

## EU, Philippines Launch Digital Pact to Boost AI Connectivity



Published on November 20, 2025

Document Date: Thu, Jun 18 2026 05:45:53 pm

Category: ,English,International - ,Snippets

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MANILA – The European Union (EU) and the Philippines on Thursday signed the EU-Philippines Digital Economy Package, a €22.6 million initiative aimed at accelerating the country’s digital transformation, the Philippine Department of Finance (DOF) said.

The agreement focuses on enhancing innovation and infrastructure in key sectors such as 5G,

artificial intelligence (AI) for earth observation, cybersecurity, and overall digital connectivity. It is part of the EU's Global Gateway strategy, which seeks to establish smart, secure, and sustainable links in digital, energy, and transport networks worldwide while supporting health, education, and research systems in partner nations.

Philippine Finance Secretary Frederick Go highlighted the project's significance for disaster preparedness in the archipelago. By granting high-speed access to EU Copernicus satellite data, the Philippines can better anticipate natural disasters and improve emergency response times.

"We need this now more than ever," he said.

Both parties emphasized their commitment to leveraging advanced digital technologies for sustainable development, fostering stronger EU-Philippine cooperation, and supporting innovation-driven economic growth across the region.