

ETBI Strategy



2025 - 2028



etbi

Education and Training
Boards Ireland
*Boird Oideachais agus
Oiliúna Éireann*

Strong representation

Advancing Excellence

Supporting ETBs

Transforming ETBI



Introduction

ETBI has developed this Strategy Statement for 2025-2028. It builds on the achievements of our previous Strategy Statement (2020-2024) and lays out our ambition to increase the value ETBI adds to ETBs, our funders, and stakeholders. The new strategy articulates four goals for ETBI to guide how we represent and support ETBs, advance excellence and develop our organisation. These goals will be supported by our action plan and KPIs developed by each ETBI unit, so that we can measure the success of our actions. The Strategy will be enabled by effective **positioning**, a commitment to **performance** and **partnership**.



16 ETBs

32

Community
National
schools

250

Post Primary
schools,
special and
hospital
schools

500

Further
Education &
Training
centres



Context

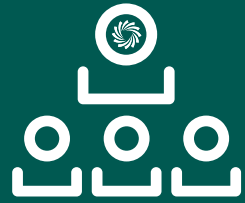
ETBI is the national representative body for the 16 ETBs. ETBs are responsible for delivering high quality, inclusive learning across more than 32 Community National schools, 250 Post Primary schools, special and hospital schools, 500 FET centres as well as Youth Work nationwide. This is the largest network of statutory education and training organisations in Ireland.

The education landscape in Ireland is constantly evolving and adapting to the changing needs of learners of all ages. ETBI strives to be at the centre of that evolution and brings the collective voice of ETBs to inform and support Irish education into the future with learners at the heart of everything we do.

Distinguishing Features

ETBI	ETBs
Status	Representative for ETBs with functions outlined in Education & Training Boards Act 2013. ETBI is also a Management body Statutory bodies with functions outlined in Education & Training Boards Act 2013
Services	ETBI delivers services to its member ETBs ETBs deliver education and training to learners
Policy	ETBI advocates on behalf of its member ETBs with policy makers and key stakeholders ETBs set policy at local level, guided by relevant government departments, funding agencies and sectoral collaboration.
Structure	CLG, with 16 ETBs as members, Directors, Council, FAR committee with established CE, Reserve, Schools, FET and OSD Forums ETBs have Boards with Reserve and Executive functions, with three directorates and as ETBI members participate in ETBI sectoral Forums and networks
Funding	ETBI is funded via membership subscriptions, and funding from DE, SOLAS, DCEDIY ETBs are funded DE, SOLAS and other funding agencies





Purpose

To represent and support Ireland's Education and Training Boards as the leading state providers of education, training and youth work in Ireland.

Vision

To enhance the capacity of Education and Training Boards to lead high quality and inclusive education and training.

Mission

To empower Education and Training Boards to advance education and training in Ireland through strong representation, collaboration, innovation and supports.



ETBI Values

Excellence

We aim to do our best by staying professional, improving constantly, and being innovative. We focus on high-quality results, learning, developing skills, and working together successfully.

Care

We support and look out for each other, building positive relationships and focusing on well-being. By being empathetic, communicating openly, and working together, we create a welcoming and caring environment.

Equality

We treat everyone fairly, with respect and inclusivity. We provide equal opportunities, celebrate diversity, and work to remove bias, ensuring everyone feels valued and able to succeed.

Community

We create a strong community by encouraging teamwork, inclusion, and meaningful connections. With open communication and shared goals, we ensure everyone feels they belong and can contribute.

Respect

We treat everyone with respect, appreciating their dignity, views, and contributions. By being fair, understanding, and professional, we build trust and celebrate diversity.



ETBI Strategic Goals



Provide strong representation

We will advocate for ETBs to ensure their role and priorities are recognised, supported, and reflected in policies that benefit learners.



Advance excellence in education, training and youthwork

We will support ETBs to provide and promote high-quality, inclusive education and training for all ages.



Enhance provision of support services to ETBs

We will make ETBI's support, expertise, and guidance more efficient and effective.



Be ambitious to transform ETBI

We will grow as an organisation with strong governance, staff development, and a culture of excellence to support ETBs.

Reflection of Values in Strategic Goals



ETBI Strategic Goals

		Excellence	Care	Equality	Community	Respect
Strong representation				High	High	High
Advancing Excellence		High			High	High
Supporting ETBs		High	High		High	
Transforming ETBI		High				High

1

Provide strong representation



1

Develop a strong collective position for the ETB sector to demonstrate the collective scale and impact of ETBs on high quality and inclusive education approaches.

2

Build a consistent partnership approach with government, policy makers, ETBs, and other relevant partners to enhance and clarify ETBI's agreed role in policy development and roll out.

3

Advocate for enhanced resourcing and support for ETBs while developing and promoting a unified ETB perspective on resourcing and operational needs to ensure effective delivery.

4

Support the sector to adopt a strong leadership position on inclusive learning based on ETB expertise and innovation.

2

Advance excellence in education, training and youthwork



1

Progress high quality and inclusive education, training and youth work by supporting the ongoing development of ETB provision.

2

Support and collaborate on innovative approaches to drive targeted transformation in learning delivery.

3

Facilitate increased knowledge sharing across ETBs by developing our networks and supporting collaboration and research on best practices.

4

Align collaboration with agreed strategic objectives to strengthen sectoral impact and drive growth.

3

Enhance provision of support services to ETBs



1

Review and refine ETBI support services and responsibilities to optimise resources and add value.

2

Review and streamline Forums and Networks to support effectiveness and access to expertise.

3

Align key areas with agreed ETBI strategic objectives to foster consistency of approach.

4

Develop partnerships and collaborate with national programmes to build capacity within the sector.

4

Be ambitious to transform ETBI



1

Enhance the organisational structure and corporate governance to ensure it is agile, responsive and accountable for delivering our ambition.

2

Provide opportunities and supports that enhance capabilities, promote well-being, and inspire the growth, development of our employees, while fostering equality, diversity, and inclusion.

3

Develop and execute a comprehensive communications strategy that aligns with the strategic goals.

4

Enable growth by implementing a robust technology architecture with strong security and effective governance.

3 key Strategic Enablers



Positioning: ETBI will use data, academic and experiential research to inform strong, evidence-based positioning of the sector with funders and stakeholders.

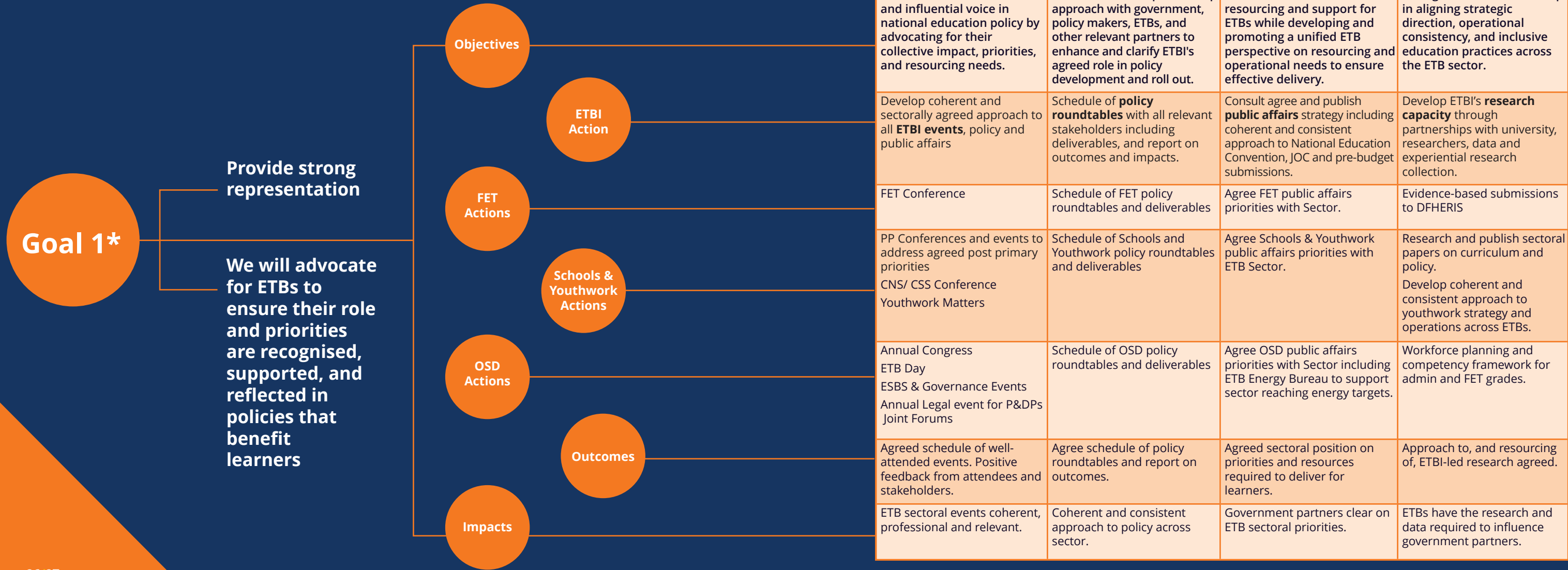


Performance: ETBI will prioritise value for money, good governance and service delivery for the benefit of ETBs, our funders and stakeholders.



Partnership: We will work in partnership with our member ETBs, funders and other stakeholders to provide strong sectoral leadership and promote coherence and consistency.



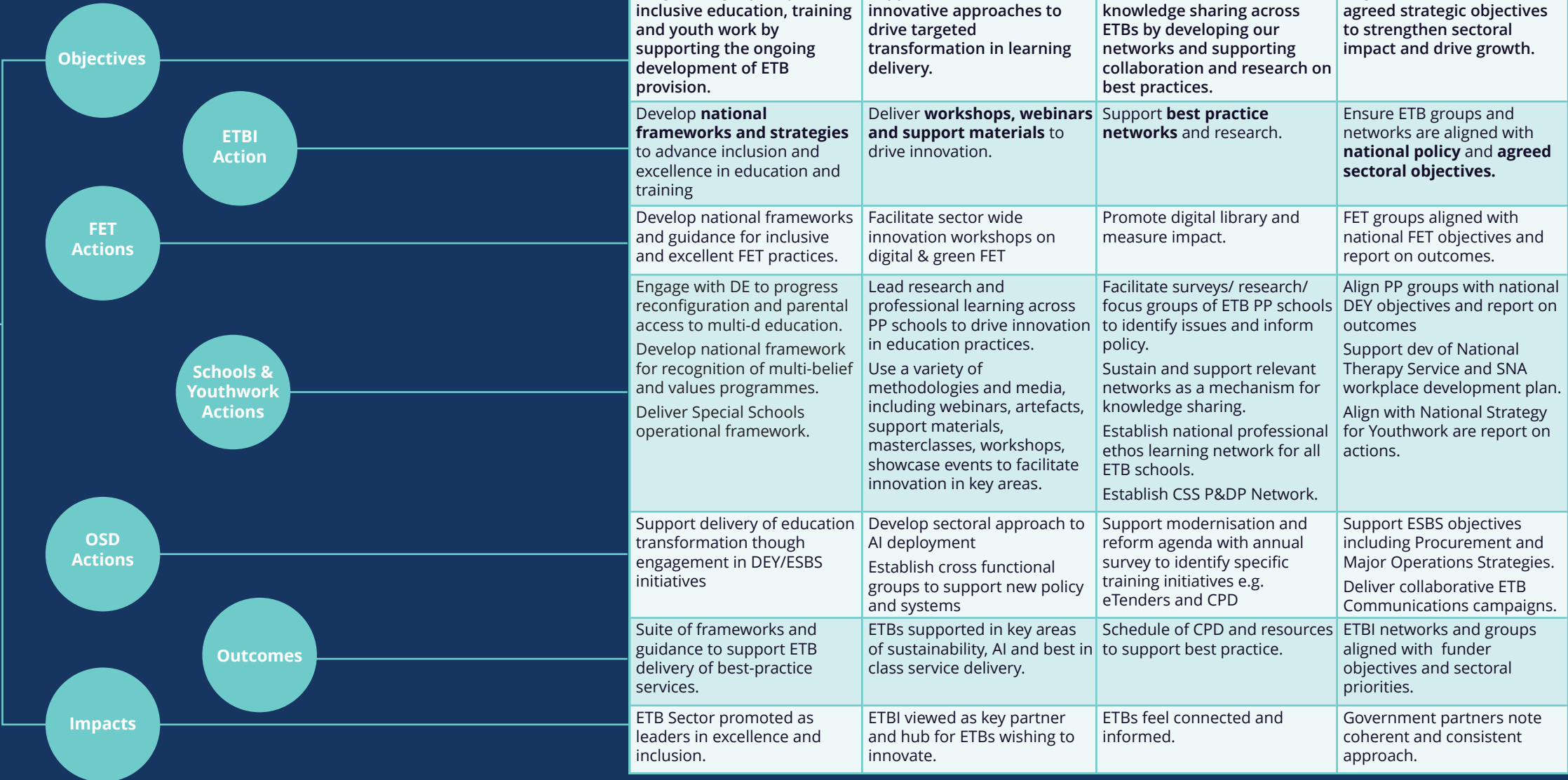


* ETBI Directorates will develop their own action plan and KPI's to progress each of the 4 Goals outlined on pages 26-33

Goal 2

Advance excellence in education, training and youthwork

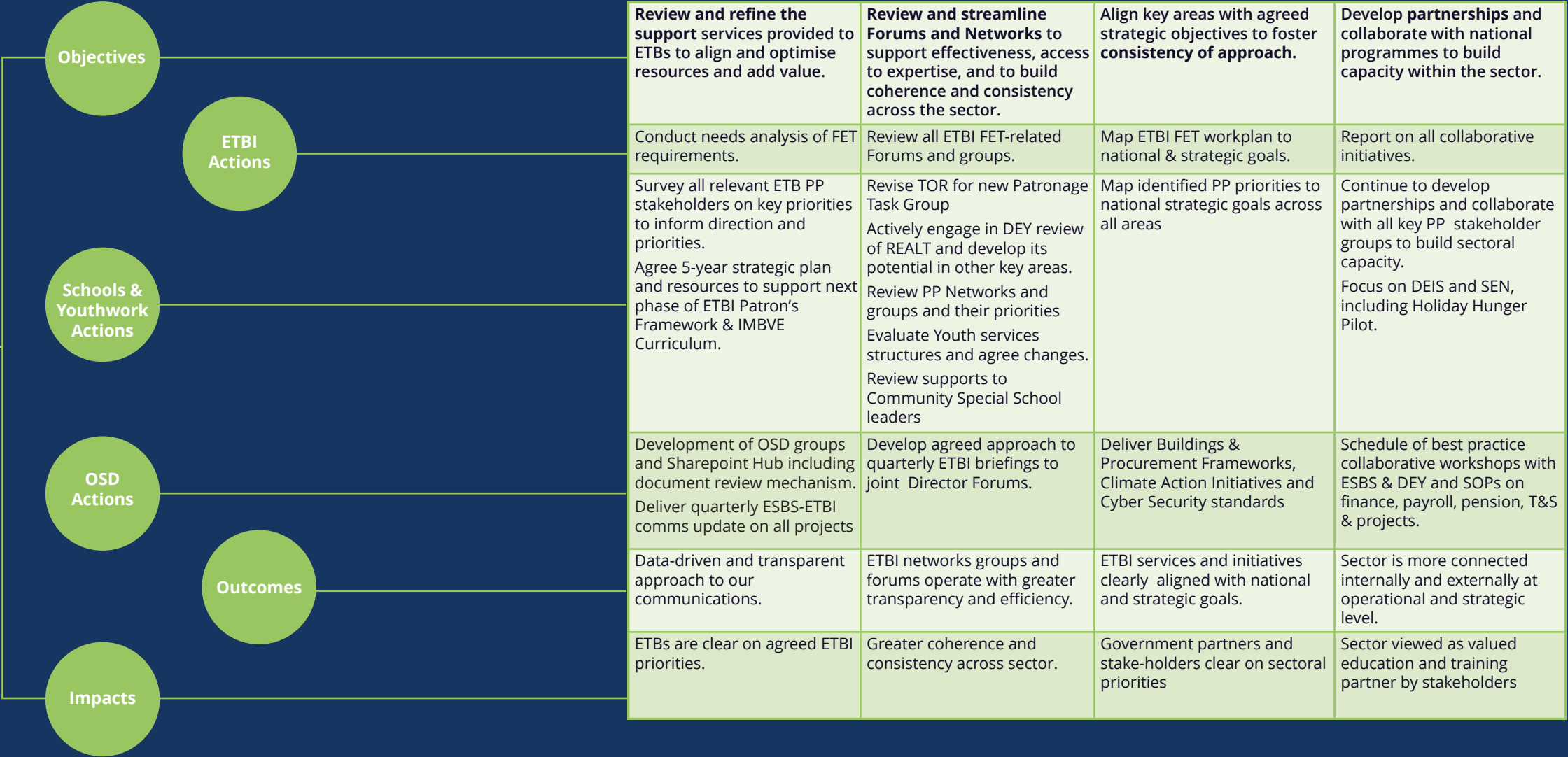
We will work with ETBs and partners to provide and promote high-quality, inclusive education and training for all ages



Goal 3

Enhance provision of support services to ETBs

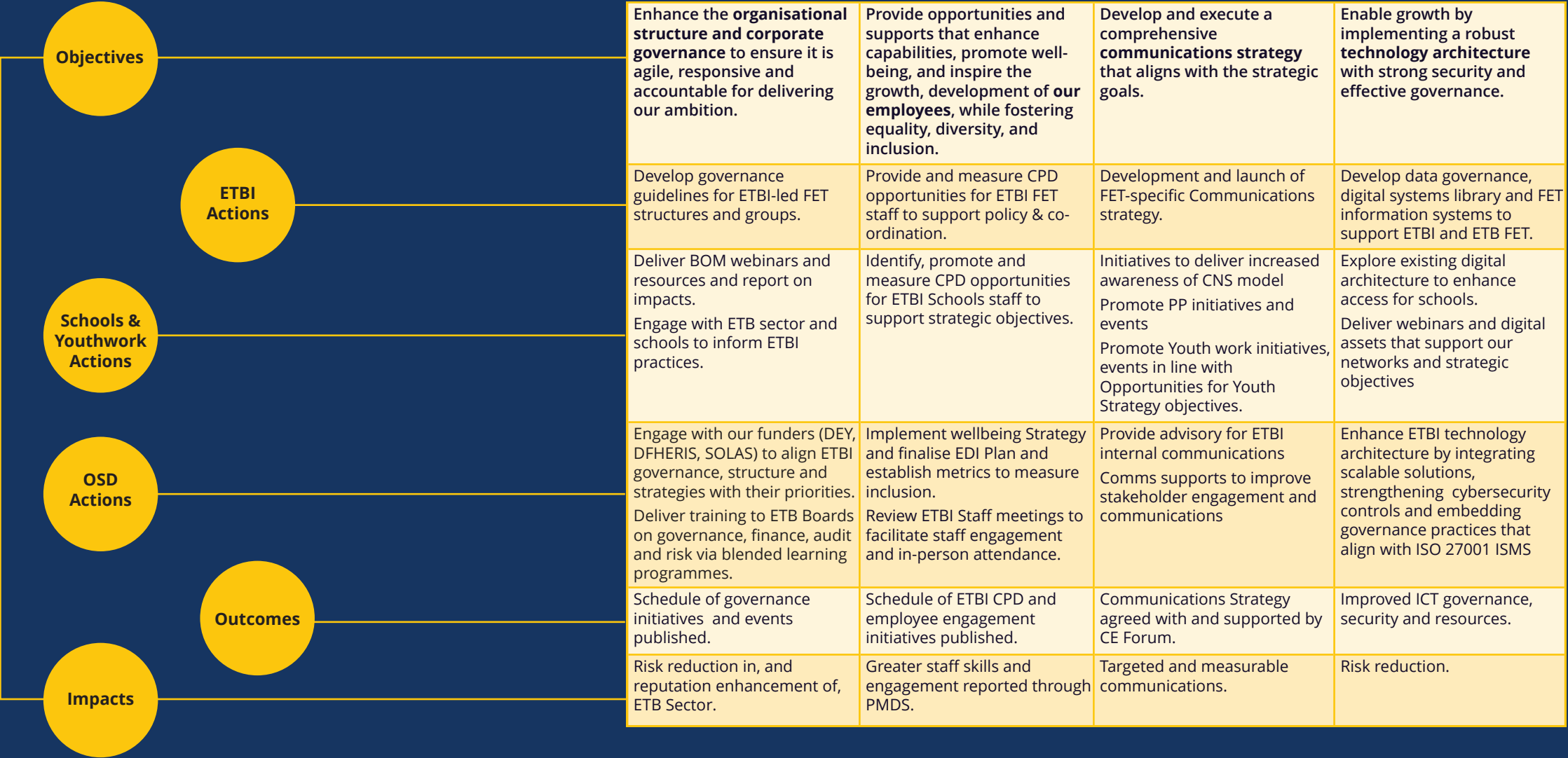
We will make ETBI's support, expertise, and guidance more efficient and effective.



Goal 4

Be ambitious to transform ETBI

We will grow as an organisation with strong governance, staff development, and a culture of excellence to support ETBs.



Performance

Positioning

Partnership





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Boards Ireland

*Boird Oideachais agus
Oiliúna Éireann*

Piper's Hill, Kilcullen Road
Naas, Co Kildare
W91K729

www.etbi.ie



@etbi_ireland



@Education & Training Boards Ireland



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Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20206586