

Thailand: Data governance profile

1. Vision and policy intent

Thailand is using digitalisation and data to build a government that is closer and more responsive to its citizens. The [Digitalization of Public Administration & Services Delivery Act \(2019\)](#) aims to modernize and optimize public service delivery through [digital transformation](#) through:

- [Digitization of Data Services](#) to provide accurate, reliable, up-to-date government data including promoting digital payments and establishing a secure digital identity verification system.
- [Integration of Government Agencies Data Exchange](#): through the creation of a National Data Exchange Center for seamless data sharing among government agencies and establishing a one-stop digital service system.
- **Data Governance**: Through the development of digital standards and guidelines to support data integration across government.
- **Open Government Data**: through an [Open Government Data Center](#) for open easy public access to machine-readable data.

The digital law set up a Digital Government Development Commission (DGDC) chaired by the Prime Minister.

2. Data Management: policies, rules & institutions

Data governance and stewardship is managed by four key players:

- [Office of the Public Sector Development Commission](#): who drive policy for data linkage and performance indicators.
- [Digital Government Development Agency \(DGA\)](#): who oversee and drive data governance and manage an [Open Data Platform](#) as outlined in the [Digitalization of Public Administration & Services Delivery Act \(2019\)](#).
- [Thai National Statistical Office \(TNSO\)](#): who promote and support knowledge sharing among government agencies to establish a Data Catalog with TNSO serving as Registrar for the [Government Data Catalog](#).
- **Government Sector and Local Government**: which supply data to users and stakeholders.

The [data governance framework](#) is composed of three elements: the data governance structure; definition and rules and data governance process. Individuals involved are appointed by high-level executives of the agency. They define strategies and objectives; assess the data governance environment; clarify data definitions and scope of data; set rules and policies and conduct audits to ensure compliance.

3. Data custodians and data stewardship

The DGA sets the standards for digital government and is divided into two levels: the Digital Government Standard, issued by the Committee on Digital Government Development; and the DGA Community Standard, issued by DGA which is effective only within the DGA and provides recommended practice for the government sector.

TNSO has implemented data governance principles for government agencies to follow and it encourages other statistical agencies to adopt these principles through the Thailand Statistical Committee and its three sub-committees (Economic, Social and Natural Resources and Environment), where TNSO serves as the secretariat.

4. Data sharing, accessibility and integration

The DGA issued the Thai Government Information Exchange Standard Development Framework (TGIX) including the Data Standard and API guidance to improve data and information exchange.

For transaction data, DGA has implemented the Government Data Exchange (GDX) to enable data sharing across agencies for better e-services for Thai citizens.

For statistics and other data TNSO has implemented the [Government Data Catalog](#) system by integrating data from the Agency data catalog which is published at the [Open Government Data Centre](#). For statistics TNSO uses SDMX format, to ensure uniformity and to facilitate public access through (stathub.nso.go.th).

5. Data sharing, risks & mitigation

Data sharing is governed by: the Official Information Act 1997; the [Personal Data Protection Act 2019](#) and the Cyber Security Act 201. These Acts ensure appropriate management of official information, lawful and responsible management of personal data collected for statistical purposes and protection against cyber security threats.

In addition, the [Government Data Classification and Data Sharing Framework](#) issued by DGA serve as recommended practice for government. This [framework](#) categorizes and classifies data based on its sensitivity level, ensuring proper handling and minimizing organizational risk through security measures. Its aim is to facilitate data sharing and Open Data initiatives.

Moreover, the [Statistics Act 2007](#) further mandates confidentiality of personal data, permitting limited disclosure only for investigations, legal proceedings, or statistical analysis without compromising the interests or identities of data owners. This framework aligns with the goal of maintaining accurate and trusted statistical information dissemination, while bolstering privacy and protection measures.

