

Digital Inclusion in Ireland: Connectivity, Devices & Skills

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Outline

What is digital inclusion?

Why digital inclusion?

Dimensions of digital inclusion

Irish policies & programmes promoting digital inclusion

International approaches

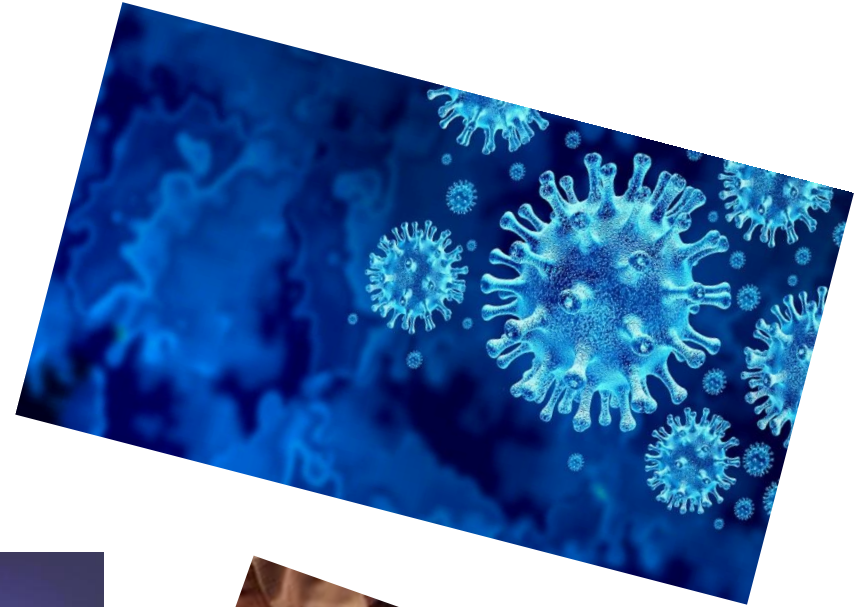
NESC report recommendations

What is digital inclusion?

Everybody can contribute to and benefit from the digital economy and society

- *For individuals* – having convenient, reliable access to affordable, accessible digital devices and an internet connection, and the ability to confidently use these in their day-to-day life
- *For businesses* – the spread of digital transformation to all enterprises; i.e. the adoption of digital technologies, and enablers of such adoption

Why digital inclusion?



Dimensions of digital inclusion



**Gateways
to ICT**



Who is impacted by digital exclusion?

Who?

- Those in rural areas
- Some older people
- Those on lower incomes
- Those with less formal education
- Micro-businesses
- Businesses & farms with older owners/managers

And?

- Some changes in 2020 – but gradient still there
- Relevant for employment, training, access to public and private services, communication, savings, security, independence

Existing policies & programmes



European Electronic Communications Code and BEREC Regulation

December 2018

Communications
Networks, Content
and Technology



Costs, devices & connection – existing policies & programmes



Údaráis Áitiúla Éireann
Local Authorities Ireland



European Electronic Communications Code and BEREC Regulation

December 2018

Communications
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and Technology



**GOVERNMENT FUNDED
COVID-19 SUPPORT**

LAPTOP LOAN SCHEME

Priority Groups are students underrepresented in higher education and disadvantaged by socio-economic barriers and include:

- First-time mature students
- Students with disabilities
- Part-time/flexible learning students
- Students who hold further education qualifications
- Students who are members of the Traveller and Roma communities
- Students who are ethnic minorities
- Students who are lone parents

Under the Laptop Loan Scheme, students from these priority groups may be eligible to receive a laptop/ICT device on a long-term loan without any charge.



Administration of this scheme is a collaborative project between MU IT Services, MU Access Programme, MU Student Services, MU Library & MSU

Skills & confidence – existing policies & programmes



etbi

Education & Training
Boards Ireland
*Boird Oideachais &
Oiliúna Éireann*

SOLAS
learning works

Adult Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy
10-Year Strategy for Ireland. Consultation Open.



Business & farms – existing policies & programmes



Access to public services – existing policies & programmes



International approaches



Measuring Australia's Digital Divide

The Australian Digital Inclusion Index 2019

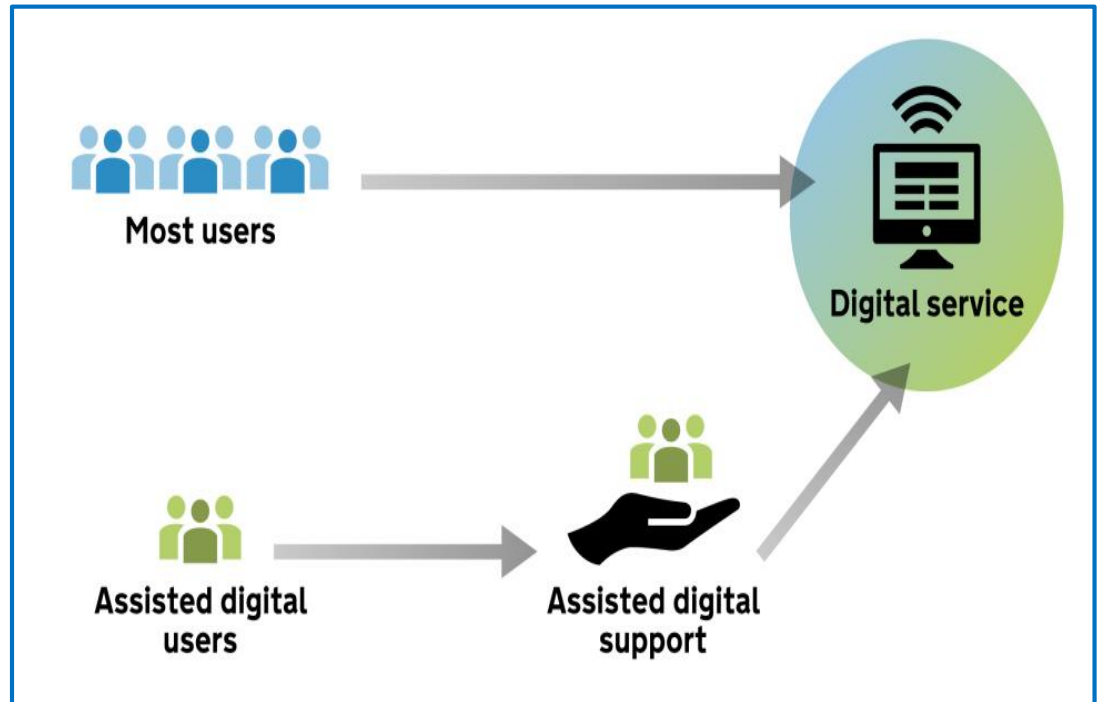


The Digital Inclusion Blueprint

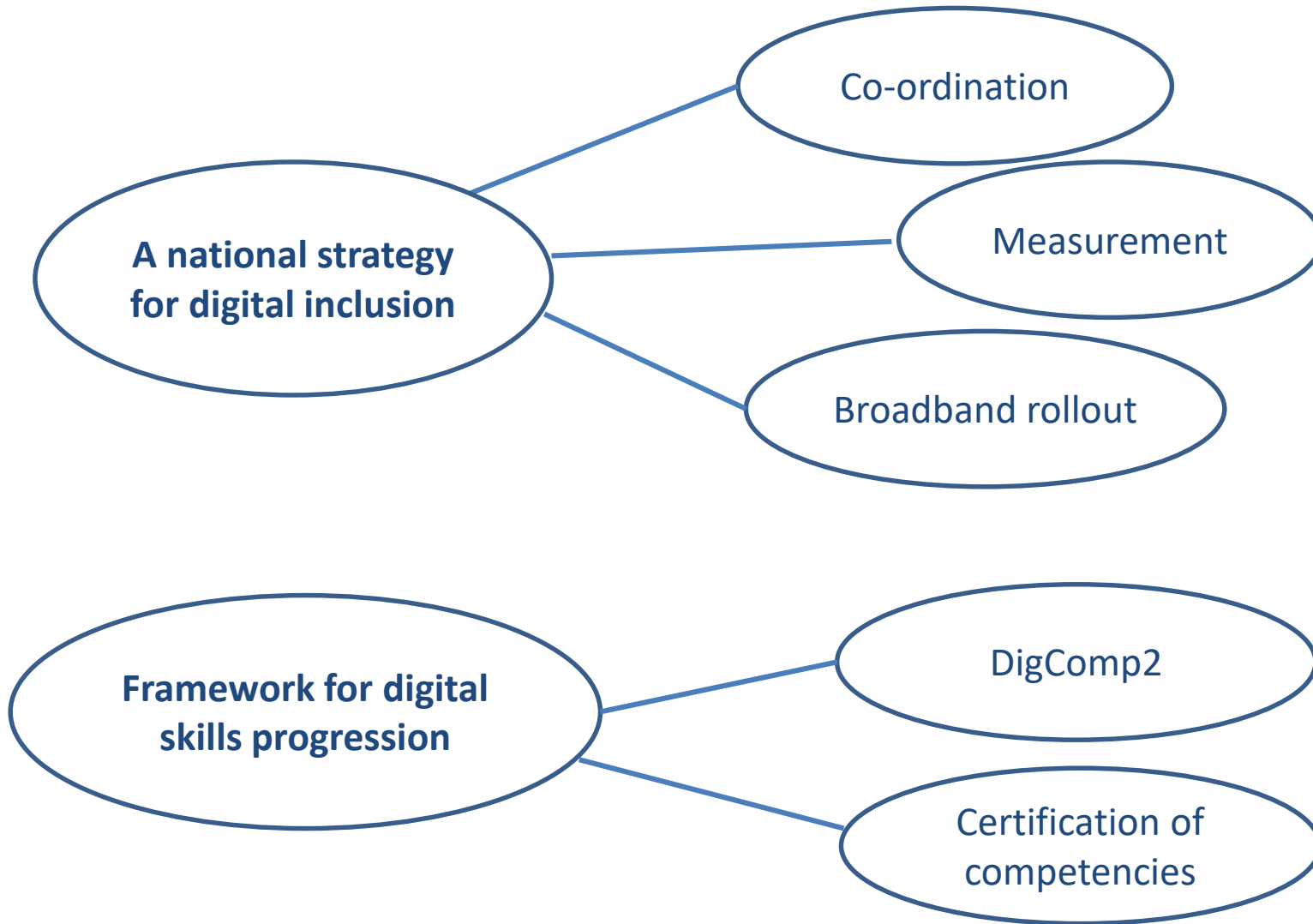
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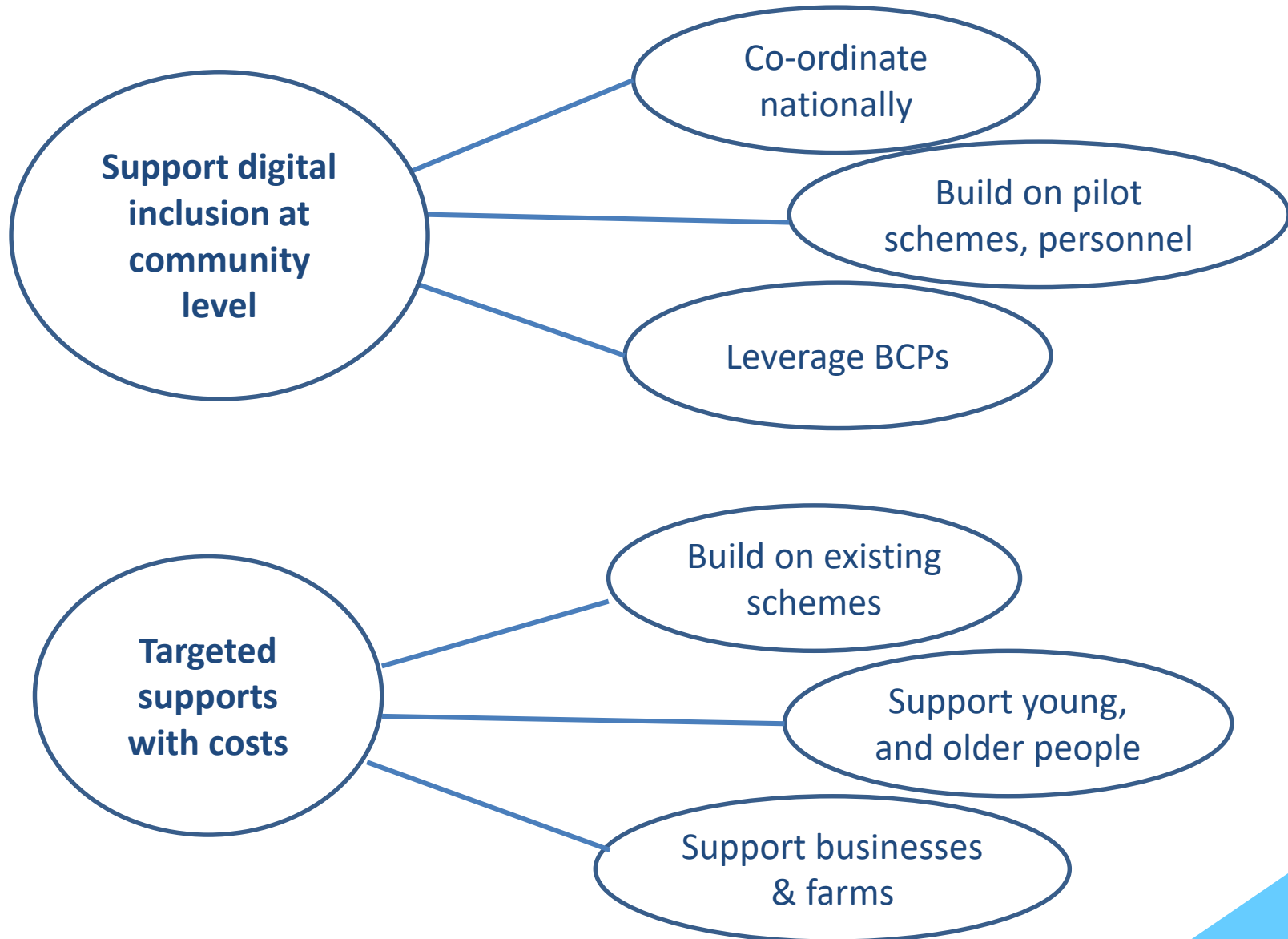
International approaches



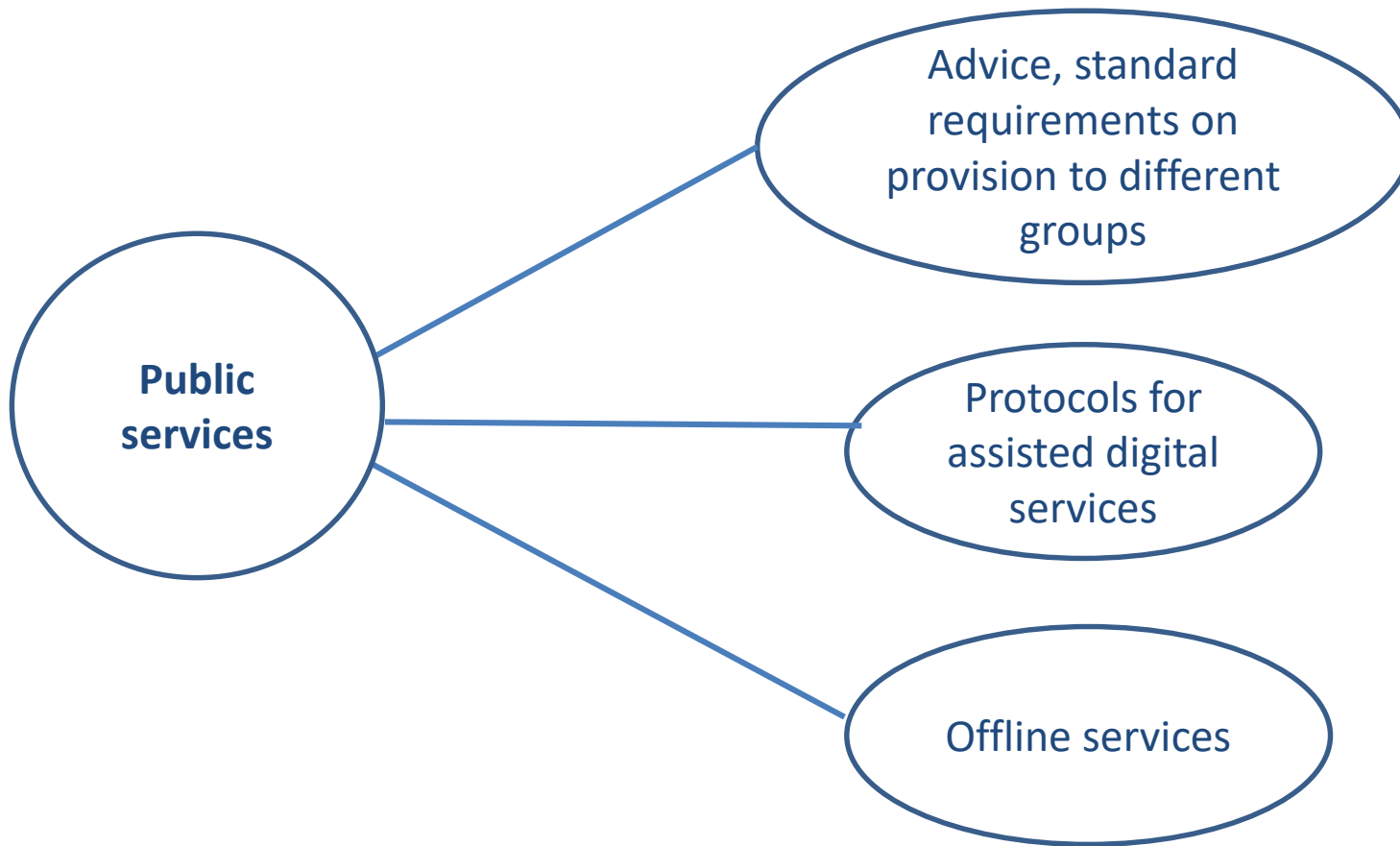
Recommendations in the NESCS report



Recommendations in the NESC report



Recommendations in the NESC report



Thank you!

