

# Digital Transformation of European Industry and Enterprises

Report and recommendations of  
the Strategic Policy Forum on  
Digital Entrepreneurship





# Introduction

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# The benefits of digital transformation

## ENORMOUS GROWTH POTENTIAL

Companies making use of a newly available set of accelerating technologies are performing 10 times better than their peers

**10x  
better**

## THE POTENTIAL FROM THE CREATION OF THE DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET

**+6%** of GDP from a fully realised DSM

**+3.8m** The DSM could create 3.8m jobs and reduce the cost of public administration by 15-20%

400,000 to  
**1.5 million**  
new jobs

Number of new jobs the EU could create in the internet economy

*unexploited  
potential*

## THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF DIGITAL

Digital technologies are fundamentally **changing** the way people live, work, communicate and play

Big data technology and services are expected to grow worldwide to **USD 16.9 billion** in 2015 at a compound **annual growth rate of 40%**. Companies using that data become **5-6% more productive**.

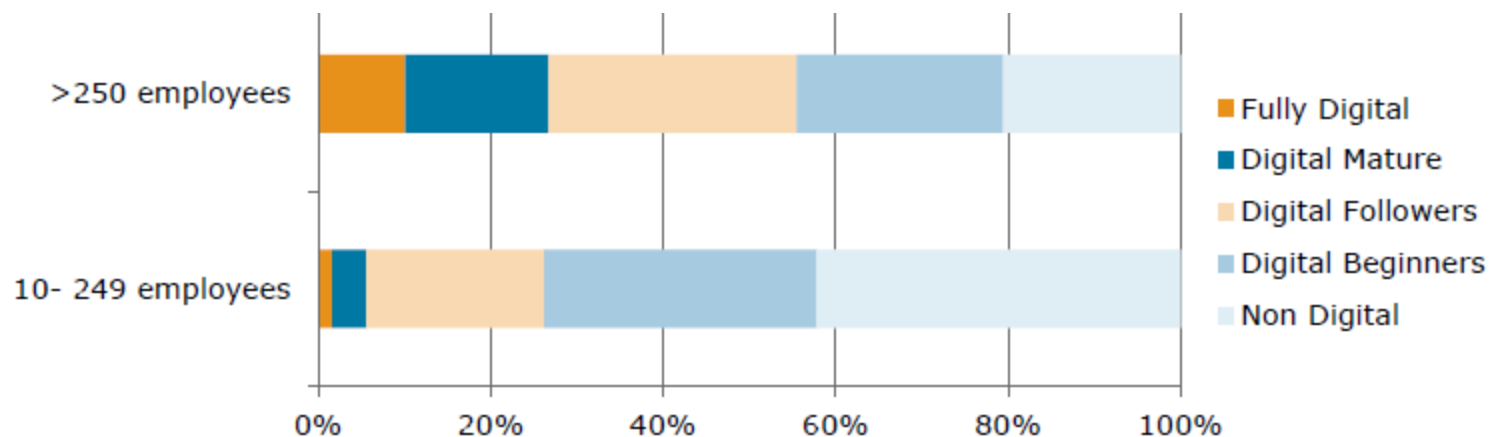


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# EU businesses are lagging behind

- **Slow and uneven progress** – of smaller EU companies, only 28.5% and 25.7% use social media and cloud solutions, respectively

## Digital adaption rates by company size, 2012



Source: IDC European Vertical Markets Survey 2012

# EU businesses are lagging behind

! EU businesses are **missing out** on the chance to grow by not taking full advantage of digital technologies

## Small European businesses are slow to change

only  
**14%**  
of SMEs use the internet as a  
**sales channel**



**41%**  
**non digital**  
41% of EU companies  
still haven't adopted any  
of the new advanced  
digital technologies



## Jobs destroyed and created



**54%**  
**of the**  
**workforce**  
**affected**

Technological advances  
could threaten **54% of**  
**our workforce** across  
EU28 over the coming  
decades

In France, the internet destroyed  
500,000 jobs in the last 15 years but  
also created **1.2 million** new ones

In Germany, SMEs could create 670,000 new  
jobs by using technology effectively



**2.6 new jobs**  
were created  
for every job destroyed



# EU businesses are lagging behind

- **Challenges of change** – many small companies will need a confidence boost to embrace digital transformation
- **New skills and support** – workforce adaptation to risks and opportunities of new technologies, and development of new skills are essential



# Opportunities and challenges

- The second wave of digital technologies presents opportunities and challenges across all sectors, particularly **manufacturing, healthcare, creative industries and education**
- These technologies also enable **synergies** across sectors



European manufacturing can achieve growth from **15%** to **20%** by 2030 if digitalised



Revenue coming from digital technologies in creative industries will grow from **47%** in 2013 to **57%** in 2015



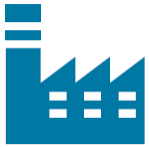
**90%** of all interactions in healthcare in the UK are face-to-face – a 1% reduction would save up to £200 m



E-learning market will grow by a factor of 15 over the next 10 years and reach **30%** of the total education market



# Digital technologies in manufacturing



## The impact of data-driven technologies

- Digital technologies could save top 100 EU manufacturers up to €160bn in scrapping and reworking costs
- Advanced analytics in predictive maintenance systems could reduce equipment downtime by 50% and increase production by 20%
- A 10% production efficiency improvement in top 100 EU manufacturers → €265bn gain for the industry



# Digital technologies in healthcare



## Improving the quality of care

- Electronic Health Records (EHR) help make analytics-based diagnoses and decisions
- Health mapping and profiling can help disease monitoring and prevention across populations
- Improve efficiency of healthcare systems  
→ adoption of health information technology could save up to £200m in the UK



# Digital technologies in healthcare



## Improving the quality of care

- However, very few healthcare providers currently use digital technologies for prevention, diagnosis and personalised treatment
  - Quality and usability of collected data?
  - No harmonisation of IT systems → no data exchange
- Regulatory issues associated to digital technologies
  - Recognition of foreign professionals
  - Personal data protection

# Digital in the creative industries



## A clearer picture of their customers

- Revenue of Media & Entertainment companies from digital technologies is predicted to grow from 47% to 57% between 2013-2015
- Big data analytics allow better insight into customer preferences and creation of new business models
- Online platforms bring consumers and businesses closer



# Digital in the creative industries



## A clearer picture of their customers

- Pre-requisites for creative industries to benefit from digital technologies include:
  - Better knowledge of finance and financing options
  - Harmonisation of rules and fiscal regimes across EU
  - Better online payment systems





# Digital in education



## Opening up new ways to learn

- Digital technologies offer innovative education and training options:
  - E-learning
  - Learning apps
  - Gamification
  - MOOCs (open online courses)
- E-learning market expected to reach 30% of total education market in the next ten years





# A plan for digital transformation of the EU

02

# The EU must choose how to act

- Europe needs to act positively and decisively to realise the benefits of digital transformation
- Completing a Connected Digital Single Market is crucial
- Action from industry, academia, social partners and policy-makers is necessary

# Recommendations and assumptions

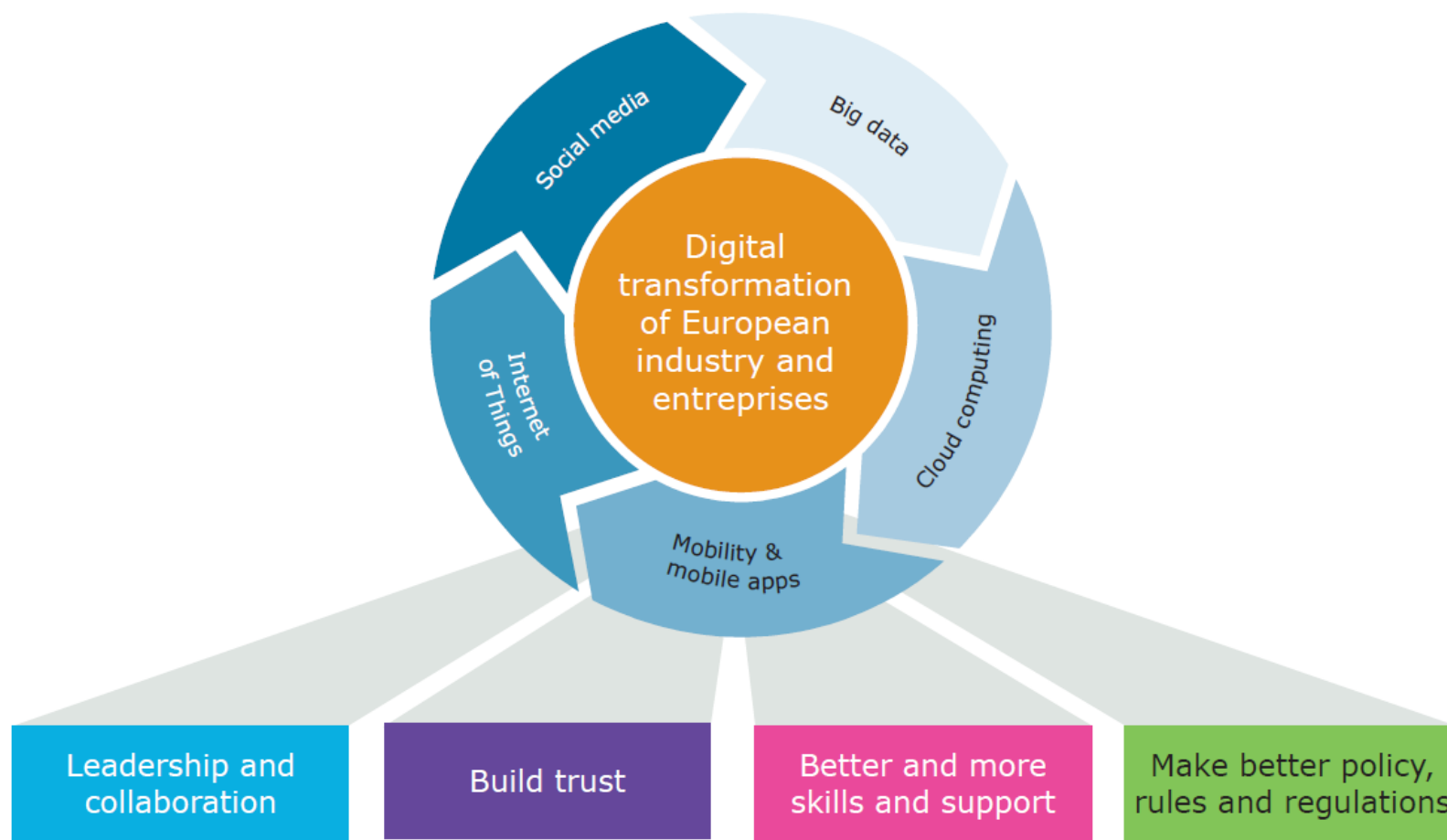
- Basic pre-requisite for successful digital transformation:
  - Digital infrastructure throughout EU
  - Digital Single Market with harmonised regulations



Europe and its companies cannot afford to miss the opportunities offered by a fast growing digital economy. For this to happen, we need a strong Digital Single Market to overcome the fragmentation of the internal market and divergent national regimes. It is time to unlock the growth that this economy could generate. This is a clear priority for the European Commission.

**Elżbieta Bieńkowska**  
***Commissioner Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs - DG GROWTH***

# Four areas of recommendations





## RECOMMENDATIONS



### Leadership and collaboration



Demonstrate inspirational political leadership; set national digital transformation targets



## Creating confident leaders

- Need for confident and competent business leadership
- Support from political leadership is essential
- Digital transformation should be made a political, social and economic priority
- Targets for monitoring the progress of digital transformation should be set nationally and locally

## Establish new centres of digital transformation excellence



### Digital transformation centres – old meets new-in smart cities

- Physical or virtual digital transformation centres should be established to bring business leaders together and inspire them to digitally transform their businesses

## Establish new centres of digital transformation excellence

### Mutually beneficial open innovation models

- Joint innovation processes between large companies and SMEs should be built and open innovation environments set up to help technology developments

Establish a pan-European network of such centres and from the shared experience develop a European blueprint

### A globally excellent pan-European network

- The network should be supported by an online platform to share digital transformation knowledge and lessons learnt throughout the EU
- A European blueprint should be developed based on the shared knowledge to provide guidance on digital transformation



## Leadership and collaboration



### Talking digital: how Dublin created a truly collaborative Masterplan

- Dublin Digital Masterplan based on:
  - Strong political leadership
  - ‘Quadruple helix’ governance framework: collaboration between governments, businesses, academia and citizens
- Outputs of the collaboration:
  - Digital City Team
  - Business Accelerator Team



## RECOMMENDATIONS



Build trust



## Establish a dialogue between European businesses and technology platform providers



### Consumer trust and value chain trust

- Ensuring that citizens' data is kept safe, privacy is protected and digital property is kept secure
- EU businesses need to trust the data platform providers
- Meaningful dialogue is an essential component of the trust building process

Reinforce high quality, available and accessible cross-sector standards

### Strong cross industry standards

- European businesses from different sectors should participate in standard-setting organisations to ensure that the resulting standards are sector-independent

### Build trust



### Standards in healthcare

- A barrier to digital transformation in healthcare is the lack of common standards for healthcare data
- All systems need to collect and process data in the same way
- This can be done by creating a common set of standards at the EU and international level

### Build trust



#### Need for interoperability in manufacturing




- Smart manufacturing is dependent on communication with other sectors such as energy distribution and transport management
- Interoperability will be crucial in such hyper-connected environments



## RECOMMENDATIONS



Better and more  
skills and support



## Re-focus funds and programmes to better support digital transformation



### Better support will encourage faster transformation

- Availability of funds for digital transformation would be beneficial
- In addition, eligibility criteria for existing funds should be expanded to include digitalisation as a key objective of funded projects
- This would help digitalisation of projects across many sectors (transport, infrastructure, energy, sustainability etc.)

## Promote the importance of digital leadership



### Appoint Chief Digital Officers

- Digital transformation needs both business and digital skills
- Appointing a digital leader is therefore necessary to define and roll out digital strategies and digital business models

## Make digital part of the educational mainstream



### Demand for digital leaders will outstrip supply

- Training and educational institutions need to produce people with the right digital leadership skills and digital entrepreneurial mind-sets
- General management training and education must include more digital know-how

Increase the supply of  
new, highly specialised skills



## Growing demand for specialised digital skills

- These include big data analysts, cyber-security specialists, coders and programmers
- In the UK, the number of big data analysts is expected to increase by 240% over the next five years
- The skills gap should therefore be filled

### Better and more skills and support



#### Digital leadership in the healthcare sector

- The role of Chief Digital Officer is very rare
- Therefore, the Commission and Member States should promote this role
- A Digital Health Academy should be set up as an online source of training and development for healthcare professionals



### Better and more skills and support



#### Digital leadership in the education sector

- Teachers with necessary digital skills are needed
- Projects aimed at providing training courses for primary, secondary and higher education teachers should be supported through the European Structural and Investment Funds
- This would make them and their pupils 'digitally literate'



## RECOMMENDATIONS



Make better policy,  
rules and regulations



Establish a permanent observatory to catalogue policy and regulatory impacts on digital transformation

## Unintended consequences

- Unforeseen and unintended barriers to digital transformation can sometimes be created by laws designed for the analogue world
- An observatory should be set up to scan current and proposed EU and national legislations to identify unnecessary barriers to digitalisation
- The observatory should reflect the input from all the relevant stakeholders
- An online platform should also be set up to share suggestions and solutions

Put politicians, regulators and officials through digital boot camps

## The sharing economy increasingly tests Europe's regulatory framework

- Regulators and policy-makers will need to deal with opportunities and challenges of the digitally enabled sharing economy
- Policy-makers' future skills must include a better appreciation of the possibilities and effects of digital technologies

## Examine new policy through a digital lens: the digital test



### Equipping policy-makers and regulators for the task

- Attendance at digital boot camps should be integrant part of the professional development of politicians and policy-makers
- A 'digital test' should be included in the EC Impact Assessment Guidelines
- Such test will enable the assessment of the extent to which a proposal has an impact on digital transformation
- The score of the test should influence the policy-making process

## Harness the power of e-procurement

More than €2.4 trillion worth of goods and services

- Opening public sector tenders to more business and across EU borders would allow SMEs to expand their client base, benefit from the digital single market, and stimulate digital transformation
- E-procurement is thus a key way to boost digital business



Make better policy,  
rules and regulations



### Policy making and healthcare

- Barriers to digital technologies in the healthcare sector include limitations in the use of medical records and data analysis
- Regulators should stimulate the use of digital technologies in the medical field to bring about savings and improve medical care



# The Strategic Policy Forum

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# Background to the Forum

- **Aim:** To reinforce the dialogue among business, science and politics with the aim of shaping a common EU vision, and ambitious strategy to boost digital transformation in Europe



# Background to the Forum

- **Composition:** 34 members
- **Chair:** John Higgins, Director General, Digital Europe
- **Industry representatives:** digital entrepreneurs, traditional industries, technology providers and business associations;
- **Private organisations,** NGOs, universities, research organisations, policy analysts, venture capital firms, etc.
- **International Organisations**
- **Public authorities**

# Thank you

- General information on digital entrepreneurship can be found on the European Commission DG GROW website
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/digital-economy/entrepreneurship/strategic-policy-forum/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/digital-economy/entrepreneurship/strategic-policy-forum/index_en.htm)