

France 2030 Innovation Cloud Digital

France 2030: cloud acceleration strategy

The digitalization of society is accompanied by significant use of cloud technologies to host and process data. The French government has identified the cloud as one of the priority markets with high growth potential, addressing major societal challenges.

Published on: Oct 18, 2024

The use of cloud computing has become widespread across all sectors of activity. French and European stakeholders, government agencies, private companies, and public bodies are using it. The data storage market is booming and dominated by foreign providers. These providers are sometimes subject to legislation whose

extraterritorial scope can threaten the sovereignty of French data and user security. The French government has developed a strategy to address the economic, innovation, security, and sovereignty challenges of the cloud.

Why implement a cloud strategy?

The cloud is a set of online systems that allow data to be stored on servers accessible only on the internet. It represents all shared, on-demand, pay-per-use services (online messaging, online document storage, video streaming, etc.) and, by extension, some of the underlying infrastructures (*data centers* , in particular).

Applications and innovations using cloud technologies require infrastructure and services to host and process large amounts of data. It is essential to provide economic players with the tools they need to innovate while respecting the environmental and data protection challenges of government agencies, citizens, and businesses, without compromising service quality.

The cloud strategy must enable France to acquire the necessary capacities to participate in future technological developments and ensure its digital sovereignty.

How is France 2030's cloud acceleration strategy being organized?

The State's cloud acceleration strategy is based on five axes:

- **Strengthen digital sovereignty by supporting the creation and use of a trusted cloud that protects French user data, in accordance with European values .** The

extraterritoriality of major cloud providers, which are not subject to French regulations, can lead to legal and technical gaps. The French National Agency for Information Systems Security (ANSSI) has introduced the SecNumCloud security visa, which providers must comply with to maintain their services in France. Providers are also encouraged to join the Gaïa-X system, a Franco-German data infrastructure development project aimed at guaranteeing and facilitating supplier changes and data portability.

- **Support research, development and innovation in cloud areas with high value creation potential (edge computing, artificial intelligence, 5G, etc.) and French technology projects to strengthen national cloud independence** . The industrial plan to support the French cloud sector focuses on innovative French offerings, accelerating the scaling up of French players in critical technologies in high demand (big data, collaborative work, etc.) and intensifying the development of disruptive technologies (*edge computing*) by 2025 to position the European sector as a major player. The promotion of interoperability, portability and reversibility is also supported.

Authorized in 2023 by the European Commission, the Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) cloud aims to support research, development, and industrial deployment of advanced cloud technologies among providers in Europe. It contributes to strengthening European digital and technological sovereignty in the cloud domains while benefiting other sectors (automotive, energy, Industry 4.0, health).

- **Accelerating the State's digital transformation** . With the "cloud at the center" project, ministries and organizations under their supervision will host their digital services on the State's internal cloud or with a provider meeting the "trusted cloud" label. The goal: to strengthen the protection of sensitive data belonging to French citizens and businesses while optimizing the quality of online user processes.
- **Bringing greening to the cloud industry** .

- **Encourage training in cloud technologies .**

Cloud: the role of the General Directorate for Enterprises (DGE)

The DGE designs public policies relating to digital technologies, electronics, electronic communications, and postal activities. It oversees the development of their uses and the interests of users. The DGE actively contributes to the cloud acceleration strategy, notably by ensuring its coordination at the national level.



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