Kiribati

Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport and Tourism Development
Communications Commission of Kiribati
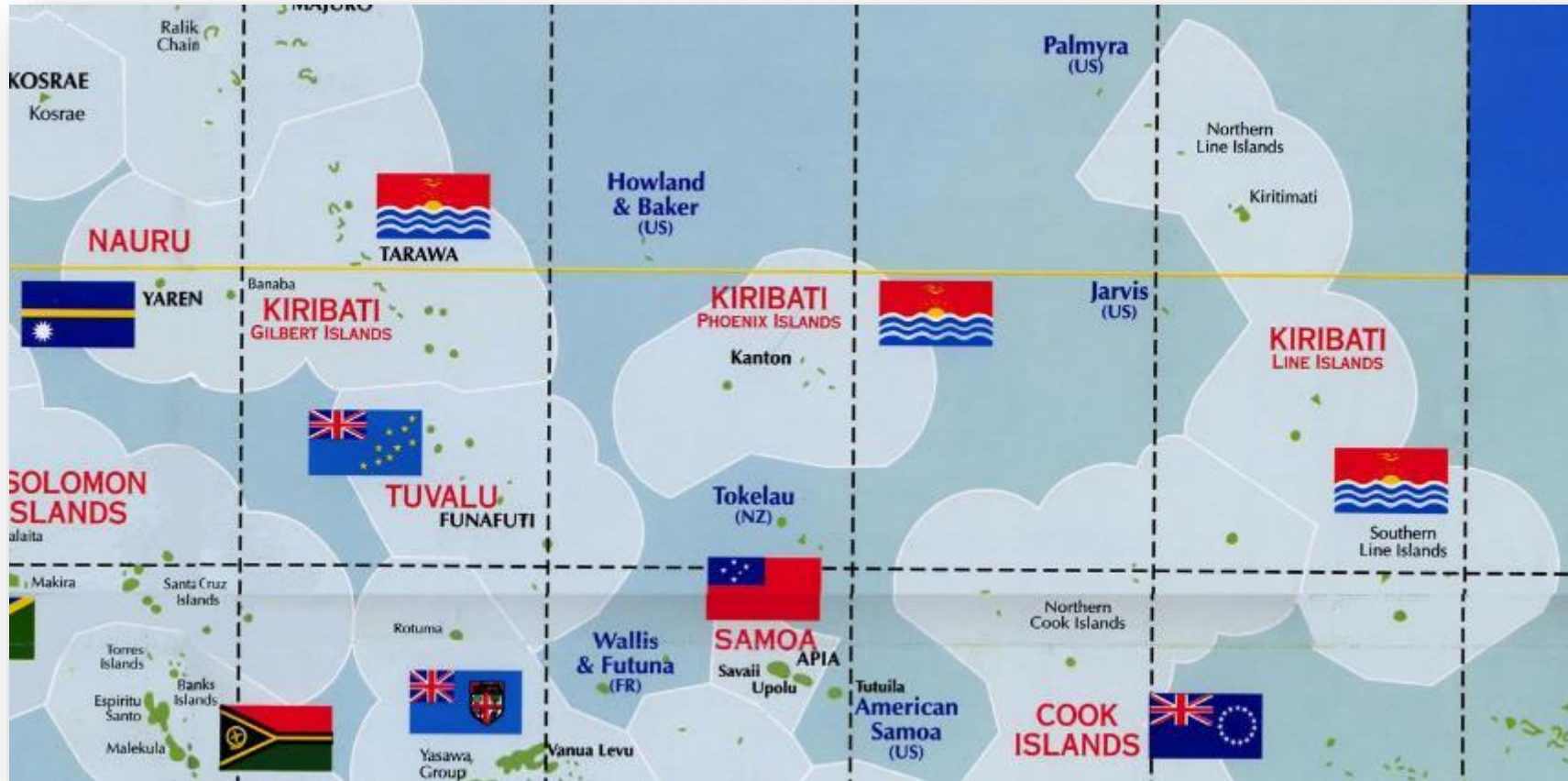
Wednesday, 2th August 2017

Kiribati Profile

▶ Officially the Republic of Kiribati

▶ Population: 110,136 (2015) with more than half residing on Tarawa

▶ 800 square km of total land area

▶ 3.5million square km of ocean

▶ 3 group of islands namely Gilbert, Phoenix and Line Group

▶ 33 atolls and reef islands and 1 raised coral island

Map of Kiribati

- Source http://www.mappery.com/maps/South-Pacific-Countries-Map.jpg

Telecom Network Status

▶ Communications Act 2012
▶ Open telecommunications market
▶ 2 licensed mobile service providers
  ▶ 1 operational mobile service provider (ATHKL)
  ▶ Other provider yet to provide services, hopefully within the next months
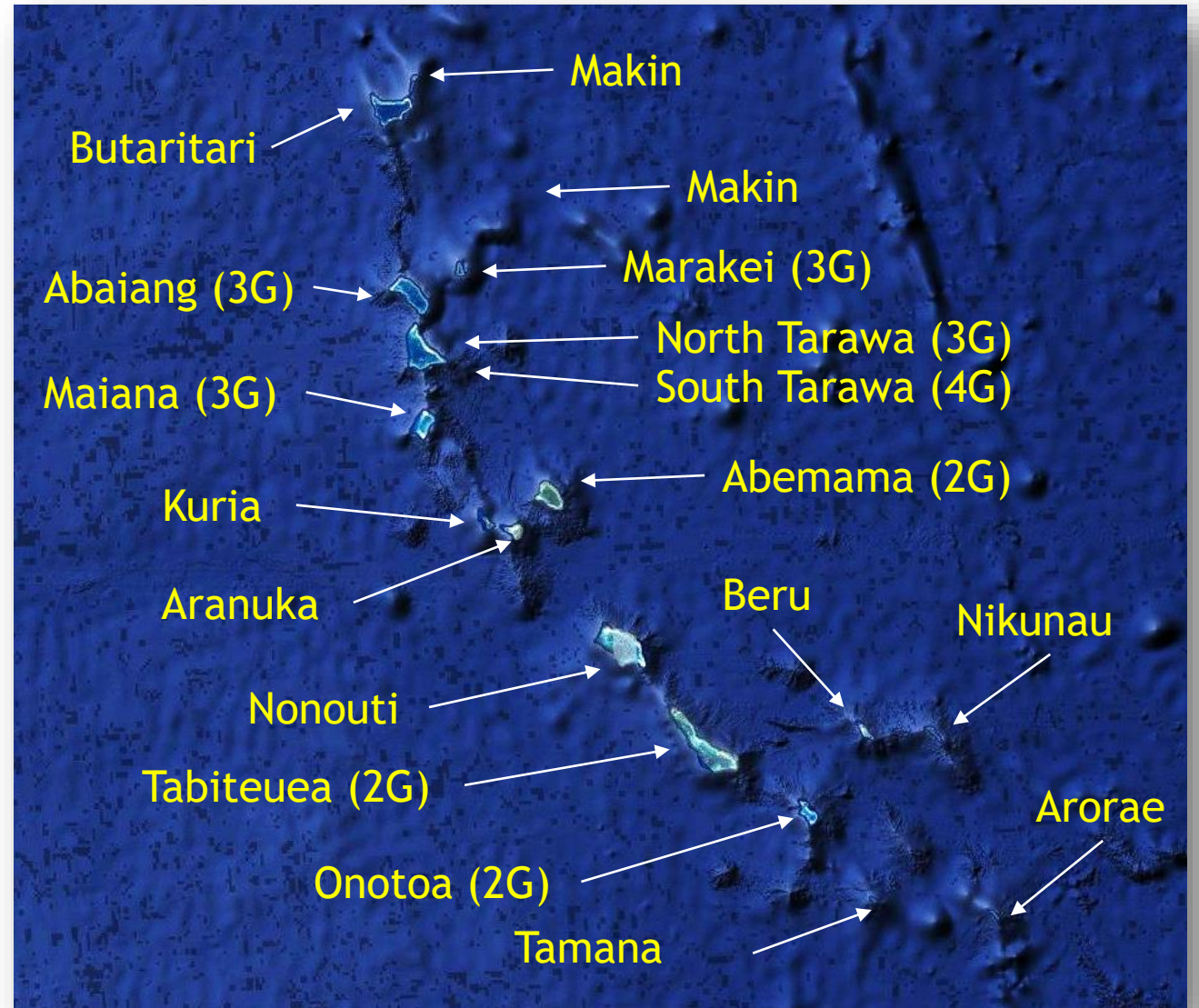▶ 1 Wifi internet service provider

Telecom Network Status

- ▶ Fixed
  - ▶ Prepaid: 775 (2017), peaked in 2013 at 4700
  - ▶ Post Paid: 80
- ▶ Mobile
  - ▶ Active subscribers: 52,000 (Q1 2017) from 16,000 in 2014
- ▶ Broadband users
  - ▶ Leased lines: 30 users

Telecom Network Status

► Number of Islands connected
  ► 4G/LTE connection: 1 island
  ► 3G connection: 5 islands
  ► 2G connection: 3 islands
► Number of sites
  ► 9 x 4G/LTE sites
  ► 8 x 3G sites
  ► 3 x 2G sites

International Connectivity

▶ Satellite connectivity
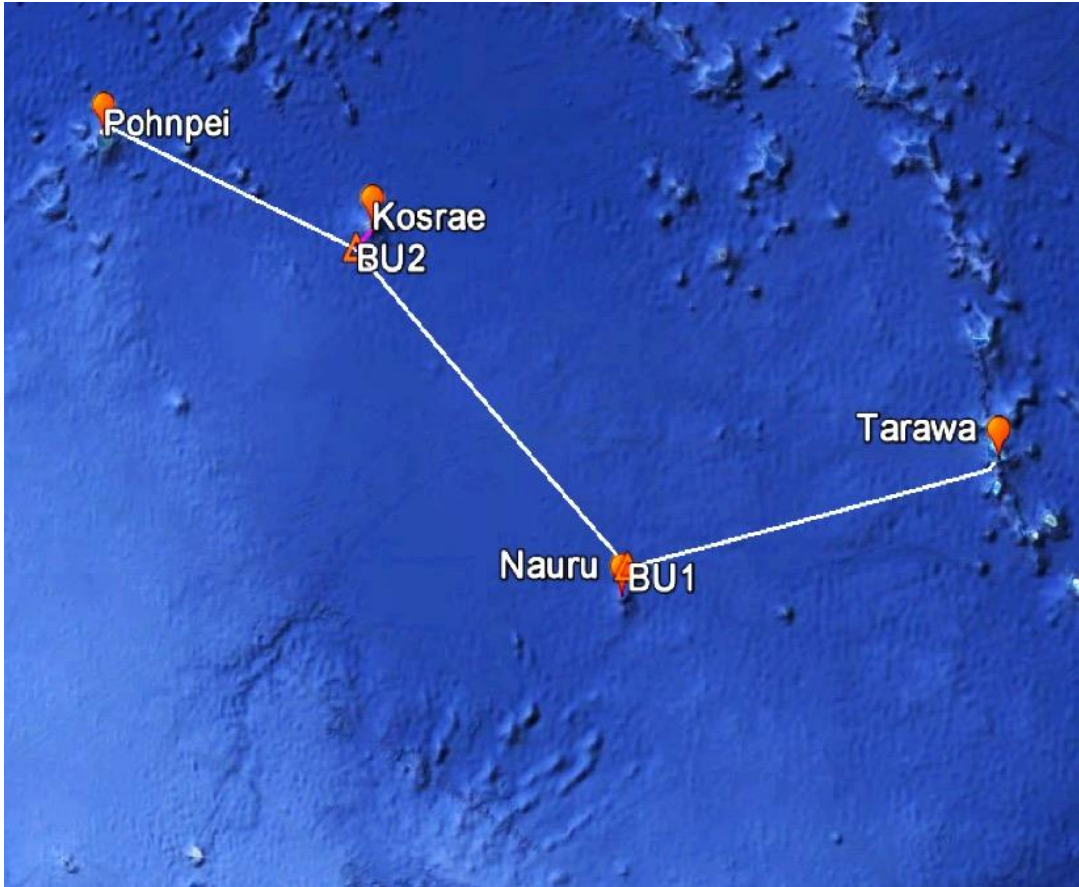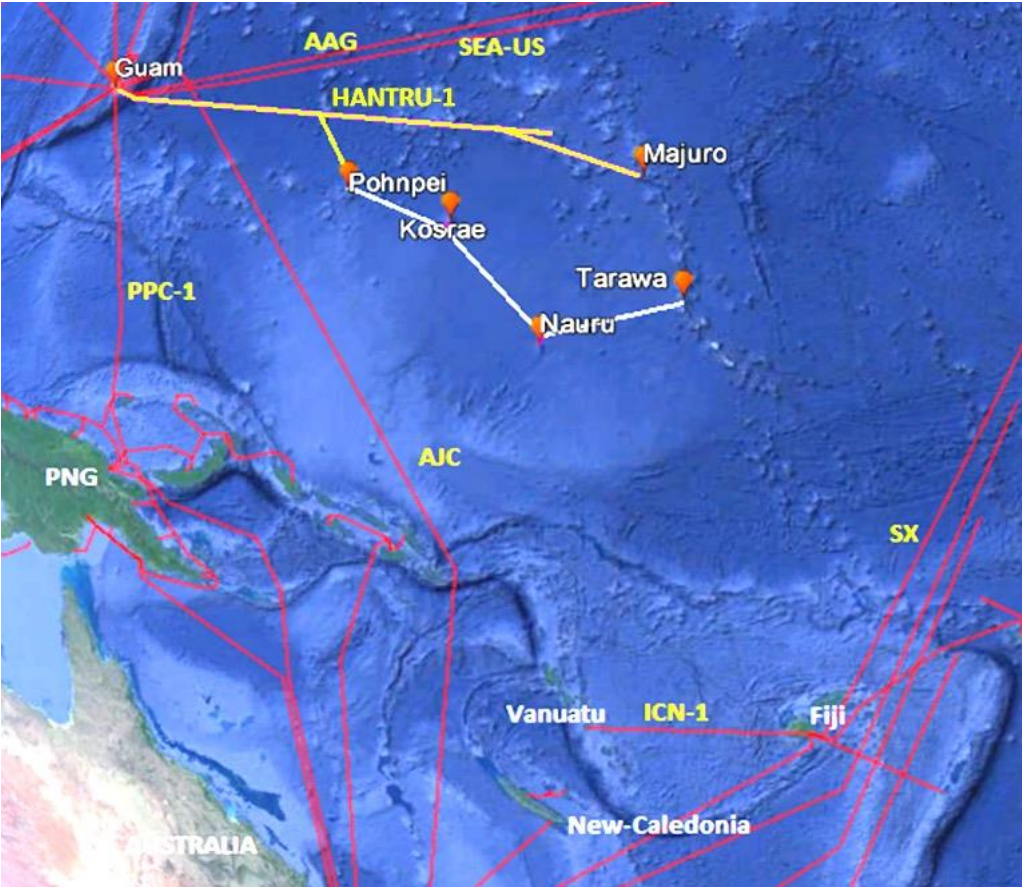 ▶ O3B on Tarawa only
  ▶ Satellites (ABS, INTELSAT etc)

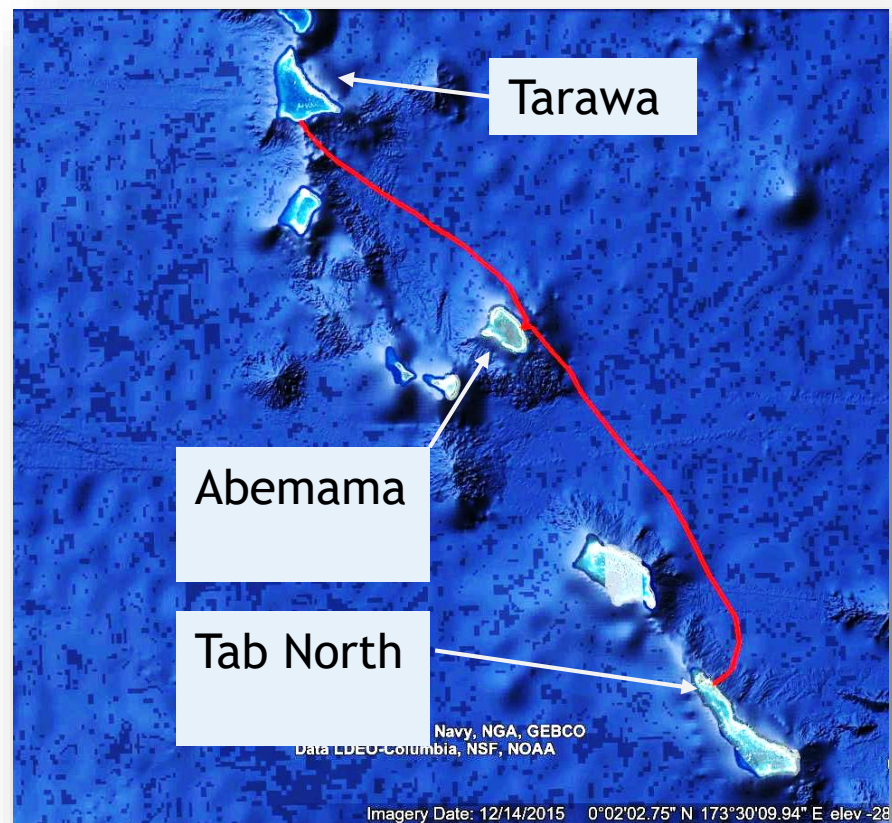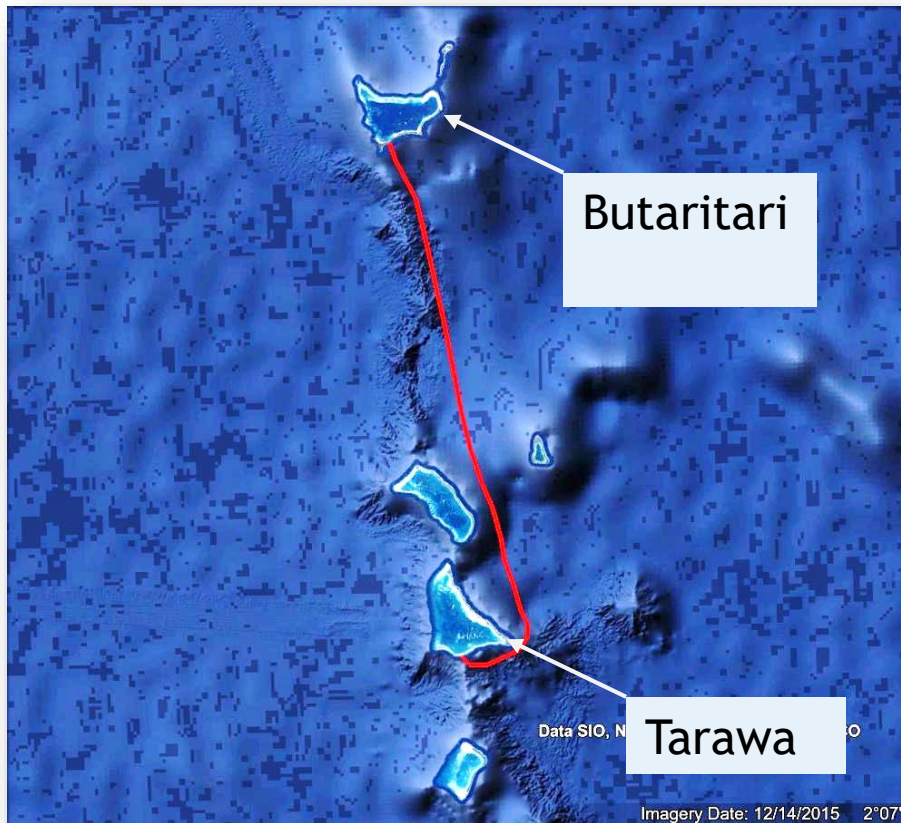# Plans to enhance access, bandwidth and speed of connectivity

▶ Mobile and internet services rollout to outer islands (rural), commencing in 2017 and expected to complete by 2019
▶ Submarine cable projects to main islands centers
  ▶ Tarawa – Mid 2019 (World Bank)
  ▶ Kiritimati – Early 2019 (Asian Development Bank)
▶ Submarine cable to 3 outer islands project – tbc
▶ Tarawa terrestrial fiber optics project – end of 2018

Kiribati Connectivity Project

Planned Outer Islands submarine cable

Price of internet access and international bandwidth

▶ International Bandwidth
  ▶ AU $260,000 per month (earlier this year)
  ▶ 150Mbps (earlier this year)
▶ Internet access
  ▶ Mobile data plan: ~ $0.01 per MB (daily and weekly), $0.02 for monthly
  ▶ Outside of plan: $0.99 per MB
  ▶ Flashnet/Wifi/Router Plan : ~$0.02 - $0.03 per MB
  ▶ IPVPN: $800/Mbps (uncapped)

Policies and regulations

▶ The National ICT Policy 2011 encourages Government to explore submarine fiber optic cable connections to Kiribati
▶ The Communications Act 2012 is also supportive of enhanced international connectivity

Challenges with access to submarine cables

▶ Remoteness of country to major cable routes
▶ Scattered islands (3 island groups)
▶ Funding
▶ Population size on each island
▶ High Throughput Satellites technologies
▶ Limited human resources and capacity