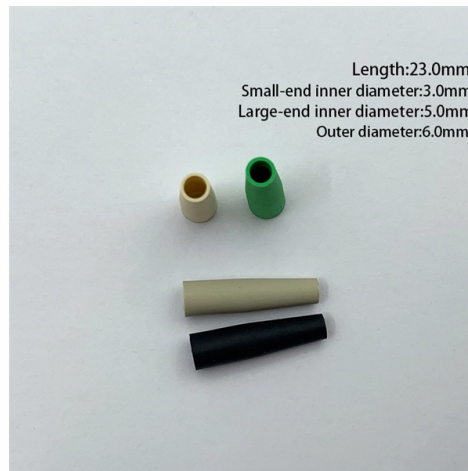


Tuvalu Power Fiber Optic Cable Project



Overview

Tuvalu Fibre Optic Cable Project: Environmental and Social This document is the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the Tuvalu Fibre Optic.

Key Takeaways

The Tuvalu Vaka Cable is the nation's first undersea fiber optic connection, linking Funafuti to the global internet and marking a major step in Tuvalu's digital transformation.

Project Overview

The Tuvalu Vaka Cable is a submarine fiber optic cable connecting Tuvalu's capital, Funafuti, to the international internet network via a branch of Google's Bulikula cable system. Developed by Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation (TTC) in partnership with Google, the project is supported by funding from the United States, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and Taiwan. The cable system contains four fiber pairs and is designed to provide faster, more reliable, and affordable internet connectivity across Tuvalu.

Technical and Environmental Considerations

The cable was constructed with resilience in mind, addressing the risks posed by rising sea levels. Measures include elevated landing platforms and solar-powered infrastructure to reduce reliance on diesel generators. The project also incorporates rainwater harvesting and follows an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) to mitigate potential environmental and social impacts, including stakeholder engagement and monitoring.



Funding and Cost

The total cost of the Vaka Cable project is approximately USD 56 million (AUD 80 million equivalent), fully grant-funded by the supporting countries, with Australia contributing up to USD 37 million (AUD 53 million equivalent). Additional feasibility studies for regional connectivity, such as the Central Pacific Cable linking Guam and American Samoa, are also supported by U. S. grants to expand connectivity to other Pacific Island nations.

Timeline and Operational Status

The cable landed in Funafuti in December 2025 and is expected to be operational by the third quarter of 2026. The project represents Tuvalu's first international telecommunications cable, providing a critical digital link for education, healthcare, business, and public services.

Societal and Strategic Impact

The Vaka Cable is more than an infrastructure project; it symbolizes Tuvalu's aspirations for digital inclusion, economic growth, and global connectivity. It enables schools to access online learning, allows medical professionals to consult specialists abroad, and supports small businesses and public services. The project also serves as a platform for preserving and sharing Tuvalu's cultural heritage, reflecting the traditional vaka canoe's symbolism of resilience, exploration, and unity.

Summary

The Tuvalu Vaka Cable project is a landmark initiative that combines advanced technology, international collaboration, and climate-conscious design to transform Tuvalu into a digitally connected nation. It addresses both technical and environmental challenges while providing broad societal benefits, positioning Tuvalu for enhanced participation in the global digital economy.

Article Content

Tuvalu Fibre Optic Cable Project: Environmental and Social

This document is the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the Tuvalu Fibre Optic Cable Project (TvICT), which aims to improve ICT services in Tuvalu by connecting Funafuti to the

Telecommunications & ICT Development Project

Install a fibre optic cable to provide high capacity and lowest cost international connectivity to Funafuti. The preferred option for the cable connection will be from Tokelau (connecting to the Southern Cross

Google-backed Tuvalu undersea cable targets climate

As the cable is laid, engineers are building it on a higher base to counter potential sea level rise, and the plan includes solar panels to power the

World Bank Document

To facilitate the expansion and reform of ICT services in Tuvalu, the GoTv are planning to invest in a submarine cable system to connect Funafuti atoll to the international optical fibre network, with

Undersea cable sparks concerns amid rising seas

The Tuvalu Vaka cable, a branch off Google's Bulikula cable, landed on the island's capital Funafuti last December and is expected to be operational

Tuvalu Vaka submarine cable

This cable system contains four fiber pairs that land in Funafuti, the capital of Tuvalu. The project will have a real impact on the people of Tuvalu, helping to bridge the digital divide by facilitating secure

Tuvalu launches submarine cable; government offers free internet

With the new cable breaking Tuvalu's decades of isolation and limited access to markets and services, the government announced plans to double data plans and eventually provide its

Vaka Cable Connects Tuvalu to the World, Marking a New Digital Era

For decades, Tuvalu has struggled with geographic isolation, limited market access, and the increasing threat of rising seas. The Vaka Cable, however, opens a new chapter — one where

Google-backed Tuvalu undersea cable targets climate

Google's Submarine Cable Director Shirshendu Bhattacharya addressed questions about the reliability of Tuvalu's new undersea fiber optic

The Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation (TTC) and the

The project will also connect the Police, the Media, the Hospital, the Funafuti Town Council, and the USP Center to the fiber optic cable network! The Ministry thanks TTC and the ICT

Affordable, Faster Connectivity for Tuvalu | Scoop News

The Project will also support investments in, an international optical fiber submarine cable to provide faster, lower-cost internet bandwidth.

Google Adds a Branch off Bulikula Cable to Connect Tuvalu

Google announced the ever first s ubsea cable connectivity to Tuvalu with the addition of the Tuvalu Vaka cable, a new subsea cable branch off the Bulikula cable. The Tuvalu Vaka cable is a

World Bank Document

A beach manhole landing facility and cable landing station at Funafuti to allow connection of the cable to the main telecommunications network. In addition to the fibre optic cable into Funafuti, the project will

Undersea cable sparks concerns amid rising seas

Google''s Product and Service Innovation Global Submarine Cable system director Shirshendu Bhattacharya addressed concerns about the

Tuvalu Vaka cable | The Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility ...

Tuvalu Vaka cable will be the first international subsea cable connection for Tuvalu, and marks an important step in supporting critical telecommunications and improved digital connectivity in Tuvalu.

VAKA Cable Lands, Tuvalu''s First

The Tuvalu Vaka Cable project is developed by Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation, in collaboration with Google, supplied by SubCom. The Tuvalu Vaka Cable system contains four fiber

Tuvalu Telecom awarded feasibility study grant for new Central Pacific ...

Pago Pago, AMERICAN SAMOA — A new undersea fiber optic cable is being developed in the Pacific region, between Guam and American Samoa, that will provide new or expanded

FACT SHEET Tuvalu Vaka cable

About the project Through the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP), Australia, alongside Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan and the United States, has provided a grant

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This document is for preliminary research. Verify specifications against current standards, product documentation and project requirements.

