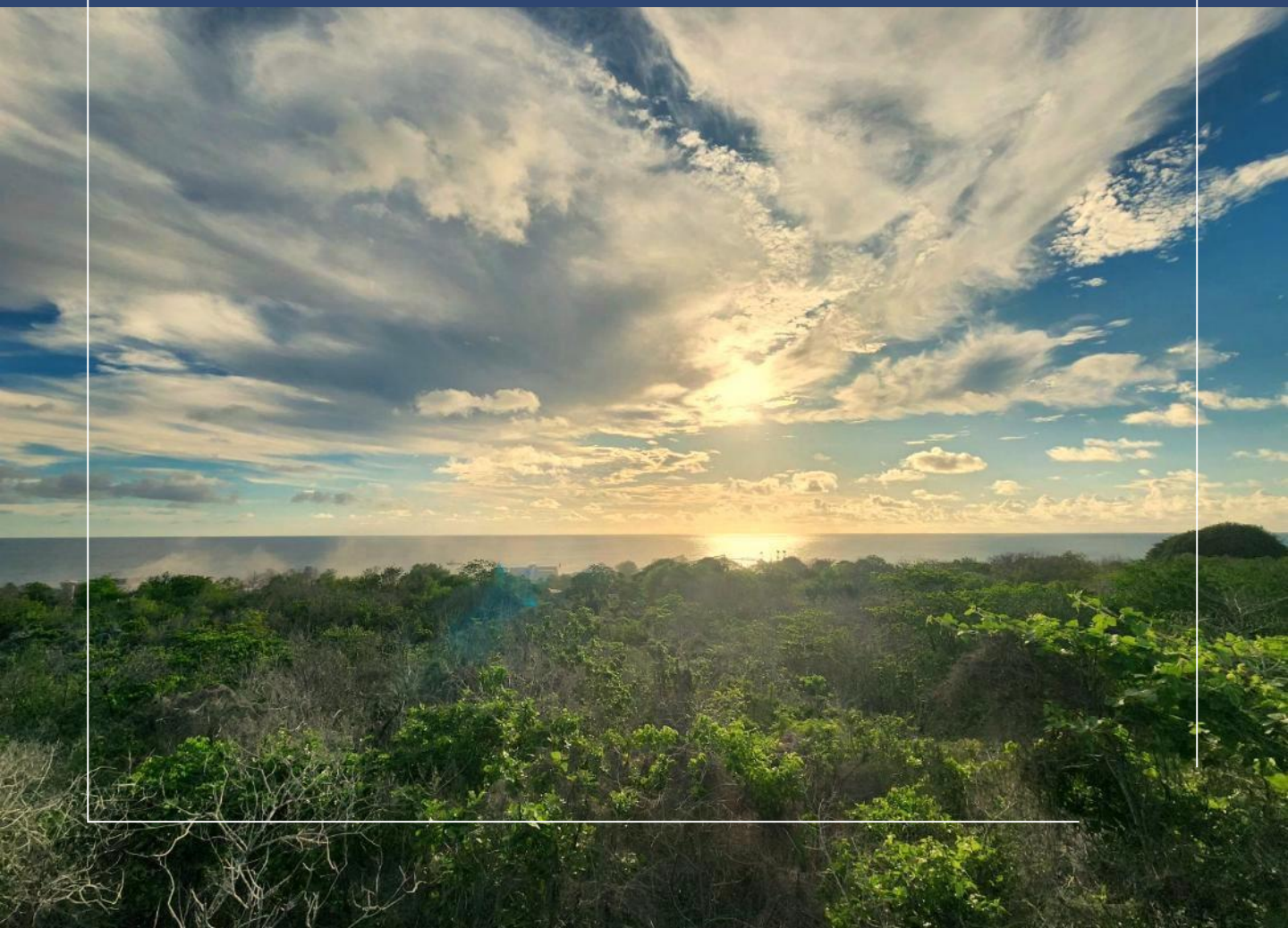
Republic of Nauru

Nauru
National Digital Transformation Strategy
2025 - 2030



Republic of Nauru

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Acronyms

CASE	Curriculum, Accreditation, Scholarships & Examination Division
Digital ID	Digital identity
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
ICT	Information, Communication and Technology
IoT	Internet of Things
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
NCC	Nauru Chamber of Commerce
NNDTS	Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy
NSDS	Nauru National Sustainable Development Strategy 2019-2030
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

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President's Foreword

With great optimism and a deep sense of responsibility, I present to you the National Digital Transformation Strategy for our beloved nation.

As a small island state, we face unique challenges—geographical isolation, limited resources, and vulnerability to global changes. According to the **Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI)**, Nauru is ranked **5th most vulnerable in the world**, and the **most vulnerable in the Pacific region**. These realities underscore the urgency and necessity of this strategy.

But precisely, these challenges inspire our ambition to transform our country through the power of digital technologies.

This strategy is not just about technology but about embracing a future where innovation is the catalyst for **sustainable development, economic resilience,** and **social cohesion**. Our choices today will define the legacy we leave for future generations.
Over the next five years, we will embark on an ambitious journey to reshape our country into a digitally connected society—one that is equipped to thrive in a rapidly changing global landscape. We are committed to ensuring that **no citizen is left behind**, enabling access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for all, regardless of location.

Safeguarding our environment is at the heart of this transformation. Through innovative technologies, we will protect our natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and build sustainable solutions for our future.
This strategy is not merely a plan but a **call to action**. Together, we will lead our nation into a new era of progress, unity, and resilience.

The time to act is now.

May God Bless Nauru

His Excellency David W.R. Adeang, MP

President

Minister's Foreword

As the Minister for Information & Communications Technology, it is with immense pride and optimism that I endorse the Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy. This strategy marks a pivotal moment in our nation's journey towards harnessing the power of technology to secure a prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive future for all of our citizens.

Our vision for the next five years is to position our nation as a leader in digital technology and innovation within the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) region. By fostering a robust digital economy, promoting social equity, and ensuring environmental sustainability, we aim to create a future where every citizen can access the benefits of the digital world, while preserving the unique natural heritage that defines our island nation.

Economic Growth through Digital Innovation

The digital transformation of our economy will be a cornerstone of our strategy. We recognize that the world is moving rapidly toward a more connected and technologically advanced future, and we are committed to ensuring that our economy is positioned to thrive within this new landscape. By developing a strong digital infrastructure, fostering innovation, and empowering local entities and individuals with the tools they need to succeed in the digital world, we aim to create new avenues for economic growth. Through our focus on building a thriving digital ecosystem, we hope to attract investment, create job opportunities, and provide our youth with the skills and opportunities to participate in the global economy.

Empowering People and Communities

At the heart of this transformation is a commitment to social equity and inclusion. We envision a society where every citizen, regardless of their background, has equal access to the digital tools and resources necessary to thrive. This strategy aims to bridge the digital divide between Nauru and rest of the world, ensuring every Nauruan has access to affordable, high-quality internet and digital services. We will focus on improving digital literacy, enhancing e-government services, and providing opportunities for education and healthcare through innovative digital platforms. By investing in our people, we are not just fostering a digital economy, but a more equitable and empowered society for all.

A Greener, More Sustainable Future

Our nation's digital transformation will also play a key role in advancing our environmental sustainability goals. The use of digital technologies offers us a unique opportunity to monitor,

manage, and mitigate the effects of climate change on our fragile island environment. Through smart technologies, we can improve energy efficiency, enhance disaster preparedness, and promote sustainable agricultural practices, while preserving our natural environment. Our strategy will integrate digital solutions to support the conservation of our natural resources and build resilience against the challenges posed by climate change.

This National Digital Transformation Strategy is a call to action for all sectors of society – government, private sector, civil society, and individuals – to collaborate and contribute to the realization of a digitally empowered Nauru. Together, we can turn this vision into a reality, fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable future for our island nation.

Let us embark on this journey with determination and a shared commitment to creating a brighter future for generations to come.

With God's Will First,

Hon. Shadlog Bernicke, MP

Minister for ICT & Telecommunications

Introduction

As the Government of the Republic of Nauru, we are proud to present Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy (NNDTS). This strategy is a testament to our commitment to harness the power of digital technologies to improve the lives of our citizens, stimulate economic growth, and safeguard our environment.

In this era of rapid technological advancement, we recognize the transformative potential of digital technologies. We believe that by embracing these technologies, we can overcome the geographical challenges that come with being a small island nation and turn them into opportunities for growth and development.

Our strategy is built on the principles of inclusivity, connectivity, transparency, and innovation. We aim to ensure that every citizen has access to reliable digital infrastructure and the skills to use it effectively. We are committed to streamlining the government services, making them more accessible and user-friendly. We also see the immense potential of digital technologies to drive economic growth, particularly for small and family-led businesses, and we are dedicated to supporting them in this digital transition.

The Government's vision goes beyond just digitizing our current systems. We are looking at how digital technologies can help us optimize the use of renewable energy, monitor, and manage our environment more effectively, and adapt to the challenges of climate change. We are also exploring new areas such as digital health and cybersecurity, recognizing their growing importance in the digital age.

This strategy is not just about the Government of Nauru. It's about our people, our businesses, our partners, and our future. It's about how we can work together to create a digitally empowered Nauru. We invite you all to join us on this exciting journey.

The case for digital transformation

The case for digital transformation in Nauru has never been stronger. As we navigate the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century, we recognize that digital technologies are no longer just tools, but essential drivers of social, economic, and environmental progress.

Digital transformation presents an opportunity for Nauru to leapfrog traditional stages of development. It can help us overcome geographical isolation, improve access to services, create new economic opportunities, and enhance our ability to protect and manage our environment.

By digitizing government services, we can make them more accessible and efficient, improving the lives of our citizens and fostering greater trust in government services. By supporting digital literacy and skills, we can empower our people to participate fully in the digital economy and society. By promoting digital innovation and entrepreneurship, we can stimulate economic growth and job creation.

Moreover, digital technologies can play a crucial role in our efforts to manage our natural resources sustainably and adapt to climate change. They can provide us with better data and tools for monitoring and managing our environment, optimizing our use of renewable energy, and implementing effective climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

However, we also recognize that digital transformation comes with challenges, such as ensuring digital inclusivity, protecting data privacy, ensuring online safety, and securing our digital systems. That's why we are committed to implementing a comprehensive and balanced digital transformation strategy, one that maximizes the benefits of digital technologies while managing the risks.

In the following sections, we will outline our strategic outcomes, initiatives, and key performance indicators for our digital transformation journey. We look forward to working with all our stakeholders to make this vision a reality.

Digital Transformation and the Sustainable Development Strategy

The NNDTS is not just a roadmap for digital progress; it is a vehicle for achieving the broader goals of sustainable development as outlined in the Nauru National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2019-2030. By leveraging digital technologies, we aim to create a society that is inclusive, an economy increasingly diversified and resilient, and an environment that is sustainable and resilient to climate change.

The Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy was developed having in mind Nauru's long-term sustainable development priorities established in the NSDS: Social, Economy, and Environment and Climate Change:

Social: the NNDTS aims to create a digitally inclusive society where all citizens have access to digital services and the skills to use them effectively. This aligns with the social goals of the NSDS by enhancing access to quality education, improving health and well-being, and fostering a stable, trustworthy, and fiscally responsible government.

Economy: the digital transformation strategy seeks to stimulate economic growth and diversification by leveraging digital technologies and introducing digital services. This aligns with the economic goals of the NSDS by developing an economy based on multiple sources of revenue and enhancing the provision of social, infrastructure, and utilities services.

Environment and Climate Change: the digital transformation strategy recognises the critical role of digital technologies in addressing environmental challenges and climate change. This aligns with the climate goals of the NSDS by enhancing resilience against the impacts of climate change and promoting the sustainable use and management of the environment and natural resources.

In addition, the NNDTS was developed having in mind the seven long-term goals for Nauru established in the NSDS and aims to contribute to the achievements of those in the following ways:

1. Stable, trustworthy, fiscally responsible government: The implementation of digital government services and necessary legislative reforms for a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered government and people, will contribute to a more transparent, efficient, and trustworthy government service delivery.

2. Access to Quality Education, both formal and non-formal: The initiatives to strengthen digital literacy and skills, and to establish an innovation hub will enhance the quality of both formal and non- formal education, preparing our citizens for the digital age.

3. Improved Health and Well-Being: The establishment of a comprehensive digital health ecosystem will improve the accessibility and quality of health services, contributing to improved health and well-being of Nauruans.

4. Provision of enhanced social, infrastructure and utilities services: The development and improvement of digital infrastructure, along with the streamlining of digital services for businesses, will enhance social, infrastructure, and utilities services.

5. Development of an economy based on multiple sources of revenue: The support for digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses, the facilitation of businesses' international exposure, and the establishment of an innovation hub will diversify the economy and create new sources of revenue.

6. Enhance resilience against the impacts of climate change that is inclusive of rehabilitating and restoring degraded lands: The initiatives to optimize renewable energy and environmental sustainability, implement efficient environmental monitoring and management, and enable climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies through digital technologies will enhance Nauru's resilience against climate change and contribute to the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands.

7. Development of domestic food production for food security: The development and implementation of a digital agrifood systems strategy will enhance domestic food production and contribute to food security.

Vision

The Government of Nauru will leverage digital technologies and services to accelerate development and improve the lives for the people of Nauru, while preserving our culture and heritage and protecting the environment.

Social

Develop a digitally inclusive society that provides equal access to information, education, health, and services, promoting social inclusion and reducing inequalities in Nauru.

Economy

Leverage digital technologies to promote economic growth and job creation, especially in key sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, and tourism, while promoting inclusive and sustainable development.

Environment & Climate Change

Use digital technologies to monitor and manage natural resources more effectively, promote environmental sustainability, increase resilience to climate change and natural disasters in Nauru and protect the environment.

Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy

Strategic Outcomes

Nauru's National Digital Transformation Strategy is designed to achieve a vision of a digitally inclusive society, a diversified digital economy, and a sustainable, climate-resilient nation. These strategic outcomes are aligned with the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS), by focusing on Nauru's established long-term sustainable development priorities – Social, Economy, and Environment and Climate Change – and aim to leverage digital technologies to address challenges, promote growth, equity, and resilience.

The Government of Nauru has established 11 Strategic Outcomes, which encompass areas as digital inclusion, digital government services, capacity building, private sector development, renewable energy, health, agriculture and food, and climate change adaptation.

Social

1. Enhanced digital inclusion and connectivity

The digital transformation will help to develop a society where all citizens have equal access to high-quality digital infrastructure, enabling them to access information and services effectively. By improving digital connectivity, Nauru will bridge the digital divide and ensure that everyone benefits from digital opportunities, contributing to social equity and inclusiveness.

2. Improved access to government services

Nauru will streamline administrative processes, improve service delivery, and enhance transparency in government operations. This outcome will help citizens access essential services more efficiently, fostering greater public trust and satisfaction with government institutions.

3. Develop a skilled workforce that can leverage digital opportunities, promoting social mobility and well-being

Develop a skilled workforce that can leverage digital opportunities, promoting social mobility and well-being. Nauru will invest in digital education and capacity-building programs, and internet connection to schools, to prepare Nauru's residents for the global digital economy and enable them to contribute to the nation's growth.

4. Empower women and vulnerable groups with digital technology and economic opportunities

Foster economic opportunities, social mobility, and gender equality by supporting micro, small, and family-led businesses with digital tools, resources, and training. By empowering micro and small businesses, Nauru can create a more inclusive and resilient private sector that drives economic growth and social progress.

Economy

4. Strengthened digital infrastructure and global connectivity as a basis for economic development

Enhance global connectivity and digital infrastructure to enable Nauru to tap into international markets, attract foreign investments, and facilitate innovation. This outcome will help create a more diversified economy, driving growth and job creation.

5. Streamlined government services for businesses

Streamline government services for businesses to reduce administrative burdens and foster a conducive environment for private sector growth. This outcome will help businesses operate more efficiently and effectively, promoting economic development and innovation.

6. Increased economic diversification and digital opportunities

Lead the economy to a more diversified economy, ensuring long-term stability and resilience by establishing a culture of innovation, promote training, mentorship, and funding for digital entrepreneurship to create opportunities in various sectors.

7. Enhanced private sector development and empowerment

Strengthened collaboration with the private sector to drive economic growth, job creation, and innovation. This outcome will help create a more inclusive, diverse, and resilient private sector that contributes to the nation's sustainable development.

Environment and Climate Change

8. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability for digital transformation

By optimizing the use of renewable energy sources, Nauru will reduce its dependence on fossil fuels and address environmental challenges. This outcome will contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable energy sector that supports the nation's long-term development goals through digital transformation.

9. Efficient environmental monitoring and management

Monitor and manage natural resources more effectively to promote environmental sustainability and resilience. This outcome will enable Nauru to better protect its environment, including e-Waste management, and ensure the responsible use of natural resources.

10. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies enabled by digital technologies

Leveraging digital tools to develop and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies helps Nauru address the impacts of climate change effectively. This outcome will contribute to a more climate-resilient nation, capable of adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change, ensuring the long-term sustainability and well-being of its people and ecosystems.

Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy

Initiatives

To translate the Government's vision for a digital Nauru and the strategic outcomes we expect to achieve into reality, the Government has planned 16 initiatives. These include the development of digital infrastructure, implementation of digital government services, programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills, and the provision of support for small businesses.

The Government will also work on enhancing global connectivity, establishing innovation hubs, and supporting digital entrepreneurship. In the environmental realm, we will implement digital technologies for renewable energy optimization, adopt digital technologies for environmental monitoring and management, and leverage digital tools for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

To successfully deliver these initiatives, the Government will form Partnerships for Quality of Life, as established in the NSDS, with state owned enterprises, the private sector, Civil Society organizations, communities, regional organizations, and development partners, as all have unique roles to play.

Cross Cutting

1. Universal access to resilient and secure digital infrastructure

Connectivity: with the ultimate goal of ensuring that all citizens have equal access to high-quality digital infrastructure, the government will conduct a comprehensive assessment of our existing digital infrastructure and based on this, we will develop a roadmap for upgrading broadband networks, mobile services, and internet accessibility, ensuring that all citizens have equal access to high-quality digital resources. The digital infrastructure development will focus in expanding high-speed broadband networks across Nauru, including rural and remote areas, and enhancing mobile internet services and broadband speed. Additionally, facilitating public Wi-Fi spots in key locations for better access is part of this effort to ensure equitable digital access, fostering digital inclusion, and global connectivity.

In addition to these, this initiative will also encompass the implementation of key digital services that are integral to a fully functioning digital economy. This includes:

Digital ID: The government will implement a national digital ID system to improve digital connectivity and accessibility, and to enable secure and efficient delivery of public services. The scope includes designing the digital ID system, ensuring its security and privacy, integrating it with other digital services, and promoting its adoption among citizens.

Digital Payments: The government will develop a secure and efficient mobile and digital payment platform to enhance financial inclusion and economic activity. This platform will be integrated with the national digital ID system and other digital services and will enable citizens to conduct financial transactions easily and securely. The scope includes developing the technical infrastructure, ensuring the security of transactions, promoting the adoption of mobile and digital payments among citizens, and integrating the system with other digital services.

2. Develop and implement digital government services

We will establish a dedicated task force under the department of ICT to design and implement digital government services aimed at streamlining administrative processes, improving service delivery, and enhancing government transparency. The task force will focus on user-centric design to ensure that these services are easy to use and accessible to all citizens by working with the Civil Society and communities. The digital government should include an online portal to deliver government services digitally.

3. Implement necessary legislative reforms to foster a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered environment in Nauru

Conduct a comprehensive legislation review to strengthen digital governance and regulatory frameworks. This includes data protection and privacy, cybersecurity, electronic transactions, digital skills, e-governance, telecommunications regulation, and digital inclusion.

4. Develop a National Cybersecurity Framework

This initiative would involve the creation of a comprehensive cybersecurity framework that includes the development of cybersecurity policies and regulations, the implementation of cybersecurity technologies and infrastructure, and the provision of cybersecurity training and awareness programs. The framework would apply to all sectors, including government, businesses, and individuals.

5. Develop and implement a digital agrifood systems strategy

This initiative will involve leveraging digital technologies in the agriculture, fisheries, and food production, such as precision agriculture, farm management systems, market access platforms, agricultural data analytics, and farmer training and support. By integrating climate resilience and sustainability practices, Nauru can optimize farming and fishing practices, increase crop yields, and connect farmers with wider markets, ultimately strengthening domestic food production capabilities and achieving long-term food security.

6. Establish a comprehensive digital health ecosystem

This initiative would involve the development and implementation of a holistic digital health ecosystem that includes telemedicine services, digital health records, mobile health applications, and health data analytics. The system would be designed with strong data privacy and security measures to protect patient information.

7. Smart Islands

The Government will launch a Smart Islands programme, an initiative aimed at fostering digital transformation and extend digital connectivity and services to communities that have been traditionally underserved or disconnected, with a focus on rural and coastal areas. The objective is to enhance the quality of life and livelihoods of these communities by providing them with access to a variety of digital services as well as digital skills to use those services.

The Smart Islands programme is tailored to address the unique socio-economic challenges faced by these communities, with a particular emphasis on ensuring that vulnerable populations - including women, youth, and persons with disabilities - are not left behind in the digital economy.

Social

8. Support digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses

We will develop programs offering digital tools, resources, and training, such as e-commerce training programs for small businesses for micro, small, and family-led businesses, with a special focus on women entrepreneurs. This program will be designed in consultation with communities, development partners, business, and industry experts to ensure it meets the needs of our communities.

9. Implement programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills

This initiative will include the development of a national digital literacy curriculum, connecting all schools to the Internet, establishing ICT training labs, and providing advanced digital skills training within vocational and tertiary education. The government will establish partnerships with Development Partners, educational institutions, and technology companies to create programs aimed at improving digital literacy and skills.

Economy

10. Streamline digital services for businesses

This initiative will focus on developing a business portal providing all necessary government services for businesses in one place, digitize business registration and licensing processes, and implement a digital system for tax filing, reducing administrative burdens for businesses and fostering economic development.

The Government will establish a government-business liaison team dedicated to streamlining digital services for businesses. The team will work closely with business owners to understand their needs and simplify the processes for accessing and using government services.

11. Establish an innovation hub and support digital entrepreneurship

To foster digital entrepreneurship, the Government will work on the establishment of a digital innovation hub providing co-working space, a national competition to foster digital innovation and entrepreneurship, and evaluate the provision of start-up grants and loans for digital entrepreneurs.

The hub will provide shared resources and mentorship for digital entrepreneurs, fostering innovation and creating new opportunities in various sectors.

12. Facilitate businesses international exposure

The government will launch an initiative specifically aimed at supporting business in scaling up and reaching international markets by taking the opportunities of a global digital economy.

This initiative includes digital upskilling programs, creation of global partnership networks, and the establishment of digital platforms for showcasing local products and services to boost the global visibility of Nauruan businesses, fostering growth and the nation's economy.

Environment and Climate Change

13. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability

The Government will conduct a study to identify opportunities for using digital technologies to optimize the use of renewable energy sources and based on the study's findings, will implement projects to reduce to promote environmental sustainability.

This initiative will look at integrating smart grid technologies to improve the efficiency and reliability of renewable energy sources, adopt energy management systems in public buildings, and evaluate the introduction of incentives for the private sector adoption of renewable energy technologies.

14. Efficient environmental monitoring and management

Using digital technologies to monitor and manage natural resources more effectively will promote environmental sustainability and resilience. This initiative will enable Nauru to better protect its environment and ensure the responsible use of natural resources.

The use of digital technologies for Efficient Environmental Monitoring and Management can be extended with tools such as remote sensing technologies and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for environmental monitoring, deploying IoT-based sensors for real-time monitoring of key environmental indicators, and developing a digital platform for public reporting of environmental issues.

15. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies enabled by digital technologies

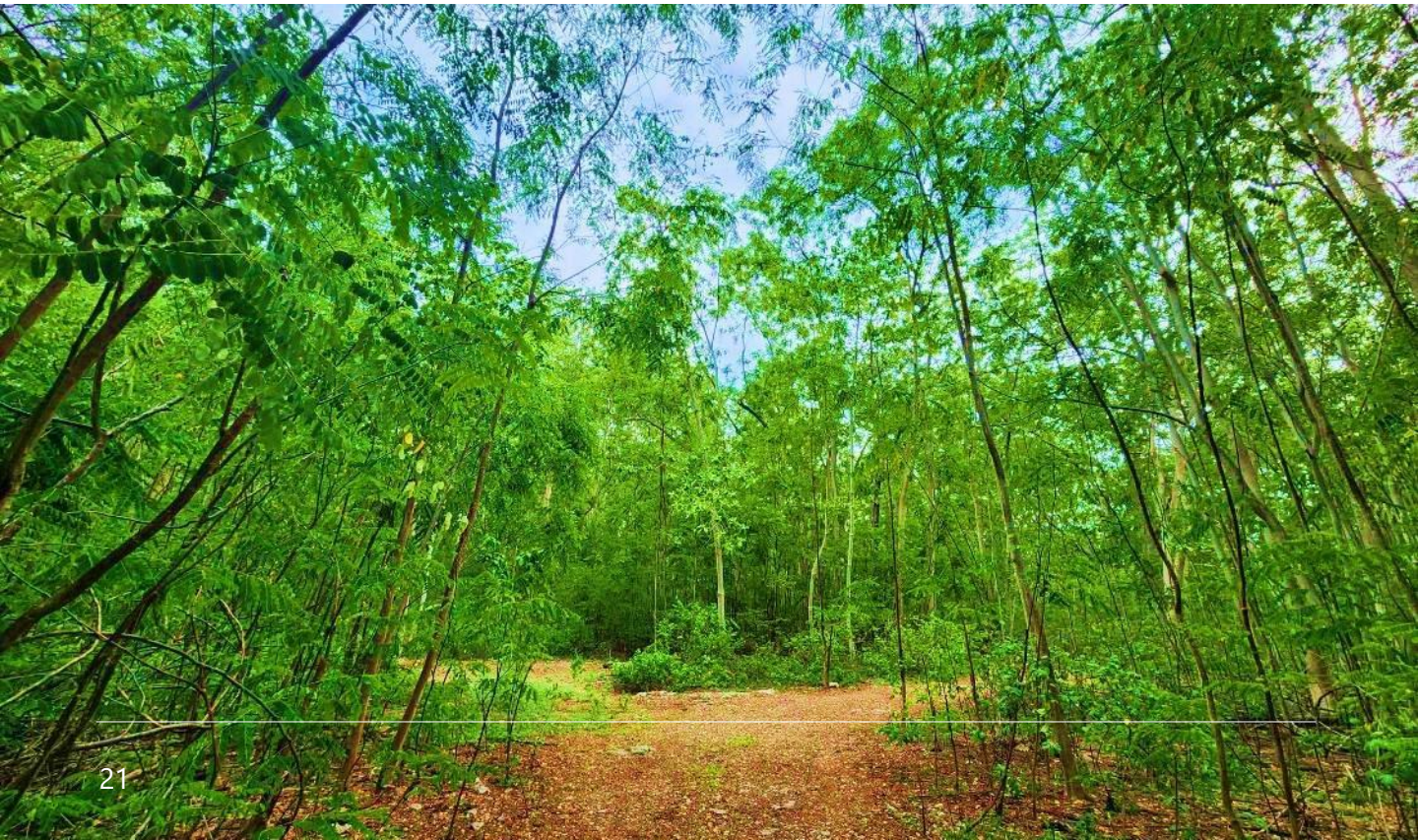
Leveraging digital tools to develop and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies helps Nauru address the impacts of climate change effectively. This outcome will contribute to a more climate-resilient nation, capable of adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change, ensuring the long-term sustainability and well-being of its people and ecosystems. The initiative will look at harnessing advanced tools such as remote sensing technologies, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and IoT-based sensors for real-time monitoring of crucial environmental indicators.

16. e-Waste management policies

To mitigate the environmental footprint of the digital economy, the Government will establish a national policy framework for the responsible management of electronic waste. This policy will address the disposal of outdated and end-of-life electronic equipment and consider other environmental implications of the digital economy, such as the greenhouse gas emissions associated with data-intensive digital services.

The comprehensive policy framework will encompass the creation and enforcement of strategies, standards, and potentially regulations. To further help protecting the environment, the Government will also undertake initiatives to raise public awareness about the environmentally conscious use and disposal of electronic devices.

This initiative will ensure that as we progress digitally, we also maintain a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible consumption.



Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy

Benefits of each initiative

The following section maps the benefits aligned with Nauru's Long-Term Sustainable Development Priorities: Social, the Economy and the Environment and Climate Change for the initiatives proposed in Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy.

This mapping provides a clear illustration of how each initiative will contribute to the realisation of the strategic outcomes and help Nauru to achieve cross-cutting benefits. By mapping the intended initiatives with their benefits, we ensure that every step taken will be purposeful and directly contribute to a digitally enabled Nauru.

1. Universal access to resilient and secure digital infrastructure

Social: Enhanced digital infrastructure will provide all citizens with access to reliable, high-speed internet, enabling them to access digital services, participate in the digital economy, and connect with the world. Reducing the digital divide. The introduction of Digital ID and Digital Payments will further improve access to government services and financial systems, enhancing social inclusion and equity.

Economy: Improved digital infrastructure will attract digital businesses and investments, driving economic growth and diversification. The implementation of Digital ID and Digital Payments will streamline business processes and transactions, increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

Environment and Climate Change: Digital infrastructure will support the implementation of smart technologies for environmental management and climate change adaptation and mitigation. The shift from physical to digital methods in identification and payment systems will also contribute to reducing paper waste.

2. Develop and implement digital government services

Social: Digitizing government services will make them more accessible and efficient, improving the lives of our citizens and fostering greater trust in government, increased transparency, and enhanced citizen engagement.

Economy: Streamlined government services can reduce administrative burdens for businesses, fostering economic development and a business-friendly environment.

Environment and Climate Change: Digital government services can include environmental services, such as online environmental impact assessments and digital environmental monitoring, enabling the efficient management of environmental data and resources through digital systems.

3. Implement necessary legislative reforms to foster a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered environment in Nauru

Social: Implementing necessary legislative reforms will protect the rights of our citizens in the digital age and ensure that everyone can participate in the digital economy, along with Improved ease of doing business, leading to better job opportunities and economic growth.

Economy: A secure and inclusive digital environment will attract digital businesses and investments, driving economic growth.

Environment and Climate Change: Legislative reforms can also support environmental management and climate change adaptation and mitigation by establishing the necessary legal frameworks.

4. Develop a National Cybersecurity Framework

Social: A national cybersecurity framework will protect our citizens from cyber threats and ensure the security of their digital data and deliver Increased trust and confidence in digital services due to strong cybersecurity measures. Improved knowledge and awareness about cybersecurity will lead to safer online behaviours and enhanced digital literacy.

Economy: A robust cybersecurity framework will attract digital businesses and investments by creating a secure digital environment. The enhanced protection of national digital infrastructure and business data will reduce the economic impact of cyber threats. And the creation of a regulatory environment that promotes cybersecurity best practices, will foster innovation and competitiveness in the digital economy.

Environment and Climate Change: Cybersecurity measures can protect digital systems used for environmental monitoring and management, ensuring their reliability and effectiveness. Secure digital systems can better support the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

5. Develop and implement a digital agrifood systems strategy

Social: A digital Agrifood systems strategy will improve food security and nutrition for our citizens by enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of our food production.

Economy: A digital Agrifood system can stimulate economic growth by creating opportunities in the agricultural sector and reducing food import costs.

Environment and Climate Change: A digital Agrifood system can contribute to environmental preservation and climate change mitigation by enabling more sustainable farming practices.

6. Establish a comprehensive digital health ecosystem

Social: A digital health ecosystem will provide improved access to healthcare services, enhanced accessibility and quality of health services and increased patient engagement in their health management, promoting well-being and healthy behaviours.

Economy: Enhanced efficiency in healthcare delivery and management, will lead to reducing healthcare costs and the potential for innovation in the health sector along the creation of new job opportunities in the digital health sector, contributing to economic growth.

Environment and Climate Change: Reduced need for physical travel for healthcare services, contributing to lower carbon emissions and the potential for digital health technologies to support environmental health monitoring and initiatives.

7. Smart Islands

Social: The Smart Islands initiative will promote digital inclusion and social equity at the community level, enhancing access to digital services and technology training for all citizens.

Economy: Will empower local businesses with digital tools and resources, driving economic growth and resilience. It will also enhance Nauru's global connectivity and ability to attract foreign investments.

Environment & Climate Change: Leveraging digital technologies, the initiative will optimize renewable energy use, promote sustainable environmental management, and support climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

8. Support Digital Tools, resources, and training for small businesses

Social: Empowerment of micro, small, and family-led businesses in their digital transformation will improve their productivity and service delivery, benefiting consumers and the community, while fostering social inclusion and gender equality.

Economy: Digitally empowered small businesses can drive economic growth and job creation.

Environment and Climate Change: Digital tools and resources can enable small businesses to implement environmentally friendly practices, develop innovative solutions and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

9. Implement programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills

Social: Strengthening digital literacy and skills will empower our citizens to participate fully in the digital society and economy.

Economy: A digitally literate workforce will attract digital businesses and investments. Therefore, increased digital literacy, access to education, and skill development opportunities for citizens will enable the creation of new jobs, driving economic growth.

Environment and Climate Change: Digital literacy and skills can enable Nauruans to use digital technologies for environmental management and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

10. Streamline digital services for businesses

Social: Streamlined digital services for businesses will improve the quality of services provided to consumers and the community leading to better job opportunities and economic growth.

Economy: Digital services will reduce administrative burdens for businesses, increase innovation, and develop a more competitive business environment, fostering economic development and innovation.

Environment and Climate Change: Digital services for businesses can include environmental services, such as online environmental impact assessments and digital environmental monitoring along with the efficient management of environmental compliance.

11. Establish an innovation hub and support digital entrepreneurship

Social: The establishment of an innovation hub will foster a culture of creativity and innovation in Nauru, empowering individuals to become digital entrepreneurs.

Economy: The innovation hub will stimulate economic growth by supporting digital entrepreneurship, leading to a diversified economy, increased innovation, growth in the digital sector and the creation of new businesses and jobs.

Environment and Climate Change: The innovation hub can foster innovation in environmental technologies, fostering the development of new solutions for environmental management and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

12. Facilitate businesses international exposure

Social: Facilitating businesses' international exposure will enable our citizens to tap into global markets and opportunities, enhancing their income potential and quality of life.

Economy: Facilitating businesses' international exposure will attract foreign investments and drive economic growth.

Environment and Climate Change: Businesses with international exposure can implement global best practices for environmental management and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

13. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability

Social: Better protection and management of natural resources, contributing to the well-being of citizens.

Economy: Sustainable use of resources, supporting long-term economic growth and stability.

Environment & Climate Change: Enhanced environmental sustainability and resilience through data-driven management.

14. Efficient environmental monitoring and management

Social: Efficient environmental monitoring and management will improve preparedness for and adaptation to climate change impacts, protecting citizens and communities and ensuring the health and wellbeing of our citizens by preserving the quality of our natural environment.

Economy: Effective environmental management can also have economic benefits by preserving the resources that our economy depends on and by fostering the development of climate-resilient infrastructure and industries.

Environment and Climate Change: This initiative directly contributes to environmental preservation and climate change mitigation by enabling more effective management of our natural resources and protection of ecosystems.

15. Climate change adaptation and mitigation, strategies and emergency telecommunication enabled by digital technologies

Social: Implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, developing and implementing a National Emergency Telecommunication Plan (NETP) will protect our citizens from the impacts of climate change, enhance safety against natural disasters, and ensure the sustainability of our communities.

Economy: These initiatives can also have economic benefits by reducing the costs of climate impacts and creating opportunities in green industries.

Environment and Climate Change: These initiatives directly contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation by implementing strategies to reduce emissions and cope with climate impacts.

16. E-Waste management policies

Social: e-waste management policies will protect the health and well-being of citizens by ensuring the safe disposal of electronic waste. It will also raise awareness about the importance of proper waste management and promote responsible consumption behaviours.

Economy: will foster opportunities for green jobs in the waste management sector. It can also stimulate the circular economy by promoting the recycling of valuable materials from electronic waste.

Environment & Climate Change: Proper e-waste management will prevent the contamination of the environment with hazardous substances found in electronic waste. It will also contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing the amount of waste that ends up in landfills and in the ocean and promote recycling.

Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy

Implementation

In this section, we establish the governing principles along with the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in the implementation process. This includes government departments, the private sector, civil society, and our international partners. We highlight the importance of collaboration and co-leadership in driving digital transformation across all sectors of society.

Next, we present our approach to monitoring and evaluation. We set clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for each initiative. This will enable us to track our achievements, identify areas for improvement, and ensure that we are moving towards our strategic outcomes.

Finally, we discuss the expected changes that will result from our digital transformation efforts. We provide a snapshot of what Nauru will look like by December 2026 and by December 2030, highlighting the impacts on our community and society, economy, and environment and climate change.

Implementation principles

The Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy is a comprehensive plan that aims to leverage digital technologies to drive sustainable development in Nauru. The implementation of the NNDTS will be built on five key principles: inclusivity, global access, transparency, innovation, and data privacy. These principles will guide the design and implementation of each initiative, ensuring that our digital transformation is inclusive, connected, transparent, innovative, and secure. By adhering to these principles, we aim to create a digitally empowered society and economy that can take full advantage of the opportunities of the digital age, while also achieving the broader goals of sustainable development as outlined in the Nauru National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2019-2030.

1. Inclusion: Our digital transformation will be inclusive, ensuring that all citizens, regardless of their age, gender, location, or socio-economic status, can participate in the digital society and economy. We will achieve this by working together with the Civil Society and Private Sector as much as possible across initiatives, and by developing and improving digital infrastructure across the country, implementing programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills, and ensuring that digital government services are accessible and user-friendly for all citizens.

2. Universal access: Our digital transformation will enhance connectivity, both within Nauru and with the rest of the world. We will achieve this by enhancing our digital infrastructure, implementing digital government services, and facilitating businesses' international exposure. This will enable all our citizens to access global digital services, participate in the global digital economy, and connect with the world, leaving no one behind.

3. Transparency: Our digital transformation will increase transparency in government operations, fostering trust in government services. We will achieve this by digitizing government services, implementing necessary legislative reforms, and establishing an innovation hub and do so with partnership with the Civil Society. This will make government services more accessible and efficient, and foster a culture of creativity and innovation in Nauru.

4. Innovation: Our digital transformation will foster innovation, driving economic growth and diversification. We will achieve this by supporting digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses, establishing an innovation hub, and facilitating businesses' international exposure. This will create new economic opportunities and sources of revenue, and position Nauru to take full advantage of the opportunities of the digital age.

5. Data Privacy: Our digital transformation will protect the privacy of our citizens' data, ensuring that they can use digital services with confidence. We will achieve this by implementing necessary legislative reforms to protect data privacy and developing a national cybersecurity framework. This will create a secure digital environment in Nauru, protecting our citizens from cyber threats and ensuring the security of their digital data.

These principles will guide the design and implementation of each initiative, ensuring that our digital transformation is inclusive, connected, transparent, innovative, and secure.

Implementation Roles and Responsibilities

In the following table, we delineate the distinct roles and responsibilities of various Government departments in formulating and executing each initiative. The Department of ICT will serve a dual role: it will provide technical support and expertise to the lead Government departments tasked with implementing each initiative, and it will also take the lead in implementing certain initiatives. This structure will ensure a collaborative approach, leveraging the specific expertise and portfolios of each department while maintaining a central role for the Department of ICT in guiding and supporting the digital transformation process.

Initiative	Leadership	Stakeholders
1. Universal access to resilient and secure digital infrastructure	Department of ICT Nauru Fibre Cable Committee	Department of Births, Deaths and Marriages, infrastructure providers, other government departments, District Community Leaders
2. Develop and implement digital government services	Department of ICT	All government departments, District Community Leaders
3. Implement necessary legislative reforms to foster a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered environment in Nauru	Co-led by Department of Justice and Border Control Department of Judiciary	Legal experts, other government departments, District Community Leaders
4. Develop a National Cybersecurity Framework	Ministry of Telecommunication Department of ICT	Cybersecurity firms, other Government departments, Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), District Community Leaders
5. Develop and implement a digital agrifood systems strategy	Department of Environmental Management and Agriculture	Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), agricultural experts, District Community Leaders
6. Establish a comprehensive digital health ecosystem	Department of Health & Medical Services Nauru RON Hospital	Healthcare providers, data security experts, District Community Leaders
7. Smart Islands	Department of ICT	All Government departments, technology companies, Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), District Community Leaders
8. Support digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment	Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), District Community Leaders, Development Partners
9. Implement programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills	Department of Education	Educational institutions, Curriculum, Accreditation, Scholarships & Examination (CASE) Division, technology companies, Development Partners
10. Streamline digital services for businesses	Department of ICT Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment	Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), other government departments
11. Establish an Innovation Hub and support digital entrepreneurship	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment	Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), entrepreneurs, financial institutions
12. Facilitate businesses international exposure	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment	Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), Development Partners
13. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability	Department of Environment Management & Agriculture	Nauru Utilities Corporation, environmental experts, renewable energy companies, Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC)
14. Efficient environmental monitoring and management	Department of Environment Management & Agriculture Department of Climate Change and National Resilience	Environmental experts, Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), District Community Leaders
15. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and National Emergency Telecommunication Plan enabled by digital technologies	Department of Climate Change and National Resilience Department of ICT	Environmental experts, Nauru Chamber of Commerce (NCC), District Community Leaders Government Departments, Telecom Service Providers
16. e-Waste management policies	Department of Justice and Border Control Department of ICT Department of Environment, Management and Agriculture	Legal experts, other government departments, District Community Leaders

Initiative
1. Universal access to resilient and secure digital infrastructure
2. Develop and implement digital government services
3. Implement necessary legislative reforms to foster a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered environment in Nauru
4. Develop a National Cybersecurity Framework
5. Develop and implement a digital agrifood systems strategy
6. Establish a comprehensive digital health ecosystem
7. Smart Islands
8. Support digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses
9. Implement programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills
10. Streamline digital services for businesses
11. Establish an Innovation Hub and support digital entrepreneurship
12. Facilitate businesses international exposure
13. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability
14. Efficient environmental monitoring and management
15. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies enabled by digital technologies
16. e-Waste management policies

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

KPIs to reach by June 2027	KPIs to reach by December 2030
50% improvement in internet speed and reliability. Digital ID system is in place. Digital payments systems are in place.	100% coverage of high-speed internet. Digital ID is widely adopted, and all population is recorded. Digital payments are widely used.
Digital government cloud strategy and plan established 25% of government services available online	100% of government services available online
Implemented 30% of necessary legislative reforms	Implemented 100% of necessary legislative reforms
Established a national cybersecurity framework	Achieved significant improvements in cybersecurity and implementing the cybersecurity framework
20% of agrifood systems digitized	100% of agrifood systems digitized
Established digital health systems with 50% coverage	Digital health systems with 100% coverage
20 Persons with disabilities (PwD) received basic digital skills training	100% of PwD in Nauru received digital training.
10 small businesses received digital training	50 small businesses received digital training
25% of population completed digital literacy training	80% of population completed digital literacy training
25% of business processes digitized	100% of business processes digitized
Innovation hub established and supporting 5 startups	Innovation hub supporting 20 startups
2 businesses reached international markets	10 businesses reached international markets
50% of energy from renewable sources	100% of energy from renewable sources
Established a digital environmental monitoring system	Achieved significant improvements in environmental management
Implemented 2 digital climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and developed NETP	Implemented 5 digital climate change adaptation and mitigation projects, and NETP
E-WASTE Policies have been developed	E-WASTE Policies are in place and supported

Expected Changes

	Phase I – Jun 2027	Phase II – Dec 2030
Social	Enhanced digital inclusion and connectivity, with improved access to government services and digital literacy. Digital ID system is in place, improving access to government services and financial inclusion.	A digitally inclusive society where all citizens have equal access to high-quality digital infrastructure and government services. Digital ID is widely adopted, streamlining business processes, and increasing trust in digital transactions.
Economy	Strengthened digital infrastructure and global connectivity, streamlined government services for businesses, and increased economic diversification and digital opportunities. Digital payments systems are in place, increasing financial inclusion and convenience.	A vibrant digital economy where the majority of businesses are utilizing digital tools and resources. Significant number of businesses operating in international markets, leading to economic growth and job creation. Digital payments are widely used, making the economy more efficient and inclusive.
Environment and Climate Change	Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability, efficient environmental monitoring and management, and climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies enabled by digital technologies. e-Waste management policies are implemented, improving public health, and raising awareness about proper waste disposal.	A cleaner, more sustainable energy sector that supports the nation's long-term development goals, better protection of the environment and responsible use of natural resources, and a more climate-resilient nation. e-Waste management policies are fully operational, creating green jobs in the waste management sector and promoting a cleaner environment.

Nauru National Digital Transformation Strategy

Appendixes

Contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation (UNSDCF) Framework Pillars: Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace

Initiative	Which Pillars it contributes to	How it contributes
1. Universal access to resilient and secure digital infrastructure	Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace	By providing all citizens with access to reliable, high-speed internet, enabling them to access digital services, participate in the digital economy, and connect with the world (People, Prosperity). The introduction of Digital ID and Digital Payments will further improve access to government services and financial systems, enhancing social inclusion and equity (People, Prosperity). The shift from physical to digital methods in identification and payment systems will also contribute to reducing paper waste (Planet).
2. Develop and implement digital government services	Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace	By making government services more accessible and efficient, improving the lives of our citizens, and fostering greater trust in government, increased transparency, and enhanced citizen engagement (People, Peace). Streamlined government services can reduce administrative burdens for businesses, fostering economic development and a business-friendly environment (Prosperity). Digital government services can include environmental services, such as online environmental impact assessments and digital environmental monitoring, enabling the efficient management of environmental data and resources through digital systems (Planet).
3. Implement necessary legislative reforms to foster a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered environment in Nauru	Planet, People, Prosperity	By drafting and implementing legislation that ensures compliance of ICT systems and digital services, fostering a secure and inclusive digital environment (People, Peace). This also supports the development of a digitally empowered environment in Nauru, contributing to economic growth (Prosperity).
4. Develop a National Cybersecurity Framework	People, Prosperity	A National Cybersecurity Framework can protect individuals and businesses from cyber threats, ensuring social wellbeing (People) and economic stability (Prosperity).
5. Develop and implement a digital agrifood systems strategy	Planet, People, Prosperity	A digital agrifood system can contribute to environmental preservation and climate change mitigation (Planet), improve access to quality food (People), and stimulate economic growth in the agricultural sector (Prosperity).
6. Establish a comprehensive digital health ecosystem	People, Prosperity	A digital health ecosystem can improve access to healthcare services and promote healthy behaviours (People). It can also enhance efficiency in healthcare delivery, leading to economic growth (Prosperity).

7. Smart Islands	Planet, People, Prosperity	The Smart Islands initiative can promote digital inclusion and social equity (People), empower local businesses (Prosperity), and optimize renewable energy use and environmental management (Planet).
8. Support digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses	People, Prosperity	This initiative can enhance the skills of individuals (People) and empower small businesses, leading to economic growth (Prosperity).
9. Implement programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills	People, Prosperity	Strengthening digital literacy and skills can empower individuals (People) and contribute to economic growth by creating a digitally skilled workforce (Prosperity).
10. Streamline digital services for businesses	Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace	By developing a business portal providing all necessary government services for businesses in one place, digitizing business registration and licensing processes, and implementing a digital system for tax filing, reducing administrative burdens for businesses and fostering economic development (Prosperity). This will improve the quality of services provided to consumers and the community leading to better job opportunities and economic growth (People, Peace). Digital services for businesses can include environmental services, such as online environmental impact assessments and digital environmental monitoring, enabling the efficient management of environmental compliance (Planet).
11. Establish an Innovation Hub and support digital entrepreneurship	Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace	The establishment of an innovation hub will foster a culture of creativity and innovation in Nauru, empowering individuals to become digital entrepreneurs (People, Peace). The innovation hub will stimulate economic growth by supporting digital entrepreneurship, leading to a diversified economy, increased innovation, growth in the digital sector and the creation of new businesses and jobs (Prosperity). The innovation hub can foster innovation in environmental technologies, fostering the development of new solutions for environmental management and climate change adaptation and mitigation (Planet).
12. Facilitate businesses international exposure	People, Prosperity	Facilitating businesses' international exposure can enhance income potential and quality of life for citizens (People) and attract foreign investments and drive economic growth (Prosperity).
13. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability	Planet	This initiative can optimize the use of renewable energy and promote sustainable environmental management, contributing to environmental sustainability (Planet).
14. Efficient environmental monitoring and management	Planet	Efficient environmental monitoring and management can contribute to the protection of the environment and responsible use of natural resources (Planet).
15. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, NETP enabled by digital technologies	Planet	This initiative can support climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, contributing to environmental sustainability (Planet).
16. e-Waste management policies	Planet	e-Waste management policies can promote a cleaner environment and responsible waste disposal, contributing to environmental sustainability (Planet).

Current digital transformation progress and gaps

The following is an assessment of gaps and progress in digital transformation, conducted at the start of drafting this strategy. It identifies the progress and gaps in each of the initiatives proposed in this strategic plan, providing insights into Nauru's digital landscape and guiding its future digital journey.

Initiative	Current Progress
1. Universal access to resilient and secure digital infrastructure	At this moment, Nauru is actively developing its digital infrastructure, primarily relying on satellite connectivity. A significant Milestone was completed through establishment of Pacific's first Starlink Community Gateway, which has also been instrumental in establishing the regions first 5G+ network in Nauru, courtesy Neotel, launched in January 2025. A major milestone in this arena is the submarine cable project, expected to be operational by 2025-2026, which represents a significant leap towards enhancing the nation's digital backbone.
2. Develop and implement digital government services	Currently, Nauru does not offer government digital services, there is however a Government website and Facebook pages for some of the Government departments.
3. Implement necessary legislative reforms to foster a secure, inclusive, and digitally empowered environment in Nauru	Nauru's digital legislative environment is at a nascent stage. The country is establishing a more robust digital regulatory framework, including initiating the creation of a Cybersecurity Division, indicating a move towards addressing digital security and inclusivity.
4. Develop a National Cybersecurity Framework	The inception of a Cybersecurity Division marks the beginning of Nauru's journey towards a comprehensive National Cybersecurity Framework. This initiative is in its early stages, laying the groundwork for more secure digital operations. A national Cyber Security Roadmap has been adopted, which will be the backbone for this initiative to go further.
5. Develop and implement a digital agrifood systems strategy	There's current no specific strategy for digital agrifood systems, the overall digital advancement in Nauru can be seen as a foundational step towards such sector-specific strategies in the future.
6. Establish a comprehensive digital health ecosystem	There isn't currently a focused plan for digital health and little progress in digital health initiatives
7. Smart Islands	The 'Smart Islands' project in Nauru's has started and will bring digital services to the last mile. There are numerous workshops and awareness programs being run and Nauru is working on establishing its first Digital Inclusivity Hub, as part of this initiative.

8. Support digital tools, resources, and training for small businesses	There aren't yet specific programs and supports for small businesses in the digital arena.
9. Implement programs to strengthen digital literacy and skills	Nauru is making efforts in integrating ICT into education and enhancing digital access in schools. Yet, there is a need for more comprehensive programs and initiatives to strengthen digital literacy and skills across all sectors.
10. Streamline digital services for businesses	There's an implicit progression in streamlining digital services for businesses, as part of the broader digital transformation in government services. Specific strategies or programs in this area have not been detailed.
11. Establish an Innovation Hub and support digital entrepreneurship	There aren't yet direct initiatives for specific support for digital entrepreneurship, but there is a focus on STEM and digital training in education.
12. Facilitate businesses international exposure	There aren't specific efforts in facilitating international exposure for businesses.
13. Optimized renewable energy and environmental sustainability	At present, Nauru has no focused initiatives in optimizing renewable energy and environmental sustainability through digital technologies.
14. Efficient environmental monitoring and management	There are no digital initiatives for environmental monitoring and management.
15. Climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and NETP enabled by digital technologies	Nauru has no current strategies for using digital technologies in climate change adaptation and mitigation. And currently there is no NETP (National Emergency Telecommunication Plan) in place.
16. e-Waste management policies	The formulation of e-waste management policies has not been specifically addressed and should be an integrating part of digital development. Managing e-waste is particularly relevant for any SIDS. Nauru is in the initial stages of assessment and planning for new policies and implementation plans for the safe collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste.

ICT Data Points (Source: ITU Data Hub)

Affordability
ICT prices

Mobile data and voice low-consumption basket

1.06%

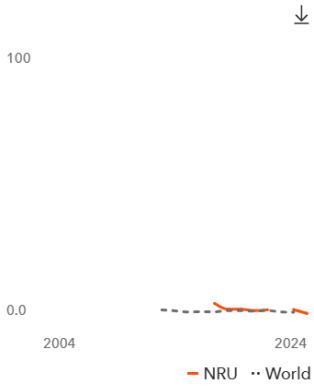
% GNI per capita
2024

Affordability
ICT prices

Data-only mobile broadband basket

0.81%

% GNI per capita
2024

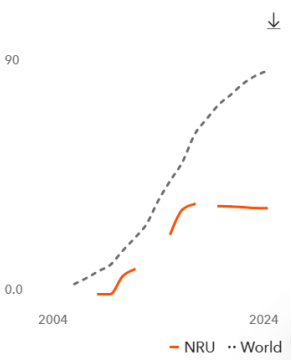


Connectivity
Access

Active mobile-broadband subscriptions

33.7

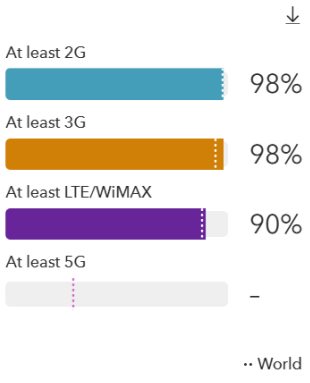
per 100 people
2023



Connectivity
Access

Population coverage, by mobile network technology

%
2022

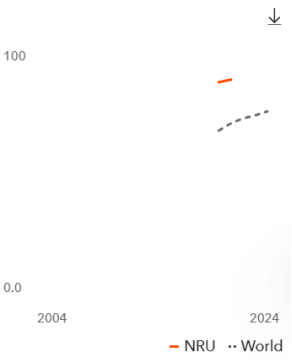


Connectivity
Access

Individuals who own a mobile cellular telephone

91.8%

%
2020

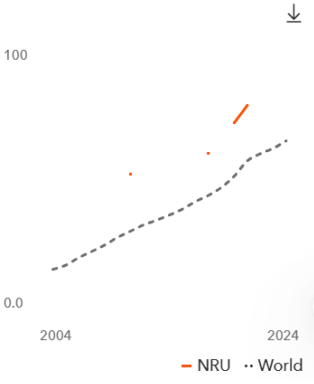


Connectivity
Use

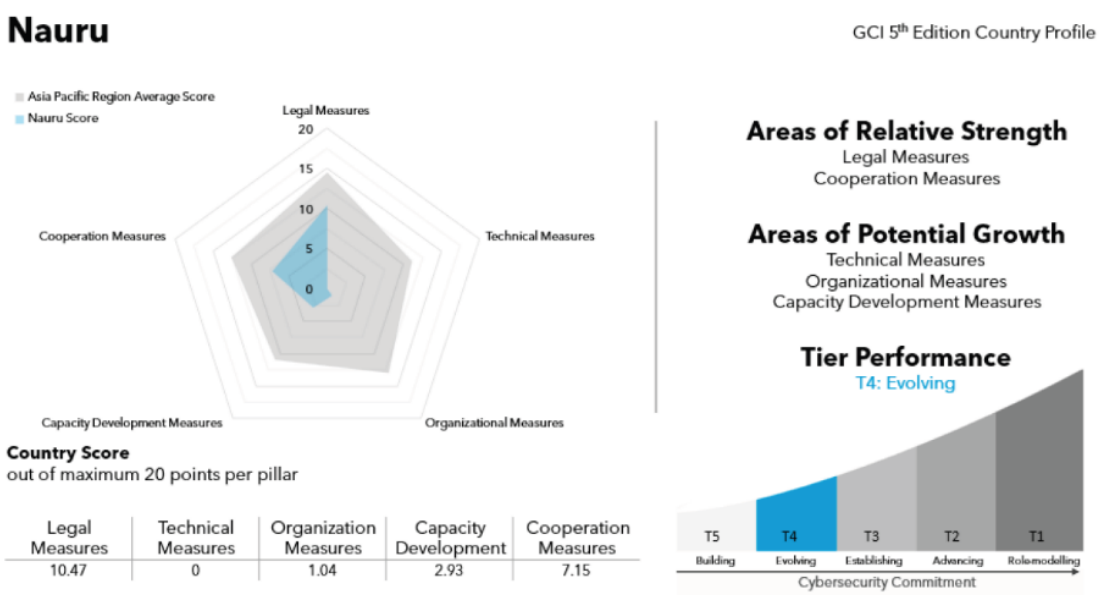
Individuals using the Internet

81.7%

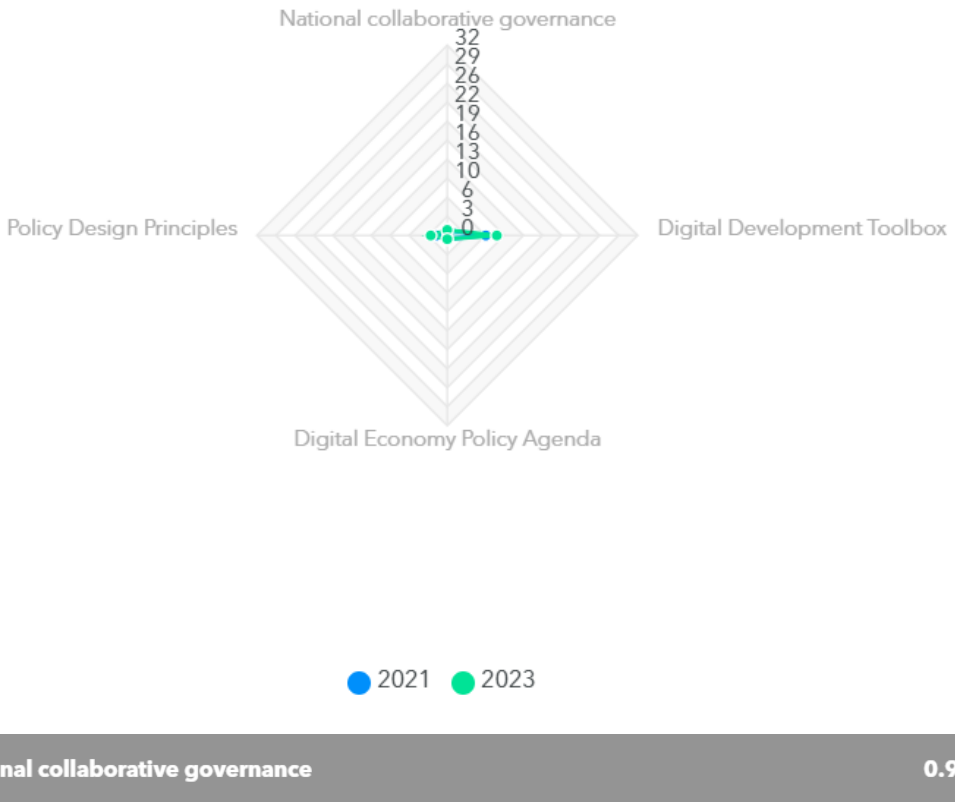
%
2020



Global Cyber Security Index 2024 (GCI) (Source: ITU)



G5 Benchmark 2021-2023, Nauru Level of readiness G5 Limited (Source: ITU)



National collaborative governance	0.93

Nauru

National Digital Transformation Strategy

Republic of Nauru