The European Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking (SNS JU) aims to ensure industrial leadership for Europe in 5G and 6G.

In November 2021, Council Regulation 2021/2085 established the SNS JU as a legal and funding entity as part of the 10 European Partnerships to step up the green and digital transition. The SNS JU enables the pooling of EU and industrial resources in Smart Networks and Services. It also fosters alignment with Member States for 6G Research and Innovation, and deployment of advanced 5G networks. The SNS JU sets out an ambitious mission and an EU budget of € 900 million for the period 2021-2027.

Missions

The SNS JU has two main missions:

1. **Fostering Europe’s technology sovereignty in 6G** by implementing the related research and innovation (R&I) programme leading to the conception and standardisation around 2025. It encourages preparation for early market adoption of 6G technologies by the end of the decade. Mobilising a broad set of stakeholders is key to address strategic areas of the networks and services value chain. This ranges from edge- and cloud-based service provisioning to market opportunities in new components and devices beyond smartphones.

2. **Boosting 5G deployment in Europe** in view of developing digital lead markets and enabling the digital and green transition of the economy and society. For this objective, the SNS JU coordinates strategic guidance for the relevant programmes under the Connecting Europe Facility, in particular 5G Corridors. It also contributes to the coordination of national programmes, including under the Recovery and Resilience Facility and other European programmes and facilities such as Digital Europe Programme (DEP) and InvestEU.
The Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking also supports technological sovereignty for Europe, in line with the 5G Cybersecurity Toolbox, the Cybersecurity Strategy and the industrial strategy.

**Strategic roadmaps**

The partnership enables a solid research and innovation (R&I) roadmap as well as a deployment agenda set out and followed by a critical mass of European actors.

The SRIA: The strategic research and innovation agenda (SRIA) “Smart Networks in the context of NGI” provides a summary of the key research areas for the future of communications technology. It is produced by the NetWorld2020 European Technology Platform (ETP), representing more than 1000 entities. The SRIA includes contributions from the 6G industry association (6GIA), the Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation (AIoTI) and the Networked European Software and Services Initiative (NESSI).

The SDA: The 5G strategic deployment agendas (SDA) concern Connected and Automated Mobility and for Rail in Europe and were produced by a wide group of stakeholders. They set out the vision, deployment scenarios, cooperation models and regulatory incentives to stimulate investments into the deployment of 5G Corridors along major transport paths in Europe. This is the first strategic step towards the large-scale deployment of 5G infrastructure for road safety. It also paves the way towards the use of 5G in digital operations of rail, and other high value commercial services for road users and train passengers.

**Members**

The SNS Joint Undertaking foresees public and private members:

**Public members**

The European Union (represented by the Commission).

Member States are not Members as no additional financial contributions are planned from Member States. However, they are closely associated in the governance structure. They can also become contributing partners by providing substantial in-kind contributions.

**Private members**

The 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association – 6GIA, which has extended its statutes to enable the participation and mobilization of a broader range of European stakeholders in SNS activities.

**Budget**

The SNS JU is jointly funded by Industry and the EU. The budget of the SNS JU is at least €1.8 billion for the period 2021-27. An EU contribution of €900 million will be at least matched by the private members. The SNS JU provides financial support in the form of R&I grants to participants following open and competitive calls.
Email the JU at cnect-e1-sns@ec.europa.eu.

Governance of the JU

R&I Work Programme and Calls for Proposals
Vacancies at the JU
Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.
Europe scales up 6G research investments and selects 35 new projects worth €250 million

The Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking (SNS JU) selected its first portfolio of 35 research, innovation, and trial projects to enable the evolution of 5G ecosystems and promote 6G research in Europe. With a combined funding for this new portfolio of around €250 million under Horizon Europe, the aim is to build a
first-class European supply chain for advanced 5G systems and build Europe’s 6G technology capacities.

NEWS ARTICLE | 16 June 2022
European think tank COREnect launches Roadmap towards Leadership in Chips for 6G

The COREnect project has delivered a high-level strategic roadmap with recommendations to help Europe reach leadership in chips for digital connectivity infrastructures, one of the main objectives of the proposed European Chips Act.

NEWS ARTICLE | 17 December 2021
Europe launches first large-scale 6G Research and Innovation Programme

This week the newly created Joint Undertaking on Smart Networks and Services towards 6G (SNS JU) adopted its first Work Programme 2021-2022 with an earmarked public funding of about € 240 million.

PRESS RELEASE | 16 December 2021
Commission to invest more than €1 billion under the Connecting Europe Facility for innovative and secure connectivity

The Commission adopted the first Work Programme for the digital part of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Digital), which defines the scope and objectives of the EU-supported actions needed to improve Europe's digital connectivity infrastructures for 3 years.

Browse Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking
5G is the critical new generation network technology that will enable innovation and support the digital transformation.

**Dig deeper**

Stakeholders Group — The Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking
The stakeholders group brings together public and private stakeholders in the field of smart networks and services.

**Vacancies — The Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking**

The current vacancies at the Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking (SNS JU) are listed.

**R&I Work Programme and Calls for Proposals - The Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking**

At its first meeting of 15 December 2021 the Governing Board adopted the Work Programme 2021/22.

**Governance — The Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking**

The proposed governance structure of the SNS Joint Undertaking is composed of a Governing Board, states representatives group, Executive Director and the stakeholder group.

**See Also**

Europe’s 5G strategy in the Digital Decade

The Commission has set new strategic objectives for 5G deployment in the Digital Decade as the basis for a digital and green recovery.

**5G Research & standards**

The European Commission works with the industry in the 5G Public Private Partnership as a research and innovation vehicle to structure and steer European 5G research.

**5G and Electromagnetic fields**

The European electronic communication code plays a key role in ensuring consistent 5G deployment conditions while protecting public health.

**5G Observatory**

The European 5G Observatory enables the EU to assess the progress of the 5G Action Plan and take action to fully implement it.

**5G Action plan**
The 5G Action Plan is a strategic initiative that will make 5G a reality for all citizens and businesses across the EU.

Connected and automated mobility

Connected and Automated Mobility provides a unique opportunity to make our transport systems safer, cleaner, more efficient and more user-friendly.

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