



communications
& digital technologies

Department:
Communications & Digital Technologies
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DATA AND CLOUD POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

POLICY INTERVENTIONS	BASELINE	LEADING IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY/IES	OTHER CO-IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES	ENVISAGED OUTCOME	CRITICAL ENABLERS	TIMEFRAMES
Integrated storage and computing infrastructure providing a single view of Government supporting data-sharing, systems interoperability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual departments have their own data centre and cloud services 	SITA	Government Departments/ DPSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/amend standards for government system interoperability and data sharing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationalization repurposing of SITA Capacitation (financial and human resources) 	To be determined upon approval of the Strategic Plan and APPs
Digitization of paper-based government documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process started by Home Affairs/StatsSA 	SITA	Government Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All government paper-based documents digitized, accessible in usable digital format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole Government buy-in on the centralization of the project and funding 	To be determined upon approval of the Strategic Plan and APPs

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Development of a compliance regime for data infrastructure (uptime of 99,995%, located in disaster-safe zones, compliance with environmental legislation, energy & water self-provisioning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SITA Act and other SITA governance frameworks 	SITA	DCDT, SSA, Stats SA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approved technical compliance standards for data centres and cloud acquisition for government Departments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capacitated SITA ▪ Collaboration with government and sector stakeholders 	To be determined upon approval of the Strategic Plan and APPs
Capacitation of SITA to implement the Data and Cloud Policy obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DCDT SITA repurposing process 	DCDT	DPSA/ all Government Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capacitation of SITA to implement digital government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Timely finalisation of SITA repurposing and appropriate capacitation of the agency 	Dependent of the repurposing process
Accelerate the implementation of broadband connectivity initiatives with specific focus on undeserved and rural areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SA Connect (Broadband Policy (2013)) 	DCDT and designated SOEs	DCDT's designated SOEs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide network connectivity services in partnership with BBI and Sentech 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review of SA Connect ▪ Capacitation of implementing agencies ▪ Acceleration of Spectrum allocation ▪ Infrastructure security 	2025/26 FY
Introduction of digital skills across the learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Computer literacy offered at some schools 	Department of Basic Education	MIC SETA, Government Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E-Education Strategy 2024 developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decision by Governance and Admin Cluster 	2025-2026 FY

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ecosystem	but not on a continuous and consistent basis			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Phase 1:2025-2026 - Laying the Foundations ✓ SACE-accredited training modules for teachers at different ICT proficiency levels designed and piloted ✓ Foundational digital skills are integrated into the curriculum. ✓ Digital citizenship education, focusing on online safety and ethics introduced. ▪ Phase 2: 2027-2028 - Integration and Expansion ✓ ICT training, focusing on building digital pedagogical knowledge, lesson planning, and 		2027-2028 FY

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				technology-driven instruction expanded. ✓ Advanced digital skills (computational thinking and robotics incorporated). ▪ Phase 3: 2029-2030 - Sustainability and Transformation ✓ Teachers: provide training and integrate ICT training into teacher programs. ✓ Learners: Establish a comprehensive digital skills platform and promote responsible ICT use		2029-2030 FY
Skills Development Interventions for Government employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual Departmental Skilling initiatives without a specifically 	National School of Government	MICT SETA, PSETA, Governance & Administration Cluster, Department of Labour, Local and international Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government employee's digital skills development strategy/Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DPSA & Public Sector Education and Training Authority specifying transversal digital skills areas that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MTPB and budget allocations

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	agree government digital skills programme		Stakeholders, International development partners		are a priority for the public service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government Departments identifying priority digital skills necessary for their operational and strategic requirements 	
Access to quality and reliable government data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ South African Data Portal, hosted by DSI and CSIR ▪ Open data Durban ▪ Western Cape Open data Portal ▪ City of Cape Town Open Data Portal ▪ African data Hub (Not exclusive to South African utilisation) 	DCDT/SITA/DPSA	All of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quality non-sensitive government data open by default, and available to all citizens. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Open data Framework/Strategy and Plan 	2026/27 FY
Access to affordable smart devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited access to 	Treasury/DTIC/DCDT	Industry stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Equitable access to smart devices for all citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Premium taxation on importation of smartphones 	2026/27 FY

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	government data				reviewed, ensuring that smart devices using 4G and 5G are no longer taxed as luxury items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of recycling and refurbishing centres for second-hand devices ▪ Incentive schemes/packages for local manufacturing 	
Access to free data for indigent citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SA Connect ▪ Zero-rating of certain educational and government websites by some South African Networks 	DCDT/ICASA	SASSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Zero rated websites offering essential government and educational services for the indigent citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single standardized Indigent List for South Africa ▪ Universal Service Obligations implementation ▪ Public WiFi ▪ Zero-rating of identified essential Websites ▪ Universal Indigent List in place ▪ Acceleration of SA Connect Implementation ▪ Spectrum allocation 	To be agreed with industry stakeholders

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Private Partnerships ▪ Agreed list of government essential services and educational websites 	
<p>Consistent citizen awareness campaigns on data privacy and security protections and available mechanisms for recourse regarding data breaches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Media alerts following the publication of POPIA coming into effect. ▪ Government department staff workshops ▪ Industry employee awareness ▪ No periodic and consistent awareness 	<p>DCDT, Information regulators, SAPS, government departments</p>	<p>All Government Departments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to simple and available resources (publications, website dedicated to dealing with complaints, help lines etc) for citizens to protect their private data ▪ Consistency in the use of media and other platforms to create citizen awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding allocations for awareness campaigns (radio, television, advertising) 	<p>2025/26 FY</p>
<p>Establishment of a Data Advisory Council comprising experts in the data infrastructure, data governance and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No data and cloud Advisory Council 	<p>DCDT</p>	<p>Government and Industry Stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreed process and approach and responsibilities for the development of data and cloud standards/strategies/f 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adoption of the Data and Cloud Policy Implementation Plan 	<p>March 2025</p>

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cloud environment or other convergent structure addressing the same issues in and other related issues				rameworks to enable leveraging of data for the socio-economic benefit of all South Africans		