

These guidelines establish a standardized framework for data classification, access, and protection of government data across the Government of Rwanda.

It defines clear data classification levels based on sensitivity and introduces practical measures for managing data access, both internally and externally.

These measures include well-defined roles, responsibilities, approval processes, and access controls, which safeguard sensitive information while enabling secure, lawful, and responsible data sharing.

Aligned with Rwanda's digitization efforts, cybersecurity standards, AI governance frameworks, and open data policies, the guideline wants to balance data accessibility with robust safeguards. Fostering a secure and trusted environment enables evidence-informed decision-making, improves public service delivery, and national development.

To address existing challenges in data classification and access, the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), as the custodian of national data governance² and government data stewardship³, have developed these guidelines to provide clear and actionable protocols.

These protocols promote interoperability, transparency, accountability, and trust in the use of government data. Furthermore, they ensure that all data is managed in accordance with ethical principles, existing legal and regulatory frameworks, and the evolving demands of a digitally empowered society.

Reference document (PDF)

- [National Data Classification and Access Guideline. final.pdf \(pdf, 427.47 KB\)](#)
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