

BUILDING GUYANA'S DIGITAL FUTURE – AN INCLUSIVE AND STRATEGIC ICT ROADMAP

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Guyana is poised for a digital transformation. This policy roadmap prioritizes national-level infrastructure and legal foundations, cascades through institutional and sectoral strategies, and culminates in localized, community-driven solutions. It positions ICT as the backbone of education, services, innovation, and entrepreneurship—ensuring that every Guyanese stands to benefit.



1. NATIONAL ICT STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal: Establish a coordinated ICT vision aligned with Guyana's long-term development agenda.

Key Actions:

- Roll out a unified eGovernment platform for licensing, tax, ID services, land records, and more.
- Prioritize broadband expansion nationwide, including remote and underserved regions.
- Launch smart infrastructure programs (e.g., IoT for transport, utilities, environment).
- Promote public-private partnerships, incubators, and skill development to drive innovation.
- Set measurable targets, performance





evaluations, and periodic public reporting.

2. ENABLING LEGISLATION & REGULATION

Goal: Ensure a secure, modern legal foundation for digital transformation and financial inclusion.

Key Actions:

- Fully implement Data Protection legislation with clear privacy standards and enforcement.
- Modernize financial laws to support fintech, ewallets, peer-to-peer platforms, blockchain applications, and initiate an electronic stock exchange pilot for SMEs.
- Activate and strengthen the Universal Service Fund (USF) to finance digital access in underserved regions.
- Establish cybersecurity standards and regulatory oversight across all digital services.

3. DIGITAL GOVERNMENT & OPEN DATA

Goal: Build a transparent, agile, and citizen-centered digital state.

Key Actions:

- Launch a national citizen portal offering seamless access to health, education,

business, and government services.

- Commit to an Open Data Compact: all public-sector data must be machine-readable, accessible, and regularly updated.
- Digitize administrative processes including licensing, permits, land and identity documentation.
- Deploy consistent cybersecurity protections across all ministries and government databases.
- Integrate citizen feedback and analytics to improve service delivery.

4. NATIONAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION NETWORK (NREN)

Goal: Support education and research through a high-speed, secure digital academic backbone.

Key Actions:

- Connect schools and administrative bodies onto a dedicated, secure network.
- Provide shared e-libraries, structured learning material, and collaborative research datasets.
- Automate school administration: attendance, timetables, procurement, assessments, meal ordering.
- Develop teacher and student training



modules and enable peer-to-peer academic collaboration.

5. ICT PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Goal: Foster a thriving ICT business ecosystem that generates employment and innovation.

Key Actions:

- Support tech startups via incubators, accelerators, and focused funding schemes.
- Offer strategic tax incentives and relief for ICT-based enterprises.
- Design financial products through banks to fund technology ventures.
- Create innovation hubs in collaboration with universities to nurture new ideas.
- Form a National ICT Development Commission to coordinate policy and investment.

6. INFRASTRUCTURE & RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Goal: Ensure reliable power and connectivity to enhance digital equity.

Key Actions:

- Deploy decentralized power solutions (solar minigrids, hybrid microgrids) to support ICT hubs in remote areas.
- Integrate IoT monitoring for water, electricity, and agricultural applications to optimize resources.
- Coordinate infrastructure development with other initiatives (e.g., Smart Villages and community centers).

CONCLUSION

The **AFC IVT Policy** offers a multi-tiered, cohesive strategy to build Guyana's digital future—from national systems to empowered communities. Implementing this will position Guyana as a digitally inclusive, economically dynamic, and globally competitive society.

7. SMART VILLAGES (HINTERLAND DIGITIZATION)

Goal: Empower hinterland and remote communities through broadband connectivity and digital inclusion.

Key Actions:

- Build community ICT centers with public WiFi hotspots and charging stations.
- Extend connectivity and devices to schools, clinics, and community halls.
- Offer local ICT training in digital literacy, financial services, e-commerce, and agritech.
- Enable telehealth, tele-education, remote work, and market access through digital platforms.
- Support local data collection and analytics to empower planning and governance at the village level.

8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Goal: Ensure lasting impact through local participation and ownership.

Key Actions:

- Engage community members via local advisory councils to guide ICT initiatives.
- Train local digital champions to maintain and expand ICT services.
- Integrate green, energy-efficient technologies and conservation practices.
- Promote inclusive digital entrepreneurship, focusing on youth and women-led initiatives.

