

# Technology Sovereign Consortium (TSC), the simple, sensible case

TSC is a Mauritian, privately owned company created to build and look after the tech “plumbing” the country increasingly relies on—cables, data centres, cyber-trust services, and the know-how to use them well. It works *with* public bodies but doesn’t raid the public purse. Think of it as a domestically rooted, mission-driven utility for the digital age—run with private discipline, delivering public value.

## What TSC is trying to achieve (without the jargon)

- **Keep Mauritius connected and in control.** Replace/augment the ageing SAFE route with a new international cable so the island’s lifelines—banking, trade, health, education—are not at the mercy of a single, distant pipe.
- **Keep critical data on the island.** Build a modern, energy-efficient **sovereign data centre** and the basics around it (power deals, cooling standards, proper laws and audit trails) so sensitive workloads can live here, not “somewhere out there”.
- **Raise national digital confidence.** Help citizens—especially **senior Mauritians**—use modern tools safely and comfortably: practical training, trusted e-ID, and friendly support rather than techno-babble.
- **Do it all domestically.** On-shore companies, Mauritian governance, and transparent oversight—so control doesn’t quietly wander overseas.

The cloud may sound airy, but sovereignty starts with assets you can actually visit—cable landing stations, racks, fibre, and people who know what they’re doing.

## How coordination with government and national enterprises actually works

TSC doesn’t “duplicate government”; it **translates policy into plant** and keeps it running to contracted service levels.

- Who we work with
  - **SIL** (State Informatics Ltd): aligns platforms, data standards and sovereign-cloud usage so ministries aren’t building parallel silos.
  - **Mauritius Telecom** / My.T and other carriers: provide backbone and last-mile integration; they help light the new cable and feed local Internet Exchange capacity.
  - **ICTA** (and trust-service authorities): ensure regulatory coherence—e-signature, time-stamping, identity and auditability that courts and auditors will accept.
  - **Relevant ministries, SOEs and MRIC**: anchor demand (the workloads) so investments are bankable from day one.

- How the work is split
  - **Public side:** sets standards, nominates anchor usage, and—where a public asset is involved—runs a straightforward PPP lane (availability-based contracts with clear KPIs).
  - **TSC side (private):** raises capital, builds/operates the kit, signs vendor contracts, and delivers SLAs; if we miss a target, **service credits** bite automatically.
- Why this is clean and quick
  - A **mission-locked sponsor** (Company Limited by Guarantee with a golden share) safeguards purpose.
  - A regulated **TSC Manager Ltd** executes under FSC oversight.
  - Investments sit in a **VCC with incorporated sub-fund companies**—each project ring-fenced, governed, and reported locally. In short: accountability you can point at.

We insist on **competition at procurement** (to keep prices honest) and **collaboration in operation** (to keep the lights on).

## Why this is good for every stakeholder

- **Government**  
Demonstrates visible nation-building—resilience, domestic jobs, lower latency, safer data—**without direct budget outlay**. Policy intent converts into ownable, on-shore assets; contracts and independent certification provide receipts rather than rhetoric.
- **Citizens (especially seniors)**  
Better, faster, more reliable services—and hand-held digital inclusion so no one is left behind.
- **Businesses & SMEs**  
Local capacity means fewer outages and fewer hoops for compliance; shared “rails” (data centre, cyber trust, interconnection) lower cost and complexity.
- **Operators & ISPs**  
More traffic stays local; peering and edge capacity improve performance for everyone.
- **Investors & CSR contributors**  
Bankable infrastructure with familiar cash flows (availability payments, reserved capacity, ports/cross-connects, managed cyber services) and **transparent KPI dashboards**. The model is commercial, but the benefits are national.

## Where we start (the first three programmes)

1. **New international cable (Connectivity & Edge).** Replace/augment SAFE to de-risk the island’s single-point exposure and cut latency where it actually hurts.
2. **Sovereign data centre (Data Infrastructure).** Energy-disciplined design (PPAs, efficiency, backup done properly), open interconnection, and compliance baked in from day one.
3. **Senior population evangelisation.** Practical training, secure digital identity, and easy pathways to public and banking services—because resilience counts for nothing if people can’t use it.

## Why the funding logic is “obvious” (and light on the Exchequer)

- **Private capital first.**  
TSC is a **private consortium**; projects sit in incorporated sub-fund companies that raise equity and (where appropriate) debt against contracted demand.
- **CSR as a national flywheel.**  
With government recognition, TSC can be listed to receive the statutory **2% CSR** contributions—directed to measurable, island-wide digital inclusion and resilience. Donors get traceable impact and proper reporting; the country gets durable capability.
- **Public value, private discipline.**  
Government’s role is to set standards, anchor usage and clear lanes; TSC’s role is to finance, build and run. The result is nation-building **without a new line item in the Budget**.

## How you’ll know it’s working

We publish simple, unambiguous metrics that matter to non-engineers:

- **Uptime and latency** (by route and zone)
- **Incident response times** and **service credits paid**
- **Adoption:** workloads migrated, SOC coverage, local traffic at the IXP
- **Efficiency:** PUE trend, utilisation, cost-per-Gbps
- **Talent:** accredited professionals trained, apprenticeships delivered
- **Clean audits** and compliance check-offs, in black and white—no hand-waving.

## The upshot

If Mauritius wants digital sovereignty, the cheapest moment is **before** it’s desperately needed. TSC is a pragmatic way to get there: **public purpose, private discipline; domestic control, international-grade execution**. It lets government *show* commitment to national development, while the consortium quietly gets on with the paperwork, procurement and performance that make the promise real.