



## Tonga: Introducing eGovernance through Digital Health

Project Name	Introducing eGovernance through Digital Health	
Project Number	50281-001	
Country	Tonga	
Project Status	Proposed	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Grant	
Source of Funding / Amount	<b>Grant: Pacific Digital Health and e-Government Project</b>	
	concessional ordinary capital resources lending / Asian Development Fund	US\$ 7.50 million
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships	
Sector / Subsector	<b>Health</b> - Health sector development and reform	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Effective gender mainstreaming	
Description	<p>This proposed digital health and e-governance project will leverage the increased bandwidth from the fiber optic cable by fostering an e-governance environment together with more direct investments in digital health in Tonga for improved health system response and efficiencies.</p> <p>The project will create the information technology infrastructure and systems to move the fragmented paper based system to a digital health information system. Project investments include software and hardware infrastructure, policy advisory and legislative drafting support and capacity building. The project will incorporate the existing mhealth pilot into broader digital health system interventions supporting the Tonga National Health Strategic Plan 2015-2020 and optimizing resources and decision-making. The project will form part of the Government of Tonga's strategy to implement e-governance by strengthening core public health functions (routine information systems) with technology to enable real-time, integrated, electronic data collection.</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Tonga made significant progress towards the Millennium Development Goals by reducing child mortality and improving maternal health, but it now faces challenges of decreasing life expectancy, most likely as a result of chronic disease and health security threats such as the Zika virus with five confirmed cases in 2015. Information communication and technology presents a possible tool for improved surveillance and monitoring and an effective digital health information system underpins all elements and functions of a health system. It enables progress monitoring, patient tracking and identification of service delivery barriers such as health worker or medical supplies shortage and promotes evidence based policy making.	
Impact	A more inclusive, sustainable and dynamic knowledge-based economy To improve the health of the nation by providing quality care through promotion of good health, reducing morbidity, disability and premature (death) mortality	
Outcome	Reliability, quality and granularity of health statistics improved, disaggregated by sex and age.	
Outputs	The enabling environment for eGovernment improved	
Geographical Location	Nation-wide	

### Safeguard Categories

Environment	C
Involuntary Resettlement	C
Indigenous Peoples	C

### Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

**Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation**

During Project Design

During Project Implementation

Responsible ADB Officer Wyatt, Pamela

Responsible ADB Department Pacific Department

Responsible ADB Division Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division, PARD

Executing Agencies *Ministry of Finance and National Planning  
Vuna Road  
Nuku'alofa  
Kingdom of Tonga*

**Timetable**

Concept Clearance 22 Mar 2018

Fact Finding 06 Nov 2018 to 09 Nov 2018

MRM 07 Dec 2018

Approval -

Last Review Mission -

Last PDS Update 31 Mar 2018

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/50281-001/main>

Request for Information <http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=50281-001>

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