

"Future proofing the digitalised Municipal Dx Electricity Utility of the future"



### **ENERGY 4.0**

# How digital transformation is shaping the future electricity sector for SA.

10 Aug 2022





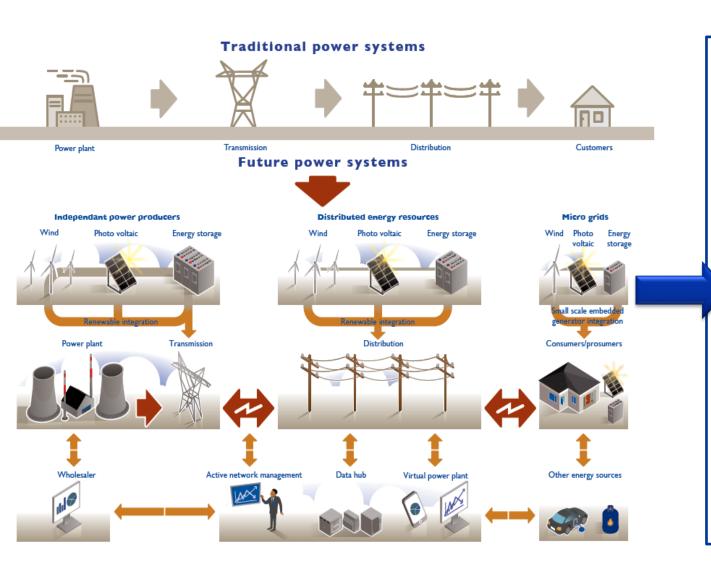


Malcolm Van Harte

**SA Utility problem statement:** Distribution modernisation and SMART grid realisation through integrated systems and networks will increase data generation, availability and access, however only 20% of data is collected and utilised with limited data analytics and data driven decision making.

# Digital revolution in data and processing <u>LEADING</u> to increased threat landscape.





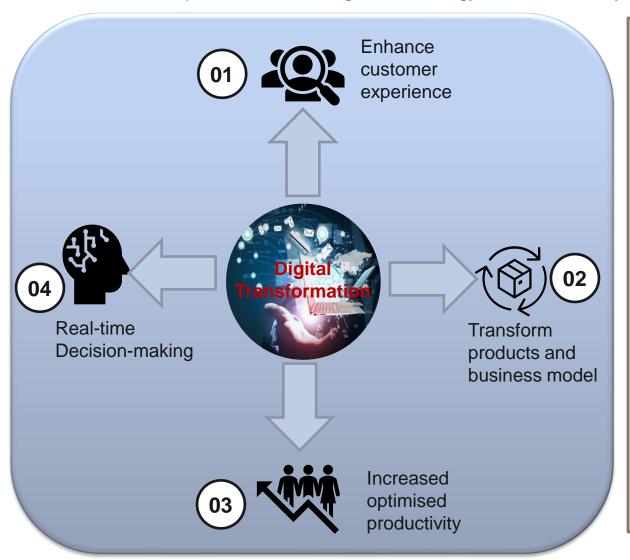
## Benefits of the electricity digital revolution ENERGY 4.0:

- 1.Utilities to address grid instability and imbalance issues caused by intermittent renewable energy generation.
- 2. Interoperability of multiple types of assets, such as renewable generation, sensors, telecom. and flexible loads.
- 3. Use of <u>data and monitoring</u> at industrial sites has also enabled the identification of process inefficiencies and improved asset management practices.
- **4. Demand reduce** of the energy consumption by industries +/- 13-29%.

### **Eskom Digital Transformation**



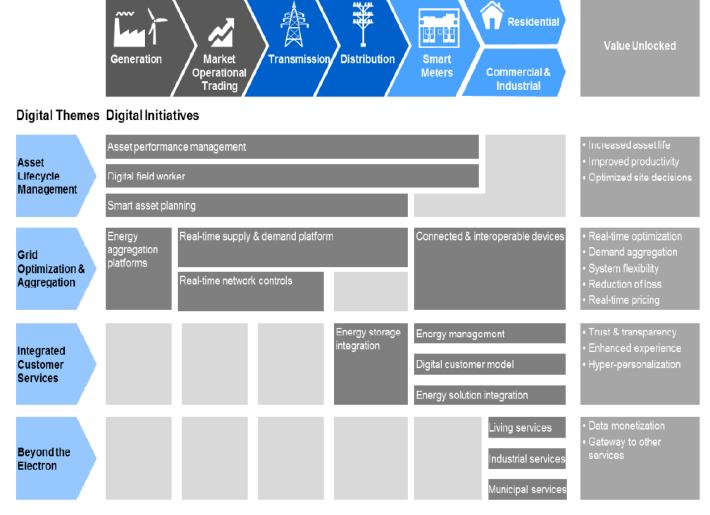
**Emergence of new technologies** such as cloud, artificial intelligence (AI)/machine learning, internet of things (IoT), big data, social media, and other operational technologies, technology risk is continually increasing, and cyber vulnerabilities are being uncovered.



- Empowering and enhancing customers needs and experience.
- The digital transformation of energy is a critical component in the establishment of new business models and products.
- Sustainable energy production and delivery strategies that promote positive change.
  - Embracing innovative technologies and creating an efficient operating model
- Modernization of the grid and systems leads to improved real-time decision making to improve operations.

# Future Horizon – Unlocking Value considering the Digital themes and initiatives ( + 5<sup>th</sup> Theme)





Source: Accenture research for the Digital Transformation of Industries project

Theme 5 - Beyond IoT → Increase the threat landscape and complexity of data analysis and engineering of data to improve decision making

- Four emerging themes.
  - Asset Lifecycle Management, Grid
    Optimization and Aggregation,
    Integrated Customer Services, Beyond
    the Electron
- Significant value for industry and society.
- Analytics and robotics
   Condition monitoring, predictive forecasting, and reliability-center maintenance are all part of the digital initiative,
- 5th Digital Theme increase connectivity can lead to increase of Cybersecurity threats.

**Reference:** Worldbank, "Digital Transformation of Industries: In collaboration with Accenture"

# Digitally interconnected systems could fundamentally transform electricity operations and markets















**EDSO** 

**IPP Connections** 

**BESS** 

SSEG and Microgrids

Smart Charging EVs

SMART Demand response

- Ability to operate active Distribution system (ADMS)
- Neutral facilitator to local, regional and national energy markets
- Management of complex Power System: Smart Grid and DERs
- Facilitate peerto-peer trading

- Integrate variable renewables
- Incentives & making it easier for producers to store and sell surplus to grid.
- •Dx grid strengthening required to facilitate IPP connections

- Complements renewable energy sources
- •BESS is advantageous as it has a small footprint
- •Rapidly dispatchable for power systems management

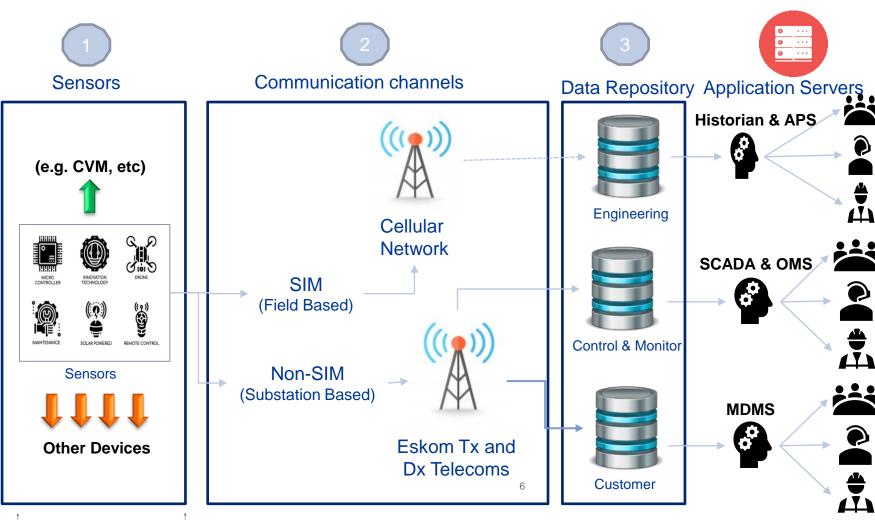
- DERs supports the just transition
- empowering prosumers
- Important power balancing feature
- Micro-grids reduces the need for long Tx and sub-Tx networks
- Electric Vehicles can significantly reduce Distribution's carbon footprint while creating economic value.
- Shift charging to low demand period
- Supply the grid

- Incentives
   customers to
   participate in DR,
   DSM and EE
- Allow customers to alter consumption and enable self generation
- The ability of digitalization to dismantle boundaries between the energy sectors, increase flexibility, and enable integration across entire systems, represents its greatest transformational potential.
- This transformation is centered on the electricity industry, where the line between production and consumption is becoming increasingly blurry as a result of digitalization.

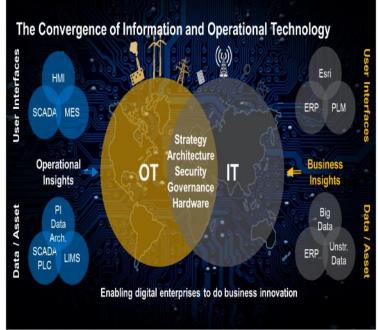
Reference: International Energy Agency "Digitalization & Energy"

### **Current Activities and their Relationship**





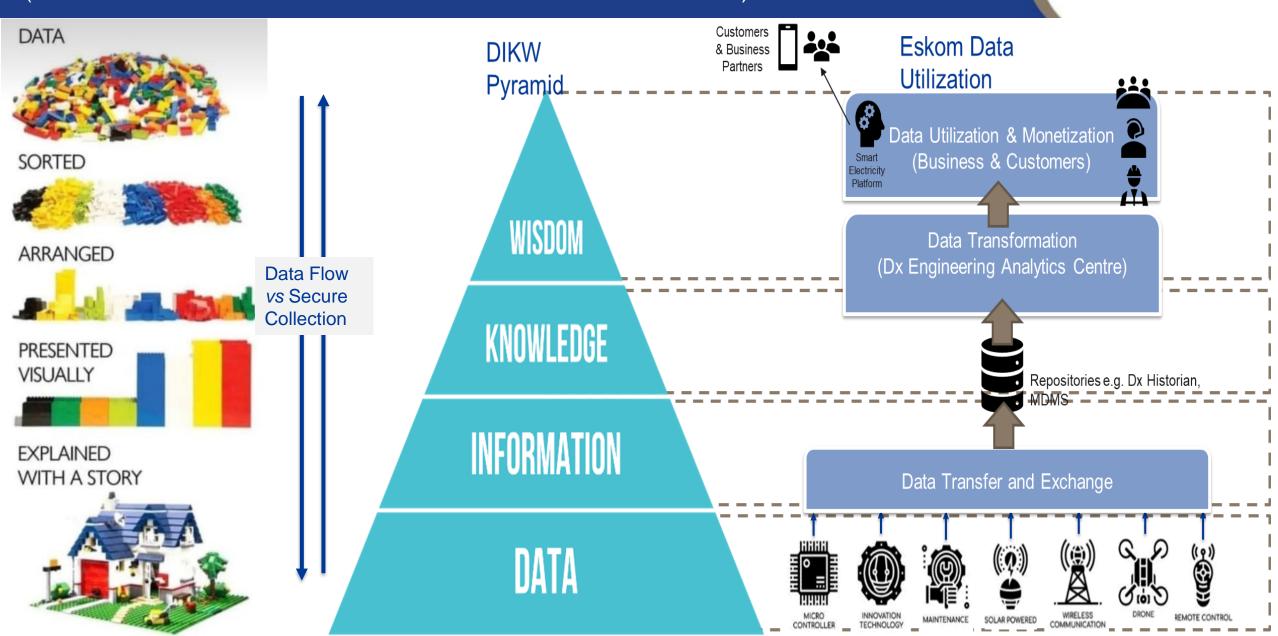




### **Operating Model: Engineering Analytics Centre**

**®** Eskom

(How the CENTRE will deliver value to the business and customers)



## Emerging risks that we need to overcome with the evolving OT/IT convergences



#### Challenge

to enable

future

operating model

### )

**Description** 





**Evolving Distribution operating model** 



- The evolving technology and industry changes will influence the business operations and architecture
- It would influence the data exchange and information flow to improve efficiency



Significant skills shortages and lack of operational depth



- Significant training to upskill
- Specialised resources and collaboration required (insource/outsource)
- · Retention of specialised resources



Significant inoperability of technology and common platforms



- OT/IT convergence require adoption of the governance to facilitate the collaboration and efficiency
- Effectiveness adoption of common hardware / software, communication and creating opportunities for increase interfacing/ data exchange and security standards



**Grid and platform modernisation requires significant investment** 



- Aging hardware & insecure infrastructure threatens security of the system and supply of electricity
- Limited resources to implement Dx Smart Grid strategy



**Cyber Security threat landscape increase** 



- Insufficient specialised resources and capabilities to manage cyber security threats for OT / IT
- Lack of monitor, detect and contain capability & specialized resources
- Speed of threat vectors leading to exposure to malware & ineffectiveness of controls



Global shift towards cloud first solutions

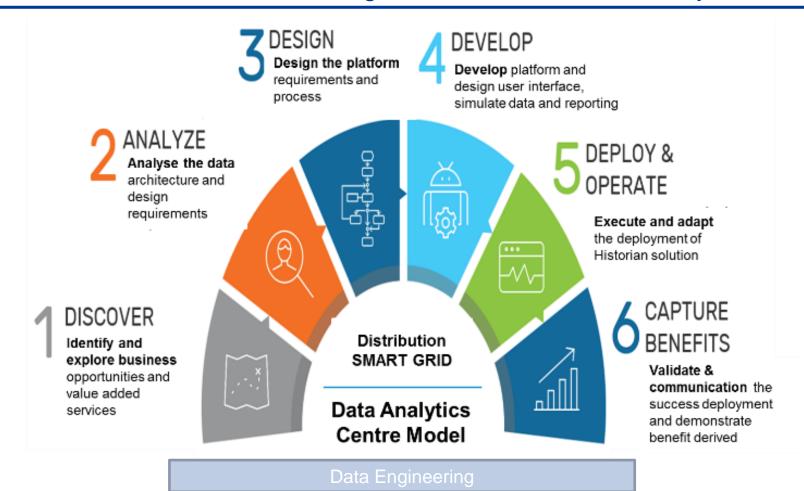


- Exposed to viruses, malware and ransomware if the organization is unable to correctly provision, manage and administer the correct endpoint
- Remote end users are particularly at risk due to their physical location, and can result in extensive business data loss
- The deployment of Endpoint software and signature files to the IT and OT environment requires monitoring of network availability and reliability

### **Distributors Engineering Analytics**



**Objectives:** facilitate & coordinate the consumption of engineering data (*data repository* − *Dx Historian*) by adapted data collection, utilization, management, deployment, test analytics models, dashboard, reporting and data-driven business decision → against Distribution data life cycle.



# Concluding remarks - SA Distributor will be at the epicenter of the Digital Transformation



#### Electricity

Four digital themes for value creation



#### Asset life cycle management

Technology solutions can enable real-time, remote-control or predictive maintenance to extend the life cycle or operating efficiency of the generation, transmission or distribution of assets and infrastructure.



#### Grid optimization and aggregation

Grid optimization is possible through real-time load balancing, network controls and end-to-end connected markets, enabled by connected assets, machines, devices and advanced monitoring capability.



#### Integrated customer services

Innovative, digitally enabled products and services relating to energy generation and energy management are bundled into an integrated customer service.



#### Beyond the electron

Hyper-personalized connected services beyond the electricity value chain that adapt to the consumer. Electricity moves from being a commodity to becoming an experience.

- SA distributors and resellers will **lose energy sales volume**, but there are **opportunities to integrate and coordinate** all prosumers, customers, Distributed Energy Resources, and energy producers.
- Eskom Distribution is in the process of establishing its System Operator, which will include Energy Aggregation and Trading capabilities, with the goal of enabling prosumers and providing a win-win situation for both the utility and the customer.
- Many new technologies have emerged as a result of the digital revolution in the electricity sector, as well as an exponential increase in data, cybersecurity threats, privacy risks and value stacking of data engineering/processing to support Digital themes.
- To maintain a competitive advantage, improve operational efficiency, and save money, **Eskom Distribution is increasingly relying on analytics.**
- The application of big data and artificial intelligence in energy management enables the optimization of these complex systems as well as the reduction of unnecessary electricity consumption.



# Thank you. Questions

