INTERNET GOVERNANCE

APNIC 28 - BEIJING

a PITA Presentation:
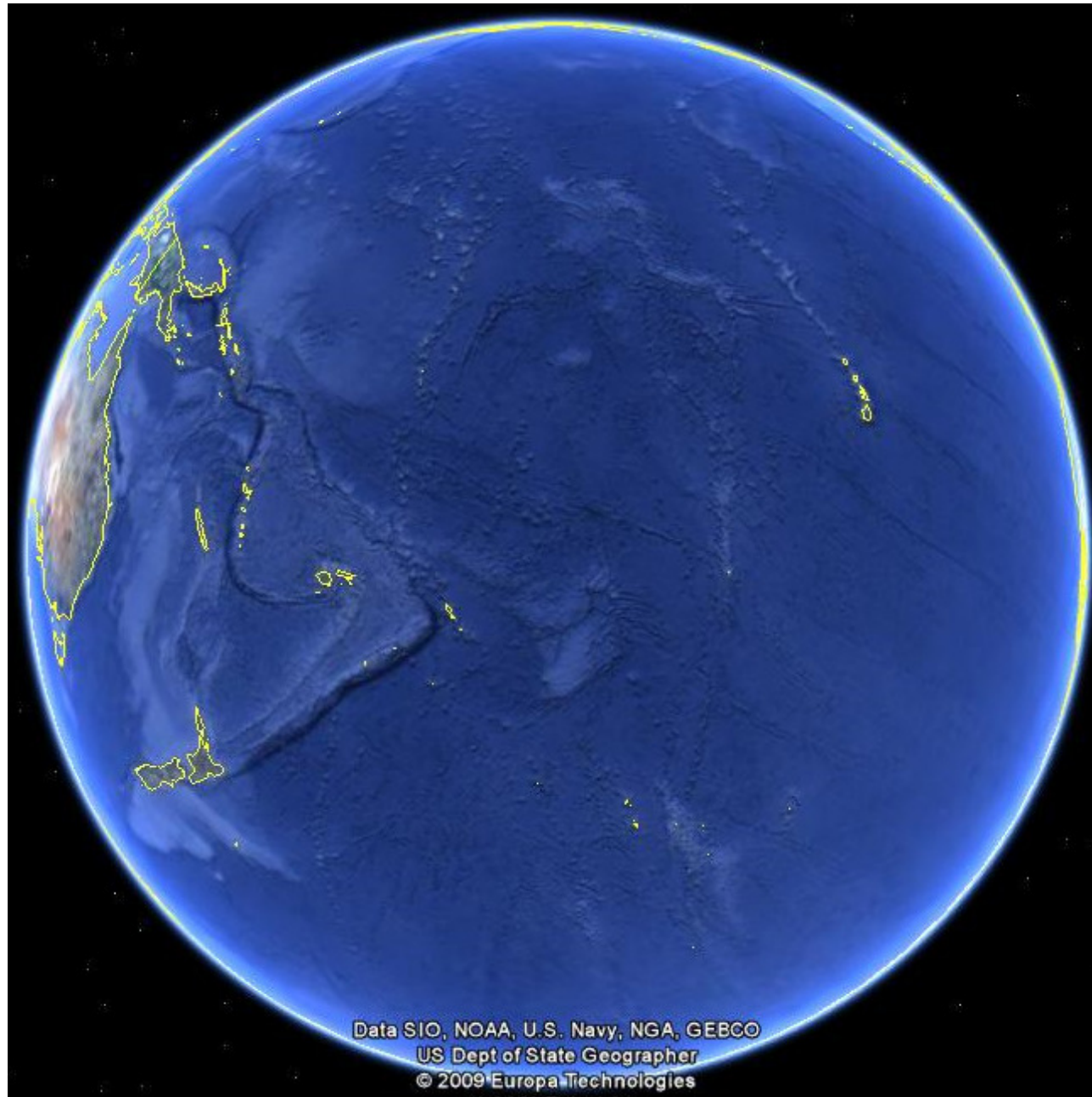
Fred Christopher
PACIFIC ISLANDS TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

About the Pacific Islands:

- a vast Oceaninc space -1/3rd of Planet
- thousands of small islands
9 Million People
20 Small Is & Developing States

3D view
Of the
Pacific
Ocean

What is Internet Governance for the Pacific Islands?

- Internet for everyone
- Internet that is reliable, safe and secure
- Should there be Monitoring, Regulation and Policing of internet?
  - Who should do it?
- Great imbalance of literacy Vs usage of internet
- Equal Opportunity for small islands, small populations
- Equal empowerment for small islands, small populations

Typical Access for Small Island Countries

Satellite Technology used extensively

- Inter-island and overseas communication is via satellite - Double hop for outer islands
- Some countries with up 10-15 Satellite Earth Stations

Submarine Cables initiatives in progress; justifiable only for larger Pacific Island countries

Heavy dependence on satellites for local islands population

Typical Access for Small Island Countries

Last Mile access

- Mainly copper – very expensive and costly to extend
- Wireless technology on the rise which is more cost effective but lots of challenges with terrain
- Outer Islands maintenance means technicians has to travel from 1-5 days to restore services.
- In some cases it could up to 2 weeks depending on boat availability
- Access to power is problem for rural areas and outer islands – Initiatives on solar power should be encouraged as fuel needs constant transportation
- Problem of Salinity for the small Is countries – affecting quality of services

Typical challenges faced by Pacific Islands

POPULATION SPREAD
LOW HUMAN CAPACITY

POOR CONNECTIVITY
HEAVY RELIANCE ON
SATELLITE

POOR INFRASTRUCTURE & REMOTE ISLANDS

Developments

- Growth of Broadband to houses (typical 128k or 256k)
- Increasing e-commerce activities (banks, major service utilities, retailers)
- Introduction of e-government services
- National Call Centres being developed
- Increasing contents on web, mobile

Issues

Growing awareness of IG by Governments due to concerns on

- Absence of government voice in policies
- Cyber risks and online child safety

SPAM; Block about 100,000 SPAM messages everyday. – for a small country and limited resources, this can translate to major cost

Growing social networking impact on cultural values and productivity

Peer to Peer traffic is becoming a major problem for network providers on bandwidth – music, movies & software download; Social networking using Bebo, U Tube, My Space, etc

- Restrictions of bandwidth in Day and Night packages introduced to allow priority sectors access to internet in Day

Issues

cyber or "e" legislations and policies
- SPAM, Privacy and data protections, Consumer, CHILD protection, Content etc
- Mechanisms or machinery for reporting

Digital Divide & Universal Access

International bandwidth

Charging regime for internet

Resource Allocations for small islands & developing states
- Special issues for small islands & developing states

Human Factor

- "We believe that the human factor is the most important element in Internet/ ICT Governance"
- "Knowledge will change attitudes"
- Limited labour & skills
- Illiterate public on cyber opportunity and risks
- Growing migration overseas of skilled labour
- Overseas training is expensive due to the high costs of airfares and accommodation on top of the course fees.
- Need training in the region to be ongoing
- Support for training by APNIC, ICANN, ITU, ISOC, APT, regional countries, others welcome.

Pacific Islands Internet Indicators

Country	Pop	No ISP	Users	Delivery
PNG	6.06m	4	51k	LL, DU, BB
Fiji	945k	4	20.5k+	LL,DU,WL,BB,CDMA,GSM,VSAT
Solomon Is	596k	1	2k+	LL,DU,WF,DSL,BB,GSM,HF
Tahiti	260k	1	30k	LL,DU,BB,WL,VSAT
N Caledonia	225k	5	28k	DU,DSL,WL,GPRS
Vanuatu	219k	1	7.5k	DU,WL,BB
Samoa	220k	4	8k+	LL,DU.BB,WF
Kiribati	113k	2	1k+	DU,WL
Tonga	121k	2	1.2k+	DU,WL,DSL,KU VSAT TRIAL
Marshall Is	64.5k	1	1.5k+	DU,DSL
Palau	20.7k	2	3k+	DU,WL,BB,DSL
Nauru	13k	1	350+	DU,WF
W & Futuna	15.2k	1	710+	DU,DSL
Tuvalu	12.3k	2	400+	DU,WF, WLBB & DSL in progress
Cook Is	19.5k	1	1940+	LL,DU,BB,WF,WM,DSL
Norfolk	2.1k	2	450+	DU,WL,BB,LL
Tokelau	1.4k	1		

(2008+)

PACIFIC ISLANDS TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION - PITA

A non profit organisation formed since 1986 to represent the interest of the Pacific Islands in the field of communications and ICT.

Constitutes members from 22 Pacific Island countries, states and territories, includes Network Operators, Carriers, Regulators

PITA has MOU with ITU, APT, CTO, APNIC, ICANN, PTC, APSCC, SOPAC, SPC and works closely The Forum Secretariat of the Pacific Islands and other governments from the Pacific, Including Australia and NZ

Total current members = 107

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Thank You

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