DIGITAL DECADE POLICY PROGRAMME (DDPP)

Policy briefing

Weblink	https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/europes-digital-decade
Relevance	☐ National policy x EU policy ☐ other: _____
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Short summary of the policy

With its Digital Decade Policy Programme (DDPP), the EU aims to foster the digital transformation of the European Union and address remaining challenges for citizens, business and public administrations to make use of digital technologies. The DDPP sets concrete targets and objectives to be achieved by 2030. These objectives are centered around four areas: skills, infrastructures, business, and government.

Within the policy programme, an annual cooperation mechanism has been set up between the European Commission and the Member States to meet the common objectives and targets. This mechanism consists of four elements:

– A structured and shared monitoring system based on the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) which measures progress towards each of the four targets
– An annual Commission report that evaluates progress and provides recommendations for actions.
– Biennial adjusted national digital decade roadmaps in which Member States outline the actions they have adopted or planned to achieve the 2030 targets
– The implementation of European Digital Infrastructure Consortia as a mechanism to support the implementation of multi-country projects.

To monitor progress towards the 2030 targets, the Commission has developed EU-level trajectories. These allow a yearly comparison of the values observed for the key performance indicators for each target against the projected values. These trajectories also form the basis on which Member States can develop their national roadmaps.

Main objectives of the policy

With the Digital Decade Policy Programme, the European Commission aims to achieve the following objectives by 2030:

– Skills
  ▪ 20 million ICT specialists, and gender convergence
  ▪ Minimum 80% of EU population has basic digital skills

- Digital transformation of businesses
  - Tech up-take: 75% of EU companies use cloud, AI or big data
  - Innovators: grow scale-ups and finance to double EU Unicorns
  - Late adopters: more than 90% of SMEs reach at least a basic level of digital intensity
- Secure and sustainable digital infrastructures
  - Connectivity: gigabit for everyone
  - Cutting edge semiconductors: double EU share in global production
  - Data – Edge & Cloud: 10.000 climate-neutral highly secure edge nodes
  - Computing: first computer with quantum acceleration
- Digitalisation of public services
  - Key public services: 100% online
  - e-Health: 100% of citizens have access to medical health records online
  - Digital Identity: 100% of citizens have access to digital ID

The DDPP also seeks to ensure that the digital transformation is inclusive, with a focus on reducing the digital divide and making digital services accessible to all.

Context and relation to the Digital Europe Programme (DEP)

The Digital Decade Policy Programme forms the policy basis for Digital Europe. The calls for proposals issued under the Digital Europe Programme aim to provide funding to projects that contribute directly to the efforts to achieve the 2030 targets for digital transformation.

Parts of the policy directly related to specific objectives (SO) in DEP

As the Digital Decade 2030 is the underlying policy for the Digital Europe Programme, it is directly related to all specific objectives of the programme. All Digital Europe calls from all specific objectives address at least one of the 2030 targets of the Digital Decade. Proposers should therefore refer to the Digital Decade targets in their application and explain what contribution their suggested project can make to achieve the 2030 targets.

- Target on skills: primarily addressed by SO 4 – Advanced Digital Skills.
- Target on digitalisation of public services: mostly addressed under SO 5 – Deployment and best use of digital technologies.
- Targets for digital transformation of businesses and secure and sustainable infrastructures: there are calls in all SOs that can contribute to these goals.

Related policies and further information

As the underlying policy and foundation of the digital transformation in Europe, the Digital Decade Policy Programme has links with many, more specific policies and EU legislations, such as - but not limited to - the AI Continent, the AI Innovation Package and the AI Act, the Cyber Resilience Act and the Cyber Solidarity Act, the Chips for Europe Initiative and the Chips Act, the Interoperable Europe Act, and the Digital Skills Agenda.

For related events, please check out the following online calendars: Shaping Europe's digital future, HADEA