

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI): Advancing Interoperability through EU-India Collaboration

Context

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) enables services such as digital identity, payments, and data exchange. India's DPI initiatives in particular digital identity solutions like Aadhaar, DigiLocker and MOSIP have shown the potential of scalable, open infrastructures. The EU is advancing similar efforts, including the European Digital Identity Wallet.

With both regions aiming to build open, secure, and citizen-centric digital ecosystems, EU-India collaboration, they also aim for interoperability of their stacks. Interoperability is the ability of systems to work seamlessly across borders and sectors. If respecting privacy and regulatory autonomy, this collaboration can empower citizens and businesses through access to trusted digital services. Aligning on shared principles, technical standards, and governance frameworks can enhance digital sovereignty, innovation, and global digital governance.

Yet achieving interoperability poses challenges: technical fragmentation, policy divergence, and differing data governance approaches. Overcoming these requires joint dialogue, shared learning, and coordinated action between the EU and India.

Objectives



Combining India's experience with large-scale, inclusive platforms, and the EU's leadership in setting global standards.



Jointly setting goals to support financial inclusion, digital identity, and efficient public service delivery through DPI.

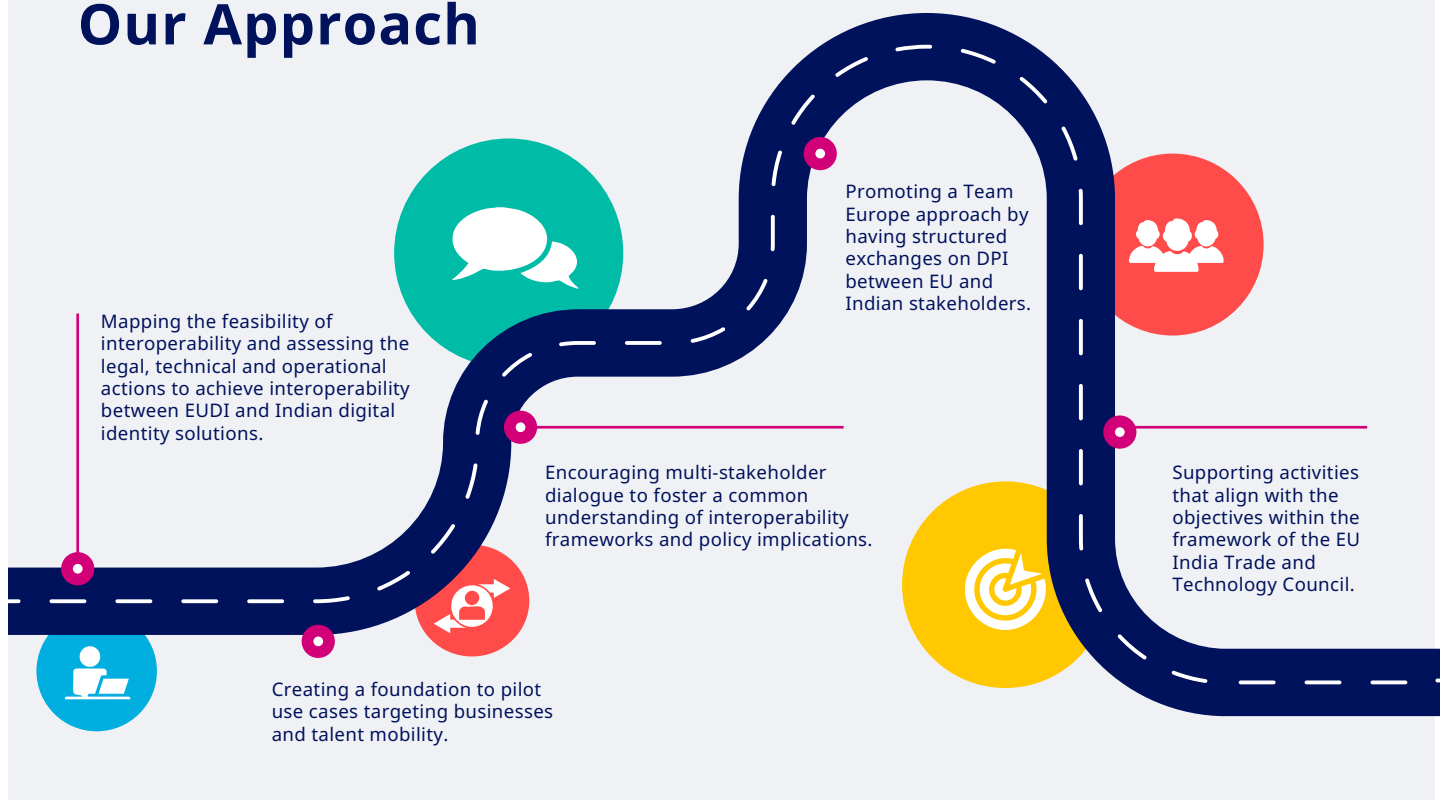


Enabling technical interoperability between the European Digital Identity Wallet (EUDI) and India's digital identity solutions, to facilitate cross-border trade, travel, and data exchanges.



Setting up triangular cooperation to jointly promote DPI in third countries.

Our Approach



Current State of Cooperation

The EU and India have initiated dialogues on aligning digital public infrastructure efforts, actively engage in global forums promoting openness and interoperability, and share a common focus on building modular, inclusive, and secure DPI frameworks. A feasibility study is underway to assess interoperability potential and strategic alignment.

Key Areas for Further Collaboration



Technical Interoperability: Joint development of identity standards and APIs to facilitate cross border trade, mobility and data exchanges.



Policy & Governance Alignment: Dialogues on data protection, trust frameworks, and common principles for DPI oversight.



Innovation & Research Collaboration: Shared pilots, open-source contributions, and joint benchmarking tools.



Capacity Building & Knowledge Exchange: Training formats, study visits, and expert secondments between EU and India.



Stakeholder Engagement: Structured formats to involve startups, think tanks, and private sector actors in co-creating DPI solutions.

Moving Forward

Planned workshops and technical exchanges will translate strategic discussions into practical next steps.

These efforts aim to operationalise shared priorities, generate scalable models, and support the development of globally relevant, trusted DPI systems that reflect both EU and Indian values.

About Us

The EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue is a multi-stakeholder initiative, drawing on the strength of Team Europe to facilitate a shared EU-India understanding of digital policy, standards, technology and services. Inputs from the Dialogue contribute to the EU-India Trade and Technology Council Working Group 1 on strategic technologies, digital governance, and digital connectivity. The six areas of cooperation under this include Digital Public Infrastructure, Artificial Intelligence, Telecom and IT Standardisation, High Performance Computing and Quantum Technology, Digital Skills and Microelectronics and Supply Chain Resilience.

Contact Details

For more information, please reach out to the Secretariat of the EU-India Digital Policy Dialogue
E-mail: digitalpolicydialogue.eu-india@giz.de

Subscribe to our Newsletter

