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Enabling women to enter ICT jobs will provide a boost to the EU economy. The aim is to provide women with digital skills, education and increase their participation in ICT.

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Only 30% of the around 7 million people working in the information and communication (ICT) sector are women. They are under-represented at all levels in the ICT sector, especially in decision-making positions. The ICT sector is rapidly growing, creating around 120 000 new jobs every year. Due to differences in demands and skills – and despite soaring unemployment – there may be a lack of 900 000 skilled ICT workers in 2020.

A study on [women active in the ICT sector](#) [2] we published in October 2013, found that allowing more women to enter the digital jobs market can create an annual € 9 billion GDP boost in the EU area. A policy change is needed particularly because of an alarming drop in ICT female graduates (today only 29 out of every 1000 female graduate have a computing or related degree, and only 4 go on to work in ICT-related activities).

One way to reverse this trend is to encourage young people, and in particular women, to take up an ICT-related careers.

Starting on 6 March 2014, the European Commission launches a campaign to find and celebrate digital role models who could encourage young women and girls to study and to pursue careers in IT. We invite women (and men!) to create a video and share their own digital success story to inspire girls and women to think about tech.

Join us on the [Every Girl Digital Facebook page](#) [3] with your story!

Tags:

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Our Targets:

- [Action 60: Increase participation of women in the ICT workforce](#) [7]

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Links

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/sites/digital-agenda/files/Women_in_ICT_brunette.jpg

[2] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/bringing-more-women-eu-digital-sector-would-bring-%20%82%AC9-billion-annual-gdp-boost>

[3] <http://www.facebook.com/girlsdigital>

[4] <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/tags/women>

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