

Papua New Guinea: Data governance profile

1. Vision and policy intent

The [Medium-Term Development Plan](#), an integral part of the National Development Framework, includes in “Strategic Policy Area 8” actions for:

- Modernising and integrating all Government systems to meet the on-going challenges of information management. A Central Repository will be established as a data bank for the e-Government system.
- A robust and modernised National Statistical System to enable the management of development statistics obtained from the National Census, Demographic and Health Survey, Household Income Expenditure Survey; national accounts and other data sources.

The [Digital Government Plan](#) will :

- Use relevant and appropriate digital technology platforms to increase revenue;
- Use appropriate digital technology platforms to deliver public services more; and
- Use appropriate digital technologies to digitally track development indicators real-time.

2. Data Management: policies, rules & institutions

The [PNG National Statistical Office \(NSO\)](#), mandated by the [Statistical Act 1980](#), co-ordinates the State Agencies in the collection and compilation of data, analysis, dissemination and publication of statistics.

The [PNG NSDS Implementation Plan 2018-2027](#) through its established National Statistical System (NSS) co-ordination structure will strengthen coordination and includes a Steering Committee, a Statistical Coordination Unit, and sector Statistics Working Groups.

The [Ministry of ICT](#) is empowered through the [Digital Government Act 2022](#) to lead and coordinate digital transformation within government. This work on digital government services includes:

- A whole-of-government approach to Government Cloud Services;
- a Federated Secure Data Exchange Platform to facilitate electronic exchange and sharing of data amongst public bodies;
- a single window National eGovernment Portal for citizens to have access to common public information and services.

3. Data custodians and data stewardship

The [PNG NSO](#) is an independent institution and is the central government agency in PNG responsible for:

- Producing official statistics, including the conduct of surveys and census; and
- Co-ordinating the collection and compilation of statistics.

Other data producers include Bank of PNG, Departments of Agriculture and Industries, Civil Aviation, Corrective, Education, Forests, Health, Home Affairs, Mineral and Energy, Personnel Management, Police, Transport, Electoral and Electricity Commissions, National Weather Services, Post and Telecommunications, Magisterial Services, Insurance, Broadcasting, Housing and Weather Services, etc.



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 370 datasets pertaining to PNG. 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 [PNG Environment Data Portal](#) provides an easy way to find, access and reuse national data. The main purpose is to provide easy access and safe storage for Environmental datasets to be used for monitoring, evaluating, and analysing environmental conditions and trends to support environmental planning, forecasting, and reporting requirements at all levels.

5. Data sharing risks & mitigation

The [Statistical Act 1980](#) includes provisions relating to confidentiality of data collected under the Act. Information supplied under the Act is to be used only for Statistical Purposes and the arrangement of published statistical tables in such a manner as to prevent any particulars published in the tables from being identifiable.

The draft [National Data Governance and Protection Policy](#) is designed to provide a framework for the responsible use, management, and governance of data across public and private sectors. It aims to mitigate the risks associated with increased data usage.

The policy seeks to promote accountability and transparency in the handling of data and protect the privacy rights of citizens. It provides clear guidelines on how data should be collected, stored, processed, and used, and establishes principles for the secure sharing and access to data.