ITU – EKIP Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe on
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Accelerating Digital Connectivity
in the EU

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The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Commission

Accelerating Connectivity

- The **5G AP**

- The European Electronic Communications Code
  - The RSPG

- The Implementing Regulation on small cells (SAWAPs)

- COVID pandemic: Secure, advanced and sustainable electronic communications networks are crucial➡ **Connectivity Toolbox** agreed on 25 March 2021

- EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF - RRPs)

- The **2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade** updating the Digital Strategy of Jan 2020 in view of Covid-19
  - The "**Path to the Digital Decade**" : a governance framework

2030 Digital Decade Targets

DIGITAL SKILLS

Adults with basic digital skills

NOW — 56%
TARGET — 80%

Employed ICT specialists

NOW — 8.4 million
TARGET — 20 million

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURES

Gigabit network coverage

NOW — 59%
TARGET — 100% of households

5G coverage

NOW — 14%
TARGET — 100% of populated areas

The EU production of semiconductors, including processors, makes up

NOW — 10%
TARGET — ≥ 20% of world production in value

There are **10,000 edge nodes** in the EU for **better, secure and sustainable data processing.**

By 2025, the first **EU computer with quantum acceleration** is paving the way for cutting-edge quantum capabilities.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF BUSINESSES

BUSINESSES USING

Cloud computing services

NOW — 26%
TARGET — 75%

Big data

NOW — 14%
TARGET — 75%

Artificial Intelligence

NOW — 25%
TARGET — 75%

SMEs with at least a basic level of digital intensity

NOW — 60%
TARGET — >90%

There are

NOW — 112
TARGET — Double the number of unicorn startups in Europe

DIGITALISATION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Online access to key public services (related to career, studying, family, regular business operations, moving)

NOW — 75/100 citizens   84/100 businesses
TARGET — All citizens and business

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The **Connectivity Toolbox:** working together to swiftly connect Europe with **5G & fibre**

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Connectivity Toolbox - Background

- **Commission Recommendation of 18.09.2020** calls on Member States to agree on a common **Union Toolbox of best practices** on connectivity

- Timely deployment of **very high capacity networks** and investment-friendly access to **5G radio spectrum** are major enablers for future digital services

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Connectivity Toolbox - Objectives

- The **Connectivity Toolbox** aims at fostering connectivity across the EU by

    (i) reducing the cost and increasing the speed of deploying VHCN, and

    (ii) ensuring a timely and investment-friendly access to 5G radio spectrum

- Contains **39 best practices** proposed by Member States, on the policy options provided under the **European Electronic Communications Code** and the **Broadband Cost Reduction Directive**

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Connectivity Toolbox - Categories of best practices (1/2)

- Streamlining permit granting procedures

- Improving transparency through the single information point

- Expanding the right of access to existing physical infrastructure

- Dispute resolution mechanism

- Reducing the environmental footprint of networks

- Environmental impact assessment

Connectivity Toolbox - Categories of best practices (2/2)

- Spectrum-related incentives for investment

- Enhanced coordination at Union level on spectrum assignment for cross-border industrial use

- Aspects related to electromagnetic fields and public health

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Next steps – Roadmaps and implementation

- Member States have the **discretion but also the responsibility** to implement the Toolbox

- By **30 April 2021**: each Member State should have provided the Commission with a **roadmap for the implementation** of the Toolbox :

  - ✓ **initial assessment** of usefulness of best practices,

  - ✓ **expected plan** regarding the **implementation,** and

  - ✓ **indicative timing** and **potential stakeholders** for implementation.

- By **30 April 2022**: each Member States should **report on the implementation** of the Toolbox.

- **Implementation** of the national roadmaps is **ongoing**.

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Thank you!

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