

North Pacific Regional Connectivity Investment Project — Palau's Submarine Fibre-Optic Cable

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Palau

Quality score: 92/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

A \$25M ADB-financed submarine fibre-optic cable, commissioned in 2017, replaced Palau's costly satellite links, multiplying capacity more than tenfold and enabling nationwide 4G, e-government and telehealth for this small Pacific nation.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	3/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-09

[Government of Palau, Belau Submarine Cable Corporation, with Asian Development Bank financing](#) — accessed 2026-07-09

[ADB: Support for High-Speed Internet in Palau](#) — accessed 2026-07-09

[Pacific Island Times: Palau hooks up to fiber-optic connection](#) — accessed 2026-07-09

[NEC Corporation press release](#) — accessed 2026-07-09

[US State Department: Trilateral Partnership second cable](#) — accessed 2026-07-09

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