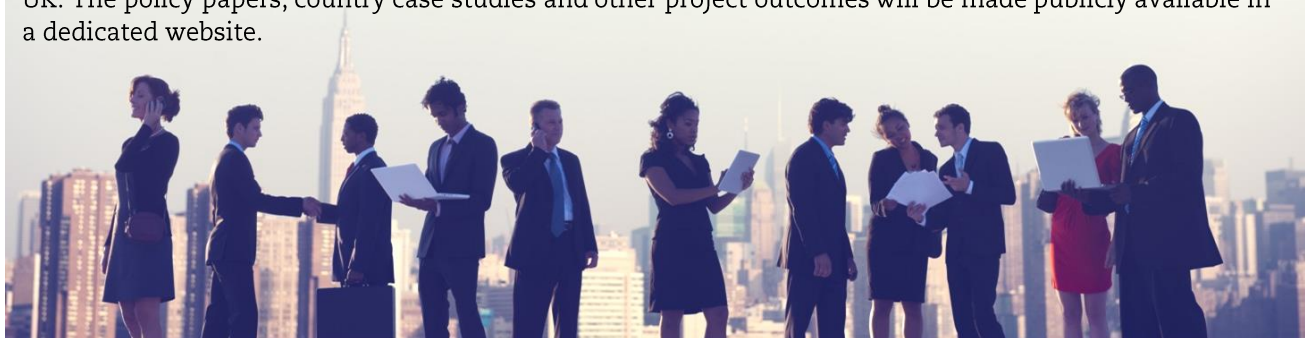


Digital and Open Innovation Project

The OECD project ‘Digital and Open Innovation’ investigates whether and, if so, how digital transformation changes the rationales for innovation policy and identifies the most appropriate instruments to foster innovation for inclusive and sustainable growth in the new context. The 2017-18 project is conducted by the Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy (TIP) under the auspices of the OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP).

The final report of the project, containing its main findings and policy recommendations, will be released in April 2019. The launching event will take place at the Digital Catapult facilities in London, UK. The policy papers, country case studies and other project outcomes will be made publicly available in a dedicated website.

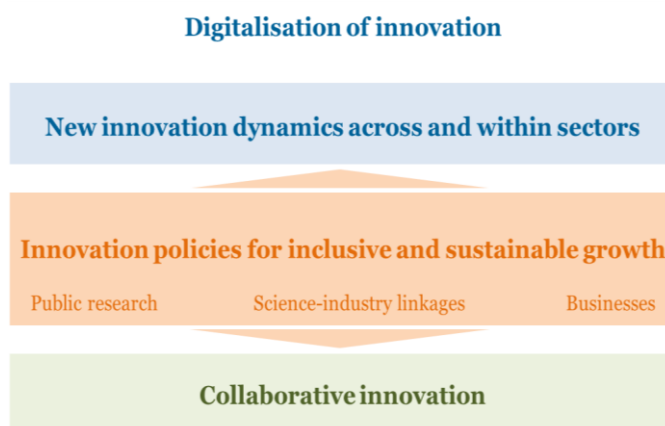


Innovation policy for the digital age

Most innovations today are new products and processes enabled by digital technologies or embodied in data and software. Digital technologies are also transforming innovation processes (from the research, to the development and commercialisation stages) and facilitating collaborative innovation practices.

In view of these changes and emerging opportunities and challenges for different actors, this project evaluates how policy support to innovation should adapt and in what directions. Identified guiding principles for changes to innovation policy include the following:

1. Develop data access policies
2. Ensure anticipatory and agile policies, and encourage policy experimentation
3. Revise the suitability of traditional research & innovation support instruments
4. Support core technology development
5. Support competition & the long tail of firms, regions and individuals
6. Foster interactive & collective innovation
7. Optimise the efficiency of public research in the digital age
8. Set national policies in view of global markets



These guiding principles and specific policy recommendations build on two project pillars: (1) a policy collection and analysis exercise, and (2) an investigation of the impacts of digital transformation on innovation across sectors.

(1) What are the features of new innovation policies adopted by countries?

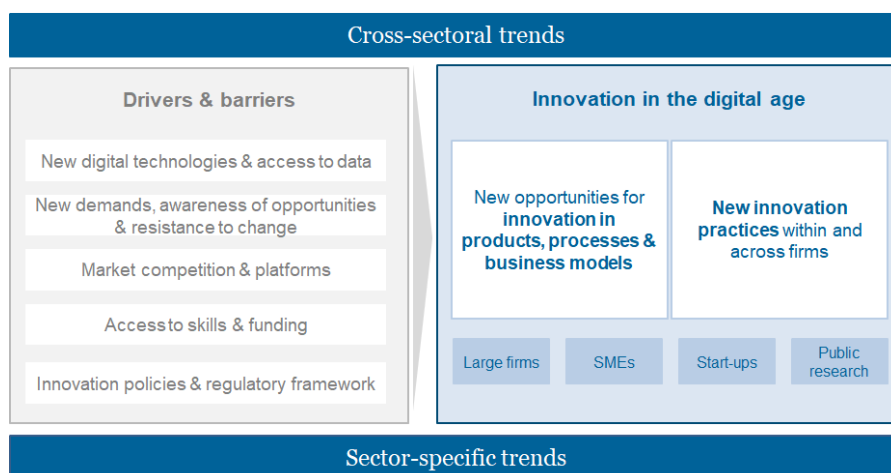
Most countries have developed specific **innovation policy initiatives** to ensure a **successful transition to a digital economy**. These often aim at enhancing digital technology diffusion and adoption; promoting digital entrepreneurship; and fostering research and innovation in key digital sectors and technologies.

This project documents policy approaches and identifies in particular **novel and experimental approaches**. **Selected country policy case studies** provide in-depth insights and include SME 4.0 Competence Centres in Germany, Smart Industry Field labs in the Netherlands, Digital Catapult in the UK.

(2) How does digital transformation affect the ways different sectors innovate?

Digital transformation is a multifaceted phenomenon that is impacting innovation across all sectors of the economy.

The project explores how digital transformation is affecting innovation in different sectors, with a focus on the agri-food, automotive and retail sectors. The project **identifies commonalities and differences in impacts** across sectors and different actors (e.g. start-ups, SMEs, large firms), and examines the implications for innovation policy.



Recent publications

- Guellec, D. and C. Paunov (2018), "[Innovation policies in the digital age](#)", OECD Science, Technology and Industry Policy Papers, No. 59, OECD Publishing, Paris



Project events



Paris, June 2018



Netherlands, April 2018



London, September 2017



Paris, June 2017

This project builds on and contributes to the OECD-wide [Going Digital project](#)

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