

Indigenous Peoples Due Diligence Report

July 2015

Proposed Grant

Samoa: Submarine Cable Project

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**Samoa: Samoa Submarine Cable Project
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DUE DILIGENCE REPORT-
Fagali'i and Tuasivi Villages, Samoa
7 May 2015**

I. Introduction

1. This due diligence report (DDR) on indigenous people describes:
 - Brief project background;
 - Component activities; and
 - Description of local people vis-à-vis ADB definition of indigenous peoples.

II. Brief Project Background

2. The Government of the Independent State of Samoa (the government) has requested the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank (WB) to support market development and core infrastructure investments aimed at improving access to information and communications technology (ICT). A key component of this support is the planned investment in a submarine cable system (SCS) to connect Samoa to regional/global communications infrastructure.

3. The objective of the Samoa Submarine Cable Project (the Project) is to reduce the cost and increase the availability of ICT services to support social and economic development in Samoa. The Project is expected to contribute to improved public service delivery (including online government services, health and education, and financial services); increased private sector development opportunities, and reduced transaction costs for businesses and individuals; regional integration objectives of improved service delivery, trade and communications between Pacific island economies; and more efficient use of revenues within the region.

4. The Project involves placement of a submarine fiber optic cable link to meet forecast bandwidth demand. The basic infrastructure components will comprise landing facilities and cable stations at either end of the route, with a fiber optic cable (incorporating repeaters) laid on or beneath the sea floor.

5. As part of this broad-based electronic connectivity Project, ADB is providing a technical assistance under TA-8540 REG to conduct the environmental and social safeguards studies for the proposed submarine cable system that connects Samoa to Fiji with a spur to Savaii (Figure 1).

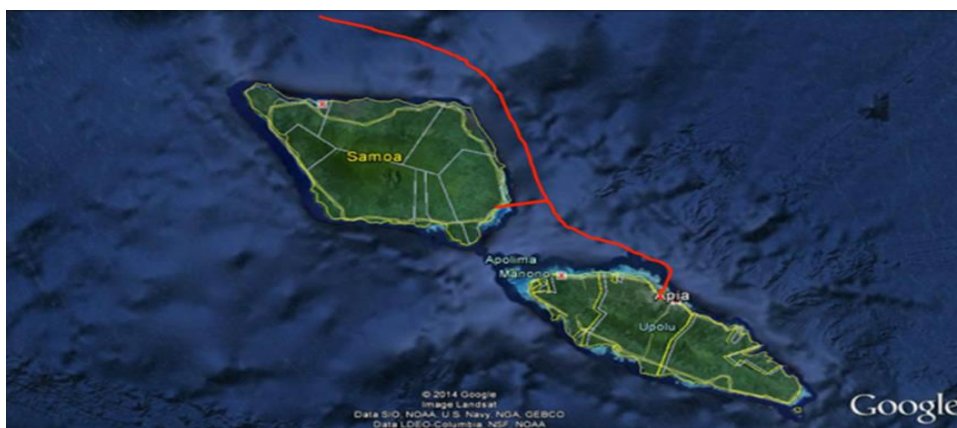


Figure 1. Landing Sites for the Samoa Submarine Cable Project

III. Component Activities

6. Following are activities under the project output¹:

6.1 Establishment and efficient operation of a Submarine Cable System by the Samoa Submarine Cable Company

7. Activities under this output will include: (i) Contracts awarded by December 2015 (ii) Carry out marine survey and complete marine operations for laying cables by June 2016 (iii) Terminal equipment installed by end of June 2016 (iv) Cable landing systems equipped with necessary cross-connected facilities for their customers by July 2016 (v) Train the cable company staff on landing facility operation and maintenance and update skills and knowledge periodically by August 2016 (vi) Appropriate cable repair and maintenance agreement for domestic cables is in place before completion of cable lay, by June 2016 (vii) Commissioning, provisional acceptance, and ready for service by September 2016 (viii) Final acceptance by December 2016 and (ix) Continue regular monitoring and supervision until December 2017.

6.2 Improved legal and regulatory environment for ICT

8. Activities here will include: (i) Review and develop effective regulation for the sector with a particular focus on wholesale markets by March 2016 (ii) Establish wholesale tariffs including price and non-price terms for access to all international fiber optic bandwidth services in Samoa by June 2016 (iii) Carry out a nationwide consumer survey to understand the benefits of ICT by September 2016 (iv) Procure technical equipment required to administer effective monitoring by March 2016 and (v) Capacity development for OoTR staff by December 2016.

IV. Indigenous People and Ethnicity

9. The local people in the project sites (Fagali'i and Tuasivi) **do not meet the ADB criteria of distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group** possessing the following characteristics² in varying degrees:

(i) self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;

(ii) collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories;

(iii) customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and

(iv) a distinct language, often different from the official language of the country or region.

¹ Design and Monitoring Framework, ADB Concept Paper, 17 March 2015

² Social Policy Statement 2009, Policy Paper, ADB, June 2009

10. The local people in the project sites are part of mainstream Samoan population and are not considered to have a distinct cultural heritage including a different language and are not discriminated upon by other local groups due to their language, skin color and education level among others thus not requiring protection and special attention from the project.

11. For operational purposes, the term Indigenous Peoples is used in a generic sense to refer to a distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group

12. The Polynesian group of islands known as Samoa consists of two main islands Upolu and Savai'i and seven smaller islets. Upolu is home to nearly three-quarters of Samoa's population. In the time of 1000 B.C. Southeast Asian immigrants arrived in the Samoan islands and from there they settled the rest of Polynesia. First sparsely contacts with Europeans began in the early 1700s, intensified with the arrival of English missionaries and traders in the 1830s. Before World War I (Western) Samoa was a German protectorate, occupied by New Zealand in 1914. In 1962 Samoa became the first Polynesian nation to reestablish independence in the 20th century. Despite modern influences Samoan people still hold firmly to "Fa'asamoa", the traditional Samoan way, related to their language, dress, food, customs and even property.³

13. Based on the 2011 Census, Samoa's total population of 187,820 people is distributed across two main and two smaller islands. Upolu, which accounts for roughly 75 percent of the population, is where the capital city of Apia is located. Savai'i is the largest island and accounts for most of the remaining 25 percent of the population. Samoa is comprised of four regions: Apia Urban Area, North West Upolu, Rest of Upolu, and Savai'i (see table below).

Table 1. Population by Region, Percentage Distribution and Annual Growth Rate, 2001-2011

Region/District	2011	% Total Population	Annual Growth Rate (2006-2011)	2006	% Total Population	Annual Growth Rate (2001-2006)	2001	% Total Population
Samoa	187,820	100	0.8	180,741	100	0.5	176,710	100
1. Apia Urban Area (AUA)	36,735	19.6	-0.5	37,708	20.9	-0.6	38,836	22
2. North West Upolu (NWU)	62,390	33.2	2.2	56,122	31.1	1.3	52,576	29.8
3. Rest of Upolu (UPO)	44,293	23.6	0.2	43,769	24.2	0.6	42,474	24
4. Savai'i	44,402	23.6	0.6	43,142	23.9	0.1	42,824	24.2
Total	187,820	100		180,741	100		176,710	100

Source: 2011 Samoa Census

14. Based on comparison of 2006 and 2011 Census, the Samoan population has increased from 180,471 (26,205 households) in 2006 to 187,820 people in 2011 or about four per cent in five years. The urban population represent about a fifth of the population with the majority living in the rural areas including those in the larger island of Savai'i. The national population density is 67 person per sq km and it has a young population with the median age of 20.7 years. The average household size is seven.

Table 2. Samoa Demographic information

Feature	Project Location
	Samoa
Land area (sq Km)	2,944 Km ² ⁴
Population	187,820
Urban population	19.6%

³ <http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/samoa.htm>

Feature	Project Location
	Samoa
Rural population	80.4%
Growth Rate	.04%
Population Density (sq km)	67 persons
Median age	20.7 years
Average Household Size	7
No. of Households	26,205

Source: 2011 Census, Samoa Bureau of Statistics

15. In terms of gender, there were also more males than females during the 2011 Census.

Table 3. 2011 Samoa Population Statistics

Location	Male	Female	Total
Samoa	96,990	90,830	187,820
Upolu	73,934	69,484	143,418
Savai'i	23,056	21,346	44,402

Source: 2011 Census, Samoa Bureau of Statistics

V. Language, Dress and Religion

16. People in Samoa speak both English and Samoan, with English commonly spoken in government and business transactions and Samoan mostly spoken in daily conversations.

17. The traditional ladies clothing is the [pule'asi](#) which is a matching skirt and tunic with Samoan designs. The [lava-lava](#) is a [sarong](#) which may be worn by men or women. They are of different patterns and colors, but tend to be plain for men who may wear it as part of an official uniform. Some men have intricate and geometrical patterns that are [tattooed](#) onto their lower body and upper legs. The tattooing process is performed without any [anaesthesia](#) and is extremely painful.⁵

18. Nearly 100% of the Samoan population are Christians. Religion plays a major part in the lives of the Samoan community. The population is predominantly Christian as reflected in the many Christian denominations people chose to affiliate and attend in different villages. The EFKS or Congregational Christian Church of Samoa still had the biggest share of church members (32 percent) despite losing 2 percent when compared to the census in the last ten years (2001) with 35 percent. The Roman Catholic Church also maintained the 19 percent share over the ten year period while the Methodist church has moved back its ranking from being the third largest (15 percent) in the last ten years to being the fourth largest church (14 percent) in 2011. It is interesting to note that the LDS church has become the third largest church for the first time in 2011 with a 15 percent share compared to only 13 percent and fourth ranking in the last ten years. The Assembly of God churches have also increased its share from 7 percent in 2001 to 8 percent in 2011 while the SDA church still maintained its share below 5 percent in the ten-year period. All other churches when combined came to 8 percent share in total in 2011. A comparison of the percentage distribution of the same churches to the census 1981 or 30 years ago obviously reflected the mass changes that different churches have experienced. (*Note that the AOG church was probably included in other churches in 1981*).⁶

⁵ Culture of Samoa, Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_Samoa#Languages

⁶ 2011 Samoa Census

Annex 1

Indigenous Peoples Impact Screening Checklist – Tuasivi and Fagali’I Sites

KEY CONCERNS (Please provide elaborations on the Remarks column)	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	Remarks
A. Indigenous Peoples Identification				
1. Are there socio-cultural groups present in or use the project area who may be considered as "tribes" (hill tribes, schedules tribes, tribal peoples), "minorities" (ethnic or national minorities), or "indigenous communities" in the project area?		X		
2. Are there national or local laws or policies as well as anthropological researches/studies that consider these groups present in or using the project area as belonging to "ethnic minorities", scheduled tribes, tribal peoples, national minorities, or cultural communities?		X		The national constitution recognizes the predominantly local population on the project site on their rights to land.
3. Do such groups self-identify as being part of a distinct social and cultural group?		X		
4. Do such groups maintain collective attachments to distinct habitats or ancestral territories and/or to the natural resources in these habitats and territories?		X		
5. Do such groups maintain cultural, economic, social, and political institutions distinct from the dominant society and culture?		X		
6. Do such groups speak a distinct language or dialect?		X		
7. Has such groups been historically, socially and economically marginalized, disempowered, excluded, and/or discriminated against?		X		
8. Are such groups represented as "Indigenous Peoples" or as "ethnic minorities" or "scheduled tribes" or "tribal populations" in any formal decision-making bodies at the national or local levels?		N/A		
B. Identification of Potential Impacts	N/A			
9. Will the project directly or indirectly benefit or target Indigenous Peoples?		N/A		The project does not target indigenous population, but overall population of Samoa will benefit.
10. Will the project directly or indirectly affect Indigenous Peoples' traditional socio-cultural and belief practices? (e.g. child-rearing, health, education, arts, and governance)		N/A		The project does not target indigenous population, but overall population of Samoa will benefit.

KEY CONCERNS (Please provide elaborations on the Remarks column)	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	Remarks
11. Will the project affect the livelihood systems of Indigenous Peoples? (e.g., food production system, natural resource management, crafts and trade, employment status)		N/A		The project does not target indigenous population, but overall population of Samoa will benefit.
12. Will the project be in an area (land or territory) occupied, owned, or used by Indigenous Peoples, and/or claimed as ancestral domain?		N/A		
C. Identification of Special Requirements <i>Will the project activities include:</i>		N/A		
13. Commercial development of the cultural resources and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples?				
14. Physical displacement from traditional or customary lands?				
15. Commercial development of natural resources (such as minerals, hydrocarbons, forests, water, hunting or fishing grounds) within customary lands under use that would impact the livelihoods or the cultural, ceremonial, spiritual uses that define the identity and community of Indigenous Peoples?				
16. Establishing legal recognition of rights to lands and territories that are traditionally owned or customarily used, occupied or claimed by indigenous peoples ?				
17. Acquisition of lands that are traditionally owned or customarily used, occupied or claimed by indigenous peoples				

D. Anticipated project impacts on Indigenous Peoples – N/A

Project component/ activity/ output	Anticipated positive effect	Anticipated negative effect
1.		