National Data Policy

National Planning Council

Legal Mandate

The Qatar National Data Policy is designed and created by the National Planning Council (NPC), and is enacted in accordance with the following:

1. Qatar National Vision 2030:

The policy aligns with the objectives set forth in the Qatar National Vision 2030, which emphasizes the use of data as a strategic asset for promoting economic, social, and technological development in Qatar. This policy supports the nation's vision of building a knowledge-based economy driven by data-driven decision-making.

2. Law No. (13) of 2016 On Personal Data Privacy Protection:

The policy operates in full compliance with Qatar's Personal Data Privacy Protection Law, which safeguards the privacy of individuals and outlines strict regulations on the collection, processing, and use of personal data. This law provides the foundation for the ethical use and management of data across all sectors in Qatar, ensuring compliance with global privacy standards.

3. Law No. (14) of 2014 On Cybercrime Prevention:

In line with the Cybercrime Prevention Law, the policy mandates robust data protection measures and cybersecurity protocols to prevent data breaches and unauthorized access. It reinforces the need for government and semi-government entities to adhere to strict security standards to protect Qatar's critical data infrastructure.

4. Law No. (9) On the Regulation of the Right to Access Information:

The policy aligns with the principles set forth in the Right to Access Information Law, promoting transparency by ensuring that public data is accessible to authorized users. At the same time, it enforces strict controls over sensitive and classified information. The law also limits the collection of data to what is necessary for the entity's legitimate purposes, preventing unnecessary data accumulation and ensuring responsible data usage.

5. Emiri Decision No. (13) of 2024 on the Establishment of the National Planning Council:

The NPC, under its legal mandate, holds the authority to establish national level data policies, set data governance standards, and enforce compliance across government entities. The NPC is responsible for the continuous oversight, evaluation, and amendment of the policy to ensure it remains relevant and aligned with Qatar's evolving digital landscape.

6. National Information Assurance Standards (released 2023):

The policy integrates the requirements of the National Information Assurance Standards, ensuring that data handling, storage, and sharing practices across government entities comply with national security guidelines and international best practices.

7. International Alignment:

This policy is crafted to fulfil Qatar's international commitments to data protection, security, and governance. It is aligned with global standards such as the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other internationally recognized frameworks for data privacy and governance, enhancing Qatar's standing as a trusted partner in the global digital economy.

Jurisdiction:

This policy in enforceable within the geographic boundaries or legal jurisdiction of the State of Qatar, as outlined below:

Government and Semi-government Entities
This policy applies to all governmental and semi-governmental entities that create, collect, receive, transmit, exchange, store, or process data and information in any form within the scope of their operational, administrative, or research activities. These entities are required to adhere to the principles outlined in this policy

Private Sector Entities
This policy is non-binding for entities operating in the private sector; however, we encourage these entities to align with the principles outlined herein. The National Planning Council will issue specific principles and standards for the private sector, which will enhance data management practices in the State of Qatar
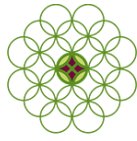
Strategic Alignment

Qatar National Vision 2030

Economic development

Build world-class infrastructure with efficient and effective delivery mechanisms for public services and institutions.

Third National Development Strategy 2024 - 2030

Building a Sustainable Future

Plan for the next phase of Qatar's development journey towards realizing the Qatar National Vision 2030

Personal Data Privacy Protection Regulations by NCSA

National Cyber Security Agency

Oversee and ensure the safety and reliability of the national Qatar cyber security ecosystem through; delivering robust cyber security services.

Document Summary

Name	National Data Policy
Version	V1.0
Document Reference	P001
Document Type	Policy
Summary	This policy, overseen by NPC, aims to establish a unified, government-wide approach to data management across all government entities in the State of Qatar. By implementing robust data management and governance, the policy ensures that data is managed as a strategic asset. This approach facilitates data convergence and sharing, seamless service integration, robust analytics and statistics, improved data maturity and quality, ethical data usage, and supports the once-only data collection principle. By harnessing high-quality data, Qatar positions itself as a leader in data management and digital services, fostering informed decision-making and public trust, and setting the stage for a technologically advanced future. Each entity is guided to tailor its data management programs to meet specific operational needs, ensuring accurate, complete, reliable, and timely data.
Publishing Date	October 2024
Recifitication of Status	All those addressed by the provisions of this policy must regularize their status in accordance with its provisions within one year from the date of its publication
Owner	National Planning Council (NPC)

Acronyms

NPC
National
Planning Council

DAMA
Data
Management Association

DMBOK
Data Management
Book of Knowledge

NCSA
National Cyber
Security Agency

NDS
National
Development Strategy

ISO
International Organization
for Standardization

DCMI
Dublin Core
Metadata Initiative

TOGAF
The Open Group
Architecture Framework

NQAF
National Quality
Assurance Framework

GSBPM
Generic Statistical
Business Process Model

Glossary of Terms and Definitions

Term	Definition
Government Entity	Ministries, government bodies, authorities, or public institutions, as applicable.
Semi-government Entity	Private institutions of public benefit, sports institutions, associations, and similar entities whose budgets are funded or partially supported by the country.
Private Sector	Commercial companies operating in the country, whether owned by the country, with participation from the country, or owned by private sector individuals.
Digital Data	All data and information available in electronic format, which entities record, retrieve, share, or process in order to provide electronic services to the pub-lic, visitors, and companies.
Structured Data	Structured data is data that is organized and stored in the form of tables and databases with a fixed format, such as columns and rows, making it easier to access and analyze using data analysis tools. Examples include data from financial database tables or customer data.
Unstructured Data	Unstructured data is data that does not follow a specific format or fixed structure, making its analysis and organization more complex. Unstructured data includes random text, images, videos, emails, and textual documents like Word and PDF files.
Data assets	Any system, database, or document containing data, essential for decision-making (e.g., a database of customer records).
Data Management Association (DAMA)	A not-for-profit, vendor-independent, international association of technical and business professionals dedicated to advancing the concepts and prac-tices of data management.
Data processing	Carrying out any operation or set of operations on data, including the collec-tion, receipt, recording, organizing, storing, adaptation, alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure, dissemination, transmission, blocking, erasure, or destruction of such data and information.
Data sharing	Disclosure of data from one or more entity to a third-party entity or entities, or the sharing of data between parts of an entity.

Term	Definition
Personal data	Data of an individual whose identity is defined or can be reasonably defined, whether through such personal data or through the combination of such data with any other data.
Master Data	Core data essential for business operations (e.g., customer details, product information).
Reference Data	Standardized data used to categorize other data (e.g., country codes, cur-rency codes).
Artificial Intelli-gence (AI)	The simulation of human intelligence in machines that are programmed to think, learn, and perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence, such as decision-making, problem-solving, and language understanding.
Generative AI (GenAI)	A subset of AI that uses algorithms and models to create new content, such as text, images, or music, based on training data, enabling machines to generate human-like responses and outputs.
Data Operating Model	A structured framework that outlines how data is managed, governed, and utilized within an organization, including roles, processes, and technologies.
Data Strategy	A plan that outlines how an organization will collect, manage, and use data to achieve its goals and objectives.
Data Catalog	A centralized repository that provides information about the data assets within an organization, including metadata and data lineage.
Data Integration	The process of combining data from different sources to provide a unified view and improve data accessibility and usability.
Analytical Enter-prise Data Model (EDM)	A framework that structures and integrates data across an entity to support analytics and reporting, ensuring consistency and accuracy.
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Metrics used to measure the effectiveness of data management practices and initiatives within an organization (e.g., data quality score).
Statistics and Ana-lytics	Transforms data into insights for informed decision-making. Statistics mainly covers descriptive and diagnostic analysis of past and present data, while Analytics extends to predictive and prescriptive analysis for future outcomes.
Corporate Data	Set of information collected and utilized by an organization to support its op-erations, decision-making, and strategic objectives. It includes operational, financial, and marketing data that define and differentiate the corporate enti-ty.
Environment Data	Refers to information about environmental conditions and factors, such as air quality, temperature, and pollution levels, used for monitoring and analy-sis.

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1. Introduction

In the digital era, data is often referred to as the "new oil" due to its significance in driving innovation, economic growth, and societal advancement. Effective data management and governance optimize the value of this asset, ensuring data accuracy, security, and accessibility. Data governance sets the policies, standards, and practices necessary for managing data throughout its lifecycle, serving as the foundation for informed decision-making. Proper governance and effective data management are especially crucial in supporting Qatar's vision of becoming a leader in data management, digital services, and information technology, in alignment with the broader objectives of the Third National Development Strategy (NDS3.0). By promoting a culture of data quality and transparency, data management practices facilitate easy collaboration and information sharing across entities. This step not only enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of digital services but also paves the way for the implementation of innovative solutions and the utilization of emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Generative AI. These technologies rely on high-quality, comprehensive datasets to train AI models and automate complex processes. The National Data Policy is designed to support Qatar's vision of establishing a data-driven economy. It provides guidance to entities within its scope for the primary and strategic management of data. This policy serves as the foundational reference for all entities in Qatar, aiming to ensure data management across all sectors with the highest levels of accuracy, consistency, and excellence. It also clearly defines roles, responsibilities, and ownership, establishing accountability for adhering to data management practices across the country, thereby supporting Qatar's vision of a technologically advanced, data-driven future. Accordingly, the National Data Standards - developed by NPC - are a crucial component in supporting this policy. These standards outline the essential procedures for effective data management, ensuring regulatory compliance and promoting best practices across all entities. They provide detailed guidance, facilitating a structured and consistent approach to data management within Qatar.

In addition to the National Data Standards, this policy is supported by a range of other key laws, policies, and standards, including:

01	Personal Data Privacy Protection Law	**05**	National Data Classification Policy
02	Cybercrime Prevention Law	**06**	Cloud First Policy
03	Right to Access Information Law	**07**	National Information Assurance Standard
04	Qatar's Open Data Policy	**08**	National Framework for Quality Assurance of Official Statistics

By establishing standardized processes and governance frameworks across entities in Qatar, this policy lays the foundation for a future where data-driven strategic insights significantly enhance decision-making and improve public services.

1.1 Policy Scope and Applicability

The Policy applies to all data (digital, structured or unstructured) and related systems that create, collect and maintain information as part of their official business functions and used or shared for the provision of services. Examples of data include:

Customer data (such as personal data and corporate data)

Non-customer data (such as environment data)

Organizational data (such as HR, finance, asset and procurement-related data)

Unstructured data (such as word processor documents, presentation slides, pictures, videos and audios) including both text-based and bitmap-based data

1.2   National Data Management Framework

The National Data Management Framework (NDMF) stands as a strategic foundation for Qatar's data maturity journey, aligning data practices across entities and sectors to harness the transformative power of data. The National Data Management Framework has been structured across 5 distinct layers and 12 Data Management Domains (refer to Figure 1 below).

01

Oversight layer is the overarching layer that shall anchor the Data Management journey of every entity and is comprised of 1 Data Management Domain: Data Strategy & Governance.

02

The Data Enablement layer is the foundational layer that shall convert the entity's data into a discoverable, interoperable, and high-quality asset that is ready for value extraction and utilization. This layer is comprised of 6 distinct Data Management Domains: Data Architecture & Modeling, Data Quality Management, Master and Reference Data Management, Document and Content Management, Data Catalog and Metadata Management, Data Storage and Operations.

03

The Data Impact Realization layer is the layer that shall extract value from the Data asset. Most of today's effort and visibility by entities is focused on this layer as it produces tangible direct and indirect outcomes. This layer is comprised of 3 Data Management Domains: Data Sharing, Integration and Interoperability, Statistics and Analytics, Data Monetization.

04

The Data Protection & Privacy / Data Defense and Resilience layer is the layer that shall ensure the Data asset is adequately classified and secured both from a security as well as privacy perspectives. This layer is comprised of 1 Data Management Domain: Data Security, Privacy and Other Regulations.

05

Culture and Change layer is the last and fifth layer, This layer shall ensure that Data talent and Data culture are adequately built for a sustainable data maturity journey by the entities. Considering the expected fast changing technology landscape and disruptions, this layer should be of strategic and consistent focus by the entities. Finally, this layer is comprised of 1 Data Management Domain: Data Culture and Literacy.

These domains align with established standards and frameworks such as DAMA International's Data Management Body of Knowledge (DMBOK), The Open Group Architecture Framework (TOGAF) and Unified Modeling Language (UML), methodologies like Six Sigma and Total Quality Management (TQM) along with standards like ISO 8000 for data quality, Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI), ISO 32000 for PDFs and ISO 15489 for records management. These standards ensure that Qatar's data management practices are robust, interoperable, and aligned with global best practices, enabling efficient data governance and utilization across diverse sectors.

QATAR NATIONAL DATA MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

OVERSIGHT

01   **Data Management Strategy and Governance**

Data Enablement

02   Data Architecture and Modeling

03   Data Quality Management

04   Master and Reference Data Management

05   Document and Content Management

06   Data Catalog and Metadata Management

07   Data Storage and Operations

Data Impact Realization

08   Data Sharing, Integration & Interoperability

09   Statistics & Analytics

10   Data Monetization

Data Defense and Resilience

**11**   **Data Security, Privacy and Other Regulations**

Culture and Change

12   **Data Culture and Literacy**

Figure 1 - National Data Management Framework

1. **Data Management Strategy and Governance:** Develops an overarching data strategy and establishes policies and oversight to manage and govern data assets effectively, in alignment with the entity's data and business strategy.

2. **Data Architecture and Modeling:** Designs and defines data structures and relationships to support data consistency

3. **Data Quality Management:** Ensures that data is accurate, complete, and reliable for decision-making

4. **Master and Reference Data Management:** Manages core data assets to ensure accuracy and consistency across systems

5. **Document and Content Management:** Manages documents and content lifecycle from creation to disposal

6. **Data Catalog and Metadata Management:** Organizes data and metadata into a searchable resource, enhancing data discoverability and usability

7. **Data Storage and Operations:** Involves secure data storage and efficient data handling operations

8. **Data Sharing, Integration and Interoperability:** Facilitates the exchange and functional compatibility of data across diverse systems

9. **Statistics and Analytics:** Systematic application of statistical and analytical techniques to interpret and transform data into actionable insights

10. **Data Monetization:** Generates economic benefits from data through various means such as data trading and data-driven products.

11. **Data Security, Privacy, and Other Regulations:** Protects data against unauthorized access and ensures compliance with privacy laws and regulations

12. **Data Culture & Literacy:** Promotes a data-centric mindset & skills across the entity
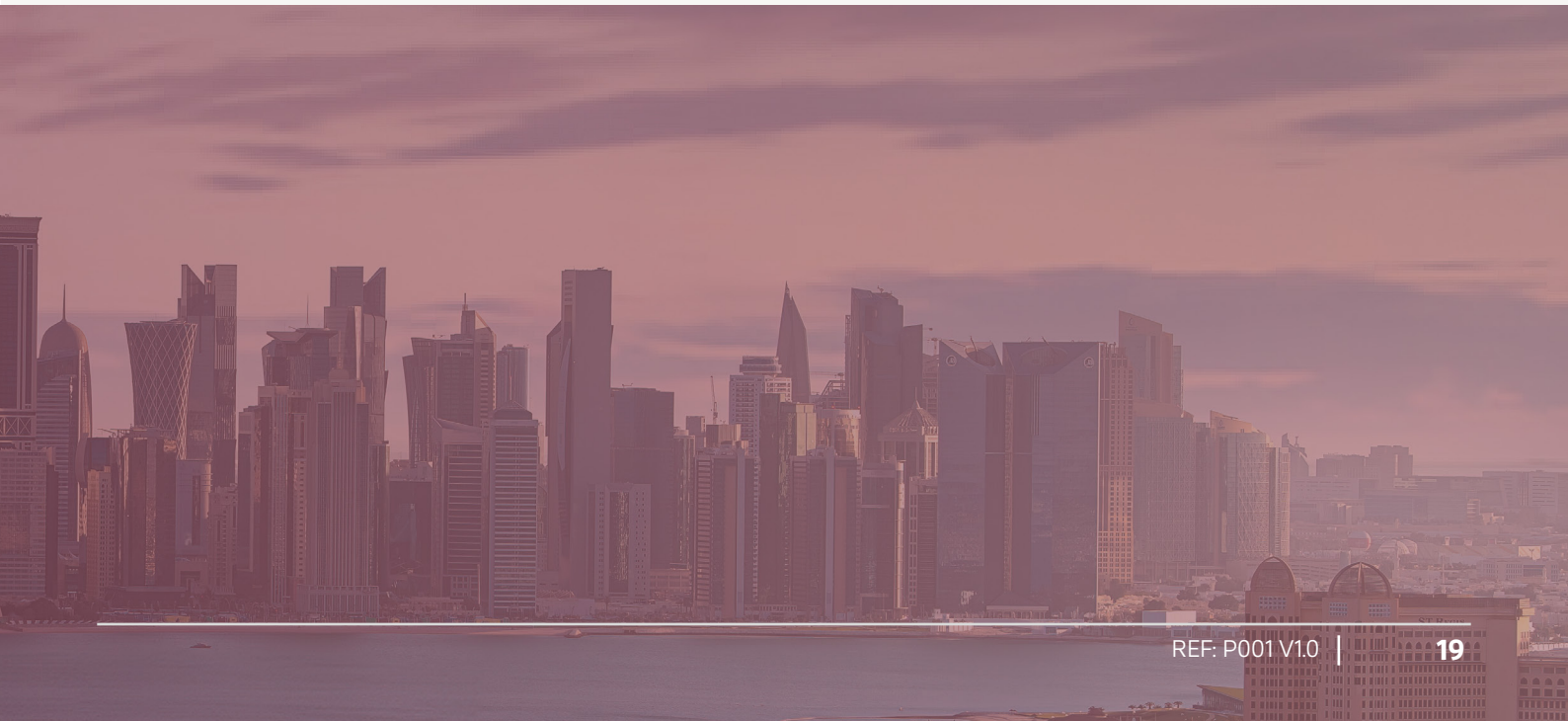
1.3 National Data Management Guiding Principles

To ensure effective and comprehensive data management in support of national objectives, the **"PEARL"** guiding principles have been developed to provide a comprehensive framework for data management. These principles serve as a foundation for improving data, protecting it, and ensuring access to it, thereby contributing to the enhancement of an effective data management environment and maximizing the value of data to support the country's economic growth.

PROTECTED

Secure data assets - Ensure the protection of data through robust security Measures, safeguarding against unauthorized access, data breaches, and ensuring privacy in compliance with national and international regulations
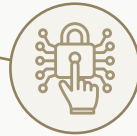
LEVERAGED

Maximize Data Value – Leverage data as a strategic asset to drive innovation, efficiency, and improvement in services, thereby enhancing Qatar's competitive edge in the global digital economy

ENHANCED

Improve Qata Quality and Utility - Continuously enhance the quality, accuracy, completeness, and relevance of data to ensure its utility in decision-making, operations, and service delivery

ACCESSIBLE

Ensure Data Accessibility and Sharing - Facilitate ease of access to data for authorized users, promoting sharing and collaboration while maintaining adherence to data privacy and security constraints

RESPONSIBLE

Ethical Use & AI Governance - Promote responsible data management by implementing governance frameworks that ensure ethical data use aligned with the standards of data ownership, data sharing, data security and quality of produced data
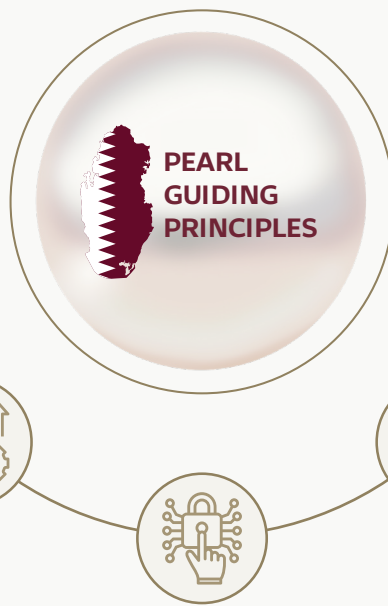
PEARL GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Figure 2 - PEARL Principles

2. Policy Objectives

The State of Qatar is committed to managing its data to the highest standards, aligning with its goal of becoming a global leader in governmental data management. This Policy is designed to ensure that all data held by Qatari Entities is managed effectively to drive national development, support informed decision-making, and enhance Qatar's competitive position in the global digital economy.

To achieve these goals, this document outlines the following key objectives:

Enhancing Data Management Practices:
Standardize and elevate data management practices across all entities, ensuring consistency, quality, and excellence in alignment with local and global benchmarks.

Promoting Data-Driven Decision Making:
Empower entities to leverage data as a strategic asset to support entities initiatives through facilitating informed policy-making and operational decisions

Defining Roles and Responsibilities:
Clearly outline the roles, responsibilities, and ownership of data management across all sectors within Qatar to ensure accountability and effective governance, which are critical for achieving the broader goals of the policy.

Improving Data Quality and Integrity:
Focus on enhancing the accuracy, reliability, and consistency of data across all entities to ensure effective decision-making and service delivery.

Ensuring Data Privacy and Security:
Protect the privacy and security of data in accordance with national and international standards to safeguard sensitive data while enabling its effective use.

Facilitating Data-Driven Innovation:

Support the application of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence and advanced analytics, to harness the full potential of data.

Supporting Interoperability and Integration:

Promote seamless data sharing and interoperability within and across entities to optimize service delivery and enhance collaboration.

Building Data Literacy and Culture:

Enhance education and awareness of data management practices to build a culture of data literacy across all levels of society.

Engaging in International Collaboration:

Commit the National Planning Council (NPC) to engage in international collaborations to continuously adopt and influence global data standards and practices, reinforcing Qatar's role in the global digital economy.

Driving National Development through Data:

Ensure entities align with objectives of national strategies, such the National Development Strategy 3.0, by leveraging data to drive national development by identifying opportunities for economic growth, improving public services, and enhancing the quality of life for all citizens.
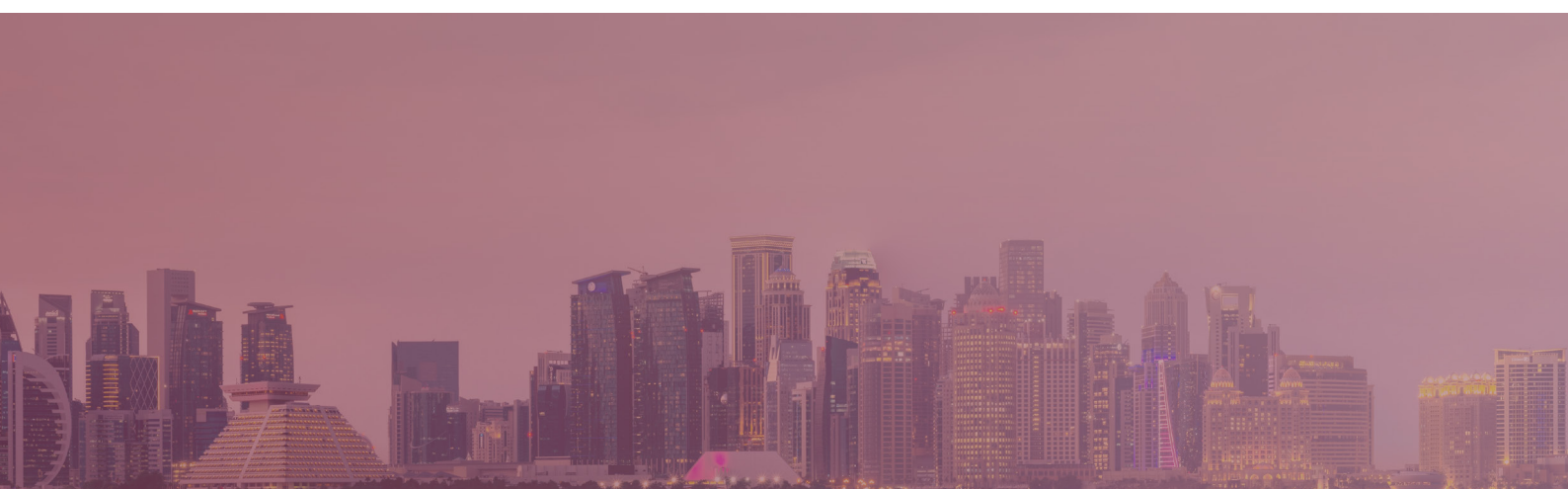
3. Data Management Program Requirements

3.1 Data Management Strategy and Governance

The Entity Shall:

3.1.1 Develop and refresh on a yearly basis a Data Management Strategy spanning across 4 years in alignment with the National Data and Statistics Strategy. The strategy shall outline comprehensively the Entity's data strategic objectives and initiatives tailored across all 12 domains of National Data Management Framework.

3.1.2 Align and comply its data management strategy with the Digital agenda 2030 and the Third National Development Strategy strategic objectives.

3.1.3 Design and activate a Data Operating Model to support the implementation of the data management strategy. The Operating Model shall define the data organization structure, including data committee, and working groups charters for the Entity. Additionally, it will specify the essential data management roles across the Entity, in alignment with the National Data Standards.

3.1.4 Develop and publish a data governance policy in alignment with the statements provisioned in this policy and the structure provided in the National Data standards to provide a strong mandate to the Entity data program and initiatives. The policy shall support the activation of the data operating model, including the appointment and fulfillment of the essential data management roles necessary for the Entity in alignment with the National Data Standards.

3.1.5 In defining the strategic roadmap and its initiatives, the Entity shall prioritize the development of the related NDS3.0 indicators provided by the National Planning Council.

3.2 Data Architecture and Modeling

The Entity Shall:

3.2.1 Design,build, and maintain an Enterprise Data Architecture to ensure consistent management of data across the Entity. The Enterprise Data Architecture shall support data quality, integration, sharing, and interoperability, aligning with the Entity's Data Management Strategy.

3.2.2 Design, build, and maintain an Analytical Enterprise Data Model (EDM) to support business intelligence and analytics demand across all its business domains. The Enterprise Data Model shall support the analytical use cases implementation covering Descriptive, Diagnostic, Predictive, and Prescriptive analytics.

3.2.3 Refer to and utilize the reference data architecture and analytical data modeling guidelines published by the National Planning Council (NPC) as mandated by NPC.

3.2.4 Ensure the review and approval of analytical data architecture and models by the NPC to ensure alignment with the national objectives outlined in NDS3.0

3.3 Data Quality Management

The Entity Shall:

3.3.1 Develop and publish a Data Quality Policy in alignment with its strategic data objectives to guide the systematic improvement of data quality across critical business domains. The Policy shall be aligned to the structure suggested in the National Data Standards and the statements provisioned in this policy.

3.3.2 Establish a Data Quality program in alignment with its strategic data objectives, guided by a detailed assessment of data assets and resulting in a detailed data quality plan. The program shall prioritize continuous assessment, root cause analysis, and enhancement of data quality to support informed decision-making and operational efficiency.

3.3.3 Adhereto the principles and standards outlined in the National Quality Assurance Framework (NQAF) published by the NPC to ensure data is qualified for statistics and analytics purposes.

3.3.4 Develop a data quality scorecard across all its data assets in alignment with the data quality dimensions defined in the National Data Standards.

3.3.5 In defining the data quality program and its plan, the Entity shall prioritize the quality uplift of data assets related to the NDS3.0 indicators provided by the National Planning Council.

3.4 Master and Reference Data Management

The Entity Shall:

3.4.1 Develop and publish a Master and Reference Data Management Policy to ensure a consistent and accurate single source of truth for data. The Policy shall be aligned to the structure suggested in the National Data Standards and the statements provisioned in this policy.

3.4.2 Establish a Master Data Management (MDM) program, guided by prioritized data domains with high business impact and resulting in a detailed master data management plan. The program shall identify the master data model, Master Data Management Architecture, to implement data standardization and consolidation across different systems within the entity.

3.4.3 Refer to and apply the reference data and statistical classifications published by the NPC for application when issuing statistical reports and sharing data with other entities, as outlined in the National Data Standards document. NPC has been established as the authoritative data source for all reference data and statistical classifications in the State of Qatar.

3.4.4 Ensure coordination with NPC to develop any new reference data and statistical classifications and ensure obtaining the Council's approval on them.

3.5   Document and Content Management

The Entity Shall:

3.5.1   Develop and publish a Document and Content Management Policy, in coordination with the relevant entities, to ensure secured and standardized handling and management of its documents, covering the entire lifecycle of documents and content. The Policy shall be aligned to the structure suggested in the National Data Standards and the statements provisioned in this policy.

3.5.2   Establish a Document and Content Management program guided by document prioritization, resulting in a detailed Document and Content Management plan with focus on enabling document and content catalog for digitized documents for information extraction. The program shall also be responsible for managing the Document and Content Management Policy.

3.5.3   Commit to working towards a fully digital government aiming to significantly reduce and eventually eliminate the use non digital methods in its operations, in alignment with the IT and Digital services cluster strategic objectives as defined in NDS3.0.

3.6   Data Catalog and Metadata Management

The Entity Shall:

3.6.1   Develop and publish a Data Catalog and Metadata Management Policy to guide the discovery, description, and interoperability of data across different business domains. The Policy shall be aligned to the structure suggested in the National Data Standards and the statements provisioned in this policy.

3.6.2   Develop, implement, and operate an automated digital Data Catalog for all its data assets leveraging Data Catalog tools. The Metadata structure of the Entity data catalog shall be aligned to the frameworks and standards published by NPC.

3.6.3   In implementation of the data catalog, the Entity shall prioritize the data assets related to the NDS3.0 indicators provided by the National Planning Council.

3.7   Data Storage and Operations

The Entity Shall:

3.7.1   Develop and publish a Data Storage and Retention Policy that governs the secure and efficient storage of data, ensuring compliance with laws and regulations. The Policy shall be aligned to the structure suggested in the National Data Standards and the statements provisioned in this policy.

3.7.2   Establish a Data Storage and Operations Program guided by prioritized systems based on the business criticality, resulting in a detailed Data Storage and Operations plan considering the real-time data generated by sensors and near real-time data generated by logs. The program shall support the Entity's strategic objectives and provides scalable, secure infrastructure capabilities for managing data storage needs.

3.7.3   Comply to and align its practices with the related national regulations, ensuring secure storage and processing of personal data to protect its confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

3.7.4   Ensure that Data Storage solutions that use the cloud environment must in alignment with the national regulations related to the cloud services.

## 3.8 Data Sharing, Integration and Interoperability

The Entity Shall:

3.8.1 Develop and publish Data Sharing & Integration Policy to ensure secure, efficient, and compliant data sharing and integration across various internal functions/systems and external Entities. The Policy shall be aligned to the structure suggested in the National Data Standards and the statements provisioned in this policy.

3.8.2 Enable and maximize Data Sharing practice with entities and complying to National Data Standards published by NPC.

3.8.3 Leverage the National Data Marketplace to share its data with other government and semi-government entities to enhance data accessibility, promote collaboration, and ensure the efficient and secure exchange of data across sectors.

3.9 Statistics and Analytics

The Entity Shall:

3.9.1 Develop, document, and maintain statistics indicators and analytics use case portfolio covering Descriptive, Diagnostic, Predictive, and Prescriptive analytics to ensure a structured and systematic analytics approach and planning.

3.9.2 Establisha Statistics and Analytics program guided by the statistics indicators and analytics use case portfolio, resulting in a detailed plan for Statistics and Analytics portfolio implementation. The program shall align with both the Entity's strategic objectives and national priorities, ensuring that data-driven insights are effectively leveraged to support decision-making and drive the Entity's goals.

3.9.3 Monitor the performance of the deployed portfolio, monitor their adoption and efficiency, and identify areas of improvement and future scaling opportunities.

3.9.4 In developing the statistics indicators and analytics use case portfolio, the Entity shall prioritize the indicators provided by the National Planning Council.

3.9.5 Comply with the National Quality Assurance Framework (NQAF) developed by NPC as well as the international Generic statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) for the production of official statistics.
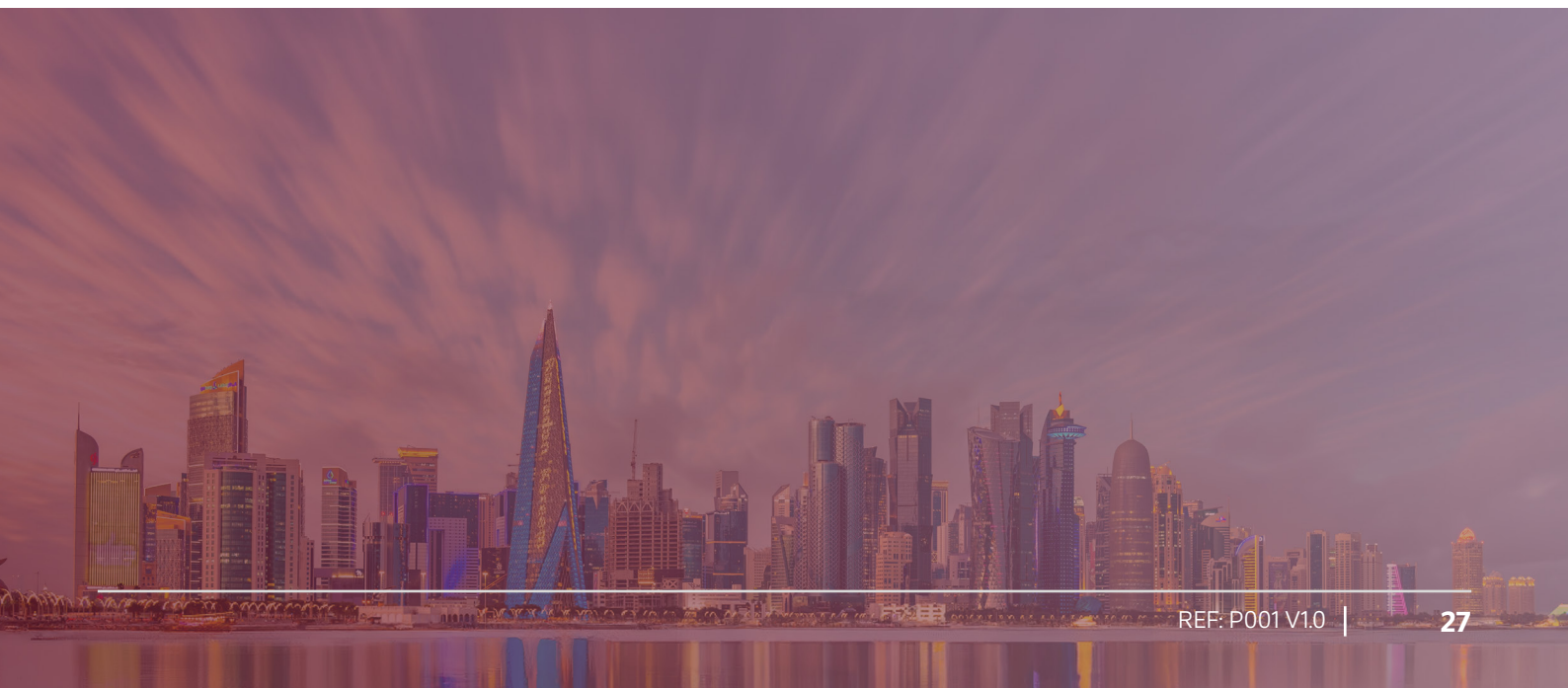
3.10 Data Monetization

Motivate the Entity to:

3.10.1 Identify opportunities to generate revenue from data while ensuring compliance with the applicable laws in the State of Qatar, particularly the Personal Data Privacy Protection Law.

3.10.2 Establish a program to support data monetization opportunities, with a focus on priority data products, resulting in a detailed plan for the development and adoption of these products. This program must include the creation of the necessary technological infrastructure, drafting of data contracts, and activation of operational functions to ensure effective implementation at the market level.

## 3.11 Data Security, Privacy, and Other Regulations

The Entity Shall:

3.11.1 Comply to the Personal Data Privacy and Protection Law and Right to Access Information Law, to ensure the security, privacy and ethical use of data.

3.11.2 Classify all its data assets in alignment with the National Data Classification Policy and the National Data Standards and implement data classification automated systems for applying classification labels and publish classification levels as Metadata attributes in the Data Catalog.

3.12 Data Culture & Literacy

The Entity Shall:

3.12.1 Establish a Data Culture & Literacy program, guided by a comprehensive assessment of the current state of data culture and literacy within the Entity, resulting in a detailed change management plan to elevate data management culture across the Entity.

3.12.2 Align its data culture and literacy program with NPC government and semi-government entity enablement program to define training curriculums and learning path for identified learning personas for the Entity.
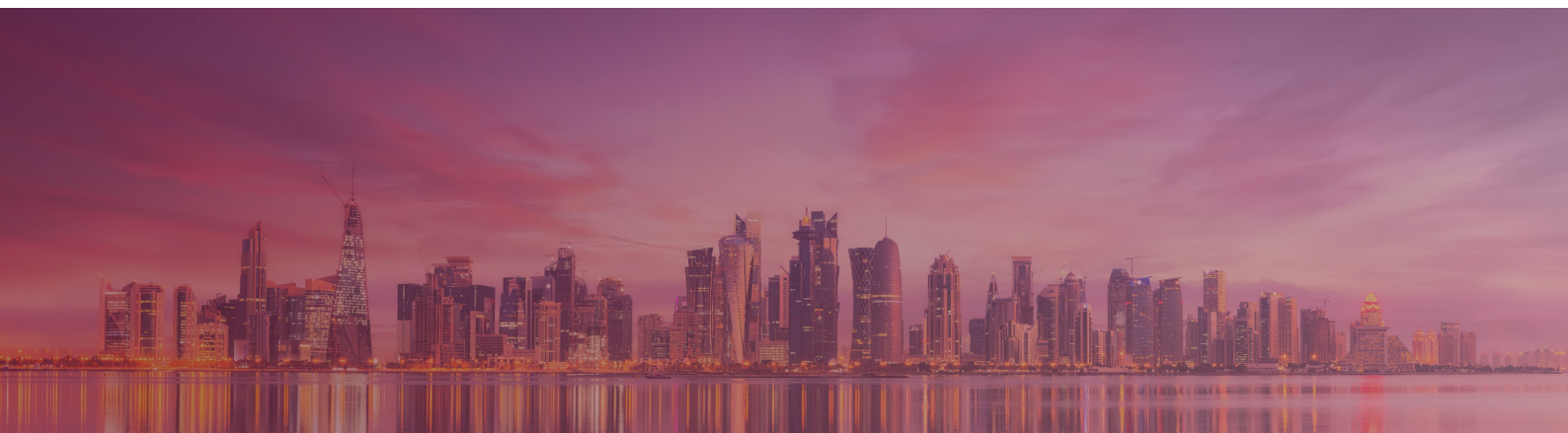
4. Roles and Responsibilities

The National Data Policy serves as a mandatory framework for Government Entities in Qatar to implement enhanced data management practices, under the strategic guidance of NPC. Private Sector Entities are encouraged to adopt these guidelines to align their data management practices to national standards. Successful execution relies on each entity's commitment to these standards, facilitated by the leadership and support of NPC.

This section details the responsibilities of stakeholders involved in upholding and promoting the principles of the National Data Policy. It clarifies the obligations for each party to support the effective realization of the policy's objectives.

4.1 National Planning Council (NPC)

NPC shall provide leadership and strategic direction for the National Data Policy and shall develop the necessary guidelines to ensure that data management is effectively implemented and maintained across all sectors in Qatar. These responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

- **Overall oversight, management, and update of the National Data Policy**

- **Ensure the policy remains aligned with Qatar's national goals and international data management best practices**

- **Provide continuous support and guidance to both entities to facilitate compliance with the policy.**

- **Develop and maintain a compliance framework to assess the adherence to the policy across all sectors, and implement regular audits, inspections, and reviews**

- **Advocate for strong data management practices and raise awareness about the importance and benefits of the policy through various communication channels and platforms.**

- **Engage with various stakeholders to ensure the policy meets the diverse needs of all sectors and to gather feedback for ongoing policy improvement**
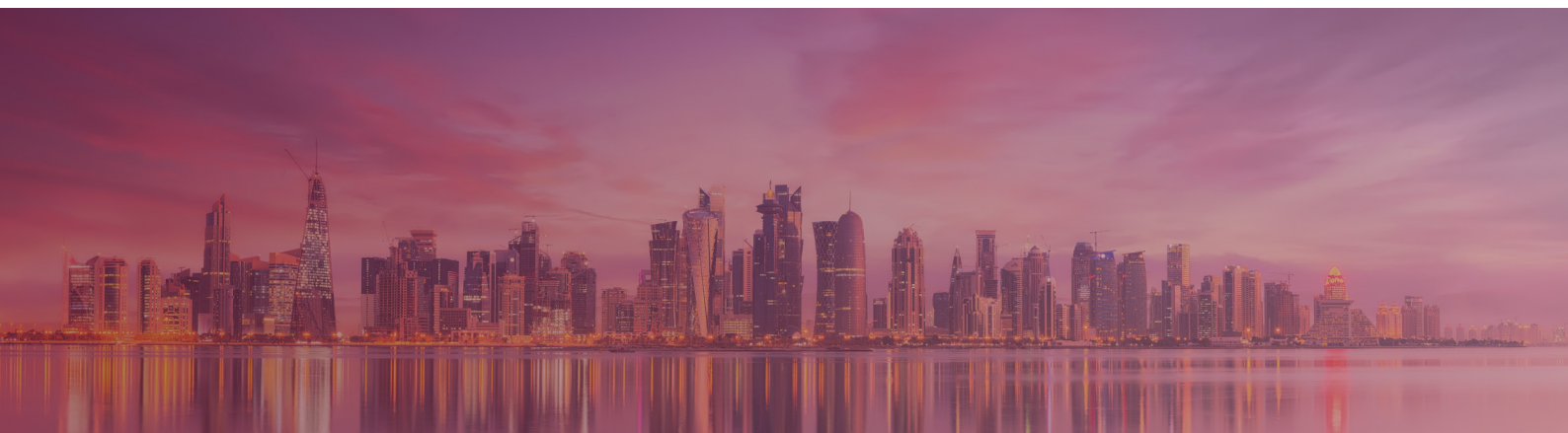
4.2 Government & Semi-Government Entities

All Government and Semi-Government Entities shall bear the primary responsibility for ensuring that the Data Management Program is effectively implemented within their respective organizations. They have explicit responsibility to protect and maximize the value of data assets within their custody. This includes ensuring that data practices align with national cybersecurity, compliance, and policy objectives. Additional responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

- **Ensure that the National Data Policy is implemented effectively within their operations. This includes integrating policy guidelines into existing processes and systems**

- **Conduct regular assessments and audits to ensure compliance with National Data Standards and policies**

- **Set up robust data governance frameworks that clearly define data ownership, stewardship, and accountability within the entity**

- **Implement stringent security measures to protect sensitive and confidential government data against unauthorized access, breaches, and other cyber threats**

- **Provide ongoing training and awareness programs for employees on data management practices, policy compliance, and data security**

- **Regularly report to NPC on data management activities, compliance status, and any challenges encountered by the entity**

- **Establish clear mechanisms for accountability in data management, ensuring that responsibilities are understood and enacted at all levels**

5. Related Legislation, References, & Documents

The following table provides links to all documents and papers related to, or referred in, this policy. Every effort has been made to ensure these links are valid, but there may be times when some or all of their resources may not be available due to their source having been deleted, moved, or replaced.

Legislation	• Law No. (7) of 2002 Protection of Copyright and Neighboring Rights • Law No. (2) of 2011 on Official Statistics • Law No. (13) of 2016 on Personal Data Privacy Protection • Law No. (9) of 2022 Regulating the Right to Access Information • Law No. (14) of 2014 on Cybercrime Prevention
Policies, Standards, or Frameworks	• National Data Classification Policy (May 2023, Version 3.0) • National Information Assurance Standard (May 2023, Version 2.1) • Open Data Policy (November 2014, Version 1.0.2, Ref. P002) • Cloud First Policy (April 2024, Version 1.0.0, Ref. P005) • Qatar National Quality Assurance Framework for Official Statistics in the State of Qatar • National Metadata Framework • National Metadata Schema
Other Links	• 3nd National Development Strategy • Qatar National Vision 2030 • QDG NextGen Strategy 2023-2026 • Qatar National Digital Agenda 2030 • Definition of Data Management and Integration, IT Glossary • Government Data Exchange System • Personal Data Privacy Guidelines • DAMA International Foundation

6. Document Control

Version	Date	Amendments	Author
1.0	October 2024	National Data Policy Release	NPC

This document will be reviewed and updated when changes to the Data Management Policy are required. These amendments may relate to changes in roles and responsibilities, technical infrastructure, or new or changed requirements for the Data Management Policy. Amendments will be approved by NPC (in consultation with appropriate parties).

When approved, a new version of the National Data Policy will be issued, and affected personnel in the entities will be advised of the changes.