTERS): scope of TEFs, representative testbeds, user-centric evaluation, data protection considerations, and how TEF outputs (logs, metrics, user feedback) support “test-before-invest” decisions.

Delivery and completion control.

EDIH CTU enrolled relevant staff through the network-endorsed online environment and internal onboarding. Line managers ensured that team members in client-facing, scoping, DMA facilitation, and testing roles completed the modules and passed the associated tests.

2.3.3 Forward actions (Months 36+).

We will maintain compulsory refresh cycles for all client-facing roles, expand the internal playbooks with worked examples (classification under the AI Act; sample TEF test plans; AI

Factory access steps), and continue to link training completion to system access rights (e.g., ability to initiate TEF/AI Factory requests). These steps are in line with the upcoming new tasks of EDIHs – to set up and maintain the AI helpdesk service and to deepen cooperation across the EU AI Innovation Infrastructures.

2.3.4 EDIH CTU's Knowledge Hub

Our public knowledge hub on edihctu.eu aggregates training materials, recordings and guidance for SMEs and PSOs. From July 2024, the AI Transformation Academy (AI-TRAN-AK) added short public courses and complementary YouTube videos, widening reach and enabling repeatable onboarding.

2.4 Resource and Expertise Sharing

2.4.1 Technical Expertise Exchange

We continued to exchange methods and lessons on AI/ML testing, DMA facilitation and client scoping with peer EDIHs, using bilateral calls and workshop backchannels to resolve practical issues (e.g., scoping templates, handover checklists).

2.4.2 Formal Collaboration and Shared Resources (MoUs, TEFs, EU AI Infrastructures)

EDIH CTU collaborates with other EDIHs and contributes with its resources to joint initiatives. Apart from sharing financial resources for joint events, we are open to engaging in sharing technological infrastructure and human capital to support large-scale projects and programmes. Such “resource pooling” allows more efficient use of available assets and can enhance the impact of digital transformation efforts.

2.4.2.1 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)

During Months 19–35 we formalised collaboration with peer hubs through several MoUs. Apart from several bilateral MoUs with other EDIHs and TEF AI-Matters, EDIH CTU signed two multilateral ones:

- Central European EDIH MoU (signed 1 May 2025). EDIH CTU joined a memorandum uniting 25 EDIHs from Czechia, Austria, Germany, Poland and Slovakia. The MoU commits signatories to joint events, cross-border networking, study visits, best-practice exchange and coordinated funding efforts. The collaboration was initiated within the Central European EDIH community and includes EDIH CTU among the Czech signatories.
- Czechia–Ukraine EDIH MoU (October 2025). Together with other Czech hubs, EDIH CTU co-signed a memorandum with 11 Ukrainian EDIHs to promote knowledge sharing, joint events, study visits and project preparation. Public statements by the coordinators list EDIH CTU among the Czech signatories.

These MoUs provide a clear governance frame for referrals, joint showcases and expert exchanges, and they reduce transaction costs when planning cross-border activities.

2.4.2.2 Cooperation with TEF AI-Matters

Our cooperation with the Testing and Experimentation Facility AI-Matters intensified in the second half of the project. We coordinated client consultations, co-hosted networking and appeared jointly at national events, aligning EDIH CTU's “test-before-invest” pathways with TEF capabilities.

In parallel, the Czech node of AI-Matters publicly highlights CTU/CIIRC infrastructure and services within the TEF network, and our joint presence is visible in recent event listings (e.g., Digital Week with EDIH CTU; Festival “AI for Everyone”).

2.4.2.3 EU AI Infrastructures: pathway to AI Factories

Through our close cooperation with VSB – Technical University of Ostrava (host of EDIH Ostrava/EDIH OVA), we gained a structured pathway to Europe-scale AI Factory resources:

In October 2025, a national consortium led by VSB-TUO was selected to establish the Czech AI Factory (CZAI), strengthening the national link to Europe-wide AI Factory activities.

VSB-TUO’s IT4Innovations is a key member of the LUMI AI Factory, providing access to advanced computing, expert support and training for industry and public institutions.

EDIH CTU further reports that this partnership enables Czech participation across all LUMI AI Factory activities and access to world-class computational and data resources.

Together, EDIH CTU, TEF AI-MATTERS and the AI Factories provide an end-to-end pathway: EDIH CTU scopes needs and orchestrates ‘test-before-invest’ engagements, TEF AI-MATTERS supplies targeted experimentation environments with user-centric evaluation, and the AI Factories (incl. LUMI/CZAI) deliver advanced computing and expert support for scale-up. This integrated model shortens time-to-validation, de-risks adoption for SMEs and PSOs, and creates a clear escalation route from initial assessment to production-grade deployment.

2.5 Collaborative Platforms and Tools

2.5.1 Digital Transformation Accelerator (DTA) Portal

We used the DTA portal for KPI submission and for selected collaboration tracking. The portal’s role in standardising evidence and surfacing comparable activity snapshots remained central, despite several data entry and taxonomy challenges.

2.5.2 EDIH Catalogue

Catalogue entries and searches underpinned cross-hub referrals, enabling faster client-to-capability matching when EDIH CTU was not the best provider.

2.6 Thematic Working Groups under the DTA

2.6.1 Overview of Thematic Working Groups

The Digital Transformation Accelerator supports several thematic working groups that focus on specific areas of interest and expertise within the digital transformation landscape. These working groups bring together experts from various EDIHs to collaborate on specialised topics, share knowledge, and develop targeted solutions.

Having in mind our expertise, the key themes/WGs for our EDIH CTU are:

- Public Administration, with Focus on AI,
- Sustainability,
- Cybersecurity,
- Data in Manufacturing,
- Smart Connectivity,
- Digital Health, and
- Tourism.

2.6.2 EDIH CTU's Engagement with Thematic Working Groups

Although not a formal member of specific WGs, EDIH CTU followed outputs—particularly on Sustainability—leveraging published materials and open sessions to inform our service design and communications.

2.7 Impact and Outcomes

2.7.1 Enhanced Digital Capabilities

Continuous exchange with peer hubs and Academy inputs helped refine our scoping and training assets, strengthening clients' readiness for AI adoption.

2.7.2 Strengthened EDIH Network

Our engagement contributed to a more coherent ecosystem by sharing materials, co-hosting sessions, and routing clients to appropriate expertise through the catalogue.

2.7.3 Strengthen EU Innovation Ecosystem

Through combined education and referral mechanisms, more SMEs/PSOs progressed from awareness to concrete experimentation, aided by reproducible training and onboarding content.

2.7.4 Increased Innovation and Adoption

The collaboration has led to increased innovation and adoption of digital technologies among SMEs and public sector organisations. The joint initiatives and educational programmes have provided these entities with the necessary skills and tools to successfully navigate the digital transformation journey, resulting in concrete improvements in their operations and services.

By working together, the EDIHs have been able to leverage their collective strengths, share valuable knowledge, and implement effective digital transformation strategies. This collaborative approach is essential for achieving the broader objectives of the European Digital Innovation Hubs network and driving digital innovation across Europe.

3. DTA Reporting Portal and Lessons Learned

The DTA reporting portal is a tool used by the EDIH CTU to monitor and report the progress of our collaborative initiatives and some of the key performance indicators (KPIs). This chapter provides an in-depth overview of the DTA reporting portal, including its functionalities, the process of reporting, and the lessons learned from using this essential platform.

3.1 Overview of the DTA Reporting Portal

3.1.1 Purpose and Functionality

The portal standardises submission and review of selected KPIs (services, events, collaboration, and DMA-related evidence) and provides access to guidance and resources, with communication loops for clarification.

Key functionalities of the reporting tool include:

- **KPI Submission and Tracking:** Allows EDIHs to submit detailed reports on their KPIs, including metrics related to digital transformation activities, educational programmes, and collaborative projects.

- **Data Analysis and Visualization:** Provides tools for analysing and visualising the reported data (on Digital Maturity Assessments), helping EDIHs and the evaluated SMEs and PSOs understand their performance and identify areas for improvement.
- **Resource Access:** Offers access to a repository of resources, including best practices, case studies, and guidelines for reporting and evaluation.
- **Communication and Feedback:** Facilitates communication between the DTA and EDIH members, allowing for feedback and support on reporting processes.

3.1.2 Reporting Process

The reporting process through the DTA portal involves several steps:

- **Data Collection:** the EDIH CTU collects relevant data from its various activities, including the organisation of training events, capacity-building events, and joint projects with other EDIHs and/or stakeholders.
- **Data Entry:** The collected data is entered into the DTA portal using the provided templates and forms. This includes quantitative metrics as well as qualitative descriptions of activities and outcomes.
- **Submission:** Once the data entry is complete, the report is submitted through the portal for review by the Commission.
- **Review and Feedback:** The Commission reviews the submitted information, provides feedback, and may request additional information or clarifications.
- **Finalization:** After addressing any feedback, the reported information is finalised and becomes part of the overall performance monitoring system.

3.2 Digital Maturity Assessments by DTA

The DTA has implemented Digital Maturity Assessments (DMAs) as part of the KPI reporting tool, using pre-defined questionnaires for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and public sector organisations (PSOs). These questionnaires aim to assess the digital maturity of these entities in three stages.

DMA questionnaires remain demanding for typical SMEs/PSOs; several items are difficult to answer without facilitation, creating a risk of incomplete or inaccurate responses. We mitigated this by providing pre-briefs, examples and assisted sessions.

3.3 Lessons Learned

3.3.1 Benefits

- A common portal and shared taxonomy improve transparency and comparability across the network.
- Commission feedback loops clarify interpretation of edge cases and drive convergence.

3.3.2 Challenges

- Heterogeneous services across hubs complicate like-for-like KPI mapping.
- DMA complexity burdens respondents; assisted completion is often necessary.

3.3.3 Best Practices and Recommendations

Based on our experience with the DTA reporting portal, we have identified several best practices and recommendations to improve the reporting process:

- **Comprehensive Training:** Ensuring thorough, yet clear and comprehensible training for all team members involved in reporting is crucial. Regular updates and training sessions can help maintain high reporting standards.
- **Standardized Data Collection:** Implementing standardized data collection procedures can simplify the reporting process. Using consistent formats and templates for internal data collection ensures compatibility with the DTA portal's requirements.
- **Minimising data sheet changes:** So far, many updates have been done by the DTA in the Excel tables. Moreover, over time, several new Excel documents have been created to be filled in.
- **Streamlining Processes:** Simplifying the process of adding, e.g., new companies and services and reducing the need for multiple entries of the same service can save time and resources.
- **Clear Communication with DTA:** Maintaining open lines of communication with the DTA can help clarify reporting requirements and resolve issues promptly. Sometimes it was difficult to communicate issues with the DTA helpdesk team (e.g., when our data got lost for several days or when we needed to “activate” the portal for our members etc.). It took many weeks to achieve what we needed to address.

4. Forward Look and Sustainability Linkages

EDIH CTU's sustainability approach emphasises repeatable services, diversified funding, and durable community assets (knowledge hub content, recordings, micro-courses) that outlive the grant. Our market and operations plans foresee continued use of catalogue referrals and cross-hub co-promotion, coupled with lightweight “test-before-invest” pathways and skills offers tailored to SME constraints.

This alignment ensures that practices proven under DTA oversight—evidence packs, assisted DMA procedures, and taxonomy crosswalks—remain standard in our post-grant model.

5. Conclusion

The collaboration with DTA continues to be instrumental for coordination, comparability and visibility across the EDIH network. By aligning our internal routines with QMP guidance and adopting pragmatic fixes to DMA and taxonomy issues, we improved data quality and reduced rework during Months 19–35. We will carry these practices into the project close-out and into follow-on hub operation in EDIH CTU 2.0 (2026-2028).