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**ITU PITA Workshop on  
Enhancing access to submarine  
cables for Pacific Islands  
Countries  
Suva, FIJI 31 July – 3 Aug 2017**

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**Office of the Regulator  
SAMOA**

# CONTENT



- ▶ General Information
- ▶ Telecom network status (Fixed, mobile, number of islands connected)
- ▶ Situation of international connectivity and capacity (Satellite, Submarine cable)
- ▶ Price of Internet access and International Bandwidth (wholesale and retail)
- ▶ Proposed plans to enhance access, bandwidth and speed of connectivity in the country
- ▶ Policies and regulations relating to international connectivity
- ▶ Challenges pertaining to enhancing access to submarine cables

# General Information



- Samoa is Independent State
- Population – 195,125 (2016)
- Area – 2,831 sq km
- GDP: \$785.9 million (2016)
- Currency: Tala (STA)
- Time difference: UTC +13
- Located: 13.7590° S, 172.1046° W

Website: <http://www.sbs.gov.ws/>



# Telecom network status (Fixed, mobile, number of islands connected)



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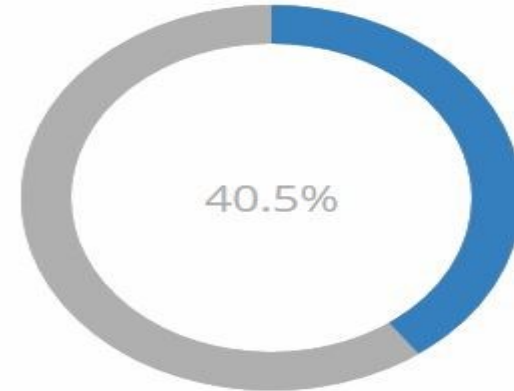
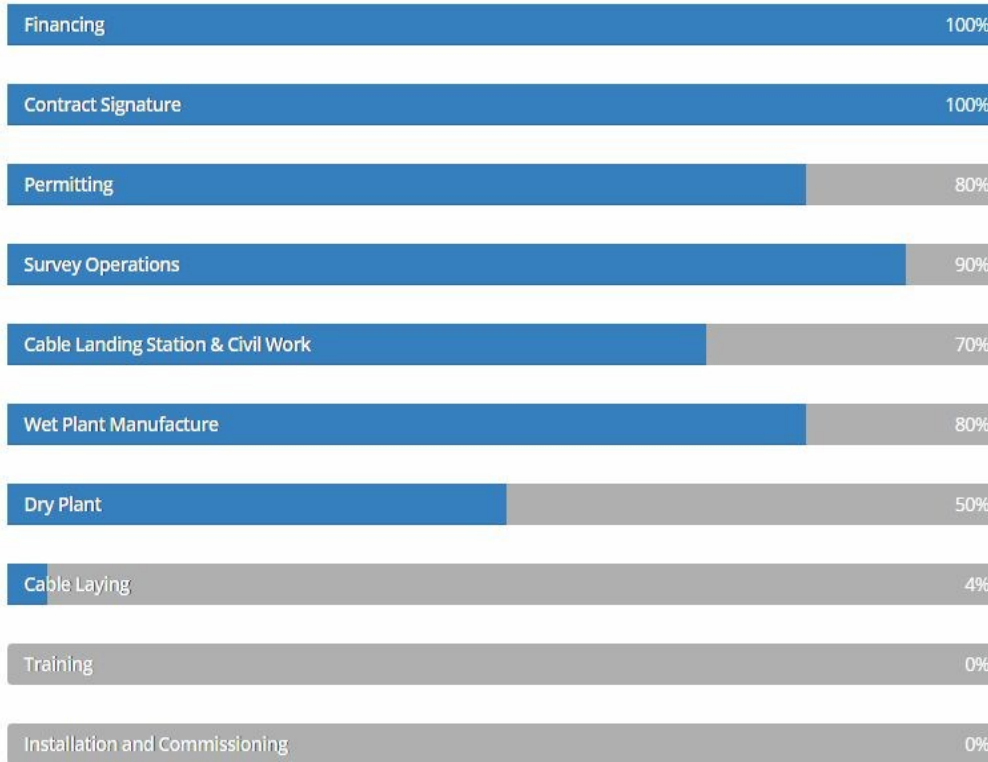
- ▶ Mobile Service Provider.
  - 2G – Digicel Samoa & Bluesky Samoa
  - 3G – Digicel Samoa & Bluesky Samoa
  - LTE 700 – Bluesky Samoa & Netvo (Data Only)
  - LTE 1800 – Bluesky Samoa & Digicel Samoa
  
- ▶ Fixed Network:
  - Bluesky Samoa

# Situation of international connectivity and capacity (Satellite, Submarine cable)



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- ▶ **Satellite:**
  - Bluesky Samoa - Intelsat
  - Digicel Samoa - O3B
- ▶ **Submarine:**
  - Bluesky Samoa – ASH & SAS Cable
  - Samoa Submarine Cable Company (SSCC) – Tui Samoa Cable

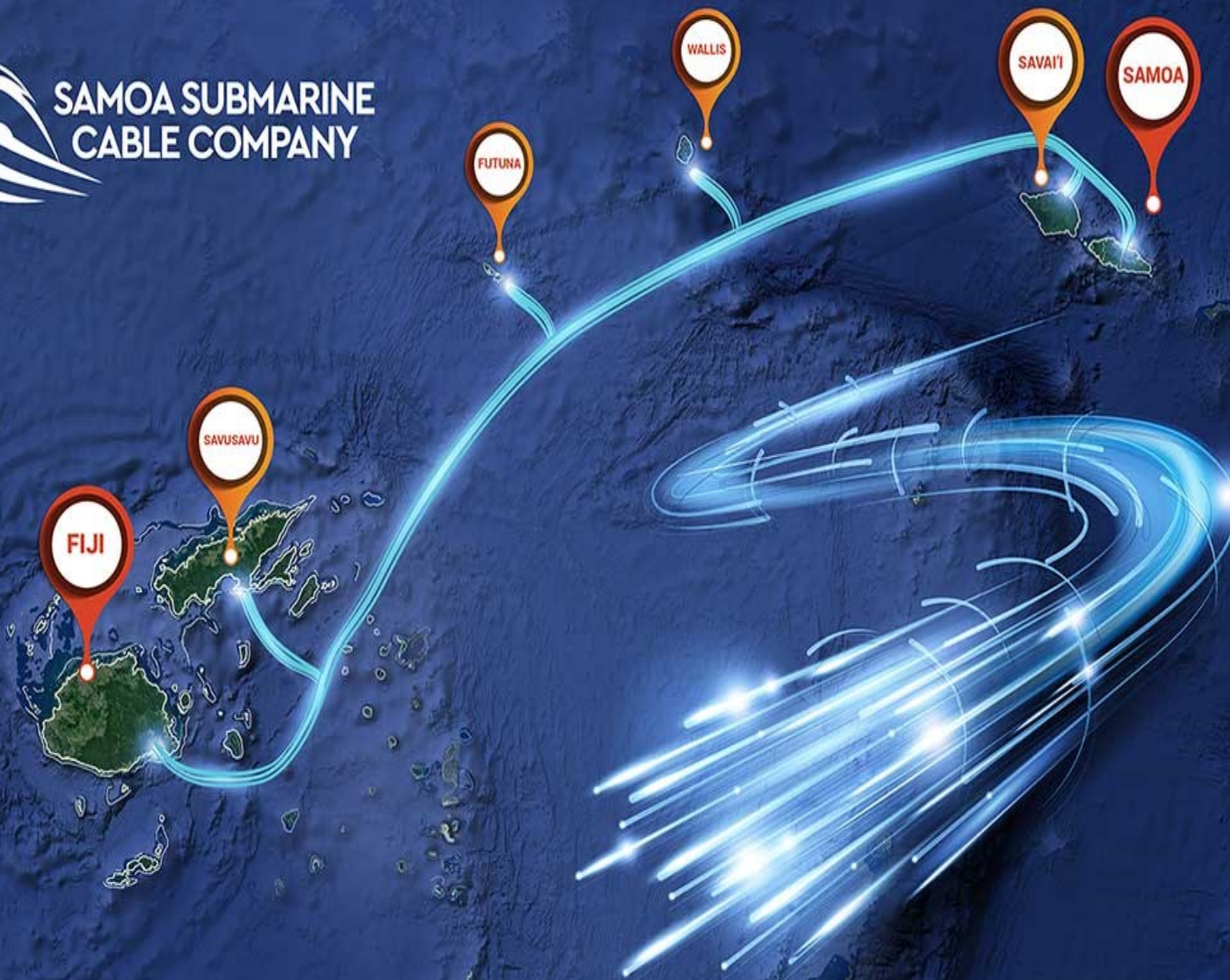


Overall Progress





# SAMOA SUBMARINE CABLE COMPANY



FIJI

SAVUSAVU

FUTUNA

WALLIS

SAVAI'I

SAMOA

# Price of Internet access and International Bandwidth (wholesale and retail)



- Significant Market Power (SMP)
  - Market Analysis
  - Report on Market Definition
    - i. Retail Broadband Internet Market
    - ii. Wholesale International Internet Bandwidth Capacity Market
  
- Currently working to do a analysis of the market and to define the different markets including Submarine Cable Market



# **Proposed plans to enhance access, bandwidth and speed of connectivity in the country**



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- Affordable and appropriate ICT accessible to all.
- To provide citizens and government with access to appropriate, high-quality, affordable ICTs, to reduce hardship and poverty, and achieve and sustain a better standard of living.
- To provide for access to appropriate and affordable ICT for all.
- To develop fundamental ICT development skills that can address local and regional needs.
- To utilize ICT as a means for enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency, inclusiveness, accountability and transparency of state governance.
- Pacific Hub for Information Telecom Technology in 2020 (Submarine Cable)

# Policies and regulations relating to international connectivity



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- Telecommunication Act 2005
- Telecommunications licence Fees Regulations 2015
- Telecom Rules for licensing 2007
- Radio Spectrum Fees Regulations 2015
- Spectrum Management Policy 2017
- Co-location Policy
- Universal Access Policy 2010
- IXP Policy 2017
- CSAM Policy 2016
- Broadcasting Act 2010

# Challenges pertaining to enhancing access to submarine cables



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- Regulatory Obligations
- Investors demands – return rates
- Insufficient demand from government and from the population for Internet access results in higher prices for wholesale submarine cable access
- Domestic Connectivity

# Faafetai (Thank You)

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