



European Commission
Employment, Social Affairs
and Equal Opportunities

Access to ICT as means to fight social exclusion: policy measures

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Main Issues

- Identify risks and opportunities of IST**
- Identify successful policy measures**
- Determine key elements for coherent & strategic approach**





1- Risks and opportunities

Risks

- **to fall further behind: barriers to IST access**
- **to experience new exclusions**

Opportunities

- **Practical opportunities**
- **Empowerment**
- **Community oriented**





2- Policy measures in Member States

General strategies followed:

- increase access in 2 main steps
- prepare for better use and exploitation
- support the transition from consumer to producer of information





2- Specific policy measures in Member States

Removal of barriers:

- awareness & motivation,
- availability & affordability,
- usability,
- digital literacy,
- e-accessibility





2- Specific policy measures in Member States

- Avoidance of new risks :**
 - **alternative modes of access**
 - **avoid social isolation**
 - **avoid second order divide**





2- Specific measures in Member States

- Exploit new opportunities**
- **Practical opportunities for at-risk groups**
- **Empowering of individuals**
- **Support communities**





3- Coherent and strategic approach

- Reinforce link between social and e-inclusion
- Enhance the use of the EU instruments
 - Directives
 - Open Method of coordination
 - Funding





New important challenges at the top political agenda

Demographic change

- ★ work-life balance: include & support parents in career
- ★ support activities (work, social etc.) of older persons to be totally included in society life

=>Benchmark for e-inclusion efficiency





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For more information

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Knowledge Society pages

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/knowledge_society/index_en.htm

