Capturing the digital future with SRC-EDIH

A press conference was held at the Pretoria Palace in Koper, where the speakers presented the project services and experiences offered to companies and public institutions for the digitisation of their own work by our pan-Slovenian European Digital Innovation Hub, the SRC-EDIH project, coordinated from Novo mesto. Companies and public institutions that join the project get an assessment of their existing digital sophistication and the skills and services to use digital technologies to improve their business and production processes, products or services in the future.

The Rector of the University of Primorska, Klavdija Kutnar, PhD, gave the opening address. She highlighted the importance of the SRC-EDIH project for the University of Primorska and its integration into the broader social environment in the municipality, region and country. Franci Bratkovič, Director of the Development Centre Novo mesto, emphasised the necessity of digitisation of organisations for their success and competitiveness in the future. Andrej Erzetič, Advisor to the Mayor for Digital Development, Digital Development and Office Operations Department at the Municipality of Koper, presented the vision of the digital development of the Municipality of Koper and the experience of using the digital maturity assessment tool of the SRC-EDIH project. Andrej Erzetič, Advisor to the Mayor for Digital Development, Digital Development and Office Management Service at the Municipality of Koper, presented the vision of the digital development of the Municipality of Koper and the experience of using the SRC-EDIH digital maturity assessment tool. He pointed out that for the Municipality of Koper, the users of the digital processes are not only the officials, but also all citizens of the municipality, i.e. approximately 50,000 people. All of them need to be empowered with digital transformation competences. Marko Krnec, Director of K2PACK, also shared his experience of the SRC-EDIH project so far.

Over the next two years, SRC-EDIH will support over 100 organisations and more than 1000 employees in acquiring digital skills and competences in Slovenia. All companies, entrepreneurs, organisations and institutions involved in the project will have access to technical and professional knowledge, over 100 different training courses and 11 test environments to test advanced digital technologies before investing in them. The Hub also offers advice on financing and access to the innovation ecosystem. All of the project's services are either free of charge to users or available at a lower price than the free market outside the Hubs.

Today, digital transformation is a necessary part of doing business successfully and achieving competitiveness in both the private and public sectors. Business transformation in a digital environment requires the introduction of new technologies, changes in business processes, as well as in the culture and mindset of employees within organisations and in society.

The press conference was followed by the 8th working meeting of the consortium (SRC - EDIH project partners). The participants reviewed the status of the work and activities carried out so far in all seven work packages and defined the way forward.

The event takes place as part of the <u>SRC-EDIH project</u>.

