INVESTMENT & INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN TUVALU

TOWARDS GRADUATION: “A FOCUS ON BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY”
1. Tuvalu Status
2. Inter-Island & International Connectivity
3. Telecom (TTC) Issues
4. Challenges
5. Policies and Regulations
6. Proposed Plans
7. Opportunities
TUVALU STATUS - BACKGROUND

- Island: 9
- Land Area: 26km square
- Population: 9,847 (2012 census)
- Location: midway Australia and Hawaii
TUVALU STATUS – TELECOM - SERVICES

• Tuvalu Telecom Corporation (TTC) - State own
• TTC own and operate majority of ICT/Telecommunication infrastructure in the country
• TTC Services
  i. Fixed Line Telephony - (voice: 1,380 sub = home connect by copper) - 14% population.
  ii. Mobile - 3G in 2014 = (2,800 subscriber) , 4G in 2017
  iii. Fixed Broadband - ADSL, VDSL technology and WIFI Network.
  iv. WIFI Internet - TTC provide 3Mbps access to customers in Funafuti
  v. Distribute / Resale of Sky Pacific Satellite Television
  vi. HF Radio Backup - use in times of disasters, 6 in outer island, 3 in the main land.
INTER-ISLAND & INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY

- Core Network locate in Funafuti, and outer-island through a Vsat
- 2 Geostationary C-Band Satellite:
  - NSS9 = 21.8Mbps and
  - ABS = 58Mbps
- Prices
  - Wholesale: $2,000 AUD/Mbps/ month
  - Retail:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WIFI Data Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADSL Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mobile Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY – 3G
INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIVITY – DATA & VOICE
TTC ISSUES

• Fixed copper access infrastructure is deteriorating due to sea-level rise and rain water impact
• Bandwidth throttle
• Internet connectivity in the outer-islands is only available at TTC Tele-center
• Poor coverage of 3G Mobile system as well the WIFI
• Poor emergency Back-up communication
CHALLENGES

• TTC
  i. Migrate from Copper to Wireless
  ii. Improve Mobile and WIFI coverage
  iii. Launching of 4G (2017)

• Government
  i. Small population - low market
  ii. No proper legislation
  iii. Lack of competition potential
POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

• Currently in place:
  • Tuvalu Telecommunication Act 1993
  • National ICT Policy 2017

• Regional Membership
  • PiRRC
  • PITA

• International Membership:
  • ITU
  • APT
PROPOSED PLANS

• End of this year
  • All island to have 2 satellite links – minimum of 3Mbps
  • Increase overall bandwidth to reach 100Mbps (2017)
  • Double by 2019 (200Mbps)

• Next Year
  • Lay Fiber cable network on Funafuti island.
OPPORTUNITIES

• WB/ADB Project on Telecom and ICT Development
• Policy and Legislation update
• E-Government services
  • E-Health
  • E-Commerce
  • E-Education
THANK YOU