

# Digital Agenda

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## for Europe



## Connecting people in rural and remote areas

**The Digital Agenda's objective is to bring broadband internet to all, even to people living in isolated areas by 2013.**

However, the high costs of building new infrastructures combined with the low density of demand means that telecoms companies are deterred from installing the necessary broadband infrastructure.

To tackle this problem the EU will work with Member States to reinforce and better target regional and other funding programmes to support investment and adopt measures lowering investment costs. The Digital Agenda also foresees proposals to ensure that part of the digital dividend – the radio frequencies freed up by the move from analogue to digital broadcasting – can be used for wireless broadband technologies. This is particularly important because wireless (terrestrial and satellite) broadband is not only opening up exciting new services but will be crucial to the provision of fast internet for all, including remote and rural regions.

To promote the development of broadband networks, the European Commission will propose an ambitious **European Spectrum Policy Programme** later this year to increase the efficiency of radio spectrum management and maximise the benefits for consumers and industry.

Want to know more? Check [http://europa.eu/information\\_society/digital-agenda](http://europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda)

Any comments or questions? Send an e-mail to [INFSO-DIGITAL-AGENDA@ec.europa.eu](mailto:INFSO-DIGITAL-AGENDA@ec.europa.eu)