

EU Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030: Objectives, Targets, and Implementation Framework

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Executive Summary

The Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030, established by Decision (EU) 2022/2481, sets a comprehensive framework for the EU's digital transformation by 2030. It aims to foster a human-centric, sustainable, and inclusive digital society, ensuring all citizens and businesses benefit from digital advancements. The programme defines measurable targets in four key areas: digital skills, connectivity, digital business, and digital public services. It introduces a robust monitoring and cooperation mechanism, requiring annual progress reports and national strategic roadmaps from Member States. Multi-country projects enable pooled investments for large-scale, cross-border digital initiatives. The policy emphasizes respect for EU values, digital rights, and principles, and seeks to bridge digital divides, enhance digital sovereignty, and support innovation, sustainability, and resilience across the Union. Regular stakeholder engagement and transparent governance underpin its implementation, ensuring alignment with broader EU objectives such as the European Green Deal.

Taxonomies

Themes

- **Digital Decade** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Agenda** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Acceleration** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Platforms** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Infrastructure** (Digital Transformation & Strategy) - Relevance: 0.93

Justification: Digital infrastructure (including connectivity, 5G, edge nodes, and semiconductors) is another cardinal point and target area, with significant content devoted to its development, sustainability, and strategic importance. The document details specific infrastructure goals (e.g., gigabit networks, 5G coverage, quantum computing) and links them to economic resilience, digital sovereignty, and inclusion, making it a central pillar of the policy programme.

- **Digital Policy** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Ecosystem** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Investment** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Regulation** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Transitions** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Research** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Sustainability** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Economy** (Digital Transformation & Strategy)
- **Digital Skills Development** (Digital Transformation & Strategy) - Relevance: 0.95

Justification: Digital skills development is one of the four cardinal points and explicit targets of the Digital Decade, with extensive content dedicated to it. The document emphasizes the need for both basic and advanced digital skills for citizens and professionals, gender balance, and lifelong learning. Achieving digital skills is presented as foundational to the success of the digital transformation and is directly linked to economic, social, and strategic objectives.

- **Artificial Intelligence** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Tech-Driven Solutions** (Technology & Innovation)
- **ICT Innovation** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Technology Regulations** (Technology & Innovation)
- **High-Performance Computing** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Sustainable Tech** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Cloud Computing** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Innovation in Computing** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Blockchain** (Technology & Innovation)
- **5G** (Technology & Innovation)
- **Data Governance** (Data & Governance)
- **Digital Rights** (Data & Governance)
- **Digital Governance** (Data & Governance)
- **Data Protection** (Data & Governance)
- **Cybersecurity** (Data & Governance)
- **Cyber Risk Management** (Data & Governance)
- **Data Privacy** (Data & Governance)
- **Digital Access** (Data & Governance)
- **Digital Identity Management** (Data & Governance)
- **Internet Governance** (Data & Governance)

- **Digital Ethics** (Data & Governance)
- **E-Governance** (Data & Governance)
- **Digital Inclusion** (Inclusion & Social Development)
- **Social Cohesion** (Inclusion & Social Development)
- **Gender Equality in Tech** (Inclusion & Social Development)
- **Digital Education** (Inclusion & Social Development)
- **Connectivity** (Inclusion & Social Development)
- **Sustainable Digital Development** (Inclusion & Social Development)
- **Global Digital Cooperation** (Regional & International Cooperation)
- **Multilateralism** (Regional & International Cooperation)
- **Digital & Technological Partnerships** (Regional & International Cooperation)
- **Digital Decade (Digital Transformation & Strategy)** (Digital Transformation & Strategy) - Relevance: 1.0

Justification: The entire document is centered on the EU's Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030, which sets the vision, objectives, targets, and governance for Europe's digital transformation. The term 'Digital Decade' is repeatedly referenced as the main framework, and the majority of the content is dedicated to defining its strategy, implementation, and monitoring. It is the core theme that encapsulates all other sub-themes and objectives.

Actors

- **EU Member States** (Political Actors) - Relevance: 0.95

Justification: EU Member States are essential to the implementation of the Digital Decade Policy Programme. They are responsible for developing national roadmaps, participating in multi-country projects, providing data, and executing policies and investments at the national and regional levels. Their cooperation with the Commission is fundamental to achieving the programme's targets.

- **European Parliament** (Political Actors) - Relevance: 0.85

Justification: The European Parliament is a co-legislator and a key decision-maker in establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme. It is involved in adopting the decision, is kept informed of progress, and ensures democratic oversight. While less operational than the Commission or Member States, its legislative and supervisory roles are crucial to the programme's legitimacy and direction.

- **European Council** (Political Actors)
- **European Union** (Political Actors)
- **European Commission** (Political Actors) - Relevance: 1.0

Justification: The European Commission is the central actor in the Digital Decade Policy Programme. It initiates proposals, monitors progress, sets KPIs, coordinates with Member States, publishes annual reports, and plays a key role in the implementation and governance of the programme. The Commission is repeatedly referenced as the main driver and coordinator of the digital transformation agenda.

- **Digital Innovation Hubs** (Research and Innovation Actors)
- **Digital Companies** (Economic Actors)
- **ICT Companies** (Economic Actors)
- **Telecommunication Companies** (Economic Actors)
- **Civil Society Organisations** (Civil Society Actors)
- **Digital Training and Education Providers** (Civil Society Actors)

Beneficiary Groups

- **Citizens** (General Citizens / Consumers)
- **Community Organizations** (Civil Society / NGOs)
- **Companies** (SMEs / Businesses)
- **Small and Medium Enterprises** (SMEs / Businesses)
- **Women in Tech** (Women & Girls)

Additional Beneficiary Groups

- citizen
- business
- woman
- SME
- community

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- SDG 4: Quality Education
- SDG 5: Gender Equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

EU Policy Alignments

- Digital Decade
- EU Cyber Strategy
- Global Gateway

Commitments

Commitment 1

By 2030, at least 80% of those aged 16-74 in the EU must have at least basic digital skills.

Details:

- By 2030, at least 80% of those aged 16-74 in the EU must have at least basic digital skills. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 2

By 2030, at least 20 million ICT specialists must be employed within the EU, with efforts to promote access for women and increase the number of ICT graduates.

Details:

- By 2030, at least 20 million ICT specialists must be employed within the EU, with efforts to promote access for women and increase the number of ICT graduates. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 3

By 2030, all end users at a fixed location must be covered by a gigabit network up to the network termination point, and all populated areas must be covered by next-generation wireless high-speed networks with performance at least equivalent to that of 5G.

Details:

- By 2030, all end users at a fixed location must be covered by a gigabit network up to the network termination point, and all populated areas must be covered by next-generation wireless high-speed networks with performance at least equivalent to that of 5G. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 4

By 2030, the production of cutting-edge semiconductors in the EU must be at least 20% of world production in value, in accordance with EU law on environmental sustainability.

Details:

- By 2030, the production of cutting-edge semiconductors in the EU must be at least 20% of world production in value, in accordance with EU law on environmental sustainability. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 5

By 2030, at least 10,000 climate-neutral highly secure edge nodes must be deployed in the EU, distributed to guarantee access to data services with low latency wherever businesses are located.

Details:

- By 2030, at least 10,000 climate-neutral highly secure edge nodes must be deployed in the EU, distributed to guarantee access to data services with low latency wherever businesses are located. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 6

By 2025, the EU must have its first computer with quantum acceleration, paving the way for the EU to be at the cutting edge of quantum capabilities by 2030.

Details:

- By 2025, the EU must have its first computer with quantum acceleration, paving the way for the EU to be at the cutting edge of quantum capabilities by 2030. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 7

By 2030, at least 75% of EU enterprises must have taken up one or more of the following: cloud computing services, big data, or artificial intelligence.

Details:

- By 2030, at least 75% of EU enterprises must have taken up one or more of the following: cloud computing services, big data, or artificial intelligence. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 8

By 2030, more than 90% of EU SMEs must reach at least a basic level of digital intensity.

Details:

- By 2030, more than 90% of EU SMEs must reach at least a basic level of digital intensity. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 9

By 2030, the number of unicorns in the EU must be at least doubled.

Details:

- By 2030, the number of unicorns in the EU must be at least doubled. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 10

By 2030, there must be 100% online accessible provision of key public services, and, where relevant, it must be possible for citizens and businesses in the EU to interact online with public administrations.

Details:

- By 2030, there must be 100% online accessible provision of key public services, and, where relevant, it must be possible for citizens and businesses in the EU to interact online with public administrations. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 11

By 2030, 100% of EU citizens must have access to their electronic health records.

Details:

- By 2030, 100% of EU citizens must have access to their electronic health records. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 12

By 2030, 100% of EU citizens must have access to secure electronic identification (eID) means that are recognised throughout the EU.

Details:

- By 2030, 100% of EU citizens must have access to secure electronic identification (eID) means that are recognised throughout the EU. (Type: Declarative)

Commitment 13

The Commission must review the digital targets and relevant definitions by 30 June 2026.

Details:

- The Commission must review the digital targets and relevant definitions by 30 June 2026. (Type: Programmatic)

Commitment 14

Each Member State must submit its national digital decade strategic roadmap by 9 October 2023.

Details:

- Each Member State must submit its national digital decade strategic roadmap by 9 October 2023. (Type: Programmatic)

Commitment 15

The Commission must submit its first Report on the Digital Decade by 9 January 2024.

Details:

- The Commission must submit its first Report on the Digital Decade by 9 January 2024. (Type: Programmatic)

Commitment 16

Every two years after the second Report on the Digital Decade, Member States must submit adjustments to their national roadmaps.

Details:

- Every two years after the second Report on the Digital Decade, Member States must submit adjustments to their national roadmaps. (Type: Programmatic)

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

KPI: Business Uptake of Advanced Digital Technologies

Description:	at least 75 % of Union enterprises have taken up one or more of the following, in line with their business operations: (i) cloud computing services; (ii) big data; (iii) artificial intelligence
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	75.0
Target Description:	At least 75% of EU enterprises use cloud, big data, or AI
Unit:	percentage of enterprises
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	DESI business digitalisation indicators, enterprise surveys
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Business / Technology Adoption

KPI: Deployed Climate-Neutral Edge Nodes

Description:	at least 10 000 climate-neutral highly secure edge nodes are deployed in the Union, distributed in a way that guarantees access to data services with low latency (i.e. a few milliseconds) wherever businesses are located
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	10000.0
Target Description:	At least 10,000 climate-neutral, highly secure edge nodes deployed across the EU
Unit:	nodes
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	Deployment reports, infrastructure inventories
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Infrastructure / Edge Computing

KPI: EU Share of Global Semiconductor Production

Description:	the production, in accordance with Union law on environmental sustainability, of cutting-edge semiconductors in the Union is at least 20 % of world production in value
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	20.0
Target Description:	EU produces at least 20% of global semiconductor value
Unit:	percentage of world production (value)
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	Industry statistics, market analysis
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Infrastructure / Semiconductors

KPI: Gigabit and 5G Network Coverage

Description:	all end users at a fixed location are covered by a gigabit network up to the network termination point, and all populated areas are covered by next-generation wireless high-speed networks with performance at least equivalent to that of 5G
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	100.0
Target Description:	100% of end users at fixed locations covered by gigabit network and all populated areas covered by 5G-equivalent wireless networks
Unit:	percentage
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	DESI connectivity indicators, network coverage reports
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Infrastructure / Connectivity

KPI: ICT Specialists Employed

Description:	at least 20 million ICT specialists are employed within the Union, while promoting the access of women to this field and increasing the number of ICT graduates
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	20000000.0
Target Description:	At least 20 million ICT specialists employed in the EU, with increased participation of women and more ICT graduates
Unit:	persons
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	DESI indicator on ICT specialists, based on EU labour force surveys
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Skills / Labour Market

KPI: Number of Unicorns in the EU

Description:	the Union facilitates the growth of its innovative scale-ups and improves their access to finance, leading to at least doubling the number of unicorns
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	2.0
Target Description:	At least double the number of unicorns in the EU
Unit:	multiple of baseline (doubling)
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	Startup and venture capital statistics
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Business / Startups & Scale-ups

KPI: Online Accessibility of Key Public Services

Description:	there is 100 % online accessible provision of key public services and, where relevant, it is possible for citizens and businesses in the Union to interact online with public administrations
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	100.0
Target Description:	100% of key public services are accessible online and allow digital interaction
Unit:	percentage
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	DESI e-government indicators, service audits
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Public Services

KPI: Population with Basic Digital Skills

Description:	at least 80 % of those aged 16-74 have at least basic digital skills
Type:	quantitative

Target Value:	80.0
Target Description:	At least 80% of people aged 16-74 should have at least basic digital skills
Unit:	percentage
Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	DESI indicator on digital skills, based on EU surveys
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Skills

KPI: Quantum Computer Deployment

Description:	the Union has, by 2025, its first computer with quantum acceleration, paving the way for the Union to be at the cutting edge of quantum capabilities by 2030
Type:	qualitative
Target Description:	Deployment of the EU's first quantum-accelerated computer by 2025, with further progress towards quantum leadership by 2030
Unit:	qualitative milestone
Timeframe:	by 2025 (first deployment), progress by 2030
Measurement Method:	Project completion and operational status
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Infrastructure / Quantum Computing

KPI: SMEs with Basic Digital Intensity

Description:	more than 90 % of Union SMEs reach at least a basic level of digital intensity
Type:	quantitative
Target Value:	90.0
Target Description:	More than 90% of EU SMEs achieve at least a basic level of digital intensity
Unit:	percentage of SMEs

Timeframe:	by 2030
Measurement Method:	DESI SME digital intensity indicator
Responsible Entity:	European Commission and Member States
Sector:	Digital Business / SMEs

Practical Applications

Application 1:

The Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030 has established a monitoring and cooperation mechanism between the European Commission and Member States to achieve measurable digital targets by 2030, including annual reporting and national digital decade strategic roadmaps.

Application 2:

The European Commission publishes an annual "Report on the State of the Digital Decade" to assess progress, identify gaps, and recommend concrete policies, measures, and actions for Member States.

Application 3:

Member States are required to submit national digital decade strategic roadmaps, detailing planned, adopted, and implemented policies, measures, and actions, including investment sources and alignment with EU objectives.

Application 4:

Multi-country projects have been established as a framework for large-scale, cross-border digital initiatives, requiring participation from at least three Member States, and can be implemented through mechanisms such as European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDICs).

Application 5:

€128 million in EU funding has been announced to advance 5G connectivity across Europe, supporting the Digital Decade connectivity targets.

Application 6:

The European Commission coordinates the implementation of multi-country projects, including calls for expressions of interest, guidance on funding and implementation mechanisms, and support services for participating Member States.

Application 7:

The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) is used as the official monitoring tool, with key performance indicators (KPIs) set by the Commission to track progress towards digital targets.

Application 8:

The European Cancer Imaging Initiative is an active multi-country project using AI-powered imaging to improve cancer care and radiology across the EU.

Application 9:

The Digital Decade policy programme leverages existing EU funding mechanisms, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund, Digital Europe Programme, Horizon Europe, and the Connecting Europe Facility, to support digital transformation projects.

Application 10:

The European Skills Agenda and the 'Pact for Skills' initiative are being implemented to foster high-tech partnerships for digital skills, including training in cybersecurity and promoting gender-balanced participation in digital education and careers.

Application 11:

The Women in Digital Scoreboard is integrated into DESI to monitor and address the digital gender divide across Member States.

Application 12:

The Commission and Member States have established structured dialogues, peer review processes, and stakeholder consultations (including SMEs, social partners, and civil society) to guide and adjust national and EU-level digital strategies.

Application 13:

The Digital Decade policy programme has set up a framework for the deployment of key digital infrastructure, such as European common data infrastructure and services, pan-European 5G corridors, supercomputers and quantum computers (EuroHPC), ultra-secure quantum and space-based communication infrastructures, and a network of security operations centres.

Source Files

Filename	Type	Size	Upload Date
Decision_EU_2022-2481_Of_The_European_Parliament	PDF	634.1 KB	2025-06-25
Europe's Digital Decade	PDF	250.7 KB	2025-06-25

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