

## Pacific Internet Partners

### Review of the First Year

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This report provides a review of the first year of operation of the Pacific Internet Partners and provides a view of the year going forward.

The three parties to the agreement are UNDP's Apia Office, InternetNZ, and UNESCO New Zealand. Full details of the program, documentation and announcements can be found at [www.pip.org.nz](http://www.pip.org.nz).

The Partners have maintained a philosophy of only partial assistance. This has allowed a very limited budget to achieve extended results.

#### **The Year in Review**

The three parties formally agreed to cooperate by signing a Memorandum of Understanding on June 21, 2004.

The agreement covers four countries (Tokelau, Samoa, Niue & Cook Islands) and has four specific initial objectives. A fifth objective, supporting attendance of the NZ Network Operators Group (NZNOG) meeting was also pursued.

Initial Objective	Tokelau	Samoa	Niue	Cook Islands
Support Pacific INET Conference		Three applicants were funded and went	One applicant tried but was unable to complete the application form.	
Support Computer Societies	Encouragement was given to the creation of a Computer Club	A professional Society is in existence.	A Computer Society was formed after support & encouragement.	
Intern Program			A proposal was submitted but withdrawn before any action could be taken.	
Mentor Program			A proposal was submitted but withdrawn before any action could be taken.	
Support NZNOG	One person was going to try to attend as they were already in New Zealand on other business.	One person was supported.	One person was supported.	

The Samoa IT Society has also sought funds to assist with overseas speakers at their annual conference, scheduled for the end of June 2005. UNESCO New Zealand have indicated availability of NZ\$2,500 to assist.

The principals of the Partners also met in October 2004, though no specific conclusions resulted.

Participation has happened, in one form or another, for Tokelau, Samoa and Niue. As yet, no engagement with the Cook Islands has occurred.

The group also established a web site ([www.pip.org.nz](http://www.pip.org.nz)) that was developed and maintained by InternetNZ.

Sources of funds (all in NZ\$) were:

InternetNZ	\$5,295 <sup>1</sup>	42%
UNDP Apia	\$4,704 <sup>2</sup>	38%
UNESCO NZ	\$2,500 <sup>3</sup>	20%
Total	\$12,499	

### Going Forward

As we look to the period from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2005 through the end of June 2006, there are many opportunities.

Expected goals for the period include:

- Support attendance of at least one, and on average two, participants to the Pacific INET conference in August 2005 in Kiribati as well as two speakers from New Zealand.
- Support attendance of an average of one participant from each country to the NZNOG meeting in early 2006.
- Support travel costs for at least three interns under an intern program.
- Support travel costs of at least one mentor to one of the member countries.
- Continue to encourage the formation of a Computer Society or Club in Tokelau and Cook Islands.

Intern & Mentor For either the intern or the mentor program to proceed, interaction with appropriate hosts (in New Zealand and in the countries) must occur and a framework must be established so that there is clear understanding of all concerned of expectations and resources. The focus for this year will be to establish a framework and run a pilot. A post project review on the effectiveness will be very beneficial for future years.

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<sup>1</sup> Includes \$2,000 for web site development, maintenance and hosting; \$2,000 for NZNOG participation grants; and \$1,295 for one participation grant at PacINET conference in Vanuatu.

<sup>2</sup> Includes funding for two people to the PacINET conference in Vanuatu & Support for Niue Computer Society Launch.

<sup>3</sup> Expected contribution for Samoa ICT Conference – not yet confirmed.

Programme Coordinator For these projects to be successful, a Programme Coordinator should be engaged to ensure that the programmes are run well and effectively. The Programme Coordinator should be someone who is familiar with the member countries, their needs and the people in the ICT communities. As the PIP program is a modest undertaking of the partners, the Programme Coordinator need not be a full-time position.

New Partners Given the modest effort and reasonable success achieved to date, a plan to bring additional Partners into the programme should be pursued. These partners could include NZAID, South Pacific Forum and possibly the relevant Ministries in each country. Private Sector participants could also become Partners, particular host or source organisations in New Zealand for the Intern and Mentor programmes respectively.

Partner Meeting – It is expected that the Partners will take advantage of opportunities when the Apia based UNDP is in Wellington to meet and review and plan for the future – as outlined in the MoU.

Engagement with Governments – As UNDP is Government focused organisation, they will use their relationships to advise each country of the PIP programmes and seek their appropriate support.

#### Proposed PIP Plan and Budget for 1 July 2005 through 30 June 2006

Support for attendees at the PacINET conference in Kiribati in August 2005. Two from Tokelau, two from Samoa, two from Niue and two from Cook Islands. Assume NZ\$2,000 per person. Also support for two speakers from New Zealand to the PacINET conference @ NZ\$2,500 each.	\$21,000
Support for attendees at the NZNOG ‘Geek’ conference in New Zealand in early 2006. As above, but at a lower cost of only \$NZ1,000 per person.	\$8,000
Support for Speakers to Samoa ICT Meeting	\$5,000
Support for Speaker to Niue ICT Meeting	\$2,000
Airfares for Interns to New Zealand. Assume 6 interns during the year at \$NZ1,000 each.	\$6,000
Airfares for Mentors to two countries. Assume 1 mentor @ \$1,500 each during the period.	\$3,000
Programme Coordinator – assume \$1,000 a month.	\$12,000
Total	\$57,000