

Concept Note

Title	Uniting Pacific Communities: The Village Connection Approach
Organisation(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nokia Siemens Networks • International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Theme:	Theme 1: Affordable Access: Domestic Connectivity in the Pacific
Duration:	15 Minutes
Background and Justification:	<p>Growth in Communications services in developing countries has been confined to mostly urban consumers, while many rural and remote communities still lack affordable, basic connectivity. The continued growth of GSM mobile services has made mobility a more viable solution than fixed services to serve these communities. GSM provides access to user-preferred services such as Voice and SMS, with the global economies of scale to ensure low end market devices.</p> <p>ITU and Nokia Siemens Networks have agreed to enter into a Cooperation Agreement to drive the rollout of these services to a number of pilot sites globally. This agreement is being ratified at the global conference in Geneva. The solution is presented here to position the Pacific as the lead market for this initiative.</p>
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To address the challenges in providing rural voice and SMS/text service coverage. • To build a non-exclusive and legally non-binding partnership(s) to apply innovative low-cost solutions to expand access to basic connectivity to remote areas where current coverage is not considered economically viable. • To dovetail this initiative with other Pacific wide initiatives, such as PACRICS • To see a potential for pilot sites in the Pacific
Scope:	<p>Having reached 2 billion subscribers worldwide in 2005, we now need to reach the next billion users. Subscriber uptake rates in new growth markets have been breathtaking - all thanks to the use of the GSM mobile standard. Now, the key to reduce the digital divide and reach the rural population. In Asia, 60% of the population lives in villages. In the Pacific, the task is even more complex, where the challenges of distances, water, geographies and infrastructure are even greater.</p> <p>Nokia Siemens Networks Village Connection is an innovative solution that enables voice and SMS services to extend to remote villages, where a traditional technology and business model are not viable. The Village Connection is a part of a Nokia Siemens Networks Smart Site initiative, to drive down the total cost of service, including the structure, power and infrastructure. This Presentation is accompanied by a demonstration of the Village Connection.</p> <p>While such solutions exist to provide GSM Voice and SMS services to remote communities, the seed needs to be planted to drive awareness of the market need and the available solutions. The ITU and Nokia Siemens Networks have combined</p>

	<p>to assist countries to roll out pilots where it may not be economically feasible.</p> <p>The challenge now is to kick this off in the Pacific, ensuring sponsorship and partnership can be secured for all elements of the solution. The following is a list of basic elements and potential suppliers/facilitators for pilot sites in the Pacific:</p>																										
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Element</th> <th>Supplier/Facilitator</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Base station, Software</td> <td>Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transmission interfaces</td> <td>Digium/Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Server PCs</td> <td>HP/ Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30m Structure</td> <td>Various/Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Concrete-free quick build foundation</td> <td>Various/Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Structure Installation</td> <td>Various/Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antenna & feeder</td> <td>Andrews/ Nokia Siemens Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Power supply (500W)</td> <td>Various/Challenge Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Satellite Transmission</td> <td>RICS/ Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (SPC)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Installation Services</td> <td>Challenge Networks/Nokia Siemens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Switch Interface(s)</td> <td>Nokia Siemens Networks/SPC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Logistics</td> <td>Challenge Networks/Nokia Siemens</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Element	Supplier/Facilitator	Base station, Software	Nokia Siemens Networks	Transmission interfaces	Digium/Nokia Siemens Networks	Server PCs	HP/ Nokia Siemens Networks	30m Structure	Various/Nokia Siemens Networks	Concrete-free quick build foundation	Various/Nokia Siemens Networks	Structure Installation	Various/Nokia Siemens Networks	Antenna & feeder	Andrews/ Nokia Siemens Networks	Power supply (500W)	Various/Challenge Networks	Satellite Transmission	RICS/ Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (SPC)	Installation Services	Challenge Networks/Nokia Siemens	Switch Interface(s)	Nokia Siemens Networks/SPC	Logistics	Challenge Networks/Nokia Siemens
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Expected Outcome:	All - Agreement to spearhead in the pacific ITU – arrange Funding ITU/Nokia Siemens – Agree Pilot Sites																										
Potential Partners:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nokia Siemens Networks • ITU • PIFS / SPC • Challenge Networks – Subcontractor/Services • Hewlett Packard • Andrews Antenna Systems • Governments • ADB / World Bank / international and regional development agencies 																										
Project Timescale:	2 years																										
Budget (optional):	Itemised above																										