

Digital Europe: EU programma voor digitale transitie

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9 December 2025

VLAIO

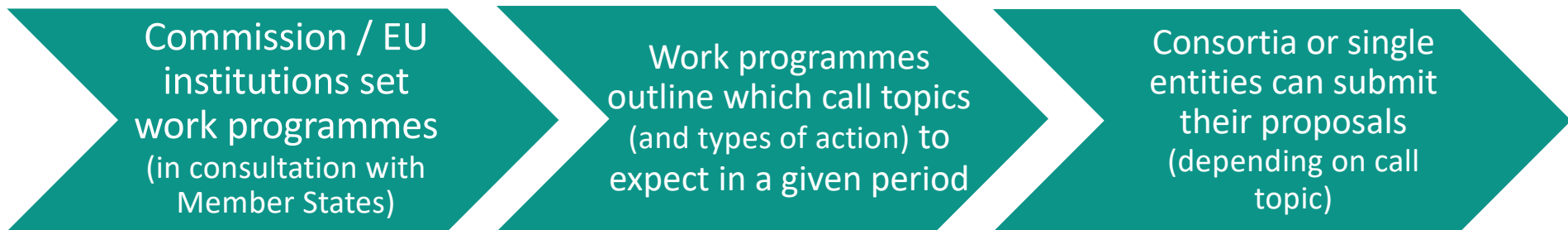
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How does the programme work?

Mostly top down: Commission describes what they are looking for



Why is this programme interesting for Universities of Applied Sciences

- Focus on application
- Allows to build on research results for further development and deployment
- Collaboration with different kinds of partners
 - > broaden your network



Digital Europe in a nutshell

A new funding programme supporting the digital transition in the EU



Large target group

- Knowledge and higher education institutions and research centres
- SMEs and larger companies
- Public sector organisations

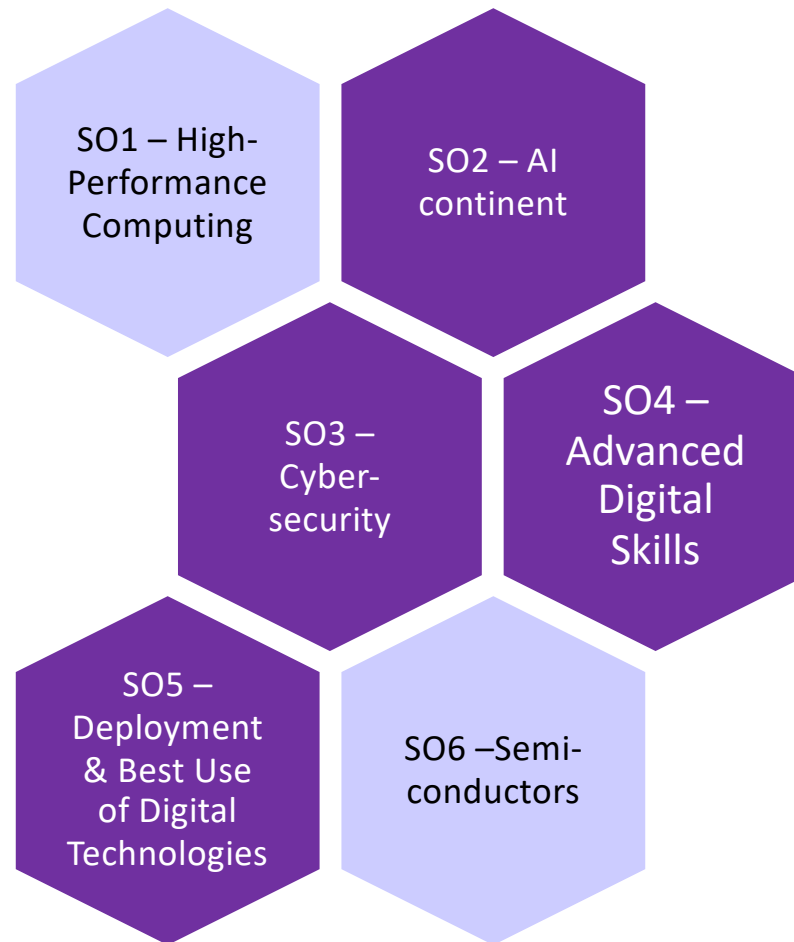
Objectives and scope

- Fostering the uptake of digital technologies by businesses, citizens and public administrations
- Enhancing digital skills of the (future) workforce
- A very broad range of different sectors
- Does not fund research
- Restricted participation due for security reasons and to strengthen EU's strategic autonomy

Core numbers

- Overall budget: € 8,1 billion for 2021 – 2027
- 6 Specific Objectives (sub-domains)

Six sub-domains (Specific Objectives)



Six sub-domains (Specific Objectives)

- Strengthen EU's supercomputing and data processing capacities
- Increase accessibility of supercomputing

SO1 – High-Performance Computing

SO2 – AI continent

- AI Testing & Experimentation Facilities
- Implementation of relevant legislation
- (gen)AI applied in e.g. healthcare, public administration
- Sectoral data spaces
- Cloud-to-edge infrastructures & services

- Strengthen cybersecurity capabilities of organisations, companies and citizens
- Security Operation Centres, National Competence Centres
- Post-Quantum Cryptography
- Implementation of relevant legislation

SO3 – Cyber-security

SO4 – Advanced Digital Skills

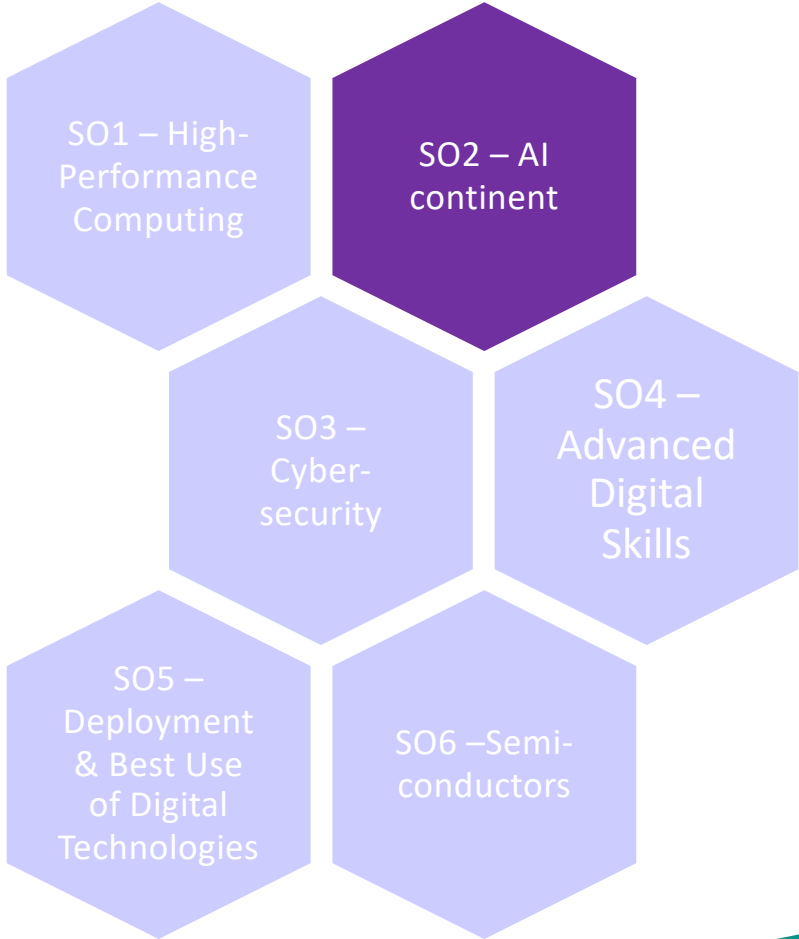
- Education and training opportunities for future experts
- Reskilling and upskilling of existing workforce
- Addressing gender gap in ICT

Larger deployment projects addressing various sectors and technologies, e.g. deployment of public services, Interoperable Europe, Safer Internet, Green Deal, Media, Blockchain

SO5 – Deployment & Best Use of Digital Technologies

SO6 – Semi-conductors

- Co-implementation (with Horizon Europe) of the Chips for Europe Initiative
- Pilot lines to test, experiment and validate semiconductor technologies
- Competence centres



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AI Continent: current opportunities

Deadline for submission: 3 March

- Data Space for Manufacturing
- Health: Data ingestion capacities and data services for the European genomic data
- Deployment of cutting-edge multi-modal AI-based solutions in medical imaging
- Collaboration platform for the European connected and autonomous vehicle of the future
- Apply AI: GenAI for public administration
- Virtual worlds test beds



AI Continent: coming up in 2026 (Q2)

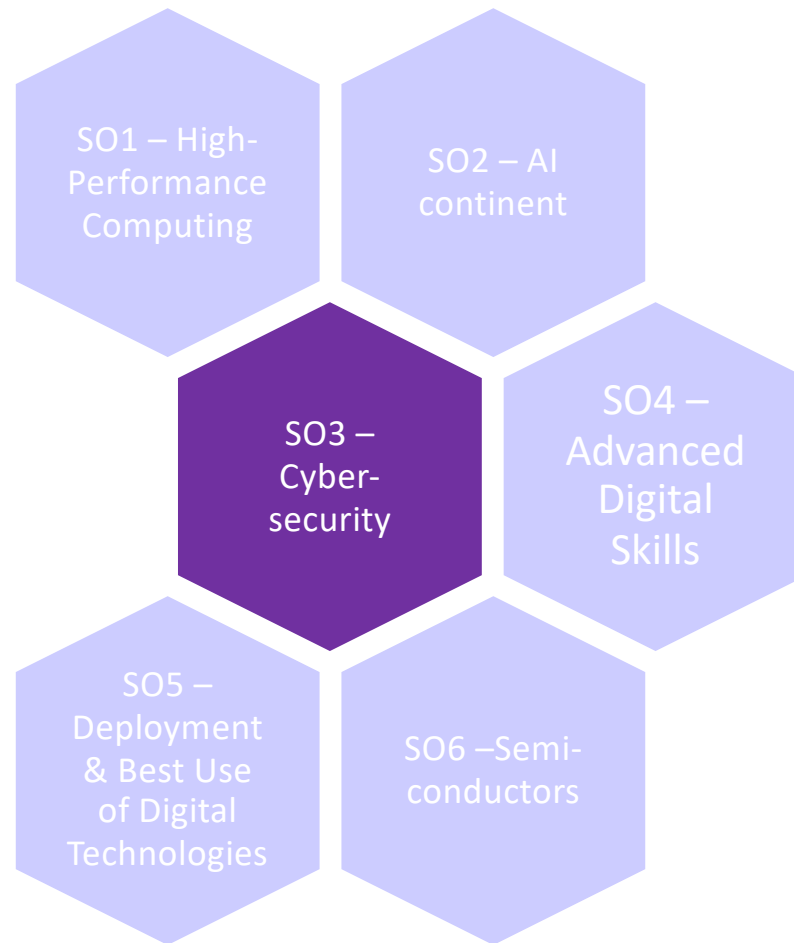
- Digital solutions for regulatory compliance through data
- Apply AI: Piloting AI-based image screening in medical centres



AI Continent: coming up in 2027 (Q1)

- Reference deployments of European cloud-edge services
- Data Space for Tourism
- Data Space for Skills
- Testing genAI4EU application at scale and under real-world condition
- Virtual Human Twins and Artificial Intelligence in health: platform validation and uptake incubator





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Cybersecurity: current opportunities

- Cybersecure tools, technologies and services relying on AI
- Uptake of innovative cybersecurity solutions for SMEs
- Regional Cable Hubs

Deadline for submission: 31 March



Cybersecurity: coming up in 2026

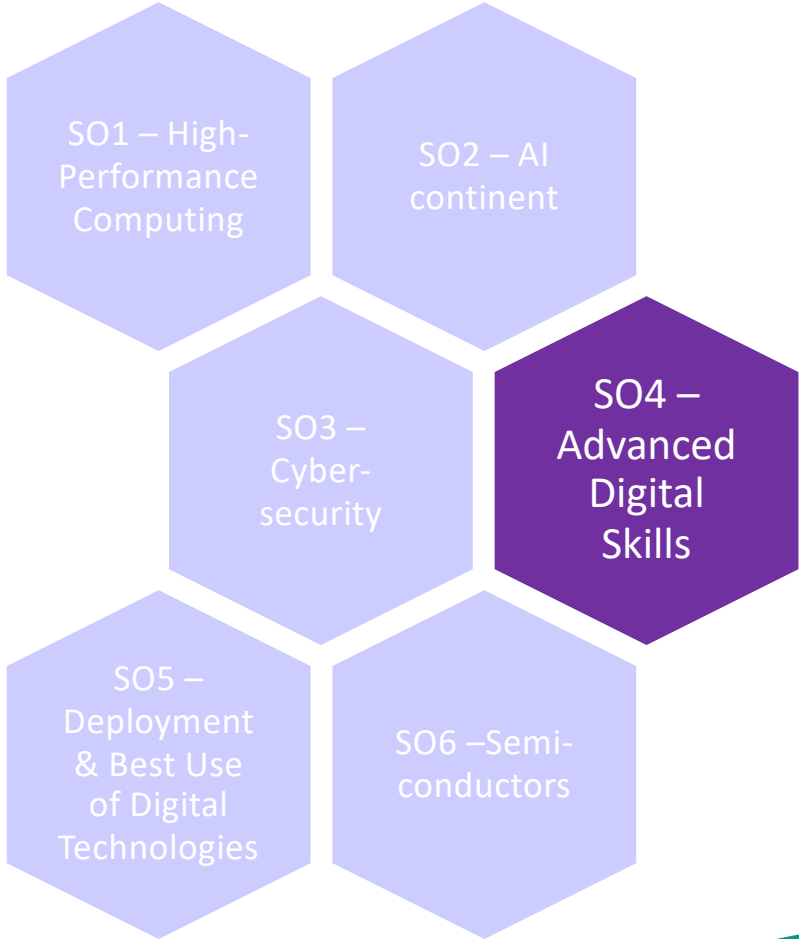
- Cybersecure tools, technologies and services relying on AI
- Strengthening cybersecurity capacities of European SMEs with cybersecure AI-powered solutions
- Strengthening EU cybersecurity capacities & capabilities in line with legislative requirements
- Dual-use technologies



Cybersecurity: coming up in 2027

- Cybersecure tools, technologies and services relying on AI
- Migration of Cyber Hubs to PQC
- Uptake of innovative cybersecurity solutions for SMEs





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Advanced Digital Skills: current opportunities

- European Advanced Digital Skills Competitions
- European League of Advanced Digital Skills Academies

Deadline for submission: 3 March



Advanced Digital Skills: coming up in 2026 (Q2)

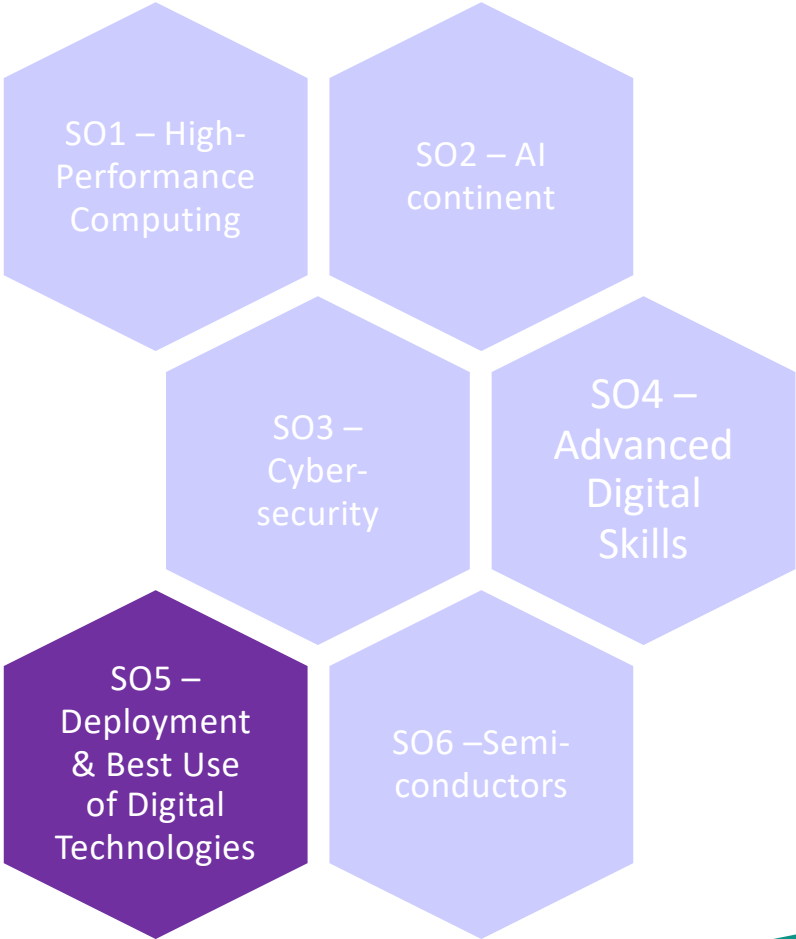
- Excellence in higher education and training programmes in key digital areas and applied technologies
- Digital Skills and Jobs Platform
- EdTech Accelerator



Advanced Digital Skills: coming up in 2027 (Q1)

- Sectoral digital skills academies
- Excellence in higher education and training programmes in key digital areas and applied technologies
- Supporting the coordination of the Cybersecurity Skills Academy





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Deployment & Best Use...: current opportunities

- European Digital Media Observatory Hubs (deadline 3 March 2026)
- Multi-Country-Project (MCP) on Innovative and Connected Public Administrations (19 January – 15 May 2026)



Deployment & Best Use...: coming up in 2026 (Q2)

- Building capacity to deploy the EEHRxF and digital health services and systems to support the rights of citizens and reuse of health data under EHDS



Deployment & Best Use...: coming up in 2027 (Q1)

- Support to the implementation of Multi-Country Projects



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