Background Theme 4(b)  
ICT Applications

Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum: Connecting the Unconnected

18 February 2009, Tonga
ICT Applications in the Pacific

- A number of country and regional initiatives in particular in e-Education and e-Health
- Small number of e-Commerce activities
  - Limited economy of scale
  - Lack of access to Internet
  - Lack of familiarity and trust in electronic transactions
  - High cost of connectivity
- Overall e-Government performance has not improved
  - Slow economic development
  - Lack of infrastructure
  - Lack of funds and skilled people
Key Activities

- ITU Global Telecentres Portal
  http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/telecentres/portal-index.html
- Asia-Pacific Telecentre Network
  http://www.telecentre.org/
- Pacific Telecentre Online Community (PacTOC)
- One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) Oceania
- ITU/SPC/Carnegie Mellon ICT Application Development Programme
- ESCAP Regional Cooperation Agenda (for comprehensive disaster management including the use of ICT applications)
Way Forwards

- Successful deployment of ICT applications requires
  - Political will [commitment]
  - National ICT Policy [strategies]
  - Comprehensive approach [holistic framework]
  - National implementation plan [roadmap]

- Abundant resources are available (Internet)

- Coordination and information & resource sharing
Thank You