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

- 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

- Emerging gaps
 - Lack of a holistic and multi-stakeholder approach in using ICT for sustainable development telehealth, eLearning, market access, mobile bankingLack 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;

- 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

- 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

- 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

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ DU PACIFIQUE

Economic Development Division / La Division développement économique

Key issues addressed in the goals and objectives of the national ICT policies of the region **National**

Substance: Policy Goals and Objectives

Country	Access and infra- structure	HRD & public awareness	Legal and regulatory framework	Governance and supply of public services	Industry & commercial growth	Traditions, cultures and languages
Cook Islands	P	P	P	P	P	P
Fiji	P	P	P	P	P	
RMI (draft)	P	P	P	P	P	P
FSM (draft)	P	P	P	P	P	
PNG	P	P	P	P	P	
Samoa	P	P	P	P	P	P
Tonga	P	P	P	P	P	P

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

Framework for Assessment

Structure

National ICT policy structure elements in the PICs

Country	Policy Statement		Strategic Plan					
	Background	Vision	Goals and Objectives	Strategies & activities	Timetable	Institutional responsibilities	Resources available	Monitoring & reporting
Cook Islands	P	P	P					
Fiji	P	P	P	P			P	
RMI (draft)	P	P	P					
FSM (draft)	P		P	P	P	P		P
PNG ¹	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Samoa	P	P	P	P	P	P		P
Tonga	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

Regional Strategy Proposed Structure

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



Thank you