What does digital mean to our clients?

Our clients are very diverse, from a start-up company in Latvia, a major bank in Poland, a solar panel factory in Morocco, to a training facility in Turkey.

From these differences arises a common objective to remain competitive, with the need to move forward at a pace in line with advances in technology and digitalisation.

Our mission is to accompany and support our clients in this ever-changing world to become more competitive, resilient and reliable, increase their profits and reduce their costs.

The digital solution is one of the answers to effectively help them achieve our mandate to accelerate the digital transition in all the economies where we operate.

The EBRD digital approach: what does it mean?

Build the foundations for digital transformation, including support for the development of legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, the roll-out of infrastructure, and the delivery of implementation capacity.

In 2021, the EBRD supported a government digitalisation project in rural areas of Serbia. Together with bilateral donors under the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), around 90,000 households and 600 schools and public institutions will gain access to fast broadband. This project is part of Serbia’s initiative to promote digitalisation as a driver of economic growth and position the country as an IT development hub.

Enable the adaptation of enterprises and governments to the demands of the digital era.

In 2021, an EBRD loan supported the modernisation of Armenia’s power supply network. The investment promotes digital transition through large-scale automatic control and smart metering implementation, primarily in Yerevan and Gyumri. The project was a milestone on the path to a stable and reliable power system, helping Armenia to scale up renewable energy use and cut emissions, in line with the Paris Agreement.
Foster innovation by supporting investments that enable technology development and knowledge transfer.

Greek companies can now test innovative financial products and services with EBRD support using the Bank of Greece’s regulatory sandbox. The EBRD participated in implementing the EU-funded project, with consultant’s support from EY Greece. The Bank of Greece established the sandbox to foster financial technology in Greece, providing a protected environment where firms can test whether innovative solutions meet regulatory requirements.

Why are we creating a Digital Hub now?

The Digital Hub was set up in January 2022 to support the Digital Approach’ implementation. The Bank aims to develop a coordinated and coherent offer to countries and clients by advising on digital projects for the EBRD and beyond.

While the Bank can build on its original structures and capabilities, this may not be sufficient to meet the expectations of our clients and shareholders. The Hub’s creation presents an opportunity for the Bank to become a more agile, learning organisation on its digital journey by focusing on its capabilities in this area. With dedicated resources focusing on the Digital Approach, it will analyse client needs and become an innovative tool.

What does the Digital Hub offer?

Alongside the EBRD Banking teams and our business partners, the Digital Hub will coordinate the EBRD’s digital work, tracking progress and providing support and guidance to the relevant groups, including managing associated donor funds. Ultimately, the Hub will become a Centre of Excellence for the whole Bank.

The Hub will also take the lead on external engagement and outreach, making cooperation and partnership with other IFIs one of its key priorities.

Embedding Digital in 2022

This year we will host a range of activities designed to discuss and promote digital. As well as launching the ‘Accelerating the Digital Transition Paper’, we will formally launch our Digital Hub at EBRD’s Annual Meeting.

Contact

Jacek Kubas
Head of Digital Hub