



European  
Commission

# EU BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE

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## DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME: A PROPOSED €7.5 BILLION OF FUNDING FOR 2021-2027

Digital transition is a key to Europe's future prosperity and resilience. As part of the next long-term EU budget, the Multiannual Financial Framework, the Commission has proposed the Digital Europe programme, the **EU's programme to accelerate the recovery and drive the digital transformation of Europe**. With a budget of €7.5 billion in current prices, it aims to build the strategic digital capacities of the EU and facilitate the wide deployment of digital technologies, to be used by Europe's citizens, businesses and public administrations. It will strengthen investments in **supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensuring a wide use of digital capacity across the economy and society**. Its goal is to boost Europe's competitiveness and the green transition towards climate neutrality by 2050 as well as ensure technological sovereignty.

### WHAT WILL THE DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME FUND?



**€2.2 BILLION** for supercomputing to:

Build up and strengthen the EU's supercomputing and data processing capacities by buying world-class exascale supercomputers by 2022/2023 (capable of at least a billion billion or  $10^{18}$  calculations per second) and post exascale facilities by 2026/2027.

Increase accessibility and broaden the use of supercomputing in areas of public interest such as health, environment and security, and in industry, including small and medium-sized enterprises.



**€2.1 BILLION** for artificial intelligence to:

Invest in and open up the use of artificial intelligence by businesses and public administrations.

Set up a true European data space and facilitate safe access to and storage of large datasets and trustworthy and energy efficient cloud infrastructure.

Strengthen and support existing artificial intelligence testing and experimentation facilities in areas such as health and mobility in Member States and encourage their cooperation.



### €1.7 BILLION for cybersecurity to:

Strengthening cybersecurity coordination between Member States tools and data infrastructures.

Boost Europe's capabilities in optical communications and cybersecurity through Quantum Communication Infrastructures.

Support the wide deployment of the cybersecurity capacities across the economy.

Reinforce advanced skills and capabilities within Member States and the private sector for a uniformly high level of security of network and information systems.



### €580 MILLION for advanced digital skills to:

Support the design and delivery of specialized programmes and traineeships for the future experts in key capacity areas like data and AI, cybersecurity, quantum and HPC.

Support the upskilling of the existing workforce through short trainings reflecting the latest developments in key capacity areas.



### €1.1 BILLION for ensuring the wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society to:

Support high impact deployments in areas of public interest, such as health (complemented by EU4Health programme), Green Deal, smart communities and the cultural sector.

Support the uptake of advanced digital and related technologies by the industry, notably small and medium-sized enterprises.

Build up and strengthen the network of European Digital Innovation Hubs, aiming to have a Hub in every region, to help companies benefit from digital opportunities.

Support European public administrations and industry to deploy and access state-of-the-art digital technologies (such as blockchain) and build trust in the digital transformation.

## T I M E L I N E

**6 June 2018**

Commission presents the proposal for the Digital Europe Programme

**27 May 2020**

Commission presents a new recovery instrument, embedded within a revamped long-term EU budget

**Autumn 2020**

Full inter-institutional agreement expected on the Digital Europe programme

**1 January 2021**

Start of the Digital Europe programme