



#dp25

Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025

Digital. Connected. Together.

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Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025

Digital. Connected. Together.





»Shaping digital change is a core task for all of us. With the Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025, we are setting the course for making education, the economy, public services as well as culture and civic participation in Brandenburg even fitter for the future. However, digital transformation is a joint task. Therefore let us shape Brandenburg's digital future together.«

Dr Benjamin Grimm

Shape digitalisation together. For Brandenburg and its people.

Video chats via messenger apps, search engines on the internet or smartphones as our constant companions – our daily lives are characterised by digital technologies that support us in our tasks, provide information and connect us with other people. Digitalisation is thus a great opportunity for each and every individual – but also for our society as a whole.

As the state government, we see digitalisation as a process of change that encompasses almost all areas of life. It creates new development opportunities for our state of Brandenburg and its citizens, and it opens up a wide range of opportunities for the economy, administration and civil society. The COVID-19 pandemic has also shown us that digitalisation strengthens the resilience of the state and society in the face of a crisis. But there's no hiding the fact: the COVID-19 pandemic has also ruthlessly exposed existing weaknesses.

We have learned from this experience and are setting the course for the future. In order to harness the huge potential of digitalisation for each and every individual, society as a whole, the economy and a modern administration, we are now taking an important next step with the Digital Programme 2025.

It is an action-oriented programme for shaping the digital transformation in Brandenburg up to the year 2025. It includes projects that are of great relevance to the digitalisation progress of our federal state, and combines them into cross-cutting action packages involving all ministries: from the development of digital infrastructures to the development of digital skills, from the strengthening of digital accessibility to the promotion of digitalisation in education and culture, from support for a local digital economy to the digital upgrad-

ing of public administration. With the Digital Programme, we are thus boosting the mutual synergies between the ministries and their various digital projects.

But beyond that: we want to coordinate and steer how digitalisation is shaped in our federal state even better and more effectively in future. To this end, we will jointly develop concepts for how we can optimally record our digitalisation expenditure, create flexible financing mechanisms for digital projects and further strengthen the digital skills in the state administration. The Digital Programme 2025 is thus not only a milestone, but also the kick-off for an active, future-oriented digital policy in Brandenburg.

Digitalisation thrives on networking and the constructive exchange of solution approaches and positions. We have gained numerous ideas and experiences through the participation process for the Digital Programme. For this, my sincere thanks to all those who have participated. They have provided us with a lot of impetus, and helped to make the Digital Programme even more specific and better in many places. I would also like to invite you to support our digital policy both critically and constructively during the implementation of the Digital Programme. Let us shape digitalisation in Brandenburg together.



Yours

Dr Benjamin Grimm

State Secretary in the Brandenburg State
Chancellery and Commissioner for Media
Affairs and Digitalisation



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Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025 (# dp25)

Summary of the most important points

The Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025 (#dp25) presents a practical programme for shaping the digital transformation up to the year 2025, which reflects the state's specific spatial, population and economic structures. We have combined Brandenburg government's digital transformation projects into eight action packages:

Action package I:

Ensure digital skills in all phases of life

Digital skills are essential in order to participate in digital life. We therefore ensure that all citizens in our federal state have access to acquiring these skills. This encompasses schools and universities, as well as further education and social institutions. The School Cloud Brandenburg, a digital learning environment for teachers and students, is one of several measures we are implementing in this field.

Action package II:

Enable participation in and through digitalisation

All of Brandenburg's citizens should be able to actively participate in political, cultural and social life. We focus on the availability and quality of access to digital services and thereby enable digital participation and inclusion for all population groups. With the "Smart surfing" project, for example, we are strengthening the digital consumer skills of older people and other consumer groups.

Action package III:

Strengthen public services through digital offers

Public services are central to creating equal living conditions and a high quality of life in rural and urban areas. We are harnessing the potential of digital applications to guarantee public services, and reshaping offers and communication between the state and its citizens. Among other initiatives, the Innovation Centre for University Medicine in Cottbus (IUC) should help establish a digitally-supported network of healthcare stakeholders in Lusatia.

Action package IV:

Promote digital social and cultural exchange

The COVID-19 pandemic has given the shift towards a digital cultural landscape in Brandenburg a powerful boost. Brandenburg's main concern is now to provide further impetus to the dynamics of this development and to support the cultural sector by strategically establishing and implementing digital technologies. We also support projects by archives, libraries, museums, memorials and monument preservation in order to digitally secure our cultural heritage and make it accessible.

Image on the left: The "School Cloud Brandenburg" and information technology projects at numerous Brandenburg schools, such as here at the Friedrich-Ludwig-Jahn-Gymnasium in Forst, promote digital skills



Action package V:

Support sustainability through digital instruments

Digitalisation can promote more sustainable economics and help achieve the government's environmental and climate protection goals. Against this background, we want to expand Brandenburg's role in digital forestry and agriculture, and digitalise companies as well as value chains on a needs-oriented basis. We will use digital species monitoring to work together with citizens and experts to capture data on the presence of protected and invasive species in Brandenburg.

Action package VI:

Promote digital transformation of the economy

Companies are constantly faced with the task of securing their own future viability and adapting to the new digital conditions. We take the needs and concerns of the individual sectors seriously, and we provide support for digital structural change. We see competence centres, experimental labs and digital locations as important infrastructures for Brandenburg's innovation culture, and support founding of start-ups, for example through the "Gründung innovativ" (Innovative Founding) programme.

Action package VII:

Modernise the administration and its services

We want to improve internal structures and processes, and increase the efficiency of the Brandenburg administration through digital

work and workflow processes. The aim is to provide high-quality and fast administrative services which are required by citizens and the economy. We also provide non-personal data from public administration as open data, thereby supporting research as well as the development of data-based business models.

Action package VIII:

Perform public authority tasks digitally

We are pushing ahead with digitalisation in the field of justice and policing, and we want to use the digital transformation to harmonise national structures. We are strengthening digital instruments throughout the course of legal proceedings, in order to make the work of all parties involved easier and to create greater transparency. The comprehensive introduction of the electronic case file (e-file) in the judiciary is one of the central tasks of the coming years.

The enormous pace of innovation associated with digital technologies requires a digital cultural change in public administration. Improved coordination, more flexible use of resources, stronger digital skills in the state administration as well as greater transparency and communication are all aspects that will help us to deal with the ever-changing challenges when implementing the Digital Programme. We are developing cross-cutting approaches and concepts involving all ministries in order to further develop both financing and staffing in the digital sector. This also applies to improving the digital skills of state employees.

Introduction

With the **Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025 (#dp25)**, we as the government present a practical programme for shaping the digital transformation up to the year 2025. The previous state digitalisation strategy of 2018 is developed further conceptually with the Digital Programme and updated with regard to specific projects. The basis for the development of this Digital Programme is the evaluation of the “Zukunftsstrategie Digitales Brandenburg” (Digital Brandenburg Strategy for the Future) in 2020, the digitalisation strategies of all ministries that were developed between 2020 and 2021, and the feedback received from citizens, associations and other organisations through the participation process for the Digital Programme 2025.

It is clear to us as the government that people¹ are at the centre of the digital transformation. However, the use of digital technologies to improve the quality of life in all areas of society can only succeed if digitalisation is oriented towards the goals of environmentally sustainable and socially just development. In doing so, consumer protection and data protection as well as information security are always taken into consideration. It is only with the highest level of trust and security in the digital world that digital products, services and new applications can be successful in the long term.

We have structured this Digital Programme along **three levels** in order to put even more focus on the different **user groups and target groups** of digitalisation:

→ Digital life

We want to give every single person in Brandenburg the opportunity to participate in the digital transformation process and to help shape it. The basic prerequisites for this are providing needs-based accesses, individually conveying digital skills and ensuring accessibility in the broadest sense for each and every individual. In this way, we want to ensure and proactively promote the participation of all citizens of Brandenburg in digital life. At the **Digital life** level, we address these aspects and focus on individual needs, the impact of digitalisation on people and practical everyday life.

→ Digital society

Key areas of society such as mobility, health, culture, education and the environment provide scope for digital innovation and can lead to more efficient, needs-based offers for the community or various social groups. This can also help to improve and further develop public services, especially in rural areas. Through networked structures in the health sector, digitalised, needs-based mobility offers and virtual accesses to the cultural heritage of Brandenburg, to name but a few examples, we want to put digitalisation at the service of the community and promote a **Digital society**. Here, the focus is on collective needs and development processes.

¹ In this document, references to people are intended to be gender neutral. As a matter of principle, all references apply to all genders.



→ Digital state

Through digitalisation of our administrations and their processes, often referred to as internal digitalisation, we are creating the conditions for an efficient and effective **Digital state**. Within the framework of a citizen-centred e-government, we want to make our offers and services more user-friendly and transparent for the benefit of all citizens of Brandenburg. Here, the focus is on the digital further development of state services and organisation for the citizens of Brandenburg. We also want to modernise our public bodies, such as the police and the judiciary, through innovative digital processes and applications.

The three levels of **individual – society – state** represent the different access of the respective user groups to digitalisation topics, and the associated different needs and instruments for addressing them. Along the levels, we have therefore developed cross-cutting action packages involving all ministries, which address the three dimensions of digital transformation in a targeted manner.

In recent years, it has also become clear that digital policy plays an important role in spatial development. In a sparsely populated state such as Brandenburg, we therefore always consider the effect of digitalisation on **spatial and settlement structures**. In addition, **digital resilience** has become more important. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that digital applications and IT infrastructures are essential to maintaining the capacity of public administration to act and ensuring public services in times of crisis. It is now important to learn from the experience gained during the pandemic and to further strengthen Brandenburg's resilience in the face of a crisis.

As the government, we see digital policy as a modernisation and shaping task at all levels. To this end, we pursue a decentralised, coordinated and cooperative approach. Various stakeholders must be interlinked with each other, a transparent flow of information must be organised, and scarce resources must be used efficiently, so that digital policy can succeed as the task of the entire government. In the chapter "Shape and administer", we show how digital policy in Brandenburg has been further developed on this basis.

Digital policy is also an ongoing task for society as a whole, which will extend far beyond 2025. Nobody knows what kind of breakthrough innovations or social changes lie ahead, so the path to the digital future of the state cannot be fully planned. We believe that this process, with its dynamism and speed, is fruitful and beneficial for our state. With the Digital Programme 2025, we address the current digital policy challenges and opportunities facing the people of Brandenburg. In doing so, we also do not lose sight of higher-level aspects of digitalisation, such as the increasing demand for resources and energy, IT security and data protection concerns, standardisation, "good work" as well as the pursuit of gender-relevant topics in the digital working environment.

The participation process for the Digital Programme 2025

As the government, we see digitalisation in Brandenburg as a challenge that can only be overcome jointly with the numerous stakeholders in the state. Our goal is that the shaping of digital policy should be accompanied by constant networking and intensive exchanges at various levels. In doing so, we not only benefit from the diverse expertise from politics, the economy, science and civil society in the state, but also create a space for social discourse on digital topics, and support the development of networks and a lively digital community in Brandenburg.

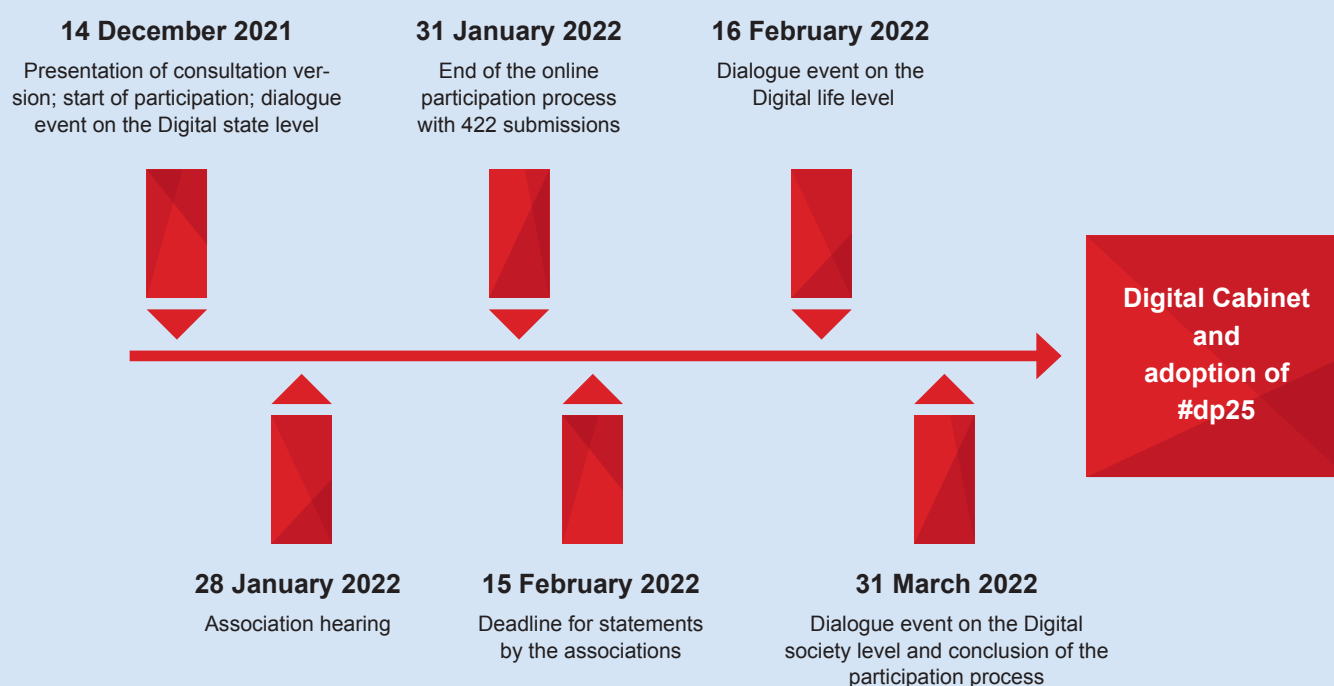
In order to already meet this goal during the development of the Digital Programme 2025, the State Chancellery initiated a **comprehensive participation process**, which lasted from the publication of the consultation

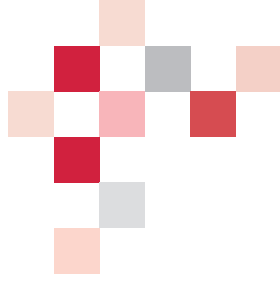
version in December 2021 to March 2022 and offered various forms of participation for different target groups (see Figure 1).

Specifically, the participation process included four elements:

- **An online participation process** with questions about the structure and content of the Digital Programme as well as the possibility of submitting suggestions in free text form.
- **An association hearing** in which trade unions, chambers, municipal umbrella associations and various social groups participated, and took advantage of the possibility to submit a written and oral statement.

Fig. 1: The participation process for the Digital Programme 2025





→ **A call for written statements** on the Digital Programme to all other associations and organisations in Brandenburg.

→ **Three dialogue events** in which the digital commissioner of the state and numerous experts discussed the following topics with the audience:

- 1st Dialogue event on the Digital state level on 14.12.2021
- 2nd Dialogue event on the Digital life level on 16.02.2022
- 3rd Dialogue event on the Digital society level on 31.03.2022

A total of 34 written statements were received on the Digital Programme 2025 by the end of the participation process in March 2022. In addition, 422 people participated in the online participation process. These figures show: there is a great desire to contribute to shaping digital policy in Brandenburg. The feedback was critical but constructive, covering a wide spectrum of digital topics. The participants in the online participation process found topics such as the development of digital infrastructures to be particularly relevant. They emphasised the need for faster broadband roll-out in rural areas and the elimination of so-called “white spots” (areas without high-speed access). In addition, the participants were concerned with modernising administration, and often expressed the desire for digital access to administrative services as well as less bureaucracy. A third focal topic of the online participation process was the area of digital participation and skills, and the question of how they can be strengthened for self-determined use of the possibilities offered by digitalisation. Cross-cutting topics such as data protection, data security and accessibility in the digital space were also mentioned frequently. Likewise, the issue of sustainability and digitalisation was important to many associations and individuals in their statements.

After completion of the participation process, all submissions and statements were reviewed by the State Chancellery and then handed over to the responsible ministries for examination and further elaboration. In the ministries, the suggestions and ideas were evaluated for their feasibility, which resulted in targeted addition to and revision of the Digital Programme 2025. For example, the following topics have been elaborated further:

- Strengthening of digital accessibility
- Promotion of digital skills and digital participation among older people
- Promotion of sovereignty in the critically-reflected handling of digital media
- Digitalisation in the health sector
- Shaping sustainability-oriented digitalisation
- Digital transformation of the economy in Brandenburg
- Cybersecurity
- Fighting crime and hate speech on the internet.

In addition to these examples, the Digital Programme 2025 was substantiated and underpinned at many points in the text. The version adopted by the Digital Cabinet thus represents a significant further development compared with the draft for consultation.

Digitalisation in Brandenburg

From Strategy Paper to Digital Programme 2025

With the “Zukunftsstrategie Digitales Brandenburg” (Digital Brandenburg Strategy for the Future, in short: Strategy Paper) in 2018, we achieved an important milestone in the active shaping of digital change, and outlined goals and visions for a long-term and future-oriented development of digital policy in Brandenburg. Since then, digitalisation in Brandenburg has been progressing at all levels: most of the measures adopted in the Strategy Paper have been implemented or are currently being implemented.

Due to the rapid development of technology, the digital transformation is a dynamic and constantly changing process. A central task of our digital policy is therefore to regularly review our approaches and possibilities for shaping digital change, to further develop projects through a continuous improvement process (CIP) and to underpin our digital policy guideline with new measures. In addition, the consequences and experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic must be taken into account in the further development of Brandenburg's digital policy. The same applies to the digital policy priorities set out in the coalition agreement of the government (2019), the findings from the evaluation report (2020) as well as the audit report of the Landesrechnungshof (state audit office) (2020).²

Digitalisation strategies of the Brandenburg ministries and the State Chancellery

- **Brandenburg State Chancellery**
Better connected. Digital together.
Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery
- **Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs (MIK)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs
- **Ministry of Justice (MdJ)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Justice of Brandenburg
- **Ministry of Finance and European Affairs (MdFE)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Finance and European Affairs of Brandenburg
- **Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy (MWAE)**
Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg
- **Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)
- **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBSJ)**
Strategic goals of the MBSJ – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports

² For a more detailed chronology and development of digital policy in Brandenburg since 2017, visit our website at digitalisbb.de

- 
- **Ministry of Science, Research and Culture (MWFK)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture
 - **Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection (MSGIV)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025
 - **Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection (MLUK)**
Ministerial digital policy strategy – digitalisation in the service of agriculture, the environment and climate protection
 - **Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs (MIK)**
E-government Strategy of Brandenburg

Through an update and elaboration, we have further developed the content of the Strategy Paper into the Digital Programme 2025: within a programmatic and action-orient-

ed framework, we are putting a clear focus on the current and future implementation of cross-cutting and broad-based measures in Brandenburg. The digitalisation strategies of the ministries thereby form the basis for the content of the Digital Programme 2025, and contain a list of all the individual measures that are planned for digital policy in the specialist departments in the coming years. At the latest since cabinet resolution 91/20 in April 2020, the ministries have been working intensively to develop the digital future of their respective specialist departments.

However, the policy objectives and approaches of the long-term view taken in the Strategy Paper remain valid. Central to the digital policy of Brandenburg is the guideline that originates from the status report on digitalisation presented to the Brandenburg parliament in 2017. The ten theses of the Digitalbeirat (digital advisory council) (2018) remain valid. Together, they reflect the individual characteristics of digital Brandenburg in spatial, population and economic structures, and should also serve as the guideline for digital Brandenburg in the Digital Programme 2025.

Info box 1:

The 10 theses of the Digitalbeirat (digital advisory council)

1. Digitalisation will promote peaceful human coexistence.
2. Rural Brandenburg is becoming an even more attractive place to live and work, geographical distances are becoming less important.
3. Educational opportunities will be widely available and freely accessible.
4. Economics, ecology and social repercussions will be considered across all sectors.
5. Brandenburg citizens will be freed from routine activities in their everyday and professional lives and lead a better life.
6. Democracy in Brandenburg is becoming more vibrant, transparent and participatory.
7. Brandenburg will reinforce its strengths and create spaces for innovation.
8. Digitalisation will promote social progress.
9. Municipalities will become more important as local contacts.
10. Data will be used sustainably.

Technical upgrade of a mobile phone tower for high-speed broadband connections





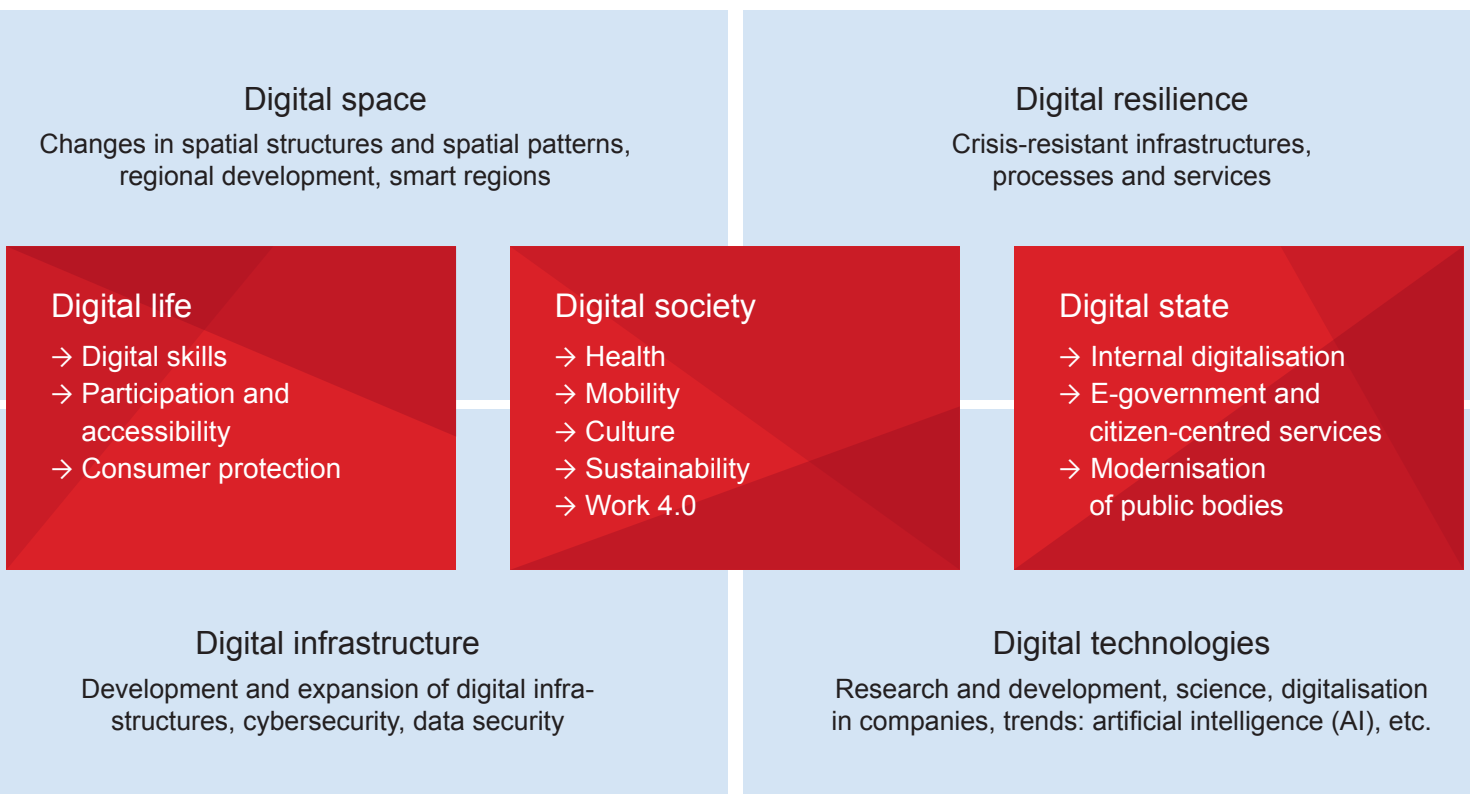
1. The framework for digital policy

Resilience, spatial structures, infrastructures and technology

We want to utilise the full potential of digitalisation for the benefit of all citizens of Brandenburg. In order to achieve this, the framework conditions in which the three levels are embedded - individual, society and state - must be taken into account. These include changing spatial structures under the buzzword digital space, expanding digital infrastructures as well as developing and using modern technologies, but also strengthening digital resilience, i.e. the resilience to crises through and of digital processes and applications (see Fig. 2).

Digital policy must also take account of individual needs, as well as social challenges or state modernisation requirements. In doing so, digital policy is required to actively shape the framework conditions for digitalisation in such a way that the economic, environmental and social effects of digitalisation contribute to **sustainable development**. The guideline for sustainable development states that the needs of today's generations must not be met at the expense of future generations. In its coalition agreement (2019), the government of Brandenburg has made a clear com-

Fig. 2: Levels and framework conditions for the Digital Programme 2025



Info box 2:

Digitalisation for sustainability – sustainable digitalisation

Sustainable development is one of the key challenges of our time, which affects digital change in diverse ways – while at the same time being influenced by it: raw materials are used for the production of digital technologies, the extraction of which often involves high environmental costs and poor working conditions. In addition, the production phase is particularly energy-intensive, and today is mostly carried out in countries with a high proportion of electricity generated from coal. Rapid product cycles and a lack of strategies to extend the life of digital devices mean that electronic waste (e-waste) is growing and increasingly becoming an environmental burden.

Also in terms of social sustainability, digitalisation presents us with new challenges, such as discrimination through algorithms, the spread of fake news or unequal participation in digital life. At the same time, digitalisation enables new accesses to knowledge, allows more resource-efficient production methods, creates approaches for new and more sustainable business models, and can play a central role in the energy transition. Therefore, considering the opportunities and challenges of digitalisation for sustainable development in a holistic manner, i.e. including its interactions involving society, the environment and the economy, represents an important task for future-oriented digital policy.

mitment to this guideline and to the principles of Germany's Sustainable Development Strategy.

However, the role of digitalisation in sustainable development is ambivalent (see Info box 2), and this is precisely why it is such an important **policy shaping task**. As early as 2014, the government adopted a sustainability strategy that includes specific and important approaches for digitalisation, such as the energy-saving design and use of technologies, or the production, use and disposal of IT equipment in the framework of a circular economy. The strategy was updated in 2019 to align with the 17 sustainability goals of the

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs). This should be pursued further and strengthened, through the further development of the state sustainability strategy that is planned for the 7th legislative period. With this further development, the Brandenburg government aims to incorporate the concept of sustainability even more decisively in society, and to anchor sustainability even more firmly as a criterion for decision-making in the actions of government and administration. In doing so, the possibilities and opportunities for contributions offered by digitalisation will also play a role.



1.1 Digital resilience

Development of crisis-resistant processes and applications

Digital processes and IT infrastructures are fundamental to maintaining the capacity of public administration to act, as well as ensuring the provision of public services. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted this once again, and has further focused attention on the relevance of crisis-resistant digital infrastructures and applications. With the immediate strategy adopted in March 2020, we created an initial framework to flexibly meet the challenges of the pandemic through the use of discretionary powers and to accelerate the digitalisation of the ministries.

Now, it is important to use the lessons learned from the pandemic to boost the further transformation process and the resilience of digital infrastructures and processes. Therefore, an expert report commissioned at the end of 2020 and which ran until summer 2021 examined which aspects of digital resilience (see Info box 3) are already being fulfilled in Brandenburg and where action is still needed. Among other things, the study showed that the capacity of administration to act could be ensured largely without interruption, and that no failures occurred in Brandenburg's mission-critical specialist processes and IT components. However, it was not immediately possible for the administration to work in a fully mobile and secure manner throughout the entire state, as the required software solutions were lacking. The development of a digital culture in administration is also still in the early stages. On the basis of the results, five recommendations for action were developed to strengthen digital resilience:

1. **Continuation of the internal digitalisation** through comprehensive technical equipment for employees and electronic record keeping, in order to enable mobile working, the use of video conferencing systems as well as the permanent implementation and monitoring of mission-critical specialist processes.
2. **Further development of the organisational framework conditions** for greater flexibility in mobile working and in interministerial exchange on data protection topics. The development of a crisis strategy is also essential. The aim is digital sovereignty at the state level.
3. **Improvement of the interfaces with citizens and businesses** with greater accessibility and enabling of participation, e.g. by providing multilingual applications.
4. **Intensification of interministerial exchange** and exchange with the other federal states, in order to develop solutions to common challenges.
5. **Acceleration of cultural change** through personnel development strategies and teaching and learning methods, in order to achieve greater acceptance of digital formats in administration.

These recommendations are set in the three dimensions of "Technology", "Law and organisation" and "Digital strategies and digital culture" (see Figure 3).

These five fundamental recommendations for action are taken into account in the planning and implementation of future digitalisation projects and thus become an integral part of resilient digital policy in Brandenburg.

Info box 3:

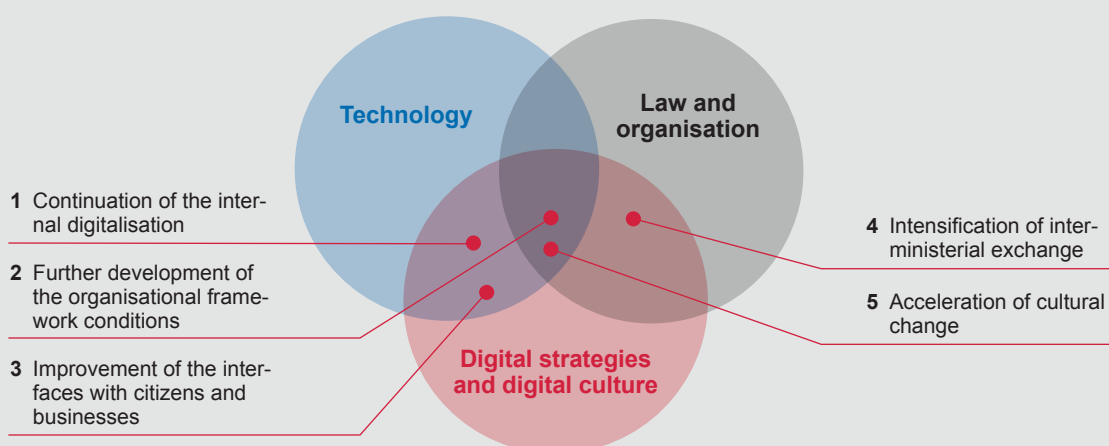
“Digital resilience” – what is that?

The concept of digital resilience plays an increasingly important role in politics and among experts. However, it is by no means clearly defined. Resilience itself can be understood, for example, as the ability of a system to successfully return to its original state after a crisis has been overcome. More and more, however, resilience is also associated with the ability to learn from disruptive events and to develop further, in order to be better prepared for future crises. These disruptions can have many causes, such as natural disasters, human errors or targeted attacks. Against the background of the special challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and in view of the general conditions in Brandenburg, the Interministerial Working Group on Digital Policy (IMAG Digital Policy) of the Brandenburg government has developed the following common understanding for the concept of digital resilience: “Digital resilience describes the ability to maintain and adapt public services, administrative services and infrastructures in the event of endogenous or exogenous shocks, through the use of digital instruments and skills. A system is resilient when it survives a shock, independently renews itself and learns from experiences. Thus, a high level of digital resilience ensures that the state and society can function during crises. For this purpose, future-oriented legal and organisational framework conditions, individual decision-making and digital skills as well as robust processes for the protection and restoration of high-performance technical infrastructures are fundamental. The pragmatic application of digital instruments and services in the respective policy areas as well as the comprehensive internal digitalisation of administration help to facilitate crisis management.”

Interministerial definition of the IMAG Digital Policy, 2021

The study on digital resilience in Brandenburg (2020) was based on this understanding.

Fig. 3: Dimensions and recommendations for action for strengthening digital resilience



Source: Expert report on “Ensuring the ability to act during crises – evaluation of the digital resilience of Brandenburg”, 2021

You can access the German version of this report via this link and the adjacent QR code:

https://digitalesbb.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/210624_Evaluation-der-Digitalen-Resilienz_mit-Vorwort.pdf





1.2 Digital space

Development of new structures and potential for regional development

In recent years, the number of Brandenburg citizens has grown steadily – mainly due to relocation from Berlin. In the future, opportunities for mobile working, such as in co-working spaces, along with digitally-supported mobility and health offers, online commerce, and last but not least, digital administrative services, can all make a significant contribution to more and more people deciding against living in major urban centres. As such, digitalisation and digital infrastructures are changing spatial structures, and they require revised concepts for regional development and planning.

With the **“Strategischer Gesamtrahmen Hauptstadtregion Berlin-Brandenburg” (Overall Strategic Framework for the Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg, SGHR)**, we have presented a strategy for joint spatial development together with the federal state of Berlin, in which the digital change processes and their effects on spatial structures are addressed in a separate “Digital Transformation” field of action (field of action 6, see Info box 4 “Interconnection with Berlin”). We see

the key topics set out therein as particularly promising for future digital policy cooperation between Berlin and Brandenburg, with common administrative interfaces forming the basis for good cooperation. We are convinced that digital transformation is only possible jointly with Berlin. Here, the smart capital region should contribute to transparency and mutual understanding. New forms of cooperation between municipalities, administrations, companies and civil society are being tested and spread within the framework of smart city measures.

The **“Regionalentwicklungsstrategie” (Regional Development Strategy, RES)** focuses on so-called “digital spatial patterns” and determining their actual impact. A central question it examines is the extent to which digital infrastructures and applications can improve the quality of life and public services in rural areas, and ultimately support relocation to rural regions of Brandenburg and prevent relocation away. The expertise and experience of the DigitalAgentur Branden-

Info box 4:

Interconnection with Berlin – key topics in field of action 6 “Digital Transformation” of the SGHR

1. Digital economic area of the capital region: small and medium-sized enterprises, the start-up scene and interstate networking
2. Digital literacy and digital talents: interstate education and science cooperation
3. Digital healthcare: changing care structures and application possibilities against the background of digital services
4. “Smart capital region”: digitalisation aspects in the context of regional development; cooperation between the digital agencies of Berlin and Brandenburg
5. Digitalisation and networking of administration and justice: administration digitalisation; cooperation between the IT service providers of Berlin and Brandenburg

Info box 5:

Innovative infrastructures for structurally weak areas

The Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS) in Erkner is contributing its expertise in digitally-supported social innovations as part of the “Heimat 2.0” (Community 2.0) initiative. The IRS investigates digital solutions for peripheral and structurally weak rural areas that go beyond merely providing physical infrastructure. This addresses questions of digital skills as well as the prerequisites for the most efficient possible use of digital infrastructures, along with the associated perspectives for rural areas, which are subject to profound demographic changes in Brandenburg.


burg (DigitalAgency Brandenburg, DABB) is an important source here for better understanding how digital structures can contribute to equal living conditions in the city and the countryside and can strengthen internal cohesion in Brandenburg.

We also support the rural regions not only in keeping up with the development of digital progress, but also in highlighting and further developing the specific quality of life in rural

areas as well as the cultural and natural heritage. The **“Strategische Leitplanke” (Strategic Guideline, SLP)** “Digitalisation links potential and bridges spaces” of the Regional Development Strategy enables the monitoring and promotion of key regional projects in the area of digital spatial patterns. Through targeted digital networking between urban and supra-regional offer structures as well as rural locations, we improve their provision of services and participation.



Biotechnology students at the FH Lausitz University of Applied Sciences in Senftenberg examine cell structures using high-resolution microscopes and digitally evaluate the results in real time. The FH Lausitz offers degree programmes such as computational mechanics, medical engineering, life sciences and biotechnology and has high-quality equipment with digital technology.



Trend patterns can be identified regarding the effects of digital transformation on spaces and functions, and thus also on their planning. For example, in the area of regional energy supply in combination with smart grids, where more and more small-scale solutions for production and usage are being developed, or in the area of online commerce, which has differentiated spatial and functional impacts on the city centres. On the one hand, these trend patterns reflect the spatial-functional relationships, and on the other hand, they simultaneously open up new management possibilities through the use of modern technologies. In order to exploit their potential, we support the cities and municipalities with the development of smart city and smart region concepts. We assist them and the municipal umbrella associations through knowledge transfer, networking and advice. For example, we offer technical support with the development of digitalisation strategies and measures in the **smart city** area. We also support the im-

plementation of the **“Smart City Manager”** qualification programme, which enables municipal administration staff to shape the digital transformation process in their communities.

The possibilities of digital communication, collaboration and organisation mean that a person's place of residence is no longer necessarily determined by its proximity to their place of work. Alternative mobility offers can enable an even greater degree of decentralisation in the future, which also reaches the rural areas of Brandenburg. This trend is also supported by the development of co-working spaces in rural areas. This creates opportunities to use well-equipped workplaces close to home, without the need for a long daily commute to work. Co-working spaces also provide an opportunity for public administration to combine flexible locations and mobile working, and to increase the compatibility of work and private life as well as the cooperation between administrative locations.

Info box 6:

Smart cities and smart regions

Supporting the spatial development of Brandenburg in the context of digitalisation and promoting smart cities and regions is a central task. Through the DigitalAgentur Brandenburg (DigitalAgency Brandenburg, DABB), a wide range of information and advisory offers have been set in order to support the development of strategies for smart cities and regions and to provide specific impetus to local stakeholders. The DigitalAgentur Brandenburg thereby acts as a powerful supporting partner for the municipalities with the development of digital solutions for public services, especially in rural areas. This work is to be continued and made easier through knowledge transfer, networking, advice and tools. The aim is to bundle the many good local and regional solutions and to make them widely usable. The “Meine Stadt der Zukunft” (My City of the Future) state initiative also makes an important contribution to this: nine Brandenburg model cities are developing strategies for future urban development, including the central cross-cutting topic of digital transformation.

Image on the right: The BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg is working together with the Fraunhofer IFF on a “Transferplattform Moderne Industrie Brandenburg 4.0” (Transfer Platform for Modern Industry Brandenburg 4.0). The goal of the platform is to use existing know-how in the digitalisation of the value chains of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to increase the competitiveness and capacity for innovation in Brandenburg. The aim is the smart factory, which is characterised by its adaptability, resource efficiency and ergonomics as well as the integration of customers and business partners in the business and value chain processes.



Info box 7:

Co-working space model project

In Frankfurt (Oder), a co-working space is being established for the Brandenburg state administration. The pilot project will be carried out under the leadership of the Ministry of Finance and European Affairs (MdFE) and the Brandenburgischer Landesbetrieb für Liegenschaften und Bauen (the Brandenburg state-owned real estate and construction company, BLB). The pilot is intended to serve as the basis for possible future offers in Brandenburg. In addition to testing the technical infrastructure and the attractiveness of the location, the focus is on the question of how well the offer is accepted by the employees.

If work is also possible wherever people really want to live, this improves the quality of life in many places in the state and strengthens the identity of the regions. It does require the other framework conditions, in particular public services, to also be in place.

Here too, the digital transformation offers solutions and new usage models: mobility can be planned based on requirements through apps, cultural and educational institutions are developing digital offers, and many administrative services will no longer necessarily require the personal presence of applicants or administrators in the future. More and more so-called **hybrid spaces** are being created – offers are not being provided exclusively in

either analogue or digital form, but these are combined with each other.

Digital transformation not only enables typical features of rural areas to be used for innovation, but also enables new local solution models to be developed for specific situations and problems. Craftspeople, agricultural businesses and the creative sector alike are taking advantage of the opportunity to offer their products and services via platforms, also nationally and internationally. For example, a project of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) in Brandenburg an der Havel is developing processes and software to coordinate production and logistics between vegetable farms and downstream value chain stages.



Start-up incubator on the BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg campus: companies and founders with high-tech skills use offices, workshops, communal rooms and meeting rooms there, so that important synergies can arise.

1.3 Digital infrastructure

Requirements for the digital society

Digital infrastructures are a fundamental and defining prerequisite for a successful transformation process. The comprehensive roll-out of high-performance, modern infrastructures is indispensable for sustaining social life and is therefore being driven further. This also includes regional data centres. A rapid and comprehensive roll-out of broadband and mobile networks not only contributes to the attractiveness of cities and regions – it is also a decisive criterion for providing digital public services and creating equal living conditions and equal educational opportunities in Brandenburg. The government is working to ensure that the digital infrastructure complies with the latest standards and meets high security requirements.

In the coming years, the digital infrastructures in Brandenburg will be further upgraded to become high-performance **gigabit networks**. A high-performance, reliable and secure infrastructure enables communication and data exchange, and ensures the attractiveness of the location and the competitiveness of Brandenburg companies. By 2025, it is planned to further boost the **broadband roll-out** and eliminate all so-called “white spots”, i.e. regions where bandwidth is limited to less than 30 Mbps. In particular where the private telecommunications market does not provide sufficient connection speeds, Brandenburg offers financial support. Under the federal broadband funding programme, the government of Brandenburg is supporting the **roll-out of future-proof fibre optic connections** (up to 1 Gbps) with several hundred million euros. This is particularly applicable to schools that are not yet connected. Schools located in areas that are already connected will also continue to receive support.

Parallel to the ongoing implementation process in the “white spots”, the roll-out to the so-called “grey spots” in Brandenburg is to be

prepared. In accordance with the framework regulations of the Federal Republic of Germany approved by the EU Commission, the current threshold is no longer applicable. This provides the legal framework conditions to enable a subsidised roll-out, wherever there are no fibre optic networks and none will be rolled out by the private sector in the near future. The details of this will be regulated by a new federal funding directive.

The comprehensive introduction of the faster and more secure **5G mobile network standard** – under the regulatory responsibility of the federal government – guarantees seamless coverage with access to the network for all Brandenburg citizens and companies. We see 5G as a driver of innovation for Brandenburg and as the basis for new networked concepts in the healthcare sector, public transport and agriculture. Numerous **5G innovation projects** in the state already use the technology, for example to simplify fighting forest fires, improve logistics in agriculture or optimise hospital care through more targeted data exchange. As the government, we will also initiate and co-finance such projects in future, in order to tackle key challenges in Brandenburg such as structural change or demographic development.

In this way, the government of Brandenburg supports the federal government in achieving the common goals of mobile network coverage, which also includes 5G technology. In the context of the federal government’s 5G innovation competition, an above-average number of project outlines for the development of specific 5G concepts were funded in Brandenburg, three of them in Lusatia and three others in other parts of the state. In 2020, a Brandenburg project already successfully obtained funding for the implementation phase, which will provide up to 4 million euros. A further five projects from Branden-



Ostprignitz-Ruppin: Empty conduits for fibre optic cables are inserted into a thick underground cable and subsequently fitted with fibre optic bundles. Brandenburg will continue to push ahead with the roll-out of fibre optics in the coming years.

burg were selected for further review of their applications. We will continue to support new projects by means of application workshops and specialist events. In 2022, the government drew up a strategy for the use of 5G technologies in Brandenburg, but especially in Lusatia and in the area surrounding Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER).

However, digital infrastructures and IT systems are also a constant target of cybercrime around the world. In order to protect us from attacks, various technical and organisational preventive measures are in place in Branden-

burg. Prevention also includes raising awareness among those potentially affected, for example by publicising possible patterns of attack. In order to **protect critical infrastructures**, we therefore develop targeted preventive and reactive measures in Brandenburg with regard to cyberattacks and for the protection of our IT systems. In doing so, we work closely with partners from the federal government and the federal states, for example the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) and the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI).

1.4 Digital technologies

Means and drivers of transformation

In addition to digital infrastructures, the development and **use of digital technologies** are at the heart of Brandenburg's digital transformation. Together with our universities and research institutes, we want to transfer new technologies and digital innovations to all economic and social sectors. Through targeted cooperation in the area of digital ecosystems, we also want to combine the attractiveness of the capital region with the potential of rural areas.

The use of **artificial intelligence (AI)** plays a vital role in addressing complex problems in key areas of the future, such as the areas of mobility, health, meteorology and agriculture. AI forms part of the development of new industries and business models, and it is becoming increasingly present in the everyday lives of many people, for example through intelligent voice assistants or navigation systems. However, through its use in social media, AI is also increasingly influencing public opinion and raising ethical questions.

As a consequence of these developments, an interministerial **AI state strategy for Brandenburg** is required. To this end, as a first step we will develop a strategic framework for AI by the end of 2022. It will form the basis for a comprehensive AI state strategy, which will be developed by the end of 2024 at the latest. Taking into account the AI strategy of the federal government, we want to examine in which selected focus areas we can develop AI-supported solutions for Brandenburg, and promote the corresponding projects in the state. In order to support this development across all ministries and to coordinate the AI projects of the Brandenburg government, we have set up an **Interministerial Working Group on Artificial Intelligence (IMAG AI)** under the leadership of the MWFK. The initial strategic approaches are provided by the "AI in Brandenburg" preliminary study completed by the MWFK in October 2021, and the study on the "Use of artificial intelligence in Brandenburg enterprises" prepared by the MWAE at the end of 2021. It was presented to the public in February 2022 and is now in the process of being implemented.

Info box 8:

"Precision farming" and Agriculture 4.0

Artificial intelligence can make a significant contribution to more sustainable land management by means of pattern recognition and the evaluation and preparation of forecasts and future models, for example in order to reduce the use of plant protection products (pesticides) and mineral fertilisers. In this area, the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy (ATB) in Potsdam addresses the topics of precision farming, digitalisation and Agriculture 4.0, which are researched on experimental sites and tested in practice in cooperation with agricultural partners. In the future, these topics will be expanded further within the framework of a Leibniz Innovation Farm and will be made available to agricultural institutions and businesses, which will thus benefit directly from modern digital developments.



BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg works together with non-university research institutions on topics such as Agriculture 4.0, digitalisation / Industry 4.0, life sciences and environmental sensor technology at the "Innovation Campus Electronics and Microsensorics Cottbus (iCampus)". One of the projects is the development of intelligent drones for agriculture. The aim is to be able to detect and combat diseases in crops or insect infestation at an early stage.

The IMAG AI will take into account the diversity, complexity and dynamics of AI applications. It must distinguish between non-critical fields of application with low risk potential and high-risk areas of application of AI. Unintended ethical and social consequences are to be expected, especially in AI systems that have the potential to violate individual basic rights or fundamental democratic values. Against this background, within the framework of the strategy process for the AI state strategy, we will examine options for intensive monitoring of the development and application of AI in Brandenburg, incorporating data protection, ethical and social aspects. To this end, we want to address the state-specific effects of the risk-adapted regulatory approaches at EU level, and the recommendations for action on the risk classification of AI drawn up within the framework of national commissions and standardisation processes. In doing so, we will also – and in particular – take into account the requirements of non-discrimination.

In addition, we are considering strategic ways of building up skills and developing a practice-oriented approach for the risk-adapted assessment of AI applications that are used by the state administration.

We want to consider central approaches for the promotion and utilisation of AI in Brandenburg based on the requirements of data protection and information security. This particularly applies to the testing of models for data sharing and experimental labs for AI applications in selected focal areas.

As the government of Brandenburg, we will also focus more on **open data** as the basis for many digital applications and **data-based approaches**. With the systematic preparation and provision of non-personal data, we not only strengthen transparency and trust in the state and administration, but also create the basis for innovative value chains and public-interest-oriented use by civil society.

Info box 9:

Requirements for digital projects – data protection and information security

For digitalisation projects of the government, there are strict legal requirements for data protection and information security, which must be implemented in a binding manner. They have a decisive influence on the success of digitalisation measures. For all projects, particular attention must be paid specifically to:

- effective methods for anonymisation and pseudonymisation of personal data
- encryption methods for the protection of data
- transparent, understandable, user-friendly design for the respective target groups
- technology design in line with data protection requirements (early implementation of technical and organisational measures during planning and design of digitalisation projects)
- specification of data protection compliant default settings and functionalities (data protection by design)
- efficiently structured data organisation with clear responsibilities and efficient workflows
- description, assessment and reduction of risks (through risk analysis, security concepts and data protection impact assessments) and preventive impact limitation

Therefore, we are planning a statutory open data regulation, which defines the framework conditions for the provision of administrative data. The basis for this is the development of a **data strategy**, in which we set out the key points for the statutory open data regulation. In addition, existing distributed geodata (geospatial data) is described by metadata through a high-performance **geodata infrastructure** and made usable via geodata services, network services and network technologies.

The open availability of digital data is also highly relevant for strengthening national and international cooperation between universities and the extensive usage of research results. The implementation of our **open-access strategy** as well as the establishment of the Open Access Brandenburg networking and competence centre and a publication fund all make an important contribution to this. In the spirit of open science and improving the visibility of research achievements, the Brandenburg universities aim to

establish open access (OA) as the standard for publication. In autumn 2021, the development of a research data strategy for Brandenburg was initiated based on national standards, for the introduction and further development of **research data management systems**. In order to continue supporting digitalisation processes and the associated knowledge exchange across universities, existing cooperation structures such as the **Zentrum der Brandenburgischen Hochschulen für Digitale Transformation (Centre of the Brandenburg Universities for Digital Transformation, ZDT)** will also be expanded and further developed. With the help of the ZDT, the universities will work together on topics such as information security and data security, as well as innovative technical solutions for digital teaching and research.

In order to promote and develop digital technologies in Brandenburg, we as the government aim to identify possible **cooperation and networking potential** within and be-



tween the sectors, to transfer knowledge and skills, and to develop joint ideas as well as innovation potentials across all technologies and sectors. To this end, the “innoBB 2025” innovation strategy of Berlin and Brandenburg and the “innoBB 2025 plus” regional innovation strategy for Brandenburg serve as umbrella strategies. Within the framework of innoBB 2025, test fields and livings labs will receive even better support with implementation and finding partners, for example through the continuous monitoring of projects, the mediation of existing funding possibilities, the networking of stakeholders and further offers. With the continuation of the innovation strategy, digitalisation has become one of the key topics for economic and technological development. The capital region is currently developing into one of the leading locations in Europe for the digital economy. This results in enormous potential for further interstate and cross-sector development opportunities – for established companies as well as start-ups.

Among other things, the exchange between science and the economy is promoted within the framework of the joint federal/state **Scheme for the Improvement of Regional Economic Structures (GRW)** through the implementation of GRW innovation clusters. The aim of these innovation clusters is to boost innovation projects between science and the economy as well as the transfer of knowledge between research institutions and the economy – primarily small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) – by jointly building up technical infrastructures, thus permanently increasing the innovation and competitiveness of enterprises. In 2018, for example, a GRW innovation cluster was funded at the Potsdam Babelsberg site, involving the groundbreaking technical construction and operation of a studio infrastructure in the field of virtual reality (VR). In addition, support was provided for further development of autonomous driving in Brandenburg in 2020 through funding for the GRW “Innovationscluster Autonome Systeme” (Innovation Cluster Autonomous Systems, ICAS).

The **research institutions and universities in Brandenburg, which are involved in numerous networks**, are key drivers of digital innovations and important partners for the economy, administration and civil society. The local presences of the universities play a central role here. They serve as local contact, coordination, networking and information points for companies, potential founders of start-ups, prospective students, current students and school pupils. They provide access to the universities and research institutions in regions without higher education campuses. The local presences also support and monitor **start-up activities** and offer events on topics relevant to founding new businesses. In addition, the local presences implement digital event formats, such as online information events for companies or digital advice days for prospective students, e.g. on the topic of dual work-study programmes.

For **knowledge and technology transfer**, we are creating further incentives to bring together universities, non-university research institutions, companies and civil society as well as public institutions of the state and municipalities. In doing so, existing skills will be networked and cooperation between science and the economy will be expanded. Application-oriented research at universities and non-university research institutions in Brandenburg is supported by measures such as the **StaF programme funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)**. StaF stands for “strengthening technological and application-oriented research at scientific institutions in Brandenburg”. In five funding rounds, 69 research projects were supported with a total of 38.3 million euros from the ERDF during the period from 2014 to 2020. The “StaF-Richtlinie” (StaF Directive) is being continued as the “StaF-Verbund” (StaF Network) for the 2021-2027 ERDF funding period. In particular, this is intended to support applied research projects that are carried out by networks of universities and non-university research institutions.

The application and communication of findings from science and research as well as advice based on scientific findings form the three dimensions of the **Transfer Strategy** of Brandenburg from 2017. In all three dimensions, digitalisation contributes to promoting the exchange between science, the economy and society. On this basis, a digital cooperation platform for stakeholders from science, the economy and society is currently being developed within the framework of the “Innovation Hub 13” collaborative project of Wilddau Technical University of Applied Sciences and Brandenburg University of Technology (BTU) Cottbus-Senftenberg. As the digital twin of the Innovation Hub 13 transfer project, the modular platform will go beyond the mere initiation of cooperations: it will network existing research infrastructures across laboratory and institutional boundaries, make existing technologies, services and infrastructures visible, and also render them tangible through application cases.

Citizen science – the participation of citizens in research projects – not only serves the transfer between science and society here, but also the practical implementation of the concept of openness.



At the Innovation Campus Electronics and Microsensorics Cottbus (iCampus), a device is being developed that can measure respiration and heartbeat on a contactless basis. Via a secure data interface to the attending physician, this will later allow people in rural areas to also be monitored and provided with medical care, even if the medical practice is far away.

Info box 10:

Testing telemedicine applications

At the Innovation Campus Electronics and Microsensorics Cottbus/Chóšebuz (iCampus), Fraunhofer and Leibniz institutions work together with BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg and regional SMEs on novel microsensor applications, including in the field of digital measuring systems in telemedicine as well as communication and sensor modules. In the future, the Carl-Thiem-Klinikum hospital in Cottbus will also participate as a partner, in order to transfer microsensor telemedicine applications into daily clinical practice.



2. Action package for the digital transformation

2.1 Digital life

Doing a quick shop online via smartphone, planning trips, arranging meetings with friends, booking an appointment at the municipal offices, working from home or researching information on websites with unrestricted accessibility – this and much more is all part of **everyday digital life** for most people in Brandenburg.

We want to empower and mobilise the citizens of Brandenburg to jointly shape and participate in this digital change. As the government, we create the necessary conditions for this. The **Digital life** level addresses these aspects and focuses on the effect of digitalisation on the individual and the practical everyday life of the people of Brandenburg. The basic requirements for participation in digital life include digital skills, modern and high-performance infrastructures and end devices as well as unrestricted access to digital services and offers. We bear in mind the **individual requirements of people** and their different needs here. The coalition agreement and the Strategy Paper identify participation, accessibility as well as consumer and data protection as central goals for Brandenburg across all policy areas. With the Digital Programme 2025, we are working towards these goals. **Digital accessibility** is an important cross-cutting issue, which is taken into account in all the projects of the Digital Programme in the various action packages, and is a core element of digitalisation oriented towards people.

Image on the left: The further roll-out of the fibre optic networks also plays an important role in providing very fast connections in Brandenburg.


Action package I:

Ensure digital skills in all phases of life

Appropriate digital skills are the essential basis for full participation in digital life. Therefore, we ensure that all citizens of our federal state have individual access and offers for acquiring digital skills. This includes not only schools and universities, but also further education and social institutions as well as targeted support for specific social groups.

Digitalisation and mediatisation are becoming increasingly relevant for teaching and learning at school as well as for the future handling and shaping of life and work processes for children, teens and young adults. To this end, we must improve the quality of teaching and learning processes, for example by integrating digital teaching and learning processes well, linking them with analogue formats and specifically strengthening digital skills. The aim is to promote sovereignty in the **critically-reflected handling of digital media**. The core curriculum of media education in the framework syllabus for grades 1 to 10 in Berlin-Brandenburg is an important basis for this. The supplementary recommendation on the “Education in the Digital World” strategy by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (Kultusministerkonferenz) forms the nationwide framework.

The further development and acquisition of **coping skills in the digital world** are a cross-cutting task of subject-specific and general learning, which begins even before



primary school. Digital instruments such as the “Individuelle Lernstandsanalysen online” (Individual Learning Assessment, ILeA plus) or the “Digitale Lernausgangslage” (Digital Learning Starting Point, Digi LaL) help teachers to determine the skills development of school pupils in the subjects of mathematics, German, English and French, in order to provide individual support measures on an even more targeted basis, as required.

The **educational institutions in Brandenburg** are also key stakeholders in a changing digital society and help to guarantee access to the acquisition of digital skills. In this context, extracurricular education offers play an important role, and learning processes outside institutions (e.g. in the family, in the social circle, etc.) should also be taken into consideration. Their equipment with infrastructure and end devices as well as the targeted and age-appropriate digital and media skills they convey help citizens to critically reflect on their own usage behaviour and to use digital media and applications in a targeted manner. The aim is to promote learning

from childhood onwards, in order to become fit for digital living environments at a young age. This should also ensure protection as early as possible, for example against digital violence.

Media education work by independent youth media protection organisations is indispensable for protection against digital violence. The Aktion Kinder- und Jugendschutz Brandenburg e.V. (AKJS) child welfare association sees itself as the specialist organisation for the protection of children and teens in Brandenburg, and in this role is dedicated to the realisation of **children’s rights to protection, empowerment and participation in the digital space**. Through further education and training for education professionals, along with specialist conferences and parental work, AKJS provides up-to-date information and raises awareness for the digital living environment. An example of this work is the “Frühkindliche Medienbildung” (Early Childhood Media Education) project, in which a digital brochure was created for leaders of kindergarten facilities. It helps to prepare chil-

Project box 1:

Training for professionals, equipping childcare facilities with digital devices

In 2022, the MBJS is supporting early childhood media education in Brandenburg with funding from the federal Gute-KiTa-Gesetz (Act on Good Early Childhood Education and Care). Public and private operators of kindergartens and day-care centres can apply for funding for further education in the field of media education and digitalisation. Free offers for educational professionals on the topics of “Media & Childhood” are also financed. Additionally, there is funding for equipping early childhood educational institutions with digital devices in order to strengthen media education on the active participation in digital information and further training offers, to enable digital parental representation and facilitate the performance of administrative tasks.

Project #1

Milestones: Kick-off event; ongoing further education and procurement of digital devices as required in 2022

Ministry responsible: MBJS

Target date: by the end of 2022

Project box 2:

Improve the digitalisation skills of girls and women

Digitalisation is a key focus of the “Gleichstellungspolitisches Rahmenprogramm 2020 – 2025 für das Land Brandenburg” (Gender Equality Framework Programme 2020 – 2025 for Brandenburg, GPR III). We therefore support various projects by girls’ and women’s rights organisations and girls’ clubs, which aim to eliminate gender-specific differences in the use of digital technologies. This also includes attracting more girls and women to programming and getting them interested in the related IT professions. In addition, the target groups in the projects should develop their skills for dealing with social media and be made aware of the dangers of gender-specific digital violence (cyberbullying, cybergrooming, cyberstalking).

Project #2

Ministry responsible: MSGIV

Milestones: Inclusion of the funding criterion in the memorandum on funding projects in the field of girls’ empowerment, on implementing the objectives of the Gender Equality Framework Programme for Brandenburg and on strengthening the work of women’s centres for the 2022 fiscal year

Target date: by 2025

dren early on for a self-determined life in our digital society. In order to also support parents in dealing with media education, the “Eltern-Medien-Beratung” (Parental Media Advice) project offers information and advice about children growing up with media at parent events and in online seminars for parents (www.eltern-medien-beratung.de).

Digitalisation and mediatisation are becoming increasingly relevant for **teaching and learning** as well as for the handling and shaping of life and work processes. Therefore, we improve the quality of teaching and learning processes through the use of digitalisation, for example by linking digital teaching and learning formats with analogue formats, integrating them into everyday educational activities and using them sensibly to realise high-quality teaching and learning processes. The use

of digital instruments, learning platforms and media is intended to meet the diverse needs in education and to provide greater flexibility and easier access to vocational training for a wide range of target groups. The “Medienkompetenz stärkt Brandenburg” (Media Competence Strengthens Brandenburg) framework agreement between the Medienanstalt Berlin-Brandenburg (mabb) regional media authority for Berlin and Brandenburg and the MBSJ supports offers and initiatives that enable citizens to participate actively and sustainably in the knowledge and information society, to identify opportunities and to assess risks. An intersectional approach is followed in order to accommodate the variety of media participation processes and diversity within the media landscape. A particular focus is on strengthening news and information skills in the knowledge society.



Project box 3:

School Cloud Brandenburg

The core idea behind the School Cloud Brandenburg is to make educational content accessible anywhere via the web. This makes it much easier to use such content in the classroom as well as in extracurricular learning and at home. For example, through the use of cloud technology, documents for teaching can be made available at any time or place and on any end device; they can be created jointly, exchanged and stored securely, and learning content from different providers can be used on the internet in accordance with data protection requirements. At the technical level, the School Cloud Brandenburg provides a data protection-compliant, digital teaching and learning environment for school teaching, which can be used across all school forms. In Brandenburg, more than 700 schools as well as all the teacher training colleges (second phase of teacher training) are already connected to the School Cloud Brandenburg.

Project #3

Ministry responsible: MBJS

Milestones: Trial operation and further development from 2021 in partnership with Lower Saxony and Thuringia

Target date: by 2025

Project box 4:

Mobile offers for media education work

On the basis of the framework agreement between the MBJS and the Landesfachverband Medienbildung Brandenburg e.V. (lmb) regarding cooperation between schools and extracurricular media education partners, media education network structures in Brandenburg are continuously being established and expanded (Jugendinformations- und Medienzentren - JIM). The “jumblr - Jugendmedienbildung im ländlichen Raum” (Youth Media Education in Rural Areas) programme has also been established in order to create new supporting network structures. With this programme, we support the further development of the expertise of socio-educational and educational professionals in the context of media education.

Project #5

Ministry responsible: MBJS

Milestones: For the current funding period of 2022:
Extension of the JIM network to approx. 30 institutions; further training of up to 100 educators in different pedagogical settings within the framework of the “jumblr” programme; coaching and practical support of up to 30 educators within the framework of “jumblr”

Target date: ongoing

A central measure, which has been developed and piloted for this purpose since 2016 in cooperation with the Hasso Plattner Institute (HPI), is the **School Cloud Brandenburg**, a digital learning environment for teachers and school pupils. Until July 2021, the federal states of Brandenburg, Thuringia and Lower Saxony independently tested the School Cloud on three state instances, each based on the same application architecture. In August 2021, the School Cloud was put into trial operation on the basis of an administrative agreement between the three participating states. As an interstate teaching and learning infrastructure, it takes into account state-specific requirements and is being jointly developed by the three states. There are plans to offer the possibility of distributing educational media (both open educational resources as well as commercial offers) in consultation with the school authorities in future. Since June 2022, the School Cloud Brandenburg has been connected to the SODIX MUNDO nationwide educational media infrastructure.

For us, the **accessibility of educational opportunities** is a key factor in ensuring skills development within the framework of lifelong learning and equal opportunities. Therefore, through the use of digital teaching and learning scenarios, we want to offer a wide range of target groups educational opportunities at any time and place, and simultaneously prepare them in the best possible way for the digitalised working and living environment.


The success of digital education depends on **well-trained and technically adept teachers and professionals** who are up to date with the latest technological developments. Particularly important here are qualified teaching and specialist staff who appropriately shape education processes with digital media, develop useful digital learning environments in line with pedagogical, subject-specific and didactic educational goals, and who have access to an infrastructure that is conducive to learning. As the government, we therefore strategically align teacher train-

ing with the challenges and opportunities of the digital world. To this end, in cooperation with educational institutions and universities, we will specifically train teachers, specialists and managers to provide digital teaching and handle media, and integrate digitalisation-related skills into teacher training.

All target group-specific training offers are already based on the European Digital Competence Framework for Educators (DigCompEdu), with the aim of ensuring that all teachers in the state reach the minimum level of B2 by 2024.

Thus, in addition to more technically-oriented and more general media education offerings, further education programmes are also increasingly planned that take the topic of digitalisation and "teaching and learning with digital media" into greater consideration as a cross-cutting issue for the development of teaching. This also includes strengthening training within schools (microlearning) as well as cooperation with external (regional) educational institutions (e.g. cooperation with the Volkshochschulverband Brandenburg umbrella organisation for adult education centres). In addition, blended learning formats will be developed to supplement traditional educational events, self-learning courses will be established, and online educational events and specialist conferences will be planned. Shaping teaching with full accessibility is ensured here through the use of teaching materials, learning platforms and software with unrestricted accessibility.

In the long term, as part of this approach, the existing group of school consultants with a focus on media education will be extended to include a group of school consultants with an explicit focus on digitalisation. In order to implement digital further education and training offers, a high-performance further education platform was made available in the 2021/2022 school year at Lernen.cloud. Achieving long-term state-wide standardisation regarding the development of digital skills of teachers requires cooperation between those involved



in all phases of the initial training, further education and in-service training of teachers. Under this cooperation, a skills model with regional considerations is to be developed, as are quality standards for further education related to digital skills.

The **universities** are also key stakeholders in the digitalisation of the education sector and are responsible for training academic professionals for an increasingly digital world. Through the well-considered use of **digital teaching and learning scenarios**, the Brandenburg universities can convey the required digital skills in a goal-oriented manner. Using digital formats, learning can also be even better tailored to the specific learning conditions, speeds and prerequisites of the students. This will ensure individual, time, lo-

cation and didactic flexibility for students and teachers, and will extend access to academic education for those entitled to study who have not yet been afforded the opportunity. However, it's not only the learning content that is becoming digital, but also the learning environment: with the planned **digitalisation of the student residence administration, catering and advisory services**, student unions will meet the demands of students for digital studies and contribute to a smooth process.

In the context of lifelong learning, **further training** is of particular importance in a person's educational biography, and thus in the entire education system. Here too, digital instruments contribute to better target-group orientation and broader impact. That is why

Project box 5:

Digitalisation at the Brandenburg student unions

With their digitalisation strategies, the student unions have set out to gradually develop an overall package of user-friendly, fully accessible and sustainable digital services for students by 2030. To this end, the student unions will create a networked IT administration architecture with financial support from the state, without any media discontinuity. In specific terms, the digital service offers of the student unions mean easier everyday life for students, for example through digital student residence administration with a digitally accessible rental file, a digital check-in option upon moving in and an online rental contract, a cafeteria app with menus available in real time and an online ordering function, and supplementary digital advisory services as well as electronic application procedures.

Project #6

Ministry responsible: MWFK

Milestones: Support with establishing digital advisory services and expanding the digital administration infrastructure of the student unions

Target date: gradually by 2030

Project box 6:

Training digital skills at the DigitalCampus Brandenburg

At the DigitalCampus Brandenburg, a web-based teaching and learning platform, authorised independent further training organisations provide offers such as online seminars or digital learning modules as an extension of face-to-face courses. In addition, advice and further education for the professionals at these organisations forms part of the project. The Brandenburg Volkshochschulen (adult education centres) already use the nationwide vhs.cloud platform. In individual model projects, further education offers on digitalisation are also developed for course leaders and staff of the further training institutions, and support is provided for the organisational development and quality assurance of the further training institutions with regard to digitalisation.

Project #7

Ministry responsible: MBJS


Milestone 2022: Certificate course in “Course creator for adult education”

Target date: ongoing

we provide targeted support offers to different social groups in order to convey and enhance digital skills.

In accordance with the Brandenburg state law on further training (BbgWBG), educational offers for digital skills development for adults can be made as part of the basic services for further training. They then receive proportional funding from Brandenburg. As a matter of principle, the educational offering categorised as basic services is open to all interested adults. It is diverse, and ranges from courses for handling digital devices and creating digital media or software training, to further training offers for assessing online sources (“dealing with fake news”), right through to events on the use of digital instruments for civic participation. The content of the basic services is determined on a regional basis by the respective district/self-governing city, as required. As providers of basic services, the 20 adult education centres in Brandenburg (Volkshochschulen, vhs) along with the recognised privately-run further training institutions therefore coordinate the education programme in the regional further training advisory boards.

Model projects have already been receiving support since 2017, for example for the development of media education offerings and digital formats for further training. Curricula and methods developed and tested in this context should now to be made accessible throughout the state to the adult education centres and the privately-run further training organisations recognised under the state law on further training, and permanently established as eligible for regular funding. This includes various model projects for digital skills development and strengthening digital sovereignty for senior citizens. For example, in the “DigiTrans – Die digitale Transformation in der Bildung Älterer aktiv gestalten” (DigiTrans - Actively shaping the digital transformation of the training of older people) project, new learning offers are developed and digital methods and tools for further training for older people are tested, with the help of senior citizens. The tutorials and guides for digital adult education work that are created during the project are published online. In 2021 and 2022, a total of 160,000 euros are earmarked in the state budget for funding this project.



In order to enable access to new forms of further training as a matter of principle, there is a need for **specific skills development** regarding the different target groups of these offers. Through low-threshold learning locations in familiar environments (such as meeting places for senior citizens), we will support skills development and thus meet an important prerequisite for the participation of senior citizens in an increasingly digital society. For this purpose, the employees of these learning locations will also be trained accordingly, so that they can be used as multipliers. The “Digital FIT für Seniorenbeiräte” (Digitally FIT for Senior Citizens’ Advisory Boards) project is an offer that familiarises the approximately 170 representative bodies for older people at the municipal level with digital tools, and at the same time uses a peer approach to convince other senior citizens of the possibilities offered by the digital world.

The need for continuous further training is also increasing in the **digital working society**. Cross-cutting skills such as interdiscipli-

nary thinking and action, process know-how, the ability to abstract and solve problems as well as leadership skills are becoming increasingly important for shaping change processes and equal participation. The **Regionales Zukunftszentrum Brandenburg** (Regional Future Centre Brandenburg) has already been set up to convey these skills. It provides contacts and information, in particular on matters relating to leadership, communication, work organisation and change management. We therefore intend to continue the **funding for the Regional Future Centre** with federal, European Social Fund and state funding beyond 2022. In doing so, the (initial) training and recruitment of personnel and professionals is a key strategic focus of our state policy. For the training of specialists, it is therefore necessary to supplement **dual work-study programmes** for students and companies/institutions with digital instruments and methods in order to boost accessibility even in regions without higher education campuses and to increase flexibility on all sides. In addition, we support vocational and

Project box 7:

Network for digital qualification and cooperation network in child and youth welfare – Netquali-BB

Personnel development is central to securing the commitment of specialist staff. It is achieved primarily through further education and training as well as vocational qualification. Netquali-BB is a web-based cooperation and qualification network that is aimed at organisations and educational institutions, the child and youth welfare professionals themselves and also the wider expert community. With its conceptual orientation, the portal makes an important contribution to the quality development – at any time or place – of the further education of socio-educational professionals in the field of child and youth welfare in Brandenburg. Beginners and long-term professionals alike benefit from high-quality and easily accessible information and qualification offers.

Project #8

Ministry responsible: MBJS

Milestones: Expansion of cooperation partners, the media library, seminar and media offerings.

Target date: ongoing



Cross-cutting skills such as interdisciplinary thinking and action as well as problem-solving skills are part of the training in dual work-study programmes, which also include working with more complex digital instruments.

in-company further training in the form of a wide range of state and federal programmes, including the state's ESF further training directive, in order to convey the required skills, particularly for shaping the digital transformation. This is also reflected in Brandenburg's new professionals and personnel strategy, which was published in March 2022. Shaping digitalisation in the working environment is taken into consideration as a cross-cutting issue here.

For **Action package I: Ensure digital skills in all phases of life**, additional key projects are contained in the following ministry strategies:

- **Ministry of Science, Research and Culture (MWFK)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg

- **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBSJ)**
Strategic goals of the MBSJ – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports
- **Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection (MSGIV)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025
- **Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy (MWAE)**
Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg



Action package II:

Enable participation in and through digitalisation

All citizens of Brandenburg should be able to actively participate in political, cultural and social life. The individual needs in the everyday life of each person must be taken into account here. As such, one of our main concerns is to focus on the availability and quality of access to digital offers. By ensuring this access for all user groups while taking into account a wide range of specific requirements, we enable digital **participation and inclusion for all population groups in Brandenburg**.

The internet and digital applications must be accessible to all citizens of Brandenburg without any problems. **Digital accessibility as an aspect of digital participation** reduces barriers across all policy areas and target groups and enables this access. Public websites and digital applications with unrestricted access allow people with disabilities to make use of and operate them in the usual way and without outside help, as a matter of principle. Our goal is people-centred digitalisation, so the development of public websites and applications must always include the specific requirements of all user groups in order to achieve universal accessibility. Noteworthy examples include unrestricted access to citizen-centred services and administrative offers as well as platforms such as the **School Cloud Brandenburg**. Ideally, this is based on certified programmes and systems that meet European and international standards for fully accessible IT systems. These standards should also be observed in the development and procurement of digital systems, and in addition, usability in the Lower Sorbian language should be taken into account in order to safeguard minority rights. Likewise, special offers for formats that convey skills to older people and those with disabilities will also be provided by libraries in Brandenburg. We will

steadily reduce language barriers by increasingly providing multilingual information.

In addition, we will implement measures that go beyond the legal obligations of full accessibility, for example by providing websites in “simple and plain language” and in German sign language, thus strengthening empowerment for digital participation. In particular, we want to lay the foundations so that by the year 2025, all public authorities in Brandenburg will be able to provide the content on their home pages in German sign language and in simple language – also in mobile applications. In addition, IT-supported offerings and applications should have the lowest degree of complexity possible in order to simplify access and usage.

We will also create user-friendly services for senior citizens in order to enable them to participate in the digital society on a low-threshold basis. This transfers the previous approach to promoting a self-determined, independent and varied life in old age in Brandenburg into the digital environment. On this basis, it is important to strengthen the **digital sovereignty of elderly people** by means of equally diverse approaches to conveying skills locally. If these approaches are linked to familiar structures, the barriers to access are particularly low. If we take into account the topics relevant to the living environment of senior citizens here, such as remaining independent in their own home for as long as possible or obtaining support with their mobility up to a ripe old age, the personal benefit is all the greater. In particular, digital assistance systems in the home environment offer new possibilities for continuing to cope well with everyday life, even when the need for help arises. Especially for the many older people living in the more rural regions of Brandenburg, such **digital support solutions** offer enormous potential to enable good and self-determined ageing in the countryside.

For people with disabilities, an **accessible working environment** is a prerequisite for

Project box 8:

Digital accessibility

The central element – and at the same time the cross-cutting objective – of the digital transformation is to ensure digital accessibility in all established and new digital applications. Access to along with self-determined, safe and responsible acquisition and use of digital applications and technologies must be ensured for all user groups. The goal of people-centred digitalisation applies equally to information, administration, educational and advisory services. Equal participation is thus ensured across all policy areas and ministries. Open source software (OSS) has priority when implementing digital accessibility.

Project #9

Ministry responsible: all

Milestones: Review of the websites of all state ministries regarding digital accessibility by 2025 by the monitoring body for digital accessibility in the State Office for Social Affairs and Care (LASV)


Target date: ongoing

participation in professional life. What has already been taken into account in equipping workplaces and the working environment to date will also be applied to digital work tools in the future. It is essential here to ensure that digitalisation is tailored to individual requirements. Improperly conceptualised or only partially implemented digitalisation may in fact be counter-productive and rather more likely to create barriers. For example, scanned documents are digitalised in the very simplest sense. However, they can often no longer be read out aloud by digital assistance systems, and can therefore further exclude persons with disabilities.

An essential building block for ensuring digital accessibility is its consideration in IT projects and in IT procurement – right from the start. Accessibility must therefore be demanded in invitations to tender, and it must be taken into account in in-house developments. Therefore, ensuring digital accessibility will become a mandatory requirement in all specifications for the public procurement of IT solutions in the future.

Especially in a large state such as Brandenburg, where there are long distances to travel in some cases, access to the aid structures is significantly improved by means of a **digital advisory service**. Through the establishment of **digital advisory structures** throughout Brandenburg, we ensure prompt and location-independent advice. This requires qualified specialist personnel and the opportunity for digital networking with other professional groups. Accordingly, employees must have access to further education offers and networking opportunities, and they must be equipped with appropriate information technology.

Within the framework of the implementation of the Online Access Act (OZG), an infrastructure for digital addiction counselling is to be implemented that can be used across different help organisations. This will be embedded in a nationwide platform, on which further social services will also be offered in digital form. The implementation of **digital addiction counselling** is based on the concept of a joint digital counselling platform for municipal addiction counselling by different help organi-



sations, which was developed with funding by the Federal Ministry of Health in cooperation with addiction counselling experts.

With the start of the COVID-19 pandemic at the latest, the advantages of and the necessity for digital possibilities have also become apparent in the area of protection against violence for women. In future, the **digital infrastructure for the protection of women** should increasingly include digital counselling and support for women affected by violence, offered by the women's shelters and specialist counselling centres, including digital interlingual communication. In addition, as part of the work related to domestic violence offenders, we will create offers for digital prevention work. Within the available budget resources, we want to facilitate digital further education and networking for professionals by co-financing the nationwide interdisciplinary online course "Schutz und Hilfe bei häuslicher Gewalt" (Protection and help in the event of domestic violence). The web-based further education programme on the issue of violence in couples is aimed specifically at protection and support professionals in specialised institutions and services, such as child and youth welfare, women's shelters, police and others involved in intervention and assistance.

Throughout the state, we will expand digital data collection on gender-based violence, domestic violence and human trafficking. The collation of data from different sources will be digitalised, linked and simplified. Data monitoring can enable measures to be managed even more effectively in the future. The aim is for support, protection and counselling to really reach those who are affected. The project is part of the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on **preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence**, known as the Istanbul Convention, and the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. The monitoring will be conceptualised and established in close cooperation with many nationwide stakeholders and in-

stitutions as well as with the federal government and the federal states. We will expand the digital advisory services for LGBTQI people, especially regarding hate crime.

Online offers are required for **implementation of the Prostitute Protection Act (ProstSchG)**, which facilitate the registration of prostitution activities and operators. Prostitutes can also be informed about this in a low-threshold and multilingual manner, for example about career change offers.

Ensuring opportunities for participation is closely linked to active education and **knowledge transfer**. In order to **protect consumers** effectively, we therefore pursue an **active consumer policy**. New technologies and new digital business models are constantly emerging as part of the digital transformation. These offer opportunities, but they also impose new requirements on users, for example regarding the handling of personal data. In order to be able to deal with new offers autonomously and with low risk, we support consumers to become competent at handling their data as well as digital processes.

To ensure that competent consumer advice can be offered by the Verbraucherzentrale Brandenburg consumer advice centre, even in rural regions, the Digimobil I mobile unit was established for mobile consumer advice in the north of the state. In this special vehicle, consumers can connect to advisers at the consumer advice centre via video chat using state-of-the-art technology. From 2022 onwards, this offer has been expanded. The MSGIV has provided 150,000 euros in funding to purchase the Digimobil II and covers the ongoing operational costs as part of the institutional support for the Brandenburg consumer advice centre. This means that another Digimobil mobile unit is in operation for citizens in the south of the state.

To strengthen digital consumer skills, it is necessary to promote skills across the entire educational biography in order to minimise any usage risks. The aim is to boost **target and**

Project box 9:

Smart surfing

The “Smart surfing” project promotes digital consumer skills among older consumers and other consumer groups regarding digital topics. In nine modules, topics such as communication, entertainment, data security, online shopping and also ethics on the internet are presented to the target groups. The project kicks off with the target group of senior citizens. In the following years, the project scope will also be extended to other target groups, such as people with a migrant background and people with disabilities.

Project #12


Ministry responsible: MSGIV

Milestones: Training of multipliers for the target group of senior citizens as well as a detailed concept for other target groups by the end of the second quarter of 2022; establishing and maintaining networks

Target date: by 2024



The “Smart surfing” project aims to promote the digital consumer competence of senior citizens.



age group-specific information, advisory and educational offers with a focus on the digital space (see also Action package I). Empowering autonomous handling of personal data and resilience to cybercrime are the focus of the target setting, so that consumers can safely navigate the digital world. The prerequisite for this is the **safeguarding, further development and enforcement of consumer rights in the digital area**, particularly with regard to data protection and data security as well as the transparent use of algorithms and AI. In particular, the enforcement of consumer rights in the context of automated decision-making systems represents a key political challenge, and at the same time an important field of research in AI application research. In order to safeguard and further develop consumer rights in the digital area, the findings of consumer organisations are evaluated to counter any potential threats posed by digital processes and new business models. Especially the protection of consumers against cybercrime and fraudulent structures on the internet plays a central role for us. As part of the further development of the consumer policy strategy, we will set additional targets for the protection of consumers in the digital world.

We also involve our citizens in processes, not only by providing information and services, but also in the sense of **electronic participation (e-participation)**, for example in the legislative or participation processes of the administration. The diverse interests of people with a migrant background must also be taken into account when enabling digital participation, so that everyone can benefit from the projects set out in the Digital Programme. For example, multilingualism in digital services can help to eliminate obstacles to access due to language barriers. In addition, WiFi throughout communal accommodation is important for refugees with regard to the opportunities for participation of the people housed there, for example.

For **Action package II: Enable participation in and through digitalisation**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies. However, due to its highly interdisciplinary nature across multiple policy fields, points of intersection can be found in all ministry strategies.

— **Ministry of Science, Research and Culture (MWFK)**

Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg

— **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBSJ)**

Strategic goals of the MBSJ – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports

— **Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection (MSGIV)**

Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025

2.2 Digital society

Within the framework of the collective community, the **digital society**, access to digital offers is created in the most diverse areas of society. Digital transformation not only changes the way we live and work here, but it also opens up new scope and innovations in the area of public services, such as in mobility, health and education. All these fields of action are permeated by the digital transformation and are changed profoundly. However, additional key social topics must also be consciously developed further with a focus on issues relevant to digitalisation. Work structures, spaces and processes are particularly influenced by digitalisation. This can be accompanied by flexibility and individualisation, but also by elimination of boundaries. As the government, we want to support and steer the further development of all these fields of action in the best possible way, through cleverly deployed and needs-based digitalisation measures.

Action package III:

Strengthen public services through digital offers

Public services are the central element for creating equal living conditions as well as a high quality of life in rural and urban areas. Digital applications and processes play a major role in ensuring the provision of public services and, especially in rural areas, they have the potential to reshape offers and communication between the state and citizens. For us as the government, stable healthcare and mobility services as well as the accessibility of educational opportunities for all population groups as key areas of public services are therefore indispensable for maintaining and further developing the attractiveness of rural areas.

However, ensuring the availability of **medical care** in particular is becoming an increasingly challenging task, especially in very rural regions or those that are structurally weak primarily due to demographic processes. Declining population numbers and the concurrent growing proportion of older and chronically ill people in society lead to greater organisational time and effort and increased costs for healthcare in such regions. By means of digitalised and networked offers and processes, we ensure greater efficiency in healthcare, more widespread offers, innovative treatment methods and ultimately better care for patients across the board. In doing so, we use the expertise of the many different stakeholders to shape the healthcare sector as a whole.

In this context, the local health departments have assumed a central role, not least during the COVID-19 pandemic. The aim is to sustainably strengthen the administrative and daily work processes at the local health departments by means of technical and process modernisation measures, so that they can efficiently fulfil their core tasks of protecting and promoting the health of the population of Brandenburg. In order to **promote the digital transformation of the local health departments** and to connect them to interoperable reporting and information systems, Brandenburg works closely with various stakeholders at federal, state, rural and urban district level on developing joint measures. For example, Brandenburg has provided its local health departments with an electronic notification portal, which can be used to implement the institution-related compulsory vaccination against COVID-19 for employees in healthcare and nursing care. By digitally modernising the public health service, we also ensure cooperation across different levels of administration, thereby strengthening the health sector.

Info box 11:

Public services in the digital world

The provision of public services is being shaped by various changes, such as climate change, demographic change, digitalisation and the transformation towards smart cities and regions. The interactions between digital change and public services are also ubiquitous in practice among municipalities and other public service stakeholders in Brandenburg: existing service areas – such as health, education and mobility – are changing as digital processes develop and new digital services and public services tasks arise. Some services will be able to be fully digitalised, but others will not.

This will bring about changes for all stakeholders involved in public services, including:

- organisational changes, such as new opportunities for cooperation, especially in the interplay between management and provision of public services,
- legal changes, such as requirements for the regulation of organisational and spatial location as well as the accessibility of services and matters of data use and data sovereignty,
- technical changes, such as the increasing interconnection of network infrastructures, execution infrastructures, applications and data.

The majority of public services will develop into hybrid services with digital as well as analogue components. At the same time, digitalisation enables future services to be developed and shaped based on highly individual usage perspectives. Digital public services are supported by the design principles of sustainability, impact orientation, sovereignty and resilience in the provision and use of public services offers. This development can have a positive impact on the quality of life in Brandenburg.

With the expansion of digital infrastructures, we are creating the necessary conditions for utilising the digital possibilities in the fields of **telemedicine and telematics**. To this end, we promote innovative ideas and solutions, and above all, the commitment of all stakeholders in the health sector.

As important innovators in new medical processes, for example in the field of high-tech medicine, hospitals are key stakeholders in the health sector. At the same time, they form part of the critical infrastructures and must be secured by means of resilient and robust systems, structures and processes. The **Hospital Future Act (Krankenhauszukunftsgesetz, KHZG)** is intended to promote projects to improve structures in hospital care. Funding through the Hospital Future Fund (Krankenhauszukunftsfonds,



Live transmission of an operation at the surgical clinic of the Carl-Thiem-Klinikum hospital in Cottbus as part of an international symposium at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz. The surgeons can use telemedicine to compare different surgical approaches and then discuss them at an expert level.

Project box 10:

Digital transformation of the local health departments

Within the framework of the administrative agreement on the technical modernisation of the local health departments (by June 2022) and the agreement on the implementation of the digitalisation funding programme under the “Pakt für den Öffentlichen Gesundheitsdienst” (Pact for the Public Health Service) (by the end of 2026), funding will be made available to every local health department to increase their digital maturity and facilitate technical and process modernisation. The required digital infrastructure and electronic reporting systems will be created. In particular, the focus is on increasing the interoperability of processes and specialist applications as well as on modernising procedures and processes. Additional focal points of action in terms of content and investment are:

- digital work devices and their accessories, in particular stationary or mobile end devices
- software
- conferencing solutions such as video systems, display devices and interaction devices
- communication and work platforms, portals, cloud offerings as well as digital education offerings
- systems, tools and services to improve existing offerings, the service quality or the interoperability of digital infrastructures
- setting up and improvement of further technical equipment as well as the digital networking of local health departments.

Project #16

Ministry responsible: MSGIV

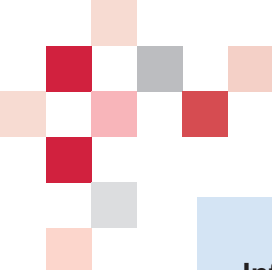
Milestones: Preparation of a final report regarding the administrative agreement on the technical modernisation of the local health departments by June 2022

Target date: by 2026

KHZF) which is to be set up for this purpose will enable us, as Brandenburg, to make investments with corresponding co-financing, including in better digital infrastructures for hospitals. We will use this to support measures to digitalise process organisation and communication, as well as telemedicine, robotics and high-tech medicine. Investments in IT and cybersecurity of hospitals and regional care structures will also be supported through the fund. The aim of the government is to modernise the hospitals by the end of 2024 with the help of these measures. Especially in Lusatia, we are taking advantage of the possibilities to shape the future offered by the structural change, and in the coming

years will use funds from the Structural Development Act (Strukturstärkungsgesetz) to establish the **Innovation Centre for University Medicine in Cottbus (IUC)** as the core of a **Lusatia model region for health**. In this framework, in combination with the guidelines on health and digitalisation, a location for university medicine is being created in Cottbus/Chósebus, and the Carl-Thiem-Klinikum (CTK) hospital that is based there is being expanded into a university hospital and a “digital lead hospital”.

We also provide targeted support for projects that not only serve healthcare, but also **advice and prevention**. Our aim here is to



Info box 12:

Telemedicine, telematics and their applications

The expansion of the digital infrastructure also creates the conditions for utilising the digital possibilities offered by telemedicine and telematics. This requires innovative ideas and solutions, and above all, the commitment of all stakeholders in the health sector. For example, it is necessary to extend the already existing cooperation between the hospitals in Brandenburg. The development of new concepts and ideas for networking the entire healthcare chain is also essential. This includes prevention and follow-up care, inpatient and outpatient care – including nursing care – rehabilitation treatment and care at home. The joint state committee pursuant to Section 90a SGB V can thereby provide a qualified cross-sector overview and focuses on regional issues. In this way, new forms of care, especially in the outer development area of Brandenburg, should establish more sustainable solutions for healthcare throughout the state.

provide citizens with low-threshold and easily accessible services by establishing digital advisory structures. These include, among other things, digital counselling in the event of domestic and sexual violence as well as digital addiction counselling. For example,

we provide funding for the “DigiSucht” digital addiction project of the Brandenburgische Landesstelle für Suchtfragen e.V. state association for addiction matters, to support digital outpatient addiction counselling.

Project box 11:

Digital lead hospital

The Innovation Centre for University Medicine in Cottbus (IUC) will consist of the Cottbus/Chóšebuz university medical faculty and a digitally-supported network of healthcare stakeholders in the Lusatia model region for health. In addition to the expansion of the Carl-Thiem-Klinikum (CTK) into a university hospital, extensive digital structures will also be set up there in order to create the prerequisites for the network in the region. Over and above the measures required by law, the CTK will be digitally upgraded and expanded into a digital lead hospital. There are also plans to shape the further development of healthcare through innovative use of data in the research and teaching of university medicine. The digital lead hospital thus forms the interface between modern medical care, and health science and clinical research at the IUC.

Project #17

Ministry responsible: MWFK with the involvement of the MSGIV

Milestones: Development of the foundation for a digital lead hospital; expansion to a platform provider; networking with the stakeholders in the Lusatia model region for health

Target date: 2035 (full expansion)



With 1,200 beds and around 2,500 employees, the Carl-Thiem-Klinikum (CTK) hospital is the largest employer in Cottbus, and is being expanded into a university hospital and “digital lead hospital”. The results of the diagnostic imaging procedures are immediately available digitally and online in the internal hospital information system (KIS). This improves the rapid interdisciplinary cooperation at the hospital and shortens the decision-making processes.

To digitalise schools and ensure digital participation, we provide modern **internet connections and IT infrastructure** in Brandenburg on a permanent basis. The current funding for fibre optic roll-out is provided under the directive of the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport (BMDV) on “Förderung zur Unterstützung des Breitbandausbaus in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland” (Funding to support the roll-out of broadband in the Federal Republic of Germany) and is supported with state funds. With funding from the **DigitalPakt Schule** (Digital pact for schools), school operators will also be enabled to provide schools with basic digital equipment and create the necessary conditions for doing so. The permanent (financial) safeguarding and further development of the level of digitalisation in schools remains the responsibility of the federal states, including the municipalities. The government of Brandenburg will continue discussions with the municipalities in their role as school operators on the promotion of digital infrastructure, the allocation of tasks and cooperation between Brandenburg and its municipalities,

as well as on (technical) standards for pupils, teachers, school buildings and school organisation.

The digital transformation has also visibly permeated the field of **transport and mobility**. It offers great potential to make public mobility services even more flexible within the existing spatial structures, and to make it possible to dispense with one’s own car – without the need for compromising individual mobility. The management of local public transport is already becoming increasingly digitalised, and innovative demand-oriented mobility offers have made their way onto the market and are available via web-based platforms to complement local public transport. Many timetable information systems inform customers in real-time and the inter-modular linking of offers is facilitated by combining digitally available data. In addition, the development of new forms of propulsion and technologies to enable partially automated and even fully autonomous driving are making ever greater progress. However, the economic viability of supply systems, particularly



Project box 12:

Digital pact for schools

In Brandenburg, 151 million euros of federal funding is available for digital equipment for schools as well as for state-wide and interstate measures. The implementation of the funding programme is expected to be completed by the end of 2026. The funding for Brandenburg approved through the additional “Administration support” agreement amounts to around 15.1 million euros. This is available for the training and financing of IT administrators – their role is to support schools with the maintenance and upkeep of the technology used. In addition, the “Leihgeräte für Lehrkräfte” (Loan equipment for teachers) Bund-Länder agreement was concluded with the aim of equipping teachers with digital mobile devices. Brandenburg has an additional 15.1 million euros available for this purpose. The school operators are expected to complete procurement of the end devices in 2022. As part of the “Sofortausstattungsprogramm” (Immediate equipment programme), Brandenburg has been allocated a total of 15.1 million euros to equip school pupils from low-income families with mobile devices.

In addition, the state is investing 23 million euros in equipping school pupils with school-based digital mobile devices through its own state funding programme. The school operators are expected to complete procurement of the end devices in 2022.

Project #21

Ministry responsible: MBJS

Milestones: Expansion of technical infrastructure at schools and teacher training facilities; development of digital education infrastructure

Target date: by 2026

Project box 13:

Continuation of the Mobility Strategy 2030

The Mobility Strategy 2030 of Brandenburg is being revised, completion of which is expected by the end of the fourth quarter of 2022. Digitalisation as an overarching cross-cutting topic has a central role to play here: multimodal mobility platforms, flexible service offerings (on-demand, sharing) and digital distribution channels are among the key factors for more sustainable, needs-based mobility and attractive sustainable mobility (ecomobility). The consideration of mobility-impaired transport users is another important aspect of the strategy.

Project #26

Ministry responsible: MIL

Milestones: Online consultation with first draft planned in June 2022; completion by the end of the fourth quarter of 2022

Target date: by 2022

in rural areas, remains a challenge due to the lower demand there, which requires special consideration in the context of the planned activities.


Experience from practical projects is important for the **further development of autonomous or automated driving**. Accordingly, the government is closely monitoring the current state of knowledge and experience from digital test fields and is in regular exchange with the federal government and the federal states on this topic. With regard to the de-

velopment of projects in this area at the state level, it is necessary – especially against the background of a large (financial) investment – to carefully examine the potential gain in knowledge and experience that this can bring, to complement the current projects at the federal level.

In this context, the MIL supported the collaborative project “Autonomer öffentlicher Nahverkehr im ländlichen Raum (Landkreis Ostprignitz-Ruppin) – Wirkungsforschung zu neuen Formen innovativer öffentlicher Mo-



A real milestone in the research and further development of autonomous driving was the interoperability testing of the 5G standard and hardware components of different manufacturers at the Lausitzring near Klettwitz. Europe's largest independent test centre for automated and networked driving, operated by DEKRA, is located there.



bilität und Nutzerakzeptanz anhand eines Probetriebs in der Modellregion Ostprignitz-Ruppin“ (Autonomous local public transport in rural areas [Ostprignitz-Ruppin district] – Impact research on new forms of innovative public mobility and user acceptance based on a trial operation in the model region of Ostprignitz-Ruppin). The aim of the project was to scientifically investigate the prerequisites for the use of autonomous vehicles to complement local public transport in rural areas and to gain practical experience with regard to the user acceptance, economic and technical integration of these forms of operation into existing local transport systems, as well as their transferability for broader application in Germany. Further insights into local rail passenger transport are also provided by the collaborative project “Autonome Systeme im Straßenbetriebshof” (Autonomous systems in the tram depot) with the participation of ViP Verkehrsbetrieb Potsdam GmbH, the public transport operator in Potsdam. The aim here is to develop a digital depot on the basis of an autonomously driven tram. Market readiness is envisaged in 2026.

The Brandenburg coalition agreement emphasises that the opportunities offered by digitalisation should be used to better link up modes of transport, innovative mobility offers should be promoted and digital equipment in local transport should be expanded. The government puts a focus on **promoting digitalisation measures** to further develop attractive sustainable mobility (ecomobility) – particularly local public transport. To this end, we promote new sales channels (such as the HandyTicket app or e-ticketing) and passenger information systems, flexible service offerings (e.g. on-demand) and multimodal mobility platforms. We put innovative mobility concepts at the heart of this development, for example through the **“InnoMob” directive** (directive on funding innovative mobility offers in Brandenburg), which came into force in the first quarter of 2020 and which expires at the end of 2024. The first funding projects were selected in the first quarter of

2021. One of these projects is the Schlieben-Schönnewalde on-demand bus as a project of the Elbe-Elster district in cooperation with the Teltow-Fläming district. The minibuses, which operate as required without a fixed timetable, show how environmentally-friendly mobility can be implemented flexibly and in a customer-friendly manner, even in rural areas. There will be both telephone and digital booking options for ordering the on-demand bus. A web app is available for online bookings, which can be used independently of the respective operating system of the mobile devices. However, the central role of digitalisation in the field of transport and mobility should also and in particular take into account the **continuation of the Mobility Strategy 2030**.

For **Action package III: Strengthen public services through digital offers**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies:

— **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBS)**

Strategic goals of the MBS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports

— **Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection (MSGV)**

Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025

— **Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)**

Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)

— **Ministry of Science, Research and Culture (MWFK)**

Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg

Action package IV:

Promote digital social and cultural exchange

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a variety of digital culture formats emerged: museums, theatres, bands and orchestras looked for ways to get in touch with their audiences online, music schools tried out online teaching, libraries expanded their digital services, artists discovered the internet as a place to present their work, and cultural institutions switched to digital working formats. The shift towards a digital cultural landscape in Brandenburg has thus been given a powerful boost by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our central concern as the government is now to provide further impetus to the dynamics of this development, and to support the cultural sector with the strategic establishment and application of digital technologies for artistic work, production and administration, presentation

and mediation, collection and archiving. This encompasses no less than the **digital transformation of cultural institutions**.

We want to empower cultural institutions and artists to utilise the possibilities of the digital world for their offerings, to expand their sphere of influence and to restructure and reshape work processes with the help of digitalisation. This also includes a critical reflection on the use of digital technologies and the associated forms of reception. Furthermore, the establishment and expansion of digital infrastructures must create the essential framework conditions so that stakeholders and organisations in the cultural sector can also be qualified to strategically orient themselves in the digital world and build up their portfolio accordingly. In this way, offers for new viewing and usage habits can be created, but also hybrid educational and participation offers, which take into account the needs of full accessibility and enable distances to be bridged, especially in rural areas. In or-

Project box 14:

Digital transformation of cultural institutions

Cultural institutions and artists from all fields receive help in joining the digital transformation through targeted support measures, networking and advice, including:

- support for cultural institutions in developing their own digital strategies
- investment support for modern digital infrastructure at cultural institutions
- funding of qualification measures on the topic of digitalisation
- networking and expansion of digital cultural offerings via digital platforms
- support for prototype and experimental projects on the topic of digitalisation
- establishment and expansion of collaborative partnerships and cooperative networks

Project #27

Ministry responsible: MWFK

Milestones: Equipping the first cultural institutions with a modern digital infrastructure by 2023; supporting cultural institutions in developing their own digital strategies by 2025

Target date: by 2030



der to make these new offers accessible to as many people as possible, the projects should consider unrestricted access right from the outset. We also want to promote the **digital networking of cultural institutions**, for example in joint projects and via platforms.

The digitalisation in the cultural sector also affects the **cultural heritage** of Brandenburg. With the digital transformation, there is an opportunity to capture and secure the cultural heritage of the past and present in its full diversity, and also to make it accessible and experienceable beyond the borders of Brandenburg. In doing so, the principle of openness should enable broad accessibility, participation and interaction with the cultural sphere. Digital services can be used to reach new target groups and to keep historical events in focus. This also includes digitally capturing the state's memories at the

Brandenburg Main State Archive (Brandenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv, BLHA). The government supports and monitors the digitalisation of cultural heritage and the required development of digital infrastructures with appropriate funding programmes. The development of new digital services should be as cooperative as possible, so that a large number of stakeholders benefit from the knowledge gained and the structures created.

The comprehensive **digitalisation of public libraries** currently underway also plays a central role in this context. The long-term goal of the libraries is to further develop as a hybrid place of culture, media, learning and communication as well as a reliable educational partner, especially for schools and kindergartens. Here, projects, events and campaigns with digital formats will increasingly shape the library profile. For this purpose, li-

Project box 15:

Digitally secure and preserve the cultural heritage, make it accessible and experienceable

Cultural institutions such as archives, libraries, museums, memorials and monument preservation organisations are supported through the following measures:

- project funding for the digital capture and retrospective digitalisation of analogue originals, their presentation and their storage
- participation of the state in the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek (German Digital Library, DDB) platform financed by the federal government and the states
- establishment of the Brandenburgisches Landeshauptarchiv (Brandenburg Main State Archive, BLHA) in the Digitale Archivierung Nord (DAN) digital archiving cooperation network and development of usage possibilities for municipal and public archives via a regional support structure
- support for developing and establishing a “Digitales Verbundmagazin Brandenburg” (DVM-BB) joint digital repository for the long-term archiving of digital cultural assets
- expansion of further education and advisory offers on digitalisation topics at specialist organisations in the state

Project #28

Ministry responsible: MWFK

Milestones: Project funding for digital capturing of analogue originals until 2025

Target date: by 2030

libraries need technical equipment such as presentation technology, mobile end devices and digital devices for creative rooms and laboratories. Media education, the promotion of technical skills, the competent use of social media as well as researching and evaluating digital content are also in focus. In addition, we will support libraries with continuing their dual path as conveyors of information and media. Analogue media continues to be complemented by e-media and new offerings are being created in virtual space (e-books and e-magazines, audio books, streaming of movies, digital further education and language learning, and secure access to PCs and tablets). With the support of the government, libraries are also further raising their profile as training and creative spaces or laboratories that enable everyone to get to know and try out new information technologies. Our aim is to provide all citizens with comprehensive access to content, regardless of media format, and thus to promote digital participation on a broad scale.

For the Stadt- und Landesbibliothek (SLB) city and state library, digitalisation measures are also extremely important, particularly for

processing obligatory copies submitted, processing the state bibliography as well as procuring library inventories.

The Brandenburg universities, which have achieved a high degree of networking through their participation in the **Bibliotheksverbund Berlin-Brandenburg (KOBV)** regional library network, also make a major contribution towards achieving these goals. They thus play an important role in the transformation process towards greater transparency and openness of information and data in science and research. We are therefore consolidating the KOBV's offer structure and gradually expanding it, in line with the needs of the universities and public libraries.

Last but not least, one of our key concerns is to contribute to a diverse, locally and regionally differentiated **media landscape** with professional reporting from all parts of Germany. The freedom and independence of the press and broadcasters is of paramount importance with constitutional protection. We are committed to ensuring that this freedom is safeguarded and strengthened, even under the conditions of digital change.

Project box 16:

Anchor the mission of public-service broadcasting more firmly in the digital world

A separate government contractual mandate for each individual broadcasting programme no longer fits the changed usage behaviour of citizens. The states provide the legal framework to allow broadcasters to convert certain programmes into online formats.

Project #32

Body responsible:	Stk
Milestones:	Coordination between the states
Target date:	2023



Broadcast production at the RBB studio in Potsdam

For **Action package IV: Promote digital social and cultural exchange**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies:

- **Ministry of Science, Research and Culture (MWFK)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg
- **State Chancellery of Brandenburg**
Better connected. Digital together.
Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery
- **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MBJS)**
Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports

Action package V:

Support sustainability through digital instruments

In line with the “Digital Policy Agenda for the Environment” at the federal level, we see **digitalisation** on the one hand as an **engine for a sustainable future** and put it at the service of the environment, climate protection, agriculture, resource protection, biodiversity and nature. On the other hand, the digital transformation itself must be made sustainable both ecologically and socially. In our view, sustainability is a cross-cutting topic which must be considered in all areas where digitalisation is applied. For this purpose, digital projects are planned and implemented across ministerial boundaries in as low-resource and climate-neutral a way as possible. In addition, with the aim of ecological sustainability, the close linking of the topics of climate, environment and agriculture is addressed as a central field of application for AI in Brandenburg as part of the interministerial development of the state’s AI strategy.

In agriculture, digitalisation can promote efficiency and sustainable economic activity and provide an essential component for achieving

Info box 13:

Data-driven development of strategies for adaptation to climate change

The research institutes active in earth history, climate and climate impact research, the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), the Alfred Wegener Institute – Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), combine current environmental data into modelling approaches and models. In doing so, they show which possible adaptation strategies to man-made climate change should be developed in Brandenburg, in Germany, in Europe and globally.

the ambitious government goals for environmental and climate protection. Against this background, we want to expand Brandenburg's leading role in digital forestry and agriculture, and digitalise companies as well as value chains on a needs-oriented basis. In particular, the use of modern technologies and data-based solutions makes agricultural and forestry operations more modern and efficient. With their help, we facilitate low-resource land management in order to counteract climate change and land loss.

As a practical application, we plan to provide the GQS Umwelt-Audit (GQS Environmental Audit) extension for agricultural companies with environmental management as a tool for overall farm quality assurance (GQS Hof-Check). The tool can be used to support the

duty of testing and recording in order to ensure a functional environmental management system in accordance with European requirements.

As a member of the interstate Kuratorium für Waldarbeit und Forsttechnik (KWF e.V.) forestry association, Brandenburg also promotes the **digitalisation of forestry**. The Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development and the KWF are currently cooperating on the HolzBereitstellungsOptimierung (Timber Supply Optimisation, HoBeOpt) project for synchronising the hitherto fragmented information and data landscape in order to enable digital networking in the supply and logistics of raw timber. This ensures efficient use of wood, a renewable raw material.

Info box 14:

Early detection of forest fires

The "FireWatch" system for early detection of forest fires, which has been in existence and steadily modernised since 2003, showcases how digital technologies offer great added value in the field of emergency response. The automated, sensor-based system warns the responsible forest fire centres of smoke development incidents, and enables them to detect forest fires in Brandenburg at an early stage and initiate measures to combat them. In 2021, a Brandenburg company was also awarded the internationally renowned Go Global Award for its "Internet of Things" for early fire detection.



Project box 17:

Sustainable food chain – digital solutions

Within the framework of a five-year cooperation agreement between the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) and the MLUK, projects are being initiated that serve the purpose of implementing the European Union's "Farm to Fork" strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system" on behalf of the government. For sustainable food production, those involved in the food chain – farmers, fishers and aquaculture producers – will be empowered to transform their production methods and apply nature-based, technological, digital solutions. This will improve climate and environmental results, increase climate resilience and optimise the use of operating resources (e.g. pesticides, fertilisers).

Project #33

Department responsible: MLUK

Milestones: Identification of projects; initiation of projects

Target date: by 2025

Another central topic in the area of sustainability-oriented digitalisation is the **food supply**, which we want to make more sustainable through appropriate measures. As part of the state agreement on a joint IT solution for controls on **plant protection** and plant health, we will also digitalise plant protection reporting by creating a single reporting platform for all federal states. With this measure, we ensure that information is networked across the federal states.

The use of digital technologies also opens up a wide range of control options for municipalities and infrastructure operators for "smart" energy and transport systems, which can be used to conserve resources. The optimal, data-based coordination of the systems enables potential increases in efficiency, which can make a major **contribution to climate-friendly infrastructures**. By assisting the municipalities with the development of relevant conceptual and strategic foundations, with practical work tools and programmes to promote innovative model projects, Brandenburg will support the development of sustainable smart cities and smart regions.

Green IT, i.e. **IT systems geared towards ecological sustainability**, is becoming increasingly important in reducing the ecological footprint of digitalisation. As such, Brandenburg will implement a Green IT strategy. The consumption of energy and resources involved in digitalisation has steadily increased in recent years – despite the fact that many devices are becoming more and more energy-efficient. In particular, the increasing demand for data and data processing centres could lead to a further increase in power consumption in the long term and thus – depending on the power mix – to an increase in CO₂ emissions. In addition, laptops, monitors, smartphones and other devices contain metals and other substances which are often mined under poor working conditions and which are associated with significant environmental destruction. As the government of Brandenburg, we are aware that we can make a significant contribution to sustainability-oriented digitalisation in the procurement and use of digital technologies.

Project box 18:**Digital species monitoring**


The core of the measure is to record data on the population numbers of invasive and protected species, including the wolf, by various interested groups, such as citizens and experts. The digital reporting system will provide a reliable basis for monitoring species, and at the same time facilitate the digital preparation and processing of data within the public administration.

Project #34**Ministry responsible:** MLUK**Milestones:** Pilot of a species by 2022**Target date:** ongoing**Project box 19:****Green IT strategy in Brandenburg**

Brandenburg is represented in the Green IT cooperation group of the IT Planning Council (IT-PLR). In March 2021, the cooperation group presented the key elements of a strategy concept for Green IT. On this basis, the first individual ministry measures have already been applied by the Brandenburg state administration within the framework of individual ministerial digitalisation strategies. Furthermore, a corresponding new Green IT chapter has been incorporated into the current update of the 2021 IT standards. These measures must be taken into account during the manufacture, usage and disposal of IT.

The Green IT strategy is to be further developed in the IT Planning Council. The aim is to present this strategy ready for adoption at the IT-PLR meeting in October 2022. Subsequently, in Brandenburg, new requirements resulting from this are also to be taken into account in future IT standard updates along the lines of a uniform cross-administration standardisation resolution. As such, the Green IT strategy of the IT Planning Council provides an important basis for completing the Green IT strategy for Brandenburg. In addition, the Brandenburg administration must comply with the Green IT standards in accordance with the Brandenburg e-government legislation. The digitalisation strategies of the ministries would then have to be adapted accordingly.

Project #36**Ministry responsible:** MIK**Milestones:** Project planning still pending**Target date:** by 2025



For **Action package V: Support sustainability through digital instruments**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies:

- **Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection (MLUK)**
Ministerial digital policy strategy – digitalisation in the service of agriculture, the environment and climate protection
 - **Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs (MIK)**
Ministerial digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and Municipal Affairs (ReDiStra-MIK)
 - **Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)
-

Action package VI:

Promote digital transformation of the economy

The digital transformation encompasses all economic sectors. Companies are faced with the task of mastering the challenges associated with digitalisation, while making optimal use of the resulting opportunities. It's about optimising processes and procedures, new business models and products, but also about doing good work in the digital working environment. The participation and co-determination of employees and the works council bodies play an important role here. They contribute experience, skills and ideas. In addition, the dialogue creates acceptance among all parties involved.

Brandenburg companies are already able to draw on a diverse mix of federal and state funding programmes for their digital projects. At the same time, the task is to further optimise the existing instruments so that they meet the requirements of digital structural change. In particular, it is important to develop support offers for micro and small enterprises that are tailored to their specific needs.

In order to promote digital projects, among other initiatives we have enhanced the "Brandenburgischer Innovationsgutschein" (Brandenburg Innovation Voucher, BIG) programme by adding the "BIG-Digital" funding opportunity, which provides support particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with preparing and implementing digitalisation measures as well as with employee qualification required in this context. This also includes a reflection on the use of digital technologies and the question of how work processes can be restructured and redesigned with the help of digitalisation. The projects are intended to drive organisational and process innovations in companies through digitalisation, and they cover a wide range of digital projects. Many SMEs have already benefited from the funding and have digital-

Project box 20:

Continuation of the funding for BIG-Digital

With the aim of strengthening the competitiveness and innovative power of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), including crafts enterprises, the funding instruments are being further developed in relation to the MWAE directive for the “Brandenburgischer Innovationsgutschein” (Brandenburg Innovation Voucher, BIG) programme. Support is provided for advice, the implementation of specific digitalisation processes (including required hardware and software) and training courses.

Project #40

Ministry responsible: MWAE

Milestones: The directive currently runs until 31.12.2023. BIG-Digital funding should be continued beyond 2025 in order to ensure ongoing support for SMEs

Target date: ongoing

ised their operations. The demand remains high. As such, we are working on continuing the tried-and-tested BIG funding opportunities in the future and initiating many more digitalisation projects for SMEs in Brandenburg.

In the future, Brandenburg companies will also be able to draw on the expertise of various **competence centres** as well as various **advisory and support offers**, which are funded by Brandenburg and/or the federal government. These include the Innovationszentrum Moderne Industrie Brandenburg (Brandenburg Innovation Centre for Modern Industry, IMI), the Digitalwerk – Zentrum für Digitalisierung im Mittelstand (Digitalwerk – Centre for Digitalisation in SMEs), the Kompetenzzentrum für IT-Sicherheit (IT Security Competence Centre, KITS), the Regionales Zukunftszentrum Brandenburg (Regional Future Centre Brandenburg), which is oriented towards social partnership and work policy, and the Mittelstand-4.0-Kompetenzzentrum Cottbus (SME 4.0 Competence Centre Cottbus). The work of the competence centres should be continued, and it should remain constantly oriented towards the needs of companies, businesses and employees as well as their representative bodies. Wherever possi-

ble, the different offers should be networked and interlinked even more closely than before. The Wirtschaftsförderung Land Brandenburg GmbH (Economic Development Agency Brandenburg, WFBB) and the Investitionsbank des Landes Brandenburg (ILB) state investment bank serve as coordinators. The regional chambers of commerce and industry as well as the chambers of crafts in Brandenburg also play a central role in implementing digital transformation projects. In the field of tourism, the TMB Tourismus-Marketing Brandenburg GmbH tourism marketing agency makes a comprehensive contribution to providing digital tourism infrastructures and services.

Our goal is to further increase the number of high-class innovation-oriented start-ups and to support the resulting companies and innovation locations with their development. Founders and **start-ups** in the tech sector need targeted support programmes, but also attractive **ecosystems** that combine the advantages of the capital region with the qualities of rural areas, and spread the innovative power of digital technologies to all economic sectors in the state. Competence centres, experimental labs and co-working spaces are important infrastructures and points



Project box 21:

Promotion of innovation and competence centres

In recent years, various competence centres in Brandenburg have established themselves as important points of contact for small and medium-sized enterprises in the context of key technological and application-related issues of digitalisation. They provide unbiased orientation and valuable information in the development and implementation of innovation projects. These include the Innovationszentrum Moderne Industrie Brandenburg (Brandenburg Innovation Centre for Modern Industry, IMI), the Digitalwerk – Zentrum für Digitalisierung im Mittelstand (Digitalwerk – Centre for Digitalisation in SMEs) and the Kompetenzzentrum für IT-Sicherheit (IT Security Competence Centre, KITS). The work of the centres should be further developed and constantly oriented towards the needs of companies and businesses. Their networking and visibility should be boosted further.

Project #40

Ministry responsible: MWAE

Milestones: The revised KTT (knowledge and technology transfer) directive is due to enter into force in mid-to-end 2022 and provides for the temporary funding of competence centres for knowledge and technology transfer

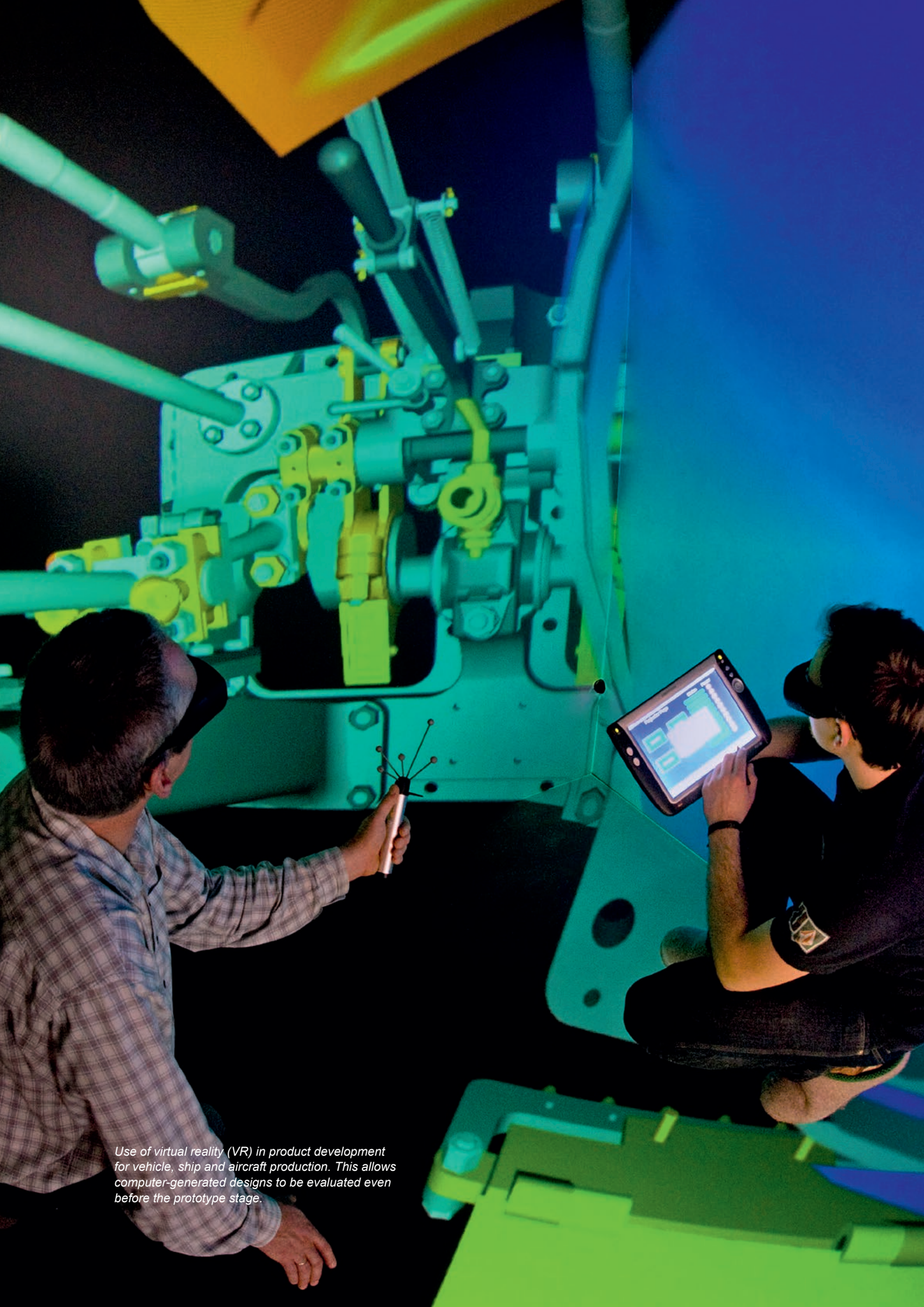
Target date: ongoing

of contact that promote innovation culture in Brandenburg. We support the **founding of start-ups** in a very targeted manner, for example through the “Gründung innovativ” (Innovative Founding) programme. Living labs are also useful for helping innovative digital technologies to achieve market readiness. A large state such as Brandenburg offers optimal conditions for this, especially for large-scale testing requirements such as the development and improvement of 5G and AI applications, autonomous driving (e.g. in regions such as Lusatia, Fläming, Uckermark and Prignitz) as well as digital solutions in agriculture.

Since 2019, the expansion and greater utilisation of **test fields and living labs** has been expressly anchored in the “innoBB 2025” joint innovation strategy of the states of Berlin and Brandenburg and the “innoBB 2025 plus” regional innovation strategy for Brandenburg. Additional support for young companies is provided through proportional funding of co-working spaces in subsidised business centres (technology and business

incubators) using funds from the joint federal/state Scheme for the Improvement of Regional Economic Structures (GRW). For example, support was provided for establishing appropriate premises both at the Kreativ-Werk business centre in Hennigsdorf in 2019 and at the Regionale und Cottbuser Gründungszentrum (RCGC) regional incubator in Cottbus/Chóšebuz in 2018. In addition, the ILB and the Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy (MWAE) are in dialogue with other municipalities to create further offers at locations such as Strausberg, Wittenberge and Schwedt/Oder.

Brandenburg's government is strengthening its commitment regarding the **digital development of rural regions** by actively supporting and funding the establishment and development of so-called digital locations. Digital locations are open meeting places where digital work, business or learning can take place and where value creation can be achieved – at least on a regional basis – thanks to innovative offers in the respective regions. Thus,



Use of virtual reality (VR) in product development for vehicle, ship and aircraft production. This allows computer-generated designs to be evaluated even before the prototype stage.



Project box 22:

Digital places competition

The aim of the project is to create a competition for digital places, from the first call up to an expected fourth call. This is closely linked to the “Digital places in Brandenburg” study published at the end of 2021, which refers to competition procedures as an appropriate funding instrument.

Project #42

Ministry responsible: MWAE

Milestones: Start of the first competition at the end of 2022; last call expected in 2024

Target date: 2024

they create local crystallisation points through a digital service that is open to the general public, collaborative, innovative and regionally anchored. This can have positive effects in the medium and long term on sustainable vacancy development, the creation of new space offers, economic and demographic development as well as municipal public services. To this end, the special spatial features of the individual Brandenburg regions are taken into account, as well as the structures that already exist locally. With the help of a competition-based invitation to tender, the aim is to identify locations that already have the potential for establishing a digital location and to support them in a targeted manner, taking into account factors such as feasibility, sustainability and regional impact. The overall goal is the establishment of economically viable digital locations in the large state of Brandenburg. In addition, Brandenburg is currently working on an industrial strategy for Brandenburg. This should be aligned across the board with the strategic objective of “Climate Neutrality 2045” and take into account existing industry-relevant strategies and implementation mechanisms at the various levels. In the spirit of an ecological and economic transformation, digitalisation in companies should also receive further support and funding by means of appropriate measures.

Expanding the existing potential in Brandenburg and boosting the attractiveness of the lo-

cation form the basis for the state’s external presentation and image abroad as important elements in international comparison. The implementation of the EU’s Single Digital Gateway regulation in the context of implementing Germany’s Online Access Act (OZG) to reduce administrative burdens for citizens and businesses also contributes to easier participation in Brandenburg’s internal market and increases its attractiveness. In addition to overcoming the language barrier by providing multilingual, internationally-oriented digital services in the state, an internationally-oriented communication strategy must also be implemented. The first steps were taken with Brandenburg’s internationalisation strategy.

For **Action package VI: Promote digital transformation of the economy**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies:

- **Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy (MWAE)**
Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg
 - **Ministry of Science, Research and Culture (MWFK)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg
-

2.3 Digital state

With the help of the digital transformation, state structures are to be streamlined, improved and simplified – for citizens, companies and authorities, who have a justified interest in a **digital state and service-oriented administrative structures**. Processes are set to become more citizen-friendly, thereby enabling **fast and transparent administrative action**. At the same time, we ensure that this does not result in any restrictions to on-site services.

In Brandenburg we want to pursue interministerial internal digitalisation at all levels by analysing, digitalising and making our own structures and processes more efficient. Experience from the COVID-19 pandemic will be taken into account in order to strengthen the resilience of the administration in times of crisis. The **internal digitalisation of the state administration** is the prerequisite for digital administration processes, e-government and digital citizens' services. As such, it is a primary goal and operative principle of Brandenburg's Strategy Paper. Digitalisation provides the opportunity to rethink analogue path dependencies, examine processes in depth and optimise these structures and processes. Digitalisation also makes it necessary to tackle questions of organisational structure in state and administration.

It is our obligation to push ahead with our own transformation. What we need to do now is to actively steer this development with e-government services and accompany it with a clear vision of the future. To do this, we want to make our citizen-centric administration services user-friendly and transparent, and share our non-personal data with the public. **Strengthening e-participation** helps to bridge the distances between citizens and the state and to get social actors more involved in political decision-making processes. In this way, we promote the cohesion of our society and strengthen democracy.

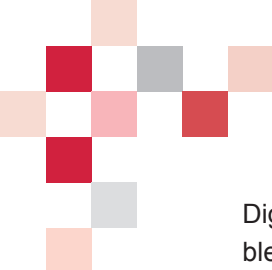
As a government, we also use the benefits of digitalisation to increase acceptance of and confidence in the rule of law. The digitalisation of the judiciary harbours enormous potential to facilitate citizens' access to the law. Digital systems make it possible to better structure court and public prosecution proceedings. What is more, processing of standard tasks can be automated and thus accelerated, which increases the efficiency of court proceedings.

We also use digital applications for structural readjustments in the police force, which improves security in Brandenburg. These include modern and innovative approaches in areas such as mobile task forces, hazard prevention and disaster management. Geodata is also an integral component of e-government. That's why it is essential to include it in state administration processes, e.g. renewal of the communication and operational control systems at the emergency services control centres, via the Brandenburg geodata infrastructure (GDI-BB).

Action package VII:

Modernise the administration and its services

A sustainable administration needs to integrate and network modern digital infrastructures and technologies. We want to use the transformation process to identify and fundamentally overhaul potentially inefficient and ineffective structures and processes. **The efficiency of Brandenburg's administration** is to be improved sustainably as a whole by means of digital work and process flows so that administration services required by citizens and the economy can be provided to a high quality standard quickly. For citizens, it is essential that public services are offered in a language they can understand.



Digital processes in particular make it possible to explain difficult issues using help texts and explanations, and to provide appropriate assistance. We are therefore moving away from rigid, incomprehensible forms and want to place particular emphasis on designing the language and texts in the digital tools and websites in a modern and citizen-friendly way. In initial and ongoing training for administrative employees, we will sensitise junior staff to apply modern, plain official language and to design easily accessible and clear internet presences. The training programme of the Landesakademie für öffentliche Verwaltung (State Academy for Public Administration) also contains offerings on how to produce understandable customer-oriented formulations, which are regularly adapted to required needs.

An efficient and modern administration is beneficial not least to administrative employees themselves, and also strengthens the **attrac-**

tiveness of administrative jobs. As such, with over 70 individual measures in all ministries, we will make a considerable contribution to continuing the internal digitalisation of the state administration.

We want to make Brandenburg a leading **region for innovative administrative technologies (GovTech)**. The task at hand is to better promote a spirit of innovation and new solution approaches for modernising and digitalising the administration in the future. In order to continuously push this process forward, we want to further expand coordination capacity.

Strengthening cooperation between public administration and external innovators and start-ups is a national issue. This year, a federal and state working group, in which the MWAE represented Brandenburg, identified possibilities for funding to improve cooperation.

Project box 23:

Water information platform

Presentation of all data relevant to the policy field of water in a modern and appealing form on the intranet and internet for the public and administration as well as the employees of the State Office for the Environment (LfU) in a map and form-based information system.

Project #57

Ministry responsible: MLUK

Milestones: Q3/2022: Relaunch query tools for environmental data in combination with water data; Q4/2022: Further development: establishment of a tool for groundwater balancing; Q3/2023: Further development: integration of time series on surface water quality

Target date: ongoing

The funding options can be summarised in six fields of action:

1. create awareness and state goals,
2. empowerment through knowledge,
3. increase transparency,
4. conscious use of existing possibilities for cooperation,
5. examine structures,
6. strengthen networks.

Brandenburg is using the results of the working group for further planning and to develop measures.

Central to the implementation of digitalisation projects by the administration is the state's **E-government Strategy**, developed by the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs. E-government in Brandenburg stands for online administration which is implemented at all administrative levels (state, districts, towns, municipalities, associations of municipalities) regardless of location and time. Putting this into effect requires digitalisation of the administration itself. Yet e-government also means expanding the scope of action at local level with digital elements. The aim for the future is for formal planning procedures,

municipal representative meetings or coordination processes to be less reliant on physical rooms and for them to be held digitally as well.

Digitalisation changes the way in which we manage, act and cooperate, and therefore calls for a **digital cultural transformation in the administration**. Workflows become more transparent, streamlined and intuitive. In this way, we will accelerate the pace of work and can thereby free up more time for our employees to dedicate to their tasks and areas of specialisation. These processes should be characterised by trust and cooperation, encouragement to contribute innovative and creative ideas, and the acquisition of new skills. A fundamental understanding of our own processes and workflows and acceptance of the digital restructuring of existing procedures are important here. For example, by teaching employees standards for creating business process models, we want to provide them with new skills and knowledge to give them confidence in the process and enable them to participate creatively. Each ministry creates the necessary structures and environments for this – and together we develop a state-specific process plat-

Project box 24:

Foundation of a digital lab in the State Chancellery


The aim is to create a space for developing and testing digital ideas by establishing a digital lab in the State Chancellery along the lines of a digital workshop or experimental space. Establishing the digital lab and enabling continuous knowledge transfer and the implementation of needs-based opportunities to acquire skills will help to intensively promote the digital cultural change of the State Chancellery and establish it in the long term. In addition, the development of a method toolbox introduces the use of agile methods into the everyday work of employees.

Project #58

Ministry responsible: Stk

Milestones: Q3/2022: Kick-off meeting, Q4/2022: Concept development

Target date: 2022



form and interfaces for collaboration. Another key factor in the success of the digital cultural transformation in the administration is the early involvement of the interest groups representing public sector employees and, in particular, the trusting cooperation with staff representatives, which we will continue to pursue intensively.

The aim of the internal digitalisation is to enable efficient work processes and thereby simplify the internal completion of tasks. This includes, by way of example, the complete establishment and continuous improvement of **governance structures** via an **interministerial e-file system** that makes internal and interministerial processes and interfaces more user-friendly, intuitive and application-oriented. But it is also a matter of giving employees greater flexibility in the context of digitalisation. To this end, we want to pilot how decentralised, interministerial authority locations can be set up in the regions ("Brandenburg regional offices"). We also want to better inte-

grate mobile working, digital communication, video conferencing, etc. into everyday work via technical infrastructures, digital collaboration tools and simplified decision-making procedures. Our aim is to ensure that the hardware and software provided are designed to be modern, secure and user-friendly so that they are a pleasure to use in everyday business. This includes harmonising the standards used to simplify the digital exchange of e-files between administrations.

Together with the federal and governments, we support efforts to strengthen the **digital sovereignty of public administration**. The basis for this is the "Strategy for strengthening the digital sovereignty of public administration IT" adopted by the IT Planning Council. Against this background, we are also participating in the development of a sovereign **"German government cloud"**, i.e. a joint federal, open-interface and standardised cloud infrastructure of the federal, state and local governments. The goal is to create in-

Project box 25:

E-government Strategy

The E-government Strategy is of particular significance to the implementation of digitalisation projects. In the future, citizens as well as organisations and the administration should be able to securely access administrative services online from a central location via any service portal, regardless of their location or the time of day.

Project #59

Ministry responsible: MIK

Milestones: The current availabilities can be viewed at <https://ozg.brandenburg.de/ozg/de/bausteine/it-basiskomponenten/>. The prioritized administrative services of the Online Access Act (OZG), which are provided according to the "one-for-all" principle, will be adopted for subsequent use in Brandenburg. The e-funding file and the e-staff file will be made available (until 2022). Evaluation of the Brandenburg E-Government Act (BbgEGovG) by the state government (by 2023). The state authorities keep their files electronically as a matter of principle (by 2024).

Target date: ongoing

Project box 26:

Fines office online payment module

The “Fines office online payment module” is to be expanded with e-payment (use of the basic IT component E-PayBL). This is intended to achieve even greater acceptance on the part of citizens and thus an increase in the number of users; the administration benefits from shorter payment channels and lower error rates in the allocation of payments.

Project #60

Ministry responsible: MIK

Milestones: Implementation of the basic IT component “electronic ePayBL payment platform”

Target date: by the end of 2022

teroperable and modular solutions that enable reciprocal use of applications and reduce critical dependencies on providers. At the same time, we must meet and improve the strict requirements for IT security and data protection. In addition, the “German government cloud” is intended to provide an alternative – particularly open source-based – “sovereign workplace”. Brandenburg has joined the declaration of intent of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI) and several federal states for the development of the “sovereign workplace”. In this way, we are strengthening the digital sovereignty and resilience of the public administration in Brandenburg and the whole of Germany.

Public administration will become more digital and citizen-friendly. The user-friendliness and transparency of the services offered are the key goals in this area. To meet these goals, we offer **new digital services** to make contact and interactive communication easier. We want to push forward with this in cooperation with the local authorities. The **Smart Village App** has become an important tool for communication between citizens and the administration. The app was created under the Digital Brandenburg Strategy for the Future in Bad Belzig with the support of the government and enables local authorities to offer local information and services. Joint further

development of the app by the local authorities in the Smart Village Association serves to standardise the digital services and strengthens citizens’ trust in public administration. By promoting the further development of the Smart Village App and encouraging municipalities to follow suit, the intention is that the app will be used by as many Brandenburg municipalities as possible.

The aim is to overcome traditional organisational boundaries and establish a “**one-stop shop**” for government services to improve service orientation. This also includes the consistent implementation of the EU Services Directive and the implementation of a single point of contact for Brandenburg (EAPBbg). On the one hand, this simplifies communication between citizens and the administration and, on the other, contributes to a standardised data situation and faster application procedures. Not least, data collection and storage can thus also be limited to a necessary extent in terms of data protection.

In this context, we place a significant focus on the **effective implementation of the Online Access Act (OZG)**, through which administrative services are also represented electronically. The implementation of the OZG poses major challenges, particularly for local authorities. We are therefore strengthening



Project box 27:

Potential analysis of data-supported administration

Data-supported procedures and artificial intelligence are becoming increasingly important in business and society. In public administration, too, they can help to make workflows more efficient, support decision-making processes and offer services for citizens in a faster and more needs-based manner. In light of this, a potential analysis of AI and data-supported applications is to be implemented as part of the digitalisation strategy of the State Chancellery. The aim of the analysis is to learn how to better understand the opportunities and challenges of data-supported administrative processes in the various departments of the State Chancellery. In addition, we intend to identify specific use cases for data-supported procedures in the State Chancellery and prepare them for piloting.

Project #61

Ministry responsible: Stk

Milestones: Q3/2022: Creation of an impulse paper, Q3/2022: Workshop on mapping application fields in the State Chancellery, Q4/2022: Potential analysis report is available, Q4/2022: Workshop on results of the potential analysis and collection of possible pilot projects, Q1/2023: Workshop on developing pilot projects, Q2/2023: Profiles for pilot projects are available

Target date: 2023

the support and coordination structures for the municipalities and, in the interests of local self-government, are preparing further offers for the shared and subsequent use of IT solutions in addition to the provision of basic IT components. As a central element of these efforts, we are increasing the bandwidth of the existing networking infrastructure of the state administration network (LVN kommunal). A state-wide web offering for digital support of planning procedures by Brandenburg municipalities is also among the supporting measures. In spatial planning and construction, the dissemination of digital tools in connection with interoperable data standards is intended to make planning, approval and participation processes significantly more effective and at the same time more transparent for everyone involved in the process. These often lengthy procedures can thus be accelerated.

In keeping with the spirit of digital participation, all e-government services should be user-friendly, interoperable, accessible and non-discriminatory. As part of the division of labour in implementing the OZG, Brandenburg, represented by the MLK, continues to take the lead for the OZG topic area of "Immigration and Emigration". In this context, it is responsible for the nationwide digitalisation of several OZG services in this area, ranging from the application for a residence permit to the accelerated procedure for skilled workers. The target groups of these online services are foreigners (third-country nationals and EU/EEA citizens), the business community and the administration (foreigners' authorities). In addition to the goal of making the online services user-friendly and intuitive, the online services are also offered in multiple languages to facilitate access.

Project box 28:

Digitalise the building permission procedure

Support of the municipal project to implement the OZG service of “Planning permission”. The aim is to set up a state-wide web offering of the “Virtuelles Bauamt Brandenburg” (Brandenburg virtual planning office, VBA) for digital applications and communication in the building permission procedure. The connection to the specialised procedures in the lower building supervisory authorities takes place using the data standard XBau 2.2.

Project #62

Ministry responsible: MIL

Milestones: Piloting as of 2022; then state-wide transition

Target date: ongoing

Project box 29:

Land tax reform – development and provision of information tools

The aim is to provide a general digital information offering on the land tax reform and plot and land information. The provision of a chat bot is also planned. A land tax viewer available to citizens on the internet will be provided by 30.06.2022.

Project #63

Ministry responsible: MdFE

Milestones: Publication of a land tax viewer by 2022

Target date: by 2024

To provide citizens and companies with administrative services digitally, Brandenburg operates the state service portal at service.brandenburg.de. It enables central access to administrative services by Brandenburg and Brandenburg municipalities. What is more, it is also possible to search for information on administrative services provided by other states and the federal government. Through the improved integration of the Bürger- und Unternehmensservice Brandenburg (Brandenburg Citizen and Business Service, BUS-BB), the portal also provides central access to descriptions of administrative services and information regarding responsibility

as well as to administrative services that are already available online.

We will modernise the administrative registers (e.g. register of residents, civil registry, central vehicle register) in Brandenburg and make it digitally usable. This benefits both the administration and citizens and businesses. **Register modernisation** is the prerequisite for ensuring that the information and evidence required for administrative services need only be transmitted once and can then be exchanged directly between administrations with the users' consent. Here, the once-only principle is a condition for comply-



Project box 30:

Leadership in the Online Access Act topic of “Immigration and Emigration”

Within the framework of the Online Access Act (OZG) implementation based on division of labour, Brandenburg, represented by the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs, takes the lead for the OZG topic area of “Immigration and Emigration”. In this context, it is responsible for the nationwide digitalisation of several OZG services by the end of 2022. In April 2022, the online service “Section 24 Residence Act” developed by Brandenburg for refugees from Ukraine went online nationwide on the Germany4Ukraine website. More than 100 foreigners’ authorities in 12 federal states are connected.

In addition, the implementation project Residence Cards and Residence-Relevant Certificates has been online within Brandenburg since August 2021 with the online service “Permanent Residence Certificate” in the district of Teltow-Fläming and Brandenburg an der Havel.

Project #64

Ministry responsible: MIK

Milestones: Connection of further foreigners’ authorities to the “Section 24 Residence Act” online service for refugees from Ukraine, further roll-out of the “Permanent Residence Certificate” online service

Target date: by the end of 2022

Project box 31:

Brandenburg state service portal – service.brandenburg.de

Along with central access to administrative services, the state service portal also offers information such as directories of authorities and municipalities as well as information on state law. Most of it is also available in English. Part of the further work is multilingualism, especially in Sorbian/Wendish. Optimisation and further development are taking place in the areas of user guidance and usability of the search function, menu navigation, accessibility and the presentation of results and information in the portal. In addition to the existing presentation and output of administrative services from A to Z, the output should also be sorted according to life situations.

Project #65

Ministry responsible: MIK

Milestones: Expansion of multilingualism, presentation of life situations; further development and optimisation of user guidance and usability of search functions; menu guidance, display

Target date: ongoing

ing with the European Union's Single Digital Gateway Directive (SDG). Modernising the registers is one of the central prerequisites for the sustainable, pervasive digitalisation of our administration. Following the adoption of the Register Modernisation Act (RegMoG) at the end of 2020, the federal and state governments are still in the early stages of implementation. To implement this task, the IT Planning Council launched the "Register Modernisation Steering Project" in spring 2021. Concrete requirements and initial implementation steps of this cross-level project have already been formulated in the target image for register modernisation. Furthermore, the "Implementing Act" for the implementation of the "Once Only Technical System" is being prepared at European level. This major project is scheduled to run for several years. In cooperation with the federal government, the other federal states and the Brandenburg municipalities, we will promptly develop a governance structure for the concrete implementation of this major and important task.

In 2020, the Zweckverband Digitale Kommunen Brandenburg (Brandenburg Association of Digital Municipalities - DIKOM) was formed with the advisory support of the Städte- und Gemeindebund Brandenburg (Brandenburg Association of Towns and Municipalities) as a step towards promoting intermunicipal cooperation at the level of towns, offices and municipalities. The purpose of the association is to perform all classic tasks of a municipal IT service provider on behalf of its members and to support the municipal level in implementing administrative digitalisation within the framework of the OZG.

The founding of the association is of great significance for the political goal described in the coalition agreement of Brandenburg to create a joint structure that will perspective-ly bring together the capacities for administrative digitalisation of the state, the districts, towns and municipalities under one roof with special consideration of the municipal inter-

ests and needs. As a first step in this direction, we will strengthen the state's central IT service provider and develop it into a competence centre for the state and municipalities in cooperation with the leading municipal associations. DIKOM will work closely with the Brandenburg IT service provider on this project. This will implement an essential part of the **overall strategy to create a common IT structure** to enable the rapid implementation of digitalisation, the improvement of IT security and the provision of online administrative services.

We will develop a **cybersecurity strategy** that will include aspects of both internal and external information security. Internal information security refers to the information security of the state administration itself. The guarantee and control of this information security will be mapped by a state-wide information security management system. The fundamental building block for this is the new guideline for information security in the state administration. External information security (cybersecurity) is to be considered as its counterpart. Cybersecurity is intended to address all aspects of security when dealing with IT. This particularly includes protecting the economy against espionage, defending against cybercrime and protecting critical infrastructures in terms of information technology. In addition, the cybersecurity strategy is to describe measures which serve to create overviews of the security situation, in particular in the municipalities. A cybersecurity strategy to be developed by the MIK will be started on the basis of the information security guideline, as both security aspects (internal and external IT security) are interlinked.

We will offer the digital services and offerings of the public administration with a focus on data security and user-friendliness. The **protection of personal data** belonging to our citizens is of paramount priority here. Protection against unauthorised access is provided by storing the data on servers in Germany, what is already a particularly well-functioning



Project box 32:

Brandenburg planning portal

The platform planungsportal.brandenburg.de was set up for legally regulated participation procedures, making federal, state and municipal plans visible in the long term and offering the possibility to submit comments online. The planning portal is also intended to serve as a model for other participation procedures, to improve and simplify participation, and to provide citizens in Brandenburg with an up-to-date overview of existing plans or the procedural status of urban land use plans, for example.

The overall goal of the portal is to increase transparency and reduce barriers. In the future, citizens will be able to obtain information online about current planning procedures and thus avoid “unnecessary” trips to the authorities. In the medium term, the Brandenburg planning portal is to be expanded to include further modules, e.g. a vacant building land register, a virtual approval authority and a database for effective planning.

Project #66

Ministry responsible: MIL

Milestones: “Online participation as per the Federal Building Code” module; “Implementation of the vacant building land register by 2023” module; “XPlanung server by 2024” module; “Virtual approval authority by 2026” module

Target date: by 2026

infrastructure, and coordinated processes for observing and monitoring security measures. In order to make administrative actions transparent and comprehensible, we are working on professional digital archiving. To this end, we want to remove technical obstacles and create appropriate interfaces in order to transfer the documents into the digital archives of the state and the municipalities that are to be set up.

As the government of Brandenburg, we want to make use of the possibilities of e-democracy to achieve active participation in political processes, for example through **online participation**. It is our goal to use online participation to involve a broad group of interested stakeholders more efficiently in decisions on administrative projects. We also want to promote participation in the digital space at municipal level. With the amendment of the mu-

nicipal constitution in June 2021, we made it possible for municipal representatives to participate in meetings via video under certain conditions. Furthermore, all members of a municipal council can participate in meetings via audio or video after an extraordinary emergency has been determined in the municipality.

Last but not least, we also stand for an **open data policy**. In order to make administrative data that is neither personal nor otherwise worthy of protection accessible and usable, we make it openly accessible in the spirit of the open data philosophy. By enabling the use and further development of this data, we are laying the foundations for data-driven research, new value chains and business models. Open data thus not only contributes to innovation and evidence-based decision-making in the performance of gov-

Project box 33:

Provision of open data

We want to make administrative data together with its metadata generally accessible, machine-readable and openly available under common open licences so that it can be used, distributed and reused by anyone.

The technical realisation of this open availability takes place in open standards. Making open data available through the administration can create innovative value at different levels: whether in business, science or for more democratic participation and transparency. Administrations can also benefit from data by using datasets to make evidence-based decisions. They can also benefit from innovative third-party services and products created through the release of their data.

Project #67

Ministry responsible: MIK


Milestones: Development of a data strategy (2022); implementation of the data strategy (ongoing; with DABB); legal open data regulation (by 2024); optimisation of the open data portal DatenAdler.de (ongoing); acquisition of further data providers (ongoing); expansion of the data inventory (ongoing)

Target date: ongoing

ernment tasks, it also strengthens trust in government action through its transparency.

In addition, open data enables comparison and “competition” between government bodies, which we see as a positive incentive for a continuous improvement process in government and administration.

The **implementation of internal digitalisation** and the digitalisation of administrative services within the framework of the OZG are being driven forward with the involvement of employee representatives in all ministries in accordance with their own responsibilities and scope. Further individual measures of the respective bodies can be found in the strategies of the ministries.



For **Action package VII: Modernise the administration and its services**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies:

- **Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs (MIK)**
E-government Strategy of Brandenburg
 - **Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs (MIK)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs
 - **Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection (MLUK)**
Ministerial digital policy strategy – digitalisation in the service of agriculture, the environment and climate protection
 - **Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)
 - **Ministry of Finance and European Affairs (MdFE)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Finance and European Affairs of Brandenburg
 - **State Chancellery of Brandenburg**
Better connected. Digital together.
Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery
-

Action package VIII: Perform public authority tasks digitally

Digitalisation in Brandenburg is also being comprehensively advanced and shaped by innovative projects in the judiciary and the police, including the extended security complex (mobile task forces, hazard prevention and disaster management). Here, we want to use the digital transformation to harmonise nationwide structures, e.g. to improve the information architecture of the police at the federal and state levels and to ensure networked and better availability of police information. Acceptance of and trust in our constitutional state will be further increased through the use of digital applications in the justice system.

We want to make greater use of digital tools throughout the entire course of court proceedings, as they can lead to significant workload reductions for all parties involved, but also generate greater transparency. The use of digital technologies in the judiciary ranges from the **opening of electronic legal transactions**, which is already in place – although citizens are not obliged to use electronic legal transactions and can still communicate with the courts by post – to the use of electronic procedures and the full-scale introduction of electronic file management in all types of proceedings at the courts and public prosecutors' offices, to the creation of central IT infrastructures.

For the government of Brandenburg, the full-scale introduction of the electronic case file (e-file) at courts and public prosecutors' offices by 2026, but also the **further consolidation of a central IT infrastructure** for the judiciary at the Central IT Service Provider of the Judiciary of Brandenburg (ZenIT) are of great importance. This also applies to nationwide coordination within the framework of the

Project box 34:

Full-scale introduction of the electronic case file (e-file) in the judiciary of Brandenburg

The full-scale introduction of the e-file in all courts and public prosecutors' offices in Brandenburg is the central digital policy task for the MdJ in the coming years. With the full-scale opening of electronic legal transactions with the courts and public prosecutors' offices as well as the electronic specialised procedures that have been in use for years, the e-file is the final building block for an almost paperless office in the judiciary. The introduction of the electronic file is a milestone in the digitalisation of the justice system, but at the same time a great challenge for all involved. In order to master this enormous challenge, a comprehensive project mandate was issued, which created the framework conditions for overarching project coordination for a full-scale introduction of the electronic file. After the pilot procedures at the District Courts of Frankfurt (Oder) and Neuruppin (both in civil matters) as well as at the Local Courts of Brandenburg an der Havel (family matters/civil matters) and Strausberg (civil matters/family matters) were successful, the e-file has now been introduced as standard in the ordinary courts in civil and family matters since 1 April 2022. The electronic file was first introduced at Potsdam District Court on 1 April 2022, then at Cottbus/Chósebus District Court on 1 June 2022 and at Brandenburg Higher District Court on 1 July 2022. This will be followed by the other district courts, so that by the end of 2023 the files in the above-mentioned areas will be kept electronically in all courts of ordinary jurisdiction.

Project #68

Ministry responsible: MdJ

Milestones: Full-scale introduction of the electronic file in all courts and public prosecutors' offices of Brandenburg by 1 January 2026

Target date: by 2026

e-Justice Council and the Joint Commission of the Federal and State Governments for Information Technology in the Judiciary (BLK). To facilitate digital, inter-office communication between the police and the judiciary, we are developing improved IT solutions and the interfaces necessary for this.

In cooperation with other federal states, we are making great efforts to standardise different specialised procedures nationwide in order to advance the modernisation process in a resource-saving and uniform manner. To this end, we have joined an administrative agreement under which a common

nationwide procedure for the courts and public prosecutors' offices is to be developed and maintained. The aim is to counteract increased costs for development, maintenance and further development in all federal states and to make use of digitalisation's cost-cutting potential.

We also want to use the potential of digitalisation to improve new adjustments in police work, for example, within the framework of a nationwide harmonisation of structures in order to act in a networked manner against organised crime. In particular, we are consistently working on harmonising the information architecture



Project box 35:

Courtroom equipment and WiFi in Brandenburg court buildings

The courtrooms of the courts are to be equipped with expanded modern technology (including laptop connections, retractable screens), since as a direct consequence of the introduction of electronic legal transactions and the e-file, the entire electronic file content must be available during the hearing and must be able to be viewed by all participants. In addition, the new courtroom equipment will serve to enable video hearings and witness examinations by means of video conferencing. For this purpose, a cloud-based video conferencing environment (BigBlueButton), which can be used for full-scale deployment in the justice system with normal protection requirements, will be available after successful testing. Furthermore, the publicly accessible areas of all Brandenburg courts will be equipped with WiFi access, which should ensure that all parties to the proceedings can access their digital files and electronic documents at any time, also in the court buildings.

Project #69

Ministry responsible: MdJ

Milestones: Evaluation of the pilot system at Neuruppin District Court 2022

Target date: ongoing until 2026

within the framework of the “Police 20/20 Programme” and providing it with the necessary resources. Not least, this will enable us to create “**jobs of the future**” in the police.

The creation of modern workplace structures in the police is an elementary prerequisite for combating crime phenomena in the digital space especially. Many measures have already been introduced here, which must be

Project box 36:

Creation of a modern workplace of the future in the police

Innovative tools, multidimensional communication and federal interoperability will create “workplaces of the future” in the police. This will be achieved, for example, through integrative specialised procedures, mobile terminals, a full-scale video conferencing system and a police messenger system.

Project #70

Ministry responsible: MIK

Milestones: Project planning pending

Target date: ongoing

continuously implemented and developed. We also want to prepare the state's police officers for the challenges of the digital world in the best possible way in the area of education and training. That is why the topic of **cybercrime** is a curricular component of police training as well as of the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes at the University of Applied Sciences of the Brandenburg Police.

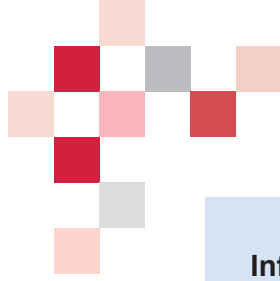
In order to deal with the steadily increasing number of suspected cases of child and youth pornography, a special investigation unit for cybercrime/sexualised violence against children will be set up at police directorate level as a new criminal police structure from April 2022. By initiating a research network to intensify cooperation in criminological research in the field of sexual violence against children, knowledge about this type of crime is to be expanded and more effective intervention approaches developed. This is coordinated by the University of Applied Sciences of the Brandenburg Police.

The topic of digital violence is also taken into account in the areas of **police prevention and police victim protection**. As such, the victim protection compass provides police officers in Brandenburg with practical instructions on how to deal with child and adolescent victims of cyberbullying, cybergrooming or cyberstalking via social media.

In 2017, the police headquarters concluded a cooperation agreement with the Consumer Association of Brandenburg to "promote the prevention and prosecution of asset, property and cybercrime as well as violations of legal regulations that serve to protect consumers". Examples of measures are the development of prevention materials for the target group of senior citizens to combat cybertrading (investment fraud on the internet) by the police and the regular support of mobile consumer protection work by the police in Brandenburg with the "Digimobil".

A "plan of action in the fight against right-wing extremism and hate crime" was presented in June 2020 for the **suppression of hate-motivated or extremist activities** in the analogue and digital world. In light of the public debate on the influence of hate on the internet, which endangers democracy, there is further need for action, and police and judicial measures against "hate posts" are necessary. An increased online police presence and consistent prosecution of punishable comments of hate and violence on the internet as well as accompanying public relations work counteract the perception that the internet is a virtually lawless space. The Brandenburg Police Department has strengthened internet monitoring for offensive and cross-phenomenon danger prevention and prosecution, and has established a central office for combating hate crime on the internet for this purpose. The aim is also to prevent attacks on public officials and elected representatives as well as volunteers who make an irreplaceable contribution to our open and democratic society. In order to effectively counter the spread of anti-constitutional ideologies and terrorist threats on the internet, a specialised unit for combating cyber-extremism was also set up at the constitutional protection agency with the areas of open and covert internet research.

Critical infrastructures (CRITIS) have an increased need for protection as they guarantee the upholding of life as a society. CRITIS include public and private institutions in the areas of government and administration, energy, health, information and telecommunications technologies, transport and traffic, media and culture, water, finance and insurance, and food. The protection of CRITIS encompasses all phases of risk and crisis management. In each phase, the interaction between the operators of critical infrastructures and the specialised and emergency response authorities is a key success factor in the context of



Info box 15:

Fighting crime in the digital space

We fight crime where it originates – both in the analogue and in the digital space. We achieve this through measures that include illuminating and improving the data situation on digital crime phenomena, creating new enforcement structures for criminal police, strengthening the technical infrastructures in all areas of the police, including those of police crime prevention and police victim protection, as well as specially trained personnel.

their respective responsibilities. We have set up a CRITIS coordination office in the MIK and are cooperating with numerous partners to further expand activities. By setting up a uniform geodata infrastructure across the state for authorities and organisations with security tasks, we are additionally providing geoinformation and services centrally for sustainable and cross-thematic use as well as standardised interfaces for the participating security systems and procedures of the users and networking them with each other.

In addition to police measures and the protection of critical infrastructures, we also want to achieve greater security for the people of Brandenburg and their natural environment within the framework of the (expanded) overall complex of security in the areas of mobile task forces, hazard prevention and disaster management by creating innovative digital solutions, for example in the area of flood protection and forest fire fighting.

Through the intelligent use of sensor technology, for example, alarm times can be shortened in forest fire detection, firefighting can begin sooner and in a more targeted manner, and the area affected by fire can be reduced. State-wide monitoring of the hydrological situation is also facilitated via IT-supported applications.

For **Action package VIII: Perform public authority tasks digitally**, additional key measures are contained in the following ministry strategies:

- **Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs (MIK)**
Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs
 - **Ministry of Justice (MdJ)**
Digital agenda of the Ministry of Justice of Brandenburg
 - **Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection (MLUK)**
Ministerial digital policy strategy – digitalisation in the service of agriculture, the environment and climate protection
-

Project box 37:

Protection of critical infrastructures

Brandenburg takes a cooperative approach to working with operators, supplemented by regulatory elements as needed. The respective ministries responsible sector-specific measures to protect critical infrastructures in accordance with their remit. We secure the operation of socially relevant infrastructures by expanding cooperation with partners from the federal and governments. For example, the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI), the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community (BMI) and the Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BKK) are all involved.

Project #71

Ministry responsible: MIK, all

Milestones: Project planning still pending

Target date: ongoing

Project box 38:

IT-supported early detection of forest fires

With the help of a terrestrial, sensor-supported early forest fire detection system, any smoke development can be automatically detected as soon as it rises from the treetops.

Project #72

Ministry responsible: MLUK

Milestones: Evaluation and networking with fire service control centres

Target date: ongoing modernisation measures up to 2027

Project box 39:

Flood information centre

Quick and easy access to current flood information and hydrological parameters is to be made possible via the internet (flood portal).

Measure #73

Ministry responsible: MLUK

Milestones: Project planning still pending

Target date: by 2025



Digitalisation is an area with an enormous speed of innovation and thus a great challenge for the planning, control and coordination of development and administrative processes.

3. Shape and govern

The path to implementation of the Digital Programme

The implementation of the Digital Programme is a task that has been assigned the target date of 2025 here. This date is to be understood as a programmatic target line for the near future. Many projects will already be completed before then – others, however, will extend far beyond that date. The digital transformation is an area with an enormous speed of innovation and thus a great challenge for the planning and budgetary rhythms of public administration. Accordingly, it is important to (further) develop flexible mechanisms that

enable us to react quickly to new developments, in addition to establishing general objectives and the projects mentioned.

Three elements of a more agile digital policy are therefore examined below:

- improved coordination at different levels
- more flexible staff and financial resources
- increased transparency and communication of digital policy

3.1 Management and coordination

Digital coordination in the Brandenburg government has made great progress in the past years. The government pursues a coordinated and decentralised digital policy under which the responsibility for digitalisation is aligned with the specialist responsibility of the respective ministries.

Staffing for digital policy issues in the ministries is being continuously expanded in order to achieve this goal. This also applies to the State Chancellery, which is responsible for managing and coordinating digital policy in Brandenburg. In its function, it brings together the digital policy strands from the ministries and ensures that potential synergies can be identified and exploited in all projects. With the digitalisation strategy of 2018, a large number of operational formats have already been initiated and implemented, which we are further developing after a critical review of the current situation.

At the highest political level, the **Digital Cabinet** has been meeting every six months since 2018 and focuses on digital policy topics and proposals. In addition, **meetings of the heads of office** with a digital policy focus are held as needed. These successful formats are supplemented by an institutionalised **steering committee of state secretaries** from ministries that are central to digital policy. With a lead time of about three months to the next Digital Cabinet, this digital policy steering group makes it possible to create a keen focus on digital policy and give the Digital Cabinets an even more strategic orientation. These formats should be accompanied by corresponding preliminary discussions at a higher working level.

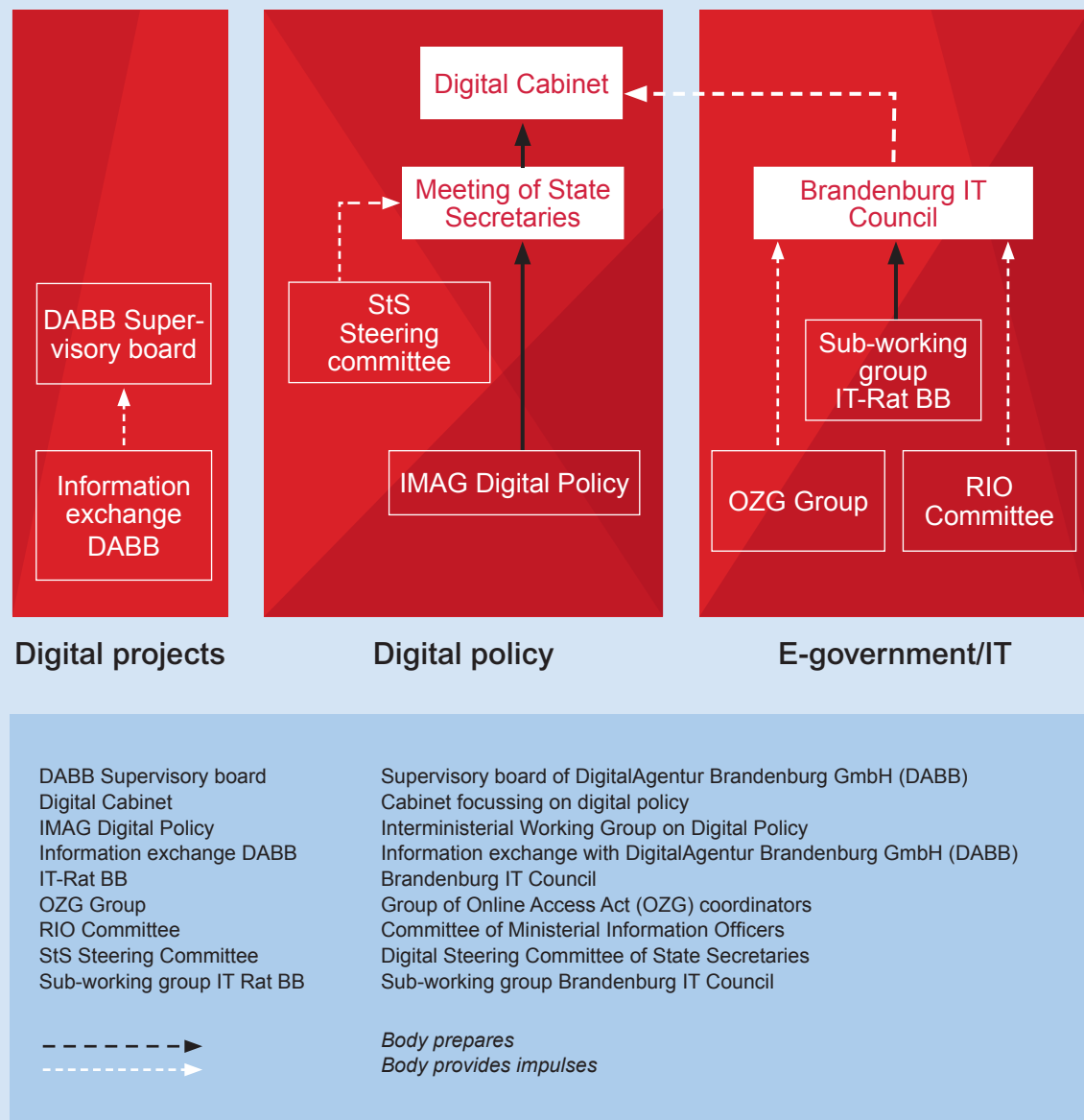
The **IMAG Digital Policy**, in which the digital policy coordinators from all ministries meet monthly under the leadership of the State Chancellery, has been a tried and tested

body since 2017. The role of the digital policy coordinator was created in the course of introducing the IMAG Digital Policy and located in different organisational units according to their digital policy function in the ministries. The digital policy coordinators of the ministries are the central contact persons for the topics dealt with in the IMAG. They also act as multipliers for digital policy topics in their ministries, coordinate digital policy processes within the government, such as the creation of the Digital Programme, and support net-

working across departments and ministries. In recent years, several ministries have created their own digital policy staff units that coordinate the work across departments and are closely linked to the level of ministry leadership.

State parliament resolutions, evaluations and expert reports attest that the format of the IMAG Digital Policy has the greatest potential for efficient digital coordination at the working level and must be further expanded. The

Fig. 4: Digital coordination in Brandenburg



increase in digital policy staff in all ministries as well as the connection to the government planning database create new opportunities to make digital coordination even more effective and strategic than before. The IMAG's mandate will be enhanced and expanded accordingly. The digital policy coordinators will be further empowered in the respective ministries – as stated in the state parliament resolution of 28 April 2021 (printed document 7/3439-B).

In addition, we are increasingly broadening our view beyond the borders of Brandenburg. In June 2019, Brandenburg brought together all the digital coordinators of the federal states in Potsdam for the first time, thus laying the foundation for the **D16 format**, in which the digital ministers and digital commissioners of all 16 federal states (with guest participation from the federal government) meet regularly to exchange experiences. Brandenburg will continue to play a very active role in federal coordination in the digital sector.


Deeper **digital policy collaboration with our neighbouring state of Berlin** has been agreed in field of action 6 of the “Overall Strategic Framework for the Capital Region” (SGHR) and will be intensified in the coming years. Even more intensive digital dialogue with other neighbouring federal states is being pursued. In addition, we will continue to be involved in digital policy debates at **federal and EU level**. The same applies to a structured digital policy **dialogue with the municipalities** and municipal umbrella organisations, which is intended to complement the previous, more technically oriented formats. Brandenburg will provide impetus to anchor the topic of **digital policy** more strongly and as a standalone topic in the **Federal Council**. One possibility is the formation of a corresponding Federal Council committee.

Figure 4 provides an overview of digital coordination in Brandenburg. Appendix II shows the composition of the various committees.

3.2 Financing and personnel

A successful digital policy requires an appropriate financial and personnel framework in order to meet the requirements of the digital transformation in a way that is oriented towards the common good and satisfactory for citizens. The government is already using extensive budget funds (also as co-financing of federal funds) to implement digitalisation projects, for example in the priority areas of education, health, mobility and administrative digitalisation. In addition, a centrally budgeted and transferable OZG budget will be set up from 2023 to enable a flexible response to OZG subsequent use offers along the lines of the “one for all” principle.

The tight budget situation also requires approaches to address urgent digitalisation needs with the available funds and human resources. This also includes leveraging potential for synergies and networking effects across ministries. In order to achieve this, the government will commission the IMAG Digital Policy to develop concepts on central issues of sustainable financial and human resources for digitalisation projects in the course of 2023. These concepts should, on the one hand, take into account the dynamics and requirements of the digital transformation and, on the other hand, reflect the sovereignty of the ministries in questions of personnel and



finances. The IMAG Digital Policy will therefore ensure a high degree of ministerial coordination in the development process of the concepts and can set up sub-working groups to ensure efficiency.

The approaches to be developed address the following topics:

- 1. Preparation of a digital budget for Brandenburg:** The government is examining how it can present its expenditure on digital projects as a digital budget starting with the 2025 financial year. A coordinated systematic labelling of digital expenditure in the state budget would support the strategic design of the state's digital policy. At the same time, it should make it easier to understand how the implementation of the Digital Programme is supported financially. Part of the budget is to be modelled on the OZG budget. This is one way to initiate and finance digital projects more flexibly during the year.

The basis for this is to log the digital expenditure of Brandenburg's government as quickly as possible in a structured and transparent manner. In order to achieve this, an interministerial process will be initiated forthwith, which will result in a concept for the labelling of digital expenditure. The labelling logic for digital expenditure should therefore be oriented towards the structure of the Digital Programme 2025.

- 2. Improvement of digital skills in the state administration:** In addition to innovative financing instruments, digitally skilled and flexibly deployable personnel are needed for the implementation of digital projects. Various approaches and measures are to be developed for this purpose in a concept for strengthening digital skills in the state administration. The development of the concept takes into account the resources available, for example at ZIT-BB, ZDPol, ZENIT, TFA and DABB. Conceivable approaches include the provision of digital experts, the introduction of a trainee programme and the targeted recruitment of junior staff. For further education as an on-the-job qualification, the aim is also to develop uniform qualification levels based on the European Digital Competence Framework. The concept development also ties in with existing programmes and measures, such as the dual course of study in administrative informatics at the Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau.

These concepts are intended to define important interministerial cornerstones for the financial and personnel support of the Digital Programme 2025. In this way, they also contribute to future-proof digital transformation in the state administration in times of a shortage of skilled workers and new challenges in the digital world.

3.3 Communication and dialogue

With the increasing societal relevance of digital policy, we want to deepen communication and dialogue on digital policy in Brandenburg within the framework of the Digital Programme 2025. As a cross-cutting topic, digitalisation not only links different specialist departments, but also contributes to ever-stronger networking. Thus, we continue to

see it as a central task to inform science and the economy as well as civil society stakeholders about the developments in digital policy, and to involve them in shaping these developments. In addition to networking and exchanges, the aim is to address the social impact of digitalisation. For example, we promote this through the Brandenburg Sustaina-

Project box 40:

pioneer4BB – the MLUK faces up to the challenges of the future

Self-assured, effective, focused, robust – these characteristics also make a state ministry attractive. In order to acquire them, the MLUK exchanges ideas with agile and innovative companies on good practices and integrates new approaches and ways of thinking with existing structures. Inspired by Work4Germany, the MLUK is currently piloting the “pioneer4BB” dual work shadowing programme in three departments in 2022. Over a period of six months, employees of the ministry form a tandem with experts from the private sector, academia or a non-profit organisation. The tandem partners each spend three months at their respective partner organisation on a flexible basis regarding time and place. The goal of the mutual work shadowing is not only to change perspectives and generate creative ideas and impulses, but also especially to transfer methodical competence, in order to establish sound knowledge of agile, collaborative and digitally-supported work at the ministry. In the programme, the MLUK promotes and requires close and trusting cooperation with partner companies, and emphasises joint learning in practice with a parallel further training programme. The key success factors of the programme are the involvement of management, the opening of experimental labs and the establishing of appropriate error tolerance at the ministry.

Keep it simple: in line with this motto, “pioneer4BB” is designed to be legally and financially lean, so that implementation can be carried out relatively easily and quickly. For the MLUK, this approach is the first step towards becoming a learning organisation that is proactive and acts quickly in a constantly changing world.

Project #83

Ministry responsible: MLUK

Milestones: “Half-time” of the current run/change of the tandem partners to their partner organisation in September 2022
Final event of the current run in December 2022

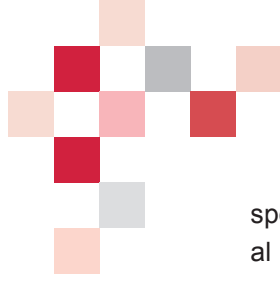
Target date: 2022/ongoing

bility Platform – a network that is open to regional sustainability initiatives, organisations and institutions, in order to boost their work together for a sustainable Brandenburg; explicitly also in the context of digitalisation and sustainability.

With the Strategy Paper of 2018, we have laid the foundation for more transparent digital policy in the state. Key measures, such as setting up a **website on digital policy** (www.digitalesbb.de) or the **monthly digital policy newsletter** have been implemented quick-

ly and have since been providing regular information on the most important digital policy projects in the state. With the further development of the Strategy Paper into the Digital Programme 2025, the **expansion of digital policy social media services** should be intensified, in order to provide immediate and target group-oriented information about the digital policy work of the government and innovative digital projects in Brandenburg.

However, we also want to intensify exchanges and the opportunity for participation at the



specialist level. With the help of an annual **high-level digital conference** as well as networking formats under the leadership of digital ambassadors, we want to enable platforms for experts in the digital sector and discuss key digital policy topics with them. We also pursue this approach of exchanges at the overall German and European level. The digital space without geographical borders requires increased networking, also across Brandenburg's borders.

The last few years have shown: Brandenburg and its citizens, associations, clubs and organisations are full of ideas and energy. We use this potential for shaping digital policy, by strengthening citizens' internal participation and thus making room for suggestions and constructive criticism. As envisaged in the coalition agreement, we will develop an **on-line participation portal**, in order to promote participatory democracy and electronic participation. We have already taken a first step in this direction with the Digital Programme 2025: during the development of the pro-

gramme, a wide-ranging **consultation process** was implemented, in which not only an online survey on the digitalesbb.de website and an association hearing were carried out, but also dialogue formats at various locations in Brandenburg.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that digital policy cannot only be discussed and shaped in the digital space. Accordingly, analogue formats such as **regional conferences on specific topics and civil dialogues**, which were severely restricted or not possible at all due to the pandemic, are to be re-introduced and implemented on a more extensive basis. In addition, open innovation formats, **competitions, digital shop windows and practical labs** should invite participants to help shape digital policy. In this way, we want to create low-threshold offers to reach all population groups where possible, to contribute to the development of digital skills and to generate a lasting interest in digital policy issues.

3.4 Outlook

The Digital Programme 2025 will be implemented quickly and according to the timelines outlined. It will ensure that medium-term and long-term measures are backed with appropriate resources.

By linking the digital coordination to the decentralised government planning database, continuous and up-to-date monitoring of the individual projects is ensured. Agreed measures will be checked regularly to see if they are still up-to-date and appropriate, and will

be adjusted if necessary in the event of new challenges or changed conditions.

The government of Brandenburg will continue monitoring the implementation of the Digital Programme 2025 on an ongoing basis and will report to the state parliament on the implementation of the Digital Programme 2025 in the current and subsequent legislative periods. The ongoing reporting obligation for the implementation of the 2018 Strategy Paper will be integrated therein.

4. Appendix

I. Projects from the #dp25

II. Bodies and stakeholders of digital coordination in Brandenburg

III. Important documents for digital policy in Brandenburg

Please note that these documents are only available in the original German version.

IV. Digitalisation strategies of the ministries and the State Chancellery

Please note that these documents are only available in the original German version.

V. Directories

Projects and milestones that are important for state policy

I. Projects from the #dp25

The measures for the path to a digital future are at different stages of progress and planning. It is important to the government of Brandenburg not only to outline measures for which funding is already in place, but also to document the approaches and concepts of the ministries for achieving a good digital future in Brandenburg which have not yet been funded. Some of the measures still require budgetary agreement. In this respect, the Digital Programme serves as a basis for further action by the government in shaping the digital policy of the future.

Action package I:

Ensure digital skills in all phases of life

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
1	Training for professionals, equipping childcare facilities with digital devices	MBJS	Kick-off event Ongoing further education and procurement of digital devices as required in 2022	end of 2022
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports see Project box 1				
2	Increase the digitalisation skills of girls and women	MSGIV	Inclusion of the funding criterion in the memorandum on funding projects in the field of girls' empowerment, on implementing the objectives of the Gender Equality Framework Programme for Brandenburg and on strengthening the work of women's centres for the 2022 fiscal year	2025
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025 see Project box 2				
3	School Cloud Brandenburg	MBJS	Trial operation and further development from 2021 in partnership with Lower Saxony and Thuringia	2025
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports see Project box 3				
4	Media Competence Strengthens Brandenburg	MBJS	Networking Implementation of projects and further development of cooperation	ongoing
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports				

Continuation of Action package I: Ensure digital skills in all phases of life

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
5	Mobile offers for media education	MBJS	Extension of the JIM network to approx. 30 institutions; further training of up to 100 educators in different pedagogical settings within the framework of the "jumblr" transfer programme; coaching and practical support of up to 30 educators within the framework of "jumblr" in 2022	ongoing
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports see Project box 4				
6	Digitalisation at the Brandenburg student unions	MWFK	Support with establishing digital advisory services and expanding the digital administration infrastructure of the student unions	gradually by 2030
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg see Project box 5				
7	Training digital competences, DigitalCampus Brandenburg	MBJS	Further education offers for adult education professionals in 2022	ongoing
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports see Project box 6				
8	Network for digital qualification and cooperation network in child and youth welfare – Netquali-BB	MBJS	Expansion of cooperation partners, the media library, seminar and media offerings	2022
see Portal for child and youth welfare professionals in Brandenburg see Project box 7				

Action package II: Enable participation in and through digitalisation

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
9	Digital accessibility (monitoring and implementation)	MSGIV (LASV)	Review of the websites of all state ministries regarding digital accessibility by 2025 by the monitoring body for digital accessibility in the State Office for Social Affairs and Care (LASV)	ongoing
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025 see Project box 8				
10	Mobile consumer advice (Digimobil)	MSGIV	Consumer advice and information via video chat in the Digimobil II from the start of 2022	2022
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025				
11	Digitally FIT for Senior Citizens' Advisory Boards	MSGIV (LSBA)	Training for 26 senior citizen's advisory boards per year on digital communication and technology	ongoing
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025				
12	Smart surfing	MSGIV	Training of multipliers for the target group of senior citizens as well as a detailed concept for other target groups by the end of the second quarter of 2022 Establishing and maintaining networks	2024
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025 see Project box 9				
13	Digital addiction counselling	MSGIV	Ensuring state-wide coordination in the "DigiSucht" digital addiction project	2022/2023
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025				
14	Supporting schools/school operators with planning network connectivity	MBJS (DABB)	Communication about initial specific projects Concept development	2022
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports				
15	Extracurricular youth education (poss. key focus on digital youth participation)	MBJS (DABB)	Communication about initial specific projects Concept development	2022
see https://www.digital-agentur.de/veranstaltungen/digitale-jugendarbeit02				

Action package III: Strengthen public services through digital offers

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
16	Digitalisation of the local health departments	MSGIV	Preparation of a final report regarding the administrative agreement on the technical modernisation of the local health departments by June 2022	2026
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection 2021 – 2025 see Project box 10				
17	Digital lead hospital	MWFK (with the involvement of the MSGIV)	Establishing the foundation for a digital lead hospital Expansion into a platform provider Networking with the stakeholders of the Lusatia model region for health	2035
see Project box 11				
18	Transfer initiation to ensure healthcare services in rural areas	DABB (Stk, MSGIV, MWAE)	Exchanges and networking with relevant stakeholders in 2022	2022
19	Digitalisation working group (care sector)	MSGIV (in cooperation with the members of the Landespflegeausschuss [LPA] state care committee)	Ensuring exchanges and networking of care stakeholders in the state on issues of digitalisation in care – also at the interface to related care areas – as well as publicising digital offers in care	2023
see https://msgiv.brandenburg.de/msgiv/de/themen/soziales/pflege/landespflegeausschuss/#				
20	Data collection and preparation for digitalisation in care institutions	DABB (Stk, MSGIV, MWAE)	Evaluation of analyses Visualisation of results and communication of findings in 2022	2022
see https://www.digital-agentur.de/schwerpunkte/digitalisierung-in-gesundheit-und-soziales/projekte/digital-radar-pflege				
21	Implementation of the “DigitalPact Schule 2019 – 2024” (Digital pact for schools 2019 – 2024) federal/state agreement, including supplementary agreements	MBJS	Development of an electronic cadastre Expansion of technical infrastructure at schools and teacher training facilities Development of digital education infrastructure	2026
see Strategic goals of the MBJS – The digital transformation of education, youth affairs and sports see Project box 12				

Continuation of Action package III: Strengthen public services through digital offers

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
22	Smart city manager	MIL (DABB)	Carrying out 3 training courses in the 2021/2022 period Qualification of a total of 45 administrative staff from Brandenburg municipalities	2022
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL) see https://mil.brandenburg.de/mil/de/presse/detail/~14-03-2022-smart-city-managerin# see https://www.digital-agentur.de/schwerpunkte/smart-city-and-regions/projekte/qualifizierung-zum-smart-city-manager				
23	Specialist support with relevant funding opportunities for smart cities/smart regions	DABB (MIL, Stk)	Ongoing provision of information and regular exchange formats	2022
see https://www.digital-agentur.de/schwerpunkte/smart-city-and-regions/projekte/modellprojekte-smart-cities-transfer-unterstuetzung				
24	Assisting the municipalities with the development of a digital strategy	DABB (MIL)	Ongoing provision of information and regular exchange formats	2022
see https://www.digital-agentur.de/schwerpunkte/smart-city-and-regions/projekte/baukasten-zur-strategieentwicklung				
25	"Meine Stadt der Zukunft" (My City of the Future) state initiative	MIL	Implementation of 8 model projects Knowledge transfer and specialist exchanges via specialist conferences, transfer workshops and networking	2022
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL)				
26	Continuation of the Mobility Strategy 2030	MIL	Online consultation planned for August/September 2022; completion in the fourth quarter of 2022	2022
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL) see Project box 13				

Action package IV: Promote digital social and cultural exchange

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
27	Digital transformation of cultural institutions	MWFK	Support for cultural institutions in developing their own digital strategies until 2025 Equipping the first cultural institutions with a modern digital infrastructure by 2023	2030
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg see Project box 14				
28	Digitally secure and preserve the cultural heritage, make it accessible and experienceable	MWFK	Project funding for digital capturing of analogue originals until 2025	2030
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg see Project box 15				
29	Development of usage possibilities for municipal and public archives in the Digitale Archivierung Nord (DAN) digital archiving cooperation network	MWFK	Creation of a support structure (model) by 2024	2025
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of Brandenburg				
30	Brandenburg AI cooperation platform	MWFK (DABB)	Platform support for the artificial intelligence strategy process in 2022	2022
31	Brandenburg cooperation platform for municipal networking	DABB (MWAE, Stk)	Establishment of a standard event format for transfer on relevant topics in 2022	2022
32	Anchor the mission of public-service broadcasting more firmly in the digital world	Stk	Coordination between the states	2023
see Better connected. Digital together. Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery see Project box 16				

Action package V: Support sustainability through digital instruments

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
33	Sustainable food chain – digital solutions	MLUK	Identification of projects Initiation of projects	2025
	see Project box 17			
34	Digital species monitoring	MLUK	Pilot of a species by 2022	ongoing
	see Project box 18			
35	Overall company quality assurance for agricultural companies (GQS Hof-Check)	MLUK	Establishment of the GQS Umwelt-Audit 2022 (GQS Environmental Audit) extension	2023
	see MLUK catalogue of measures – appendix to the “Ministerial digital policy strategy”			
36	Green IT strategy Brandenburg	MIK	Project planning still pending	2025
	see IT standards of the Brandenburg state administration see Project box 19			
37	Pilot ecological assessment dashboard for municipalities	DABB (MLUK, Stk, MIL)	Identification of application scenarios/needs in 2022	2022
	see https://www.digital-agentur.de/schwerpunkte/digitaler-gruener-sektor/projekte/kommunales-dashboard-umweltdaten			

Action package VI: Promote digital transformation of the economy

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
38	"White spots" roll-out using federal directive	MWAE	Successive roll-out and commissioning of all 37 approved project areas of 17 Brandenburg districts and three self-governing cities	12/2025
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg			
39	"Grey spots" roll-out using federal directive	MWAE	Initial applications from Brandenburg regional authorities to the state for state participation	2023/2024
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg			
40	Continuation of the funding for BIG-Digital	MWAE	The directive currently runs until 31.12.2023. BIG-Digital funding should be continued beyond 2025 in order to ensure ongoing support for SMEs.	ongoing
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg see Project box 20			
41	Continuation of the funding for the Brandenburg competence centres	MWAE	The revised KTT (knowledge and technology transfer) directive is due to enter into force in mid-to-end 2022 and provides for the temporary funding of competence centres for knowledge and technology transfer	ongoing
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg see Project box 21			
42	Digital places competition	MWAE	Start of the first competition at the end of 2022; last call expected in 2024.	2024
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg see Project box 22			
43	Industrial strategy	MWAE	Final report and draft strategy	mid 2023
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg			
44	GRW innovation cluster "Volumetric Capture Studio Babelsberg (Volucap GmbH)"	MWAE	Establishment of the volumetric studio Expansion of the volumetric studio	2024
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg			
45	LED studio "Volume" (Dark Bay GmbH, GRW-G)	MWAE	Establishment of the LED studio Expansion of the LED studio	2023
	see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg			

Continuation of Action package VI: Promote digital transformation of the economy

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
46	Energy portal of Brandenburg	MWAE	Pilot phase between 30.4.2022 and 31.12. 2022	Full commissioning on 1.1.2023
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
47	Tourism data infrastructure	MWAE	<p>(Further) development of tourist data(base) systems, including: tourism data hub with open data as a web service (by 2022)</p> <p>State tourism media database (by 2022)</p> <p>Data system for "BrandenburgCard" visitor card (by 2022/23)</p> <p>Buchungsverbund Brandenburg booking association (by 2023)</p> <p>Tourism visitor hub (by 2024)</p>	ongoing
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
48	Digital visitor management	MWAE	<p>Further development and state-wide provision of the "MeinBrandenburg" (MyBrandenburg) software for displaying visitor information on various digital end devices</p> <p>Development of a central tourism visitor hub for technology-based visitor management at tourist destinations (by 2024)</p> <p>Funding programme for digital visitor information and tourist visitor guidance (Digi-Tour-Invest, by the end of 2022)</p>	ongoing
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
49	Digital tourism knowledge management	MWAE	<p>Further development of the "Tourismusnetzwerk Brandenburg" (Brandenburg Tourism Network) B2B online portal</p> <p>Development and deployment of digital software tools for tourism companies and organisations (such as "meintracy" for measuring the performance of websites)</p> <p>Digital education and further training formats</p>	ongoing
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				

Continuation of Action package VI: Promote digital transformation of the economy

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
50	AI strategy for the economy	MWAE	12/2021 Publication 02/2022	Implementation from 2022
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
51	Lausitzer Zentrum für Künstliche Intelligenz (Lusatia Center for Artificial Intelligence, LZKI) (through the JTF; Lusatia)	MWFK/MWAE	Establishment of an infrastructure and service centre Establishment of a faculty-independent integrated research and application centre for AI at the BTU Involvement of associated non-university research institutions in Lusatia Establishment of a coordination and technology transfer office for the LZKI	2023 – 2027
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
52	5G strategy for Brandenburg	MWAE	Tendering 06/2022	Preparation 2022
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
53	Professionals and personnel strategy	MWAE	Cabinet resolution 8 March 2022; implementation by the end of the legislative period	At least until the end of the legislative period
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
54	Continuation of the regionale Zukunftszentrum Brandenburg (Regional Future Centre Brandenburg)	MWAE	04/2022: Follow-up directive of the BMAS for the period 2023 to 2025 approx. 09/2022: Application procedure for continuation of the funding with the involvement of the MWAE (steering group). The aim is to continue the successful project with state co-financing from 2023	End of 2025: Decisions on a possible follow-up project and/or alternatives
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				
55	Automotive Competence Centre of the HwK Frankfurt (Oder) – Digitalisation and networking with automotive ethernet	MWAE	2022: Start of funding from the federal government and the state of BB within the framework of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) directive on investment support of inter-company vocational training centres (ÜBS) and their further development into competence centres	2025: End of state funding
see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				

Continuation of Action package VI: Promote digital transformation of the economy

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
56	Innovation Campus Schwedt/Oder: "Training and Simulation Centre" and "Virtual Campus" sub-projects (through the JTF; Uckermark)	MWAE	<p>Development of a simulation centre (including the use of digital twins and immersive technologies) for vocational training, further education, RDI (research, development and innovation), especially in the field of the process industry</p> <p>Creation of virtual offerings for education, R&D and technology transfer at the Innovation Campus</p> <p>Close cooperation with makerspaces and co-working centres</p>	2023 – 2027
----- see Update of the framework for the digitalisation of the economy of Brandenburg				

Action package VII: Modernise the administration and its services

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
57	Water information platform	MLUK	<p>Q3/2022: Relaunch query tools for environmental data in combination with water data</p> <p>Q4/2022: Further development: Establishment of a tool for ground-water balancing</p> <p>Q3/2023: Further development: Integration of time series on surface water quality</p>	ongoing
see Project box 23				
58	Foundation of a digital lab in the State Chancellery	Stk	<p>Q3/2022: Kick-off meeting</p> <p>Q4/2022: Concept development</p>	2022
see Better connected. Digital together. Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery see Project box 24				
59	E-government Strategy	MIK	<p>The current availabilities can be viewed at https://ozg.brandenburg.de/ozg/de/bausteine/it-basiskomponenten/. The prioritized administrative services of the Online Access Act (OZG), which are provided according to the “one-for-all” principle, will be adopted for subsequent use in Brandenburg. The e-funding file and the e-staff file will be made available (until 2022). Evaluation of the Brandenburg E-Government Act (BbgEGovG) by the state government (by 2023). The state authorities keep their files electronically as a matter of principle (by 2024).</p>	ongoing
see E-government Strategy of Brandenburg see Project box 25				
60	Fines office online payment module	MIK	<p>Implementation of the basic IT component “electronic ePayBL payment platform”</p>	2022
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs see Project box 26				

Continuation of Action package VII: Modernise the administration and its services

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
61	Potential analysis of data-supported administration	Stk	<p>Q3/2022: Preparation of impulse paper</p> <p>Q3/2022: Workshop on mapping application fields in the State Chancellery</p> <p>Q4/2022: Potential analysis report is available</p> <p>Q4/2022: Workshop on results of the potential analysis and collection of possible pilot projects</p> <p>Q1/2023: Workshop on developing pilot projects</p> <p>Q2/2023: Profiles for pilot projects are available</p>	2023
see Better connected. Digital together. Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery see Project box 27				
62	Digitalisation of the building permission process	MIL	<p>Piloting from 2022</p> <p>thereafter state-wide roll-out</p>	ongoing
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL) see Project box 28				
63	Land tax reform – development and provision of information tools	MdFE	“Land tax viewer” by 2022	2024
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Finance and European Affairs of Brandenburg see Project box 29				
64	Leadership in the OZG topic of “Immigration and Emigration”	MIK	<p>Connection of further foreigners’ authorities to the “Section 24 Residence Act” online service for refugees from Ukraine, further roll-out of the “Permanent Residence Certificate” online service</p>	2022
see E-government Strategy of Brandenburg see https://ozg.brandenburg.de/ozg/de/# see Project box 30				
65	State service portal – service.brandenburg.de	MIK	<p>Expansion of multilingualism</p> <p>Presentation of life situations</p> <p>Further development and optimisation of user guidance and usability of search functions</p> <p>Menu guidance, display</p>	ongoing
see E-government Strategy of Brandenburg see Project box 31				

Continuation of Action package VII: Modernise the administration and its services

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
66	Brandenburg planning portal	MIL	Module: Online participation as per the Federal Building Code Module: Implementation of the vacant building land register by 2023 Module: XPlanung server by 2024 Module: Virtual approval authority by 2026	2026
see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning (MIL) see Project box 32				
67	Provision of open data	MIK (Implementation of the data strategy in cooperation with DABB)	Development of a data strategy (2022) Implementation of the data strategy (ongoing; with DABB) Statutory open data regulation Optimisation of the open data portal DatenAdler.de (ongoing) Acquisition of further data providers (ongoing) Expansion of the data inventory (ongoing)	ongoing
see Project box 33				

Action package VIII: Perform public authority tasks digitally

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
68	Full-scale introduction of the electronic case file (e-file) in the judiciary of Brandenburg	MdJ	Full-scale introduction of the electronic file in all courts and public prosecutors' offices of Brandenburg by 1 January 2026	2026
	see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Justice of Brandenburg see Project box 34			
69	Courtroom equipment and WiFi in Brandenburg court buildings	MdJ	Evaluation of the pilot system at Neuruppin District Court 2022	ongoing until 2026
	see Digital agenda of the Ministry of Justice of Brandenburg see Project box 35			
70	Creation of a modern workplace of the future in the police	MIK	Project planning still pending	ongoing
	see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs see Project box 36			
71	Protection of critical infrastructures	MIK	Project planning still pending	ongoing
	see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs see Project box 37			
72	IT-supported early detection of forest fires	MLUK	Evaluation and networking with fire service control centres	ongoing
	see Ministerial digital policy strategy – digitalisation in the service of agriculture, the environment and climate protection see Project box 38			
73	Flood information centre	MLUK	Project planning still pending	2025
	see Project box 39			
74	Consolidation of the specialised procedures	MIK	Project planning still pending	2030
	see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs			
75	Ensuring access to records in fines office search processes	MIK	Order placed by 2021	2022
	see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs			
76	Digital submission possibility for the Verfassungsschutzgesetz (Constitutional Protection Act)	MIK	Introduction by 2022	2022
	see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs			

Action package VIII:

Perform public authority tasks digitally

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
77	Digital submission possibility for the Sicherheitsüberprüfungsgesetz (Security Clearance Act)	MIK	Introduction by 2023	2023
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs				
78	Virtual authority	MIK	Testing and introduction of the system by 2024	2025
see Ministerial digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and Municipal Affairs (ReDiStra-MIK)				
79	e-invoice	MdFE	Interface for invoice recipients in 2021	2021
see Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of Finance and European Affairs of Brandenburg				

Project:

Management & coordination

#	Title	Responsibility	Selected milestones	Target date
80	Intensifying expansion of digital policy social media offerings	all	Project planning still pending	from 2022
see Better connected. Digital together. Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery				
81	Annual High-level digital conference	Stk	Project planning still pending	from 2022
82	Development of an online participation portal	Stk	Project planning still pending	from 2023
see Better connected. Digital together. Digitalisation strategy of the Brandenburg State Chancellery				
83	pioneer4BB (work shadowing programme)	MLUK	"Half-time" of the current run/change of the tandem partners to their partner organisation in September 2022 Final event of the current run in December 2022	2022/ ongoing
see Project box 40				

II. Bodies and stakeholders

	Chair	Level	Stk	MIK	MWAE	MdFE	MSGIV	MBJS	additional ministries	ZIT-BB	LKT	StGB	DIKOM	DABB	ILB
Digital Cabinet	Stk	Min.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
Digital-ABS	Stk	StS	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
StS Steering committee	Stk	StS	x	x	x	x	x								
IMAG Digital Policy	Stk	HD/DO	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						
IT-Rat BB IT Council	MIK	StS	x	x	x	x				x	x	x			
UAG IT-Rat BB	MIK	DO	x	x	x	x				x	x	x			
OZG Group	MIK	DO	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
RIO Committee	MIK	DO	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
DABB Supervisory board	MWAE	StS	x	x	x		x	x						x	x
Information exchange DABB	MWAE	HD/DO	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					x	

Bodies

Digital-ABS	Meeting of State Secretaries focussing on digital policy
StS Steering committee	Digital Steering Committee of State Secretaries
IMAG Digital Policy	Interministerial Working Group on Digital Policy
IT-Rat BB	Brandenburg IT Council
UAG IT-Rat BB	Sub-working group (UAG) Brandenburg IT Council
OZG Group	Group of Online Access Act (OZG) coordinators
RIO Committee	Committee of Ministerial Information Officers
DABB Supervisory board	Supervisory board of DigitalAgentur Brandenburg GmbH (DABB)
Information exchange DABB	Information exchange with DigitalAgentur Brandenburg GmbH (DABB)

Stakeholders

DABB	DigitalAgentur Brandenburg GmbH
DIKOM	Brandenburg Association of Digital Municipalities
ILB	Investitionsbank des Landes Brandenburg state investment bank
LKT	Landkreistag district association
MBJS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of Brandenburg
MIK	Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs of Brandenburg
MdFE	Ministry of Finance and European Affairs of Brandenburg
MSGIV	Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection of Brandenburg
MWAE	Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy of Brandenburg
StGB	Städte- und Gemeindebund association of towns and municipalities
Stk	Brandenburg State Chancellery
ZIT-BB	Central IT Service Provider Brandenburg

Levels

Min.	Minister
DO	desk officer
HD	head of division
StS	State secretary

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Please note that these documents are only available in the original German version.

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List of abbreviations

#dp25	Digital Programme Brandenburg 2025
AG	Working group
AI	Artificial intelligence
BB	Brandenburg
BbgDSG	Brandenburgisches Datenschutzgesetz (Brandenburg Data Protection Act)
BIG	Brandenburg Innovation Voucher
BMDV	Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport
BMI	Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community
BOS	Authorities and organisations with security tasks
CIP	Continuous improvement process
CRITIS	Critical infrastructures
CTK	Carl-Thiem-Klinikum hospital
DABB	DigitalAgentur Brandenburg (DigitalAgency Brandenburg)
DIKOM	Brandenburg Association of Digital Municipalities
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
E-file	Electronic file
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GFZ	German Research Centre for Geosciences
GRW	Joint federal/state "Scheme for the Improvement of Regional Economic Structures"
HwK	Chamber of Skilled Crafts
IMAG	Interministerial Working Group
IoT	Internet of Things
JIM	Youth information and media centres
JTF	Just Transition Fund
IT	Information technology
IUC	Innovation Centre for University Medicine in Cottbus
MBJS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
MdFE	Ministry of Finance and European Affairs
MdJ	Ministry of Justice
MIK	Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs
MIL	Ministry of Infrastructure and Federal State Planning
MLUK	Ministry of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Protection
MSGIV	Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Integration and Consumer Protection
MWAE	Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labour and Energy
MWFK	Ministry of Science, Research and Culture
OZG	Online Access Act
ReDiStra-MIK	Digitalisation strategy of the Ministry of the Interior and for Municipal Affairs
RES	Regional Development Strategy
RIO Committee	Committee of Ministerial Information Officers
SGB	German Social Code
SGHR	Overall Strategic Framework for the Capital Region Berlin-Brandenburg
SLP	Strategic Guideline
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprises
StaF	"Strengthening technological and application-oriented research at scientific institutions in Brandenburg"
Stk	Brandenburg State Chancellery
TFA	Technical tax authority
ViP	Public transport operator in Potsdam
ZDT	Centre of the Brandenburg Universities for Digital Transformation
ZDPol	Central agency of the police department
ZenIT	Central IT Service Provider of the Judiciary of Brandenburg
ZIT-BB	Central IT Service Provider Brandenburg

#dp25

