
Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) Network

The European Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) Network is a European Commission initiative that supports EU countries in reaching the Gigabit society objectives and rolling out broadband.

The purpose of the initiative

The purpose of the initiative is to help ensure that all EU citizens have access to high-speed broadband, in order to allow everyone to benefit equally from the opportunities connectivity brings, for health, education, business and more.

The role of the BCO Network

The BCO Network's role is to support European Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) in making this happen. BCOs are the national and regional public authorities supporting broadband deployment across the EU.

It does this through an annual programme, based on members' needs, that brings together BCOs, experts and European Commission representatives to train and exchange knowledge, good practices and experiences in overcoming common challenges.

Supporting BCOs and animating the Network

A dedicated Support Facility plans and animates the Network's activities on an annual basis in coordination with the Directorates-General for Agriculture and Rural Development; Communications Networks, Content and Technology; Regional and Urban Policy; and Competition. The Support Facility offers:

- training and network events and thematic groups meetings
- online discussion groups and training materials
- videos interviews and publications on broadband good practices, policy, funding and more

Contact a BCO

BCO Forum

Videos - EU broadband projects

Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.

@connectivityEU

Latest news

WEBseries for Broadband Competence Offices -
Season 5

This series of webinars will cover the Connecting Europe Facility Digital (CEF2 Digital) programme application process; green procurement; last mile connection policy and technology; 5G; and the Recovery and Resilience Facility in relation to connectivity.

Registration is open to all members of the European Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) Network. The agenda will be made available to participants directly.

Connectivity challenges of Outermost Regions

This online workshop will discuss and posit solutions to the principal connectivity challenges of the EU's Outermost Regions, including submarine cables, the new standard for Very High-Capacity Networks (VHCN), and being heard in broadband programming discussions. Registration is open to all members of the European Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) Network. The agenda will be made available to participants directly.

2021 Work Plan Summary of the European Broadband Competence Offices Network Support Facility

2021 is the final year of the first phase of the BCO Network: the European Commission initiative to support Member States to reach the connectivity targets and ensure high-speed broadband access for all citizens. The work plan for this year will seek to reinforce and expand the capacity of European BCOs to meet these objectives, while increasing recognition of their mandate within their national contexts, and strengthening their collaborative relationship with the European Commission.

WEBseries for Broadband Competence Offices - Season 4

This series of webinars will cover the Recovery and Resilience Fund, the European Regional Development Fund, the Connectivity Toolbox, 5G and the Connecting Europe Facility. Registration is open to all members of the European Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) Network. The agenda will be made available to participants directly.

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Related Content

Big Picture

Support for Broadband rollout

Increasing broadband network coverage is key for reaching the EU's Gigabit Society objectives. EU businesses, project managers, as well as local and regional authorities can find information on broadband best practices, financing tools, technological and business solutions, as...

Dig deeper

Broadband Competence Offices Network: Questions and Answers

Find answers to common questions on the European Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) Network that connects national and regional authorities supporting broadband deployment across the EU.

See Also

Broadband Glossary

This a non-exhaustive list of relevant terms relevant to broadband.

European Broadband Awards: broadband deployment projects

The European Broadband Awards is an annual event recognising outstanding broadband deployment projects in Europe. It highlights the successful establishment of broadband infrastructures.

EU rules to reduce cost of high-speed broadband deployment

To make high-speed broadband quickly available, the EU established a set of harmonised measures to lower the cost of rolling out broadband, through the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive.

Broadband project planning

The Broadband planning section, along with the Broadband investment guide aids municipalities and other entities in their planning of successful broadband development projects.

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