

Data as a National Asset

- At the heart of the NDS is DATA.
- Data is no longer just an operational product of systems and processes.
- It is now a strategic national resource
 - that is non-depletable (its use by multiple entities does not reduce its availability or value).
 - and that gains value when transformed into intelligence.
- How Mauritius governs and uses data will shape its competitiveness and economic resilience.



THE PROBLEM - Without a National Data Strategy

- Data is fragmented and locked in silos across government institutions and the private sector.
- Limited data sharing due to fear, unclear rules and uncertainty around responsibility and liability.
- Reduced trust in digital systems.
- Decisions are based on incomplete or outdated data.



Why Mauritius Needs a National Data Strategy?

Data is now a core factor of production, alongside labour and capital.

Mauritius requires a coordinated national approach to data governance.

The NDS supports innovation, value creation and sustainable growth.

It also goes beyond technology to include trust, people, rights and responsible data use.

What is the National Data Strategy?

- A national framework governing all categories of data at rest, in motion or in use.
- Applies to both the public and private sectors.
- Aligned with data protection principles and international best practices.
- Enables innovation while safeguarding privacy and security.



THE BENEFITS - **With** a National Data Strategy

TRUST AND VALUE CREATION

- Data is managed as a strategic national asset.
- Clear rules balancing data utility (innovation, growth, competitiveness) and data protection (privacy, security, trust, individual rights).
- Secure and trusted data sharing across sectors.
- Better policies and smarter public services.



The Approach

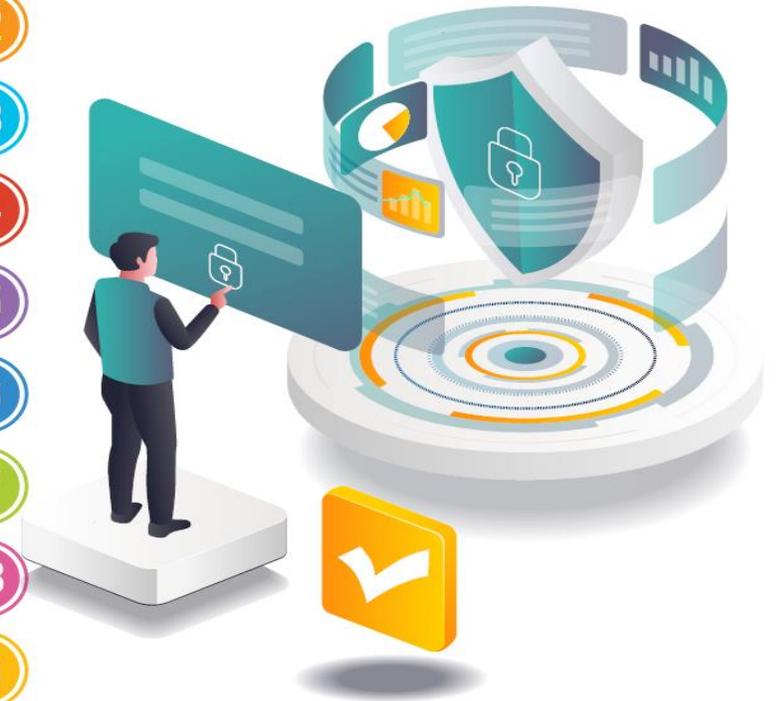
To position Mauritius as a trusted data hub, we need

- Strong legal and governance foundations.
- Secure data-sharing models (G2G, G2B, B2B, G2C and B2C).
- Strategic investment in digital infrastructure and data skills.
- To implement trust-by-design and privacy-by-design.
- Collaboration across government, business and citizens.

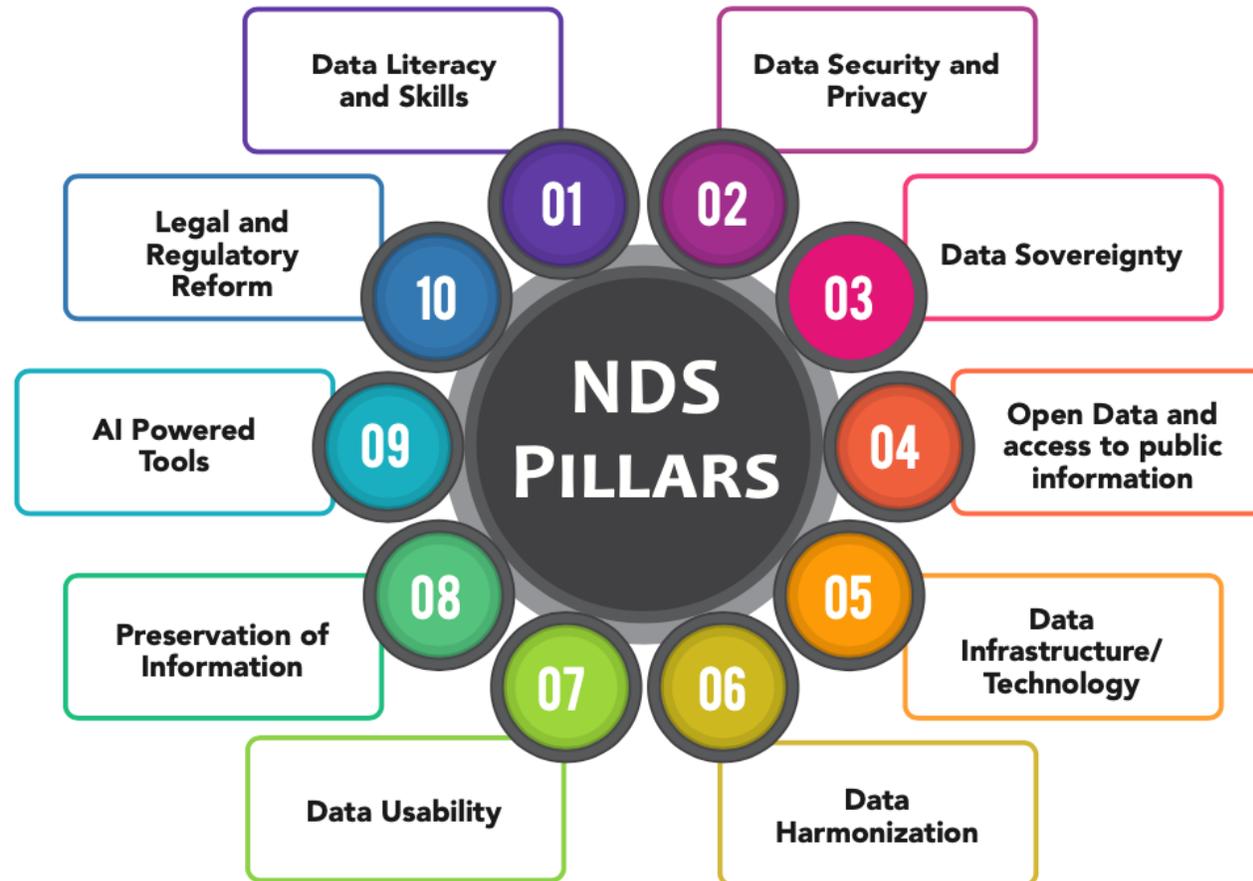
Existing Laws and Policies Supporting Data Governance

THESE INCLUDI

- 01 DATA PROTECTION ACT
- 02 CYBERSECURITY AND CYBERCRIME ACT
- 03 INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT) ACT
- 04 ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT
- 05 DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION BLUEPRINT 2025 - 2029
- 06 PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACT
- 07 CONSUMER PROTECTION (E-COMMERCE) ACT
- 08 STATISTICS ACT
- 09 INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY ACT 2019
- 10 COPYRIGHT ACT



The 10 Pillars of the NDS (Overview)



Pillars Explained

1. Data literacy & skills – Building national data capabilities
2. Data security & privacy – Protecting confidentiality, integrity and availability of data
3. Data sovereignty – Controlling data ownership, classification and access in accordance with national laws and regulations in Mauritius
4. Open data & access to public information – Facilitating the seamless use of data collected by government, businesses and individuals
5. Data infrastructure – Investing in digital platforms and technologies
6. Data harmonisation – Enabling interoperability across sectors
7. Data usability – Unlocking the full potential of data into value and insights
8. Preservation of information – Ensuring long-term data legibility, reliability and integrity
9. AI powered tools, cybersecurity and centralized services – Responsible AI for public value
10. Legal & regulatory reform on data protection and privacy – Updating data protection and privacy laws to strengthen trust in the digital environment

NDS Enablers and Drivers

ENABLERS MAKE THE NDS POSSIBLE

➤ Leadership

Commitment from leaders across government and businesses

➤ Enabling Environment

Clear laws, policies, processes, regulations and guidelines

➤ Governance

Clear roles, accountability and decision-making structures

DRIVERS ADD VALUE TO THE NDS

➤ Analytics

Turning data into insights using AI and advanced analytics

➤ Innovation

Creating new products, services and industries using data

➤ Digital Services

Delivering efficient, inclusive and end-to-end digital services

The Data Management Unit/Office (DMU/DMO)

SERVES AS THE CENTRAL COORDINATING BODY WHICH:

- Leads the implementation of the NDS.
- Oversees data governance and data sharing frameworks.
- Promotes data literacy and innovation.
- Strengthens privacy, security and interoperability standards.
- Leverages advanced analytics and AI tools to enhance the usability of the national data warehouse operated by the Government Online Centre.



NDS Governance Structure

Approach: Distributed ownership, central rules

- Each organisation is responsible for its data and will have its own governance structure to provide sector-specific leadership, coordination and accountability.
- While ownership is distributed in each organisation, the DMU/DMO as the central governance body ensures consistency in standards, compliance and metadata.



Continuous Review and Adaptation

A review mechanism to maintain the NDS as a dynamic, living framework will be implemented to:

- ensure sustained relevance,
- responsiveness and
- adaptability to evolving data ecosystems.

The Role of the Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation (MITCI)

Plays a key leadership role in

- Promoting the NDS by developing policies, fostering digital infrastructure and ensuring data governance.
- Establishing standards for privacy and security.
- Supporting open data and public-private collaboration.
- Promoting digital literacy and skills development.
- Aligning Mauritius with international best practices.



What is the primary role of the Data Management Office (DMO) under the NDS?

- A. To collect all data
- B. To replace the Data Protection Office
- C. To lead data governance, sharing and compliance
- D. To develop commercial data products



Correct Answer:

C

A retail company collects large volumes of customer data but struggles to extract insights. Which NDS driver directly supports improving this capability?

- A. Regulation
- B. Analytics
- C. Preservation
- D. Procurement

✓ Correct Answer:

B

Which characteristic of data justifies its classification as the next valuable national resource under the NDS?

- A. Data loses value when shared
- B. Data can only be used by one entity at a time
- C. Data is non-depletable and gains value when transformed into intelligence
- D. Data has no economic relevance

 **Correct Answer:** **C**

Under the NDS, how are data protection and innovation positioned?

- A. Data protection blocks innovation
- B. Innovation is prioritised over privacy
- C. Both are mutually reinforcing and must advance together
- D. Innovation is allowed only after deregulation



Correct Answer:

C

Within the NDS framework, data security is best described as:

- A. Optional for non-government organisations
- B. A secondary concern after innovation
- C. A foundational requirement across all data use
- D. Relevant only for cross-border data flows

 **Correct Answer: C**

*Thank
You*