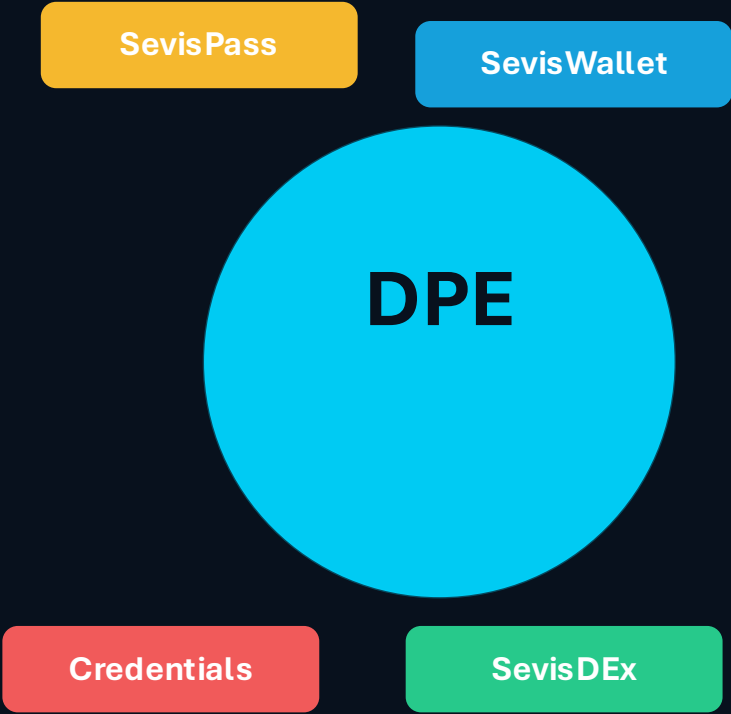


Building a Digital Public Ecosystem

From Vision to Execution

Papua New Guinea’s pathway from policy, cloud and cybersecurity foundations to a citizen-facing ecosystem of identity, wallet, data exchange, banks, telcos and verifiable credentials.



2025–2026

Execution window

DPI → DPE

Strategic shift

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1. Papua New Guinea Context



A diverse island nation building digital rails for inclusion

11.87m

Population

South Pacific

Location

Developing state

Economic context

Highly diverse

Geography & culture

Neighbouring countries and territories: Indonesia to the west, Australia to the south, and Solomon Islands to the east.

Strategic challenge: reach citizens across terrain, islands, languages and institutions — while building trust in digital transactions.

3. What We Did to Get There

The execution runway was built before launch

2020–2023 was not a waiting period. It created the legal, institutional, cloud and cyber foundations required for DPI to operate as a national ecosystem.

Policy + Legal Framework

Government Cloud Adoption, Cybersecurity, Data Governance and Protection

Ministry Restructure

Capability and mandate alignment inside the ICT portfolio

Whole-of-Government Cloud

Shared hosting and standardised digital government infrastructure

Cybersecurity Centre + SOC

National capability for monitoring, response and trusted operations

Foundation principle: national digital execution succeeds when policy, institutions, hosting and security mature together.

4. Lessons for Building a Digital Public Ecosystem

The lesson is not just “build DPI”. The lesson is “activate the ecosystem”.

1

DPI is not the destination

Digital ID and DPI rails are means; the objective is a Digital Public Ecosystem.

2

Policy must be agile

Policy formulation must move through iterative design, pilots, regulation and feedback.

3

Whole-of-government cooperation is non-negotiable

Data anchors, regulators, service agencies and delivery partners must move together.

4

PPP reduces execution risk

Partnership with technology providers helps manage budget uncertainty, political uncertainty and procurement constraints.

Vision → Policy → Platform → Partners → Adoption