



# Policy Development in the Regional Level



# What is a policy?

- What is a national ICT policy?
  - “policy” - a course of action that guides decision making so as to achieve a certain outcome.
  - ‘Communication or Telecommunication Policy’ - is a document that generally focuses on telecommunications sector reform.
  - ‘National ICT policy’ - a document that defines a country’s general direction in relation to ICT and national development.
- Approaches
  1. Telecommunication and ICT Policies are separate; or
  2. Telecommunication aspects are incorporated in the National ICT Policy.



# Approach

- Assessment
- Consultation/Review (Continuous)
- Identifying gaps
- Emerging gaps
- Priorities
- Policy objectives
- Strategies
- Reviewing (M&E)



# Recommendations

- Time frame (5 years)
- Targets
- Governance
  - Responsibilities
  - M & E
  - Reporting



# Priorities

- Reducing costs of ICT
- International connectivity
- Domestic Connectivity
- ICT Capacity Building
- Policy and regulatory reform
- Cyber Security and ICT Application (including e-Government, telehealth, eLearning)
- Green computing/e-Waste
- Computer related legislation – Computer Crimes, Evidence



# Vision

- ICT for every Pacific Islander



# Gaps

- Improving access to Com Tech
  - Resources constraint
  - Early stage of Universal Access
  - Internet access remains limited
  - Few options for affordable broadband
- Reducing costs Costs of infrastructure
  - Costs of ICT, Internet usage,
  - Costs of satellite connectivity relative to market size
  - Lack of competition
  - Lack of pro-ICT Policy





# Gaps

- Emerging gaps
  - Lack of a holistic and multi-stakeholder approach in using ICT for sustainable development telehealth, eLearning, market access, mobile banking
  - Lack of cyber crime legislation
  - Lack of electronic signature legislation/ eCommerce (incl eBanking);
  - Lack of cyber security;
  - No Child Protection legislation;
  - Lack of Internet safety and education programme;





# Gaps

## Emerging Gaps cont.

- Lack of study of social impact of ICT;
- Lack of ICT in schools;
- Lack of ICT Curriculum in Schools
- Large number of failed ICT projects;
- Cultures and traditional knowledge;
- Lack of local (pacific specific) content;



# Gaps

- Emerging gaps cont.
  - Lack of ICT awareness;
  - Lack of e-Waste/Green ICT Computing programme;
  - Lack of appropriate infrastructure for early warning and disaster management systems;
  - Lack of linking to other regional sectoral policies



# Gaps

- Removing in appropriate regulatory environment)
  - ICT Policies need resources and TA;
  - No competition in Smaller PICs
  - Gov ownership remains strong
  - Outdated legislation in some PICs



# Gaps

- Higher bandwidth to global backbone
  - Current infrastructure wont be sufficient for future demand (increasing/faster)
  - Problem in securing funding for further submarine cable connectivity
  - Lack of investment





# Regional Themes

- Policy and Regulatory Reform
- Capacity Building
- Infrastructure and Access
- International Connectivity
- Cyber Security and ICT Application



# Framework for Assessment Structure

- Background
- Vision
- Goals and Objectives
- Strategic Plan
  - Timeframe
  - Institutional responsibility
  - Resource allocation
  - Monitoring and reporting
  - Review







# Regional Strategy Proposed Structure

- Background
- Pacific Context
- Priorities
- Vision
- Missions
- Targets
- Thematic Areas and Objectives
- Strategies
- Governance



Thank you