## Fiji: Data governance profile



#### 1. Vision and policy intent

The <u>Statistics Act</u> and the <u>Census Act</u> combined have the objective of ensuring a coordinated scheme of Official Statistics.

The <u>5 year and 20-year National</u>
<u>Development Plan</u> includes
several objectives related to data, including:

- Enhanced management of public records;
- Increased dissemination of data;
- Strengthening of data collection capacity;
- Creation/upgrade of numerous subject-specific databases; and
- Improved data security and reduced vulnerability to cyber threats.



In line with the Fijian
Government's National
Development Plan, which calls for
the steady improvement of the
quality and accessibility of
government services, digitalFIJI is
a 4-year programme to implement
applications, enhance ICT
infrastructure and build capacity
in digital transformation. In
Government.

## 2. Data Management: policies, rules & institutions

The <u>Fiji Bureau of Statistics</u> leads the management of data related to official statistics.

The Digital Government Strategic Framework extensively covers Data Governance principles. Under this framework, a Data Management Committee (DMC) ensures the data and information needs are addressed to support the public service delivery.

The DMC is responsible for:

- Defining data management policies, standards and procedures for management and sharing of data across the government.
- Comprising data management teams for people data and business data to determine data definitions and sharing requirements.
- Providing the mechanism for coordinating and sharing of data.

The sharing of data across government is governed by a series of policies and agreements including Data Protection Policy, Data Access Policy and Data Sharing Agreements.

# 3. Data custodians and data stewardship

The <u>vision</u> for the Fiji Bureau of Statistics is: An Efficient, Progressive and Respectable Statistics office in the Region -

"To be efficient in our undertakings of core activities such as the carrying out of surveys, censuses and compilation of administrative data as well as analysis and the dissemination of results and information through Publications and Statistical Releases.

A Progressive Statistics Office in the sense where there is advancement, development and growth in our statistical processes, human and technological resources and a Respectable organization which is reputable and highly regarded as one of the leading statistical agency in the region."

## 4. Data sharing, accessibility and integration



The Pacific Data Hub is a central repository of data about the Pacific and for the Pacific. The Hub contains more than 750 datasets pertaining to Fiji. The platform serves as a gateway to the most comprehensive collection of data and information about the Pacific across key areas, including population statistics,

fisheries science, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and resilience, conservation of plant genetic resources for food security, public health surveillance and human rights.

The Government Data Exchange Platform (DXP), is the source of truth to share People Information from the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registry and Entity Information from the Registrar of Companies.

## 5. Data sharing risks & mitigation

The National Development Plan calls for development of a cybersecurity policy and framework.

The Right of Privacy under Section 24 of the <u>Constitution</u> states that every person has the right to personal privacy including the right to confidentiality of their personal information.

Sections of the Crimes Act 2009 protect unauthorised access, modification or impairment to data held in a computer.

Fiji has also enacted a new <u>Cybercrime Act 2021</u> (not yet commenced).

The <u>Information Act 2018</u> will ensure access to information on individuals held by a public agency (not yet commenced).

The Electronic Transactions Act 2008 recognises the validity of and promotes the development of electronic communications in commercial and non-commercial dealings and in dealings with governmental entities.