



CAFÉ NUMÉRIQUE

Organize interactive conferences to share knowledge and make digital technology accessible to all

FACT SHEET 5



PRESENTATION

The Digital Café is a Belgian initiative that **organizes interactive events**, primarily conferences and workshops, on a variety of digital-related topics. Its goal is to **make the digital world accessible and understandable to all** audiences, from beginners to experts. The Digital Café concept is based on the idea of democratizing access to digital information and facilitating discussion around new technologies.



By organizing **free events open to all**, the project brings together industry professionals, enthusiasts, and the curious. The conferences cover topics as diverse as **cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, digital design, and the impact of new technologies on society**. The main objective is to raise public awareness of digital issues and support participants in their adoption of technological tools. The goal of the digital cafés is to **make digital technology more accessible, support the public in their learning, and strengthen the local digital community**.

Digital Cafés are events organized to foster discussions around digital technology. They take place in various locations, including public spaces, cultural centers, and educational institutions. These locations are **chosen to be easily accessible** to the target audience, **allowing a wide audience to participate** in the discussions and workshops.

CAFÉ, NUMÉRIQUE

IN A FEW WORDS

The Digital Café is a Belgian project that organizes free digital events to promote inclusion and the exchange of ideas.

These conferences cover a variety of topics, from cybersecurity to artificial intelligence, and feature industry experts.

IN A FEW NUMBERS

594 events

29 cities across Belgium

7,867 participants

779 speakers

Learn, exchange, and connect around digital technology

The Digital Café implements various initiatives to make digital technology more accessible to a wide audience. This includes the regular organization of free events such as conferences, workshops, and interactive discussions. Each event is designed to meet specific needs, ranging from an introduction to digital tools for beginners to more technical presentations for experts. In addition, the project collaborates with professionals, businesses, and educational institutions to enrich the topics covered, creating an environment conducive to knowledge exchange and digital inclusion.

The Digital Café addresses a wide variety of digital topics, such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, the digital transition in businesses, digital inclusion, and the digital transformation of society. Specific initiatives include practical workshops on the use of digital tools, conferences on recent technological innovations, and discussions on digital ethics.

The project also fosters exchanges between professionals and participants to create opportunities for collaboration and continuous learning.



OBSTACLES AND SOLUTIONS

Like any ambitious project, the Digital Café encountered obstacles, particularly in terms of accessibility. The main challenge lies in the diversity of the audience, with varying levels of digital knowledge. To address this, solutions have been implemented: **events are adapted according to skill levels**, with simpler presentations for beginners and more in-depth sessions for experts. Furthermore, the issue of language was also addressed, with the **implementation of real-time translations** or mediators for non-French- or English-speaking audiences.

Finally, the organization faced the challenge of securing stable funding, which was made possible thanks to **strong partnerships with public and private institutions**.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

The success of the Digital Café relies heavily on the partnerships and collaborations established with **various stakeholders in the digital, education, and business sectors**.

Partners include universities, technology companies, local associations, and public authorities. These partnerships not only **ensure a diversity of topics covered**, but also **ensure a broad reach for the events**.

By collaborating with experts and local organizations, the project successfully reaches diverse audiences and adapts to the specific needs of each community.



Want to know more?

<https://www.cafenumerique.be/>

RESULTS AND IMPACTS

The Digital Café has had multiple results. First, it has contributed to **greater digital inclusion in Belgium** by providing access to essential information about the digital world for people from all walks of life.

Event participants have acquired new skills, whether in the use of digital tools or in more technical topics such as cybersecurity or artificial intelligence. The project has also **strengthened ties between various stakeholders in the digital sector**, facilitating better collaboration and greater dissemination of best practices.

Furthermore, it has also played an important role in promoting innovation and the development of local digital projects.

LESSONS LEARNED AND ADVICE

One of the key lessons learned from the project is the importance of **adapting events to the specific needs of each audience**. The Digital Café learned to better understand the expectations of its participants and adjust the formats of its conferences and workshops to ensure they are both accessible and interesting for everyone. Furthermore, **it was found that partnerships with local experts and stakeholders are essential** for successfully capturing the attention of local communities and maintaining a high-quality offering. The main advice from this experience would therefore be to know your audience well and create participatory events where the **exchange of ideas is at the heart of the experience**.



VISION OF THE FUTURE

The Digital Café project aims to expand even further, with the goal of reaching a greater number of cities and participants. The idea is to continue exploring new digital-related themes, such as the challenges of the energy transition or the impact of technology on society. In the future, the project aims to strengthen its network of partners and speakers to offer ever richer and more diverse events.

One of the major objectives for the future is also to sustain these meetings through continuing education and support initiatives for professionals and the public wishing to improve their skills in the digital field.