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European Firms Struggle to Generate Value from Generative AI, Yet Will Double Spending in 2024: Infosys Research

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Ethics, Bias and Regulatory concerns slowing European adoption

Europe is doubling down on generative AI (GenAI) investment but is on a more cautious path than North America, according to new research from the <u>Infosys Knowledge Institute</u> (IKI), the research arm of <u>Infosys</u> (NSE: INFY), (BSE: INFY), (NYSE: INFY). The research forecasts that European companies will increase GenAI investments by 115% in the next year, to \$2.8 billion.

The pace of investment is slower than in North America where spend is expected to reach close to \$6 billion. This more cautious spend is largely due to concerns around ethics and bias driven by the more regulated European market. However, European companies remain optimistic about generative Al's impact on their business and are much more confident in their ability to train and recruit talent, as well as manage and control generative Al systems.

For the **Generative AI Radar 2023 - Europe** report, IKI surveyed 1,000 respondents from companies across 11 Western European countries (Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom). The research, which is also supported by interviews with business leaders and AI practitioners, highlights the following insights.

- France and Germany lead spending and adoption
 - France and Germany are expected to double spending on GenAI, to nearly \$730 million in France and almost \$610 million in Germany, in the next 12 months.
 - In both countries, about 50% of companies have either implemented GenAl or have implemented and have created business value from it compared with roughly 40% in UK, Benelux, and Nordics.
 - UK is expected to move past Benelux into third place in the next 12 months, more than doubling spend to nearly \$510 million.
 - Nordic companies are expected to increase spending at the highest rate in the next 12 months more than 2.5x their current spending, to more than \$470 million.
- European companies are deploying GenAl, but few have created business value
 - Despite high levels of experimentation and implementation with GenAI, only 6% of European companies generate business value with their GenAI use cases. France, Germany and the UK lead the region, with about 10% of companies reporting value delivered by their GenAI projects.
- European companies are more focused on ethics and bias, and more confident about managing and controlling GenAl than North American companies
 - European companies identified ethics and bias as the second biggest challenge, after data privacy and security. North American companies are less concerned with ethics and bias where it was the fourth biggest challenge behind issues such as data privacy, unusable data and lack of skills.
 - European companies also have more boards of directors involved in GenAl policies, reflecting their concerns around regulations. In Europe, boards of directors set regulations and policies at more than 30% of companies and are primary sponsors nearly 20% of the time.
 - More than 70% of European respondents are confident in GenAl management abilities.

Balakrishna D. R. (Bali), Executive Vice President, Global Head of AI and Industry Verticals, Infosys, said "Generative AI is driving phenomenal transformation across industries, and investment is happening at a rapid pace. Against the backdrop of an ever-evolving regulatory landscape, organizations must embed responsible AI techniques to not only improve data quality and management, but effectively manage ethics and bias risks. Our research has shown that for European businesses to derive business value, they must develop and evolve an AI-first operating model that prioritizes business transformation and skills development, and enables them to maximize human potential."

To read the full report, please visit here.

Methodology

Infosys used an anonymous format to conduct an online survey of more than 1,000 business executives across industries across Belgium, Denmark, Finland France, Germany, Iceland, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom. To gain additional, qualitative insights, the researchers interviewed subject matter experts and business leaders.

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