



PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

between

The United States Agency for International Development Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership - Pacific Activity

and

Papua New Guinea Department of Information and Communications Technology

Purpose

This Partnership Agreement between the United States Agency for International Development Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership – Pacific Activity (“USAID DCCP-Pacific”) and the Papua New Guinea Department of Information and Communications Technology (“DICT”), herein referred to individually as a “Partner” and collectively as the “Partners,” reaffirms USAID DCCP-Pacific’s commitment to supporting DICT in its mandated functions under the Digital Government Act 2022. The Digital Government Act 2022 is designed to facilitate digital government by leveraging information and communication technologies (“ICT”), thereby enabling streamlined planning, coordination, development, and implementation of digital services, digital infrastructure, digital skills, and all other aspects of digital governance across the entire government.

This Partnership Agreement also seeks to establish a collaborative framework for the development, implementation, and support of Papua New Guinea’s (PNG) Digital Government Plan for 2023-2027. PNG’s Digital Government Plan translates the obligations under the Digital Government Act 2022 and PNG’s Digital Transformation Policy 2020 into sustainable and measurable programs and activities. By supporting the Digital Government Plan, USAID DCCP-Pacific intends to advance the digital transformation initiatives to foster the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises and businesses, thereby stimulating economic growth in PNG. Essentially, through this Partnership Agreement, USAID DCCP-Pacific endeavors to assist PNG in achieving its digital government transformation vision, supporting the Government’s focus on accessibility, affordability, reliability, and cyber safety.

Partners

The **United States Agency for International Development Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership - Pacific Activity** is a five-year effort based in Suva, Fiji. USAID DCCP-Pacific is committed to improving digital access and connectivity and supporting the efficient delivery and use of digital services throughout 12 Pacific Island Countries: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. USAID DCCP-Pacific aims to achieve an open, interoperable and secure digital ecosystem with expanded public services, wherein key segments of the population have the skills to catalyze digital growth, leading to a more secure, dynamic and resilient Pacific region.

The **Papua New Guinea Department of Information and Communications Technology** is responsible for information and communications technology in Papua New Guinea. DICT seeks to harness the potential of ICT to make PNG become a smart networked and knowledgeable society by bringing the government closer to the people through effective governance, improved service delivery and socio-economic growth. DICT envisages the use of ICT will: promote collaboration, interaction and participation; promote innovation and learning; promote an open and transparent government; and provide citizen-centric services and knowledge-based industries. DICT's vision is one where all citizens are empowered and can interact and collaborate with the government.

Roles and Responsibilities

1. USAID DCCP-Pacific and PNG-DICT will collaborate on the implementation of PNG's Digital Government Plan. This partnership will focus on translating strategic objectives into actionable initiatives and programs for the next 4 years.
2. USAID DCCP-Pacific will assist PNG-DICT with recruiting and embedding an in-country Project Manager to oversee the activities related to PNG's digital transformation initiatives, ensuring project plans, schedules, and documentation are current, timely, and of high quality. USAID DCCP-Pacific will also oversee the entire recruitment process to ensure the selection of a highly qualified candidate and co-manage the project manager with PNG DICT.
3. USAID DCCP-Pacific will support PNG-DICT in business process mapping and re-engineering for new digital government services, including collaborating with the private sector and engaging stakeholders such as women, youth and persons with disabilities for user acceptance testing and validation of digital government services.
4. USAID DCCP-Pacific will deliver and provide PNG-DICT with training materials and workshops designed to enhance project management, cyber-hygiene, digital skills, and

literacy within PNG-DICT. Subsequently, PNG-DICT will oversee capacity-building initiatives aimed at public sector employees.

5. DCCP-Pacific will provide technical support to PNG-DICT in developing its Open Radio Network Access (Open RAN) Policy and conducting a review of its Telecommunications Act 2002 with National ICT Authority of PNG (NICTA) and other key partners
6. PNG-DICT will ensure access to the necessary resources and personnel, including collaboration between government departments and stakeholders, to facilitate the implementation of support by DCCP-Pacific under this Partnership Agreement.
7. USAID DCCP-Pacific will assist in providing cybersecurity training and certifications
8. USAID DCCP-Pacific will leverage on U.S. Government and U.S. private sector partnerships to support PNG DICT in the next 4 years
9. USAID DCCP-Pacific will continue to meet with PNG-DICT, donors and other development partners to ensure that there are no overlaps

Duration

This Partnership Agreement is expected to operate for 4 years. The Partners may revise or extend it by mutual written agreement. It is understood that either Partner may terminate this Partnership Agreement by giving 30 days' written notice to the other.

The Partners may modify this Partnership Agreement only in writing, signed by all Partners.

Limitation

This Partnership Agreement is not an obligation of funds, nor does it constitute a legally binding commitment.

Publicity and Communication

1. Communication about this Partnership Agreement and the interventions that follow should appropriately acknowledge the efforts of both Partners, in each case subject to their consent. The Partners commit to respond expeditiously to communication requests from each other.
2. Joint branding may be used only with the written consent of both Partners. Each Partner may make its logo available for use on specific materials at its sole discretion. Each Partner must get written approval before publishing all information and materials containing the other Partner's logo. The Partners expect that all such materials will give equal prominence to both Partners' logos.

3. The Partners will respect each other's confidentiality policies, with the mutual understanding that they publicize their alliance and its objectives without disclosing any confidential or proprietary information of the other Partner.
4. Each Partner may make the existence and content of this Partnership Agreement publicly available by press release, public commentary, or other disclosure, in accordance with their policies or procedures regarding the public disclosure of information, subject to the prior written consent of the other Partner.

Reporting, Collaboration and Data Sharing

5. The Partners understand the need for regular reporting on activities and results and will collaborate to develop the projects.
6. The Partners will work closely with key partners and stakeholders to focus on national and regional priorities.
7. At a minimum, reporting should include monthly virtual calls or in-person meetings between the Partners.
8. The Partners acknowledge and agree to share data in furtherance of their partnership, encompassing documents, reports, statistics, and analyses necessary for partnership objectives. Recognizing the potential confidentiality of shared information, both Partners commit to maintaining its confidentiality and refrain from disclosure without prior written consent, save for legal obligations. Shared data shall be used exclusively for partnership purposes and treated with due security measures against unauthorized access or alteration. Ownership of shared data remains with the originating party, and any alterations to this Partnership Agreement require written consent from both Partners. This clause shall continue beyond the term of this Partnership Agreement.

Signatures

This Partnership Agreement shall enter into force on the date of execution by both Partners. This Partnership Agreement is based on the full consent of both the United States Agency for International Development Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership – Pacific Activity and the Papua New Guinea Department of Information and Communications Technology.

Executed on this 19th day of NOVEMBER 2024.

**United States Agency for
International Development
Digital Connectivity and
Cybersecurity Partnership –
Pacific Activity**

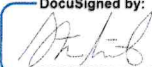


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Witness Signature
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**Papua New Guinea Department of
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Witness Signature
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