

Spearheading the Covid-19 recovery through digital skills



- **Digital SMEs** – a European pool of **ICT professional skills** to drive the digitalization of other SMEs in all sectors
- Developing ICT professional skills and retaining talent is essential for Europe’s **sustainable digital transition** and **digital sovereignty**
- A **EU public-private partnership on skills** is necessary to bring all stakeholders together, have a committed engagement and build a common vision & strategy
- Multiple outstanding tools, trainings and successful initiatives already EXIST in Europe –a need for easily accessible **one-stop-shop** arises
- More **ambitious targets for SMEs’ uptake of EU research funding** – a way to attract, develop and retain researchers and ICT pro talents
- Skills gap is a **global issue**– attracting skilled professionals and learning from other countries best practices in skills policies
- The **gender gap** in ICT talents is an issue, but also an opportunity to attract more women to ICT professions