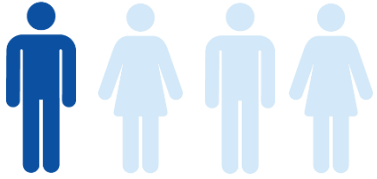




Advanced Digital Skills and the Digital Europe Programme

Silvia Merisio, DG Connect
European Commission
SeAMK International Week
16 February 2021

Structural shortages of digital skills in EU



1 out of 4 people in the workforce have “low” levels of digital skills



500.000 big data analysts
300.000 Cybersecurity experts
New profiles emerging (cloud architects, AI and HPC)



64% companies report difficulties in recruiting Information and Communication Technology (ICT) specialists

Adoption of digital technologies



EU policies and targets at EU level

Skills Agenda 2020

70% Europeans
with **basic digital
skills** until 2025

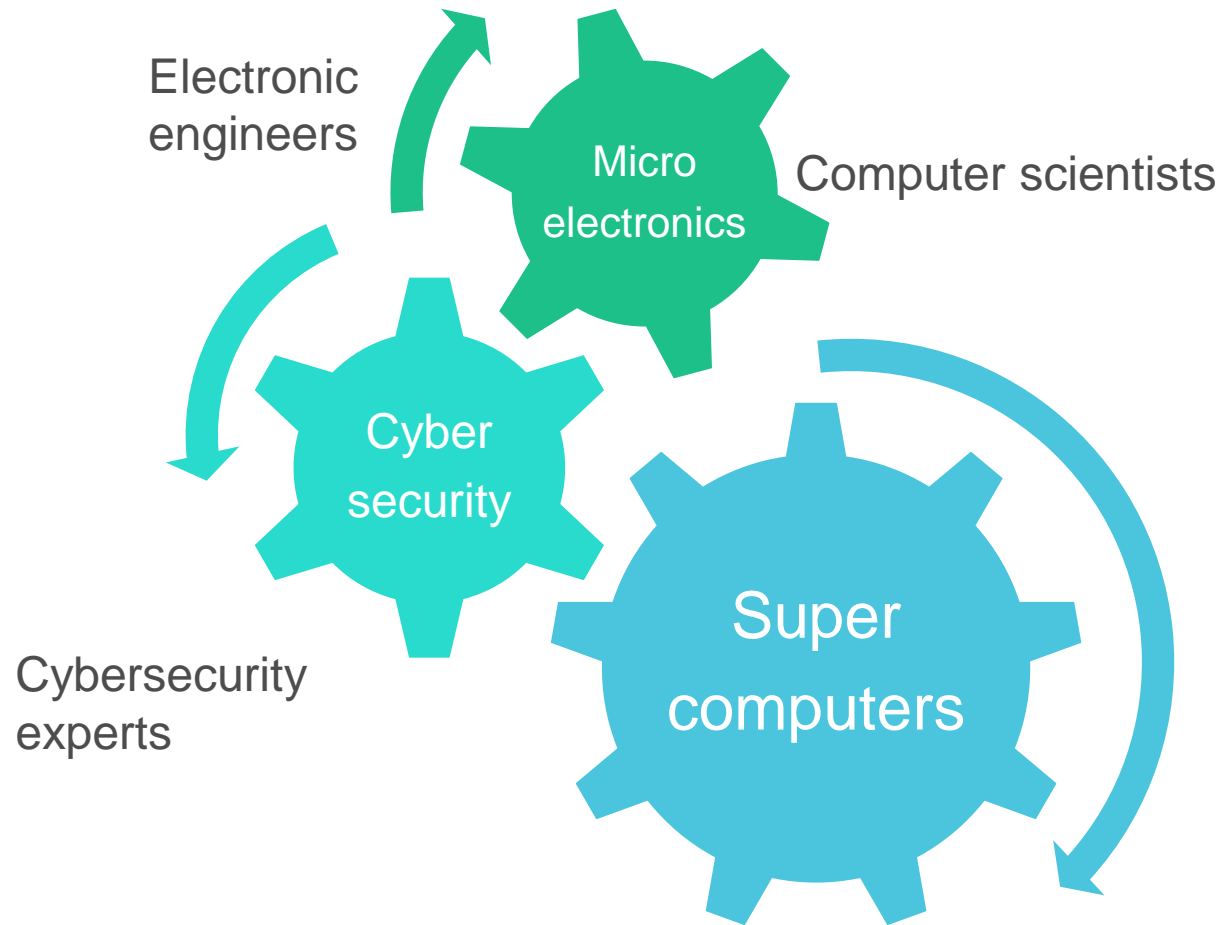
Digital Education Action Plan

Reduce the share
of 13-14 year
students
underperforming in
**information
literacy** to under
15% by 2030.

Data Strategy

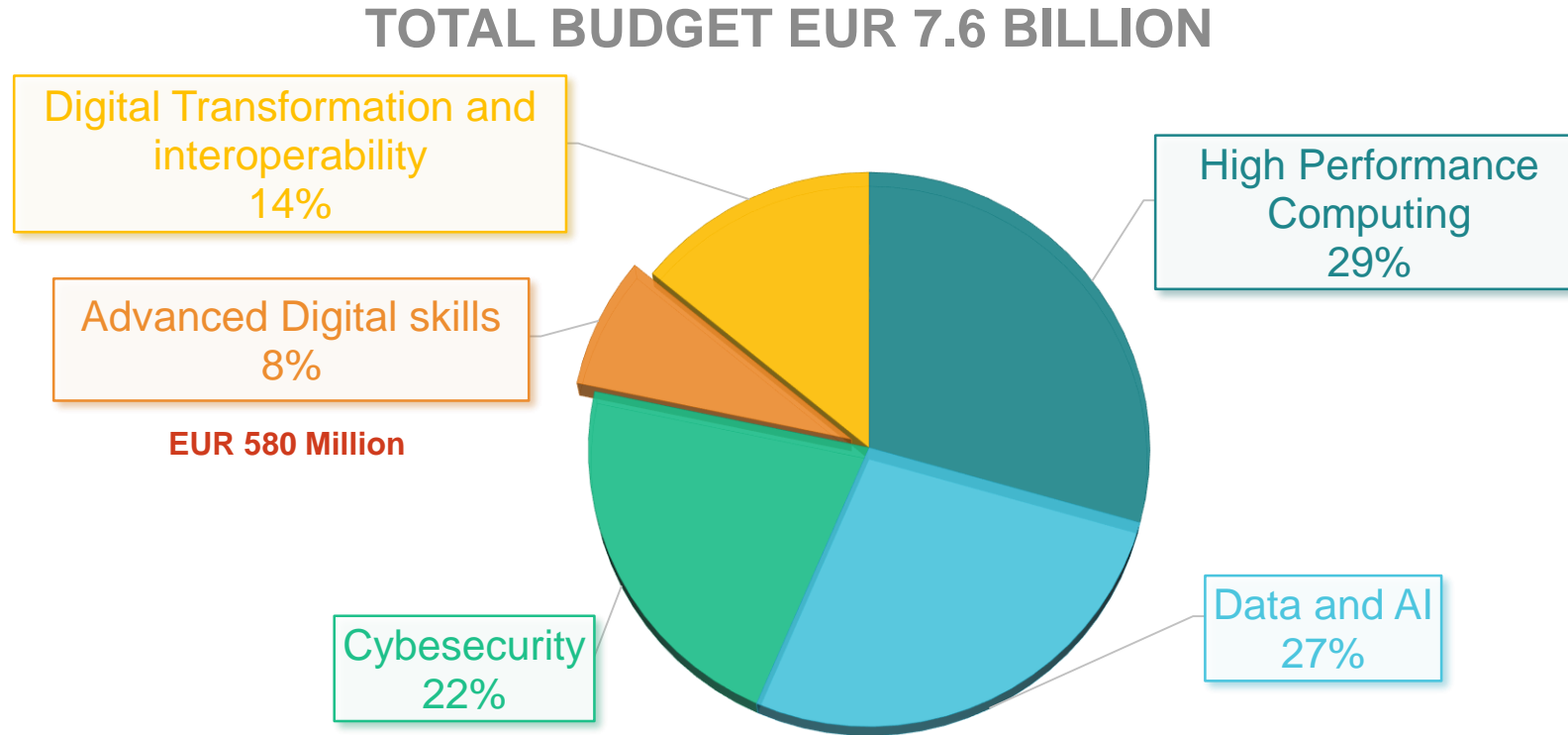
10.9 million **data
professionals**
until 2025
From 5.7 million in
2018

Training and attracting talents is key for EU digital sovereignty



As the EU join forces to invest in digital infrastructure, through the EuroHPC, or the European Alliance for Industrial Data and Clouds, it needs to build on the strength of its best education institutions to improve the education offer in digital technologies, to **train and attract the best talents**.

The Digital Europe Programme



Gains from common EU investments in digital technologies will only materialise if there is a sufficient number of skilled people to develop, roll-out and use these new technologies.

Advanced digital skills



**Education
programmes and
modules in key
capacity areas
(Master classes)**

Traineeships in key
capacity areas

Short term trainings
in advanced
technologies
(contribution to SME
strategy)

Digital skills platform

Digital
transformation of
Education

What support is available?

Partners involved:

- Universities
- VET institutions
- Excellence centres in AI, HPC, cybersecurity, etc
- Digital Innovation Hubs
- Innovative businesses





A.I.

New EU Master's in AI

Four networks of universities, SMEs, AI excellence centres will receive funding to deliver new Master's courses

**Human Centered AI
Masters**

**Masters in AI for
Careers in EU**

**Master on AI for
public services**

**eXplainable
Artificial
Intelligence in
healthcare
Management**

[Call CEF-TC-2020-1 European Platform for Digital Skills and Jobs](#)

Synergies DIGITAL and other funds

Digital Europe

- Deployment of advanced technologies
- Advanced Digital Skills

CEF2

- Digital connectivity infrastructure

InvestEU

- Investment in digital technologies and innovation

Horizon Europe

- Digital-related R&D
- European Institute of Technology (EIT)
- Marie Curie

European Social Fund

- Shared management, action for digital skills at local level

Erasmus

- Mobility and coordination actions for education institutions

AND

Recovery and Resilience Facility € 672 bn

20% for digital investments