

DIGITBRAIN

# Digital Twins For Manufacturing

## DIGITbrain's 1st Open Call Webinar

**Giacomo Benedetti**

START 4.0 – DIGITbrain's DIHs leader/Open Call Organizer



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DIGITbrain has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 952071



# Purpose & Agenda



This webinar will give you an overview on the DIGITbrain Open Call Process and will prepare you for the Open Call application. By learning what DIGITbrain is about, which are the expected use cases and what other SMEs like you have already achieved within the project, you will better **hit the narrow target** of the Open Call.

- Introduction to the webinar, cascade funding mechanism & Open Call – Giacomo Benedetti, START 4.0
- Project overview - Antonio M. Ortiz, DIGITbrain Project Coordinator, PNO Consultants
- Which experiments/use cases are we looking for? Prof. Tamas Kiss, University of Westminster
- Experiences from previous experiments – Eng. Dario Pietraroia, Technology Transfer Systems Srl.
- Q&A (30 Min.)



# WEBINAR PROTOCOL



1. Due to the large number of people registered, all participants will be muted;
2. Participants are free to ask questions through the chat;
3. Questions will be then addressed during the Q&A session following panelist's presentations, as scheduled;
4. Should you have new questions arising at the end of this webinar, drop us a line at any time at [opencall@digitbrain.eu](mailto:opencall@digitbrain.eu);
5. If you have any technical issues, please use the chat to seek advice from the host (Paul Krishnan).

PLEASE NOTE: THE WEBINAR IS BEING RECORDED

The recording will be made available via the FundingBox and the DIGITbrain websites



# A word on cascade funding mechanism



- In simplest terms, these are open calls run by individual EU projects funded under Horizon 2020. Money is hence 'cascaded' from the Commission to the Project and then to successful participants in the open calls
- Officially called **Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP)**, being "Third Party" the legal definition of applicants

...that means **YOU!**

## Why cascade?

- Application is much simpler and shorter (it is not a secret that Horizon 2020 is difficult to access for SMEs and Mid-caps);
- Much shorter time also to receive grants: ~2 months, being funding organized and provided through the intermediary role of an Innovation Action (such as DIGITbrain), which makes the evaluation process quicker and effective;
- Shorter term sub-projects, 6-18 months (in our case 12 months) with immediate results;
- No need for 3 countries participation (although we encourage cross border experiments);
- Ensuring typically €50k to €300k (in our case up to 100k) equity-free funding to SMEs, mid-caps, and DIHs.



# Find opportunities



**DIGIT BRAIN**

Stay tuned on our website



Dive into the portal that aggregates all the projects opportunities falling within the “Innovation 4 Manufacturing SMEs” Initiative of the EC



European  
Commission

## Funding & tender opportunities

Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

Widen your search by visiting regularly the EC website on competitive calls



20/04/2021





# Now, let's get into DIGITbrain's ones!



20/04/2021

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# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

- 2 Open Calls (launched in March 2021 and March 2022 respectively)
- Number of experiments: 14 (7 per Open Call)
- Budget: 1.400.000 € (~ 100K€ per experiment)
- Who can participate?

Min. 1 main beneficiary

- End users (manufacturing companies – SMEs and mid-caps)

- Independent Software Vendors (ISV) – SMEs, mid-caps and larger companies
- Engineering consultants – SMEs and mid-caps
- Research Organisations

Min. 1 Technical Partner

**COMPULSORY!**

- High-Performance Computing (HPCs)
- Digital Innovation Hubs

**Everyone shall be established in EU Member States, Associated Countries or the United Kingdom.**



# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls



- What application experiments we seek to support?
  - Stemming from (and applicable to) any segments in the manufacturing sector at large, including (but not limited to) discrete manufacturing, continuous production, or construction;
  - Modelled and simulated using Digital Twins and Artificial Intelligence-based mechanisms so that during the experiment's execution, data, models, and algorithms are incorporated and validated in the DIGITbrain testbed.
  - Expecting to model behaviour of an Industrial Product (manufacturing machine, line or mechatronic system) with the means of a Digital Twin, while demonstrating benefits in different phases of the life cycle of this Industrial Product, its adaption and/or evolution to next generations one.

**Innovative use cases are sought!**

- ✓ Distributed cross-site workload based on dynamic capacity planning;
- ✓ Self-preserved predictive maintenance;
- ✓ Remote steering and optimisation of industrial products;
- ✓ LCA-driven optimization of industrial product and/or processes in terms of energy efficiency and/or circularity

**NOT EXHAUSTIVE**

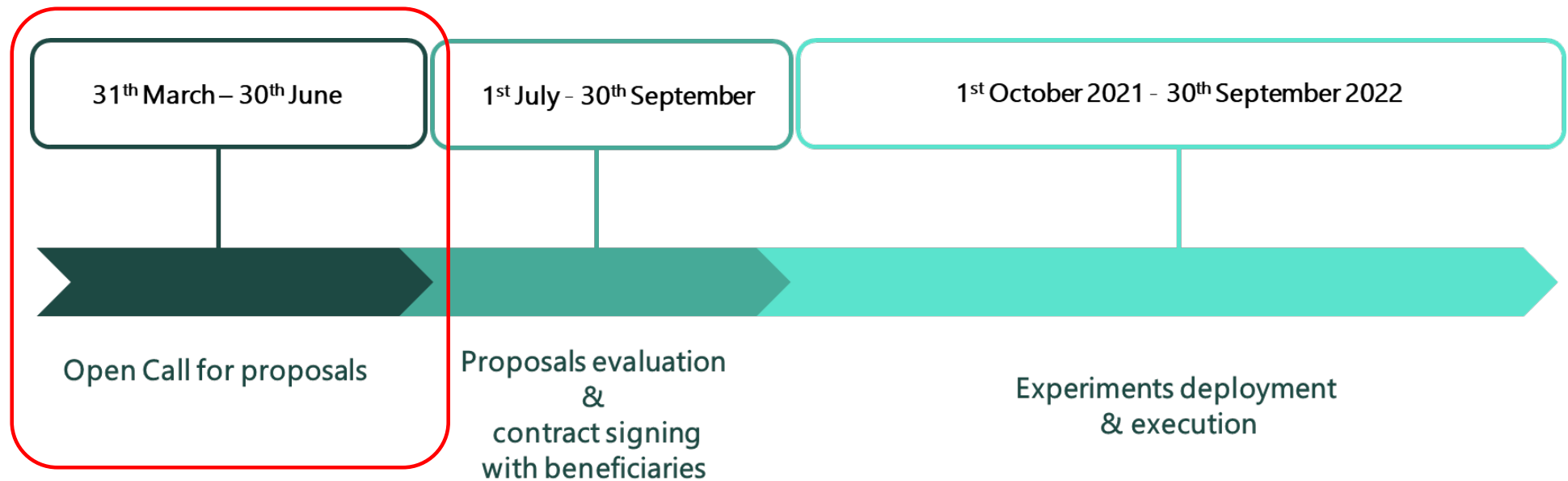






# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

## 1<sup>st</sup> Open Call Timeline

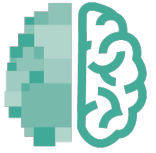


Keep in mind these dates!



20/04/2021

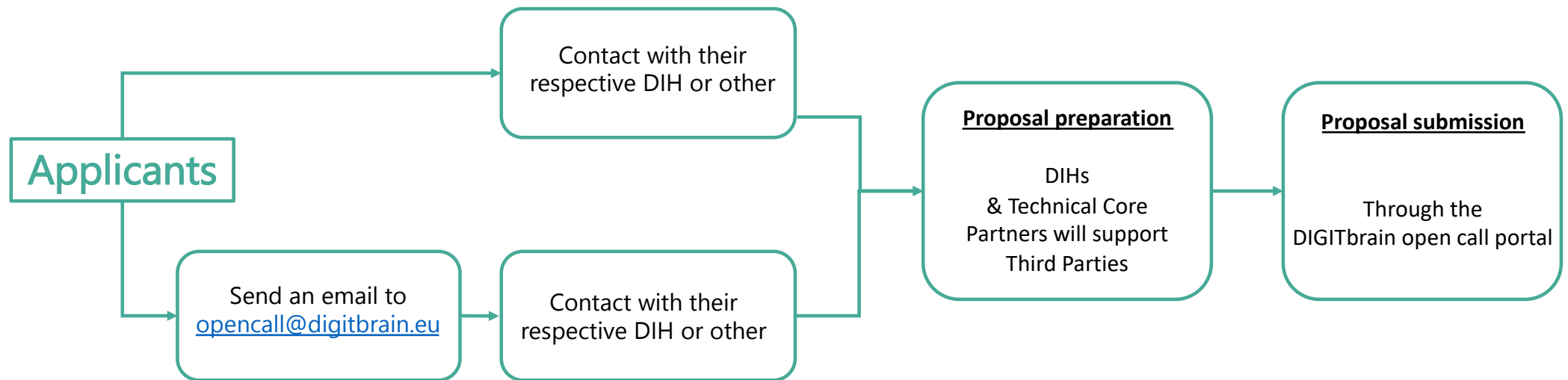




# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

## 1<sup>st</sup> Open Call Process

- From 31<sup>th</sup> March to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021





# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

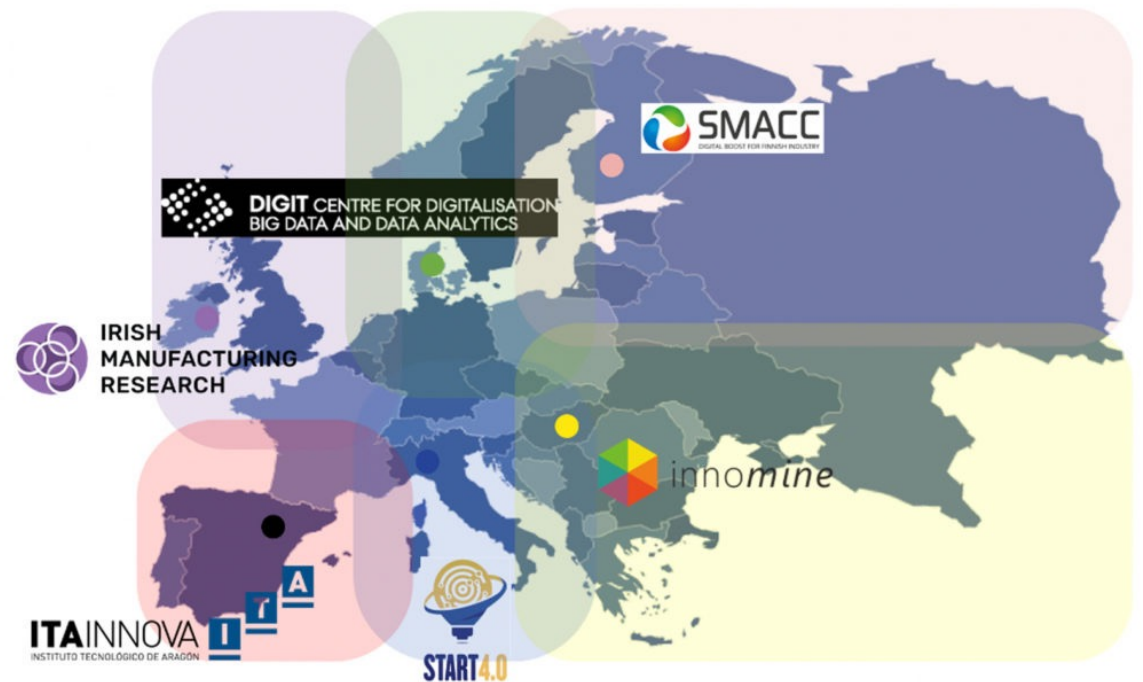
## Prepare your application - get support!

- Support is not just about money...

Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) will provide help from proposal writing up to technical and business support for each use case along with the experiments' execution.

Each experiment consortium should contact its respective DIH according to the country from which are from (regional coverage in the GfA)

...however, WE ARE A NETWORK!





# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

## Prepare your application: "must read" documents

Covering from requirements to be met by proposed application experiments up to funding and budgeting rules, including details on proposal evaluation and selection process, as well as DIHs contacts

Industrial relevance	Dissemination and exploitation strategy	Application Experiment design	Technical approach	Work plan with activities & milestones	Resources to be committed	Consortium
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Guide for Applicants  
(PDF)

Short Tech Document  
(PDF)

Proposal Template  
(Word)

Open Call Document  
(PDF)

Project's overview and insight to technical staff of the consortium proposing an application experiment, in compliance with the implementation stages of the DIGITbrain solutions themselves

Mainly addressing compliance with EC rules and recommendations regarding FSTP





# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

## Prepare your application: join the portal & submit

<https://digitbrain.fundingbox.com>



**DIGITBRAIN**

Looking for 7 innovative experiments to model behaviour of an industrial product with the means of a Digital Twin.

Apply now

+ Add a contributor

★ 1	About Experiment*	Fill
★ 2	About Experiment Partners*	Fill
★ 3	Experiment Proposal*	Fill
★ 4	Ethics*	Fill

30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, at 17:00h (Brussels local time)



20/04/2021

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# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

## What's in it for you – clues on the funding structure



The **funding budget available** in the 1st Open Call is up to **700.000 EUR** (7 experiments expected to be granted)

The **maximum amount for financial support** must not exceed **60,000 EUR per Third Party**, covering eligible costs generated during experiment's lifetime (e.g: direct personnel costs, indirect costs, sub-contracts)

No Third Party is allowed to have received more than 100,000 EUR from Horizon 2020 I4MS and SAE Open Calls

The maximum financial contribution from DIGITbrain project will be calculated applying these **reimbursement rates**:

- 100% funding of eligible costs for non-profit legal entities;
- 70% funding of eligible costs, for anyone else.

The contract **for carrying out the work described in the proposal** will be signed between the applying consortia and DIGITbrain's cascade funding manager (signatures planned for September 2021).



# Let's get into DIGITbrain's Open Calls

## What's in it for you – some perks beyond funding



- Support is not just about money...
  - Piloting opportunities to enhance end-users competitiveness and customers satisfaction, while helping developers exploring new value streams for close-to-market solutions;
  - Gaining new local-national-EU wide visibility along Project's dissemination activities;
  - Accessing free business coaching and mentorship to exploit your experiment results;
  - Networking with industry leaders and joining a wide community, while showcasing products and services in the Digital Agora.





# Thank you for your interest!

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