

Government Resource Planning (GRP) Digital Transformation and Cloud Computing

Situation

- Cloud computing has been presented as business and government digital transformation
- Numerous cloud computing deployment modalities are used in government including: private cloud (government data centre shared services), community cloud (shared among public sector entities), sovereign cloud (authorized businesses like country telcos), and public cloud
- Computing resources are cloud deployed as Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), and variations of the three
- Despite scale and cybersecurity benefits, governments are late public cloud adopters

Complication

Governments experience:

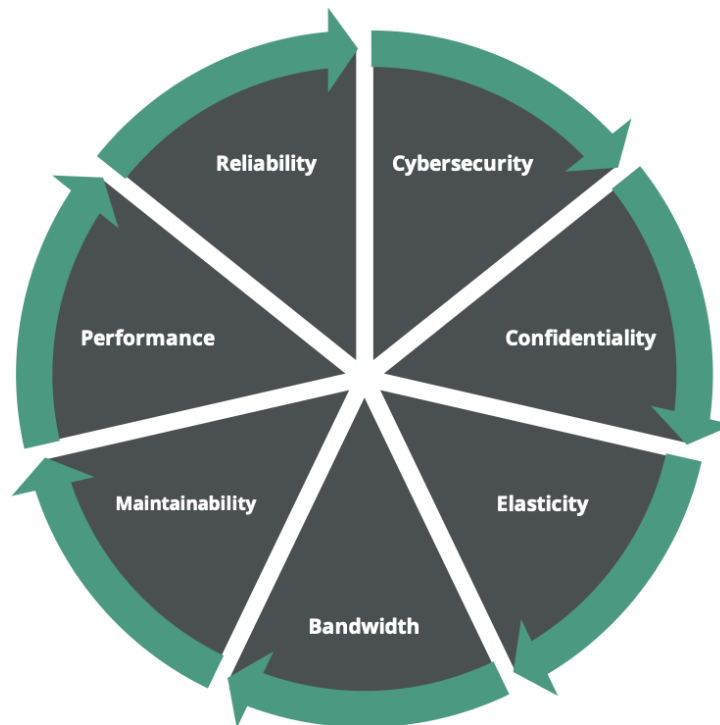
- poor Financial Management Information System¹ (FMIS) computing infrastructure performance, elasticity, reliability, and cybersecurity compared to the private sector and public cloud providers
- public cloud computing sovereignty concerns
- lack of needed FMIS functionality from SaaS application vendors
- increasing pressure to reduce capital expenditures (CapEx)
- the realization that cloud computing, regardless of modality, is not digital transformation

Question

How can governments leverage cloud computing for FMIS effectiveness and digital transformation?

Solution

FreeBalance has developed cloud computing [advisory services](#) for governments considering more efficient FMIS deployment as a subset of the [GRP Evaluation](#) offering. This uses templates to evaluate FMIS “non-functional” capabilities including security, maintainability, reliability, and performance. This analysis recommends deployment options for test, training, and production environments by security concerns and legal provisions. FreeBalance will recommend legal provision changes when public cloud offerings are available, meet strict cybersecurity and sovereignty requirements, and reliable bandwidth is available.



FreeBalance recognizes that public cloud computing is not digital transformation, rather an enabler of digital transformation in some circumstances. Enablers include using cloud for

¹ Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) FMIS software designed exclusively for PFM, like the FreeBalance Accountability Suite™, is known as Government Resource Planning (GRP)

testing digital initiatives, processing large amounts of data for migration, and leveraging SaaS GovTech offerings integrated with FMIS systems of record, FreeBalance identifies digital transformation opportunities in the cloud. For example, transparency portals could deploy via public clouds while transactions are managed exclusively in government data centres.

Knowledge of deployment benefits helped FreeBalance to develop the cloud-portable [FreeBalance Accountability Suite](#). This Government Resource Planning² (GRP) offering deploys on all cloud modalities without modification. Governments leverage this capability to migrate functionality to public cloud infrastructures in stages.

Appendix: Supporting Material

Supporting FreeBalance blog entry

- [Government Resource Planning and The Cloud](#)

² GRP is Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) software designed exclusively for government