Using Variable Sets in terraform Cloud

Let us define a variable

${AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID} (variable) = *AKIAIOSFODNN7EXAMPLE (Value)*

A Variable give you a convenient way to get key bits of data into various parts of the pipeline. The most common use of variables **is to define a value that you can then use in your pipeline**.

All variables are stored as strings and are mutable.

The value of a variable can change **from run to run or job to job of your pipeline**.

Example of variables

```
31    variable "instance_ami" {
32
33    }
```

```
      }
      variable "keyname" {

      }
```

Instance_ami is the key name of the variable and is stored in the **VARIABLE.TF configuration file**

However, the value of this Variable key name will always change.

The value of the Instance_ami changes from run to run or job to job. For instance, we can change the AMI value from that of Amazon Linux 2 to that of Ubuntu 18 or 20

Example of a value of a variable stored in string format (combination of numbers, letters, symbols)

```
instance_ami          = "ami-0c6b1d09930fac512"
keyname               = "apollo"
```

The value for the variables name is stored in the TERRAFORM.TFVARS (Server on **Premise) and .auto.tfvars (terraform cloud).**

Variable Sets

Variable sets are important because they allow the organization to use the same set of variables in all the workspaces.

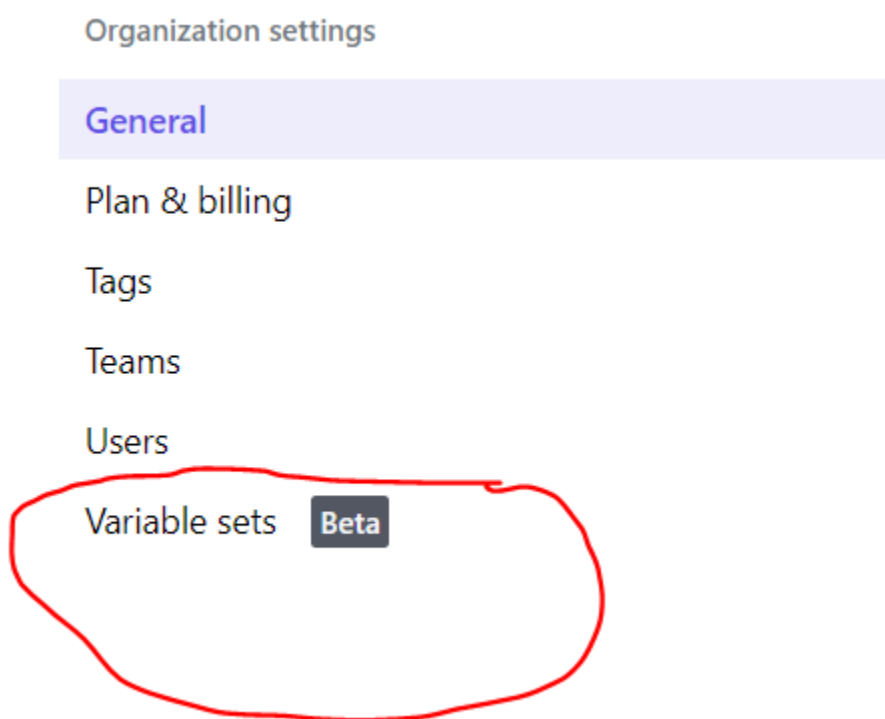You can also specify the workspace where the variables should be used.

This is going to save you a lot of time and quicken your ability to run the terraform life cycle in the cloud.

Steps

1. Go to Organization setting (<mark>not workspace settings</mark>)

2. Click on the variable sets

3. Add the variable sets just like before

Variables defined within a workspace always overwrite variables from variable sets that have the same type and the same key. Learn more about variable set precedence ⬚.

Key	Value	Category

There are no variables added.

+ Add variable

Add the following environmental variable Keys and add their Respective Values

AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID
AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY
AWS_DEFAULT_REGION

Do not forget to select the ENVIRONMENT VARIABLE CATEGORY for all the variables

Do not forget to select sensitive for the **AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY. You do not want your AWS account to be blocked**

Go back to your WORKSPACE AND RUN CREATE A NEW PLAN

CONFIRM THE NEW PLAN AND APPLY