



# DEP4ALL

THE NCP NETWORK FOR THE  
DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME

## Introduction to Digital Europe Programme

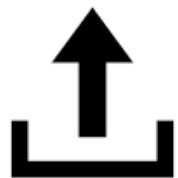
János Dászkál, DEP NCP, Hungary

June 10, 2025.

# Housekeeping rules



- Training **will be recorded**



- Recordings and presentation **will be published**



- Sorry, we have to keep your mics **muted**.



- Please send your questions to Q&A channel



- Answers mainly in writing in **follow-up**

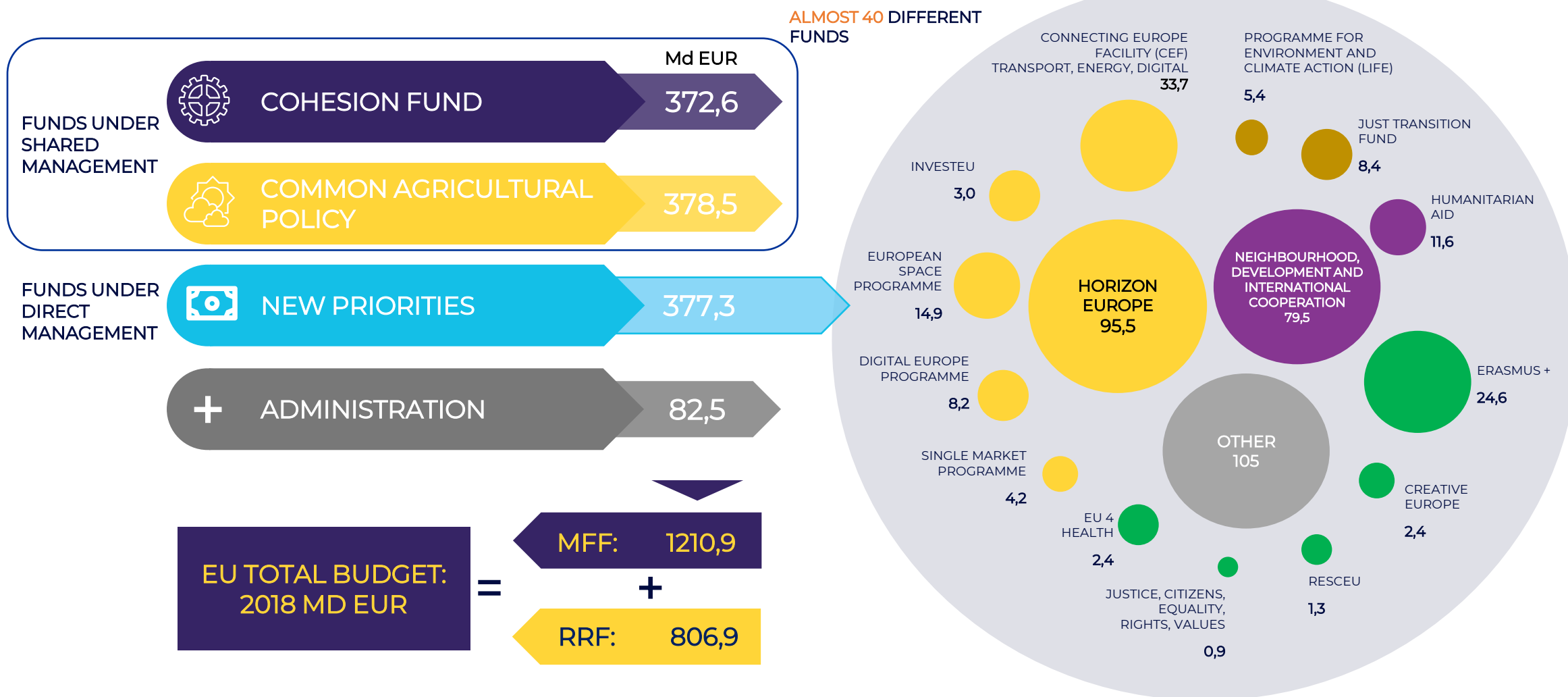


- More, in-depth, **specific information** bilaterally from your **DEP NCP**

# Direct EU-funds, digitisation and DEP on the EU funding landscape

Explore how digitalisation is prioritised within the European Union's directly managed funds. Understand where the Digital Europe Programme fits in the broader funding ecosystem and how it complements other major EU instruments.

# Direct funds in EU budget – ratio increasing steadily



# Key feature of direct funding: EU-dimension

## 1 PROJECT IDEA...

..that strengthens the EU and worth doing with your own money too



The need for money is not a project idea!

## EU-DIMENSION



### EU-LEVEL COMPETITION



Everyone can be a competitor from any eligible country

### EU-LEVEL EVALUATION



No quota, the best applications win, regardless of country

### EU-LEVEL INNOVATION



Not enough to import advanced technology

### EU-LEVEL DISSEMINATION



An international consortium is often a prerequisite for submitting a proposal

## 3 OPERATIVE PROGRAMS

- They complement each other with direct funds
- and often target different elements of the value chain



STABILITY,  
EXPERIENCE



SKILLS,  
COMPETENCE



CO-FINANCING  
REQUIREMENT



1



# The direct EU-funding landscape is complex

There are almost 40 direct EU-funds....

...cross-cutting topics and important sectors are linked to several funds, so **synergies are very important**

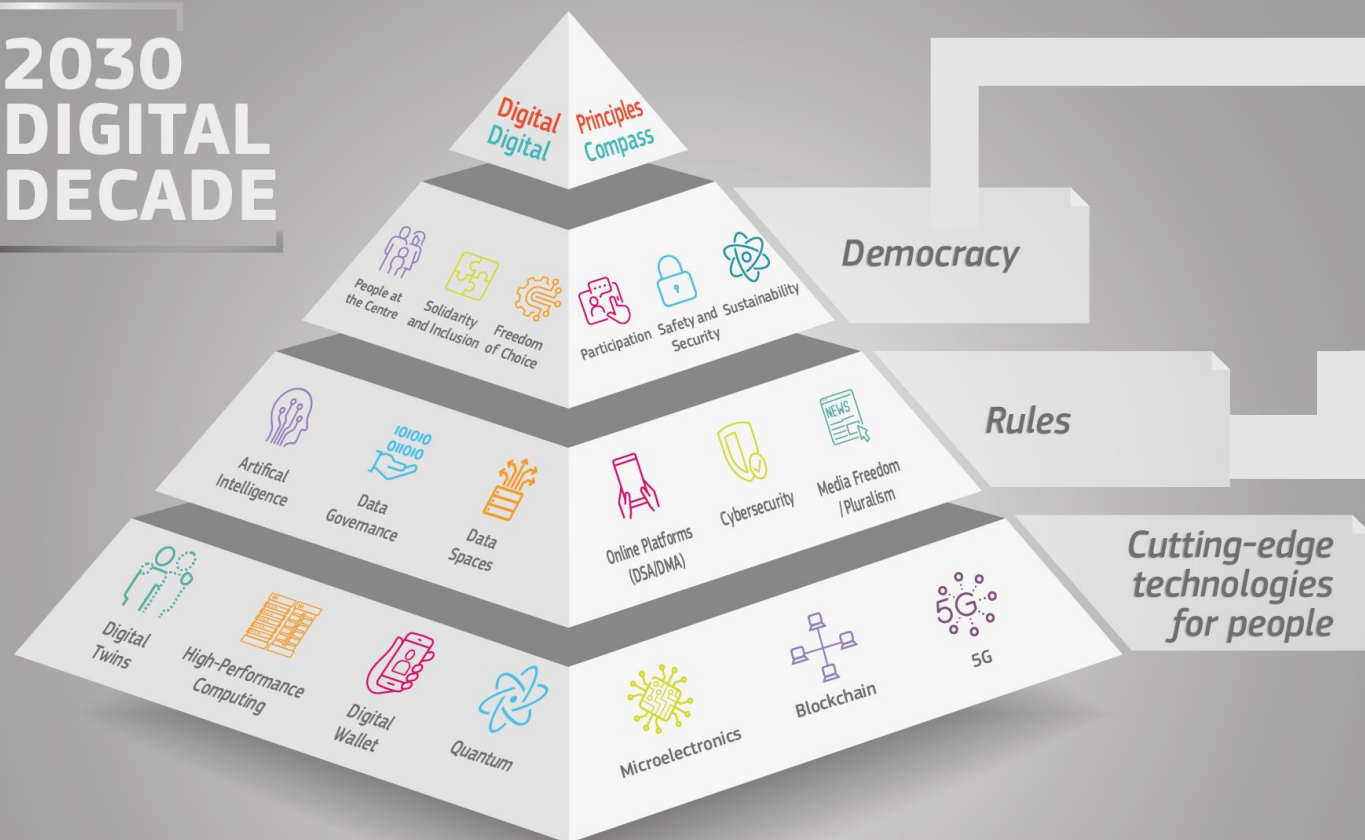


# Introduction to strategies and policies that form the background of the programme

Discover the key EU strategies and policy frameworks—such as the Digital Decade, Green Deal, and Europe’s Digital Compass—that shape the goals and priorities of the Digital Europe Programme.

# Digital rights & principles and regulation

2030  
DIGITAL  
DECADE



#DigitalEU

## European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles

- The [Declaration](#) puts people at the centre, in line with EU values and fundamental rights provides
- It provides a reference framework for citizens and guides the EU and Member States

## Digital Decade Policy Programme (DDPP)

- Digital Markets Act (DMA)
- Digital Services Act (DSA)
- Data Act; Data Governance Act
- European Health Data Space (EHDS) Regulation
- Artificial Intelligence Act (AI Act)
- Network and Information Systems Security Directive (NIS2)
- Cyber Resilience Act; Cyber Solidarity Act
- Chips Act
- Single Digital Gateway Regulation
- Interoperable Europe Act
- Gigabit Infrastructure Act
- Audiovisual Media Services Directive
- European Media Freedom Act

# Digital Decade 2030 - focus points

1



DIGITAL  
SOVEREIGNTY

4



GREEN DIGITAL  
TRANS-  
FORMATION

7



DIGITAL  
INCLUSION

2



DIGITAL SKILLS  
AND  
EDUCATION

5



DIGITAL  
INNOVATION  
AND BUSINESS

3



DIGITAL INFRA-  
STRUCTURE

6



DIGITAL  
SECURITY AND  
TRUST



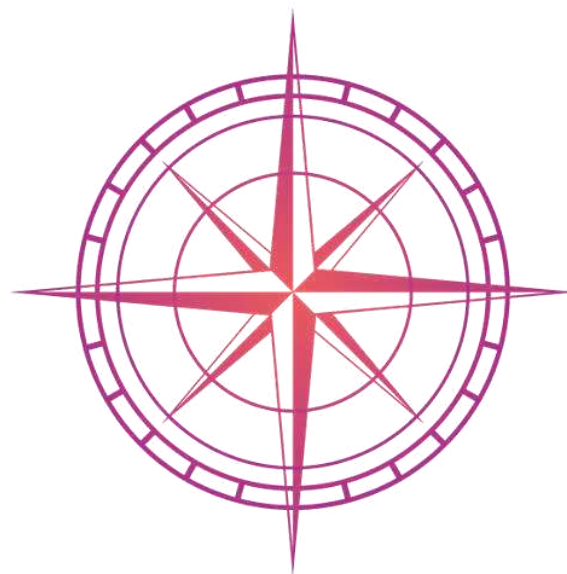
# Digital Decade targets for 2030

## Skills

20 million employed **ICT specialists**, more  
graduates + gender balance  
80% of adults can **use tech** for everyday tasks

## Government

**Key Public Services** - 100% online  
Everyone can **access health records online**  
Everyone can use **eID**




## Infrastructure

**Gigabit connectivity** for everyone, **high-speed mobile coverage** (at least 5G) everywhere  
EU produces 20% of world's **semiconductors**  
10 000 **cloud edge nodes** = fast data access  
EU **quantum computing** by 2025

## Business

75% of companies using **Cloud, AI or Big Data**  
Double the number of **unicorn startups**  
90% of **SMEs taking up tech**

# 7 main EU budget programmes for Digital

Digital Europe Programme	Connecting Europe Facility – Digital	Horizon Europe	InvestEU	Creative Europe MEDIA	EU4Health	Recovery and Resilience Facility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- economic recovery</li> <li>- digital transformation of Europe.</li> <li>- fill the gap between research and deployment of digital technologies,</li> <li>- bringing the results of research to the market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- trans-European networks and infrastructures in the transport, telecommunications and energy sectors.</li> <li>- broadband networks to handle emerging and future processes and applications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- research and innovation</li> <li>- health, resilience and the green and digital transitions.</li> <li>- cca 35% of Horizon Europe's efforts are backing the digital transition.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- crucial support to companies in the recovery phase</li> <li>- a strong focus among private investors on the EU's medium- and long-term policy priorities. ( <a href="#">European Green Deal and digitalisation.</a> )</li> <li>- At least 10% of the program feeds into digital goals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The <a href="#">MEDIA Sub-programme of Creative Europe</a> supports European film and other audiovisual industries.</li> <li>- funding for the development, promotion and distribution of European works within Europe and beyond.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To strengthen health security and prepare for future health crises.</li> <li>- Approximately 10% of this programme will be used for digital transformation of the health sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- investments and reforms,</li> <li>- green and digital transitions</li> <li>- the resilience of national economies.</li> <li>- minimum 20% of expenditure related to digital.</li> </ul>
						

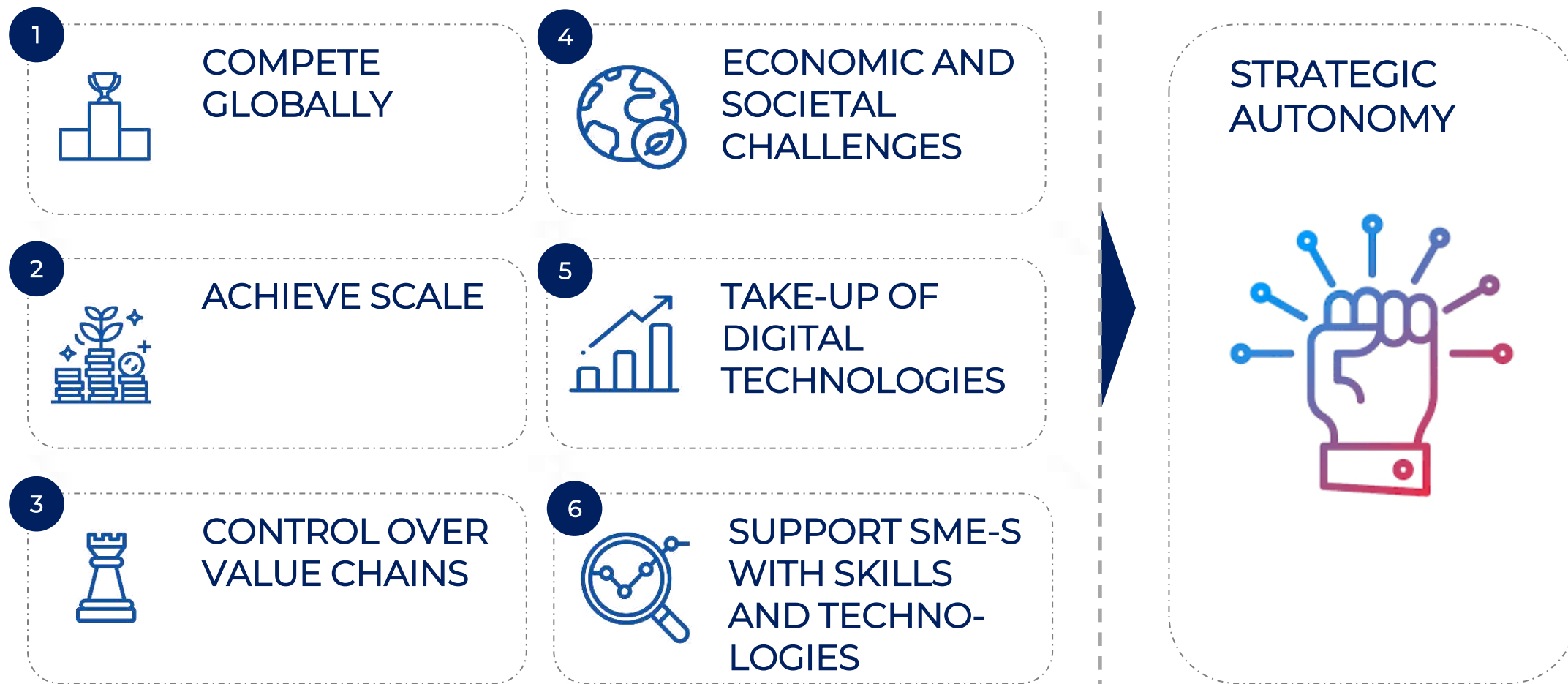
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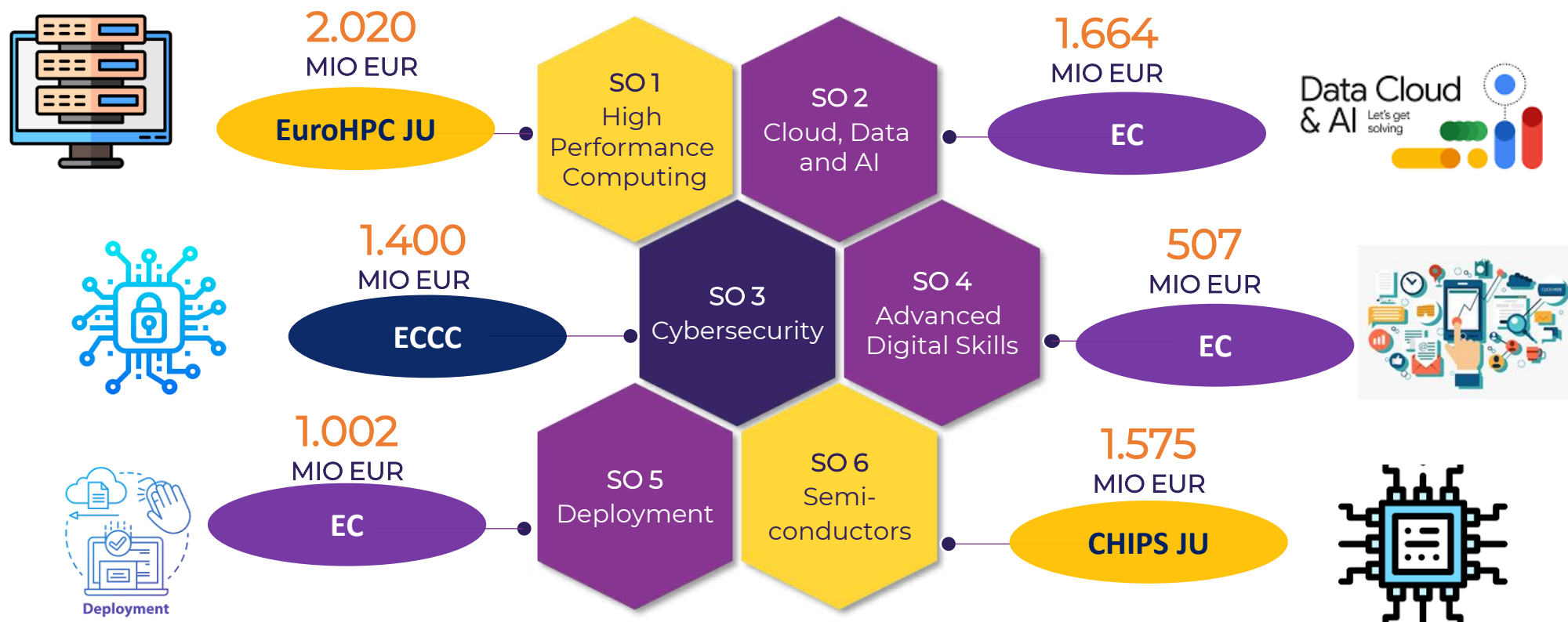
# Focal points of the Digital Europe Programme

Discover the key areas where the Digital Europe Programme invests: supercomputers, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, data spaces, the deployment of digital technologies across sectors, and the resilience of the EU's semiconductor ecosystem.

# The main objectives of DEP

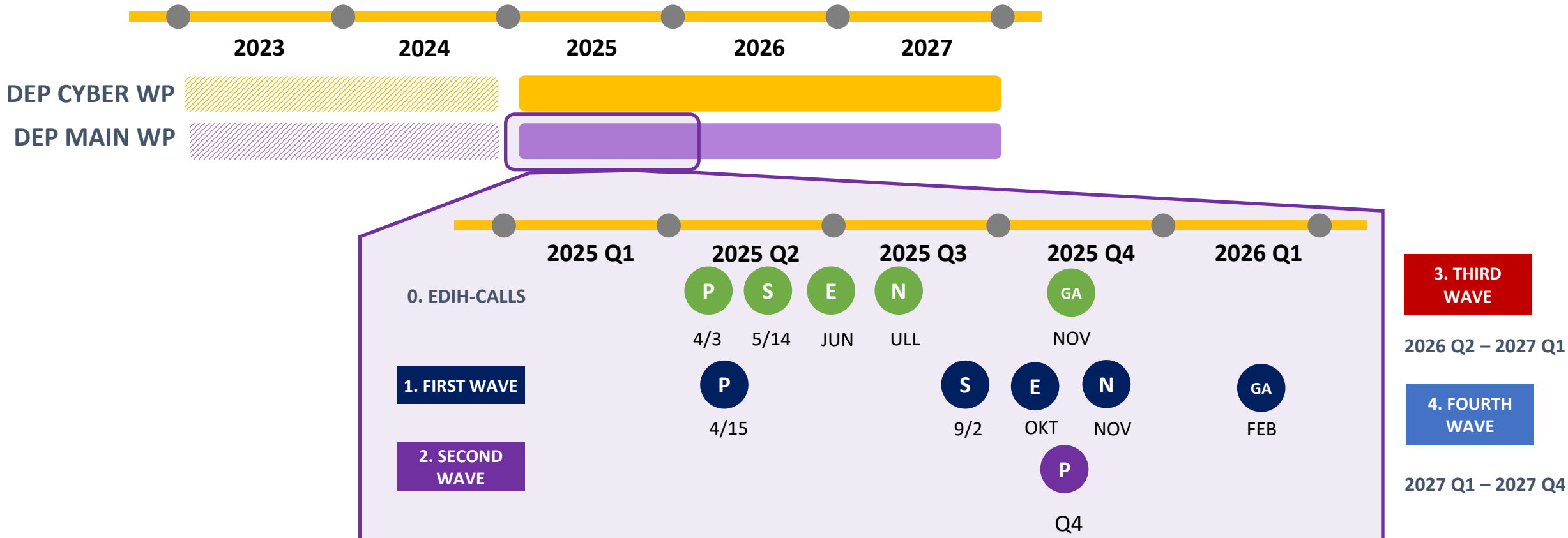


# DEP is organized around 6 specific objectives



TOTAL DEP BUDGET **8.168** MIO EUR

# The main WP and cyber WP published in Q2 2025.



# SO 1: High Performance Computing

## TARGETS, FOCAL POINTS

- Provide a world leading **service and data infrastructure ecosystem**
- Build competitive **supercomputing systems**
- Widen the use of the supercomputing infrastructure



## IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

- Destination Earth (Main WP)
- European Master Programme for HPC
- Establishment of AI Factories across the EU
- Deployment of the quantum computers
- National HPC Competence Centres

## SYNERGIES AND LINKS

- DEP SO2 - [DIGITAL-2024-AI-06-LANGUAGE-02](#)
- Alliance for Language Technologies for the European Union
- Horizon Europe – Cluster 4 (digital, industry and space) - [LINK](#)
- European Defence Fund - [LINK](#)

**3**



# SO 2: Cloud, Data and AI

## TARGETS, FOCAL POINTS

- Artificial Intelligence and Digital Twins
- Cloud-to-edge and Data Spaces
- EDIH-s (see next slide)

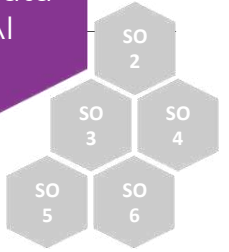


## IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

- **Simpl**: open source, smart and secure MW platform
- **Data Spaces**: Preparatory and deployment actions, support actions (e.g. DSSC)
- Sectorial AI Testing and Experimentation facilities
- Support for the AI Act, Language Technologies
- **AI in health**, e.g. European Virtual Twins
- **Cloud-to-edge** infrastructure and services
- Uptake of **genAI** in its key strategic sectors and application areas
- European Digital Innovation Hubs

## SYNERGIES AND LINKS

- HE CL4 D3: World-leading Data and Computing Technologies
- HE CL4 D6: A human-centred and ethical development of digital and industrial technologies
- Synergies with DEP other SO-s ([INTELLIGENCE AND HEALTH \(AI AND HEALTH\)](#) under topic DIGITAL-2021-SKILLS-01)



# SO 2: Cloud, Data and AI: EDIH-s



## INFORMATION, KNOW-HOW

- Digital transformation expertise, know-how and services (provision or access)



## SUPPORT FOR COMPETITIVENESS

- Increasing competitiveness, improving business models



## CROSS-REGIONAL TRANSFER

- Transfer of expertise and know-how between regions, joint initiatives, sharing of best practices



## THEMATIC SERVICES FOR TARGET GROUP

- Mainly HPC-, Data-, AI- and Cyber-related
- Digital Maturity Assessment
- Test-Before-Invest

On EDIH-s in more detail: <https://european-digital-innovation-hubs.ec.europa.eu/home>

# SO 3: Cybersecurity

## TARGETS, FOCAL POINTS

- Strengthening european Cybersecurity capacities
- Promoting cross-border cooperation and information sharing
- Enhancing skills and cybersecurity awareness



## IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

- Cyber Solidarity Act implementation(cyber WP)
- Incident Response Support (main WP)
- Secure quantum communication infrastructure for the EU (EuroQCI) (main WP)
- Cyber Hubs (cyber WP)
- EU cybersecurity reserve (main WP)
- Cyber Resilience Act reporting platform (main WP)

## SYNERGIES AND LINKS

- Cybersecurity-related topics aren't limited to SO3 in DEP.
- Example: project funded under the DIGITAL-2021-SKILLS-01-SPECIALISED (SO4)
- Horizon Europe – Cluster 3 (civil security for society) – [LINK](#)
- Horizon Europe – Cluster 4 (digital, industry and space) – [LINK](#)
- European Defence Fund - [LINK](#)

# SO 4: Advanced Digital Skills

## TARGETS, FOCAL POINTS

- Support excellence in EU education & training for digital
- Upskilling and reskilling of workforce
- Increase number of ICT specialists, attract women and young people to digital

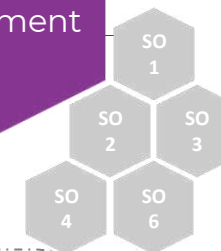


## IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

- 45 signed grants, 240MEUR EU contribution supporting skills in key areas like Cyber, Chips, Quantum, Healthcare, DestinE
- Data Space for Skills (starting 01/25)
- Digital Skills and Jobs Platform
- Digital skills academies and trainings (in collaboration with industry)
- continuation of support to higher education programmes
- support skills competitions, girls/women in Digital, Skills&Jobs Platform

## SYNERGIES AND LINKS

- DEP: Data Space for Skills (deployment) under SO2 - [DS4SKILLS-GO](#)
- Erasmus+ - [ERASMUS+ 2025 CALLS](#)
- EIT: [DEEP TECH TALENT INITIATIVE](#)
- Workforce skills for industry 5.0 (RIA)- [HORIZON-CL4-2021-HUMAN-01-26](#)
- Green and digital skills and training needs for a just transition (CSA) [HORIZON-CL4-2023-HUMAN-01-54](#)



# SO 5: Deployment

## TARGETS, FOCAL POINTS

- Support to the digital transformation for SMEs and public administration
- Foster trans-european, interoperable and trusted infrastructures
- Build confidence in digital transformation



## IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

- EDIH-s
- European Blockchain Initiative (EBSI)
- Safer Internet Centers
- EDMOs
- Public admin cooperation projects
- eID wallet (focus on business applications)
- Capacity building for digital health services

## SYNERGIES AND LINKS

- EDIHs – see [EDIH CATALOGUE](#)
- [Funding opportunities](#) for the digital transformation in various programmes.
- Mainly HEU-CL4, CEF, EIB, InvestEU.

HE-CL4

- [DIGITAL HUMANISM](#)
- [NEXT GENERATION SAFER INTERNET](#)

CEF

- [CEF-DIGITAL WORKPROGRAMME 2024-27](#)

4





# SO 6: Semiconductors

## Electronic component and system part of the WP: COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

Reinforce EU strategic autonomy in  
electronic components and  
systems



Establish EU scientific excellence  
and innovation leadership



Ensure that components and  
systems technologies address  
Europe's societal and  
environmental challenges



## Chips for Europe Initiative part of the WP: CAPACITY BUILDING

Pilot lines



Design platform



Competence centres



Quantum chips  
technology



Skills (TBD)

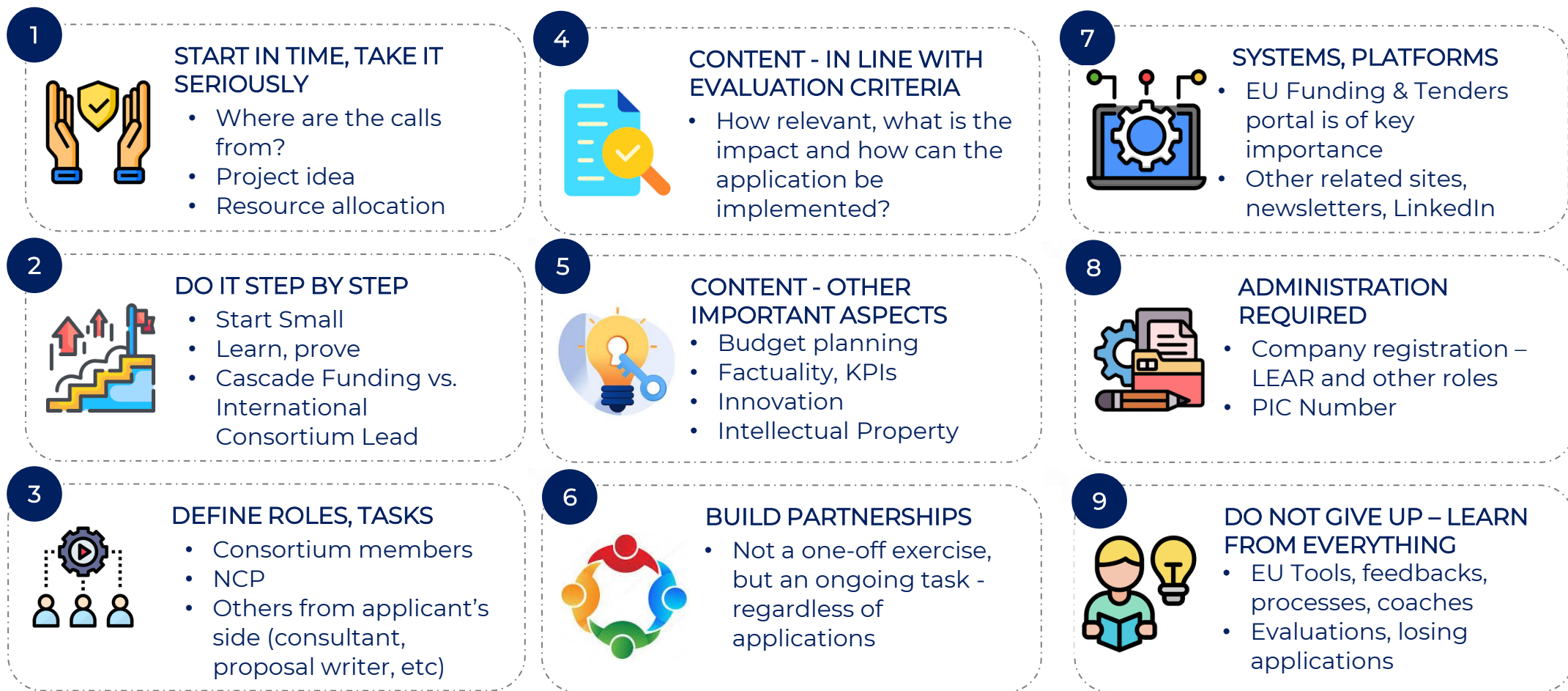


Other

# Tips and good advice to follow when applying for DEP

Learn practical hints and tips to improve your chances of success in DEP calls — avoid common pitfalls when developing a project and a proposal

# It is worth applying, but it does matter how you do it





# You can lose the chance early on if you start late and don't take it seriously enough

## START IN TIME

- Calls are not out of nowhere : Strategy – Programme – WP – Calls
- **Read WP**, do not wait for calls for proposal
- Subscribe to **newsletters**
- Be part of **professional communities**
- Get active on the topic
- For those who **think internationally**

## SIGNS OF SERIOUSNESS

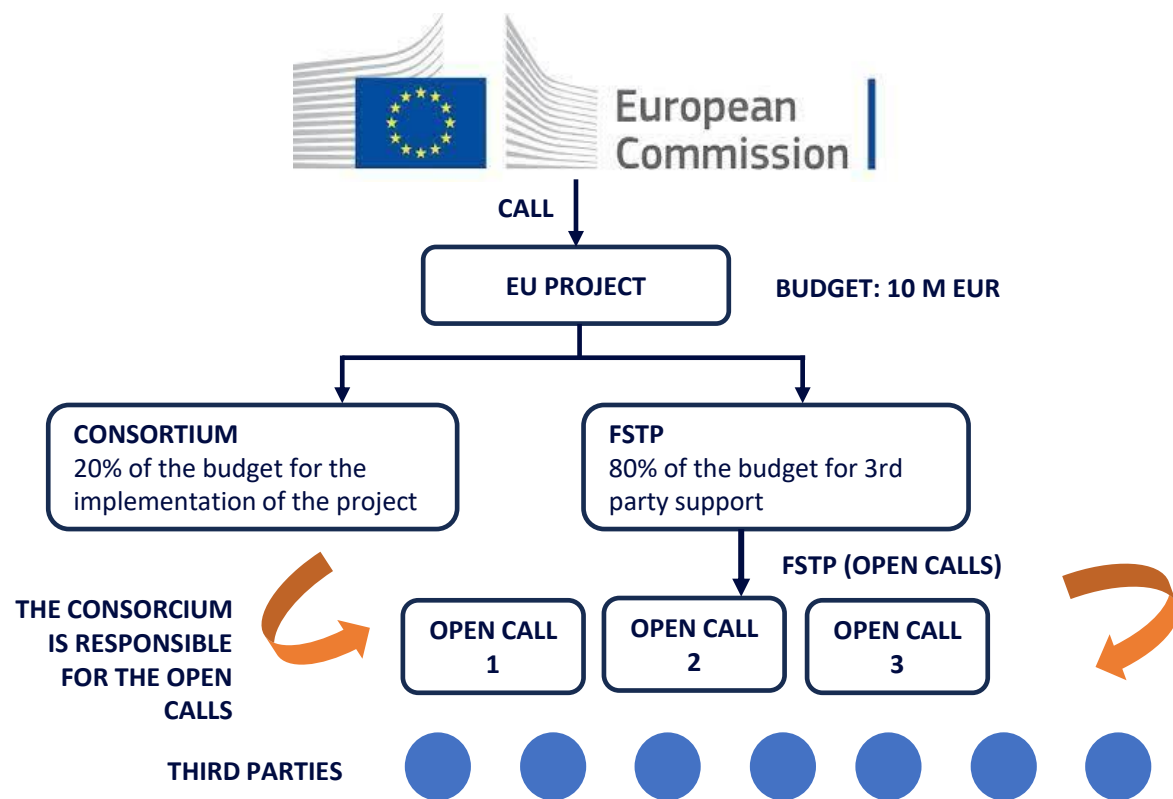
- You can't get a grant for "something" - you can for a **specific, good project idea**
- Good project idea means - something **worth doing on your own money too**
- Put **resources** into it - good people, lots of time, important competences (business, IT, risk, law, etc.)
- Take advantage of **EU help** (coaching, agency enquiries)

## WHAT DO WE CHECK?

- **THE IDEA** - how good, inspiring, forward-looking, innovative, profitable, unique
- **THE FIT** - to EU focuses, funds, work programmes, calls for proposals; to MFOI activities, competences, strengths
- **THE TEAM** - idea generator's skills, competencies, resources, commitment, motivation, reliability



# Cascade funding can be a good entry point



SPECIALLY FOR SME-S AND STARTUPS



2 APPLICATIONS IN 1



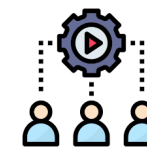
FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION  
RATHER THAN ADMINISTRATION



10.000 – 200.000 EUR



OTHER FORMS OF SUPPORT (tech-  
and knowledge transfer, marketing,  
vouchers, testing opportunities etc)



## Clarification of roles is crucial

### 1 TEAM, ROLES



- Responsibilities, Tasks
- Contract – detailed rules, fees (usually fixed + success fee)
- Process, Contacts
- Working hard together
- Resources on all sides

### 2 TIMING



- Detailed project planning
- Counting down from application deadline (with safety margin)
- Mutual responsibility for planning and meeting deadlines

### 3 CONSORTIUM ROLES



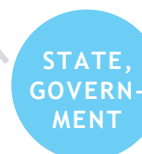
RESEARCH -  
innovation



BUSINESS

IMPLEMEN-  
TATION -  
bringing  
innovation to  
market

AUTHORITY  
FUNCTIONS -  
regulations, standards



- Consultancy
- Project mgmt
  - Proposal writing



- Partner search
- L&F support
- Q&A
- Proof-reading



# DEP Applications assessed on 3 main criteria

## RELEVANCE -

Evaluates how well the proposal **aligns with the objectives and priorities** of the call.

- Clarity and consistency of objectives
- EU added value
- Policy alignment
- synergies with
- activities at European and national level
- Target groups and end users



**IMPACT** - Evaluates the expected **outcomes** and how well the project **maximizes its effects**.

- Expected results
- Scalability and sustainability
- Dissemination and exploitation
- KPI-s and monitoring

**IMPLEMENTATION** - Assesses the **quality and feasibility** of the project plan and consortium

- Quality of the work plan
- Project management
- Capacity of the consortium
- Risk management

5





# There are aspects to which you should pay attention

1

## FACT-BASED PROPOSAL

- Factual
- Research-based
- KPI-s



3

## INNOVATION

- How innovative is it?
- Compared to what?
- Based on what facts, criteria, attributes do we claim this?



2

## BUDGET PLANNING

- Transparent, realistic budget
- Credible financial modelling
- Co-financing / related options



4

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- Depends on industry and market
- Particularly important in consortia applications
- Involvement of IP Office
- FTO analysis





# Building partnerships is an ongoing activity

## EU FUNDING AND TENDERS PORTAL

- Create your own partner profile
- Show interest in other entries
  - Linked to specific calls



## EVENTS, NETWORKING

- Be present – events, Infodays, matchmaking – independantly of the application
- Be proactive – (expertise, project ideas, consortia)



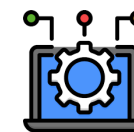
## NETWORK AND CONNECTIONS OF THE APPLICANT

- In the long term, this is what we need to build on
- International and institutional partnerships are particularly beneficial (sometimes mandatory)

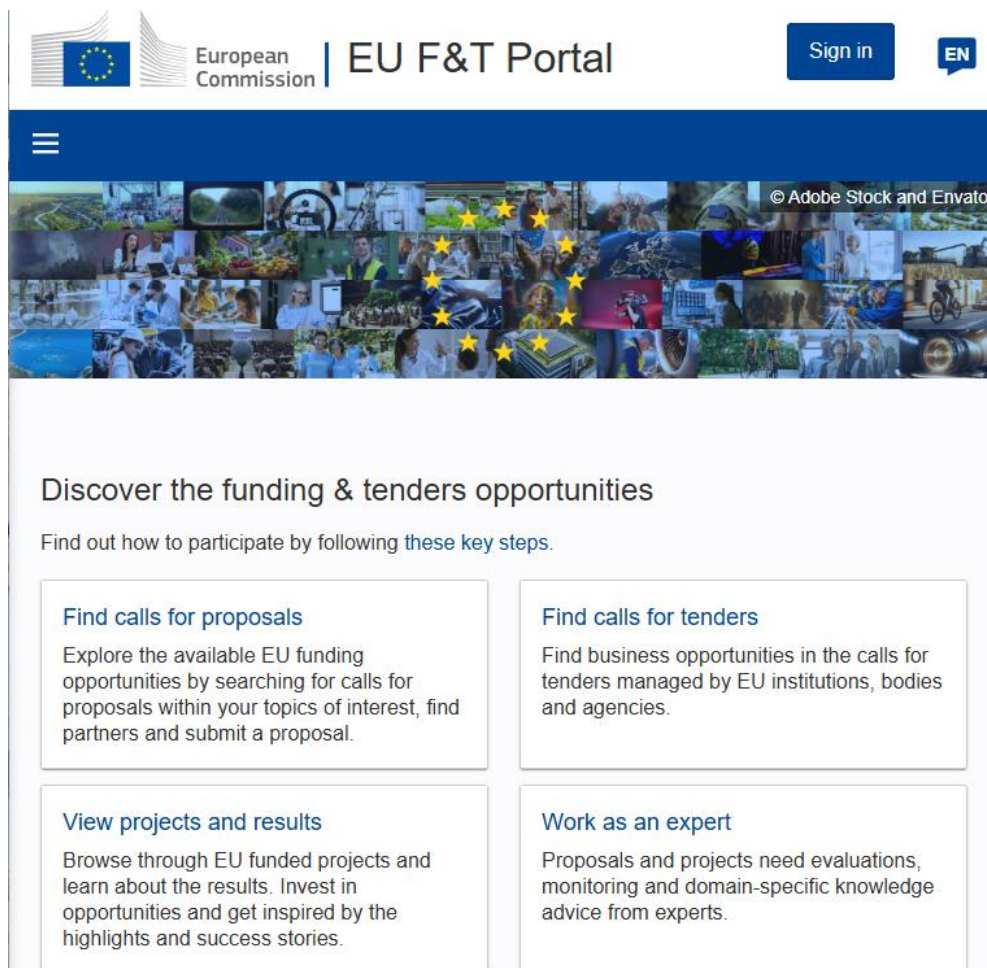
## NETWORK AND CONNECTIONS OF THE DEP NCP

- Through our international network of contacts, we are ready to help





# The "Bible" of direct EU funding – EU F&T portal



## WHAT CAN IT BE USED FOR?

1

### PUBLIC SECTION

- Find calls for proposals (or tenders)
- Search partners
- View projects and results

2

### PRIVATE SECTION

- For managing your proposals and grants/contracts

6



# Find calls – search in various texts, titles and identifiers

[Home](#) > [Funding](#) > [Calls for proposals](#)


## Calls for proposals


Calls for proposals are funding opportunities issued by the European Union institutions, agencies and bodies. These are direct financial contributions, known as grants, that are awarded to third-party beneficiaries (e.g., research organisations, public entities, non-governmental organisations, and private companies) to engage in activities that serve EU policies.


[More details](#)


### Filters


**Quick search**

Select... 

2021 - 2027 

Programme 





Call 

Submission status 

All filters

### GRANTS RECOMMENDED FOR YOU

Do you want to receive personalised recommendations? [Log in](#) to your F&T profile or [register](#) an account to activate them.

357 item(s) found   Opening date  

[TALTECH MERIT Project Mobility Grant](#)

Forthcoming

MERIT | Cascade funding

Opening date: 01 September 2025 | Next deadline: 01 October 2025 | Multiple Cut-off

Programme: Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) | Type of action: -

[TALTECH MERIT Project Excellence Scholarship Award](#)

Forthcoming

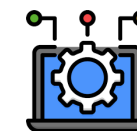
MERIT | Cascade funding

Opening date: 01 September 2025 | Next deadline: 01 October 2025 | Multiple Cut-off

Programme: Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) | Type of action: -

## ALL FILTERS

- Type of grants, calls
- Programming period
- Programme
- Call
- Submission status
- Opening date
- Deadline date



# Search partners

- ☒ Organisations
- ☒ Persons

- Filter...
- Horizon 2020 Framework Programme (H2020 - 2014-2020) (37213)
  - 7th Framework Program (FP7 - CIP - 2007-2013) (27303)
  - Horizon Europe (HORIZON) (25155)
  - Erasmus+ (ERASMUS+) (12497)
  - Erasmus+ Programme (EPLUS - 2014-2020) (12286)

- Filter...
- DIGITAL-2021-EDIH-INITIAL-01
  - ECHE-LP-2020
  - HORIZON-MSCA-2023-DN-01-01
  - HORIZON-MSCA-2021-DN-01-01
  - MSCA-ITN-2020

Home > Funding > Partner search

## Partner search

**Filters**

**Quick search**

Select...

☒ Match whole words only

**Type** ▾

**Digital Europe Programme (DI...** ▾

**Topic** ▾

**Country/Territory** ▾

**All filters**

**4402 item(s) found**

Programme **Digital Europe Progi**

**WNS GLOBAL SERVICES F**

Private for profit organisation  
WARSAWA | Poland

Projects: **1** | Partner search ar

**Municipal Non-Profit Enterpri**

Public organisation  
Ivano-Frankivsk | Ukraine

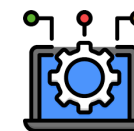
Projects: **0** | Partner search ar

**INNOVATION HIVE - KYPSE**

Research Organisation

## ALL FILTERS

- Programme
- Topic
- Country / Territory
- City
- Organisation type
- Professional profile
- Profiles with published Partner



# View projects and results (EU-funded projects)

[Home](#) > [Project & results](#) > [EU Funded projects](#)

## EU Funded projects

EU funded projects from the EU Funding & Tenders Portal opportunities produce a breadth of results. From projects on biopesticides to infrastructures, dance and music for social inclusion, clinical diagnosis advancements, and applied gamification, this section allows you to explore projects' results to get a taste of the EU funding's reach and impact.

### Filters

**Quick search**

Select...

Programming period

Programme


Topic

All filters

### PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR YOU

Do you want to receive personalised recommendations? [Log in](#) to your F&T profile or [register](#) an account

10000+ item(s) found

 There are more than 10000 results, please refine your search criteria.

[Innovation Management Capacity Enhancement of SMEs in Saxony-Anhalt \(IMCESA\)](#)

642850 | Acronym: **IMCESA** | Contributors: 1

Programme: **Horizon 2020 Framework Programme** | Topic: **INNOSUP**

Germany | Last updated date: **07 May 2025**

"The general objective of the described actions is to contribute to smart growth in the European Union

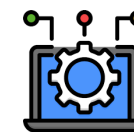
[ECOLORO: Reuse of Waste Water from the Textile Industry](#)

642494 | Acronym: **ECWRTI** | Contributors: 8

Programme: **Horizon 2020 Framework Programme** | Topic: **WATER-1a-2014**

## ALL FILTERS

- Contributor
- Country/territory
- Type of action
- Type of MGA
- End year of the project
- Project with publications
- Contributor region
- Project status



# To stay informed on EU Digital issues, these sites are worth following

1

Shaping Europe´s digital future

2

Destination Earth Events

3

The Digital Decade

4

Digital Dashboard

5

Event Website HADEA

6

Digital Skills & Jobs Platform

7

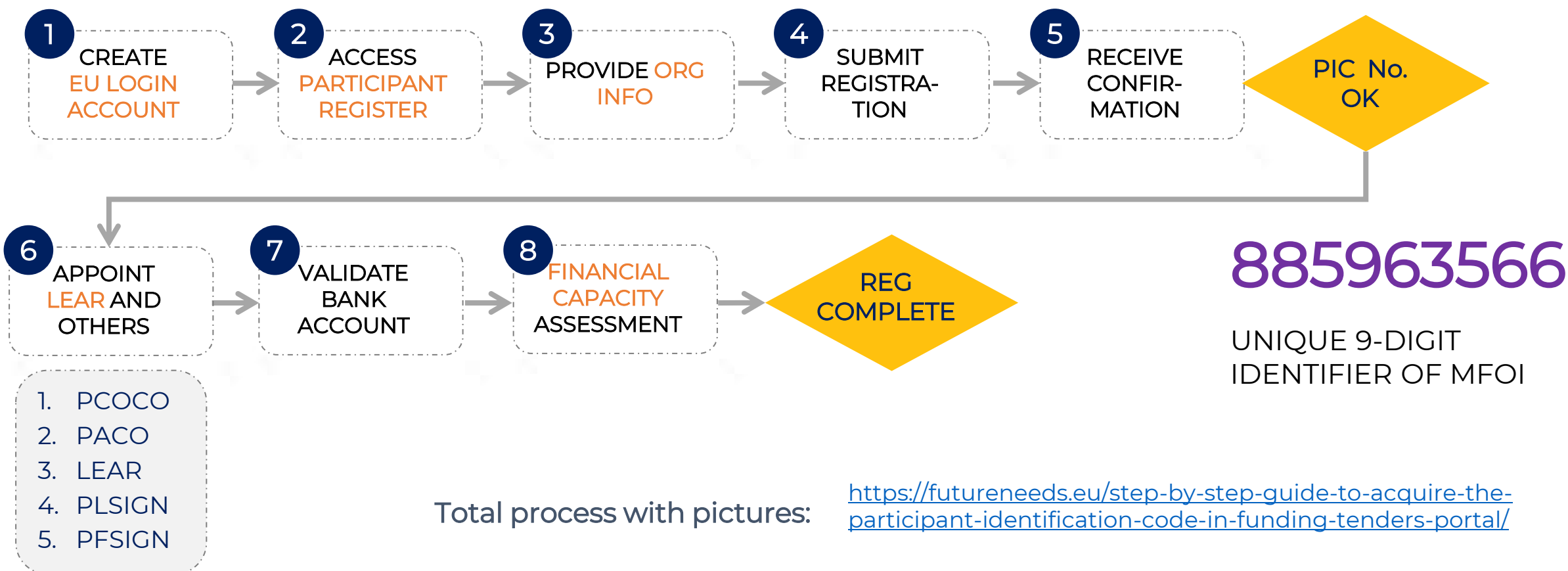
Cybersecurity Events (ECCC Webpage)

7





# Your organisation has to be registered on F&T portal and have a PIC-number





# Prepare and submit in time and properly

## GET READY

- Study the **call documentation** (Topic page)
- Select your **partners** for the project (**Partner Search** function of the Portal)
- **Plan** your project
  - Work packages
  - Milestones
  - Budget





# Most applicants – even with help – do not succeed first

1

## CALL IN HELP



1. There are many tasks for which the company does not necessarily have the resources and competence
2. ...can take the **burden** off the people inside
3. ...bring in **new competences**, e.g. specific EU knowledge
4. ...the **knowledge** gained can be retained in the company
5. Do not forget the **NCP!!!**

2

## FIND STRENGTH



1. A well-timed, **good project** has a **chance of winning**
2. The EU is looking for international excellence - it usually takes more than one try to win
3. EU **comments** and evaluations really help!
4. Most can be **learned from unsuccessful applications**
5. Even if you don't win, it was not in vain - **materials and partners remain**
6. Winning one **rarely stops here!**

8



# In summary: it is well worth applying - and far from just for the money



1.

MAIN AIM OF COURSE IS TO  
RAISE FUNDS



2.

GOOD MATERIALS ARE NEEDED  
ANYWAY



3.

STRATEGIC AND BUSINESS  
THINKING CAN BE LEARNT



4.

INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL  
AND BUSINESS CONTACTS CAN  
BE BUILT



5.

NOTHING TO LOSE!

- Serious funding opportunity - in the form of both grants and investment
- A good presentation about the company...a good video on the team - it's **bad not to have them** without an application
- Who are our **competitors**? How do we want to **grow**? Who are our **customers**, what is our **message** to them?
- If you have **international ambitions**, this is the project's greatest benefit
- Don't give up - **nobody** wins all the time and almost **nobody** wins the first time. But once you win, you rarely stop.

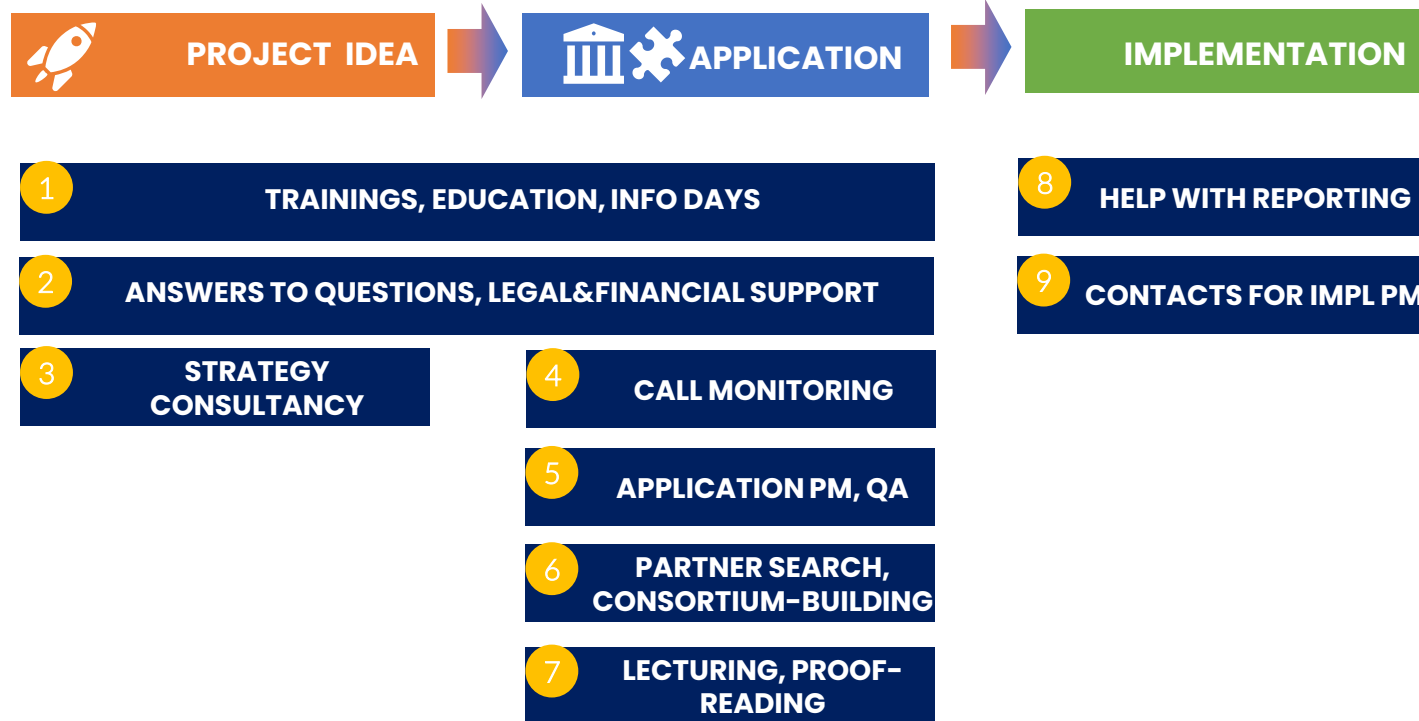
# NCP-s can help in all phases of the application project



WE KNOW THE EU  
FUNDS



WE HAVE AN  
INTERNATIONAL  
NETWORK OF  
CONTACTS



**European Commission**

WE CAN GET RELEVANT  
INFORMATION DIRECTLY  
FROM THE EU COMMISSION



WE HAVE GOOD RELATUIONS  
WITH THE RELEVANT ACTORS  
IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



WE SPEAK AND  
WORK IN ENGLISH



WE KNOW AND USE  
THE RELATED SITES  
AND SYSTEMS

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# Thank you for your attention and hope to see you on our next trainings!

## Save the dates for these!

- June 16. 10.00 – 11.30: **How to generate a DEP Project?**
- June 24. 10.00 – 11.30: **DEP Deep Dive – SO4 – Digital Skills**
- June 30. 10.00 – 11.30: **DEP Deep Dive – SO2 – AI**

## DEP4ALL Applicant Training Series

### 1st session - Introduction to the Digital Europe Programme

#### Q&A Summary

Please find below the answers to the key questions raised during the first DEP4ALL training session on 10 June. We appreciate your active participation and hope these clarifications support your ongoing work with the Digital Europe Programme.

#### **Q1: Are there any cooperation projects in the program that municipalities in Türkiye can apply to?**

All associated countries are listed in the "List of Participating Countries in the Digital Europe Programme" (see: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/digital/guidance/list-3rd-country-participation-digital-en.pdf>). Since January 1st organizations based in Turkey can participate in topics for Specific Objectives 1, 2, 4 and 5. Always check the eligibility section of each call carefully and we propose to contact your DEP NCP for details.

#### **Q2: My company is providing AI infrastructure as a service and thus can help with EU digital sovereignty goal. Which funding programme is relevant to my company?**

The Digital Europe Programme, particularly under "Artificial Intelligence" (Specific Objective 2), can be relevant for your company. It supports projects related to AI platforms, data spaces, and trustworthy AI. The Horizon Europe Programme (CL4-Digital or Research Infrastructures) could also be relevant if your focus is more on research and innovation.

#### **Q3: Could you please repeat dates of opening specific calls?**

All calls are published on the EU Funding & Tenders Portal, please refer to this site for the specific dates as soon as the calls are published. The submission deadline for the majority of the calls published in the current first wave is 2 September 2025. We expect another wave of calls in early autumn 2025, with a submission deadline in Q1 2026. Preliminary information on this can be found in the DEP Main Work Program 2025-2027, and precise and official information will be available in the Call documents after the calls are published.

**Q4: Is SO1 objective also in synergy with AI GigaFactories Call?**

Activities under SO1 are implemented by the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking and published on the EU Funding and Tenders Portal. The Call for Expression of Interest on AI Gigafactories is as well launched by the Joint Undertaking but this call does not receive any EU Funding. Contentwise there can be links in the future.

**Q5: Thank you for this valuable seminar. Are there any calls for proposals for digitalisation projects involving trade unions? Is there a person or organisation I can contact about this?**

While DEP does not focus specifically on trade unions, projects involving digital skills, digital workplaces, or social dialogue may be relevant. We recommend contacting your national DEP contact point (NCP) for tailored guidance.

**Q6: Dear Sir, I have a project about establishing a digital transformation center in Turkiye, how can I find suitable partners for the acceptance of EU project, please let me know about details I need to learn. Thank you.**

We would propose to use the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal partner search tool](#), [b2match platforms](#), the DEP National Contact Point network, and Enterprise Europe Network <https://een.ec.europa.eu/partnering-opportunities> Networking events and online info days are also great ways to connect.

**Q7: I ask you, is there any collaboration project for developing digital skills in teacher education?**

Yes. Projects related to advanced digital skills often include components for teacher training, especially in digital pedagogy. Keep an eye on Specific Objective 4 calls. 3 of them are now open and to be submitted by September 2.

**Q8: I am currently working as a project specialist at the Project Office of the Governorship of Batman. We are planning to establish an artificial intelligence development center in the city of Batman. Could you please advise us on how we can benefit from funding opportunities under the Digital Europe Programme?**

First, develop a clear project concept. Then check if there is an open call matching your idea (especially under AI or EDIH topics). Look for partners and verify eligibility via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal.

**Q9: Are there any specific projects related to DATA Centers?**

Yes. The DEP includes topics on data infrastructure, cloud, edge computing, and energy-efficient data centers. Look for calls under "Cloud, Data and Edge Technologies".

**Q10: I would like to contribute to the studies on the digitalization process of seafood processing products as my area of expertise.**

Specifically on the topic of seafood processing, we don't recall that there is a call for proposals - in case your project/solution uses digital technologies (AI, IoT, data platforms) to improve processes, it may be relevant. You will need partners and a European dimension. Connect with Digital Innovation Hubs and your National Contact Points in your country.

**Q11: When you talk about need for advanced digital skills, are we really looking only for tech skills and tech thinking here? Should not we have specialists that are able to look and understand beyond tech, connect digital and social (and business) domains? Otherwise we run into tech bubble disconnected from reality.**

Yes, DEP also recognises the need for professionals who bridge tech, business, and social domains. Digital thinking should be interdisciplinary, not just technical. So, in principle you are right, but the DEP Digital Skills are mainly technology training in digitalisation disciplines (HPC, Quantum, Data, AI, Blockchain etc). We definitely propose you to contact your NCP and discuss the issue.

**Q12: My question is whether we can apply for funding about implementing an already developed digital learning platform for medical students? What is the best programme to target? Thank you in advance!**

Possibly, if the project aligns with DEP objectives (e.g. advanced digital skills, health tech). Horizon Europe or Erasmus+ may also be suitable, depending on the approach.

**Q13: Can we apply as an SME or start up that is not yet legally established?**

No. You must be a registered legal entity at the time of application. You can still join projects as a future partner or through partnerships.

**Q14: Hi, could you also please share newsletter groups/emails for us to subscribe?**

- Digital Europe Programme newsletter: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/newsletter-subscriptions>
- Your national NCP
- Notifications on the [EU Funding&Tenders portal](#)

**Q15: Where to look for the cascade funding? It can be hard to find those Calls (I know from my own experience and gaining one cascade project for one BiH project)**

Use:

- <https://cascadefunding.eu>
- [EU Funding&Tenders portal](#) (search for "cascade funding" or "sub-grants")
- Project websites (e.g., NGI, AI4EU, EDIHs)

If you have any ideas, questions, or suggestions regarding the training series, feel free to contact us at [depncp@mfoi.org](mailto:depncp@mfoi.org)

## WHAT'S NEXT?

In the upcoming sessions on June 24 and 30, we'll dive into the key focus areas of the Digital Europe Programme (DEP)!

- **Session 3 – High-Level Digital Skills**  
24 June 2025 – [REGISTER HERE!](#)
  - **Session 4 – Data Spaces, Cloud Services & Artificial Intelligence**  
30 June 2025 – [REGISTER HERE!](#)
- 

## STAY CONNECTED

- For more information about DEP4ALL project – [Click here!](#)
- DEP4ALL Newsletter – [Subscribe here!](#)
- DEP4ALL on LinkedIn – [Follow us here!](#)
- **DEP Matchmaking Platform**  
You can also register to the [Digital Europe Programme Matchmaking Platform](#) – your hub to connect with organizations and individuals passionate about driving Europe's digital future. Discover synergies, form consortia, and access resources to bring your projects to life!

We look forward to welcoming you at the upcoming sessions.

Sincerely yours,

**The DEP4ALL Team**