



# Strategy & Foundations

Jonathan Caruana - Chief Technology Officer

# The five Priority areas for 2025



**SO1** Develop **a resilient and scalable infrastructure** to cater for Big Data and AI initiatives

**SO2** Enhancing **data quality** is pivotal for leveraging actionable insights and ensuring informed decision-making across the bank



**SO3** Execute **identified projects** to enable an agile and scalable infrastructure, while embracing the digital and technology evolution

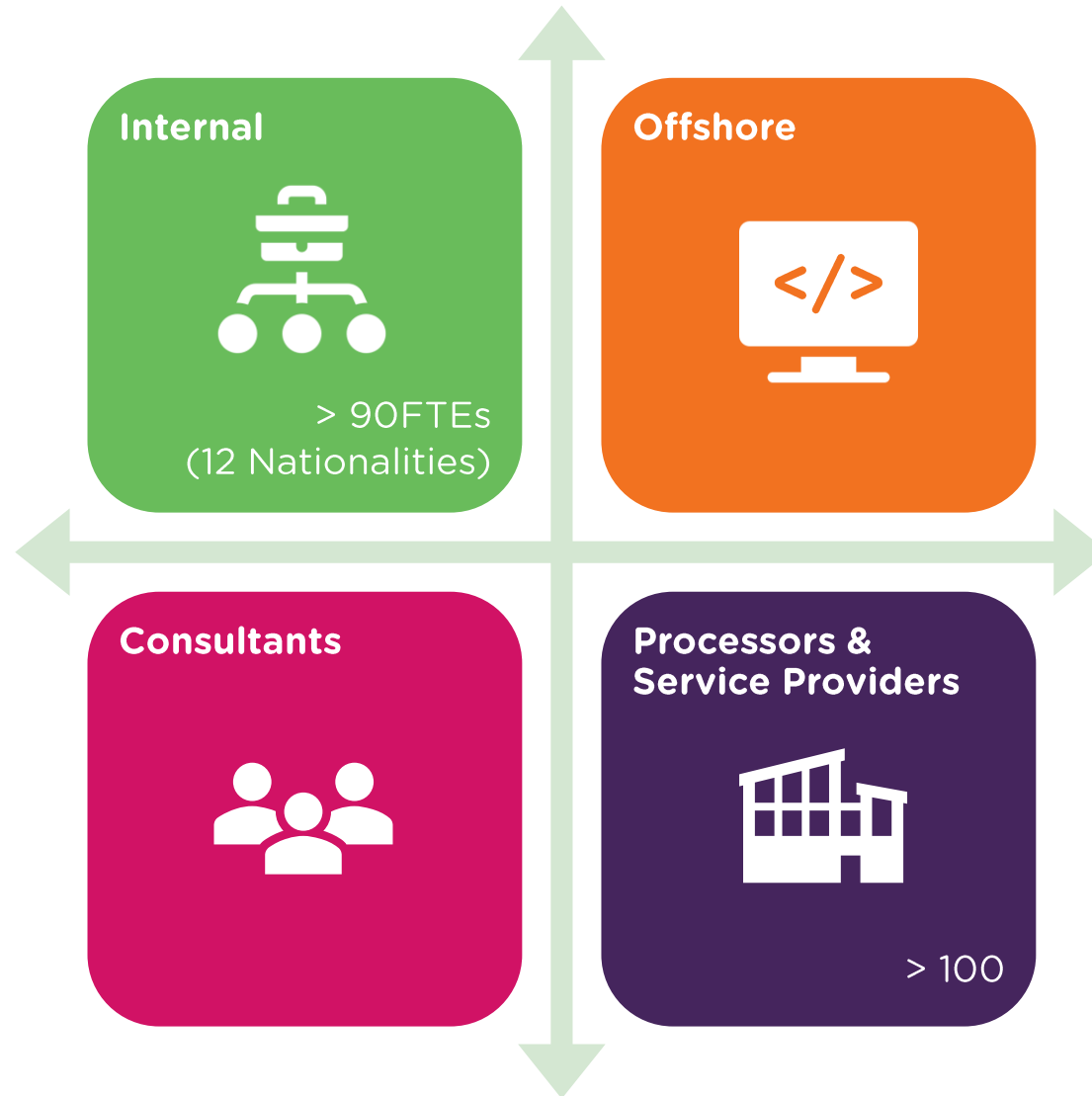
**SO4** Establishing an operating model and framework for **AI-powered platforms** emerges as a crucial priority for the bank



**SO5** Continue reinforcing the Bank's **Security Posture**

# Technology Workforce & Delivery Ecosystem

- Service Management
- Infrastructure & IT Security Ops & Operations
- Development and Innovation
- Project Management
- IT Risk & Control

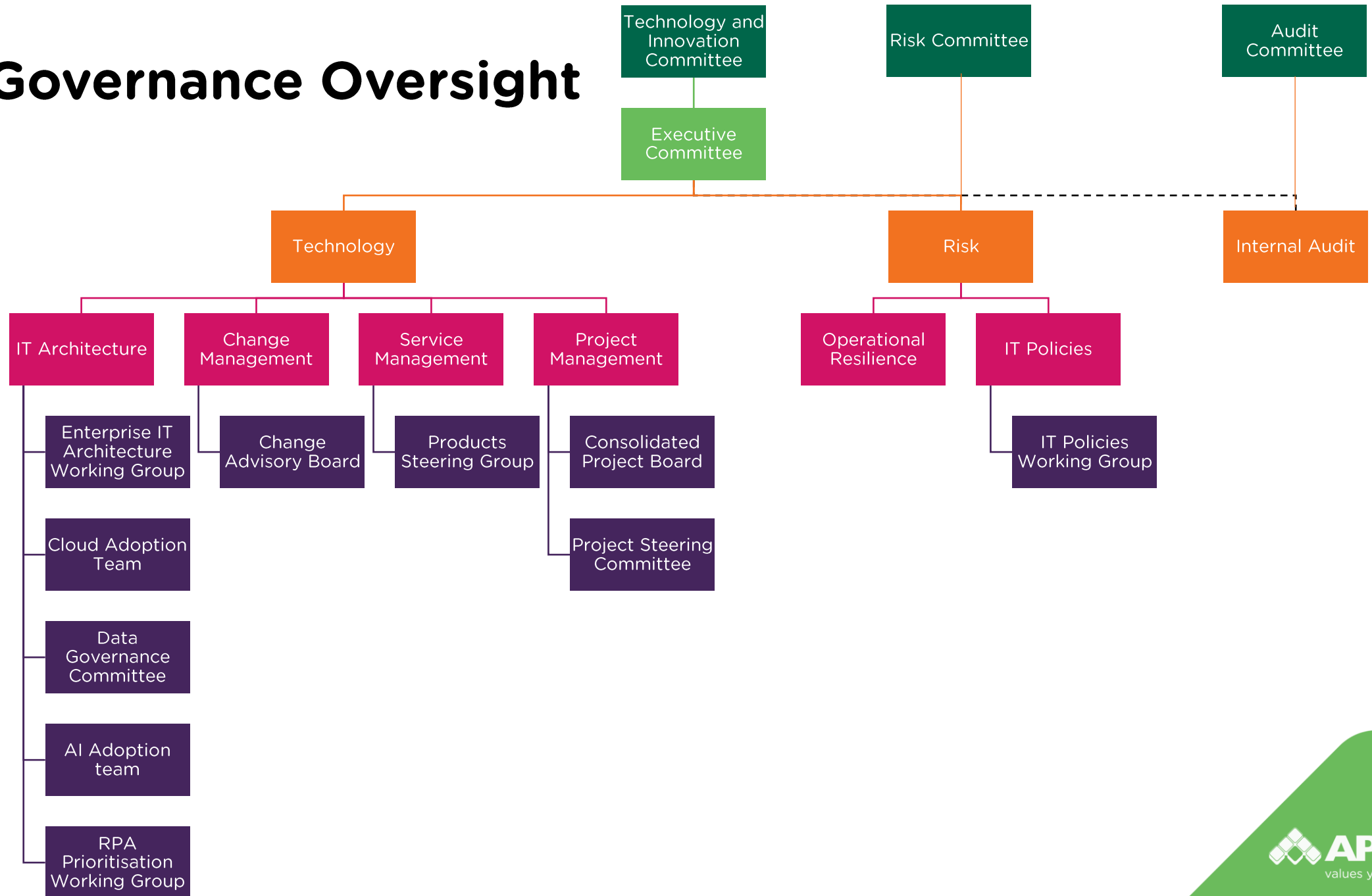


- Parameterisation & Configuration
- Analysis
- Software Development

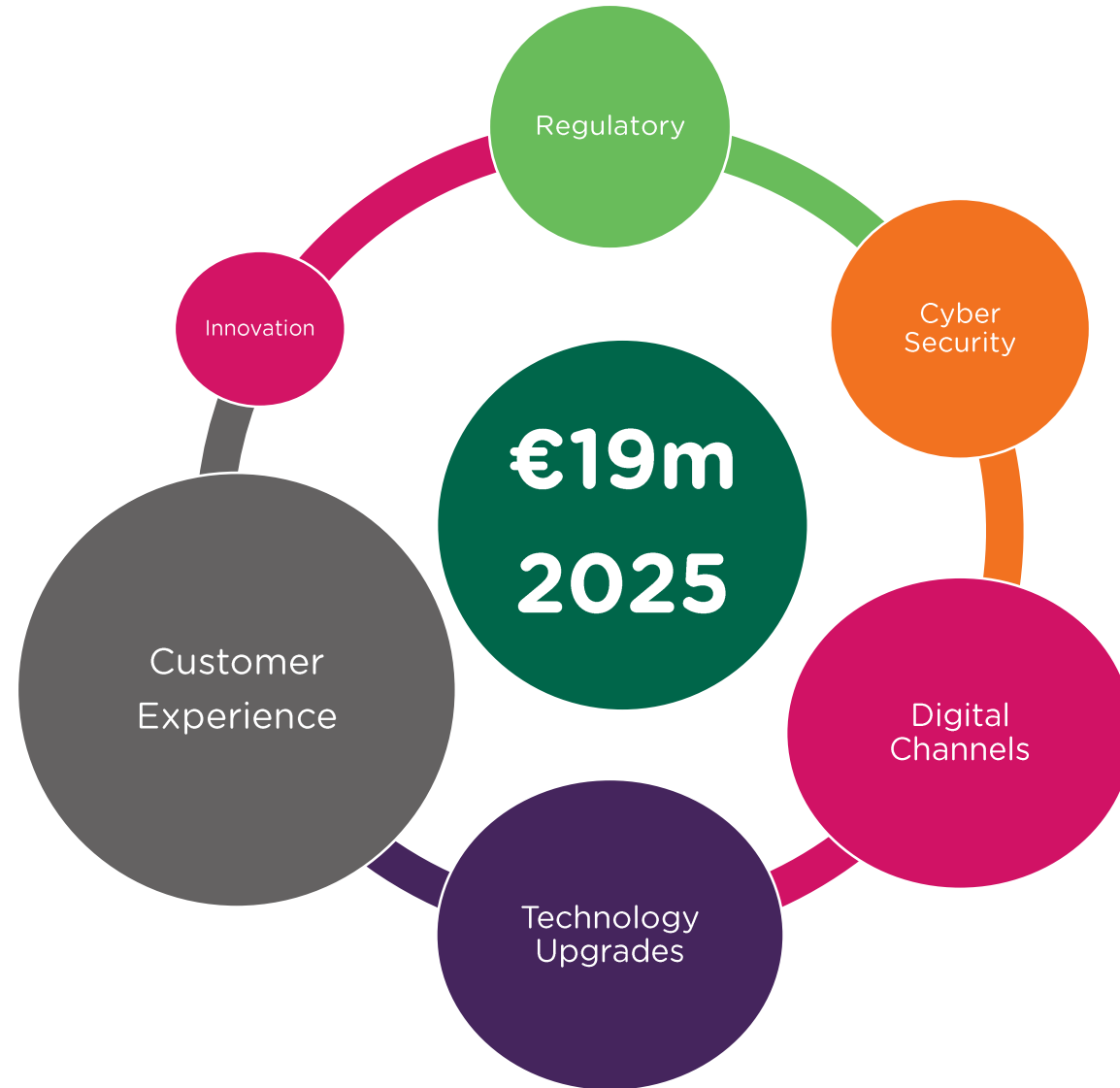
- RFP/Qs
- Advice on Blueprints
- Cyber Security

- Integrations
- Maintenance
- Development
- Upgrades

# IT Governance Oversight



# Financial Investment Overview



3Y Investment Programme of €32m

# Strategic Project Categories

## Customer Experience

Digital onboarding

New ATM Fleet, including cash and cheque deposits

Customer Relationship Management platform

Investments eco-system

E-Statements

Push Notifications

New 3D Secure Mechanism

## Technology Upgrades

Various upgrades to business applications

New Data Platform

Overhaul of the Bank's network infrastructure

New Backup solutions

## Regulatory

KYC platform

Regulatory Reporting platform

New Payment Types (Instant Payments)

Click-to-Pay (cards)

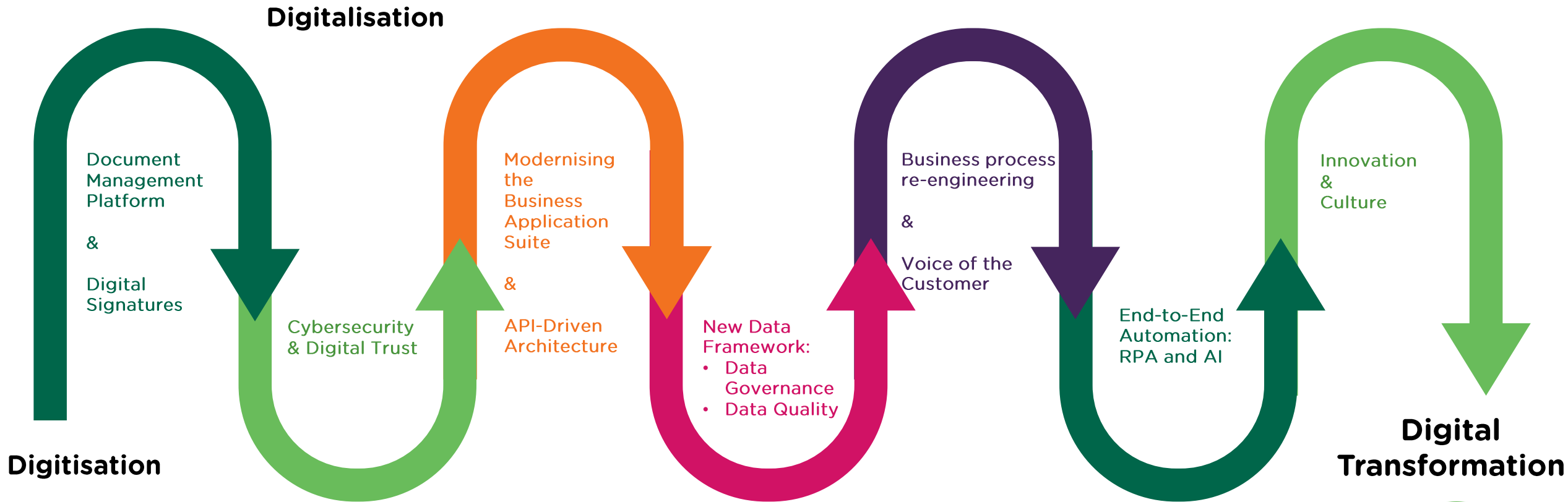
Verification of Payee

## Governance

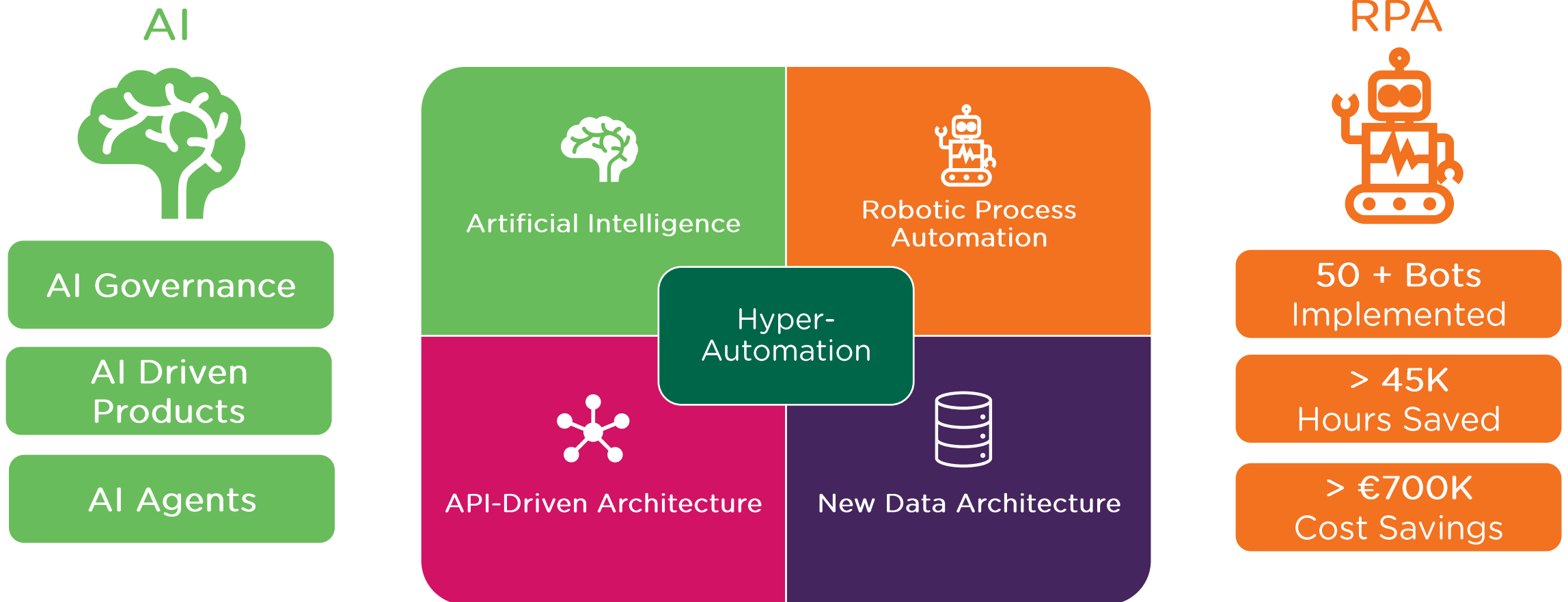
Data Quality

Cyber Security tools

# Digital Transformation



# Driving Innovation: The Power of AI and RPA







# Thank you



# Digital Transformation Projects

Natasha Baldacchino Vassallo - Project Manager

Jenna Gicevic - Project Manager

# Focus on digital transformation projects



**ATM  
Acquiring**



**Instant  
Payments**



**Investments**



**Digital  
Onboarding**

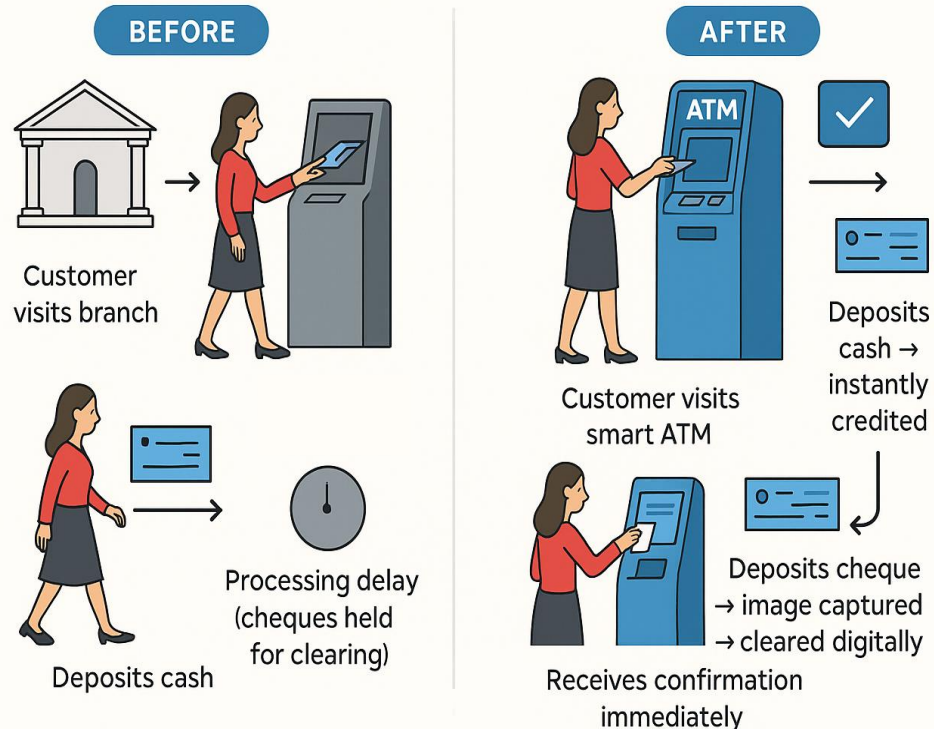


**Customer  
Touchpoints**

# ATM Acquiring

## *Real Time Cash Deposits and Online Cheque Deposits*

### ATM Deposit Journey: Before vs. After



In its constant digitalisation journey, APS Bank plc is investing significantly in its ATM Fleet. The enhancements include the implementation of real time cash deposits and online cheque deposits bringing:



**Better Customer Experience**



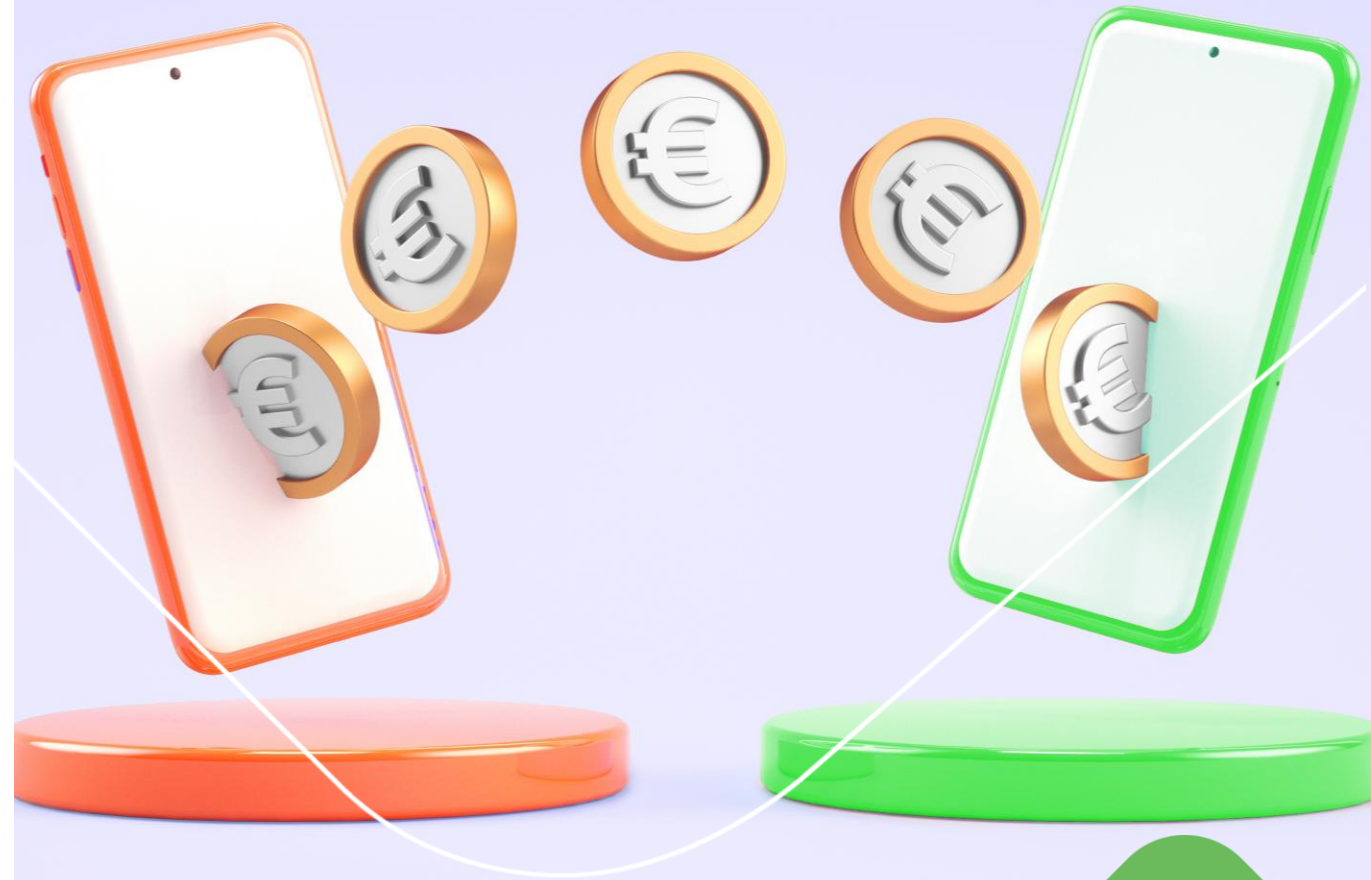
**Faster Deposits**



**Environment Friendly – No envelopes**

# Instant Payments

Another key area the Bank is focused on improving is inter-bank payments. Apart from various back-end improvements, the Bank implemented Incoming Instant Payments - enabling clients to **receive payments within 10 seconds** of being sent from the other banks.



# Outgoing Instant Payments & Verification of Payee

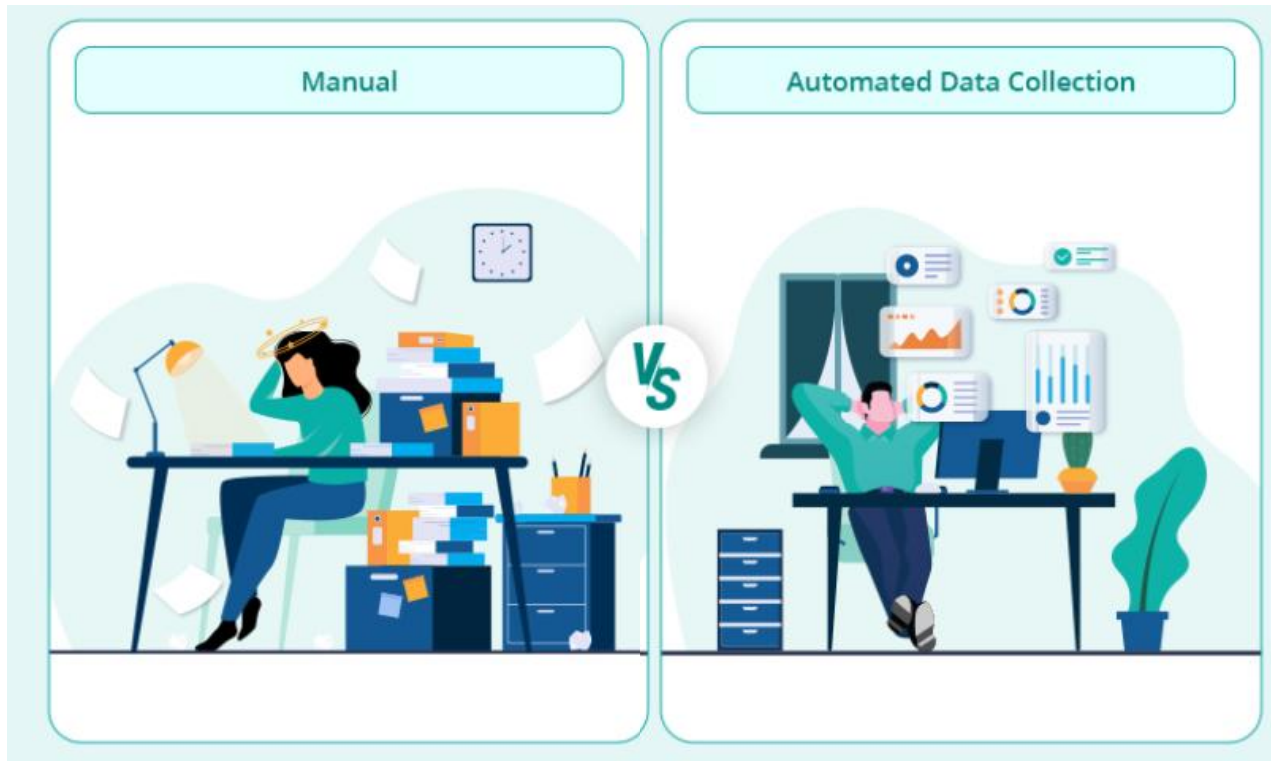
Other areas the Bank is implementing are:

1. Outgoing Instant Payments to enable our clients to send Instant Payments.
2. Verification of Payee which will be an additional service to confirm the recipient's name with the respective Bank prior initiating the payment.

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the APS bank payment interface, illustrating different stages of the verification process:

- Top Screenshot (Green border):** Shows a successful verification. The IBAN/account number is MT12345678901222303, the Sort code is empty, the Swift code is APSBMTMT, and the Beneficiary name is Joe Borg. A green checkmark and the message "This account matches the recipient of payment." are displayed, along with a "Learn more" link.
- Middle Screenshot (Orange border):** Shows a suggestion for a better match. The IBAN/account number is partially visible as "number\*" and "222303", the Sort code is empty, the Swift code is APSBMTMT, and the Beneficiary name is Joe Borg. A red question mark icon and the message "Did you mean Joey Borg? Learn more" are displayed.
- Bottom Screenshot (Pink border):** Shows a warning due to a name mismatch. The IBAN/account number is MT12345678901222303, the Sort code is empty, the Swift code is APSBMTMT, and the Beneficiary name is Joe Borg. A red exclamation mark icon and a detailed warning message are displayed: "The beneficiary name does not match the recipient's bank records. By authorising this payment, there is a risk that the funds may be directed to an unintended recipient. APS is not liable for such transfers. Learn more".

# Investments Solution



Thanks to this upgrade, the Bank is enabling an end-to-end digital journey with one aim – **making the customer journey simpler**, whilst enabling additional services. A couple of key benefits delivered are:

1. The introduction of a more **efficient process** reducing the data capturing requirements which also **automates** the suitability assessment carried out when establishing the relationship with an investment client.
2. The introduction of **new services** that can be offered to the Bank's clients.

# Focus on digital transformation projects



**ATM  
Acquiring**



**Instant  
Payments**



**Investments**



**Digital  
Onboarding**



**Customer  
Touchpoints**



# Digital Onboarding

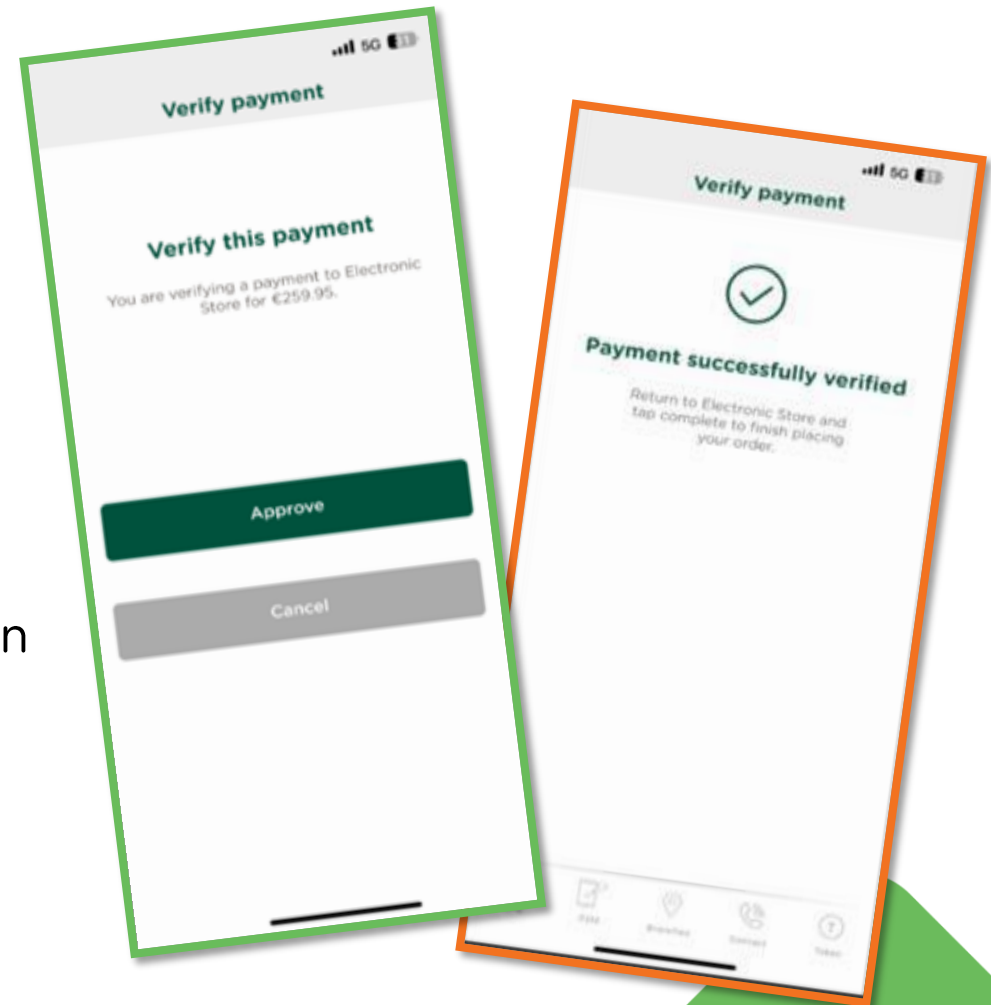
The Digital Onboarding Project focuses on **streamlining** the onboarding process for customers through automation. It covers the entire journey from application to account opening improve service delivery for all customers.



# Consolidation of Customer Touchpoints

Various initiatives are also being executed to consolidate the customer touchpoints. These include:

1. The implementation of **biometrics** for 3D Secure Transactions delivering a smoother 3D Secure journey by allowing you to approve such card transactions through myAPS.
2. Focusing more on **push notifications** instead of SMS in different streams such as statement notifications.
3. Revamp the **CRM solution** which will show a unified customer interaction history allowing for a better, personalised service.





# Thank you



# myAPS: Simplified, Secure Banking

Gordon Gilford – Head of eChannels





A strong commitment to  
our vision of being  
“The community bank”

Significant and ongoing  
investments in the Bank’s  
digital channels.



# Our Focus



## **Simplifying User Experience**

Simplifying the online journeys and making it easier for our customers to bank online.

## **Enhancing our Digital Banking Platform**

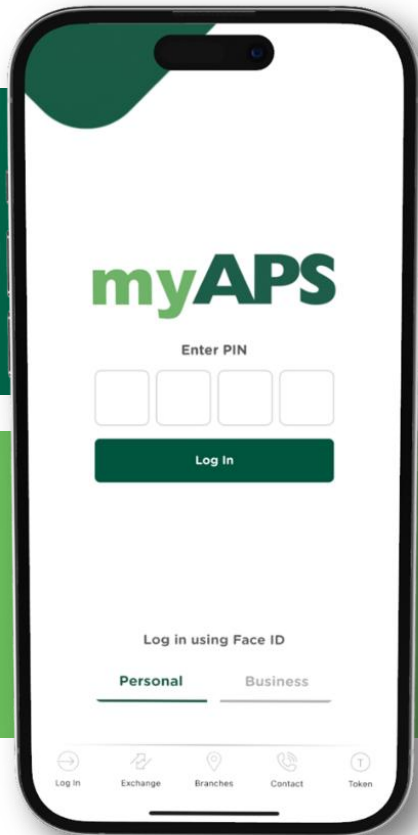
Introducing new features to empower our customers to carry out their banking needs online.

## **Strengthening Online Security**

Strengthening online security on myAPS and our systems to continue to protect our customers.

# Simplifying the User Experience

## What we've done?



Simplified  
Sign-Up  
Journey

Easier Bank  
Transfers

Improved  
Standing Order  
Management



Easy Switch  
between  
Companies

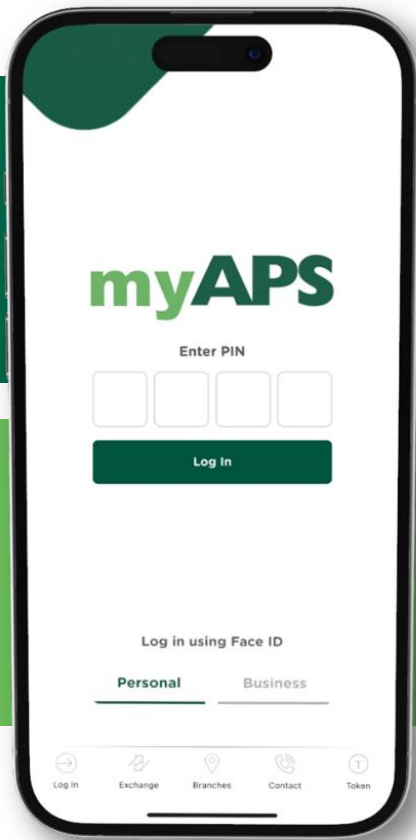
Approve  
Payments on  
Mobile

Approve  
Payments, any  
time, any day

We are committed to listening to our customers and simplifying the online experience.

# Enhancing our Digital Banking Platform

## What we've done?



Standing Order  
Management  
on Mobile

View Payment  
Vouchers

Account  
Opening on  
Mobile



Copy IBAN &  
Account  
details

View Payment  
Vouchers for  
Business

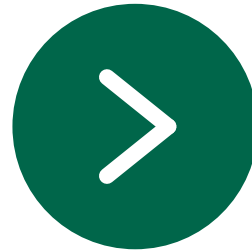
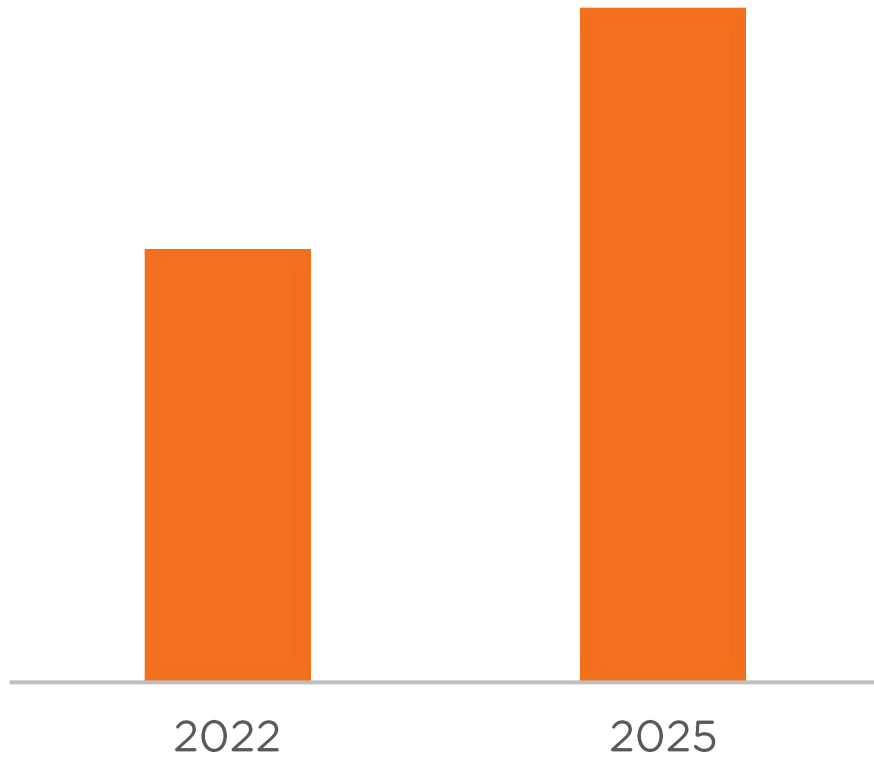
Digital  
Statements

We continue to enrich our digital banking platform with advanced features, ensuring a more intuitive and enhanced experience for our customers.

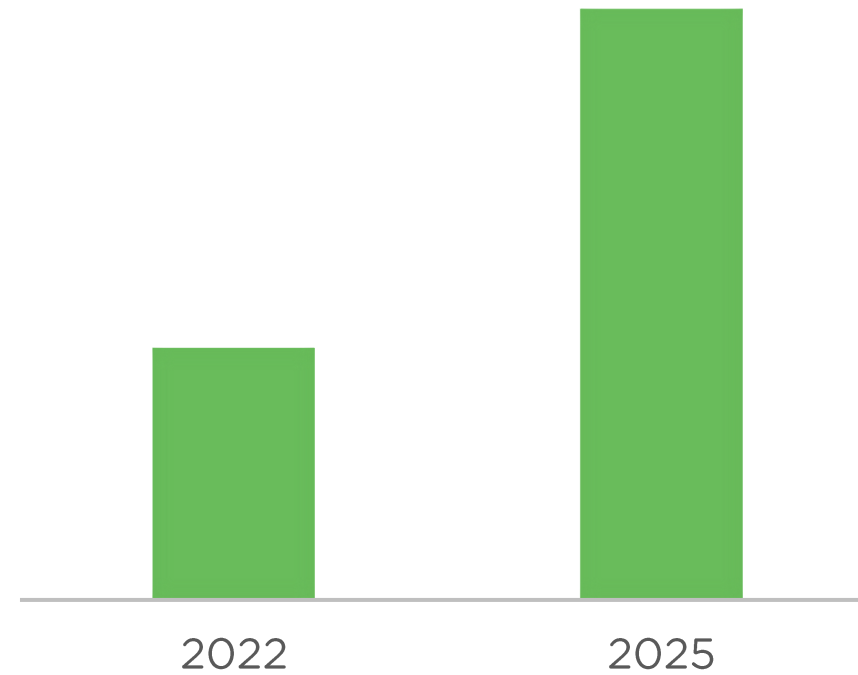


# Increased uptake and usage

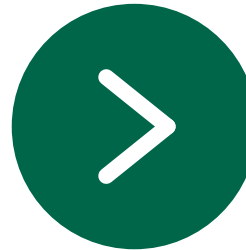
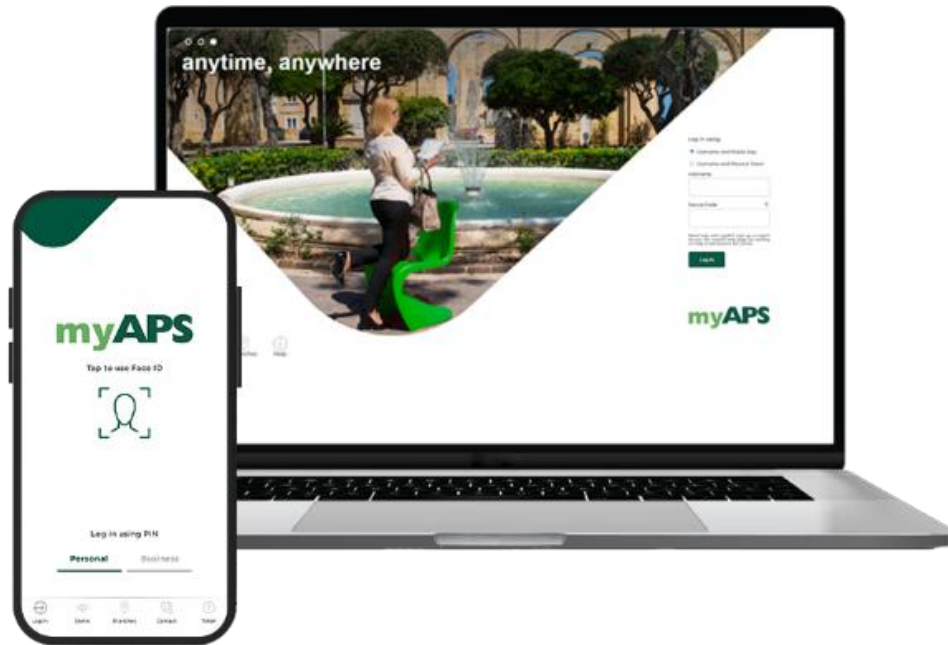
Sign-ups



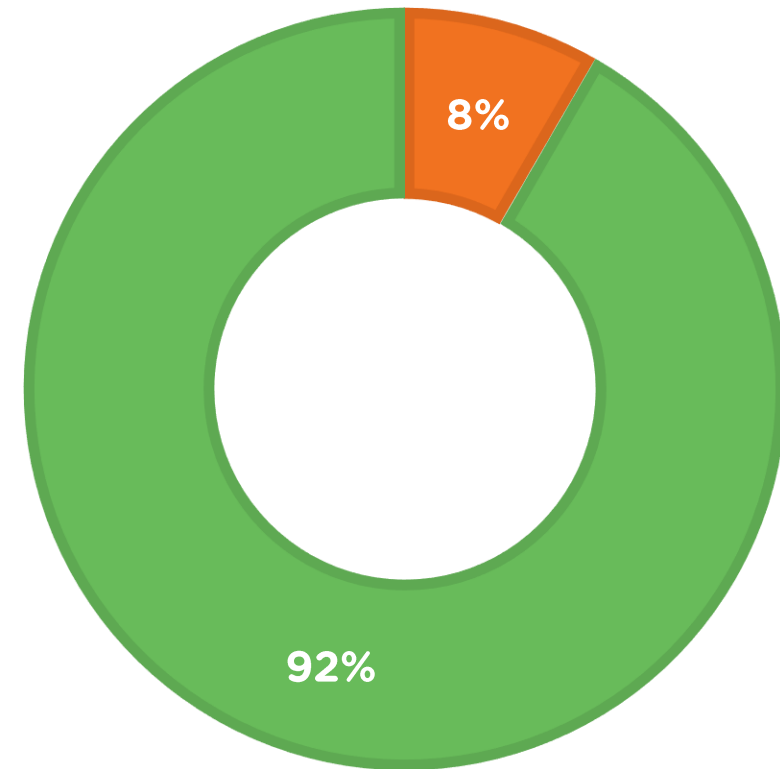
Online activity



# Mobile and Web Activity

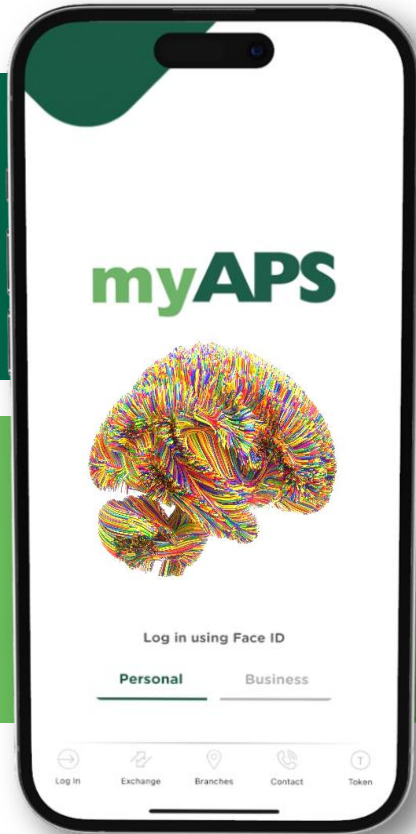


■ Web Activity ■ Mobile Activity



# Enhanced Business Banking Platform

Further enhancements on the way



**Simplify  
further**

Simplify SEPA  
& SWIFT  
Payments

Introduce more  
Payment  
Vouchers

Simplify  
Transaction  
History Screen

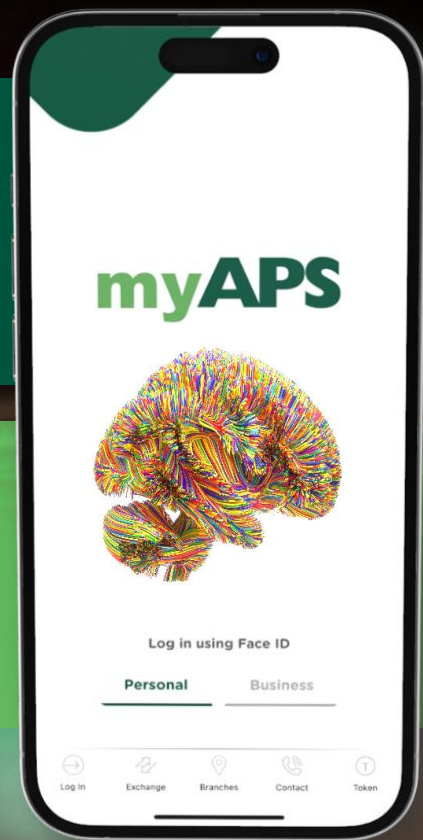
**Enrich**

Verification  
of Payee  
Option

Simpler Card  
Payment  
Authorisation

Increase Push  
Notifications

# Strengthening Online Security



Enhanced  
the Sign-Up  
Process

Launched  
Device Manager  
Module

Introduced In-  
app Notifications



Stay vigilant and adhere to established information security measures to ensure your safety.



# Thank you



# Cyber Security

Dione Gravino - Head of IT Infrastructure & Operations

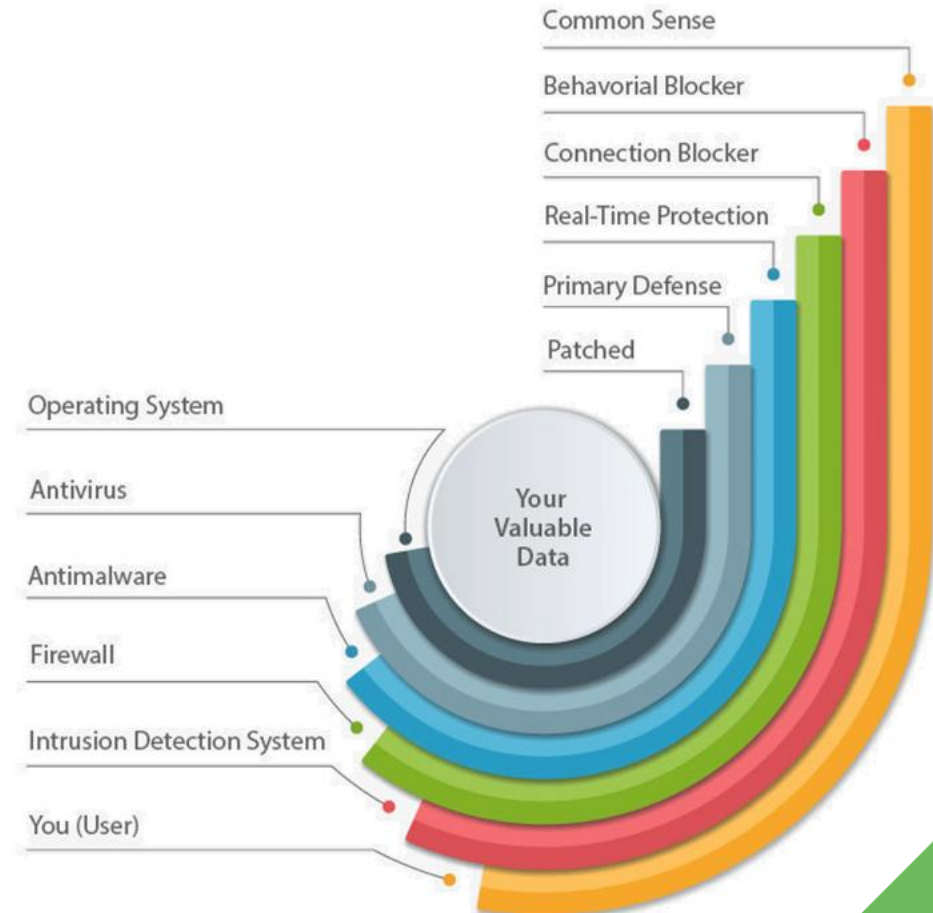
# Evolving Threat Landscape

- The threat landscape is always changing
- Adversaries are becoming more efficient, focused and taking business-like approaches
- Cybercrime is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economy
- Increased level of Sophistication and speed of attacks



# Multi-Layered Security Philosophy

- Implement various security controls
- Each security layers defends a specific area within the infrastructure
- Resilient Security
- Enhances the overall security posture
- Comprehensive strategy helps in detecting and responding to threats.
- The goal is to stay one step ahead





# Security by Design



# Information Security Culture



# Security Hygiene Practice

- Protect Your Personal Information
- Be Wary of Phishing Attacks
- Use Strong, Unique Passwords
- Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)
- Monitor Your Accounts Regularly
- Educate Yourself About Scams

Keep in mind that legitimate organisations will **never** ask for sensitive information via email, SMS, or phone calls

Follow our social media presence and visit our website for additional advice





# Thank you