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Creating a Sovereign Cloud Platform for South Africa

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Sovereign cloud is an increasingly important topic. Nations and businesses are realising that cloud solutions provided by foreign companies, even when deployed in South Africa, are subject to foreign laws. These laws enable states compel these companies to provide data from users of cloud platforms regardless of where they are deployed. In addition, geopolitics has become erratic and vindictive. Trade barriers are erected and removed at a whim creating substantial uncertainty. This is unstable ground on which to build infrastructure of national importance. NICIS, as a provider of cyberinfrastructure, has experience localising technology and building services for the research community. This talk explores NICIS' efforts to address the lack of a sovereign cloud platform in South Africa and the progress that has been made.

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