



PACIFIC CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION PROJECT

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University of the South Pacific (USP)

- USP is one of the two only Regional Universities in the world. The other is UWI in the Caribbean.
- USP covers 12 countries and territories in the USP and is looking to expand its facilities to other countries and territories.
- USP is the largest education service provider within the Pacific.
- Currently in the Region, USP is Chair of the Council of the Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) Working Group on ICT who collectively have been tasked to review the **2010 Framework for Action on ICT Development in the Pacific (FAIDP)**

USP and ICT

- USP has been a **forerunner** in the use of **ICT** to proliferate **ACCESS** to education
- Over the years' it has built **critical information infrastructure** to provide seamless services and **ACCESS** to the 12 countries and territories that are a part of USP through the **USPNET**
- USP takes its role as the leading education service provider in the Region seriously as it remains committed to building the next generation of leaders in the Pacific
- Today, USP Alumni are in virtually every sector, industry within the 27 countries and territories in the Pacific
- USP is also behind the establishment of the **Pacific Islands Regional Research and Educational Network** (PIRREN)

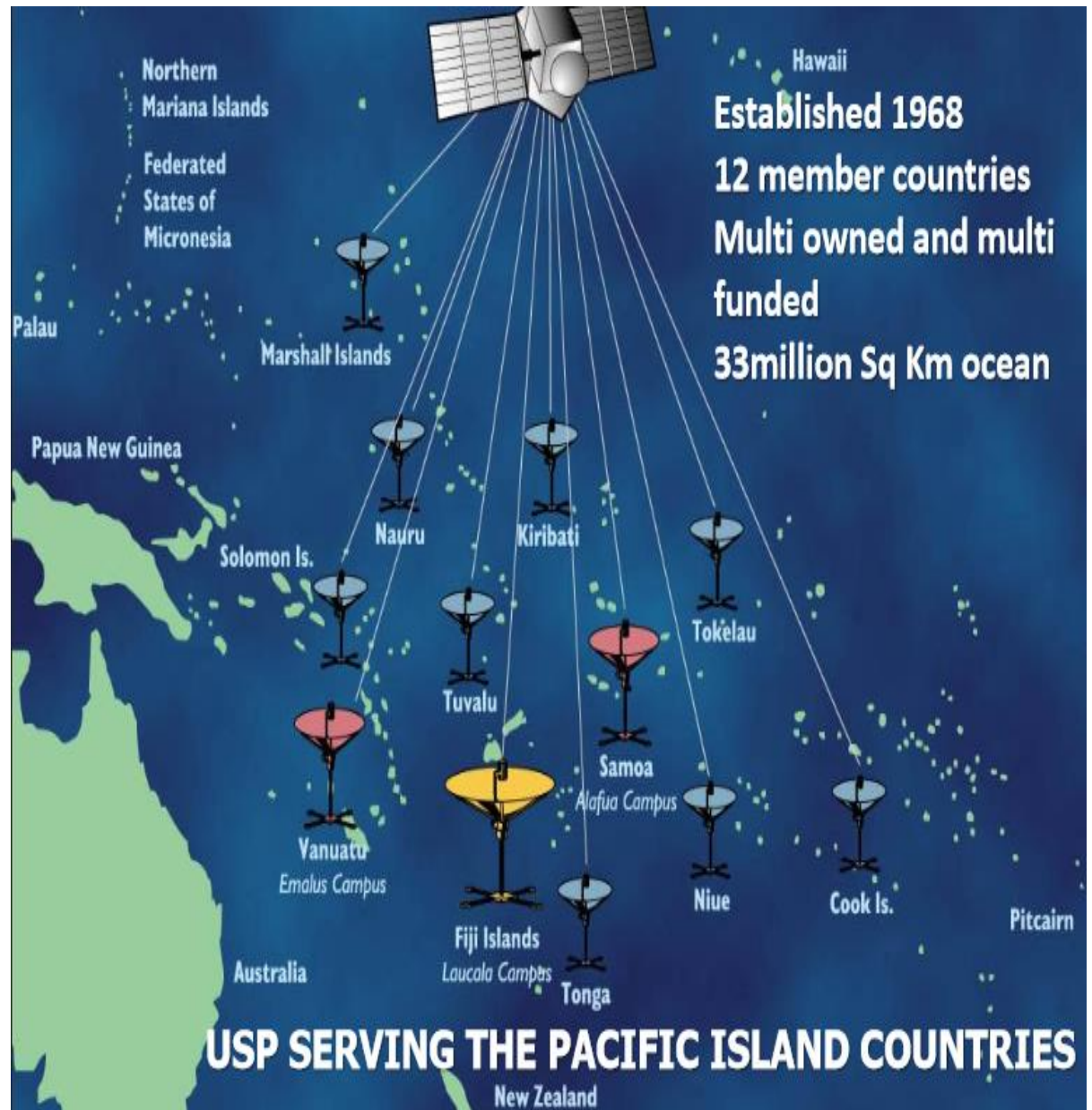
Japan Pacific ICT Centre

ICT Centre is home to the following Offices:

- Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team ([PACCERT](#))
- Pacific Islands Regional Regulators Resource Centre ([PiRRC](#))
- Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association ([PITA](#))
- Department of Information and Technology Services
- School of Computing Information and Mathematical Science
- Pacific Digital Alliance for [Women in ICT](#);
- South Pacific Computer Society ([SPaCS](#))



USPNET



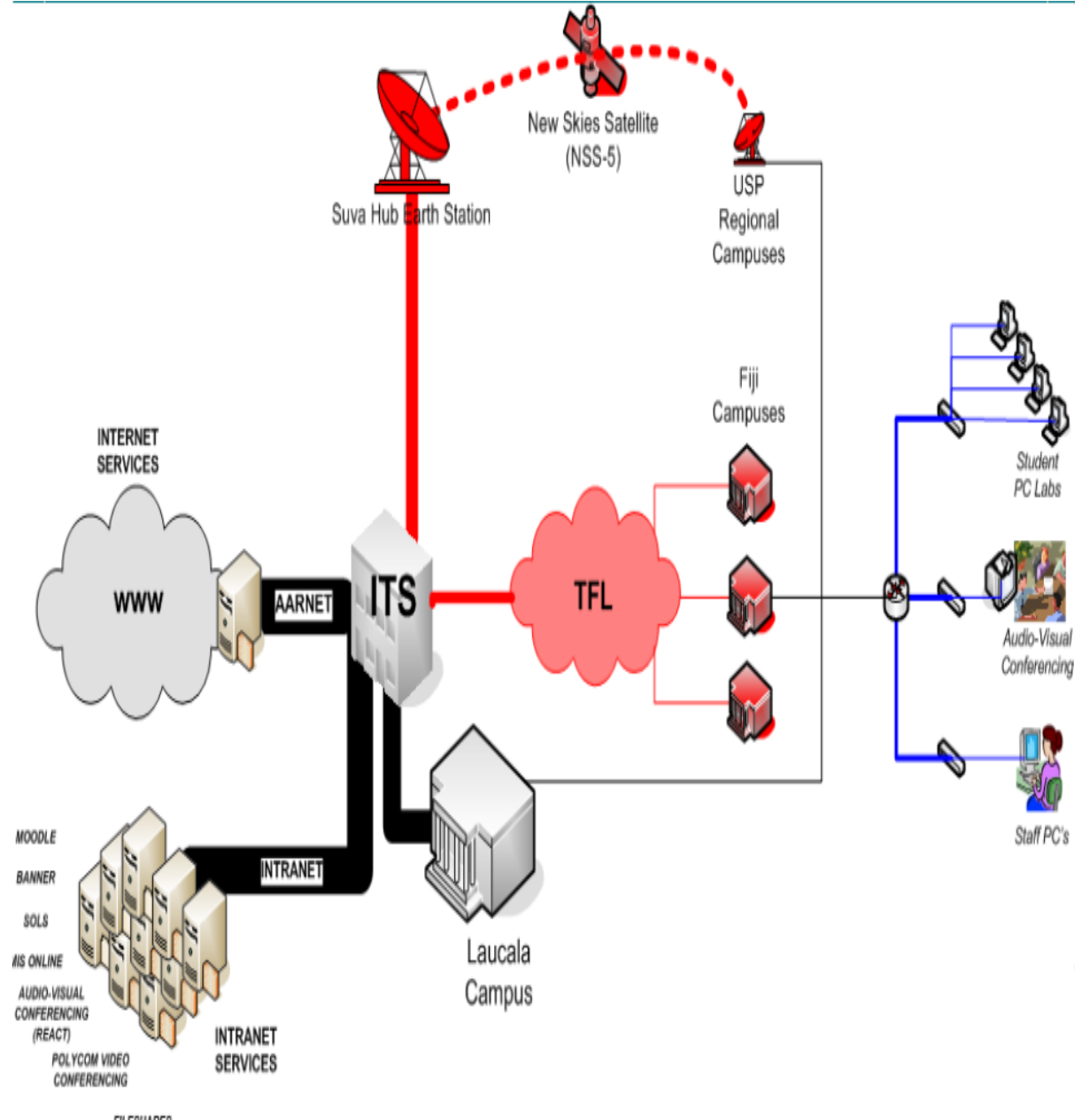
USPNET

Largest Information Infrastructure within the Pacific and the largest footprint;

It is the largest Internet Service Provider in the Pacific;

Whilst access is an issue in some countries, students find it convenient to use USP Campuses to access ICT services;

It also has the largest single user base within the Pacific;



Our Children are our Heritage



OUR CHILDREN OUR HERITAGE AND LEGACY TO TOMORROW'S PASIFIKA

- Children are **core** and are our inheritance
- Protecting them is **not an option** on the menu
- Today's **children** are tomorrow's **leaders**
- **Protecting** our children is **ALL** our business!

Increasing Vulnerability of Children

- Children today are generally **Digital Natives**;
- It is not uncommon to see 2 – 3 year olds at home with Mommy's smartphone or tablet as they play games;
- Whilst their cognitive abilities are enhanced from exposure to various forms of APPs, there are dangers that lurk and it is important to be **aware** of these dangers



Avatars, Games and Superheroes

- Some Games allow children to create Avatars
- Some of these Avatars like to Chat with complete strangers
- What's to stop children from accessing adult sites?
- What of pedophiles who come To our shores as tourists?
- What do you do when your child is bullied online or through harassment using mobile phones and sending gossip girl rumours intended to destroy?

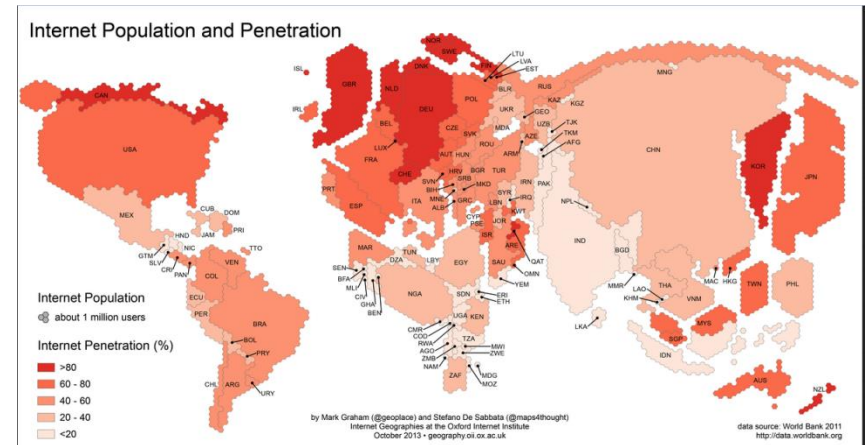


Threats to Children

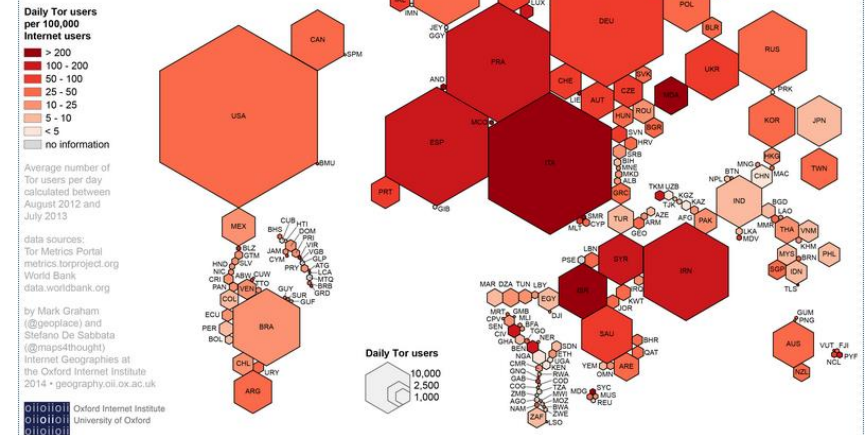
- Psychological
 - Trauma, Addiction, Mental Health, Depression from effects and impact of bullying, withdrawal systems, increasing violent tendencies if exposed to violent content etc
- Physical
 - Loss of weight or unusual gain in weight stemming from psychological aspects. Inability to have a balanced life;
 - Sexual traps and abuse;
 - Child Pornography
 - Threats of Child Online Exploitation
- Etc

Global Internet Population

Globally Internet Users make 2.7 billion

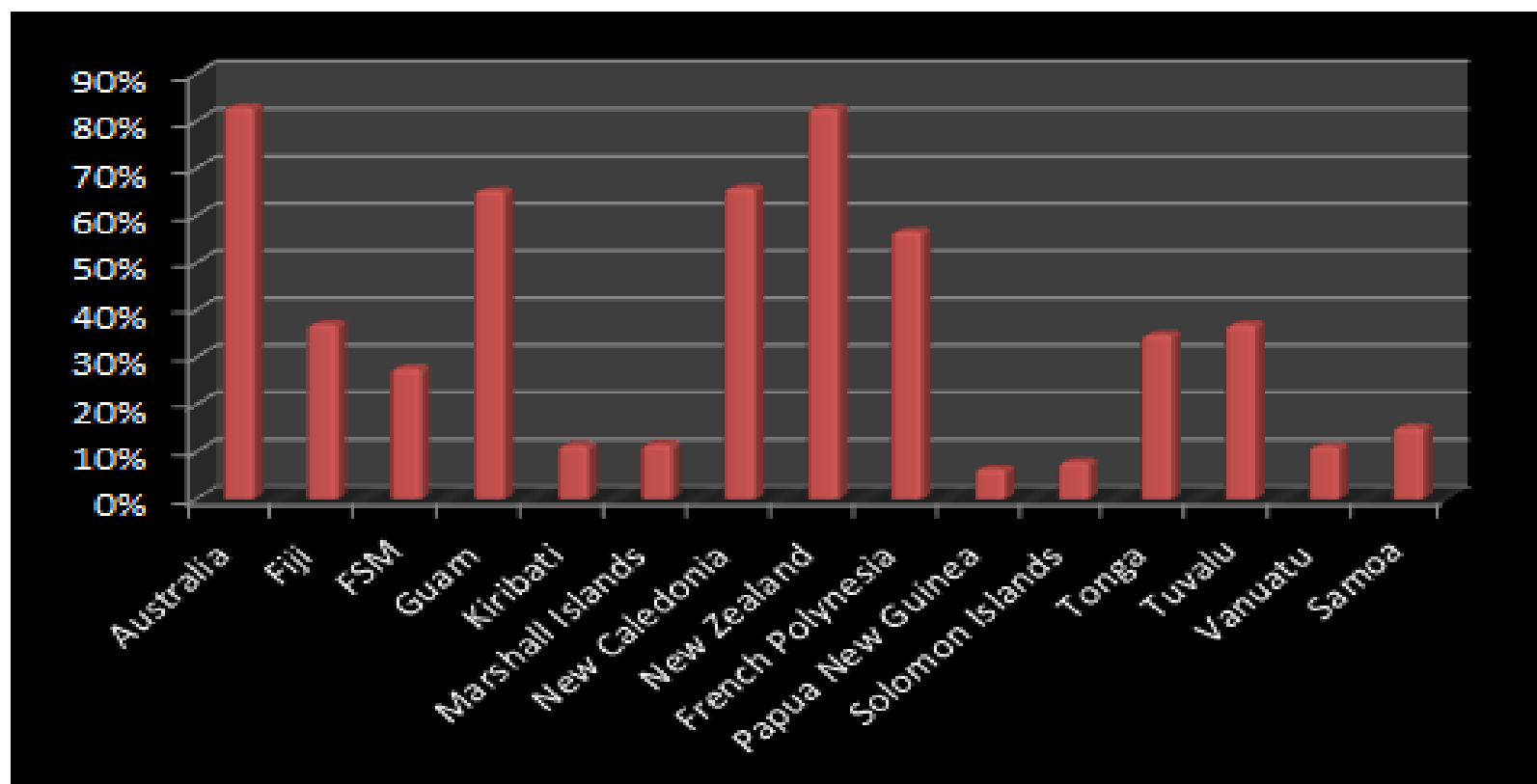


The anonymous Internet



Internet Penetration Rate in PICs

Internet Penetration Rate for Pacific Island Countries 2014



Child Online Protection

- **USP Strategic Development Plan 2013-2018 Initiative 13.3 mandates that we expand ICT to disadvantaged groups**
- **The Pacific Child Online Protection Project is housed at the Japan Pacific ICT Centre and we work closely with our partners**
- **We have been involved in reaching out to the wider community on issues related to Child Online Protection over the years**
- **We have also been involved in advocacy and policy development processes related to Whois and RAAs**

Pacific Child Online Protection Project

- Outreach aspects include social networking, advocacy and conducting awareness sessions;
- We are still in the design phase of our research scope and projects for the Pacific;
- Pacific Digital Alliance
 - Digital Alliance for Girls and Women in ICT
 - Digital Alliance for Youth
 - Digital Alliance for Educators

ICANN's Whois Studies

- We have been participating within the community in the discussions on Whois;
- Whois is essential to tracking down digital identities;
- Participating in policy development processes in this area is critical;
- Whois Misuse Study
- Whois Registrant Identification Study
- Whois Privacy and Proxy Services Abuse Study
- Whois Privacy and Proxy Reveal Survey

COP Project

- Secondary School teachers have signed up for this.
- They will receive training and mentoring and we will be rolling out campaigns in the schools and communities through synergistic partnerships



Strategies for Advance

- Putting people and communities first;
- Collaborating with regional, national and local stakeholders;
- Facilitate awareness and encourage dialogue;
- Encouraging people to take ownership;
- Securing political commitment and will;
- Helping local and national communities get their stories and issues heard using ICT;
- Leveraging growth through enhancing the Knowledge Hub in the University of the South Pacific and collaborating with multistakeholders

Recommendations

- It is about Partnership
- There is a need to synergize initiatives and work together
- Combating threats against our children requires:
 - Tenacity, perseverance, commitment;
 - Human Development Component – values based approach;
 - Infrastructure has to be built you need people to carry change;
 - Policy and Legislative Commitment;
 - Global policy process where internet standards (RFCs), Whois Policies factor in our contexts within IETF and ICANN;
- Laws and policies on their own are not enough to wield positive change;
- They are only part of a holistic solution that is needed;
- At the end of the day, you need a group of committed people and partners who can follow through to the end;
- There is a need for more dialogue;
- Everyone has a part to play

Concluding Remarks

- We acknowledge the fantastic work done by the organizers especially Amelia (IMPACT) and Carla (ITU);
- We look forward to learning and sharing experiences and solutions to protect our children from various online threats.

THE END