

Digital Europe programme - Open Stakeholder Consultation

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

1

Introduction

The **Digital Europe programme** is a new EU funding programme focused on bringing digital technology to businesses, individuals, and public administrations. The original overall budget was €7.5 billion for the period of 2021-2027. Following the EU Chips Act's adoption in 2023, semiconductor technology was added as a new strategic focus, bringing the total budget of the programme to €8.168 billion.

The programme's objective is to support digital transformation in industry and public administration and so to enhance the EU's open strategic autonomy and competitiveness and to reinforce EU critical digital capacities. It focuses on the key areas of (i) high performance computing, (ii) cloud-to-edge infrastructure, data spaces and artificial intelligence, (iii) cybersecurity, (iv) the necessary upskilling to provide a workforce for these advanced technologies; (v) the deployment of these technologies and their best use for critical sectors like energy or climate; and support for industry, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and public administrations in their digital transformation and (vi) semiconductors. It will benefit Europe's people and businesses, especially SMEs. Investment under the Digital Europe programme supports the EU's twin objectives of a green transition and digital transformation while strengthening the EU's resilience and digital sovereignty.

2 Why are we consulting?

Article 26 of the Digital Europe Programme Regulation[1] requires the Commission to perform an interim evaluation of the programme. This will assess its overall effectiveness and performance, gathering valuable input for future initiatives and introducing measures to simplify procedures and reduce administrative burden. This public consultation is intended to gather your views on the Digital Europe programme and feed them into this evaluation.

The results of this consultation will be analysed and summarised in a synopsis that will be published as part of the evaluation report.

[1] Regulation (EU) 2021/694.

3 Target audience

All individuals and organisations from all backgrounds and countries are very welcome to contribute to this consultation.

4 About you

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* First name

Romain

* Surname

Mekarni

* Email (this won't be published)

romain@rmkn.fr

* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

Virtual Assembly

* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

This list does not represent the official position of the European institutions with regard to the legal status or policy of the entities mentioned. It is a harmonisation of often divergent lists and practices.

- Afghanistan
- Åland Islands
- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Andorra
- Angola
- Anguilla
- Antarctica
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Estonia
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland
- Libya
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Macau
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Malta
- Marshall Islands
- Martinique
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mayotte
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar/Burma
- Saint Martin
- Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Samoa
- San Marino
- São Tomé and Príncipe
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Sint Maarten
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Svalbard and Jan Mayen

- Bolivia
- Grenada
- Namibia
- Sweden
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Guadeloupe
- Nauru
- Switzerland
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Guam
- Nepal
- Syria
- Botswana
- Guatemala
- Netherlands
- Taiwan
- Bouvet Island
- Guernsey
- New Caledonia
- Tajikistan
- Brazil
- Guinea
- New Zealand
- Tanzania
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- Guinea-Bissau
- Nicaragua
- Thailand
- British Virgin Islands
- Guyana
- Niger
- The Gambia
- Brunei
- Haiti
- Nigeria
- Timor-Leste
- Bulgaria
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Niue
- Togo
- Burkina Faso
- Honduras
- Norfolk Island
- Tokelau
- Burundi
- Hong Kong
- Northern Mariana Islands
- Tonga
- Cambodia
- Hungary
- North Korea
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Cameroon
- Iceland
- North Macedonia
- Tunisia
- Canada
- India
- Norway
- Türkiye
- Cape Verde
- Indonesia
- Oman
- Turkmenistan
- Cayman Islands
- Iran
- Pakistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Central African Republic
- Iraq
- Palau
- Tuvalu
- Chad
- Ireland
- Palestine
- Uganda
- Chile
- Isle of Man
- Panama
- Ukraine
- China
- Israel
- Papua New Guinea
- United Arab Emirates
- Christmas Island
- Italy
- Paraguay
- United Kingdom
- Clipperton
- Jamaica
- Peru
- United States

- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena
Ascension and
Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and
Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- United States
Minor Outlying
Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Wallis and
Futuna
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

5 Your experience with the Digital Europe programme

* How familiar are you with the Digital Europe programme?

- I have a detailed knowledge of its objectives and actions
- I am aware of the programme's existence, but I have no detailed knowledge of its objectives and priorities
- I am not very familiar with the programme, its objectives and priorities

* Where do you get information about the programme?

- programme website
- EU funding & tenders portal
- colleagues or partners
- Digital Europe programme's national contact points
- social media
- nowhere (I do not follow the programme's developments)
- elsewhere

* Have you or your organisation benefited from the Digital Europe programme?

- Yes, my organisation has received grants from the programme
- Yes, my organisation has received procurement contracts from the programme

- Yes, my organisation or I have been a user of facilities and services* funded by the programme. (*For example, European Digital Innovation Hubs, AI Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEF Health, AI-Matters, Citcom.AI, AgrifoodTEF), Destination Earth, Data Spaces, High-Performance Computing National Competence Centres, High-Performance Computing infrastructure, Security Operation Centres, National Coordination Centres for Cybersecurity, Better Internet for Kids Portal, European Digital Media Observatory, European Digital Identity Wallet, the Joinup platform, Interoperable Europe Academy, eLab, advanced digital skills training, interoperability testbeds, etc.)
- No, neither I nor my organisation have benefited from the programme
- I don't know

6 Objectives of the Digital Europe programme

The overall objectives of the programme are:

- to build essential capacities and advanced skills in key digital technology areas,
- and to accelerate their deployment and best use in areas of public interest and in the private sector, contributing to Europe's technological sovereignty.

The Digital Europe programme has six Specific Objectives (SOs):

- SO1 – High Performance Computing (HPC)
- SO2 – Artificial intelligence (AI)
- SO3 – Cybersecurity and trust
- SO4 – Advanced digital skills
- SO5 – Interoperability
- SO6 – Semiconductors

Are the programme's objectives and activities relevant to current and future challenges and needs?

More details can be found in the [work programmes](#).

	Current Needs	Future Needs
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<p>SO1 - High performance computing. Deploy world-class exascale, post-exascale supercomputing and quantum computing capacities to ensure the widest access to and use of these capacities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>SO2 - Artificial intelligence. Deploy EU-wide common data spaces based on a cloud-to-edge federated infrastructure and promote the testing and adoption of artificial intelligence technologies with a European AI platform and world-class testing and experimentation facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>SO3 - Cybersecurity and trust. Build up advanced cybersecurity capabilities (equipment, tools and data infrastructures), including a quantum secure communication infrastructure for Europe. Promote the sharing of best practices and ensure a wide deployment of the state-of-the-art cybersecurity solutions across the European economy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>SO4 - Advanced digital skills. Boost academic excellence by increasing the education and training offer in key digital technologies, such as high performance computing, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. Support the design and delivery of training in these areas implemented through cooperation among tertiary education institutions, world-class research centres and innovative businesses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know

<p>SO5 – Deployment and best use of key digital technologies and interoperability. Deploy a network of European digital innovation hubs supporting the digital transformation of European public and private organisations. Address key societal challenges (e.g. environment and climate change) via high-impact deployments. Reinforce the European blockchain capacities and the digital transformation of public administrations and services through interoperability solutions while promoting an inclusive and trustworthy digital space.</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, not relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No opinion</p> <p><input type="radio"/> I don't know</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, not relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No opinion</p> <p><input type="radio"/> I don't know</p>
<p>SO6 – Semiconductors. Build up advanced design capacities for integrated semiconductor technologies. Enhance existing and develop new advanced pilot lines across the EU to enable the development and deployment of cutting-edge and next-generation semiconductor technologies. Build advanced technology and engineering capacities for accelerating the innovative development of cutting-edge quantum chips and associated semiconductor technologies.</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, not relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No opinion</p> <p><input type="radio"/> I don't know</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No, not relevant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No opinion</p> <p><input type="radio"/> I don't know</p>

* For those responding as organisations: Please briefly outline the current challenges your organisation is facing in its digital transformation journey and any emerging needs you anticipate.

1000 character(s) maximum

As citizens of the EU, we aspire to drive and take ownership of innovation and transformation with Free of Open Source Software. However, funding is lacking. Often, organizations allocate their resources to pay for innovations from non-EU tech companies, which leverage commercial tactics and dominant market positions to impose their solutions, overshadowing alternatives.

To harness the potential of free and open-source software—defined as independent and freely usable rather than merely free of charge—we require funding and incentives to create network effects. We need to establish pathways for organizations to access guidance, support, and funding, enabling the development of high-quality software that is independent of major tech firms.

Do you think there are other areas not currently covered by the Digital Europe programme that should be considered in the future?

- Yes
- No

Please explain what other areas related to the digital transformation you think the Digital Europe programme could address?

1000 character(s) maximum

Our existing communication technologies are limited by past architectural decisions. Currently, all innovation is dependent on the Internet and the Web, which imposes restrictions that hinder the European Union's aspirations for sovereignty, security, and cooperative free markets.

Creating alternatives necessitates the involvement of skilled and independent creators of free and open-source software. These innovators share a common vision and are working to establish new technological foundations that will enable the emergence of new systems. No single organization can achieve this alone. It is essential for society as a whole to support research and development efforts to foster a future characterized by greater independence and cutting-edge solutions to address our challenges.

Free and open-source software forms the foundation of much of today's economic progress. We must prioritize its development, increase its usage, and provide the necessary funding to support it.

7 Relevance of the Digital Europe programme to current and future technological trends

In your view, how relevant is the Digital Europe programme to supporting the following critical technologies[2]?

[2] As defined in the C(2023) 6689 Commission Recommendation of 3 October 2023 on critical technology areas for the EU's economic security for further risk assessment with Member States.

	Relevance	Relevance at EU level
Advanced semiconductors technologies	<input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know	<input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know

<p>Artificial Intelligence technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>Quantum technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>Robotics and autonomous systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know

<p>Biotechnologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>Advanced connectivity, navigation and digital technologies including cybersecurity technologies, virtual reality, internet of things, distributed ledger and digital identity technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
<p>Advanced sensing technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know

Advanced materials, manufacturing and recycling technologies	<input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know	<input type="radio"/> Yes, very relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Yes, moderately relevant <input type="radio"/> No, not relevant <input type="radio"/> No opinion <input type="radio"/> I don't know
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Are there any technologies the Digital Europe programme does not address, that you think should also be included?

1000 character(s) maximum

Often, critical technologies are neither visible nor glamorous. The Internet serves as the backbone for all significant innovations of this century, influencing developments in ways that can be overlooked or underestimated. Yet, it fundamentally shapes how power and ownership are established within technologies that profoundly impact citizens' lives.

Free and open-source software inspires highly skilled engineers and engaged citizens aiming to foster sovereignty, security, and autonomy for the EU population through independent and freely available software. To achieve this, they require increased funding and political support to effectively utilize and put these tools to the test in real-world scenarios.

8

Expected benefits, impacts and added value of the Digital Europe Programme

Do you think the Digital Europe programme closes the gap between academic research and commercial deployment of digital technologies at scale?

- Yes
- To some extent
- No
- I cannot say

Please further explain your response:

1000 character(s) maximum

Innovative technologies requires small but diverse attempts to find good recipes. However it seems today that funding is more directed towards large companies with classic commercial deployment. We understand this strategy because it is safe. However we think there is a high potential for a small fraction of this funding to quickly and easily foster smaller projects and initiative with high risks so that a few of them find the right momentum and scale to something real. Like how the startup investment model works, we may inspire and take more small risks and move faster.

There is a prevailing perception that small organizations require the right networks to access opportunities. We can enhance diversity by expanding funding access to a broader population and implementing new processes that invite more individuals to join the network, drawing inspiration from initiatives like the Next Generation Internet.

The Digital Europe programme aims to create large, cross-border digital ecosystems to ensure the EU’s digital autonomy and competitiveness on the global stage. What factors have already contributed to such digital ecosystems? You may select several.

- Implementation of multi-country projects
- Funding of long-term actions from preparatory phase through deployment
- Continuous and strategic focus of funding on key digital areas over several work programmes
- The funding of activities that are interconnected, are mutually reinforcing, and /or build on each other
- Wide use of procurement procedures (including joint procurement)
- I don’t know
- Other

To what extent do you think that the Digital Europe programme is helping achieve the following impacts?

	Benefits achieved so far	Benefits expected in the future
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<p>Increasing the EU's competitiveness on a global scale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Ensuring the EU's strategic autonomy in digital technologies and in future emerging enabling technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Digitally transforming EU governments / public organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Achieving a high level of digital intensity and innovation in EU's enterprises, in particular start-ups and SMEs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Narrowing the advanced digital skills gap in key technological areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Achieving an interconnected and competitive European data economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Deploying trustworthy artificial intelligence which respects EU values and rules</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Improving resilience to cyberattacks, contributing to increasing risk-awareness and the understanding of cybersecurity processes, and increasing the efforts of public and private organisations to achieve at least basic levels of cybersecurity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Increasing sustainability, resilience, and energy- and resource-efficiency of digital infrastructure and technologies and their supply chains to promote environmental sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Increasing accessibility to public services, health and care services in a trusted and secure online environment for everyone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high extent <input type="radio"/> High extent <input type="radio"/> Some extent <input type="radio"/> Limited extent <input type="radio"/> Very limited extent <input type="radio"/> No benefits <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
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If you believe the programme helps achieve other impacts, please list them below:

1000 character(s) maximum

How would you rate the added value of this EU programme on the following objectives?

	Added value so far	Added value expected in the future
<p>Increasing the EU's competitiveness on a global scale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Ensuring the EU's strategic autonomy in digital technologies and in future emerging enabling technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Enhancing international cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Bridging the digital divide across the EU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Strengthening links between EU digital policies (e.g. Digital Decade policy programme, NIS2 directive, data act, etc.) and the EU's digital transformation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Leveraging funding for public digital activities/programmes (e.g. from national/regional level, private sources)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Cutting costs (coordination costs and overheads) of running public digital activities/programmes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Pooling resources to deploy large-scale digital infrastructures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Helping bring digital innovations to the market</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
<p>Increasing everyone's access to opportunities to develop advanced digital skills and competencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>Financing projects which otherwise could not be supported at national and/or regional level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Very high added value <input type="radio"/> High added value <input type="radio"/> Modest added value <input type="radio"/> Low added value <input type="radio"/> Very low added value <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
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If you believe there are other objectives to which the programme has added value, please list them below:

1000 character(s) maximum

9 Synergies and coherence with other funding instruments

The Digital Europe programme is designed to be complementary to and provide synergies with other funding instruments available at national, EU or International level, working coherently with them, while avoiding overlaps.

Please comment whether, and if so to which extent, the programme is coherent with:

	Extent of coherence
<p>Regional/local funding opportunities/instruments to build capacity and skills in key digital technology areas and accelerate their deployment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Fully coherent <input type="radio"/> Partially coherent <input type="radio"/> Not coherent at all <input type="radio"/> I don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

<p>National funding opportunities/instruments to build capacity and skills in key digital technology areas and accelerate their deployment</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Fully coherent <input type="radio"/> Partially coherent <input type="radio"/> Not coherent at all <input type="radio"/> I don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion </p>
<p>Other EU funding opportunities/instruments to build capacity and skills in key digital technology areas and accelerate their deployment</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Fully coherent <input type="radio"/> Partially coherent <input type="radio"/> Not coherent at all <input type="radio"/> I don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion </p>
<p>Other international funding opportunities/instruments to build capacity and skills in key digital technology areas and accelerate their deployment</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Fully coherent <input type="radio"/> Partially coherent <input type="radio"/> Not coherent at all <input type="radio"/> I don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion </p>

Please explain your choice(s) and provide examples to support your answer

1000 character(s) maximum

What else could be done to improve the coherence of the Digital Europe programme with other national or regional initiatives?

1000 character(s) maximum

10 Detailed knowledge of the Digital Europe programme

*What do you think are the main reasons that may have prevented potential beneficiaries from participating in the Digital Europe programme?

- Inadequate knowledge of the programme

- Limited attractiveness compared to other European or international programmes
- Limited attractiveness compared to other national or regional programmes
- Cumbersome application process
- Cumbersome project implementation rules
- Discouragingly low success rates
- Difficulties in finding project partners
- Lack of a relevant area/topic for my personal or organisational interests and needs
- Concerns about sharing valuable knowledge with partners
- Inadequate financial/human resources to prepare a proposal
- Funding rate
- Lack of expertise
- Other

What are your recommendations to simplify the implementation of the programme for organisations interested in participating?

1000 character(s) maximum

Organizations like Next Generation Internet play a crucial role by enabling numerous individuals and small teams to propose projects in free and open-source software. The funding process is relatively swift and efficient. Members of our Virtual Assembly have successfully leveraged this support to develop innovative internet technologies that align well with EU objectives.

Overall, we believe that funding intermediary organizations with strong expertise is essential. They can invest in smaller initiatives, helping them grow and potentially merge into larger projects. Specifically, we advocate for increased funding for organizations like Next Generation Internet (NGI) to effectively tackle the challenges facing the internet today.

To what extent do you think the types of actions used by the European Commission to implement the Digital Europe programme are still relevant for pursuing its objectives in the future?

	Relevance of actions
Simple grant (SIMPLE)	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

Procurement	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Joint procurement	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Coordination & support actions (CSAs)	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Grants for procurement	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Grants for financial support	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Lump sum grants	<input type="radio"/> Very relevant <input type="radio"/> Mostly relevant <input type="radio"/> Not relevant <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

Framework Partnerships Agreements (FPAs)
/ Specific Grant Agreements (SGAs)

- Very relevant
- Mostly relevant
- Not relevant
- Don't know
- No opinion

Please explain your choice(s) and provide examples to support your answer

1000 character(s) maximum

What other types of financing currently not used within the Digital Europe programme (e.g. financing not linked to costs) do you consider relevant and why?

1000 character(s) maximum

From your perspective, where are the strongest or clearest synergies within the activities funded by the Digital Europe programme? Where do you see any unexploited potential for synergies? Please explain your choice(s) and provide examples to support your answer.

1000 character(s) maximum

While private companies developing proprietary assets may move quickly with funding, they often hinder collaboration with other stakeholders. In contrast, funding for free and open-source software supports multiple parties simultaneously, promoting synergy and collective progress.

The benefits of free and open-source software scale exceptionally well. By investing in it just once, anyone can leverage that value to foster greater innovation. It makes strategic sense to prioritize funding in this area to facilitate cascading innovation and accelerate iteration.

Which EU programme(s) do you think has the most complementarities with the Digital Europe programme?

- Horizon Europe
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Social Fund Plus (ESF)+
- European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)
- Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)
- InvestEU
- Erasmus+
- Creative Europe programme

- Recovery and Resilience Facility
- EU4Health
- Single Market programme
- LIFE - programme for environment and climate action (LIFE)
- Union space programme
- Justice programme
- Innovation fund under the Emission Trading Scheme
- Just Transition Mechanism
- European Defence Fund
- I don't know
- Other

Do you see overlaps between the Digital Europe programme and other EU funding programmes? If yes, please name the programme(s) and the area(s) of overlap.

1000 character(s) maximum

The Digital Europe programme is designed to be implemented in synergy with other EU funding programmes. Where do you think these synergies have materialised and been exploited so far?

	Synergies exploited so far
Horizon Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

European Social Fund Plus (ESF)+	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
InvestEU	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Erasmus+	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

Creative Europe programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Recovery and Resilience Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
EU4Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Single Market programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
LIFE - programme for environment and climate action (LIFE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

Union Space programme	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Justice programme	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Innovation fund under the Emission Trading Scheme	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
Just Transition Mechanism	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion
European Defence Fund	<input type="radio"/> Synergies fully exploited <input type="radio"/> Several synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> Few synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> No synergies exploited <input type="radio"/> I do not know <input type="radio"/> No opinion

If other, please specify:

Contact

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