

 Early Warning System

WB-P180807

Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa Project



## Quick Facts

Countries	Samoa
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2024-10-18
Borrower	Government of Samoa - Office of the Regulator / Ministry of Communications & Information Technology
Sectors	Communications
Investment Type(s)	Grant
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 20.05 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 35.00 million



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## **Project Description**

According to the Bank's website, the objective of this project is to increase resilient, and inclusive use, of broadband internet and enhancing delivery of digitally enabled services.

The project comprises of three components.

The first component, digital connectivity and digital government infrastructure will support the development of climate and disaster-resilient national digital connectivity and digital government infrastructure in Upolu and Savai'i. It consists of following sub-components: (i) National fiber network to improve service delivery; (ii) enhancement of the capacity, coverage, security, and resilience of the government's intranet; and (iii) upgrade and establishment of secure and resilient government data center and support for the rollout of broadband pilot(s).

The second component, strengthening and enhancing the enabling environment for the digital transformation will provide support for the design and implementation of the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) arrangements under component 1, strengthen the Recipient's enabling environment for digital government and the digital economy, and provide ongoing support to traditional regulatory priorities for the telecommunications sector, particularly to promote investment, technological innovation and evolution, and the long-term interests of users of digital services. It consists of following sub-components: (i) transactional, policy and regulatory support for PPP and feasibility assessment; (ii) regulatory support, policy and legal framework for digital government and economy; and (iii) enhancement of cybersecurity.

The third component, project implementation support will finance technical and operational assistance for project management and implementation.



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## **Early Warning System Project Analysis**

Environmental and social risks associated with the project are considered moderate. The project consists of two typologies: digital infrastructure and technical assistance (TA) activities for two main islands of Upolo and Savai'i. The digital infrastructure component involves the installation of connectivity infrastructure, such as fiber connections, software, and hardware, as well as the rollout of broadband pilot(s) to enhance capacity and throughput. Increased connectivity can result in increased risks for the community including cyber attacks (i.e. phishing, ransomware), cyber bullying and exposure to illicit material and exploitation of youths (particularly females).

There are also risks relating to unequal access to benefits which the project will mitigate by supporting last mile fiber to premises connectivity for unserved and underserved communities as well as pilot initiatives for public sites such as medical facilities, schools and government offices.

Potential environmental and occupational health and safety (OHS) risks are associated with encountering unknown cables and services and improper disposal of waste materials.



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## Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

A proposed grant in the amount of SDR 14.9 million (US\$20.05 million equivalent).



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## Contact Information

### World Bank

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### Borrower/Client/Recipient

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### Implementing Agencies

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### ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission>

### ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing [ipanel@worldbank.org](mailto:ipanel@worldbank.org). Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: <https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint>



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## Bank Documents

- [Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary \(ESRS\) - Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa - \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Appraisal Project Information Document \(PID\) \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary \(ESRS\) - Digital Samoa Project - P180807 \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Concept Project Information Document \(PID\) \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Disclosable Version of the ISR - Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa Project - P180807 - Sequenc](#)
- [Environmental and Social Commitment Plan \(ESCP\) - Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa - P180807 \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Environmental and Social Commitment Plan \(ESCP\) Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa Project \(P18 \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Official Documents- Disbursement and Financial Information Letter for Grant E379-WS.pdf \(English\)](#)
- [Official Documents- Financing Agreement for Grant E379-WS.pdf \(English\)](#)
- [Samoa - Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa Project \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Samoa - EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC- P180807- Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa Project - Procuremen \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Samoa - EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC- P180807- Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa Project - Procuremen \[Original Source\]](#)
- [Stakeholder Engagement Plan \(SEP\) - Digitally Connected and Resilient Samoa - P180807 \[Original Source\]](#)