



Regional Trade in Services Workshop, 8-11 May, PPIU Office, Apia, Samoa

Samoa Telecommunications (ICT) Sector

Content

Role and significance of telecommunications particularly for international trade

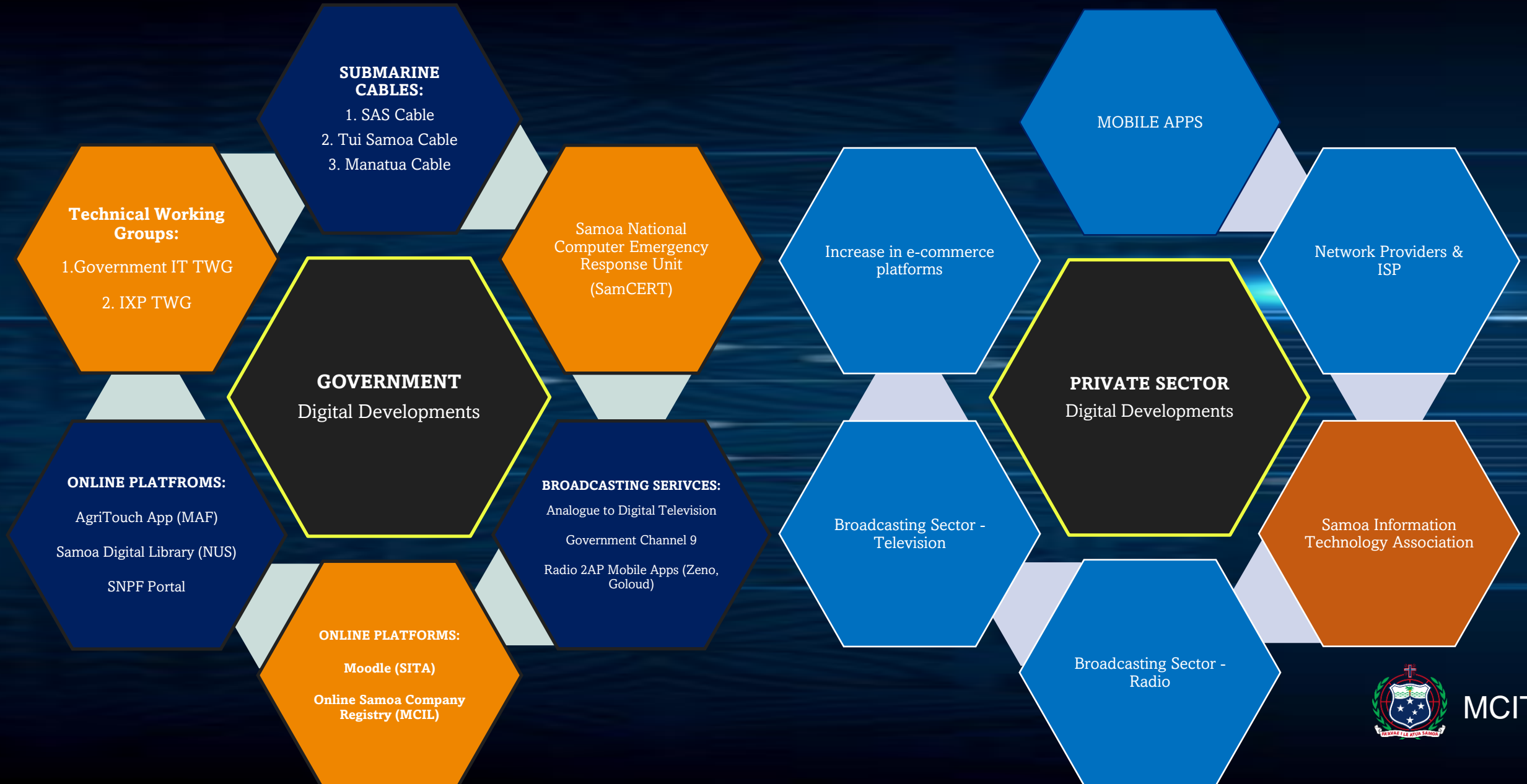
Strategic plan for Telecom development in Samoa

Challenges faced and development support need

The Role of Technology

- Technology plays an important role in international trade and commerce since international trade is one of the sources of growth.
- With rapid advances in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) since the 1990s, as well as increased efficiency for transport of goods and people across national boundaries, the variety of sectors and volume of services provided across national boundaries are rising fast.
- More and more people are traveling abroad to consume tourism, education and medical services, as well as to supply services ranging from construction to software development. Likewise, more and more business transactions and delivery of services projects such as engineering design and financial market consultancy are undertaken through electronic channel such as internet and other telecommunication network.

Digital Development: Government & Private Sector



The Role of Technology

- Pathway for the Development of Samoa (PDS) 2021/22 – 2025/26.
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Sector Plan 2022/23 – 2026/27
- Digital Transformation Strategy 2023 - 2030



**Govt
Fibre
Upgrade**



**Innovation &
Technology
Park**



**Local
IXP**



**Pacific
IXP**



**Request
for
Information
Portal**



**School
Connect
ivity**



**National
Digital
ID**



**Street &
Resident
ial
Address**



**Smart
Island
Project**



**Last Mile
Connecti
vity**



**Universal
Access**



Planned and Current ICT Digital Projects

Major Challenges

Human Resource Skills Development

The importance of capacity building cannot be overly emphasized and has been identified as a constant challenge in developing ICT over the years. There are chronic shortages in ICT personnel particularly in the hardware and network domains.

For Samoa to attract foreign investment, there is a need develop a digital literate workforce and populace.

Legal and Regulatory Framework

Policies, regulations and legislations cannot keep up with advances in technology.

Regulatory frameworks need to be adjusted to stimulate investment while maintaining a moderate level of competition. Markets and consumer benefits are now examined by decision-makers through the lens of financial adversity and uncertain outlooks.

Development Support

- Sustainability of Digital Projects
- Digital capacity skills development programs
- Awareness raising programs
- Technical assistance and consultancy services





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