



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Council

Swiss Confederation

Digital Switzerland Strategy 2024



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1 PURPOSE

The Digital Switzerland Strategy sets the guidelines for Switzerland's digital transformation¹. It is binding for the Federal Administration² and serves as an orientation for all other actors involved in digitalisation. The aim is for the population as a whole to benefit from a digital transformation that is responsible and sustainable (ecologically, economically and socially). This is being driven forward jointly by the authorities at all federal levels, as well as by actors from civil society, business, academia and politics.

Under focus themes, the Federal Council identifies two to three priorities each year as a way of launching digital transformation themes. This focus is complemented by the action plan, which provides an overview of activities in the area of digital transformation for the general public. In contrast to the annually changing focus themes, the vision and domains remain stable over several years.

The Digital Switzerland Strategy provides a framework in the sense of an umbrella strategy for the Digital Federal Administration Strategy, the Digital Public Services Switzerland Strategy and various other sectoral strategies. It also helps Switzerland to achieve its climate and environmental goals and the Sustainable Development Goals set out in the United Nations 2030 Agenda. Digitalisation remains the responsibility of all relevant specialist organisations, which have the lead in implementing the measures. The 2024 Strategy replaces the Digital Switzerland Strategy 2023 with effect from 1 January 2024.

2 VISION

Switzerland consistently prioritises digital offerings for the benefit of all people, regardless of gender, age or origin ('digital first')³. It makes targeted use of the opportunities offered by sustainable digital transformation so that everyone benefits in the long run. Switzerland is one of the most digitally competitive and innovative countries in Europe.

3 DOMAINS WITH INDICATORS

The Digital Switzerland Strategy 2024 is structured around five longterm domains. These domains are based on the EU's Digital Compass⁴. Focus themes and measures are each assigned to a domain. This structure is intended to create a clear overview of sovereign activities that are important for a digital Switzerland. The Federal Council measures progress in each domain according to two indicators⁵. As far as possible, the values are compared against international benchmarks.



Education and skills

People, businesses and public authorities have sufficient skills to make the most of new technologies and are able to question them. Indicators:

Share of the population with advanced digital skills	40 %	2021
Share of ICT specialists on the Swiss labour market (excl. apprentices)	5.7 % (4.8 % ♂, 0.9 % ♀)	2022



Security and trust

People in Switzerland can move around safely in the digital environment; privacy is protected. Indicators:

Threat situation in cyberspace: no. of cyber incidents reported to the National Cyber Security Centre	34 527	2022
Cybercrime, identification of crimes with a cyber element	33 345 cases	2022



Framework

Businesses and society can rely on a reliable and advantageous framework for the digital environment. Indicators:

Digital competitiveness, Switzerland's place in the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking	5	2023
Share of new firms in the ICT sector as a percentage of the total number of start-ups	5.1 %	2020

¹ See Ordinance of 25 November 2020 on the Coordination of the Digital Transformation and ICT Steering in the Federal Administration; SR 172.010.58.

² The scope of application complies with Art. 2 of the Government and Administration Organisation Act of 21 March 1997. SR 172.010.

³ Under 'digital first', digital solutions are prioritised whenever possible and wherever practical. If necessary, non-digital solutions are also

offered. A distinction is therefore made between 'digital first' and the 'digital only' principle, which relies exclusively on digital solutions.

⁴ See Europe's Digital Decade: digital targets for 2030 | European Commission (europa.eu).

⁵ The 10 indicators were initially defined. They are reviewed on an ongoing basis and adjusted if necessary. For details see www.digital.swiss.



Infrastructure

Public authorities promote and operate reliable and resilient physical as well as digital infrastructure.

Indicators:

Percentage of Swiss territory with 5G coverage	92 %	2022
Availability of Open Government Data, no. of data sets on opendata.swiss	10216	11.2023



Digital public services

Public authorities offer their services digitally as standard (digital first). Indicators:

Availability of online services for the public	78 %	2022
Digital public services for businesses	62 %	2022

4 FOCUS THEMES

The focus themes form the starting point for new measures and Federal Council mandates, insofar as they fall under federal remit. They are the subject of the meetings of the Digital Switzerland Advisory Committee, in which experts chaired by a member of the Federal Council discuss the topic in depth. The Federal Council determines the focus themes annually. The lead departments are responsible for their implementation. In 2024, the three focus themes are:



Cybersecurity

Lead: Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport, National Cyber Security Centre.

The national cyberstrategy will be implemented in cooperation with the cantons, higher education institutions and business, in order that all actors can address digital challenges securely.



Swiss approach to regulating AI systems

Lead: Federal Office of Communications in cooperation with the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Federal Office of Justice and other federal agencies and bodies. By the end of 2024, the Confederation will draw up a proposal for a Swiss approach to the regulation of AI, taking into account developments in the sectors and at international level, particularly in the EU and the Council of Europe. The aim is to develop an approach in dialogue with all stakeholders that upholds human rights, democracy and the rule of law while promoting Switzerland's capacity for innovation and growth.



Application programming interfaces (APIs)

Lead: Digital Transformation and ICT Steering Sector in cooperation with the departments. The provision of standardised interfaces enables seamless integration and interoperability of digital systems and data exchange. The number of APIs is to be increased in order to enable companies to build innovative and data-based business models and allow Switzerland to make data-based decisions more quickly in all situations, including crises.

ACTION PLAN

The action plan forms part of the Digital Switzerland Strategy 2024. It defines the relevant measures and provides an overview of the status of their implementation. Measures are specific, time-limited programmes, projects or initiatives taken by internal or external actors. They make a significant contribution to Switzerland's digital transformation. The progress of individual measures is continuously updated by the lead actors and published as an overview on www.digital.swiss.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Federal Chancellery's Digital Transformation and ICT Steering Sector (DTI) is responsible for the ongoing development, coordination, communication and monitoring of the Digital Switzerland Strategy 2024. It reports annually to the Federal Council on the progress of the strategy and draws up proposals for new focus themes in close cooperation with the departments. The respective lead actors are responsible for implementing the individual measures and provide the DTI Sector with regular progress reports.



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Bundeskanzlei BK
Chancellerie fédérale ChF
Cancelleria federale CaF
Federal Chancellery FCh

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digitale-schweiz@bk.admin.ch

+41 (0)58 462 39 00

www.digital.swiss