

# ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



# **Dear project EAGLE Community**

As Project EAGLE approaches its closing phase and we are pleased to share remarkable results achieved over course of the three-year project. These achievements were made possible by the dedication and collaborative spirit of the entire EAGLE team, which brought together experts from diverse backgrounds. Their unique contributions and insights opened new perspectives and opportunities that went far beyond what we had anticipated at the start of the project.

Our collaborative effort has enabled us to engage a broad audience of SMEs, delivering tangible and meaningful benefits to their businesses, fostering new career pathways, and supporting the creation of attractive employment opportunities. In addition to these accomplishments, the project has contributed to the development of stronger, more skilled, and better-prepared communities, leaving a lasting impact that will continue beyond the project's conclusion.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) under grant agreement No 101100660.





# **Project Overview & Key Achievements**

Over the past three years, we have successfully developed and piloted six training courses. From the very beginning, our approach focused on gaining deep insights into the current needs, challenges, and barriers that prevent SMEs from actively pursuing digital skills and competencies. To ensure the relevance and quality of our training programs, we engaged leading experts in the field through dedicated Working Groups. These collaborations provided a solid foundation for designing courses that are not only up-to-date but also carefully tailored to address the practical realities and demands of today's business environment. Notably, several of these courses are now offered as micro-credentials by the respective universities, ensuring their ongoing availability and continued impact in the future.

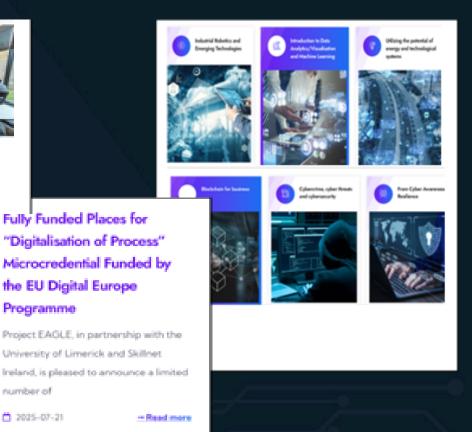
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# **Ongoing trainings for SMEs**

Training course "From Cyber Awareness to Resilience",

Turku University of Applied Sciences (Turku UAS) is offering a series of trainings designed to support SMEs in strengthening their digital capabilities:

Training course "From Cyber Awareness to Resilience", designed to address the digital skills gap among ICT professionals working in European SMEs. This comprehensive online program consists of 50 hours of training, including 24 hours of live online sessions and 26 hours of guided independent study, and awards participants 2 ECTS credits upon successful completion.

The course focuses on strengthening cybersecurity awareness and enhancing organizational resilience to cyberthreats.

**Key thematic areas include:** 

- Building and sustaining a strong cybersecurity culture;
- · Information classification and secure data handling;
- Cyber risk identification, assessment, and management;
- Developing organizational competence and readiness in cybersecurity.

Delivered fully online and in English, the course attracts participants from across the EU. As Turku UAS emphasizes, "Cybersecurity is not just about defense; it's about building a culture of awareness and resilience to face evolving threats head-on. Empower your business with the skills to not only safeguard but thrive in the digital age."

Through interactive modules, hands-on exercises, and real-world simulations, you will gain practical skills to design and implement cybersecurity strategies tailored to the needs of your organization. More information: <a href="https://projecteagle.eu/courses/from-cyber-awareness-to-resilience/">https://projecteagle.eu/courses/from-cyber-awareness-to-resilience/</a>







# **Training Course "Digitalisation of Process"**

The University of Limerick is currently delivering its fourth training module, "Digitalisation of Process," which runs over 13 weeks and will conclude in December 2025. This Level 9 microcredential, delivered by industry expert Bill Hennessy, focuses on mapping, analysing, and automating business processes through the use of modern digital tools. A total of 18 fully funded Project EAGLE participants are enrolled in the module.

As part of the Professional Diploma in Digitalisation of Business & Industry Processes, the module is particularly relevant for professionals working in business operations, manufacturing, and IT roles. It equips learners with the skills to assess digital maturity, analyse current and desired future states, and develop effective transformation roadmaps.

The module adopts a strong applied learning approach. Participants explore opportunities for digitalisation by working directly with data through the lens of the relational database model. They are introduced to standard enterprise systems used to collect and interpret datasets, gaining an understanding of how to design and develop database structures, collect and clean data, and apply best practices in data visualisation and interpretation.

This practical, data-driven approach enables learners to build foundational competencies essential for digital transformation across industries.



### **Recommendations for Community**

During the course of the EAGLE project, we conducted indepth interviews with SMEs across the participating countries, following their journey from the initial engagement into the consultations through to the completion of the training courses. These interviews captured participants' experiences, insights, and feedback, with a particular focus on identifying the value and learnings gained by both the organizations and individual participants.







All insights gathered have been systematically consolidated into visually engaging infographic formats and translated into the national languages of all participating countries. This approach ensures that the findings are readily accessible and easily understood by SMEs at the national level, facilitating their practical use in enhancing digital skills, cybersecurity awareness, and organizational development.

# Established collaborations with 54 EU and national projects

A noteworthy example of isnpiring collaboration is the partnership between EAGLE and EU projects CYSSME (www.cyssme.eu) and DI4Lithuania (www.di4lithuanianid.com), which has created synergies to deliver a range of services for SMEs. EAGLE provides specialized training programs, CYSSME conducts follow-up cyber risk assessments and develops tailored improvement roadmaps and tools, while DIH4Lithuania supports SMEs in accessing funding instruments to implement robust cybersecurity measures.

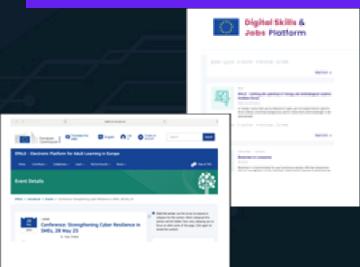


EAGLE actively collaborates with the EPALE platform (Electronic Platform for Adult Learning in Europe) to enhance the visibility and impact of its initiatives across Europe. Through this partnership, EAGLE shares updates on its achievements, upcoming events, and professional training opportunities,



# Established collaborations with EU platforms

The European Jobs and Skills Platform (EJSP) partnership has been actively leveraged to broaden the outreach and engagement of SMEs in EAGLE training initiatives. Through this collaboration, EAGLE's online training courses have been prominently promoted on the EJSP platform, significantly increasing visibility among European SMEs. As a result, the initiative has successfully attracted a substantial number of participants, enhancing access to EAGLE training courses.





#### Conference: Advanced Factories 2025- #AF2025

The EAGLE project was introduced to the industrial community by project partner DIHBU at the Advanced Factories 2025 (#AF2025)conference, held from April 8 to 10, 2025, in Barcelona. #AF2025 is a leading event in industrial automation, robotics, and digital manufacturing, attracting over 560 companies to present cutting-edge solutions across areas such as automation, robotics, integrated production systems, artificial intelligence, machine learning, digital twins, computer vision, VR/AR, cybersecurity, IIoT, data analytics, and cloud computing. This platform provided the EAGLE project with an excellent opportunity to showcase its initiatives and engage with industry stakeholders. During the event, visitors were able to visit information point no. 6, where FAE Burgos and the University of Burgos presented the catalogue of free courses as part of the EAGLE project.



# Conference: EUF Open Space 2025, Limerick, Ireland, 11-13 June, 2025

The EUF Open Space Conference is organized by the European University Foundation (EUF), a network encompassing universities across more than 30 countries. In this edition, higher education and project professionals convened to share insights through sessions focused on sustainability, mobility, and EU funding strategies. The EAGLE project was presented to the higher education community, fostering the exchange of best practices and promoting partnerships that advance the project's objectives: bridging the digital skills gap in SMEs and strengthening collaboration with higher education professionals.



### Conference: Cyber Resilience in SMEs" on May 28, 2025, in Turku, Finland

The Turku University of Applied Sciences (TUAS), hosted a conference aimed at enhancing the cyber resilience of SMEs across Europe.

The conference program featured keynote speeches, presentations, and panel discussions focused on three primary areas:

- 1. Regulatory Landscape & Supply-Chain Resilience, examining the implications of the NIS 2 Directive and the proposed Cyber Resilience Act for SMEs, as well as their role in broader supply chains and societal resilience.
- 2. Upskilling and Reskilling for Cybersecurity, by addressing the need to develop digital and cybersecurity competencies within SMEs, aligned with EAGLE's mission to close the digital skills gap.
- 3. Future of Cybersecurity Competencies & Services: A panel discussion on emerging needs, services, and educational pathways for SMEs, featuring contributions from EAGLE partners across Europe.
  The event offered excellent networking opportunities, facilitating face-to-face discussions with representatives from SMEs across Europe.
  Participants were able to engage directly on the practical challenges and barriers SMEs encounter during their digital transformation journeys, including issues related to cybersecurity, digital skills gaps, and the adoption of new technologies in their business operations.









### Conference: "Kibersaugus verslas" On 8 October, 2025

On 8 October 2025, during the "Kibersaugus verslas" conference organized by Lithuania's leading media outlet, Verslo žinios, L3CE delivered a presentation highlighting the critical role of cybersecurity in SMEs and the contributions of the EAGLE project to cybersecurity skills development. A central focus of the presentation was raising awareness among the broad SME audience about the importance of cybersecurity as a cornerstone of successful business operations. L3CE emphasized the need for continuous education across all organizational levels, extending beyond technical staff, to cultivate a robust culture of security within SMEs.

More info: https://verslodiskusija.vz.lt/kibersaugus-verslas/

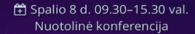
# Conference: "Moravskoslezský kraj na křižovatce" on 5th November, 2025

On November 5, 2025, at the conference "Moravian-Silesian Region at the Crossroads," organized in cooperation with the Moravian-Silesian Chamber of Commerce. At this conference, TU Ostrava delivered a presentation on the EAGLE project, recognising its relevance for the region's development. According to your description, the presentation likely emphasized:

- The importance of cybersecurity and digital skills development for regional companies (especially SMEs).
  - The need to build human capacities and competencies so the region can handle ongoing digitalization and remain competitive.
- · The role of continuous education, targeted training, and awareness-raising in supporting workforce adaptation including retaining young professionals in the region. By presenting EAGLE at such a strategic regional conference, TU Ostrava and project partners aimed to link digital skills / cybersecurity upskilling with wider regional transformation reinforcing the idea that education and capacity building are central to the Moravian-Silesian Region's future.

More info: https://www.krajnakrizovatce.cz/moravskoslezsky-kraj-na-krizovatce/







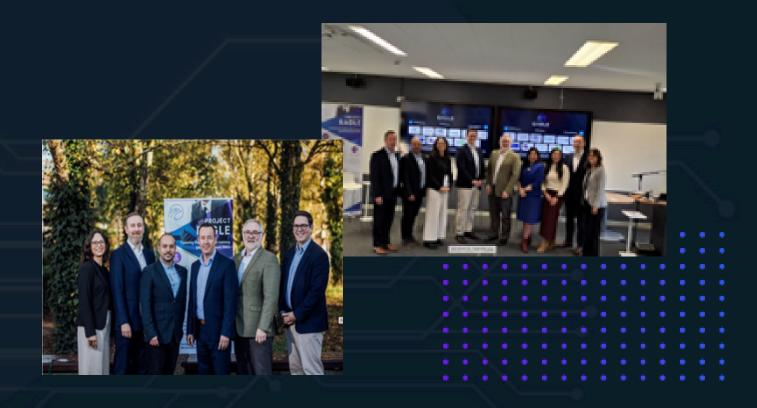


# Conference: Bridging the Digital Skills Gap: Empowering SMEs for the Future on 20th of November, 2025

Project EAGLE, recently concluded its final conference, bringing together academic, industry, and training partners to share the project's outcomes and explore future strategies for SME digital transformation. Funded by the Digital Europe Programme and supported in Ireland by the University of Limerick and Skillnet Ireland, the event highlighted EAGLE's impact and reinforced its role in fostering digital skills across Europe.

During the conference, participants had the opportunity to:

- · Engage in a Business Networking Breakfast and Workshop focused on 'Skills That Matter' and preparing SMEs for the digital future.
  - · Attend a keynote by Tim Crowe, CEO of WorxFlo, discussing "Al and Supply Chain Digitalisation: Practical Insights for SMEs."
  - · Take part in a panel discussion on collaborative strategies for digital transformation, emphasizing partnerships between industry, academia, and training networks.
  - · Review the project's outcomes and recommendations, showcasing practical tools and solutions developed by EAGLE.
- Learn about European and local support programs available to SMEs for 2026 and beyond.
   The conference provided a valuable platform for disseminating EAGLE's achievements, sharing innovative approaches, and strengthening networks across the European adult learning and SMEs ecosystems.









# **Eagle Consortium Meeting in Limerick**

On 19 November 2025, all 11 partners of Project EAGLE met at the University of Limerick for the project's final partner meeting. The meeting marked as a final milestone, provided an opportunity to review project progress, assess remaing tasks, consolidate outcomes, and plan the next steps. In this context, a dedicated brainstorming session engaged all partners in sharing ideas and insights on the key aspects essential for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the project's outcomes. These contributions will serve as critical input for the EAGLE Project Sustainability Plan, which not only addresses the conclusion of the project but also charts a clear path toward new opportunities.





### **Moving Ahead**

Over the past three years, the EAGLE project has successfully established a strong foundation for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the delivery of high-quality training courses. Through evaluation and surveys involving more than 450 participants, we have confirmed the relevance and practical feasibility of our courses, demonstrating that digital skills are an increasingly vital asset for SMEs across Europe.

Building on these achievements, we are proud to introduce the EAGLE Sustainability Plan.

This plan outlines the mechanisms, strategic pathways, and operational structures necessary to ensure that the project's initiatives not only continue but also expand and thrive beyond the formal project lifecycle.

The Sustainability Plan serves as a clear roadmap for:

- · Scaling Impact and extending the reach of EAGLE's digital skills training to more SMEs across Europe.
  - · Embedding Best Practices by ensuring that the methodologies, tools, and insights developed through the project are integrated into ongoing digital skills initiatives.
- · Maintaining Momentum: Providing the frameworks for continued collaboration, knowledge exchange, and support for SMEs in navigating the digital transformation. As we move forward, the EAGLE project remains committed to fostering digital excellence, empowering small and medium-sized enterprises, and contributing to a more digitally skilled European workforce. Thank you for being part of this journey with us your engagement has been instrumental in our shared success.



Warmest regards
Project Eagle Team