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Understanding organizational cybersecurity cultures and sectoral differences

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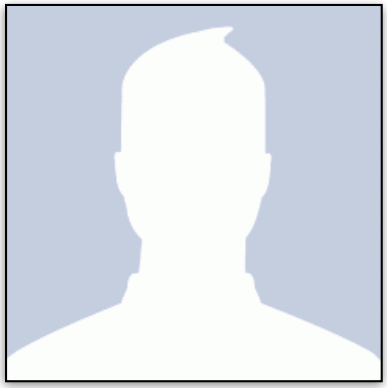

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1. *Managing security risk*: Appropriate ***organizational structures, policies, and processes*** are ***in place*** to understand, assess and systematically manage security risks to the network and ISs supporting essential services.

2. *Protecting against cyber attack:* Proportionate security measures are in place to protect essential services and systems from cyber attack.

3. *Detecting cybersecurity events:* Capabilities to ensure security defences remain effective and to detect cyber security events affecting, or with the potential to affect, essential services.

4. *Minimizing the impact of cybersecurity events:* Capabilities to minimise the impact of a cyber security incident on the delivery of essential services including the restoration of those services where necessary.

NCSC's *The NIS Guidance Collection*, https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/nis-directive-top-level-objectives

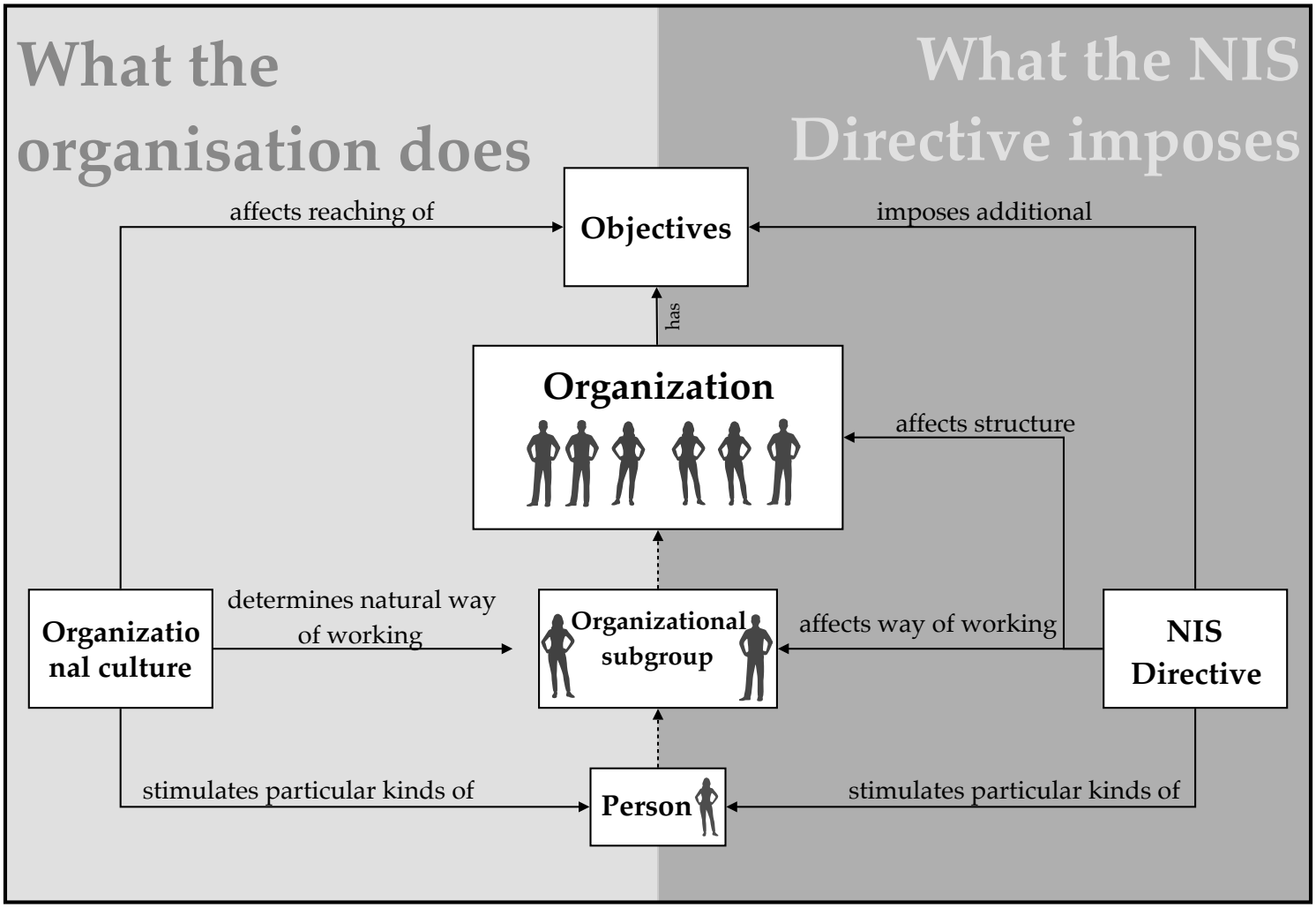

Figure 1. Conceptual framework: imposition of the NIS Directive may *complement* and *clash* on several layers: the way people work, the way the organisation is structured, and how its objectives are achieved.

Our goal is to establish a baseline of cybersecurity efforts in essential infrastructure sectors in the UK, by *investigating*

1. *What* **cybersecurity practices** *are observed in organizations providing essential infrastructures?*

2. *What is the* **organizational culture** *in groups responsible for security in these organizations?*

3. *Is there significant difference between organizations or sectors in the practices they observe?*

4. *Is there significant difference between organizations or sectors in the cultures they have?*

5. *What is the relation, if any, between cybersecurity organizational culture and practices?*

6. *What practices, if any, are positively or negatively affected by specific organizational cybersecurity culture?*

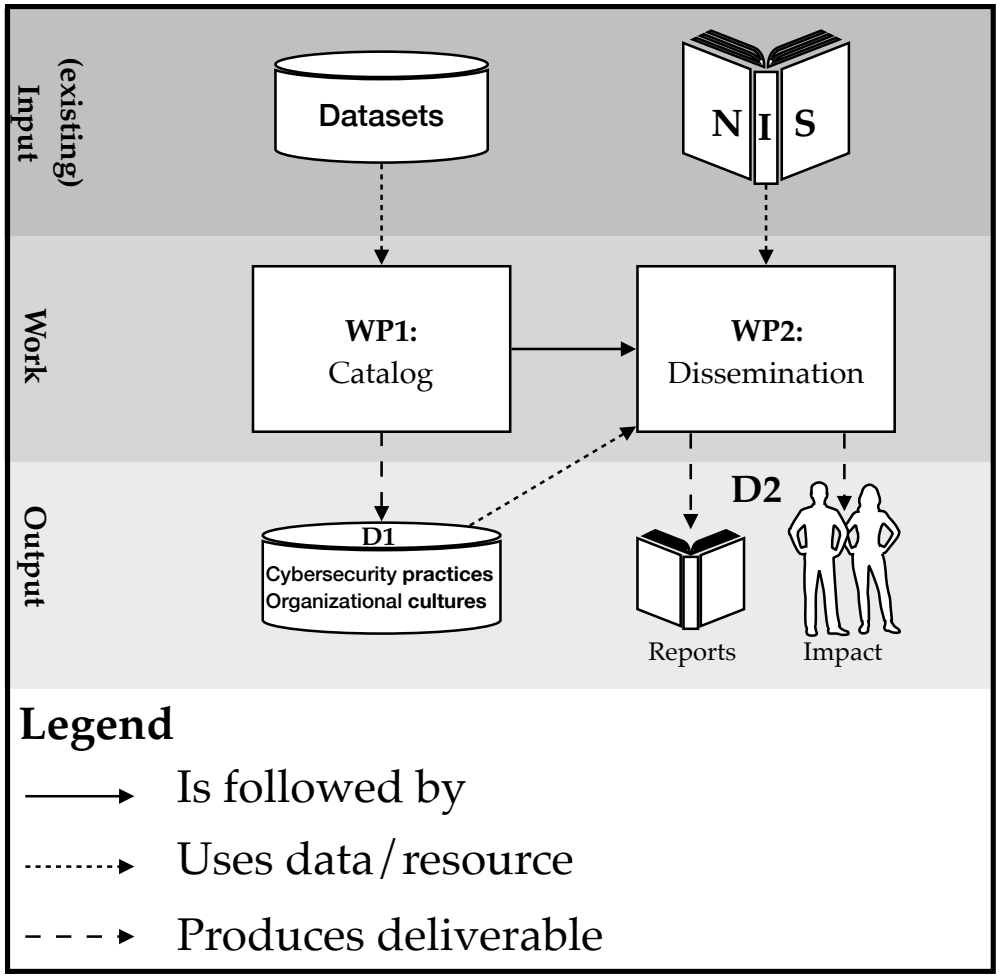

Figure 2. Workplan, showing work packages, existing inputs, and deliverables.

Our method is to use organizational **etnography** to gather rich data translatable into **policy recommendations**.

or, to summarize:

NIS vs the Real World