



24TH EHEALTH NETWORK MEETING 1-2 JUNE 2023, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

COVER NOTE

16.45 – 17.15 8. Digital Decade Program

Digital Decade target in the eHealth

- **100% citizens having access to their electronic health records by 2030**

The [Digital Decade policy programme 2030](#), a monitoring and cooperation mechanism to achieve common targets for Europe's digital transformation by 2030, **has entered into force on 9 January 2023**. For the first time, the European Parliament, Member States and the Commission have jointly set **concrete objectives and targets** in the four key areas of **digital skills, infrastructure including connectivity, the digitalisation of businesses, and online public services**, in respect of the [Declaration on European Digital Rights and Principles](#). The objectives and targets are accompanied by a cyclical **cooperation process** starting 9 January 2023, to take stock of progress and define milestones so that they can be reached by 2030. The programme also creates a new framework for **multi-country projects** that will allow Member States to join forces on digital initiatives.

The “**State of the Digital Decade**” report will be adopted annually in a form of a communication. It will be the annual comprehensive report on EU’s digital transformation and will include recommended actions from the Commission to the Member States to address gaps and deficiencies to achieve objectives and targets.

Member States will adopt “**national roadmaps**”, which will set out the policies, measures and actions that they are intending to take to achieve general objectives and targets. A **governance mechanism** will underpin a solid collaboration process between the Commission and the Member States to identify and implement corrective actions and ensure coherence of our common action on our digital transformation. The DDPP is fully coherent and **complementary with the European Semester** and gives a legal basis to the DESI which is fully integrated into the DDPP process.

Multi-country projects constitute one of the key deliverables of the Digital Decade. The Commission will play the role of an accelerator to set up and implement multi-country-projects – also by making use of the new European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDIC) mechanism, which provides for a truly agile specific legal framework, including swift set-up by several Member States, enabling others to join throughout the duration of the EDIC, granting legal personality and the possibility to combine different sources of funding.

An expert group, the **Digital Decade Board** has been set up. Thanks to its broad scope (digital transformation), it will play a key role to organise the overall cooperation and coordination with the Member States on digital transformation, notably to assist and advise the Commission in the preparation and implementation of legislative proposals and policy



initiatives in the field of digital transformation. The Board can be consulted on any matter relating to the Union's progress at various levels on the digital transformation and on relevant legislation, policies, measures and actions. The Board will notably play an important role to mobilise and coordinate input from existing issue-specific expert groups and ensure that they can contribute to the analytical and policy work of the Digital Decade cycle (e.g., annual report, recommended actions, preparation of the launch of MCPs) without duplicating efforts.

eHN members representatives engaged very proactively by providing feedback during consultations, surveys and presentations held over the period of 3/2022-2/2023. Rich contribution kindly provided, was integrated in the methodology design, the composite indicator and sub-indicators selection and scope, as well as most suitable survey questions formulation for the (baseline) data collection (e.g. taking into account regional specificity of healthcare provision in certain countries, current maturity levels and feasibility of data collection, etc.).

Stage of implementation: survey for baseline data collection has been launched in February 2023 (part of the Study for Digital Decade eHealth Indicators Development) and data collected to be published in the State of Digital Decade Report.

According to a recent study published by the Commission, **Interoperability of Electronic Health Records (EHR) in the EU study**¹, 26 countries generally provide their citizens with online access to EHR data by law; the access to health information for citizens has been facilitated nationwide in 17 countries, and 6 countries report ongoing pilot projects. Patient access to health data is not a reality in 3 countries. The study also indicated that access to EHR data via an online portal is the most common mode of access. In addition, four countries reported providing mobile access while two countries still only use paper print-outs. In 18 countries citizens are able to manage EHR data access on a document level. Viewing test results is the most common EHR service, followed by prescription and appointment services.

Next Steps

The Commission will adopt an Implementing Act **defining the KPIs** for the digital targets and will develop projected EU trajectories for each of them together with Member States.

In July, the Commission will publish the first **State of the Digital Decade report**, to provide an update, assessment, and recommendation on progress towards the targets and objectives.

In October, Member States will submit their **first national strategic roadmaps**, on which the Commission will have published guidance to support them.

[Decision \(EU\) 2022/2481 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030 \(Text with EEA relevance\)](#)

[Digital Decade Press Release Q&A](#)

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/interoperability-electronic-health-records-eu>



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

DG COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY

eHealth-units

Format of procedure in the meeting:

For information