DIGITAL Europe Day 2025
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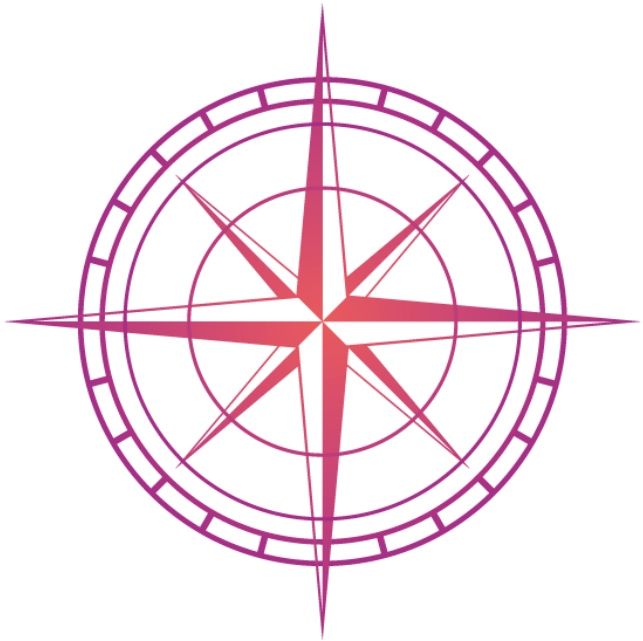
EU's Digital Decade: goals for 2030

Skills

ICT Specialists: 20 millions + Gender convergence
Basic Digital Skills: min 80% of population

Public Services

Key Public Services: 100% online
e-Health: 100% availability medical records
Digital Identity: 80% citizens using digital ID



Business

Tech up-take: 75% of EU companies using Cloud/AI/Big Data
Innovators: grow scale ups & finance to double EU Unicorns
Late adopters: more than 90% of European SMEs reach at least a basic level of digital intensity

Infrastructures

Connectivity: Gigabit for everyone, 5G everywhere
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

European Commission

Other relevant EU policies & initiatives

Chips Act	Digital Services Act	Action Plan on the cybersecurity of hospitals	AI Act
Cyber Resilience Act	Digital Markets Act	Data Governance Act	Data Act
Cyber Solidarity Act	Communication on the Union of Skills	Interoperable Europe Act	NIS2 Directive

Forthcoming communication on AI

European Commission

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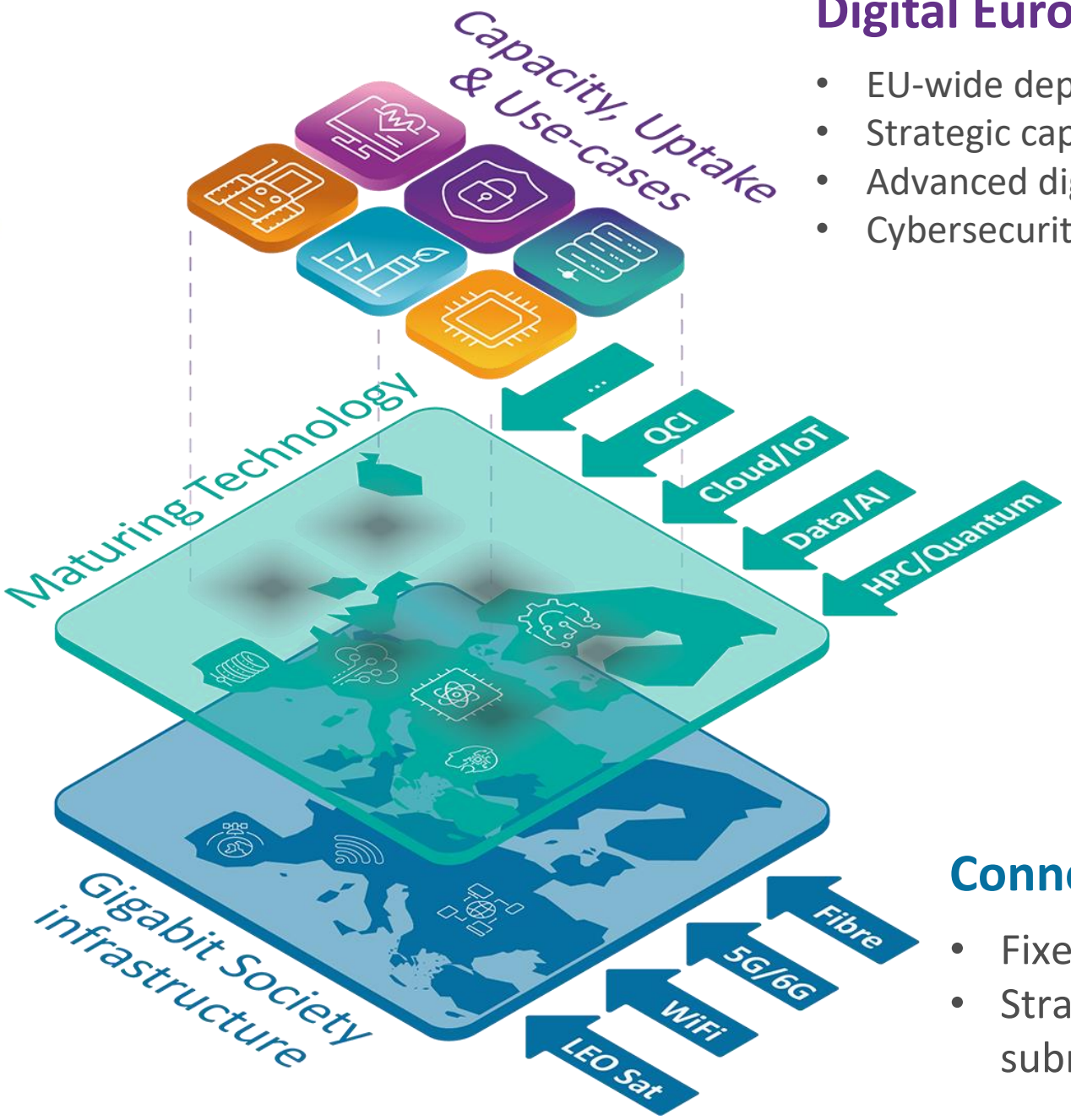
EU FUNDING



Digital Europe Programme (EUR 8.1 bn)

- EU-wide deployment
- Strategic capacities in AI, cloud and data, chips
- Advanced digital skills
- Cybersecurity

Creative Europe (EUR 2.4 bn)

- MEDIA strand (supports film/TV/games)
- Cross-sectoral strand (incl. news media)

Horizon Europe (EUR 33 bn for digital)

- Preparing/maturing technology & progress (AI/Quantum…)
- By-design regulatory compliance (e.g. privacy friendly, unbiased AI)
- Leading & best in-class (e.g. strategic open autonomy, quantum)

Connecting Europe Facility (EUR 2 bn)

- Fixed + wireless connectivity
- Strategic backbones, including submarine cables

European Commission

Digital Europe Programme: tech sovereignty

Build digital infrastructures and capacities
in critical sectors (AI, data spaces, cloud, supercomputing, chips, cybersecurity, digital transformation of public administration, skills)

Achieve scale through collective co-investments
Given the size of investments needed, scale required, and risks involved Europe needs to pool the resources together

Regain control over Europe's value chains
and ensure Europe's technological sovereignty

Better address Europe's economic and societal challenges
E.g. climate, health, mobility and public services

Ensure broad take-up of digital technologies across all regions of EU
In deploying latest technologies to offer best services to citizens and business

Support SMEs to acquire or access the latest technologies and skills
More than 400,000 EU vacancies in these fields

European Commission

DIGITAL specific features

Focus on **delivery of results**; complementary with Horizon Europe → it makes use of the most recent research results, but it does not support research.

Some actions have **participation restrictions** for entities not in the EU or EEA → protecting the **security** and integrity of critical infrastructure and reducing the risk of **technology leakage**

Possibility to use **different types of actions** (procurement, grants, financial instruments) and **management modes → flexibility** to adapt to new demands to support the digital transition

Grants cost reimbursement: **50%** (75% for SMEs) → attracts national, public and private investments

European Commission

DIGITAL flexibility

DIGITAL has demonstrated its capacity to **respond and adapt to crises and new challenges**

Funding for the deployment and maintenance of the **COVID Passport**, used by millions of people to travel safely.

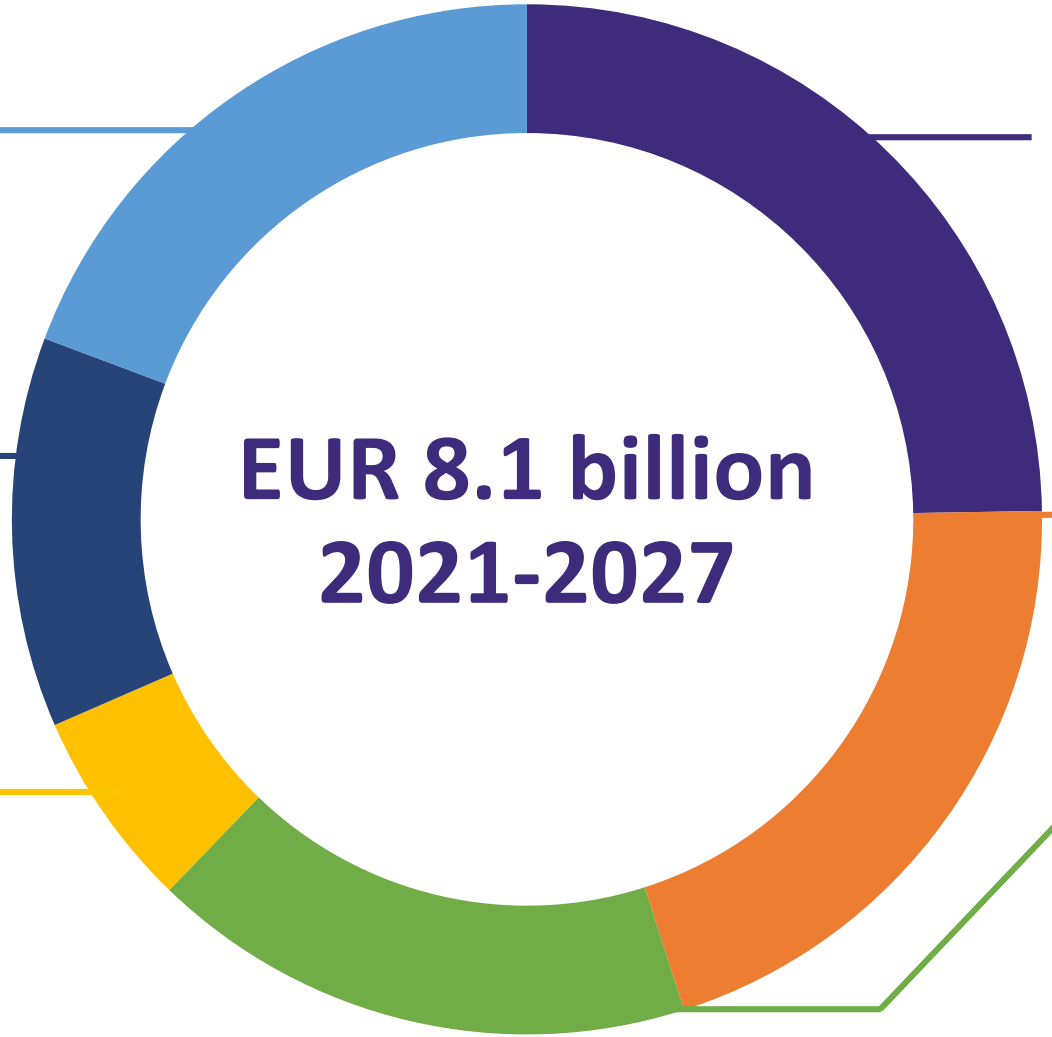
The pandemic exacerbated the major supply shortage of semiconductors → new DIGITAL specific objective to promote **leadership in semiconductor technologies**, with the adoption of the Chips Act.

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the ensuing heightened risk of cybersecurity threats → **Cyber Emergency Mechanism** to increase preparedness and response to large-scale cybersecurity incidents.

New training initiatives introduced to tackle acute skills shortages in the areas of **cybersecurity and semiconductors**.

DIGITAL reflects political, socio-economic and technological developments: emergence of generative AI, deployment of AI Factories, support for the AI Office, digitalisation of healthcare, investments in EU cloud and Common European Data Spaces, the European Democracy Shield and more.

Digital Europe Programme: 2021-2027



EUR 1.57 billion
SO6 Semiconductors
Chips JU

EUR 2 billion
SO1 High-Performance Computing
EuroHPC JU

EUR 1 billion
SO5 Deployment and Best Use of Digital Capacities and Interoperability

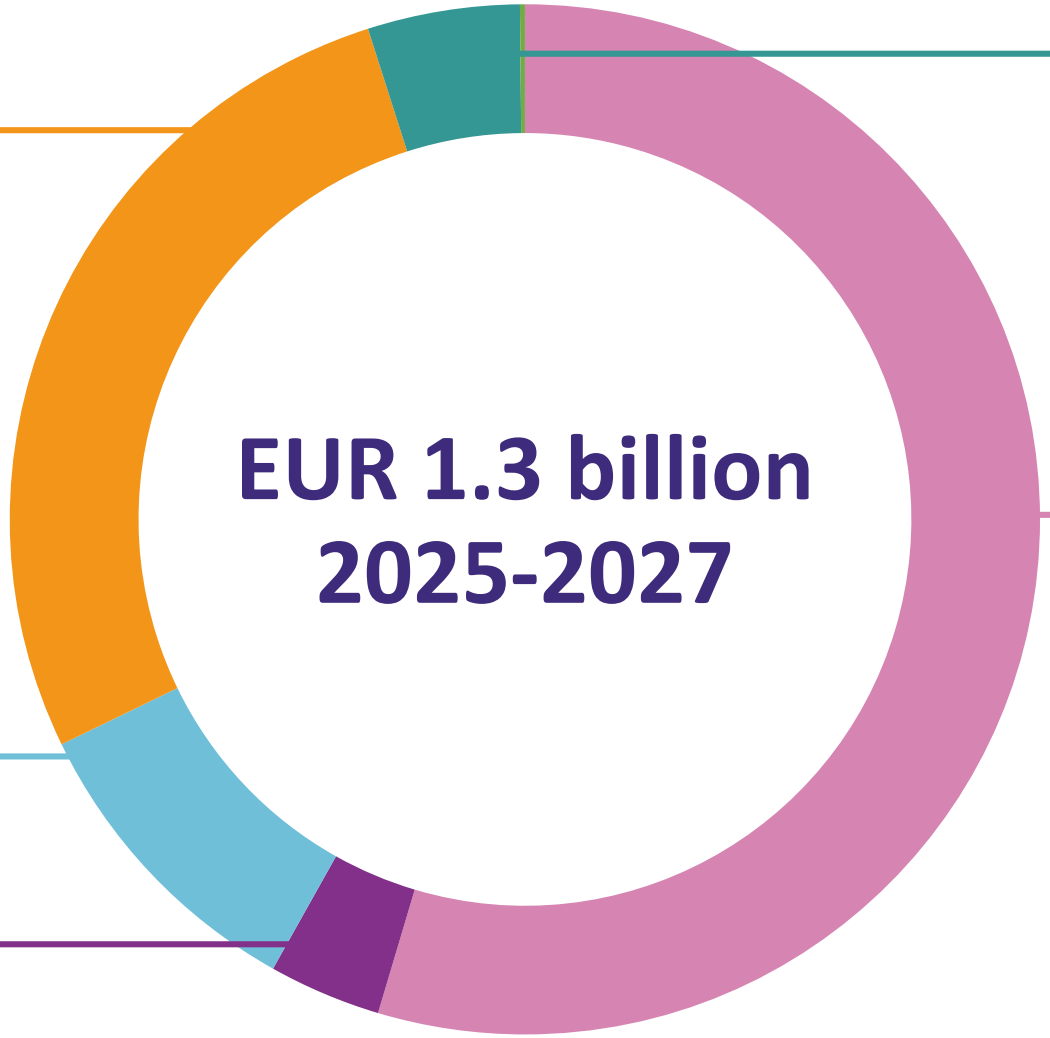
EUR 1.66 billion
SO2 Artificial Intelligence

EUR 0.5 billion
SO4 Advanced Digital Skills

EUR 1.4 billion
SO3 Cybersecurity and Trust
ECCC

European Commission

Digital Europe Programme: 2025-2027



EUR 352.3 million
Deployment and Best Use of Digital Capacities and Interoperability

EUR 61.7 million
Semiconductors

EUR 705.6 million
AI Continent

EDIHs
Destination Earth

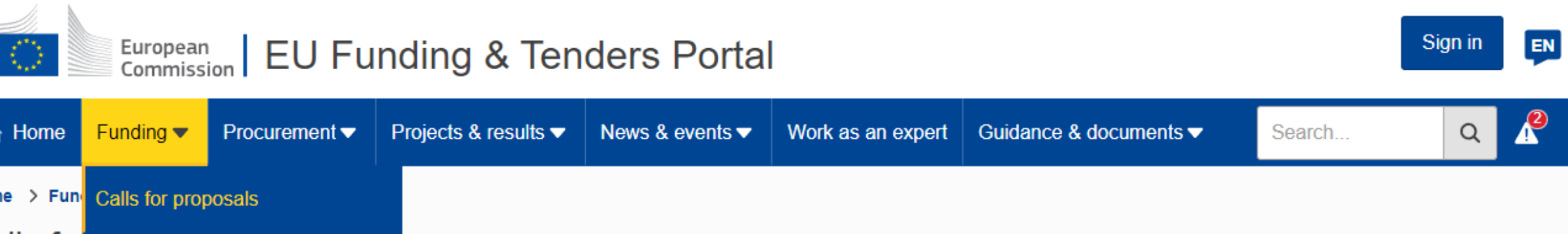
EUR 125 million
Advanced Digital Skills

EUR 45.6 million
Cybersecurity

European Commission

Work Programme 2025-2027

- **Adopted and published** on 28 March 2025
- **First set of calls published** on 1 April on the Funding & Tenders portal
- **First set of calls open** on 15 April and close on 2 September
- (except EDIH call)



WP 25-27 specific features

- **Maximum public funding rate** for all topics and Appendix 6 on State aid
- Appendix 4: Restrictions for the protection of European digital infrastructures, communication and information systems, and related supply chains that exclude entities that are assessed as "**high-risk suppliers**"
- Multiple actions fall under the scope of the **STEP seal**

European Commission

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1 HIGH-PERFORMACE COMPUTING

Key achievements

- Three EuroHPC pre-exascale supercomputers
- Two are in the top 10 fastest in the world
- JUPITER, **Europe's first exascale supercomputer**, operational end of 2024 and greenest HPC system in the world (JEDI)
- Seven **AI Factories** launched in 2024

WP 2025 -2027

- Establishment of AI Factories
- Quantum Computing
- National HPC Competence Centres

This action will be managed by the EuroHPC JU.

Information is only preliminary and will be finalised by the EuroHPC Governing Board

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2 AI, DATA & CLOUD

Key achievements

- Four **AI Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs)** offering testing and validation services to AI innovators
- **Common European Data Spaces** in seven sectors, enhancing data availability for businesses and researchers across the EU, supporting the development of AI and boosting innovation

WP 2025 -2027

- Data spaces (cultural heritage, tourism, skills, manufacturing, public procurement, health, agri-food MCP)
- Support for data
- Cloud-to-edge (e.g., Simpl)
- Apply AI (GenAI TEFs, GenAI for public administrations, Virtual Worlds test beds)
- Apply AI in health (AI-based medical imaging and image screening, virtual human twins)

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3 CYBERSECURITY & TRUST

Key achievements

- **27 national Cybersecurity Coordination Centres** and **26 cross-border Security Operations Centres**
  - Providing access to technological expertise
  - Ensuring cross-border cooperation
  - Strengthening coordinated Union detection capacities and common situational awareness of cyber threats and incidents

WP 2025 -2027

- EU Cybersecurity reserve
- Cyber Resilience Act reporting platform
- Cyber Situation and Analysis Centre

Most actions for cybersecurity are managed by the ECCC and are covered by a separate WP (published on 28 March).

This WP only covers actions which are implemented by ENISA

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4 ADVANCED DIGITAL SKILLS

Key achievements

- **Over 20,000 participants in the 800+ educational and training programmes** in highly specialized fields, like AI, robotics, cybersecurity, or quantum
- **Initiatives for key sectors and specific target groups**
  - Skills for cybersecurity, semiconductors and HPC
  - Supporting girls and women in digital

WP 2025 -2027

- Sectoral digital skills academies
- Excellence in higher education and training programmes in key digital areas and applied technologies
- European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies
- Digital Skills and Jobs Platform
- Other: EU Code Week, Girls and Women in Digital and EdTech Accelerator

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5 ACCELERATING THE BEST USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Key achievements

- **European Digital Identity Wallet:** Four large-scale pilot projects involving over 360 organisations across 11 key use-cases
- 28 established **Safer Internet Centres** are reaching 30 million EU citizens and residents per year
- Over 2,900 reusable interoperability solutions provided on the **Interoperable Europe Portal** and over 30 courses for civil servants on the Interoperable Europe Academy

WP 2025 -2027

- **Deployment of public services**
  - European Digital Government Ecosystem: eID, OOTS, eProcurement and eInvoicing
  - Interoperable Europe
  - Justice and Consumers
  - Building capacity to deploy the EEHRxF and digital health services
  - European Cybersecurity Support Centre for hospitals and healthcare providers
- **Confidence in the digital transformation**
  - Safer Internet
  - European Digital Media Observatory and European network of fact-checkers
  - European Democracy Shield
- **Support to the implementation of Multi-Country Projects**
- **Programme Support Actions**

European Commission

6 SEMICONDUCTORS

Key achievements

- **5 Pilot Lines for Chips:** state-of-the-art facilities to test, experiment, and validate chips technologies and designs to form the basis for Europe's next generation of semiconductor production

WP 2025 -2027

- Financial instrument for the support of:
  - Semiconductor technologies and solutions for development and production of microelectronics and photonics components and systems
  - Development, production and commercialization of new semiconductor chips for digital applications

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DESTINATION EARTH

Key achievements

- A **highly accurate twin of the Earth** to anticipate environmental disasters, adapt to climate change, improve our urban development, etc.
- Two Digital Twins launched in June 2024:
  - **Climate Change Adaptation** (multidecadal simulations)
  - **Weather-induced Extremes** (high-resolution forecasts and on-demand simulations)

WP 2025 -2027

- DestinE initiative will continue being implemented through the contribution agreements with the three implementing entities (ESA, ECMWF, EUMETSAT) and the activities funded are going to cover the **implementation of Phase 3**

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EUROPEAN DIGITAL INNOVATION HUBS

Key achievements

- **169 European Digital Innovation Hubs,** available in 90% of the European regions and seven associated countries, serving public and private organisations, in particular SMEs

- **Services:**
  - Test before invest
  - Innovation ecosystem
  - Digital skills
  - Access to finance services

WP 2025 -2027

- Completion and consolidation of the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs) and focusing its activities on **supporting AI technologies and AI ecosystem** in Europe

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Key considerations for the future

Complex and interrelated issues that threaten the digital transformation:

- Widening competitive and technological lag
- Increasing security challenges
- Uneven connectivity infrastructure deployment, slow uptake of digital infrastructure and services, and digital skills deficit
- Untapped potential of the green digital twin transition
- Sub-optimal EU funding setup to address challenges in the digital age

The overarching policy objectives of **competitiveness, security, democracy, and the twin transition** require a more coherent, coordinated, and agile strategy:

- Involving all levels of governance (EU, national, regional)
- Combining public and private investments
- Clear priorities set at the EU level

Key considerations for the future

The EU should aim at:

Reduced complexity and fragmentation of the EU funding landscape for the digital transformation

More efficient policy steer of EU funds, simplified processes, and a certain level of flexibility in budget allocations → crucial to respond to new opportunities and challenges as they arise

Partnering with like-minded countries based on reciprocity and security will be imperative for Europe to come out stronger as a competitive, self-standing and reliable global digital actor

Thank you!