


Curaçao as a Trusted Digital Gateway

Anchoring Sovereignty, Connectivity,
and Trust in the Caribbean



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Curaçao has a unique opportunity to position itself as the Trusted Digital Gateway of the Caribbean — leveraging world-class infrastructure, strategic geography, and emerging governance frameworks to lead the region's digital transformation.

Trust Anchor

- Blue NAP Americas
- Neutral Cable Landing Station
- Tier IV / Rated 4 certified

Federated Cloud

- Caribbean Datacenter Association
- GAIA-X aligned model
- Regional & global partners

Data Sovereignty

- Data Embassies
- Disaster recovery
- Legal sovereignty

"Curaçao: Where Data Meets Trust — Anchoring Sovereignty, Connectivity, and Resilience in the Caribbean."

BLUE NAP AMERICAS: TRUST INFRASTRUCTURE

Blue NAP Americas serves as the foundation of digital trust in the Caribbean, providing world-class infrastructure certified to the highest international standards.

Certification

Tier IV / Rated 4 Certified Infrastructure

Security

ISO 27001:2024 and additional international security standards

Technology

AI-ready environment with advanced GPU cloud capabilities

Neutral Cable Landing Station (NCLS)

Positioning Blue NAP Americas as a Neutral Cable Landing Station enables open-access connectivity for the entire Caribbean region, acting as a digital crossroads for subsea cable systems.

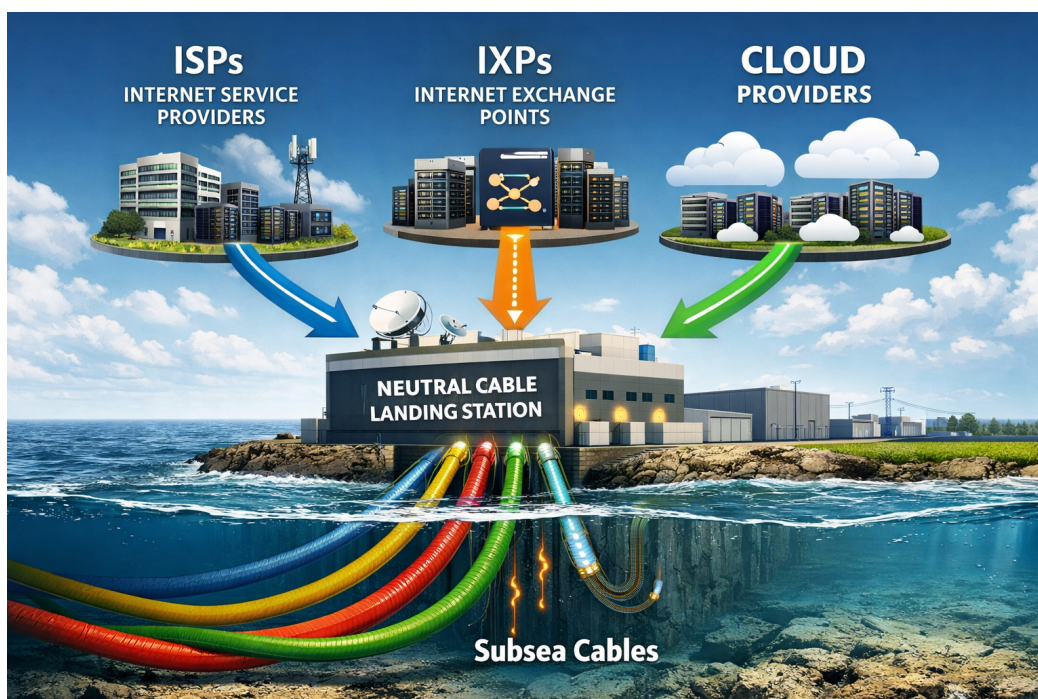


Figure 1: Subsea Cables connecting into Neutral CLS hub and distributing to ISPs, IXPs, and cloud providers



Federated Cloud (GAIA-X Model)

The Caribbean Datacenter Association enables a federated cloud aligned with GAIA-X principles – ensuring data sovereignty, full interoperability, and trusted governance across the Caribbean.



Figure 2: Multiple country data centers interconnected via Gaia-X trust layer

Data Embassies

Data Embassies ensure sovereign data protection and continuity of government operations, providing resilient backup of critical national data in trusted jurisdictions under mutual agreement.



Figure 3: Data Embassies Architecture

Strategic Impact

- ◆ Creation of a digital economy pillar for Curaçao
- ◆ Attraction of AI, cloud, and fintech investments
- ◆ Regional leadership and influence within CARICOM

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Infrastructure: Designate Blue NAP as Neutral CLS

Establishing Blue NAP Americas as a Neutral Cable Landing Station requires a coordinated series of regulatory, legal, and policy actions:

1 Legal Framework

Update telecom laws via the Regulatory Authority of Curaçao (RAC) to allow open-access cable landing stations and non-discriminatory interconnection.

2 Government Policy Decision

Council of Ministers adopts a policy declaring NCLS as strategic national infrastructure and Curaçao as a regional connectivity hub.

3 Licensing & Designation

Formally license Blue NAP Americas as a cable landing station operator and open-access infrastructure provider, with obligations for equal access and transparent pricing.

4 Competition Rules

Introduce a Reference Access Offer (RAO), regulated wholesale tariffs, and non-discriminatory access provisions.

5 Permits & Infrastructure

Approve coastal landing rights along with necessary environmental and construction permits.

6 Security & Sovereignty

Classify NCLS as critical infrastructure and apply comprehensive cybersecurity standards and data governance controls.

7 International Alignment

Enable cable landings via agreements aligned with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU).

8 Final Designation

Issue an official decree and publicly position Curaçao as a Neutral Digital Gateway for the Caribbean.

2. Governance: Establish Data Sovereignty Frameworks

A comprehensive data sovereignty framework is essential to establishing Curaçao as a trusted digital jurisdiction. The following nine pillars form the foundation:

1 National Data Sovereignty Policy

Define a clear national position on data ownership (government, citizens, businesses), data localization versus controlled cross-border sharing, and strategic sectors such as health, finance, and public services.

2 Legal & Regulatory Framework

Update laws under RAC to include data protection and privacy (Kingdom Data Protection Act), data classification requirements, and rules for storing and processing sensitive data locally.

Key Principle: Not all data must stay local, but critical data must remain sovereign.

3 Data Classification System

Create a national classification model with three tiers — Public, Sensitive, and Critical/Sovereign — each defining where data can be stored, who can access it, and whether it can leave the country.

4 Sovereign Infrastructure Layer

Enable trusted infrastructure using Blue NAP Americas for local hosting, the Neutral Cable Landing Station for secure connectivity, and dedicated government cloud environments.

5 Federated Cloud Framework (Regional Scaling)

A federated cloud model is being established by the Caribbean Datacenter Association, Cloud Carib, and Blue NAP Americas — aligned with GAIA-X — ensuring data stays under national control while enabling secure sharing across Caribbean countries via interoperable data spaces.

6 Data Embassies Strategy

Enable sovereign backup of critical data in trusted jurisdictions through reciprocal agreements with partner countries, ensuring continuity of government operations under all scenarios.

7 Cybersecurity & Identity Framework

Implement national cybersecurity standards (ISO 27001 aligned), Zero Trust architecture, and strong digital identity with authentication and access control systems.

8 Governance & Institutional Setup

Establish a National Data Authority / Digital Trust Office with clear roles for regulators, ministries, and operators.

9 International Alignment

Align with the CARICOM Single ICT Space, Caribbean Telecommunications Union, and European data frameworks including GDPR and GAIA-X.

"Data sovereignty is not about isolation; it is about control, trust, and governed participation in the global digital economy."

3. Leadership: Position Curaçao as a Regional Digital Hub

Becoming a recognized digital hub requires a deliberate, multi-dimensional positioning strategy that aligns infrastructure, governance, branding, and international engagement.

1 Define a Clear Global Narrative (Brand Positioning)

Core Message: "Curaçao: The Trusted Digital Gateway of the Caribbean." All communications anchor around Trust (sovereignty, compliance, stability), Connectivity (neutral cable hub, global reach), and Resilience (Tier IV/Rated 4, outside hurricane belt).

2 Develop a Unified National Brand

Create a single digital identity aligned across government, investment agencies, and the private sector – with a visual identity, tagline (e.g., "Where Data Meets Trust"), and consistent storytelling across all platforms.

3 Lead with Thought Leadership

Position Curaçao as a global voice on digital sovereignty and trust through white papers, ministerial speeches at global forums, op-eds in international media, and leadership in the Caribbean Datacenter Association and GAIA-X.

4 Anchor with Flagship Events

Own the narrative through annual flagship events such as Digital Caribbean, regional ministerial roundtables, and investor roadshows – positioning Curaçao as the meeting place for Caribbean digital policy and investment.

5 Targeted International Outreach

Focus on high-value audiences including hyperscalers and cloud providers, AI and tech companies, financial services and fintech, and government Data Embassy clients – with primary focus on European (GDPR-aligned) and Latin American markets.

6 Strategic Partnerships & Endorsements

Build credibility through alignment with CARICOM, Caribbean Telecommunications Union, and ITU – encouraging joint statements, MoUs, and co-branded initiatives.

7 Showcase Real Infrastructure (Proof Over Promises)

Marketing must be backed by tangible assets: Blue NAP Americas (Rated 4/Tier IV), the Neutral Cable Landing Station, and AI/GPU cloud infrastructure. Deploy virtual tours, case studies, and data-driven facts on latency, uptime, and certifications.

8 Digital Presence & Content Strategy

Develop a strong online footprint through a central 'Digital Curaçao' portal, high-impact video storytelling, LinkedIn-driven executive positioning, and data visualizations of cable maps and cloud architecture.

9 Investment Promotion Campaign (CINEX)

Create a dedicated campaign: "Build, Host, and Scale in Curaçao" – including investor kits, incentive frameworks, and fast-track onboarding messaging.

10 Consistent Leadership Messaging

Ensure all leaders – Ministers, regulators, industry – communicate the same narrative, priorities, and ambition. Consistency builds credibility. Credibility builds trust.

"Countries don't become digital hubs by infrastructure alone – they become hubs when the world believes they are."

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BLUE NAP AMERICAS
CONNECTING IDEAS

“Infrastructure builds the digital economy. Trust sustains it.”

This sculpture represents the foundational dynamics of a thriving digital economy, sustained by both visible infrastructure and an essential invisible element: trust.

The ladder symbolizes the public digital infrastructure: secure, resilient, and neutral systems, data centers, connectivity, and cloud platforms that enable digital transformation. It is the visible structure upon which the digital economy is built.

The figure with the blue head, firmly grounded and supporting the ladder, represents Blue NAP Americas staff and partners. They are the guardians of trust, ensuring that the infrastructure is secure, compliant, and continuously available. Their role reflects stability, responsibility, and long-term commitment to sovereignty and reliability.

The figure with the black head, ascending the ladder, represents all participants in the digital economy: governments, businesses, innovators, and citizens. Their upward movement reflects opportunity, innovation, and growth, made possible by their trust in the foundation beneath them.

Yet, what holds everything together is not only what we see.

Trust is the invisible force; it cannot be touched or seen, but it is present in every connection, every transaction, and every decision to participate in the digital economy. It exists in governance, in security, in compliance, and in the confidence that data and systems are protected and sovereign.

Together, the sculptures convey a powerful truth: infrastructure enables the digital economy, but trust sustains it.

*Without trust, the ladder has no meaning.
With trust, the entire ecosystem can rise.*

