AGENDA
2nd Broadband Platform Meeting 2021
Virtual meeting on Interactio

Tuesday, 15 June 2021
10.00-11.30 and 12.00-13.00

10.00 Opening

Welcome by Michael Murphy, Chair of the ECON Commission, European Committee of the Regions and Rita Wezenbeek, Director Electronic Communications, Networks & Services, European Commission, DG CNECT

Achieving Digital Cohesion in the European Union
Opening remarks by Ms Anne Karjalainen, Member of the Broadband Platform, Member of Kerava Municipal Council

10.15-11.30 The Digital Decade and LORDI

Moderated by Michael Murphy, Chair of the ECON Commission, European Committee of the Regions

10.15-10.30 2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade
Mr Stefan Lechter, Deputy Head of Unit Electronic Communications Policy, European Commission, DG CNECT

10.30-10.45 Local and Regional Digital Indicators: measuring the degree of digitalization of cities and regions
Mr Martin Gauk, Project Expert, ESPON

10.45-11.00 DIGISurvey: Cities' preparedness to the digital transformation and Digital Twins—the use case
Mr Markku Markkula, Member of the Broadband Platform, President of the Helsinki Region and Chair of the Espoo City Board

11.00-11.30 Discussion between the Broadband Platform Members/Experts and the speakers
Moderated by Michael Murphy, Chair of the ECON Commission, European Committee of the Regions and a European Commission representative

11.30-12.00 Break for the interpreters
12.00-13.00  The contribution of the Connectivity Toolbox and the review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive to better connectivity at local level

Moderated by Carlota Reyners Fontana, Head of Unit for Electronic Communications Policy and co-Chair of the Connectivity Special Group, European Commission, DG CNECT

12.00-12.15  The Connectivity Toolbox – overview of best practices and next steps for its implementation
Ms Rita Filipe Silva, Portuguese Presidency of the Council and co-Chair of the Connectivity Special Group

12.15-12.30  The review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive – how are local and regional actors concerned?
Ms Miriam Mendioroz, Head of Sector for the review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive, European Commission DG CNECT

12.30-13.00  Discussion between the Broadband Platform Members/Experts and the speakers
Moderated by Carlota Reyners Fontana, Head of Unit for Electronic Communications Policy and co-Chair of the Connectivity Special Group, European Commission, DG CNECT

Followed by closing remarks

Background on the 2nd Broadband Platform Meeting 2021

Part I: Digital Decade

On 9 March, the European Commission put forward a Communication on "2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade" (COM(2021)118). The communication sets up a vision for the digitalised economy and society by 2030, based on four pillars and very ambitious targets:

1. A digitally skilled population and highly skilled digital professionals
2. Secure and performant sustainable digital infrastructures
3. Digital transformation of businesses
4. Digitalisation of public services

To deliver the renewed EU ambition for digitalisation, a robust framework is necessary. In order to do so, the Commission intends to propose a Digital Compass in the form of a digital policy programme, to be adopted via the ordinary legislative procedure.
In parallel, ESPON and the Commission’s Directorate for Communications Network, Content and Technologies (DG CNECT) are working on a comprehensive framework that will help cities and regions develop and steer relevant policies, meet commitments and support access to different financing opportunities.

The members of the Broadband Platform will, therefore, have the opportunity to discuss the Local and Regional Digital Indicators (LORDI) and the transposition of targets set in the Digital Decade at local and regional level.

**Part II: Connectivity**

Following the agreement on a Connectivity Toolbox on 25 March 2021 pursuant to the Connectivity Toolbox Recommendation of September 2020, most Member States have prepared and shared with the Commission their national roadmaps to implement the Connectivity Toolbox, timely matching the finalisation of the Member States’ recovery and resilience plans. The measures cover both cost reduction for electronic communications network deployment and timely access to 5G radio spectrum.

In parallel, the Commission is working on reviewing the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive, which will further aid Member States in targeting the right measures and market stakeholders in incentivizing investments to reach the Gigabit Connectivity objectives across the EU. The Commission has recently carried out a number of initiatives as part of the related consultation activities, including a public consultation and two workshops with institutional and market stakeholders. The Commission is expecting to make a proposal in Q1 2022.

**Interpretation arrangements**

3/3: EN/FR/DE (TBC)