

Fostering digital literacy across all educational levels with the Action Plan on Skills (China)

Bridging the digital divide through literacy and cooperation

Relevant DFI commitment(s): Support digital literacy, skills acquisition, and development so that individuals can overcome the digital divide, participate in the Internet safely, and realize the economic and social potential of the digital economy.

Type of the initiative: Action plan

Stakeholder Group: Government

Launch/adoption: 2024 - Now

Goals

China has launched a comprehensive action plan to enhance digital literacy and skills nationwide by the end of 2024. This initiative aims to:

- **Cultivate High-Level Digital Talent:** Develop a skilled workforce proficient in digital technologies to drive innovation and economic growth.
- **Promote Digital Literacy Among Leaders and Public Servants:** Ensure that government officials and public sector employees possess the necessary digital competencies to effectively serve the public.
- **Foster Digital Competence in Schools:** Integrate digital education into the curriculum to prepare students for the demands of the digital age.
- **Ensure Equal Access to Digital Resources:** Bridge the digital divide by providing all citizens with equitable access to digital tools and services.
- **Accelerate Digital Transformation in Businesses:** Encourage enterprises to adopt digital technologies to enhance productivity and competitiveness.
- **Create an Inclusive Digital Environment:** Develop accessible and efficient digital public services to benefit the entire population.

Description

The action plan is a collaborative effort among key government bodies, including the Office of the Central Cyberspace Affairs Commission, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security. It outlines six key areas with 17 major tasks aimed at advancing digital proficiency across the nation. These tasks include developing a more comprehensive digital literacy and skill development system, promoting accessible and efficient digital public services, and supporting international exchanges and cooperation to enhance the supply of high-quality digital resources. The plan also emphasizes the importance of data management, with initiatives like the national data resource survey led by the newly founded National Data Administration, aiming to better understand and utilize data resources, highlighting their critical role in the digital economy.

This initiative supports internet infrastructure development and connectivity by:

- **Enhancing Digital Literacy:** Empowering citizens with the skills to navigate and utilize the internet effectively, fostering greater participation in the digital economy.
- **Bridging the Digital Divide:** Ensuring equal access to digital resources promotes inclusivity and prevents the marginalization of certain groups, thereby supporting a more equitable internet landscape.
- **Promoting International Cooperation:** Engaging in global exchanges enhances the sharing of best practices and resources, contributing to the development of a more interconnected and open internet.
- **Supporting Digital Transformation:** Encouraging businesses and public services to adopt digital technologies leads to a more robust digital ecosystem, facilitating innovation and open access to information.

Disclaimer: This note was prepared by the GIFI team to illustrate certain good practices contributing to the implementation of the commitments contained in the Declaration on the Future of the Internet. The information provided in this note is based on the official documents and sources originating from donors or implementors and has not been verified for accuracy. Please see sources in the Internet Accountability Compass for additional information. The content of this note does not represent the views of the European Union or any of its bodies or agencies.