

OECD Workshop: The Impacts of the Digital Transformation on Innovation across Sectors

German SME policy for the digital transformation



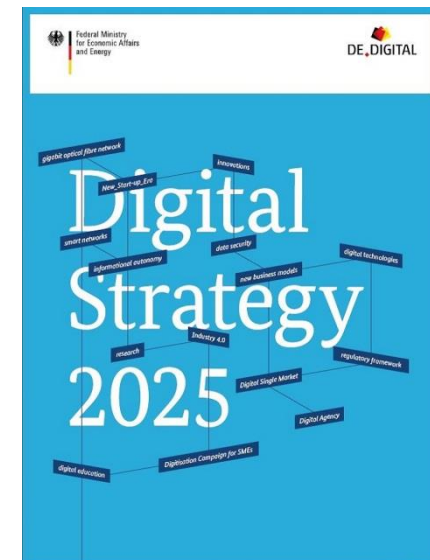
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Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

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Digital Strategy 2025

- Infrastructure: Gigabit optical fibre network by 2025
- Regulatory framework for more innovation
- Data security and control over one's own data
- **Support programmes for SMEs**
- New production methods (Industry 4.0)
- Life-long digital education
- Excellence in digital technology research



Objective: Support the digital transformation of SMEs

Measures: Awareness, learning, networking and knowledge transfer

- **Competence Centres:** information, awareness, demonstration
- **Go-digital:** Individual counselling
- **Central Innovation programme:** support for digital innovation projects

- **17 Regional Competence Centres (24 centres planned by the end of 2018)**

Information for SMEs on **various subjects**, such as:

- Production and logistics process, industry 4.0, smart mobility, digital health, safety and labour issues

- **1 National Competence Centre for skilled crafts**

Information for people in the skilled crafts sector and the chambers of skilled crafts on all digital issues

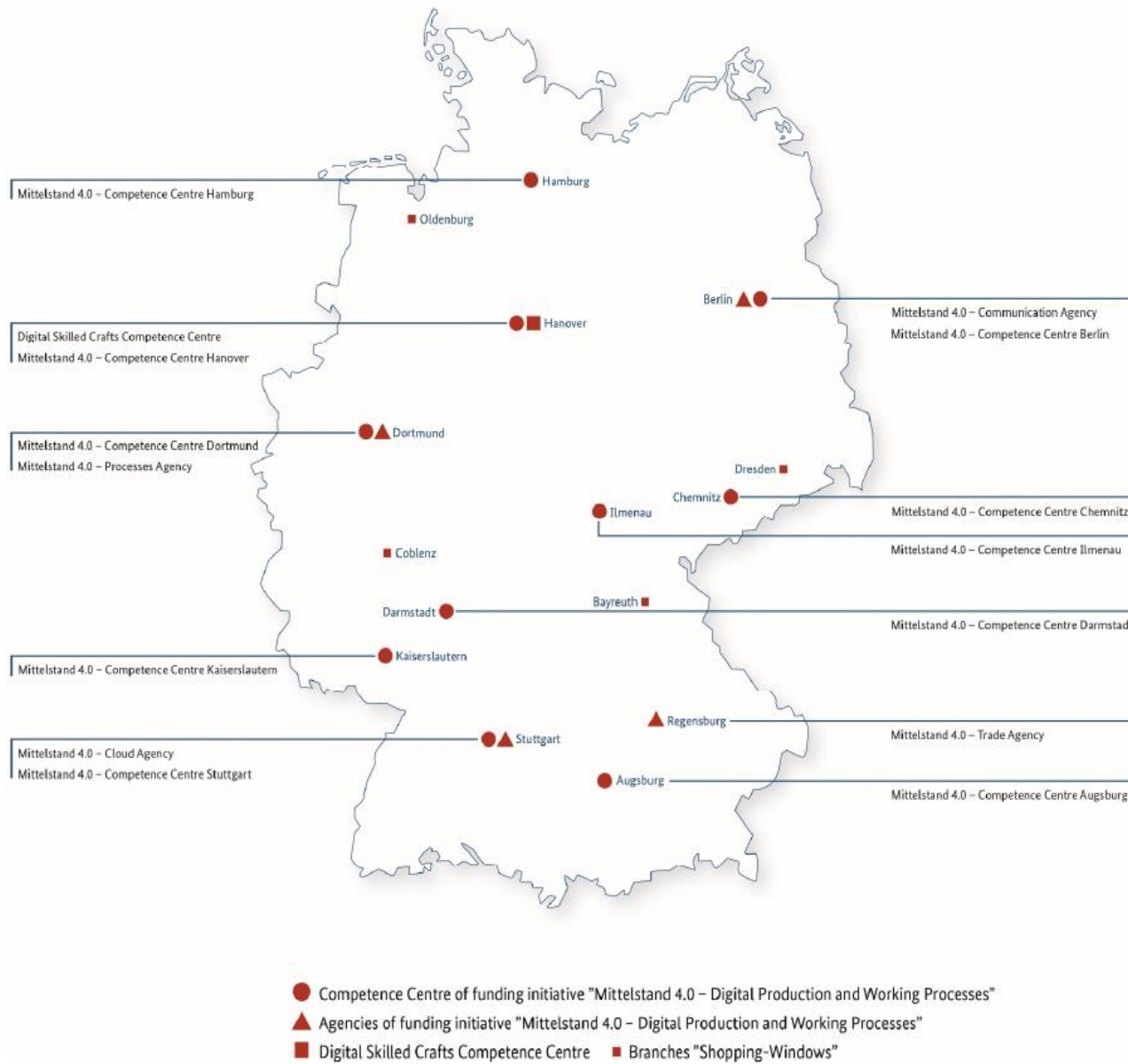
- **4 National Agencies**

Support for the competence centres on **specific topics**, such as:

- Cloud, communication, trade, processes

All services are free of charge

2017 budget :
€10.4m



Go – digital

Grants for SMEs (< 100 employees) in three areas of external consultancy:

- **IT Security:** enhancing security standards
- **Digital market penetration:** increasing competitiveness through online sales
- **Digital processes:** support with digitising business life

Application: by consultancy firms to reduce bureaucracy in SMEs.

Support ratio: 50%

2017
budget:
€10.4m

Central Innovation Programme

- **Grants** for innovative projects of SMEs (up to 499 employees)
- Individual projects or co-operation with research institutes or other companies
- Applications can be made at any time; open tender, fast grant decision process
- All technology fields (share of primarily digital projects: about 20 %)
- Rate of funding: 25–55 % for companies, 100 % for R&D establishments
- Eligible volume: up to €380,000 per sub-project, up to €2 million (total) in collaborative projects with multiple partners, plus innovation support services of up to €50,000
- International cooperation is possible: projects receive a bonus of 10%
- About 4,500 projects per year

2017
budget:
€548.5m

Thank you for your attention.



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