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COVER NOTE

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To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
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Subject:	ANNEX 11 ANNEX to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions State of the Digital Decade 2025: Keep building the EU's sovereignty and digital future

Delegations will find attached document COM(2025) 290 - Annex 11.

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Brussels, 16.6.2025
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ANNEX 11

ANNEX

to the

**Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the
European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions**

State of the Digital Decade 2025: Keep building the EU's sovereignty and digital future

{SWD(2025) 290 final} - {SWD(2025) 291 final} - {SWD(2025) 292 final} -
{SWD(2025) 293 final} - {SWD(2025) 294 final} - {SWD(2025) 295 final}

SHORT COUNTRY REPORTS 2025

France

Executive summary

France can rely on a very good digital infrastructure but lags behind in the digitalisation of businesses. The country positions itself as a tech leader in AI and green ICT.

France shows a high level of ambition in its contribution to the Digital Decade having set 9 national targets, 100% of which aligned with the EU 2030 targets. The country is following its trajectories moderately well with 50% of them being on track (considering 2024 trajectories defined for 6 KPIs out of 8 analysed). France addressed 77% of the 13 recommendations issued by the Commission in 2024, either by implementing significant policy changes (54%) or making some changes (23%) through new measures.

In 2024, fibre and 5G coverage in France is high despite a large territory. The digitalisation of SMEs and the adoption of advanced digital technologies by businesses remains below average. Recent activities, such as hosting the AI Action Summit in 2025, confirm that France wants to position itself as a leader in AI. The country is also developing initiatives and standards to measure and reduce the environmental footprint of the ICT sector. France's digital policies increasingly emphasise sovereignty by, for example, developing its national production of semiconductors and fostering the adoption of sovereign EU and French solutions by businesses and the public administration. France has set out a very broad portfolio of actions to raise awareness of cyberthreats in all sectors (enterprises, administration, general public) but has also provided support in implementing cybersecurity strategies, especially in the healthcare sector.

Digital Decade KPI ⁽¹⁾	France				EU		Digital Decade target by 2030	
	DESI 2024 (year 2023)	DESI 2025 (year 2024)	Annual progress	National trajectory 2024 (3)	DESI 2025	Annual progress	FR	EU
Fixed Very High Capacity Network (VHCN) coverage	81.4%	87.5%	7.5%	90.7%	82.5%	4.9%	100.0%	100%
Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) coverage	81.4%	87.5%	7.5%	-	69.2%	8.4%	-	-
Overall 5G coverage	90.9%	94.3%	3.8%	96.6%	94.3%	5.9%	100.0%	100%
Edge Nodes (estimate)	272	532	95.6%	-	2257	90.5%	-	10000
SMEs with at least a basic level of digital intensity (2)	-	68.5%	3.8%	-	72.9%	2.8%	90.0%	90%
Cloud	23.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	75%
Artificial Intelligence	5.9%	9.9%	68.5%	-	13.5%	67.2%	-	75%
Data analytics	33.9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	75%
AI or Cloud or Data analytics	44.9%	-	-	-	-	-	65.0%	75%
Unicorns	43	48	11.6%	49	286	4.4%	100	500
At least basic digital skills	59.7%	-	-	-	-	-	80.0%	80%
ICT specialists	4.7%	4.8%	2.1%	5.5%	5.0%	4.2%	10.0%	~10%
e-ID scheme notification		Yes						
Digital public services for citizens	72.1	71.2	-1.2%	76.1	82.3	3.6%	100.0	100
Digital public services for businesses	79.3	76.9	-3.0%	82.3	86.2	0.9%	100.0	100
Access to e-Health records	79.3	84.2	6.2%	82.2	82.7	4.5%	100.0	100

(1) See the methodological note for the description of the indicators and other metrics

(2) DESI 2025 reports the version 4 of the Digital Intensity Index, that is comparable with the DII value from DESI 2023 (referring to year 2022) for the calculation of the annual progress. It is not comparable to the national trajectory that is based on version 3 of the index.

(3) National trajectory value if present in the national roadmap and if the indicator was measured in DESI2025 (year 2024)

According to the special Eurobarometer on ‘the Digital Decade’ 2025, 65% of French people consider that the digitalisation of daily public and private services is making their lives easier. On the action of the public authorities, 89% consider it important to counter and mitigate the issue of fake news and disinformation online. And on competitiveness, 82% consider it important to ensure that European companies can grow and become ‘European Champions’ capable of competing globally.

A competitive, sovereign, and resilient EU based on technological leadership

Digital infrastructure indicators (very high capacity networks (VHCNs), fibre to the premises (FTTP), 5G) are all above the EU average thanks to effective public policies (plan ‘*France très haut débit*’, multiple service providers sharing a fibre network). However, the digitalisation of enterprises, especially SMEs, is still lagging. Nonetheless, France has demonstrated leadership in AI and can count on a dynamic start-up ecosystem in this sector and in quantum computing. The country has adjusted its roadmap with additional measures to foster the adoption of generative AI and retrieval-augmented generation technologies by businesses. However, the take-up of advanced digital technologies by businesses is below average. France promotes cyber awareness on all fronts: businesses, population, and administration. The updated roadmap includes a programme for cyber protection of healthcare facilities. The roadmap also includes massive investments in semiconductors (research and production).

Protecting and empowering EU people and society

France’s digital skills performance reflects inclusive growth across genders and a small urban-rural skills gap, but some disparities persist based on people’s education levels. The general population’s poor performance in mathematics may limit the pursuit of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and ICT specialist training and careers as these skills shortages are persistent. Public service digitalisation is losing ground compared to the EU average. In this area, the authorities are focussing on reducing the administrative burden (dematerialisation – replacing physical documents, processes and transactions with digital equivalents, ‘once only’ principle). They are also promoting the adoption of sovereign solutions, including cloud, open software, and specialised skills within the administration. On a positive note, the digitalisation of healthcare has made impressive progress in the past two years.

Leveraging digital transformation for a smart greening

France is a global leader in monitoring and reducing the environmental impact of its ICT sector. It has developed tools to measure, forecast and monitor the ICT sector’s footprint (such as designing carbon reduction trajectories) and plays a key role in green initiatives within the Digital Decade’s Best Practice Accelerator.

National digital decade strategic roadmap

France submitted a fully revised national Digital Decade roadmap on 3 February 2025, containing six additional measures and revised trajectories. The updates are aligned with the Commission’s new priorities on AI, cybersecurity and green ICT. It includes reporting on the consultation of stakeholders. It addresses a substantial number of roadmap recommendations issued in 2024. All targets align with the EU level goals for 2030 (except for the combined indicator on the adoption of AI, cloud, and data analytics technologies where the country aims at 65%, below the EU target of 75%). The revised roadmap continues to prioritise semiconductors, connectivity, and e-Health. It contains of 33

measures with a budget of EUR 18.6 billion, including EUR 11.1 billion from the public budget (equivalent to 0.38% of GDP). It covers all the Digital Decade objectives, such as creating a human-centred digital space, boosting resilience and security, promoting sovereignty, supporting the green transition, and protecting society.

Funding & projects for digital

France allocates 22% of its total recovery and resilience plan to digital (EUR 8.1 billion)¹. In addition, under cohesion policy, EUR 1.9 billion, representing 11% of the country's total cohesion policy funding, is dedicated to advancing France's digital transformation².

France is the host Member State of the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC (ALT-EDIC). France is also a member of the Local Digital Twins towards CitiVERSE EDIC. The country is directly participating in the IPCEI on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT) and in the IPCEI on Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS). France is also a participating state of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (JU) and of the Chips JU.

France has contributed to the Best Practice Accelerator³ by leading the cluster on Green IT related to public policies on the environmental transition of digital technology. It shared three best practices within this cluster (the general reference framework for the eco-design of digital services, the Alt IMPACT Communication Campaign, and the development of product category rules for environmental evaluation and labelling) and one additional best practice in the Digital Skills cluster (digital advisors).

Digital rights and principles

According to a support study, France has been relatively active in implementing the [European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles](#), with 53 initiatives overall but no new initiatives launched in 2024. France is most active in the area of participation in the digital public space. Less activity has been identified with regards to digital public services online. Measures in the area of putting people at the centre of the digital transformation appear to have most impact on the ground, in contrast to those addressing safety, security and empowerment.

Recommendations

- **SMEs:** Improve digitalisation of SMEs, including by directing existing support schemes to SMEs that lag in digitalisation, independently of their size.
- **ICT specialists and advanced skills:** Increase the job market relevance, improve the visibility, and clarify the offer of digital training and reskilling options.
- **Advanced technologies take-up:** Support the adoption of advanced digital technologies by businesses (with a particular attention to AI and cloud) via the creation of local ecosystems to

¹ The share of financial allocations that contribute to digital objectives has been calculated using Annex VII to the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation. Last data update: 16 May 2025.

² This amount includes all investment specifically aimed at or substantially contributing to digital transformation in the 2021-2027 Cohesion policy programming period. The source funds are the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, and the Just Transition Fund.

³ The Best Practice Accelerator (BPA) is a platform that enables Member States to share successful measures and challenges encountered in their efforts to meet their Digital Decade targets and objectives. Best practices are made available to Member States via the BPA Repository and showcased in regular workshops, currently focused on three thematic clusters: Digital Skills, Green IT, and the Uptake of Digital Technologies.

spread technologies and best practices across all economic sectors. Encourage the adoption of sovereign European solutions.

- **Artificial intelligence:** Continue supporting innovation in AI to strengthen France's leadership in the sector and create future global leader companies.
- **Cybersecurity:** Continue efforts in cybersecurity to address evolving threats, particularly for enterprises and administration.
- **Digital public services:** Speed up the digitalisation of public services for both citizen and businesses, in particular by expanding cross-border capabilities.