

Cloud computing, a business model that delivers computing services over the Internet in an elastic self-serviced, self-managed, cost-effective manner while guaranteeing quality of service, will sooner rather than later be a tangible reality in Kenya.

Courtesy of the Government of Kenya Cloud Strategy launched a few months ago at the Connected East Africa Summit in Mombasa, virtually all of the country's affairs will be run on the cloud possibly before we usher in Vision 2030.

All things being equal, meaning: there is a competent support team in Government for cloud computing, governance structure in the National ICT Master Plan is operationalized, change within Government is executed, legal and regulatory frameworks that encourage and support the adoption of cloud computing are established, a reliable Government ICT infrastructure is realized, funding, especially for scaling and recurrent expenditure is available, and there is active engagement and participation of County Governments, Kenya will be running efficiently on the cloud in the days to come.

To be pursued, in consideration of the various needs of Government and the characteristics of the data, applications, platforms and infrastructure, is a hybrid approach to cloud services.

The Private and Public cloud offerings will conveniently come with Software as a Service (SaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), as well as Platform as a Service (PaaS) alternatives.