SUPPORTING THE GREEN TRANSITION

SHAPING EUROPE'S DIGITAL FUTURE

Digital technologies are crucial for the EU to become climate neutral by 2050, the goal set in the European Green Deal.

Energy networks	Precision farming	Mobility and transport	Smart buildings	Green data spaces	The power of data

Reducing the carbon footprint of the ICT sector

Today the ICT sector accounts for:

5-9%
of electricity use

more than **2% of global greenhouse gas emissions** (as much as all air traffic).

If unchecked, the ICT footprint could **increase to 14% of global emissions by 2040.**

2040

But at the same time technologies could help:
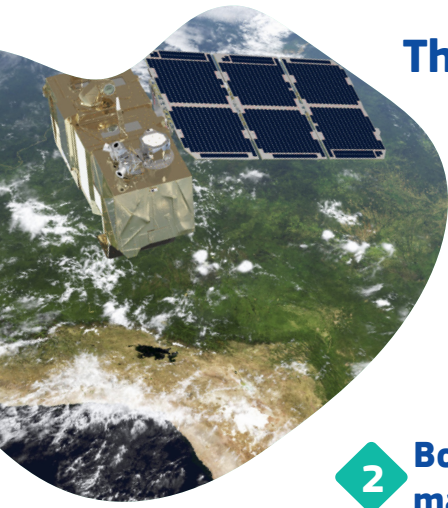
reduce emission by 7 times
more than the amount created by the ICT sector;

reduce global emissions by **up to 15%.**

Artificial Intelligence, supercomputing and pooled data will allow better analysis and decision-making on climate crisis and the environment. This will lead to better policy making.

The digital strategy will help the European Green Deal make the EU climate neutral

1 Launch a new EU industrial strategy

In March 2020, the Commission will adopt an **EU industrial strategy** to support the green and digital transformation of the EU economy.

2 Boost the EU's ability to predict and manage environmental disasters

The **"Destination Earth" initiative** will develop a high precision digital model (a 'digital twin') of the Earth that will radically improve Europe's ability to predict extreme weather patterns, gauge the impact of climate change and manage natural and environmental disasters.

3 Support the circular economy

Take measures to improve the **energy efficiency** and **circular economy** performance of the ICT sector from broadband networks to data centres and ICT devices;

Introduce new "**product passports**" to tell consumers and industry about the origin, composition (including hazardous and rare materials), end-of-life handling and recycling of products.
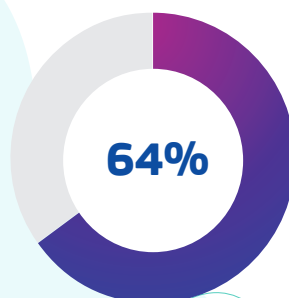
4 Launch a circular electronics initiative

Improve rules to make devices last longer and make them easier to repair and recycle.

Extending the lifetime of all smartphones in the EU by one year would save **2.1 million tonnes of CO₂ per year by 2030**, the equivalent of taking a million cars off the roads.

Consumer support is strong.

A recent Eurobarometer survey shows that **64%** of users would like to keep their digital devices for **5–10 years**.

64%

5 Make data centres and ICT infrastructures climate-neutral by 2030

Ensure they become more energy efficient and use more renewable energy sources.

6 Take advantage of Artificial Intelligence, 5G, cloud and edge computing, and the Internet of Things

Make sure we use digital technologies better to deal with climate change and **protect the environment**.

7 Support automated and connected transport

Develop smart systems to reduce traffic congestion and improve mobility.

8 Make public procurement more sustainable

Ensure that EU rules on **green public procurement** cover all ICT products and services.