The Pacific Digital Economy Programme (PDEP) aims to support the development of inclusive digital economies in the Pacific that allow rural communities, women and MSMEs, as well as labour mobility workers to enhance market participation, resulting in poverty reduction, improved livelihoods and economic growth.

**IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**

- UNDP
- UNCTAD
- UNCDF

**SUPPORTED BY**

- Australian Aid
- European Union

**PROGRAMME TIMEFRAME**

- 2021-2025

**IMPLEMENTING IN**

- Fiji
- Solomon Islands
- Vanuatu
- Tonga
- Samoa
- Kiribati
- Timor Leste
- Papua New Guinea

**EXPANDING TO**

- Republic of Marshall Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia

**TARGET SECTORS**

- Rural Communities
- Seasonal Workers
- Women
- MSMEs
- Youth

**KEY WORKSTREAM ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**WORKSTREAM 1: ENABLING POLICY & REGULATION**

**NATIONAL E-COMMERCE STRATEGY**

Developed for Solomon Islands with Timor-Leste and Fiji in the pipeline.

**PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PACIFIC DIGITAL ECONOMY REPORT**

Analyzing the emerging trends of the digital economy in the region.

**FIJI’S NATIONAL FINANCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY 2022-2030 DEVELOPED AND PUBLISHED**

Together with the Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme (PICAP) and central banks.

**WORKSTREAM 2: OPEN DIGITAL PAYMENT ECOSYSTEMS**

**4 E-COMMERCE PLATFORMS SUPPORTED**

To assist MSMEs in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji and Tonga migrate their businesses online and expand outreach to new and existing markets.

**2021-2022 INCLUSIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY SCORECARD (IDES)**

A policy tool to support understanding of country level digital transformation in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. 2020 scorecard for Solomon Islands finalized and published.

**DIGITISING THE POLICE CLEARANCE PROCESS**

Portal launched in Vanuatu to reduce the financial and logistical costs and challenges of manually applying for a police clearance. A feasibility study has been conducted to digitise the process in Fiji, portal development planned in 2023.
DIGITAL AND FINANCIAL LITERACY BASELINE SURVEYS CONDUCTED IN SEVEN PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES

to fill existing data gaps on digital and financial literacy to enable informed policy actions and interventions with the goal to strengthen financial and digital literacy in last mile population segments. Survey undertaken in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, Timor-Leste, Samoa and Papua New Guinea.

PACIFIC ISLANDS FINTECH INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Successfully executed with 5 FinTech winners with market ready solutions that address key challenges faced by 4 PICs in developing digital payment ecosystems. Implementation of solutions planned for 2023.

PLANS FOR 2023-2025

- Support development and implementation on national e-commerce strategy in Fiji and Timor-Leste.
- Support Demand Side Survey and formulation of National Financial Inclusion Strategy in Kiribati.
- Support implementation of regional e-commerce initiative in partnership with PIFS.
- Undertake landscape assessment on inclusive remittances, provide technical assistance for regulators to update regulations.

- Piloting and scaling of social welfare payments.
- Implementing innovative e-government initiatives such as Electronic Police Clearance Certificates (e-PCC).
- Supporting Fintech and payment innovation to promote digitization of merchant payments targeting retail merchants.
- Arranging Agri-MSME Digital Innovation Challenge 2023 to promote digital innovations for agriculture value chains, Agri-MSMEs and cooperatives.

- Regional and country level capacity building initiatives for start-up incubators, innovation, accelerators, and women entrepreneurs.

- Implementing targeted financial and digital literacy initiatives based on the findings of the Digital and Financial Literacy Survey 2022.
- Support tertiary educational institutions (e.g., TVET providers and universities) to design/integrate digital and financial literacy related courses and capacity building training courses on emerging digital technologies.
- Design and pilot customer protection initiatives for financial sector customers and e-commerce customers partnering with regulators and service providers.