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| **PARTNER SEARCH FORM for Digital Europe Programme (DEP)** |

[x]  **I offer my expertise to participate as a Partner in a DEP Project**

[ ]  **I am planning to coordinate a Project and I am looking for Project Partners**

**TOPICS OF INTEREST**

* TOPIC ID: *DIGITAL-2025-SKILLS-08-GENAI-ACADEMY-STEP*
* TOPIC Deadline: 02.10.2025
* Deadline for the expressions of interest: 02.10.2025

**PARTNER INFORMATION**

* **Description of the Legal Entity:**
* Higher Education ☐
* Research Institution [x]
* Public Administration ☐
* Industry / SME ☐
* NGO ☐
* Other: [x]

Please specify: Lean and Digital Capability Center

**Description and expertise of the team:
IHKIB Digital Transformation Center (IHKIB DDM)** is the innovation and capacity-building arm of the IHKIB (Istanbul Textile and Apparel Exporters’ Associations), dedicated to accelerating lean, digital, data-driven and AI-enabled transformation across Turkey’s textile & apparel value chain. Based in Istanbul, we operate at the intersection of **industry, academia, and solution providers**, offering assessments, pilot implementations, skills programmes, and ecosystem orchestration for SMEs and mid-caps. We are also a WP coordinator of EDIH MIDAS.

**Core expertise & capabilities**

* **Deep sector knowledge:** End-to-end apparel manufacturing (planning, warehouse & material movement, cutting/sewing/finishing, quality, maintenance) with hands-on change management in factory settings.
* **Operational assessment methods:** SIRI, DMA EU, Lean, CO-SIRI, DDX
* **Shopfloor Area / Model Factory:** Experience based training via shopfloor area. In shopfloor, several solutions exhibit to the sector, including; IoT (MQTT/edge), MES/WMS/ERP interoperability, EMS (energy), computer vision for quality, digital twin pilots, and real-time shop-floor analytics (e.g., Node-RED, Grafana).
* **AI & GenAI for industry:** Sector-specific use cases AI based Machine Vision (knowledge automation for SOPs & work instructions, quality triage, demand/production planning support, shop-floor consultancy); dataset curation, prompt and workflow design, governance/ethics and data protection by design.
* **Training & curriculum design:** Cohort-based and modular programmes, multi-lingual delivery (TR/EN/FR if needed), instructor-led + blended models, micro-credentials and assessment rubrics aligned to industry roles.
* **Impact & evaluation:** Logic models, KPI trees, baseline/endpoint measurements, and exploitation plans to ensure adoption and scale.
* **Ecosystem access:** Direct reach to large networks of manufacturers and clusters; university and innovation-hub links; rapid mobilisation of pilot sites and learner cohorts; technology providers as solution partners.
* **Potential role in the project:**
* Technology provider [x]
* Data provider [x]
* Research [x]
* Training [x]
* Dissemination [x]
* Other: ☐

Please specify: DDM can be Industry networks / clusters / EDIHs side, can lead/co-lead WPs on **sectoral curricula, SME pilots, FSTP operations**, and **AI Factories interface**, and will provide access to extensive **textile & apparel** networks and pilot companies.

Expertise / competence needed in case of searching for Project Partners: Coordinator / Co-Coordinator (HEI, RTO, large association), AI/Tech provider (we have as our solution partner), Impact, monitoring & evaluation expert, Minimum 3 eligible countries / 6 beneficiaries

* **Other areas of interest for collaboration:**
* **Already experience in EU funded projects as a:**
* Coordinator: [x] YES ☐ NO
* Partner: [x] YES ☐ NO
* **Project experience and track record:**

As the **IHKIB Digital Transformation Center (DDM)**, we have led and delivered multi-country programmes at the intersection of **industrial digitalization, skills development, and SME adoption**. Our portfolio spans EU instruments and national schemes, combining **work-package leadership, pilot implementation at factory sites**, and **scalable training pathways** aligned with industry needs.

**Governance & delivery capacity**

* **WP Leadership (EDIH MIDAS):** end-to-end responsibility for a skills & pilots work package—scope design, milestones, risk/quality plans, ethics & GDPR, partner coordination, and on-time deliverables under **lump-sum** grant logic.
* **ERA role (IPA II “Metamorphosis”):** execution as **End Recipient** within a complex capacity-building framework—eligibility/compliance, procurement alignment, documentation, and result-based reporting to the contracting authority.
* **Operational excellence in skills projects:** modular/micro-credential curricula, bilingual delivery (TR/EN), trainer training, and robust learner assessment
* **Industry pilots & OT/IT integration:** shop-floor implementations (IoT/MES/quality analytics), standard operating procedures, and measurable adoption outcomes with factory partners.
* **Monitoring & evaluation:** baseline–endpoint design, KPI trees for learners and firms, exploitation & sustainability plans, and inclusion measures; data protection and responsible-AI governance embedded.
* **Dissemination & stakeholder engagement:** consortium-wide communication, policy/industry events, EDIH and cluster links to recruit SMEs and scale uptake.

**Relevance to GenAI Skills Academy & linked actions.**
Our track record directly supports **sector-specific GenAI skills** design and **SME pilots**, as well as operating **voucher/bursary (FSTP/cascade funding)** schemes. We offer rapid access to textile & manufacturing networks, ready pilot sites, and an evaluation framework focused on measurable learning and enterprise impact.

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