

Salary Band 4T	Data Economy Advisor in the Digital Transformation Centre South Africa
Reports to:	Head of Component – Climate Support Programme IV
Duty Station	Hatfield, Pretoria
Duration	until 30 November 2025

BACKGROUND:

As an international organization commissioned by the **German Federal Ministry of Development (BMZ), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH** provides international cooperation service for sustainable development in a wide variety of areas, including energy, environment, digitalization, employment, and economic development. We work with partners all over the world across different sectors towards building a future worth living for every individual.

The **Digital Transformation Centre (DTC)** is part of a global initiative of GIZ, it is a virtual or physical hub that enables local innovation worldwide and promotes digital solutions for sustainable development. The DTC combines innovation, technical know-how, inclusive and collaborative participation, digital knowledge as well as research and entrepreneurial drive. The major goal of establishing DTCs in partner countries is to systematically strengthen the ecosystem and local capacities for digital transformation. There are 9 modules that a DTC can encompass which include Digital Government, Disruptive Technologies, Innovation Promotion, Cyber Security, Digital Skills, Green Digital Transformation, Digital Economy, Digital Health, and Women in Tech.

The establishment of a DTC in South Africa would focus on the module “Green Digital Transformation”, which will include leveraging the use of digital technologies for South Africa’s Just Energy / Climate Transition. In addition, the DTC would support other modules such as Digital Skills, Digital Economy, Women in Technology, and Innovation Promotion through the existing GIZ projects and initiatives in South Africa. Thereby, the activities of the DTC would evolve around policy advice, the conceptualization of digital technology driven use cases (particularly Blockchain and Data – why are we only mentioning these? What

about other use cases that can be enabled by other 4IR technologies such as AI, Drones, Virtual Reality, etc?), capacity development for relevant stakeholders.

Data Economy Project

The Data Economy Project is part of the Global Digital Transformation Programme, commissioned by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), with the overall aim of improving the conditions for a value-generating data economy together with the digital ecosystem at all levels – macro, meso and micro level. In South Africa, the project will be embedded with the DTC, and its activities will be centered around the following three major components:

1. Data value-creation focuses on improving the conceptual foundation for scaling data-driven use cases that are geared towards local data value creation. It involves the identification of feasible and economically viable data-driven use cases together with interested actors in the digital ecosystem and building on experiences of relevant actors and initiatives. It also entails supporting the development of secure and interoperable data infrastructure with the digital ecosystem based on selected principles of data sovereignty.
2. Data capacities entail strengthening the competences of the national digital ecosystem actors for value-adding data economy. This includes conducting a needs assessment to better understand the knowledge or skills gaps that might impede the potentials of the data economy and conducting capacity building measures on this basis. It covers a broad range of data-related aspects including data protection and regulation, data sovereignty, data value chains, trust mechanisms for data exchange and climate friendly application of data-based approaches.
3. Data Policies component involves empowering Pan African decision makers in the digital ecosystem to shape a value-added data economy by supporting with establishing an enabling regulatory environment in which the data economy can thrive. This includes the provision of technical support in designing national data strategy, data governance frameworks, guidelines, policies, or standards.
4. Support the regulatory framework for the use of digital innovations to ensure sustainable use of data-driven innovations enabling the digital ecosystem to develop, critically review, and leverage innovative digital solutions for a Just Transition. This includes the strengthening of digital and data capabilities based on the needs of

various stakeholders, including policymakers and civil society, with a focus on developing workshops and trainings to increase expertise on data-driven value creation and use cases.

5. Data use cases: Support local development of data-driven use cases focused on supporting climate action (e.g., smart energy, green hydrogen supply chain tracking). This involves the identification of locally feasible and economically viable use cases including relevant stakeholders of the digital ecosystem (e.g., civil society, entrepreneurs, policy makers).

Against this backdrop, we seek a committed, motivated, and highly skilled individual to implement the Data Economy Project's activities within the DTC in South Africa.

A. RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Advisor is responsible for:

- ❖ Supporting the implementation of the DTC's activities relating to data-driven use cases,
- ❖ Supporting the implementation of the DTC's activities relating to enhancing stakeholders' capacities on utilizing data for value creation and climate action,
- ❖ Develop and foster partnerships across all levels including the public sector, private sector, academia, and civil society,
- ❖ Support the development of secure and interoperable data infrastructure based on selected principles for Just Energy / Climate Transition,
- ❖ Effectively managing a network of local and regional project partners as well as steering of consultants and other service providers,
- ❖ Developing ownership for the overall project concept and its delivery; pro-actively identifying opportunities and supporting the project manager in updating the approach according to the latest developments and the needs of the digital ecosystem
- ❖ Support planning, procurement processes, financial management and monitoring of the project activities,
- ❖ Contribute actively to reports (regular and ad-hoc), PR materials, and other related tasks to reporting and communication for the DTC, and

- ❖ Coordinate closely with the other projects within the DTC and beyond to ensure alignment.

B. TASKS

The Advisor will perform the following tasks under disciplinary supervision of the Head of Digital Transformation Centre.

Technical advice for implementation of project activities

- ❖ Supporting the implementation of the DTC's activities related to data economy. This includes, e.g.:
 - ✓ Support the implementation of training activities
 - ✓ Draft terms of reference for the DTC's activities to mobilise external expertise
 - ✓ Review, comment and accompany the set-up of potential financial agreements, and
 - ✓ Support activities by implementing partners, follow-up and ensure that quality results are delivered in a timely manner

Project management

- ❖ Actively support project planning for data economy activities within the DTC,
- ❖ Prepare and manage consultancy assignments and financing agreements, and monitor service providers in completing their tasks,
- ❖ Support in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project activities, and reporting,
- ❖ Manage meetings and events with partners, service providers and other relevant stakeholders (preparation, implementation, follow-up),
- ❖ Support knowledge management and public relation of the programme, including documentation of lessons learnt, best practices, case studies and success stories , and
- ❖ Support the preparation of communication materials and progress updates to BMZ and other stakeholders.

Partnerships and network management

- ❖ Initiate and foster partnerships with government, private sector, academia, and civil society actors in South Africa for the DTC,
- ❖ Manage a network of project partners consisting of South African stakeholders, and
- ❖ Support in keeping positive and productive relations with implementing partners, and other stakeholders

Other duties/additional tasks

- ❖ Perform other duties and tasks as assigned

C. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS, COMPETENCIES AND EXPERIENCES

The advisor should have the following qualifications, competences, and experiences:

Educational Qualifications

- ❖ Master's degree in computer science, computer engineering, information and communication technology, data science, or related field

Professional Experience:

- ❖ At least 4-5 years of work experience in related field
- ❖ Substantial experience in project management (conceptualisation, planning, coordination, steering, monitoring)
- ❖ A good understanding of digital and data related technologies and trends.
- ❖ Exposure to different Software Development Methodologies and Programming Languages
- ❖ At least 2-4 years in Requirements Analysis
- ❖ At least 1-2 years in Software Design and Development
- ❖ Very good understanding of the use of data for climate action and green and sustainable energy
- ❖ Proven skills and experience in networking and fostering partnerships. An existing network in the digital ecosystem in South Africa and beyond is an advantage
- ❖ Experience in working with and/or advising government institutions on digital topics; a focus on a climate will be an advantage
- ❖ Work experience in development cooperation is desired

Other knowledge, additional competences

- ❖ Excellent communication and presentation skills
- ❖ Demonstrated ability to communicate in both written and spoken English at high level. Knowledge of local languages is an advantage.
- ❖ Ability and willingness to work in a dynamic team under minimal supervision
- ❖ Strong interpersonal skills and a willingness to cooperate effectively with colleagues and partners
- ❖ Self-starter, who works independently and has a flexible attitude but is a strong team player simultaneously

- ❖ Very good working knowledge of ICT technologies (related software, phone, email, internet), Excel and other computer applications (e.g. MS Office).
- ❖ Proficiency in English language and South African Languages

D. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ❖ The position will be based at the GIZ Offices in **Hatfield, Pretoria**. The willingness for regular business trip in the region is expected.
- ❖ The contract period for this position is until **30 November 2025 in line with the commissioning period of the project**
- ❖ At GIZ, you will be offered global network and an atmosphere that is characterised by diversity, respect, and genuine equal opportunities. Gender equality promotion is a matter of course for us.
- ❖ GIZ is a signatory of the Diversity Charter. Recognition, appreciation and inclusion of diversity in the company are important to us. All employees shall be valued - regardless of gender and gender identity, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, social background, age or sexual orientation.
- ❖ GIZ would like to increase the proportion of employees with disability. Applications from persons with disabilities are most welcome.
- ❖ The successful candidate will be expected to start full-time employment with GIZ on a fixed-term contract as soon as possible.

E. APPLICATION PROCESS

GIZ will only assess applications which meet the following criteria:

Suitable candidates should apply by submitting a

- ❖ A motivation letter (**max. 1 page**) stating why they should be the preferred candidate, the value added they will bring to the project and **their desired salary range.**
- ❖ This should be accompanied by a **detailed CV and indicating their nationality.**

Applications should be submitted to: recruit-pretoria@giz.de, with the email subject line “**Application for Data Economy Advisor in the Digital Transformation Centre South Africa**” for the attention of Head of Human Resource.

Closing date for applications: **13th August 2024.**

Only shortlisted for interview will be contacted.

Applications without a Cover letter will not be considered!