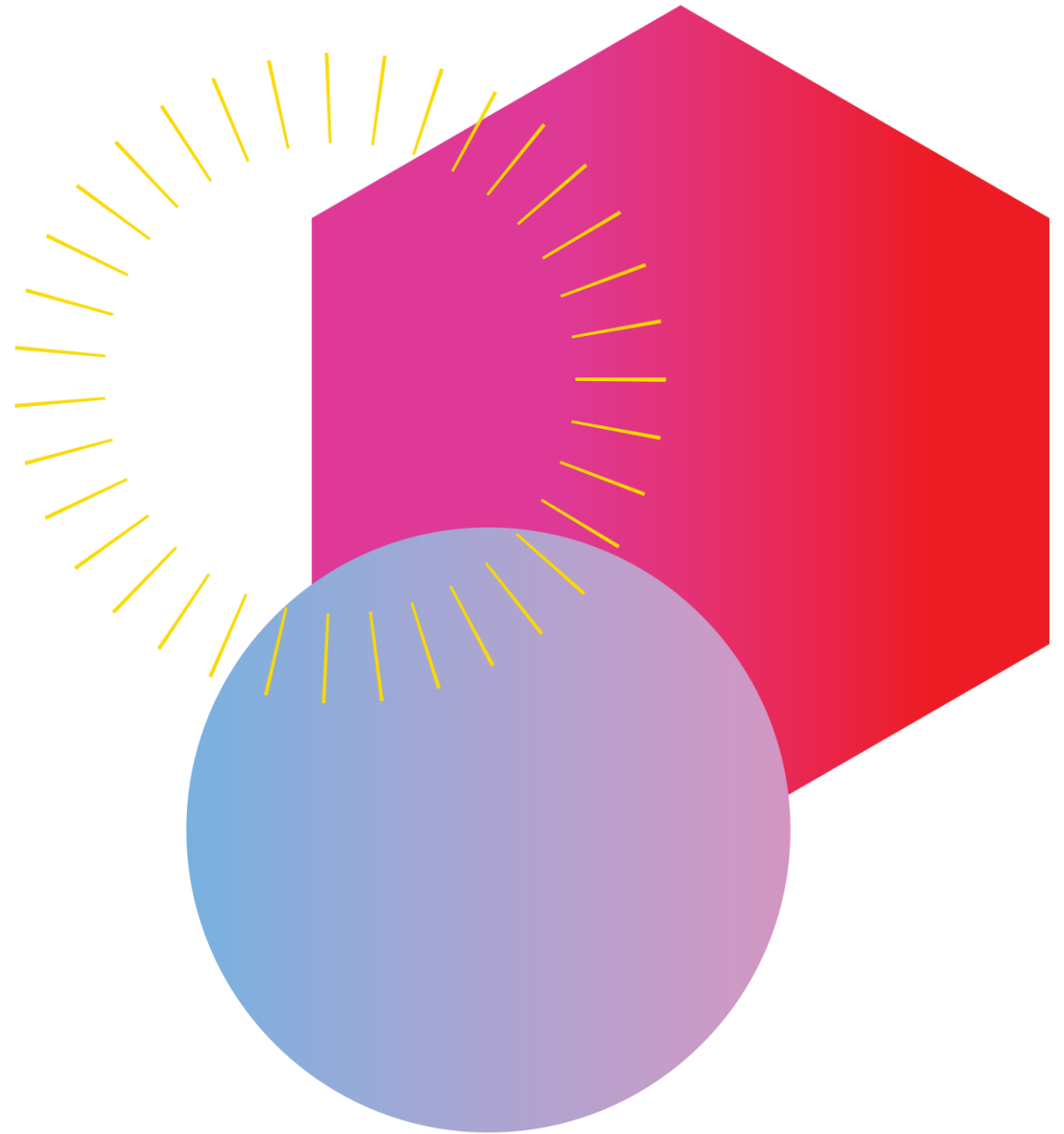


Further Education & Training (FET) in Ireland

Aedin O'Toole
SOLAS Transformation
Project Management
Office (TPMO)

SOLAS
learning works



The FET Ecosystem in Ireland



NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP OFFICE
GENERATION APPRENTICESHIP



etbi

Education and Training Boards Ireland
Boird Oideachais agus Oiliúna Éireann

HEA

HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY
AN t-ÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS



The Voice of Adult Learning

Skillnet
IRELAND

SOLAS
learning works



An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta
Department of Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Co-funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



Association of Community and Comprehensive Schools
Cumann na Scoilanna Pobail agus Cúimsitheada



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

National Tertiary Office
Oifig Thrasachta Náisiúnta

iacto

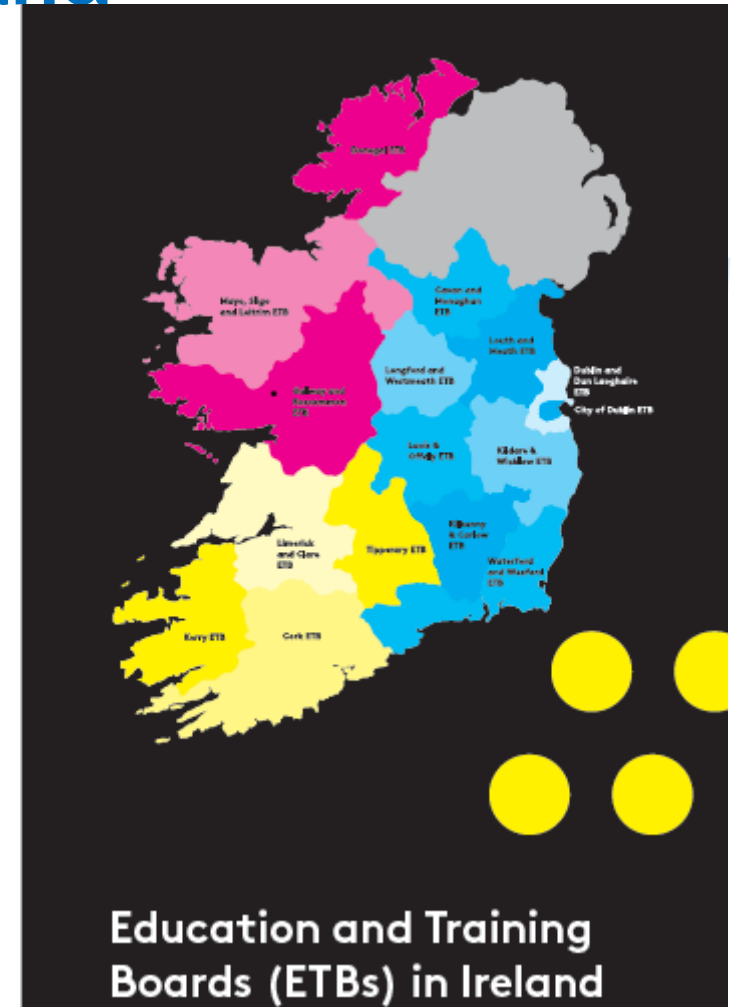


NALA
National Adult Literacy Agency



Regional Skills

Partnerships for Skills



Education and Training Boards (ETBs) in Ireland

What is SOLAS and what does it do?



State Agency of the Department of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation & Science (DFHERIS)



It funds, coordinates, and monitors Further Education and Training provision in Ireland



Work is guided by the Further Education and Training (FET) Strategy 2020-2024 aka “Transforming Learning”

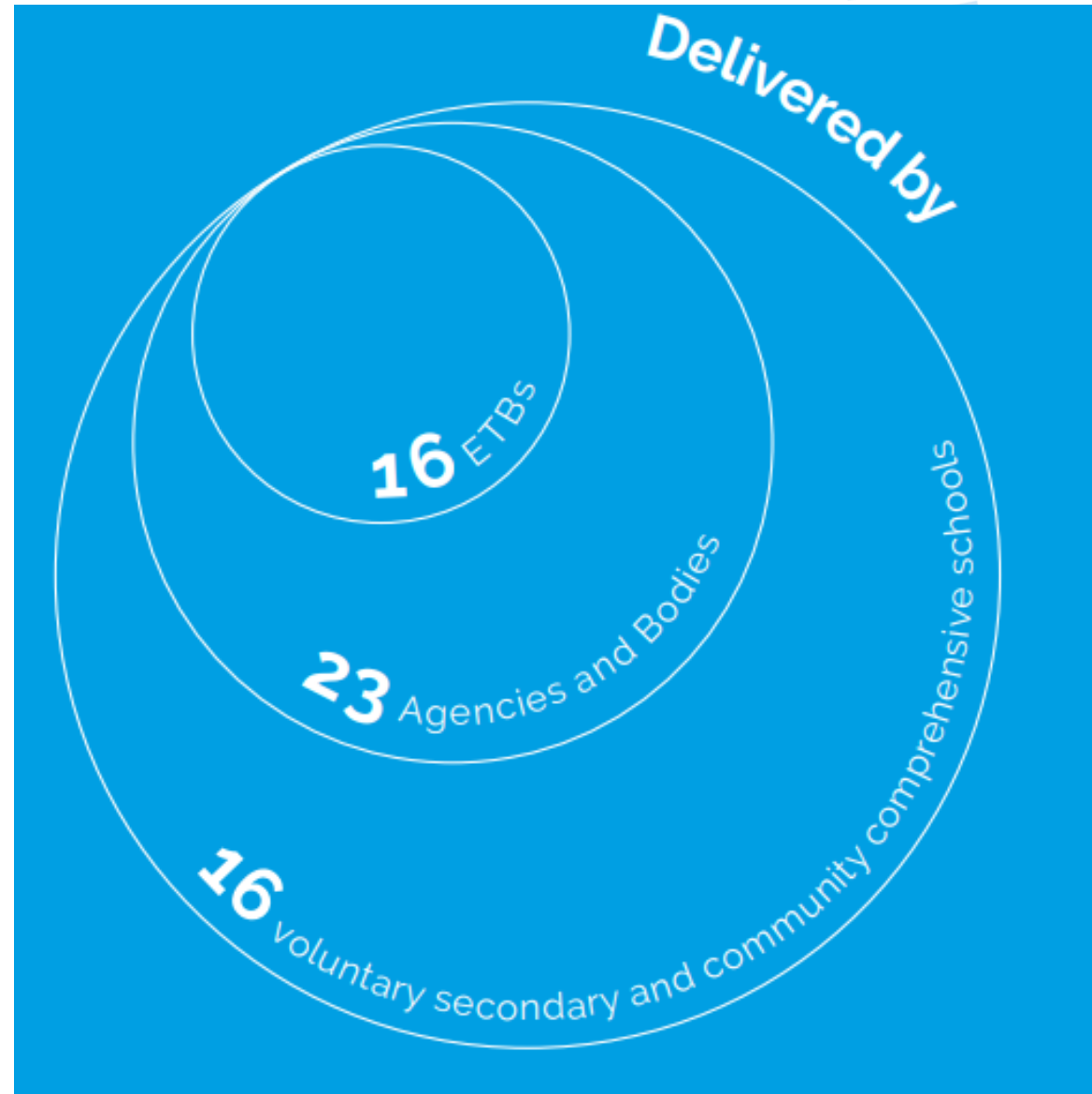


Manages the National Skills Database and provide research, data and analysis for the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs

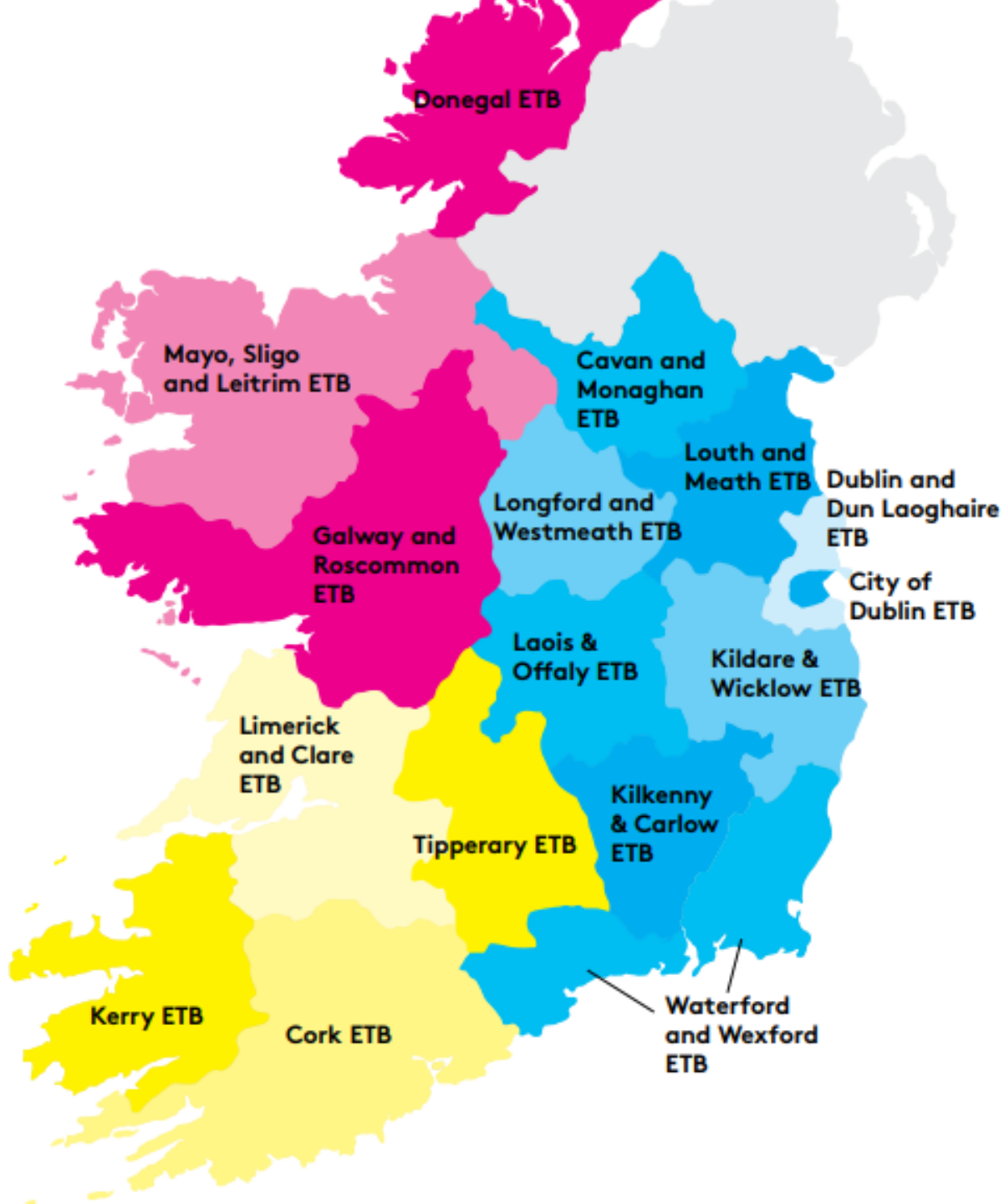


Designated Body for the European Social Fund Programme for Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) 2021-2027.

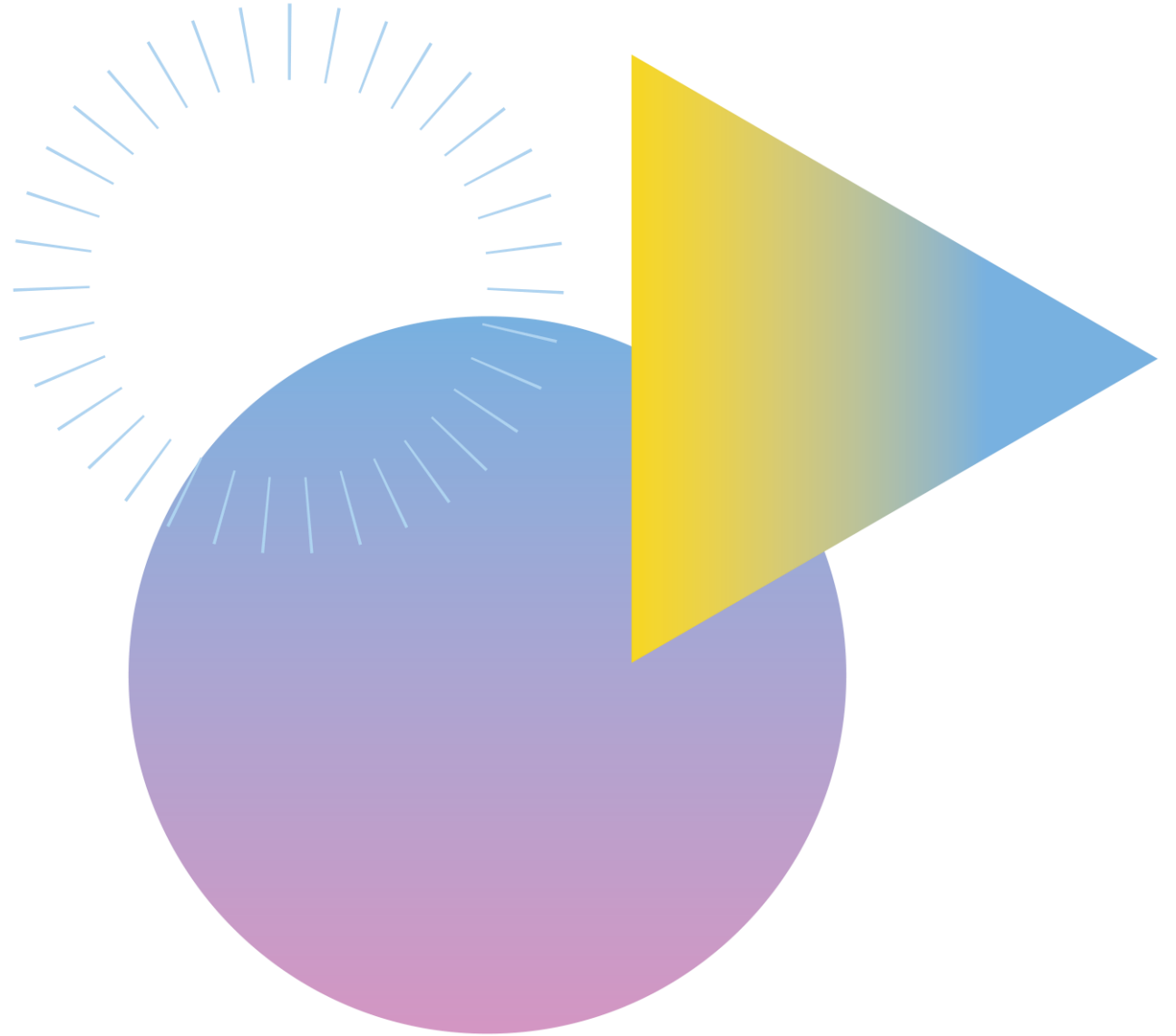
**SOLAS
funds and
co-
ordinates
FET**



The Education & Training Boards (ETBs) in Ireland



Transforming Learning The National FET Strategy 2020- 2024

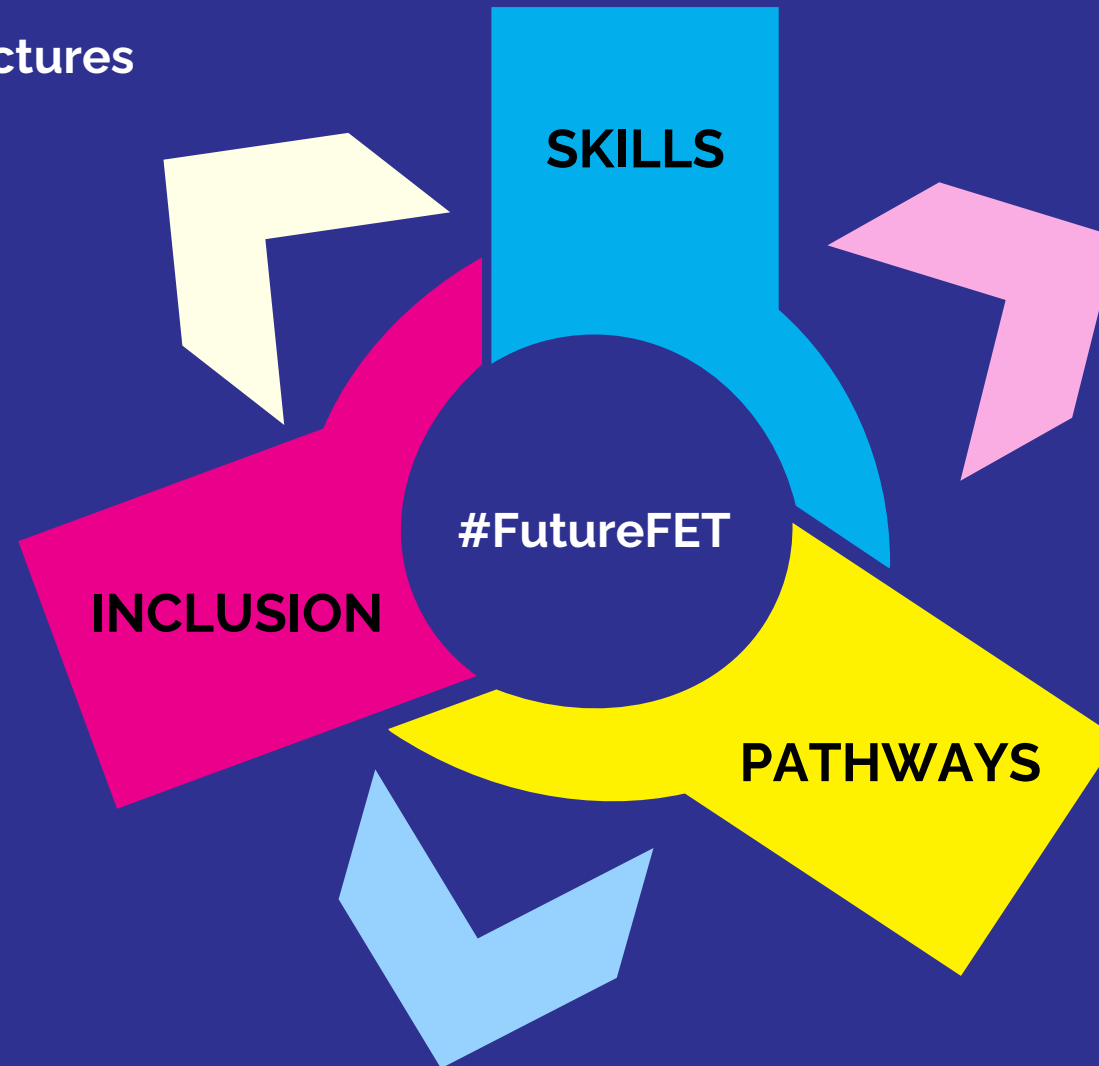


Strategic Priorities and Enabling Themes

Learner & Performance Centred

Staffing Capabilities & Structures

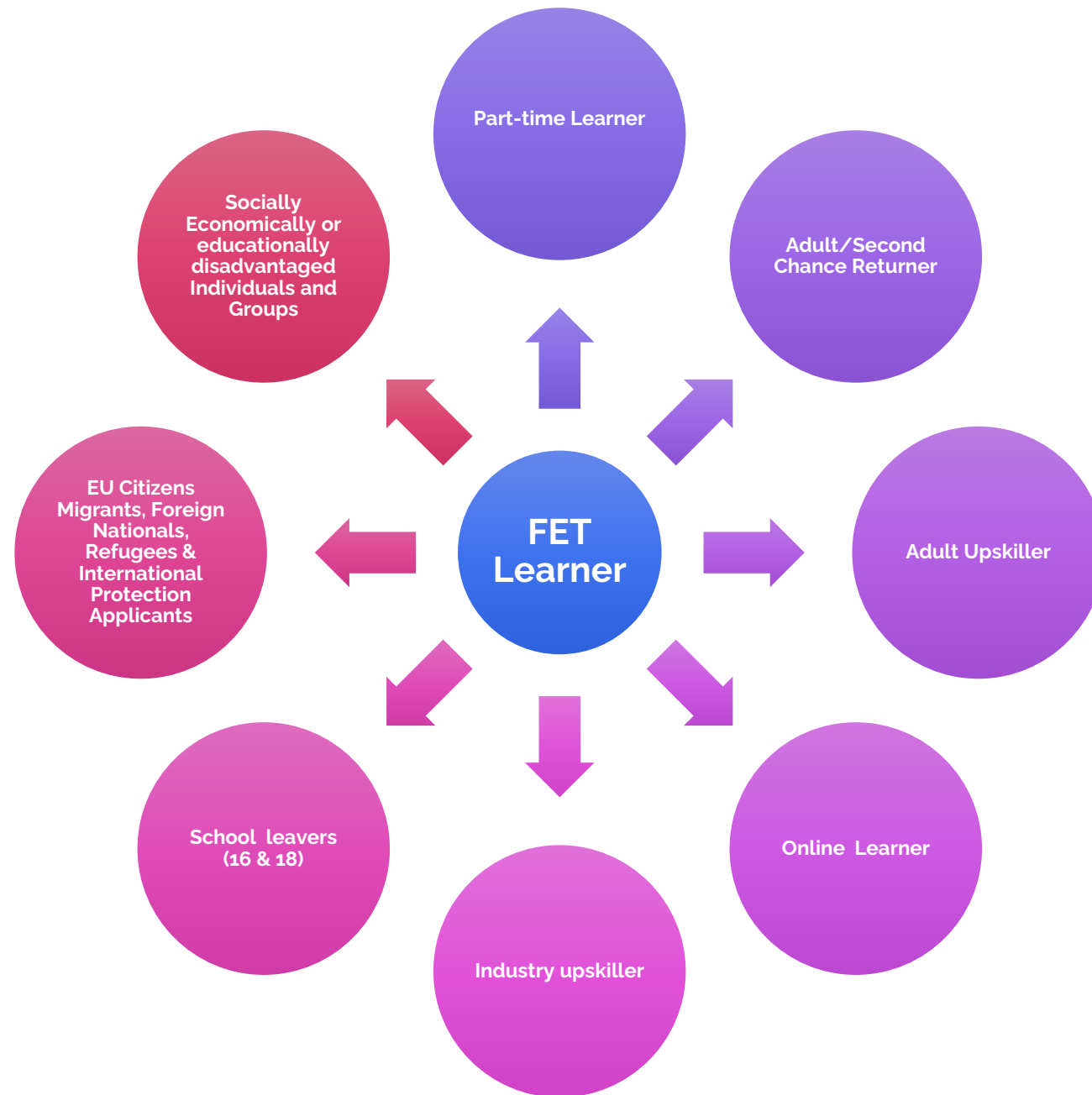
Capital Infrastructure



Digital Transformation



Who is the FET Learner?

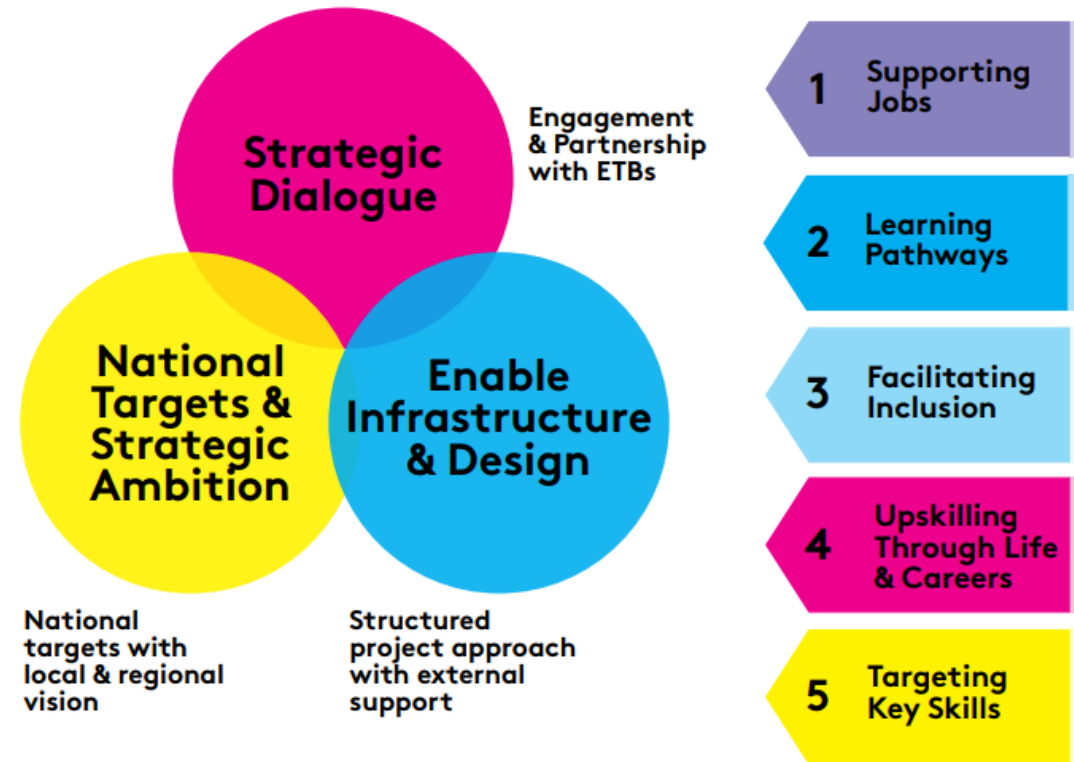


FET Beneficiary Numbers 2018 – 2022/23



Strategic Performance Agreements

The Further Education & Training System 2022-2024



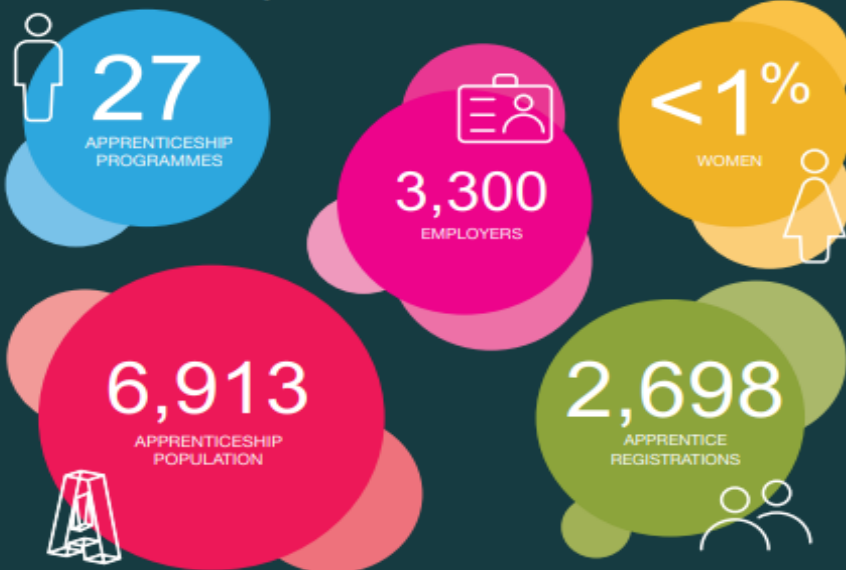


**GENERATION
APPRENTICESHIP**
www.apprenticeship.ie



**NATIONAL
APPRENTICESHIP
OFFICE** GENERATION
APPRENTICESHIP

Irish apprenticeship system in 2014



Irish apprenticeship system in 2023 (end December)



FET and the new Tertiary Model

FET is usually delivered from EQF Levels 1-5

Now there are new tertiary programmes between FET and Higher Education (HE) progressing from EQF 5 to 6

Qualifications Frameworks - Going Global
Enhancing the transparency, quality and mobility of qualifications, nationally and internationally.



FET

College of the Future



Consolidation: Consolidate existing FET provision within a single integrated college structure that incorporates the previous functions of both colleges of further education and training centres.



Dual Outcome Focus: Offer courses designed to facilitate immediate entry to careers and employment and those that link directly to further study in HE and explore opportunities for co-delivery with higher education institutions via 1+2 and 2+2 type models.



Access Pathways: Support a learning pathway from a network of FET providers offering Level 1 to 4 provision.



Consistent Learner Support: Provide a central resource for learner support services to service all ETB FET activity, ensuring all learners are supported in a consistent manner, with a universal design approach underpinning learning development and delivery.



Flexible Learning Opportunities: Be available all year-round and offer flexible and technology enabled opportunities that can be availed of a diverse array of potential learners, including those in employment.



Green Campus: Embedding sustainable development principles across its operations and ensuring its students are equipped with the environmental awareness and green skills which can drive future change.



Institutional Structure: Have staffing, governance and management structures appropriate to an education and training institution of scale.



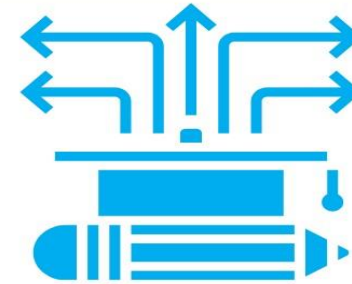
Community Resource: Serve as a community resource, with facilities used for a range of societal and cultural purposes and be seen as the obvious 'go to' place to access education and training.



Financial Autonomy: More financial autonomy for the ETB with greater scope to generate its own revenue, build reserves across calendar years and invest strategically to support future growth and development.

FET

129 Projects



€60m 2023 Budget

CAPITAL



7 Funds



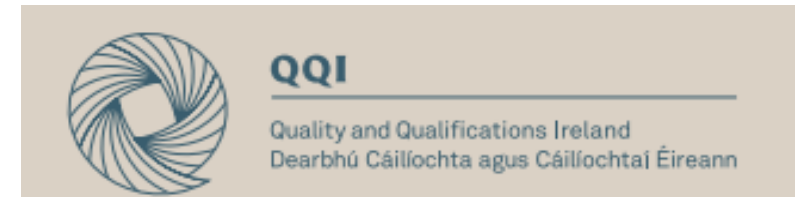
Other Key Policies

GREEN SKILLS for FET
2021-2030

Action Plan for Apprenticeship
2021-2025

ADULT LITERACY FOR LIFE

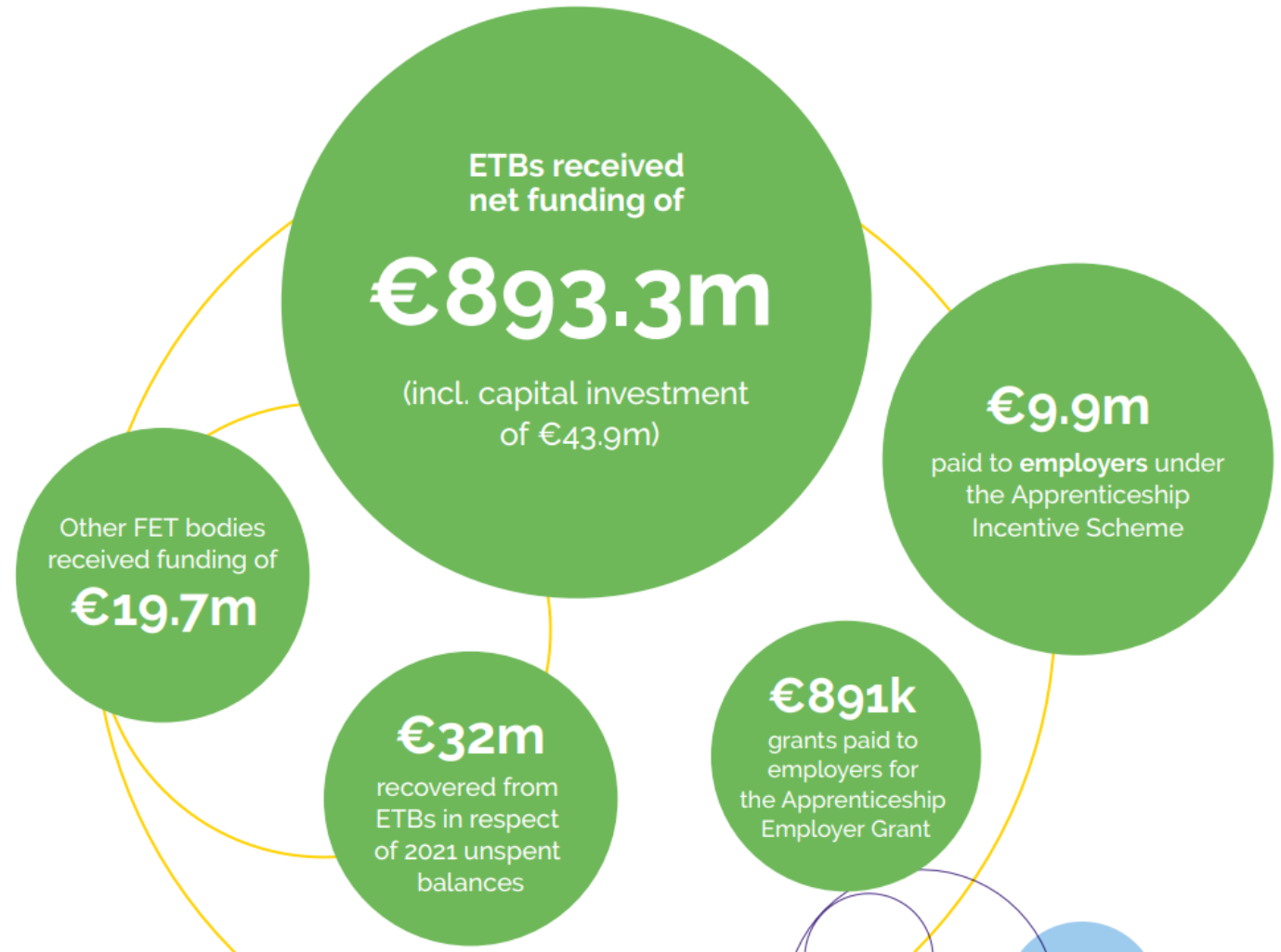
A 10-YEAR ADULT LITERACY, NUMERACY AND DIGITAL LITERACY STRATEGY



Inaugural Review
of Quality Assurance
in Education and
Training Boards

SOLAS
learning works

SOLAS Funding for FET in 2022



New FET Funding Model - Simplifying Fundings for an Outcomes-based Model

Core funding to drive an effective and strategic ETB

FET pathways

FET for Employment and HE Transition

Apprenticeship

Discretionary Funding

DFHERIS allocates SOLAS Funding from

Exchequer Funding

- Government revenue from taxes and other sources

National Training Fund (NTF)

- A levy on companies to support training of employed, job seekers and to support lifelong learning



VET Team Achievements and Future Activities

- **August 2022: VET and FET Sectors: Policy and Research**
- **April 2023 – Discussion on Priority Transversal Skills**
- **November 2023 – Launch of the report “Erasmus+ VET Mobility as a Route to the Acquisition of Transversal Skills”**
- **Contact and collaboration with Estonian VET Team – DigComp, GreenComp and Micro Credentials**
- **October 2023 – EfVET Conference**
- **2024 – TS Report presented to KA2 Coordinators, FET Network, EPALE, NAPD, 5th VPL Biennale**

Future Activities

- **Follow up to Transversal Skills Report – national event**
- **Sustainability focus – workshops and webinars**
- **Study Visits**
- **International Collaboration – VET Teams' Riga Meeting**