NON-PERSONAL DATA GOVERNANCE
PROCESSES AND STRUCTURES FOR INDIA
A proposal

This report discusses possible governance processes and structures to galvanize data economy for India. The governance framework discusses data access, data disclosure norms, data quality and standards, user charges, usage rights, ethics and fair use of data, and data monitoring and security. The proposal considers the procedures involved in various stages of operation and suggests mechanisms to develop the data ecosystem to enable, encourage and authorize data exchange to increase value creation in the economy and promote innovation.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in May 2022 issued a draft on the National Data Governance Framework Policy (NDGFP) with increased emphasis on sharing of non-personal data (NPD) for building a large repository of India-specific datasets. This report draws a data governance framework, in other words, policies and procedures for managing the NPD data assets. In the absence of such a framework, the data assets are at risk of becoming fragmented, inaccurate, and non-compliant with relevant regulations and standards.

Data governance refers to ethical methods of handling data throughout the data life cycle, namely, from collection to use and eventual disposal. In other words, data governance entails setting of internal guidelines/data policies to control how data gets gathered, processed, kept, and disposed. Compliance with external standards established by legal regulations forms another aspect of data governance.

This report addresses mechanisms for the regulation of NPD. It addresses issues of Data Access and Disclosure, Data Quality and Standards, Usage Rights, User Charges and Pricing, Ethical and Fair Use of Data, Policy Monitoring and Enforcement and Redressal Mechanisms.