

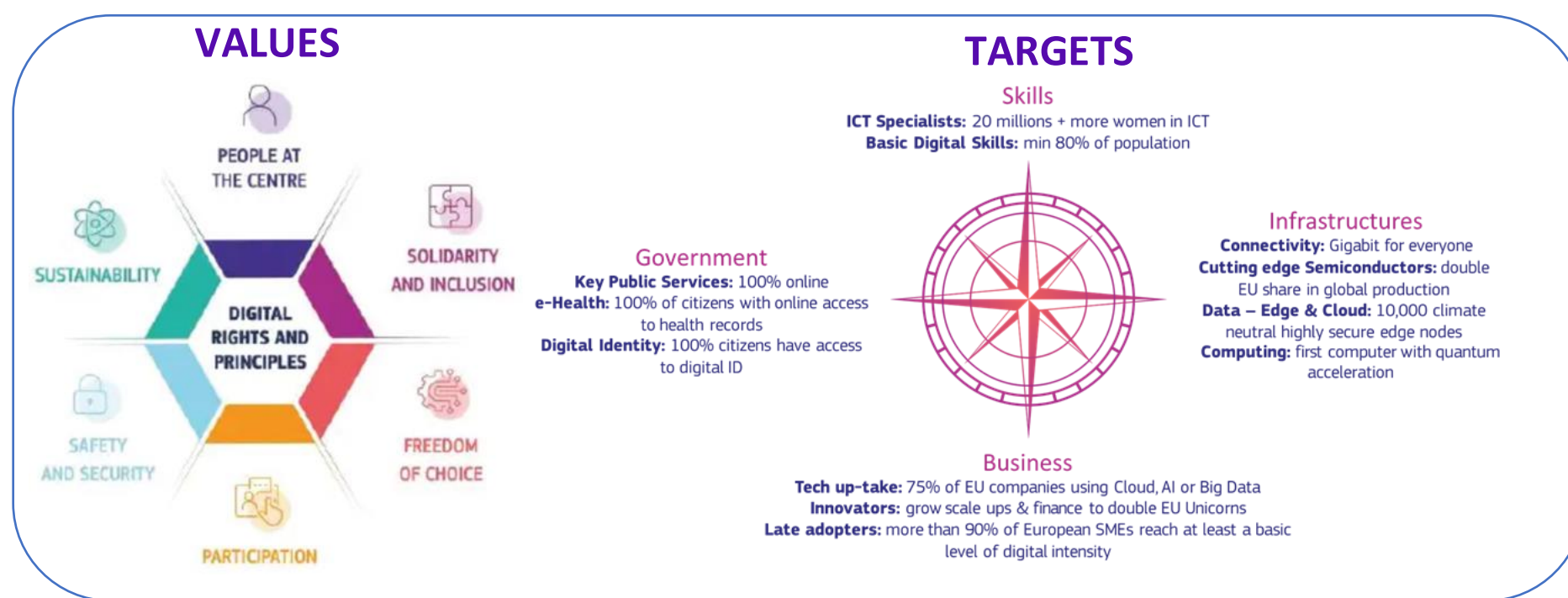


2030
DIGITAL
DECADE

EDICs – brief outline
EOSC Symposium 21/09/2023

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A Digital Decade to shape EU's transformation



2030

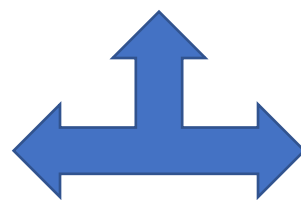
Destination

In a nutshell, focus on:

- People
- Sovereignty/leadership /economic ecosystem
- Society
- Greening

GOVERNANCE MECHANISM

Annual report, recommendation, peer review, Digital Decade Bord



MULTI COUNTRIES

PROJECTS agility to invest together in digital infrastructures (EDIC)

2030 Digital COMPASS Communication (March 2021)

Action

Vision

European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDIC)

- Concept strongly influenced by the success of **European Research Infrastructure Consortia** (ERICs). Advantages: **speedy** establishment and **flexible** implementation.
- Purpose of an EDIC: **establish and operate a multi-country project**
- An EDIC will be a legal entity set up by a decision of the Commission upon a request of a group of MS. It will have legal personality and full legal capacity recognised in all MS. It will be liable for its own debts.
- An EDIC must have at least **three Member States** as members. The internal structure of an EDIC will be flexible and defined in the statutes by members.
- The main sources of financing for the EDIC would be commitments of the EDIC members and grants from the directly managed EU instruments.
- In particular, EDIC will be able to apply for funding from all centrally-managed EU programmes (notably: DEP, CEF, Horizon Europe), RRF and funds under shared management.

European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDIC)

- **Strong position of MS in EDIC's governance:** only MS who provide financial / non-financial contributions will have voting rights. Other MS may join an EDIC as observers. Third countries, international organisations and other public / private entities can become members, they may not be able to outvote MS.
- In contrast to Joint Undertakings an EDIC will not be a Union body, and the Commission will not hold votes.
- After an EDIC is established, **the Commission will be involved in the following elements of an EDIC's governance:**
 - the deliberations of the assembly of members of an EDIC, without voting rights
 - only if a centrally-managed Union programme financially contributes to a MCP, the Commission will have a veto right on the decisions of the assembly
 - via recommendations regarding the matters covered in an EDIC's annual activity reports
- EDICs must remain **open for participation of new MS**, subject to rules provided for in the Statutes. Incumbent MS may not block such participation. This is an important advantage of an EDIC vis-à-vis e.g. IPCEI.

Main policy and legal issues

[non-comprehensive list]

- Legal status and applicable law;
- Members' financial and non-financial contributions;
- Rights of members and observers;
- Economic v. non-economic activities
- Tax exemptions (status of an EDIC as an international organisation)
- Governance: the Assembly of Members, Director, advisory bodies, the role of the Commission
- Voting rights at the Assembly of Members (method of calculation, decisions requiring QMV)
- Policies (ownership of intellectual property, data protection, procurement, employment)
- State aid

Support to prospective EDICs: MCP Accelerator

- **Envisaged in the proposal for DDPP Decision** as function of the Commission: *the Commission shall coordinate the implementation of a Multi-Country Project, acting as a Multi-Country Project Accelerator* (Art. 14(1) DDPP)
- For all MCPs, **responsible for specific tasks envisaged in the DDPP Decision** (incl. 2-step coordination mechanism envisaged in Art. 14(2) and (3) DDPP)
- **Additional tasks in case of MCPs** implemented by **setting up of an EDIC** (esp. Art. 16 DDPP)
- **Reporting on the implementation of MCPs** in the annex to the report on the “State of the Digital Decade” (Art. 13(1))

EDICs: results of pre-notification and timeline

Proposed EDIC	Status
Blockchain	Application
Cybersecurity Skills Academy	Prenotification
Networked Local Digital Twins	Prenotification
Mobility and Logistics Data	Prenotification
Connected Public Administration	Prenotification
Alliance for Language Technologies	Prenotification
Genomes	Prenotification
Copyright Infrastructure	Prenotification

Pre-notification: informal, non-binding, voluntary procedure to allow interested Member States submit basic information about envisaged EDIC and obtained Commission preliminary feedback on main elements of the EDIC

EDIC timeline: min. 3 months for Member States to negotiate and draft EDIC application, including Statutes. Approximately 5 months for the review of application, comitology procedure, the adoption of COM implementing decision establishing the EDIC and its publication in the OJ.

Thank you.

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