

DIH Forum 2026

EU Innovation: What's Next

Agenda

30 September 2026 | Registration from 09:00 | Media statement at 09:10 | Programme from 09:30

Plenary Programme

TIME	PROGRAMME
09:00–09:30	Registration
09:30–09:45	Opening Remarks • <i>Antonella di Sandri, EUD, Head of Operations Section for Economic Development, Natural Resources and Infrastructures</i> • <i>Arend Muller, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany</i> • <i>Jens Elsner, GIZ</i> • <i>Edin Škaljić, FabLab</i> The first part of DIH Forum 2026 will introduce SMEs to key funding, digitalisation and innovation opportunities designed to support business growth and competitiveness. The programme will highlight practical support for technology adoption, business development and access to relevant European programmes, while connecting the specific needs of SMEs with the experts, services and partnership opportunities available throughout the Forum.
09:45–10:15	European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) • <i>Bojan Cudic, Director, DIH Onex</i> • <i>TBC FusionX</i> • <i>Vedran Šimunović, INTERA Technology Park, EDIH BH</i> Introduction to the newly established EDIHs, their areas of specialisation, and key services available to SMEs.

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TIME	PROGRAMME
10:15–11:00	DIH Flagship Services – Panel Discussion • Maja Ibričić, Project Manager, DKR • Mersiha Muranović, Office for Research and Project Administration (ORPA), University Sarajevo School of Science and Technology (SSST) • Drago Gverić, Director, ICBL This session will showcase mature flagship services delivered by three DIH representatives, highlighting their practical value for SMEs, delivery models, and potential for cooperation across the DIH network. The presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion on reducing service duplication, strengthening referral mechanisms, and providing SMEs and other users with clearer and more coordinated access to DIH support.
11:00–11:20	Coffee Break
11:20–11:50	Digital Europe: Funding Opportunities • Anesa Omanović, DEP NCP Bosnia and Herzegovina • Florian Brütting, Digital Transformation Advisor, GIZ Bosnia and Herzegovina • TBC Verlab Institute • FabLab This session will provide an overview of the Digital Europe Programme, including its objectives, strategic priorities, current and upcoming funding opportunities, participation rules, and available support for applicants. It will also feature practical DEP showcases from Verlab Institute and FabLab, highlighting industry technology adoption and the use of immersive technologies, including real-time control of industrial robots in Virtual Reality through the UPRAISE project, to support workforce development and advanced industrial applications.

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Plenary Programme — continued

TIME	PROGRAMME
11:50–12:20	EIT and EIC Programmes and Opportunities • Mirza Suljagić, R&D Director, FabLab • Daria Ler, EIT Community Officer for Bosnia and Herzegovina, EIT Community Hub Bosnia and Herzegovina This session will present Ready4EIC, supporting SME competitiveness and access to EIC and Horizon Europe opportunities, alongside EIT funding, acceleration, education, and business creation programmes.
12:20–12:30	National Innovation Policy • Marko Antonio Brkić, Assistant Minister for Science and Technology, Federal Ministry of Education and Science (FMON) This session will provide updates on innovation policy in FBiH, the 2026 call and priorities for 2027 innovation support.

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Parallel Sessions

TIME	THEMATIC SESSION	
12:30–13:00	Urban Mobility • <i>Matthieu Clouqueur, EIT</i> <i>Urban Mobility</i> EIT Urban Mobility priorities, funding and collaboration opportunities. Online Main Stage	AI Workshop • <i>Asad Karisik, GIZ</i> Practical overview of Horizon Europe and Digital Europe opportunities for AI adoption. Glass Conference Room
	Urban Food Systems • <i>Asad Karisik, GIZ</i> A practical session on Horizon Europe opportunities, expected impacts and consortium building for sustainable and digital food systems. Glass Conference Room	
13:00 onwards	Networking (catering and refreshments)	

Separate One-to-One Meetings

TIME	PROGRAMME
10:00–12:30	EBRD and SMEs One-to-One Meeting Slots • <i>Erna Kurtović, Consultant, EBRD</i> Individual 15-minute meetings with EBRD representatives, offering SMEs an opportunity to discuss their business needs, available support, and potential next steps. Advance registration is required.

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