



AEDIB|NET
AFRICAN EUROPEAN DIGITAL INNOVATION BRIDGE NETWORK

DELIVERABLE 6.2

Creation of the Digital Innovation Portal



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About AEDIB|NET: AEDIB|NET aims to strengthen a common African European digital innovation ecosystem by supporting local digital innovation and start-up ecosystems in Africa and facilitating the collaboration between European and African DIHs.

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PP	Restricted to other program participants (including the EC services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the EC Services)	
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DOCUMENT HISTORY

Revisions – Amendments

VERSION	DATE	Changes
V0.1	03/06/2022	Set-Up Document
V0.2	06/06/2022	First Draft
V0.3	10/06/2022	Second Draft
V1.0	20/06/2022	Document reviewed and revised

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
AEDIB NET	African European Digital Innovation Bridge Network
DIP	Digital Innovation Portal
EU	European Union
R&D	Research and Development
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprises
WP	Work Package

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Executive summary

This document contains additional information to Deliverable 6.2, "Creation of the Digital Innovation Portal".

The fundamental goal of the Digital Innovation Portal is to foster an African-European structured, interdisciplinary community and a digital innovation ecosystem focused on Climate Smart Agriculture, Smart Cities, Digital Trade and Clean Tech.

The structure and content and how to foster stakeholder involvement were discussed at project meetings. After that, SEZ contacted possible web portal agencies to get a technical solution for the Portal. This Digital innovation Portal will be an essential step toward building a network-based digital innovation community across Africa and Europe.

➔ The Digital Innovation Portal web address: <https://community.aedibnet.eu/home>.

Using the Digital Innovation platform is free. To access the whole content of the platform and interact on the platform, users must complete their registration.

1. Introduction and Background

An essential goal of AEDIB|NET is to ensure the uptake of the project results, build long-lasting collaboration between partners and include new partners in Africa and Europe in the future. Therefore, strategic and proactive communication with stakeholders and the wider public is vital to the project.

The landing page of AEDIB|NET is already online since November 2021 with all the project's information and activities. In addition, the Digital Innovation Portal (DIP) was also launched on 15.06.2022. It is created by AEDIB|NET for sharing experiences, intelligent methodologies, and success stories from the African-European stakeholders around digital innovation with four focus areas (Climate Smart Agriculture, Smart Cities, Digital Trade and Clean Tech).

Moreover, the launch of the DIP provides infrastructure for the whole African-European ecosystem. Based on the activities under the project tasks – for dissemination of project activities, success stories, trainings, best practices, and deal flow sharing, for pipeline and community building for start-ups and SMEs, investor, and diaspora networking, etc.

➔ The Digital Innovation Portal web address: <https://community.aedibnet.eu/home>.

Moreover, the DIP can be reached via the landing page of AEDIB|NET (aedibnet.eu):

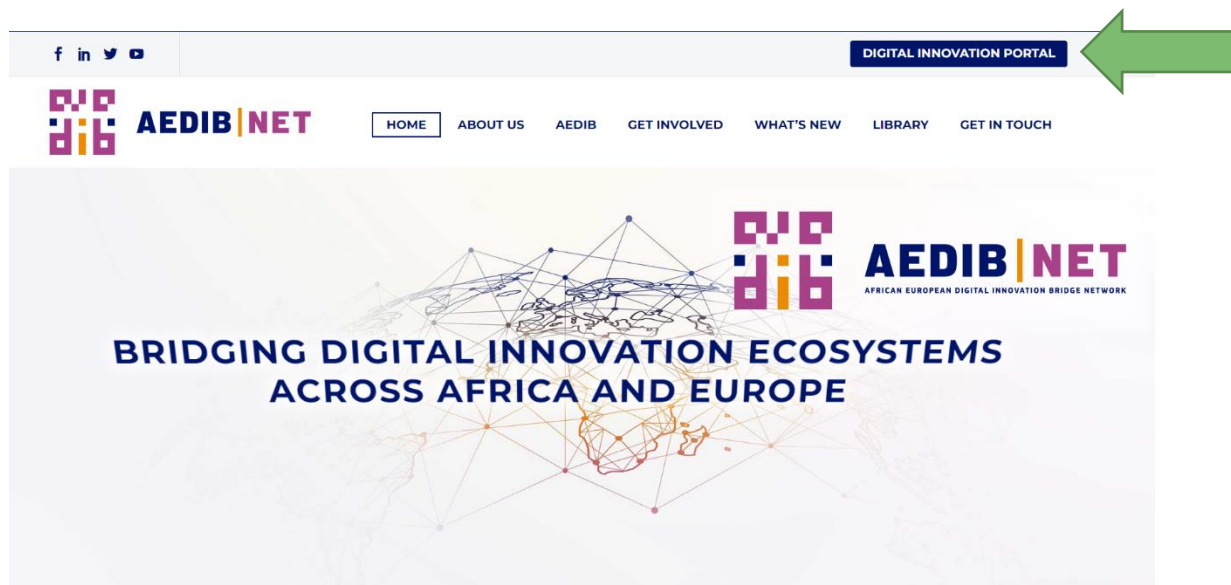


Figure 1: Digital Innovation Portal Button on the top right to enter the portal

2. Digital Innovation Portal

The DIP is the key to this project to foster an African-European structured, interdisciplinary community and a digital innovation ecosystem focused on Climate Smart Agriculture, Smart Cities, Digital Trade and Clean Tech.

The objectives (2.1), implementation (2.2), tools and services (2.3) of the DIP are listed in the following chapter to show additional information about the DIP itself.

2.1. Objectives

The main objectives of the DIP are listed in Figure 4:



- Create a vibrant and impactful online community involving DIHs and innovation stakeholders from both continents.



- Offer an enabling environment for investors and diaspora networking, share success stories and best practices for pipeline and community building, for start-ups and SMEs.



- Provide innovators and DIHs with a virtual space where different stakeholders can connect, collaborate digitally and build a digital ecosystem between Africa and Europe.



- Connect the users with partners' existing online community platforms and online tools, ensuring the cohesiveness of the AEDIB|NET project and its needs

Figure 2: Main Objectives of the DIP

2.2. Implementation

The planning of the DIP started end of the year 2021. After evaluation, SEZ decided to collaborate with the web design agency "Higher Logic" to create the online infrastructure for the DIP. Figure 1 shows the timeline of the DIP creation from the Kickoff Call to the Launch of the Portal.



Figure 3: Timeline of the Creation of the DIP

2.3. Tools and Services



Figure 4: Tools of the DIP

The DIP contains core tools, i.e. information, matching and data exchange tool set and standard info, i.e. project and partners, calendar of events etc. The web page will allow worldwide access to all dissemination documents and presentations. Information regarding the project's events, workshops and meetings will be uploaded within a reasonable time to enable the broadest

possible participation. The Portal will be updated regularly with news, relevant findings, achievements and content extracted from the deliverables and reports.

The visitors can obtain all the necessary information about the project, its activities and achievements or inquire the consortium about any additional information. In addition, visitors can subscribe to the Newsletter through the DIP.

The platforms and web pages of Consortium partners will be utilised to build virtual architecture in different tasks, e.g. in community building, trainings, recruitment of participants, etc.

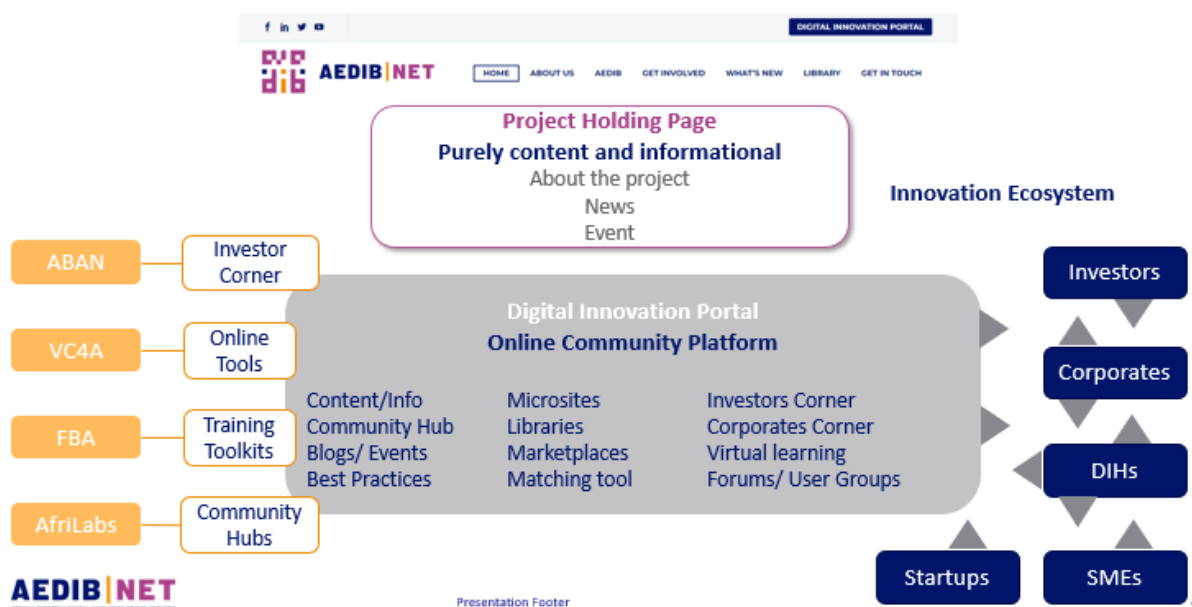


Figure 5: Tools, services and involvement of AEDIB|NET partners to DIP

Members can jump into the community to see what's new and get involved by:

2.4. Insights of the Digital Innovation Portal

This chapter shows the design of the DIP by listing screenshots. Figures 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 showcase the different sections of the not logged in Homepage of the platform.

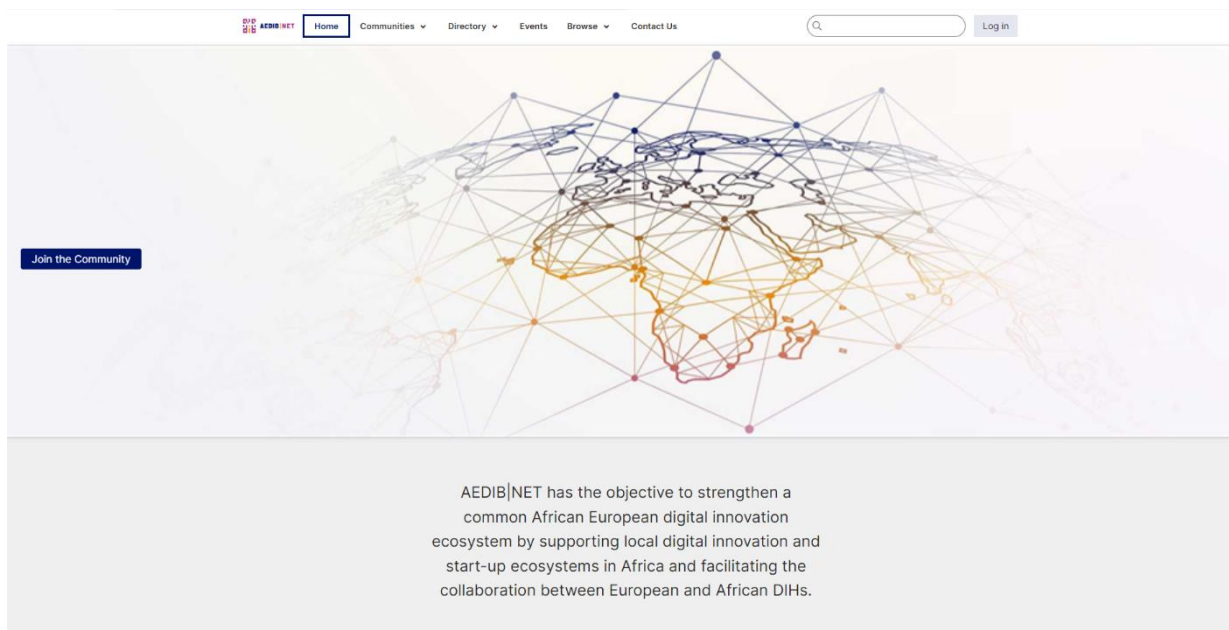


Figure 6: The DIP homepage

On the homepage (Figure 5) are five additional themes besides the home screen: Communities, Directory, Events, Browse and Contact Us. On the top right is the login/registration button.

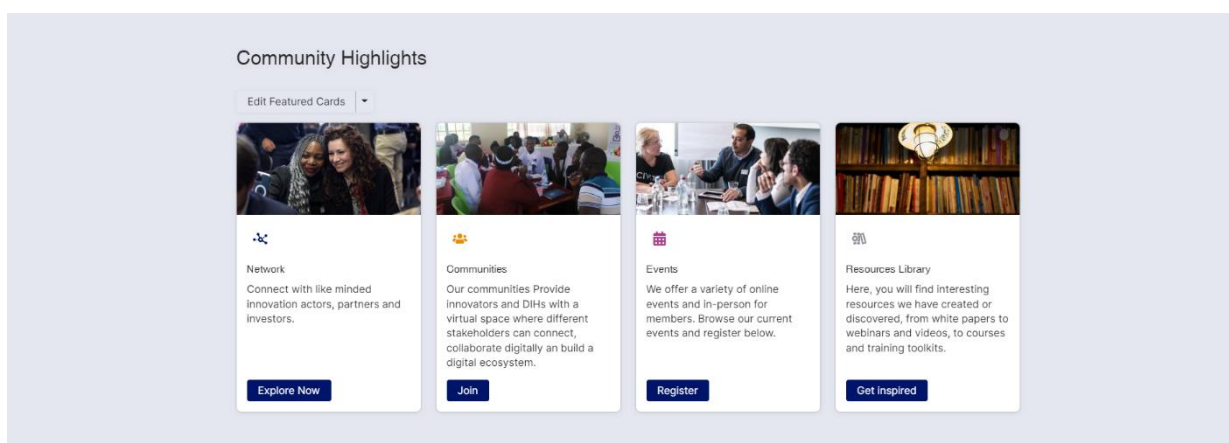


Figure 7: Community Highlights on the DIP homepage

Below, the Community Highlights (Figure 6) as Network, Communities, Events and Resources Library are listed.

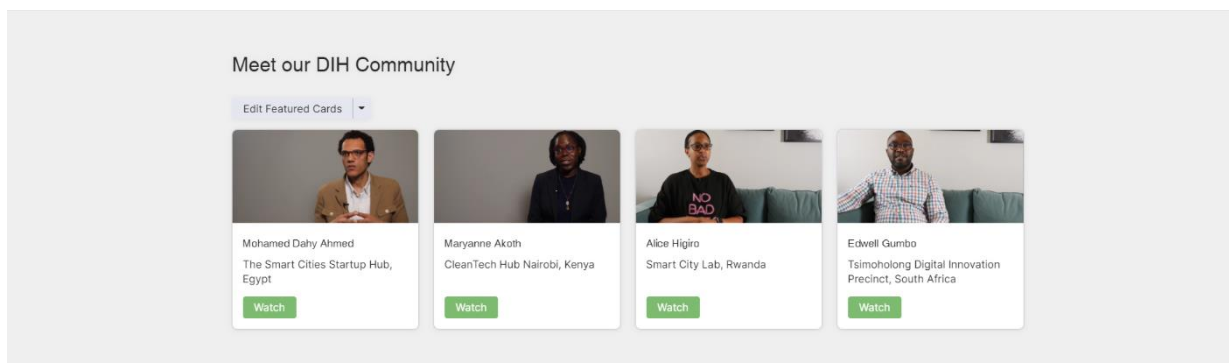


Figure 8: Videos of the AEDIB|NET DIH community on the DIP homepage

More below on the homepage, the opportunity is given to meet the DIH Community of AEDIB|NET via videos (Figure 7).

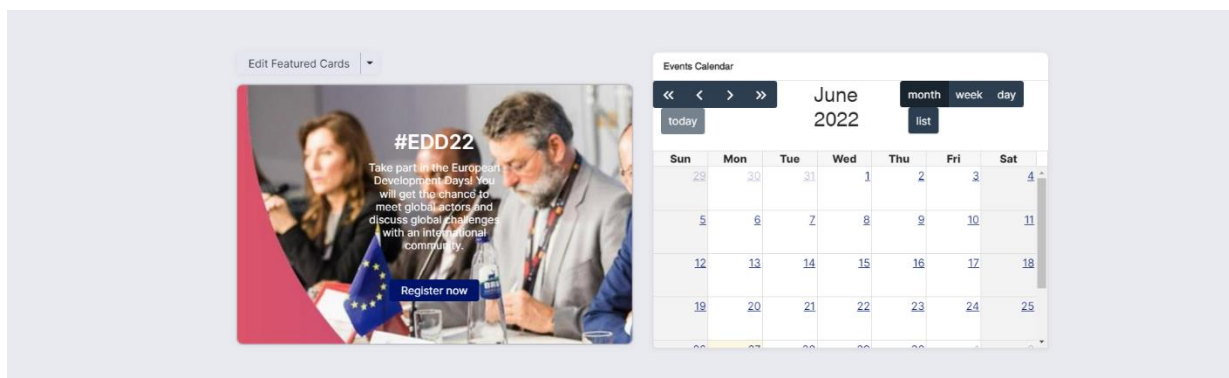


Figure 9: Events calendar on the DIP homepage

In addition, there is a calendar (Figure 8) with all relevant events around digital innovation and AEDIB|NET across Africa and Europe.

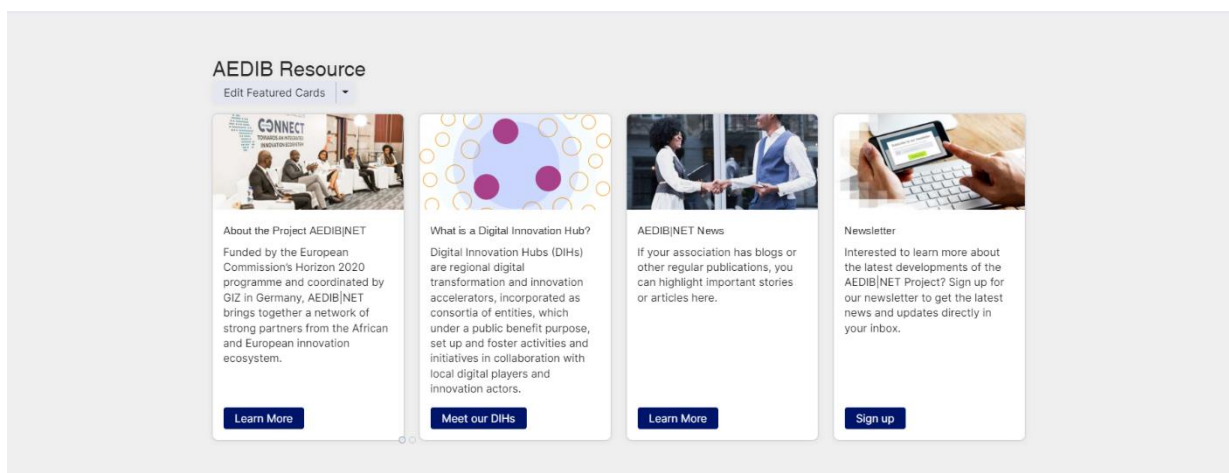


Figure 10: AEDIB Resource on the DIP homepage

At the end of the home screen of the DIP, a range of AEDIB Resources is being presented (Figure 9) with additional information about AEDIB|NET, Digital Innovation Hubs, AEDIB|NET News and the newsletter.

Once registered, members can jump into the community to see what's new and get involved by:

- Browsing the feed for latest content
- Filtering and searching for specific topics
- Participating in discussions by asking or answering questions
- Uploading photos and files to the library
- Creating one-on-one connections
- Reading blog posts
- Managing their profiles

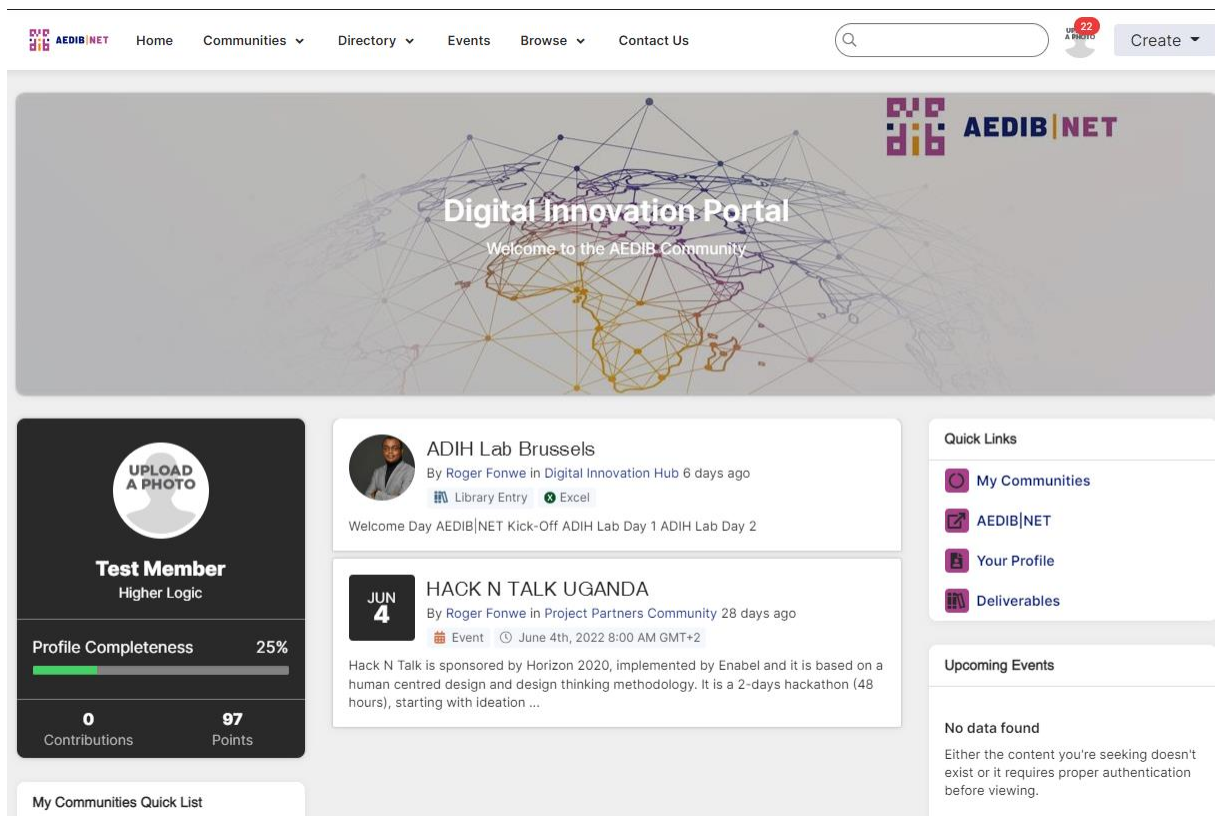


Figure 11: Profile example on the DIP

Figure 10 shows an example of a personal profile on the DIP. There you can access via "Quick Links" all relevant topics such as "My Communities", "AEDIB|NET", "Your Profile" and "Deliverables". Of course, the functionalities of the DIP depend on each member's role and preferences.

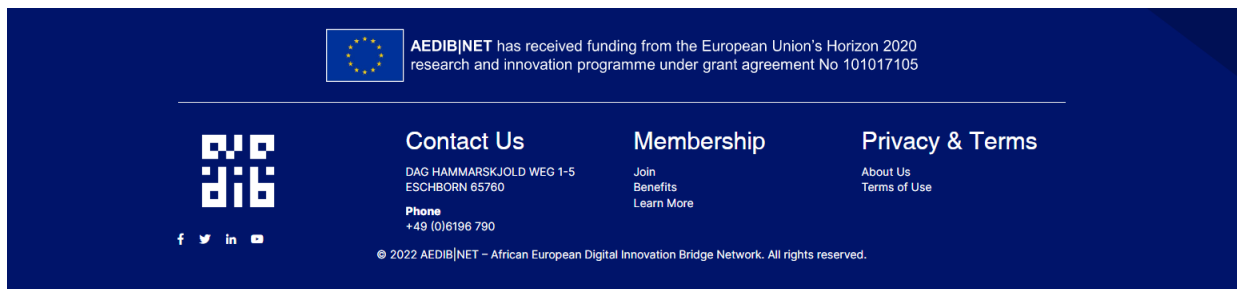


Figure 12: Footer of the DIP with EU funding emblem

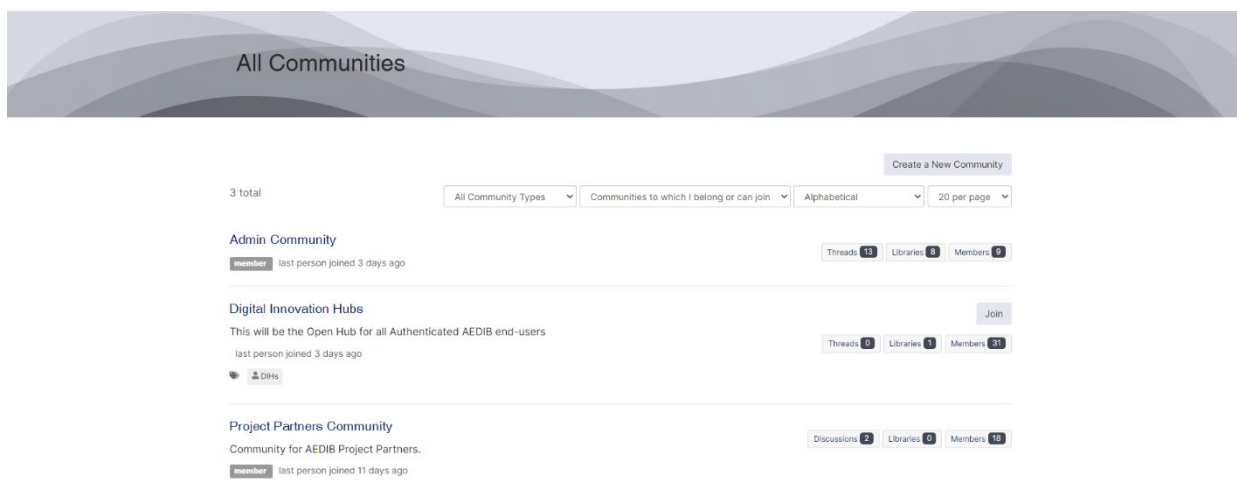


Figure 13: Communities in the DIP

More communities will be created around digital innovation.



Members - Login here

Email

Password

[New User/Register Now](#)

[Can't access your account?](#)



☐ Stay signed in



Login


Figure 14: Login/Registration page of the DIP



Create Entry


View:  

Filter By: File Type  Sort By: Date Created - Descending 




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06-24-2022 12:36 RS

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DIHs to community members
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06-10-2022 15:44 RS

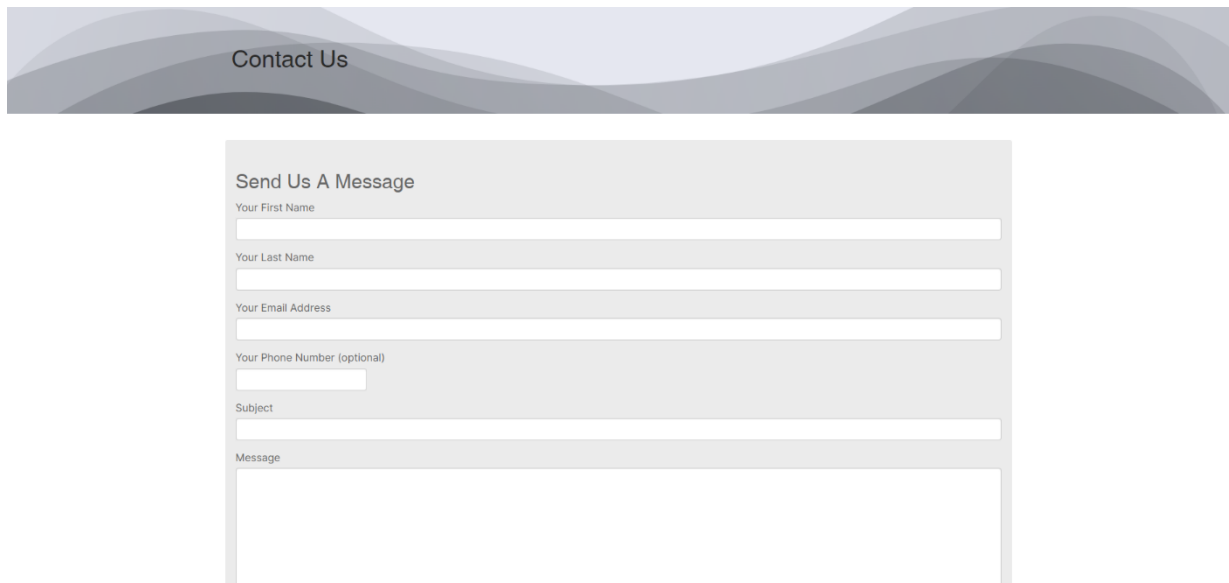
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June 2022 Strategic Coaching Call

Figure 15: Library Entries in the DIP

In the Library entries (Figure 14), relevant documents for the communities can be stored.



The image shows a 'Contact Us' page with a header banner featuring a mountain landscape and the text 'Contact Us'. Below the banner is a form titled 'Send Us A Message'. The form contains the following fields: 'Your First Name', 'Your Last Name', 'Your Email Address', 'Your Phone Number (optional)', 'Subject', and 'Message'.

Figure 16: Contact Us page in the DIP

With the aid of the Contact Us page (Figure 15) on the DIP, every user send a message to the AEDIB|NET consortium.

3. Conclusion

The Digital Innovation Portal will bring together a wide range of expertise in digital innovation and focus areas across Africa and Europe. The launch of the Platform was an essential step toward building a network-based digital innovation by providing an online infrastructure to the stakeholder of digital innovation in Africa and Europe. Within the DIP, a digital innovation bridge is being provided to improve the collaboration between the continents.



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