



From EU policy priorities to the horizontal digital priority in the Erasmus+ and ESC programmes

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Contents of the presentation

- EU Policy context
- Why digital priority in the programmes?
- Policy and programme: dialectic relationship
- What is next?



EU POLICY CONTEXT

The Digital Decade Policy Programme guides Europe's digital transformation across four pillars:



- Annual 'State of the Digital Decade' report to evaluate progress and provide recommendations for actions to Member States (Includes monitoring based on DESI index);
- Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles - EU's commitment to a secure, safe and sustainable digital transformation that puts people at the centre.

THE DIGITAL EDUCATION ACTION PLAN – AT THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN EDUCATION AND DIGITAL POLICY

Digital Education
Action Plan



EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA

NEXT GENERATION EU

Digital Education
Action Plan

2021-2027

Resetting education and training for the digital age

#EUDigitalEducation
#DEAP

A EUROPE FIT FOR THE
DIGITAL AGE

BETTER INTERNET FOR
KIDS+

DIGITAL DECADE

ADDRESSING EU PRIORITY

○ Digital Education as a **strategic priority at EU level**;

BUILDING ON SHORT
AND LONG TERM

○ Addressing the implications of the COVID-19 crisis for education and training, while outlining a **long-term vision for high-quality and inclusive education and training** in the digital age;

SHAPING A COMMON
APPROACH

○ **Integrated and comprehensive approach** towards digital education;

DEFINING A
WORKING PATH

○ **Common understanding and vision** around high quality and inclusive digital education supported by cooperation, good practice exchange, evidence, peer learning and research;

OFFERING ACTIONABLE
OPPORTUNITIES

○ **Leveraging different EU funding opportunities:** Erasmus+, Horizon Europe, Digital Europe Programme, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Connecting Europe Facility, etc.

P1

PRIORITY 1

Fostering the development of a high-performing digital education ecosystem

P2

PRIORITY 2

Enhancing digital skills and competences for the digital transformation

Digital Education Hub

The open online collaborative community for digital education stakeholders in Europe and beyond

Comprehensive Review of the Action Plan kicked on 29 April 2024

PRIORITY 1

Fostering the development of a
high-performing digital education ecosystem



[Structured Dialogue with Member States](#) on digital education and skills



[Learning approaches](#) for high-quality and inclusive primary and secondary education



[European Digital Education Content Framework](#)



[Connectivity and digital equipment for education](#)



[Digital transformation plans](#) for education and training institutions



[Artificial intelligence and data usage](#) in education and training

PRIORITY 2

Enhancing digital skills and competences for the digital transformation



Guidelines for teachers and educators to foster digital literacy and tackle disinformation through education and training



Update the **European Digital Competence Framework**



European Digital Skills Certificate



Council recommendation on improving the provision of digital skills in education and training



Cross-national collection of data and an EU-level target on student digital skills



Digital Opportunity Traineeships



Women's participation in STEM studies and careers

OBJECTIVES OF THE REVIEW

- Demonstrate the achievements of the specific actions of the Digital Education Action Plan to date.
- Reflect on emerging challenges in digital education since the adoption of the Action Plan and how they could be addressed at EU level (i.e. [generative] AI, data privacy, digital well-being, AI and data literacy).
- Assess the effectiveness of communication and outreach activities undertaken to support the actions.

When: 29th April – Q2 2025



EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE REVIEW

- Draw **key lessons** from the Digital Education Action Plan implementation as well as identify the **direction of its further development**, ensuring that it remains **responsive and effective** in advancing digital education at the EU level.
- **Publication:** expected for **Q2 2025**

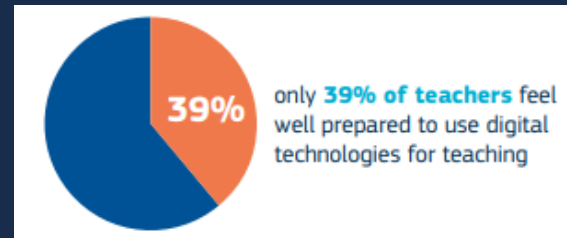
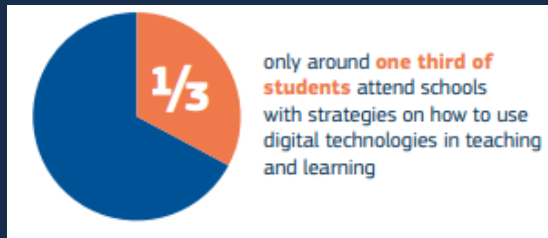


COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS ON DIGITAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION ON THE KEY ENABLING FACTORS FOR SUCCESSFUL DIGITAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Why?

- Need for greater resilience in face of crises, substantial gaps remaining;
- Accelerating digital transformation in education and new emerging challenges (e.g. AI)
- Only 2-15% of the schools audited by the European Court of Auditors use gigabit broadband connections.



Vision: Ensure universal access to inclusive and high-quality digital education and training, for everyone by offering a coherent framework for investments, governance and capacity-building for effective and inclusive digital education and training. Whole-of-government approach.

Main Recommendations for Member States:

- Agree national strategies for digital education and skills
- Work closely with stakeholders and in a whole-of-government approach
- Support teachers, educators and education and training institutions
- Ensure targeted investments in digital equipment, infrastructure, tools, and content

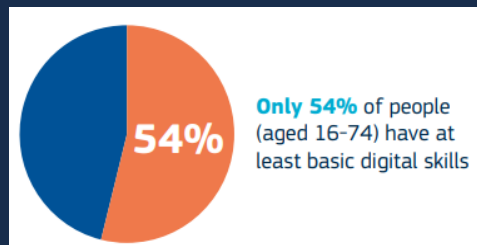
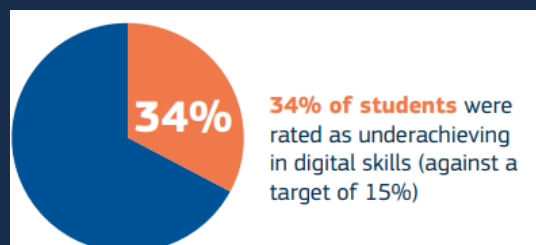
Commission initiatives in support:

- Guidelines and quality requirements for high-quality digital education content
- A 'Digital Education in Europe' survey every three years
- Targeted support for teachers
- Support the effective, safe and inclusive use of AI and generative AI in education and training

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION ON IMPROVING THE PROVISION OF DIGITAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Why?

- Persisting digital skills gaps across age, background and gender;
- Shortages in ICT professionals



The number of employed ICT specialists (9 million in 2021) is not enough to meet the needs of the labour market or the **goal of 20 million by 2030**

Vision: a quality, inclusive and consistent approach to the development of digital skills by coordinated activities that would benefit all segments of the population

Scope: all levels and sectors of education and training– tackling the full spectrum of digital skills

Main Recommendations

- Start early to develop digital skills
- Promote and provide quality education in informatics at school
- Support higher education to develop digital skills across disciplines and support advanced skills
- Facilitate the recruitment, training and retention of specialized teachers
- Support provision and access to digital skills training in VET and adult education
- Foster certification

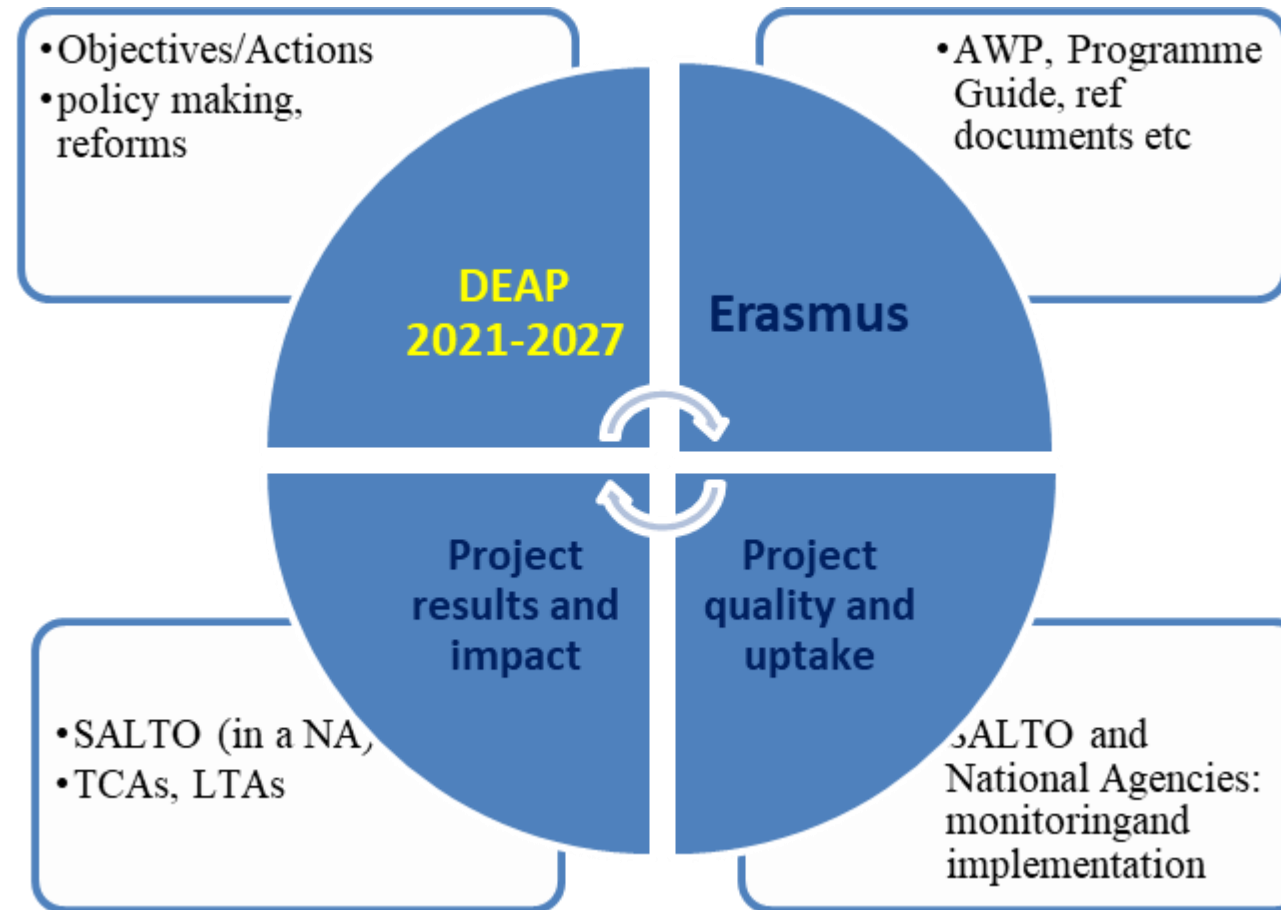
Commission initiatives in support

- Cooperation on specific topics such as provision and assessment of digital skills
- Guidelines on high-quality informatics
- Facilitate the recognition and certification of digital skills

Policy and programme: defining the relationship

- Programme is central to policy: policy frames the definition of digital priority in Erasmus+
- Digital priority : clarity and essence '*meaningful and purposeful use of technology which ultimately lead to high quality and inclusive education and training*'
- Translating policy language to programme stakeholders: **what is 'meaningful'/'purposeful'?**

Policy and programme: **Dialectic relationship**





Objective

- Boost the digital readiness and planning of education and training institutions.
- Promote teacher training in digital education.

How

- ***Erasmus+ Partnerships for Cooperation for institutions at all levels of education and training (KA2) - annual calls***
- ***SELFIE self-reflection tool – more than 4 million users***
- ***SELFIE for TEACHERS tool – launched in October 2021- more than 100 000 users***
- ***Erasmus+ Teacher Academies with a strong digital component***



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Erasmus+ support for the Strategic Priorities of DEAP 2021-2027

Cooperation among organisations and institutions (Key Action 2):

- a) **Partnerships for Cooperation** (Decentralised): one of four Horizontal priorities (each project has to choose one horizontal and one sectorial priority)

Addressing digital transformation through development of digital readiness, resilience and capacity: The Programme will support digital transformation plans of primary, secondary, vocational education and training (VET), higher, and adult education institutions. [...].The Programme will support [...] the development of digital pedagogy and expertise in the use of digital tools for teachers, including accessible and assistive technologies and the creation and innovative use of digital education content. [...] Particular attention will be given to promoting gender equality and addressing differences in relation to the access and use by under-represented groups. The Programme will further support the on digital competences of educators, citizens and organisations....use of the European frameworks

- For 2021-2022, this priority was selected the most across sectors (**more than 40%** of projects under this Action have chosen Digital as their Horizontal priority)

What is next?

Focus on quality implementation of the digital priority in the current programmes:

- Further and stronger support to the NAs in implementing digital horizontal priority in the Programmes
- Implementation of the Strategy, strong role of SALTO Digital, harnessing the results of actions and feeding back into policy

Creating the future:

- Stronger focus on digital skills and digital capacity development through mechanisms available in the Programmes
- Using input from mid-term evaluation
- Aligning our goals with the Next EU Commission priorities

Thank you



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