Capacity training workshop on operationalizing the Pacific Internet Exchange Point (IXP) proposal

Virtual Meeting (02 November 2021)

Key Outcomes

1. The Capacity training workshop on operationalizing the Pacific IXP proposal was held on 2 November of 2021, 09:00-11:15 (Bangkok time).[1]

2. The objectives of the capacity training workshop were to share with key stakeholders from New Zealand, Fiji, and Samoa of the key findings and outputs including: (1) the guideline on the operationalization strategy plan for building the Pacific IXP in the overall framework of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (AP-IS) and; (2) a draft result of operational costing study for establishing and operating the Pacific IXP for Fiji, New Zealand and Samoa and; (3) to review a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the establishment of the Pacific IXP.

3. Participants from government ministries, regulators, Internet service providers, and academia, from the three target countries (New Zealand, Fiji and Samoa) attended the event (see List of participants and programme in Annex 1).

4. The meeting discussed and highlighted the following issues:

   a) The participants of the workshop highlighted the potential benefits to the Pacific countries from building Pacific IXPs
   b) The participants expressed the need for the updated information on the potential interests of Pacific Internet Service Providers and Content Delivery Networks to joining the Pacific IXP. In this connection, the participants requested the support of ESCAP and partners to assess the interest of Internet Service Providers, potential latent demands for Internet traffic that may be directed through the Pacific IXP, and the interests of submarine fiber-optic cable owners and possible arrangement for the Pacific IXP proposal.
   c) Samoa requested ESCAP and partners to assist with providing further insights on the existing Content Delivery Networks' services currently made available in Pacific island countries.

[1] https://www.unescap.org/events/2021/capacity-training-workshop-operationalizing-pacific-internet-exchange-point-ixp

d) Fiji informed the workshop that it will review the operational guideline internally and will revert back to the ESCAP secretariat on technical aspects raised during the meeting.
e) Samoa requested the ESCAP secretariat and partners' support on further revising the guideline on operationalization strategy plan as a living document for consensus building on the deployment of the Pacific IXP.
f) The participants of the workshop discussed the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agreed to explore the possibility of national Internet Exchange Point entities (or a designated competent authority in each country) as signatories to the draft MOU.
g) Samoa thanked the ESCAP secretariat and partners for the support on drafting of the Memorandum of Understanding. Samoa further requested the support on revising of the draft MOU in light of the latest discussions and present it in a next workshop on Pacific IXP. Samoa also expressed its support towards the possibility of national Internet Exchange Points entities or designated competent authorities as signatories to the draft MOU.
h) The Internet Association of Australia expressed its support towards the establishment and operationalization of the Pacific IXP proposal.

End.

ANNEX

Annex 1:

List of Participants (Draft):

1) Mr. Vivek Anand (Ministry of Communications, Fiji)
2) Mr. Magnesh Reddy (Telecom Authority Fiji)
3) Mr. Elvin Prasad (Pacific ICT CROP Taskforce, USP, Fiji)
4) Mr. Kisione Finau (USP, Fiji)
5) Mr. Dave Mill (New Zealand Internet Exchange)
6) Ms. Narelle Clark (Internet Association of Australia)
7) Mr. Talatalaga Mata'u (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Samoa)
8) Mr. Suetena Loia (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Samoa
9) Mr. Fiti Laupua (National University of Samoa)
10) Mr. Kingsley Leavasa (Office of the Regulator, Samoa)
11) Mr. Tamiano Isitolo (Vodafone, Samoa)
12) Mr. Gus Crichton (Digicel Group, Samoa)
13) Ms. Angeline Seiuli
14) Ms. Khan Ha Tran
15) Ms. Venus Iosefa
16) Ms. Sia Matalavea
17) Mr. Paul Brooks (Resource Person)
18) Mr. Emani Lui (Resource Person)
19) Mr. Tae Hyung Kim (ESCAP)
20) Mr. Siope Vakataki 'Ofa (ESCAP)
21) Ms. Cristina Bernal Aparicio (ESCAP)
22) Ms. Quynh Huong Nguyen (ESCAP)

Programme:

Capacity Training Workshop on Operationalizing
the Pacific Internet Exchange Point (IXP) Proposal
Virtual Meeting, 02 November 2021 (09:00-11:15 (UCT+7))

Programme

Mr. Tae Hyung Kim, Chief of Section, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP	Opening Remarks	**2 mins** **09:00 – 09:02**
Session 1: Review of Operational Guideline and Costing of Pacific IXP		
Speakers		
Dr. Paul Brooks, ESCAP consultant	Draft guideline on operationalizing the Pacific IXP.	15 mins 09:02 – 09:17
Mr. Emani Liu, ESCAP consultant	Operational costing study on establishing the Pacific IXP for Fiji, New Zealand & Samoa.	15 mins 09:17 – 09:32
Representatives of Fiji, New Zealand & Samoa	Discussions and country comments.	45 mins 09:32-10:32
Session 2: Review of Draft Memorandum of Understanding on Pacific IXP Proposal		
Speakers		
Mr. Siope Vakataki 'Ofa, ESCAP	Presentation of the draft memorandum of understanding	10 mins 10:32-10:42
Representatives of Fiji, New Zealand & Samoa	Discussions and country comments	45 mins 10:42-11:12
Session 3: Way forward		
Speakers		
Mr. Siope Vakataki 'Ofa, ESCAP	Wrap up and way forward	3 mins 11:12-11:15