Sweden is one of the countries leading the way when it comes to digitalization. It has implemented a national digital strategy and is expanding its high-speed fiber-optic network. These efforts have given it a more than ten-year advantage over other countries – Germany, for example – when it comes to adopting digital technologies. Our video shows the success factors that have made Sweden a digital leader.

People don't just talk about digitalization in Sweden, they make it happen. The government’s IT Commission published the country’s first strategy paper in the 1990s. In order to create an “Information Society for All” (published 2000), the country’s high-speed fiber-optic network was very successfully expanded – a
forward-looking move at a time when many countries had not yet recognized
the need for such developments. Today, a Broadband Forum made up of
representatives from government, the business community and civil society
coordinates the network’s ongoing expansion.

Other elements are also contributing to Sweden’s digitalization drive, including
a vibrant start-up culture and a high level of trust in what digital solutions can
achieve. During our research trip we spoke to a number of people to find out
what Sweden’s digital success factors have been. Watch our video to find out
more about “Sweden on the way to a digital future.”

In order to award the 2017 Reinhard Mohn Prize on “Smart Country –
Connected. Intelligent. Digital,” the project team examined exemplary digital
projects and applications around the world. The focus was on areas such as
such as work and the economy, health and care, policy and public
administration, mobility and logistics, and learning and information. A key
part of the selection process is research carried out on site in select countries.
In addition to Sweden, the team visited Estonia, Austria and Israel.

In order to shed more light on each country’s efforts to go digital, we have
visualized key background data, allowing the four selected countries to be
compared to each other and to Germany.
PROJECTS

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