


Israel

Delivering cloud vision through Nimbus

Press releases

The Israeli Government is Moving to the Cloud – Providers of Cloud Services to the Government in the Nimbus Project are Chosen

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Providers of Cloud Services to the Government in the Nimbus Project are Chosen

The Tenders Committee of the Procurement Administration in the Accountant General's Department has announced that Amazon (AWS) and Google are the winners of the Tender to provide cloud services to the Government in the first part of the Nimbus Project, after they successfully completed their obligations as Tender candidates.

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The Israeli government announces its decision to move to the cloud as part of the Nimbus project

Challenge

In 2016, Israel's government set the vision for a digital nation. The benefits would include more social and economic opportunity for all its citizens and deliver public services more efficiently. The strategy initially envisaged a hybrid model of on-premises and cloud technology, with a balance of approximately 80 per cent on the former. However, after a three-year review of options, Israel decided to take a primarily cloud-based approach. This digital modernisation project is known as [Nimbus](#).

Solution

The Ministry of Finance's Government Procurement Administration (GPA) set up a core team, known as the Nimbus Committee, to oversee the project. As well as the GPA leader, the core team included senior leaders from a range of relevant functions, as well as drawing on external expertise as needed. For example, the team included the head of the government ICT authority, a representative

of the legal bureau in the Ministry of Finance, the department of budgets in the Ministry of Finance and the National Cyber Formation.

In the first phase, they conducted research in order to write the tender document. They issued this in February 2019. The GPA designed the [project](#) as a multi-layer tender. The first layer is the provision of cloud services. Layer two provides Cloud Center of Excellence (CCoE) services. Layer three delivers modernisation and migration services through 50 suppliers. At a later date, layer four will provide monitoring and optimisation services and layer five will add third-party services, which will be offered via a private AWS marketplace.

It took six iterations and involved talks with cloud providers, whose offers were evaluated on the basis of infrastructure, services, physical, virtual and operational security, quality, training provision, support levels and pricing, among other factors. In May 2021, [the government announced it had selected AWS, amongst its cloud providers](#).

Result

The Israeli government accelerated and simplified the procurement process through this initiative. Instead of operational teams investing time and resources in negotiating terms and conditions for each digital project, they can focus on their core activities where they deliver most value.

Departments have access to more than 185 digital services at pre-negotiated rates. These include analytics, application integration, blockchain, business applications, customer engagement, databases, development tools, front-end web and mobile, game tech, the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, management and governance, media services, migration, networking, content delivery, quantum technology, robotics, satellite, security and virtual reality. The fifth layer of Nimbus will include additional third-party services, offered on a central private marketplace designed for the Israeli government.

[The Israeli government has predicted](#) that its move to the cloud will boost its economy, improve citizen services and promote financial efficiency. Head of the GPA, Gal Amir, referenced the importance that clear vision had in achieving the result. Amir's [official statement](#) noted, "This project is the result of a vision, a high standard of professional capabilities, commitment and investment, with the emphasis on cross-governmental cooperation led by the Nimbus team – an integrative inter-ministerial team that has turned this vision into a reality."

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