



National Coalition

Sweden

Action Plan 2018

16 April 2018

The objective of the Action Plans is to describe your plan and how you will implement your associated activities in 2018.

Boosting Europe's Digital Skills

Digital skills for ICT professionals

Digital skills in education

Digital skills for labour force

Digital skills for all citizens



Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

1. Background to your National Coalition

Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition (DSJC) is a pan-European initiative aiming at linking together all stakeholders that in some way work for raising of both professional and citizen-oriented digital skills. It is organized in the form of national coalitions, one for each Member State, that in turn are coordinated from Brussels by the three organizations Digital Europe, European Schoolnet and All Digital. These support the national coalitions with awareness raising activities as well as with facilitating the transfer of funds that the EU Commission has allocated for the purpose.

An integral part of the DSJC is to cover both private and public organizations, including representatives of government.

IT&Telekomföretagen has made the commitment to be the connection point for a Swedish national coalition. The intention is to start on a small scale by gathering the most important stakeholders to agree on some common objectives. These should mainly consist of activities already planned and carried through by the individual stakeholders.

2. National Coalition structure and contact details: emails, website, social media

The Swedish National Coalition consists of the following seven organisations that together form a core group. They represent the four focus areas of DSJC¹ in various ways as described below. Contact details are presented in parentheses:

- The Government's Digitalisation Council (Digitaliseringsrådet) – represents all four focus areas (www.digitaliseringsradet.se, Annica Järvebro, Annika.Jarvebro@digitaliseringsradet.se).
- IT&Telekomföretagen – represents focus areas "ICT professionals" and "education" (www.itot.se, Fredrik von Essen, fredrik.vonessen@itot.se).
- Swedsoft – represents focus areas "ICT professionals" and "education" (www.swedsoft.se, Stefan Andersson, stefan.andersson@saabgroup.com).
- The Swedish National Agency for Education (Skolverket) – represents focus area "education" [Contact details to be provided].
- The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Sveriges kommuner och landsting, SKL) – represents focus areas "education" and "work force" (www.skl.se, Annika Agélii Genlott, annika.agelii.genlott@skl.se).
- The Association of Swedish Engineering Industries (Teknikföretagen) – represents focus areas "ICT professionals", "education" and "work force". (www.teknikforetagen.se, Maria Rosendahl, maria.rosendahl@teknikforetagen.se).
- The Internet Foundation in Sweden (Internetstiftelsen i Sverige) – represent focus area "all citizens". (www.iis.se, Jannike Tillå, jannike.tilla@iis.se)

¹ See coloured model on front page under "Boosting Europe's Digital Skills": Digital Skills for (1) ICT professionals, in (2) education, for (3) labour force and (4) all citizens. In the "education" area activities within Research and Development are also included.

IT&Telekomföretagen, through Fredrik von Essen, takes the role of national contact point (A dedicated project manager will be engaged in May 2018).

A social media platform will be developed, but for the time being the IT&Telekomföretagen website www.itot.se will be used.

Besides the above core organisations a number of further relevant organisations are invited to take part in the Coalition's activities:

- Business Sweden
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Employment
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Justice
- NGO:s involved in integration
- Regional authorities
- Sweden's Innovation Agency (Vinnova)
- Swedish EdTech Industries
- The Confederation of Swedish Enterprise (Svenskt Näringsliv)
- The Swedish Higher Education Authority (Universitetskanslersämbetet)
- The Swedish Institute
- The Swedish Migration Agency (Migrationsverket),
- The Swedish National Agency for Higher Vocational Education (Myndigheten för yrkeshögskolan)

3. Main objectives of the National Coalition

The overall purpose of the Coalition is to make visible the activities related to digital skills that the individual Coalition members already perform, or plan to do, and in so doing mutually reinforce the effects of these activities. In addition, one or a few truly common activities will be done to further bind the Coalition together.

The most important driving force behind the coalition's objectives is the Swedish Government's digital policy strategy, presented in May 2017. The strategy outlines the focus of the Government's digital policy, in order to contribute to competitiveness, full employment and an economic, social and environmentally sustainable development. The objective is to make Sweden the world leader in harnessing the opportunities of digital transformation. To achieve the overall objective, five goals have been set: digital skills, digital security, digital innovation, digital leadership and digital infrastructure.

The Digitalisation Council is mandated to support the Government in the implementation of its digitisation strategy. The Council will propose and implement activities and initiatives to create new collaboration and to support and develop that which already exists. The Council's analysis and input will form the basis of implementing and developing the government's digitisation policy.

The first task for the Council has been to monitor and analyse the goal "digital skills". A number of proposals are currently being worked out that are expected to be presented during April 2018. They will cover the following four areas:

1. Ability and possibility of contributing to and participating in the digital society
2. Modernising the education system
3. Skills matching
4. Digital skills in public sector and state-owned companies

The Council's proposals will be embedded in the following overall objectives of the Coalition:

- Enhance public sector leadership skills within digital transformation (Scope: all focus areas).
- Coordinate specific actions related to the implementation of the Government's national strategy for the digitalization of the school system, including computational thinking and programming for all pupils (Scope: "education", "all citizens").
- Coordinate actions related to raising interests for the ICT professions among young people in general and girls in particular (Scope: "ICT professionals" and "education").
- Coordinate actions related to the promoting of skills uptake and life-long learning in both actual and potential ICT work force (Scope: "ICT professionals" and "work force").
- Promote non-Swedish-ICT-professionals to immigrate to and establish themselves in the Swedish ICT sector (Scope: "ICT professionals").
- Promote actions aiming at making the digitalized society available and usable for all citizens regardless of where they live or which social, ethnical or age group they belong to (Scope "all citizens").

4. Key actions and milestones

With regard to the upcoming skills-related proposals from the Digitalisation Council mentioned in section 3 above, and considering the inclusion of already planned and performed activities by the other stakeholders as referred to at the end of section 1, the combined key actions for both the core coalition stakeholders and others during 2018 will be the following:

4.1 Actions related to public sector leadership skills:

The Digitalisation Council's proposals covering area number 4 mentioned in section 3 above, "Digital skills in public sector and state-owned companies", to be presented in April 2018.

The launching of the Government-led "Expertgruppen för digitala investeringar" (The expert group on digital investments), that beginning in 2018 will support Government authorities in their work with larger IT and digitalisation investments.

In September 2018 a new Government authority, "Myndigheten för digitaliseringen av den offentliga sektorn" (the Authority for the digitalisation of the public sector) will be launched,

with the purpose of developing, coordinating and supporting the digitalisation of the state authorities and the administration of municipalities and county councils².

4.2 Actions related to the implementation of the Government's national strategy for the digitalization of the school system³:

Initiate the implementation of a digital skills enhancement program aimed at both active teachers and teacher educations (lärarutbildningar). The program should be part of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions' (in this document referred to as "SALAR") current assignment from the Government of producing an action plan related to the implementation of the Government's national digitalization strategy for the school system.

Further information and actions related to the SALAR action plan:

- Brief background: In October 2017, the Swedish Government decided on a national strategy for the digitalization of the school system, with the objective of all schools being fully digital by the end of 2022. On the 31 of January 2018 SALAR and the Swedish Government signed an agreement stating that SALAR, together with the Government and in close cooperation with the Swedish National Agency for Education, were to lead the work of an action plan for the period running until 1 of March 2019.

- The action plan takes its starting point in the three focus areas of the digital strategy: (1) digital competence, (2) digital equality and (3) research and monitoring.

- The plan will break down the strategy's goals into initiatives and actions as well as some sort of practical review of resources and work already in place within the three focus areas. When identifying various initiatives and actions the action plan will point out which different actors are responsible – the State, the municipals, the Industry or others. An open and transparent digital space for collaboration will be created with all the involved stakeholders within the school sector.

- A specific SALAR web-based initiative to support teachers: By way of a crowd-funding project with multiple municipalities, and with the intention of supporting teachers in their "digital everyday work", SALAR will be launching a web tool in April 2018, which through self-evaluation and analysis immediately results in an action plan with suggested activities. The tool has a direct link to both national strategy and the Swedish curriculum and aims to concretize digitalization and digital competence. It is also closely connected to the existing tool LIKA (for school leaders), used by over 270 municipalities in Sweden. This web tool creates a common ground/language to work from and should be a part of the digital enhancement program for active teachers, if initiated.

- The Swedish National Agency for Education (Skolverket) has together with a number of universities developed a generic university course in basic programming with a teaching focus, that will be offered at the universities starting in the autumn of 2018

The Internet foundation (Internetstiftelsen) offers free webbased courses in digital skills for teachers.

4.3 Actions related to raising interests among young people/girls/female professionals:

The Association of Swedish Engineering Industries (Teknikföretagen) pursues a number of

² <http://www.sou.gov.se/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/FAQ-%E2%80%93-den-nya-Myndigheten-f%C3%B6r-digital-f%C3%B6rvaltning.pdf>

³ <http://www.regeringen.se/informationsmaterial/2017/10/regeringen-beslutar-om-nationell-digitaliseringsstrategi-for-skolasendet/>

activities:

- “Bredda bilden” (“Widen the image”): a portfolio of photos of women active in technology professions
- The management of a Facebook group focusing on primary school pupils’ choice of study orientation for secondary school (gymnasievalet)
- “Hack the World”, where influencers inspire youths within the technology field.
- “Teknikboken”, (“The Tech Book”), study material for technology subject in school.

IT&Telekomföretagen plans an activity for the autumn in 2018 to make sure that a majority of ICT and other digitally intensive companies with more than 100 employees should be involved in a program involving direct contact with children on secondary school level. Examples of existing programs are Hello World, Kodcentrum, Coder Dojos, science centers and regional activities such as “Mot nya höjder”.

Boost programs and networks promoting young female professionals, such as Tjejer Kodar, Pink Programming etc.

4.4 Actions related to skills uptake and life-long learning:

IT&Telekomföretagen will during april 2018 present a proposal for a Government committee for life-long learning, with the aim to investigate how both higher education and forms for post-graduate studies (fort-/vidareutbildning) should be designed to maximise ICT professional skills uptake along the full career.

The Government launched in 2017 the programme “Civilingenjör 4.0”, (“Diploma Engineer 4.0”) where a number of universities, during 2018, will offer advanced courses within production technology, including digital technologies such robotics and 3D printing.

The Association of Swedish Engineering Industries launched in 2017 “Kickstart Digitalisation”, with the objective of strengthening the competitiveness of 1000 industrial companies in Sweden. The purpose is to increase the corporate digitalisation speed for small and medium-sized businesses through a simple and effective workshop program. Activities are taking place throughout Sweden with the Association of Swedish Engineering Industries, IF Metall and Research Institutes of Sweden (RISE) alongside an array of local and regional partners.

Vinnova, Sweden’s Innovation Agency, will together with a number of universities carry out a pilot project where short time flexible university course will be offered to fulltime working specialists.

4.5 Actions related to immigration and integration:

Further speeding up the processes regarding working permits at the Swedish Migration Agency (Migrationsverket).

Promote Sweden as a talent destination. Almega, the Employers’ Organisation for the Swedish Service Sector, plans for a campaign together with The Local, a news site for expats working in Sweden.

A further proposal from Almega is to initiate the establishment a one-stop-shop-system for facilitating international professionals' establishment in the Swedish ICT Sector.

4.6 Actions related to making the digitalized society available and usable for all citizens:

The Internet Foundation (Internetstiftelsen) pursues a number of activities that contributes to strengthen digital and media literacy for children and the adult population:

- In March 2018 the site "internetkunskap.se", was launched, targeting adults to strengthen digital and media literacy for the public. The starting point for the initiative is the EU's digital skills framework.
- An open digital platform that offers complete lessons in digital skills and programming for elementary school. (To meet the curriculum changes for digital competence in elementary school by the National Agency for Education)
- Offers a knowledge bank in the form of guides and reports on the use of the Internet.

Project milestones, reporting and governance:

A dedicated project manager will be appointed in May, and one of the tasks of the manager will be to convert this Action Plan into a project plan with more detailed information on milestones and reporting. Most of the activities listed in this document run according to their own project plans, so the purpose of the project plan would mainly to be to coordinate communication activities, in addition to the occasional Coalition-wide activities that will be performed.

Regarding governance, the core Coalition partners will form a steering committee that will meet approximately two to three times during the second half of 2018.

5. Communications activities

A web and social media platform will be launched during May 2018. Initially it will be part of the IT&Telekomföretagen webb and social media channels.

A specific communication focus will be put on activities aiming at levelling gender imbalances in the digital sector (mainly the actions mentioned in 4.2 and 4.3 above).

6. Partners involved

Partners involved in the key actions listed in section 4 above (including both the core stakeholders and others that are to be invited, cf section 2 above), are the following:

4.1: Digitaliseringsrådet, IT&Telekomföretagen, Swedsoft.

4.2: Digitaliseringsrådet, SKL, Skolverket, Swedsoft, Swedish EdTech Industries, IT&Telekomföretagen

4.3: IT&Telekomföretagen, Teknikföretagen, Swedsoft, Swedish EdTech Industries,

4.4: Digitaliseringsrådet, Swedsoft, IT&Telekomföretagen, Vinnova, Sweden's Innovation Agency (Vinnova), Ministries of education and employment, the Swedish Higher Education Authority

(Universitetskanslersämbetet) and the Swedish National Agency for Higher Vocational Education (Myndigheten för yrkeshögskolan)

4.5: Ministries of employment, foreign affairs and justice, the Swedish Migration Agency (Migrationsverket), The Swedish Institute, Business Sweden, Svenskt Näringsliv, regional authorities, NGO:s involved in integration, IT&Telekomföretagen and Swedsoft.

4.6: Internetstiftelsen

7. Other information, comments...

Links to relevant documents and web sites:

- The Government's national digital strategy:
<http://www.regeringen.se/informationsmaterial/2017/05/for-ett-hallbart-digitaliserat-sverige---en-digitaliseringsstrategi/>
- The Government's national digitalization strategy for the school system:
<http://www.regeringen.se/informationsmaterial/2017/10/regeringen-beslutar-om-nationell-digitaliseringsstrategi-for-skolasystemet/>
- The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions' action plan on the national digitalisation strategy of the school system
<https://skl.se/skolakulturfratid/skolaforskola/digitaliseringskola/handlingsplanforskolansdigitalisering.14701.html>
- The Swedish National Agency for Education's website consisting of all activities and resources linked to the digitalisation of the schools:
<https://www.skolverket.se/skolutveckling/resurser-for-larande/itiskolan>
- IT&Telekomföretagen report on the shortage of professional digital skills:
<https://www.itot.se/2017/11/it-kompetensbristen-en-rapport-om-den-svenska-digitala-sektorns-behov-av-spetskompetens/>
- Swedsoft reports related to the coalition action plan:
 - Report on statistics covering the Swedish software sector, including skills demand:
<http://swedsoft.se/2018/03/13/statistik-mjukvarans-betydelse/>
 - Report on the need for life-long learning: <http://swedsoft.se/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2017/11/Om-behovet-av-livsl%C3%A5ngt-l%C3%A4rande.pdf>
 - Material linked to Trippel Helix project to promote the digitalization of schools:
<http://swedsoft.se/aktiviteter-projekt/strategiska-projekt/trippel-helix-nationell-samling-skolans-digitalisering/>