KEY FINDINGS
In the GDB report, Malaysia had shown high performance in many indicators compared to counterparts in the region. While Malaysia had shown strengths in terms of data capabilities and digital infrastructure with a widespread national strategic plan, there may be potential to further improve data availability. Malaysia might also want to explore uses of data directly in decision making in order to identify data and structural gaps that are present, especially with respect to data management which still lack any framework in the country.

CAPABILITIES
There is evidence of sustained and institutionalized capabilities. Training for public servants at national level in line with Public Sector ICT Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and Public Sector Digitalization Plan 2021-2025. The government has an open data platform such as the Malaysia Open Data Platform spearheaded by a dedicated open government team under MAMPU. With respect to government support for data re-use, the plans is also underlined in the digitalization plan indicated under Thrust 1 (T1), Strategy 2 (S2), Program 1 (P2), Activity 2, page 41, ‘Strengthening the open data innovation for innovative and competitive data product development’.

GOVERNANCE
Data protection in Malaysia has a framework and full force of law, specifically the Personal Data Protection Act 2010 in addition to public consultation paper published in 2020 reviewing the act. Whereas data sharing frameworks exists but lacks full force of law; covering nationally within government, as well as from other sectors to government. The framework does not cover within the private sector.

On the other hand, no framework exists for data management.

AVAILABILITY
Malaysia has data available for company register, existing land use, asset declarations, budget and spend data, public procurement data, climate vulnerability, vital statistics and COVID-19 vaccinations. Most of these data are also updated timely, available free of charge and openly licensed, with exception to company register data. However, there is low availability of data in areas such as biodiversity, beneficial ownership, lobbying data, public consultation data, political finance data and vital statistics.

USE AND IMPACT
There is evidence of usage of company information to support due diligence, as well as usage of government procurement data to improve procurement practice. For the former, there is evidence that the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM) consistently conduct new product developments via the MyDATA-SSM portal namely ‘Particulars of company secretary’, ‘Audit firm profile’ and ‘Company listing’. However, they do not make use of open datasets. Whereas for the latter, there were participants from MAMPU in the Presidential Hackathon 2019 where they had developed a data-driven innovation “Cartelogy” to detect the existence of fraudulent offers in government procurement.
Achieved independence in 1957, Malaysia is a Federal Constitutional Elective country with Westminster Parliamentary System situated in the Southeast Asia region. In 2022, Malaysia has a population of 33.2 million where 77% live in the urban areas. After revising the national poverty line in 2020, 5.6% of the households live in absolute poverty. Malaysia is also one of the most open economies globally, with trade to GDP ratio of over 130%. In 2021, Malaysia's GDP grew 3.1%.

**SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND**

DATA ECOSYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY

The government obtains data through its operations from companies and individuals under various legislations, except for the data protection act which only covers private sector.

Private companies obtain data for commercial purposes under the Personal Data Protection Act 2010.

The government has an open data platform such as the Malaysia Open Data Platform (https://www.data.gov.my/) and a data sharing framework exists covering within government as well as between government and other sectors.

NOTES:


OTHER INDICATORS

- Internet users among population: 90%
- Urban, 84% R&D contribution to GDP
- Rural, 94%
- Internet access, urban & rural
- Average monthly broadband traffic per subscription: 17.1K

NOTES:

The Global Data Barometer 2022 is a collaborative project that aims to measure the state of data in relation to urgent societal issues. Building on the Open Data Barometer, which has been used to drive policymaking, advocacy, and academic research, the survey was implemented from May 2019 - May 2021 to create a benchmark encompassing data governance, capability, availability, and use and impact of data for public data.

Full report and downloadable datasets can be found here: https://globaldatabarometer.org/.