FACTSHEET:
Steps in your On-Farm Connectivity Journey

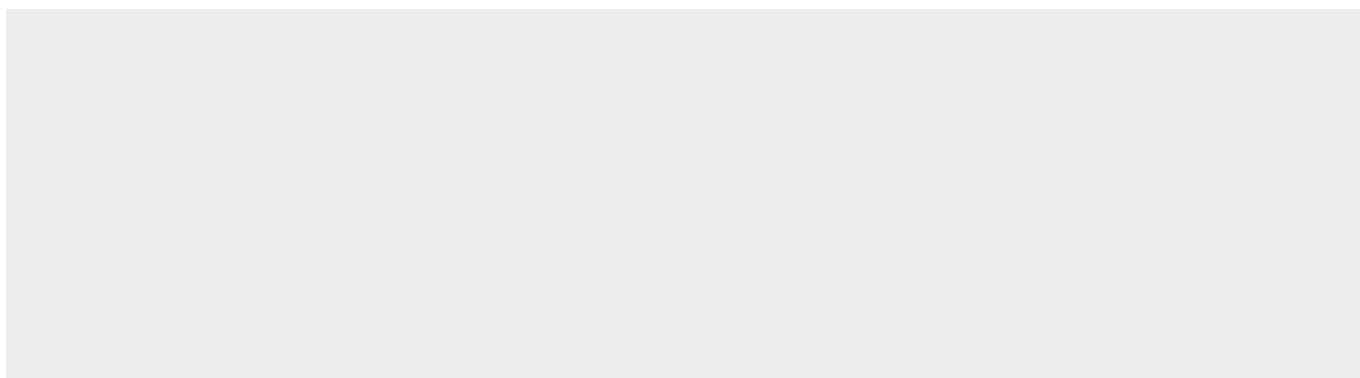## Steps to Consider in Your On-Farm Connectivity Journey

Farmers today are increasingly integrating digital agricultural practices into their operations. Having reliable on-farm connectivity is crucial to your technology adoption journey. This factsheet aims to guide you through the steps and considerations when improving or establishing connectivity on your farm.

Build your farm connectivity plan

A robust farm connectivity plan is vital for a successful digital agriculture strategy. Below are the steps and considerations to guide you in building your plan:

1. Identify your connection needs

- List out what you want to connect: buildings, machinery, stock yards, vehicles, devices, sensors, etc.
- For each item, note its primary function and what type of connectivity you think is required.

2. Assess your current network connectivity

- Identify which types of network connectivity (mobile, broadband, IoT etc.) are available on your farm*.
- Map out where these networks are strongest and weakest.

* The Regional Tech Hub can help you understand your connectivity by providing a free and independent report on your connectivity options available at your location. Click here to start the process.

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3. Determine power requirements

- Research and note down the power requirements for each device or sensor.
- Consider how you'll power any new infrastructure you deploy.

4. Define on-farm activities

Specify what activities you'll be conducting in each location, such as:

- Browsing the internet
- Monitoring livestock
- Operating machinery
- Making calls
- Gathering data for decision-making, such as sensors and real-time updates
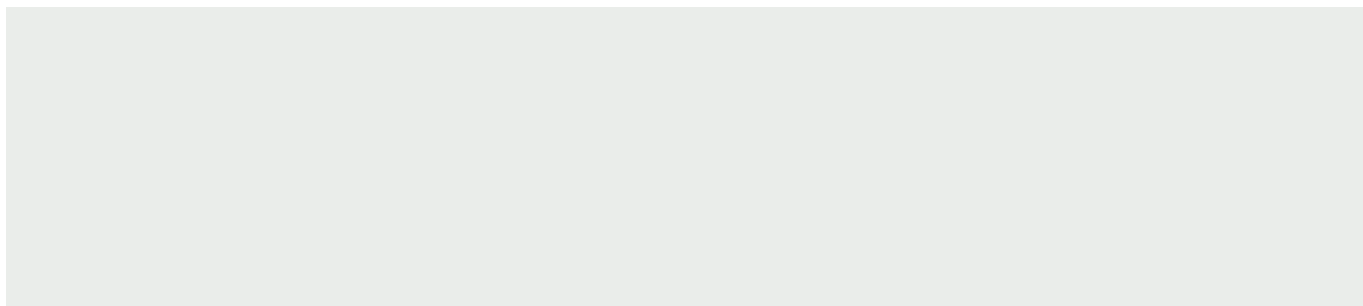
5. Evaluate Your Landscape

- Describe the topography of your farm. Is it flat, hilly, cleared, or wooded?
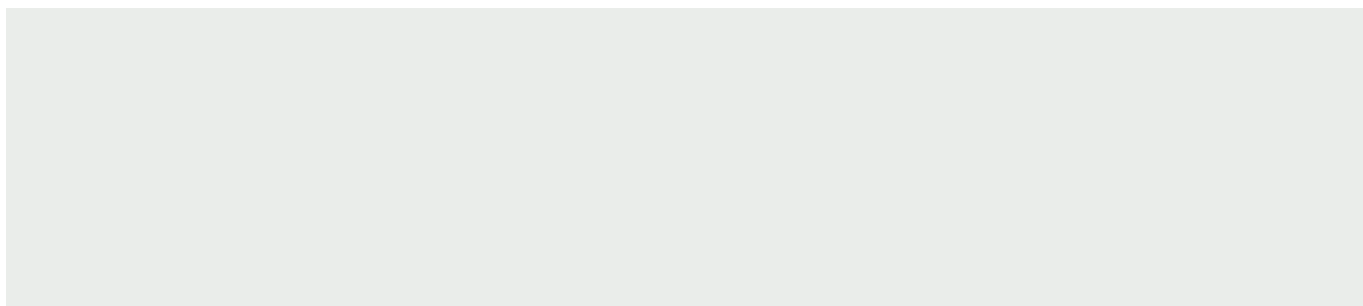- This will affect the type and position of infrastructure you'll need.

6. Prioritise Connectivity Needs

- Rank your connectivity needs from highest to lowest priority. This will help you allocate resources effectively.
- Consider if there's a specific project or activity that demands priority connectivity.
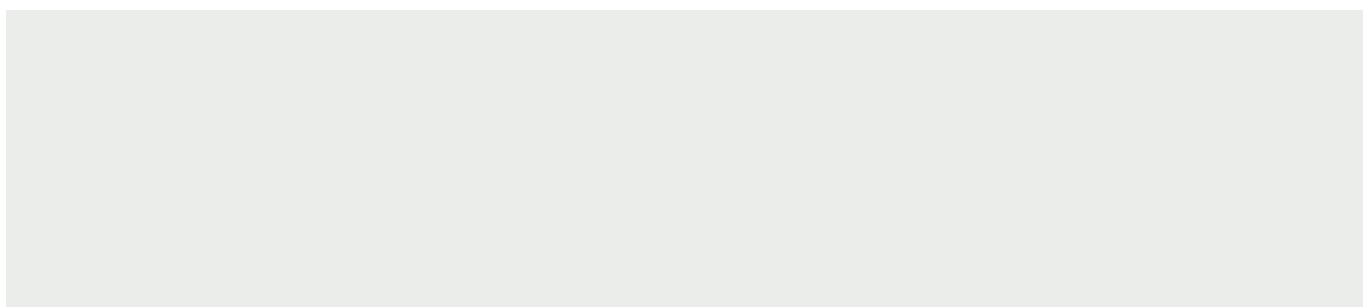
7. Research Providers

- Look into various providers who offer on-farm connectivity services.
- Assess their reputation, services, and customer reviews to find the best fit for your needs.

8. Set a Budget

- Determine how much you're willing and able to spend on improving or establishing your on-farm connectivity.

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The Regional Tech Hub is here to help with free and independent on-farm connectivity advice:

- **Book an appointment by clicking the link to speak with one of our friendly team – <u>Book an appointment • Regional Tech Hub here.</u>**

- **Call us on 1300 081 029**

- **Fill out an easy <u>form</u> and we can get back to you with further information.**

- **Visit our website for more resources: www.regionaltechhub.org.au**

About the Regional Tech Hub

The Regional Tech Hub (RTH) is an Australian Government initiative run by the National Farmers' Federation. Since late 2020, we have helped more than 160,000 people across rural, regional and remote Australia to get connected and stay connected to internet and voice services.

The RTH is proud to work alongside the Australian Government to offer free and independent advice to farmers, fishers and foresters, on their connectivity options as part of the Government's new <u>On-Farm Connectivity Program</u>.

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