



Australian Government



Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific



## FACT SHEET

# Tuvalu Vaka cable

**Project Name:** Tuvalu Vaka cable

### AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION

GRANT: Up to USD37 million (AUD53.1 million equivalent)

### PARTNERS

- Government of Tuvalu
- Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation
- Google
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Taiwan
- United States

### CONSTRUCTION

2024 onwards

### COMPLETION

2026

## About the project

Through the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP), Australia, alongside Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan and the United States, has provided a grant package to the Government of Tuvalu to support Tuvalu’s first international undersea cable connection. The Tuvalu Vaka cable will connect Funafuti to Google’s Bulikula cable system. This will enable improved digital connections and enhance access to global information and essential services for

individuals, communities and businesses across Tuvalu. Vaka embodies the spirit of connectivity and progress, drawing from the cultural significance of the traditional Tuvalu canoe, or “vaka.” The project is an emblem of Tuvalu’s aspirations for growth, development and shared understanding, carrying the promise of enhanced opportunities and a strengthened global presence for Tuvalu.

## Map



To learn more about the AIFFP, visit our website

## Infrastructure highlights

In partnership with governments and private sector firms in the Pacific, the AIFFP facilitates the delivery of high quality, resilient infrastructure. This project's anticipated infrastructure footprint will include:



**668**

KILOMETRES OF  
UNDERSEA CABLE



**CONNECTION**

TO NEW CABLE LANDING  
STATION IN FUNAFUTI,  
TUVALU



**ENABLE MORE  
THAN 10,000**

PEOPLE TO ACCESS MORE  
RELIABLE INTERNET



**TUVALU'S FIRST**

INTERNATIONAL  
UNDERSEA CABLE

## Impact at a glance

Across all its projects, the AIFFP prioritises lasting development and economic outcomes for people and communities. Its approach is guided by five impact areas: local content; climate resilience; social and environmental safeguards; gender equality, disability and social inclusion; and quality and integrity.

The project aims to promote secure, sustainable telecommunications infrastructure that supports increased economic growth, development opportunities and living standards. Its anticipated impact will include:


### GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION




The project will provide **Tuvalu with enhanced connectivity and opportunities to enhance digital inclusion**, including reducing digital inequity and barriers to digital access. Enhanced connectivity can have a transformational impact on communities, particularly for women, girls and people living with disability, **improving access to information, employment opportunities and government services**. This will have flow-on benefits for inclusive economic growth and development in Tuvalu, **including the delivery of social services such as education and healthcare**.

### CLIMATE RESILIENCE

The Tuvalu Vaka cable will provide **more secure and resilient connectivity to Tuvaluan communities**, providing Tuvalu **greater disaster and climate change preparedness**. The project includes climate resilience measures through an off-grid power and storage solution to support the operational power needs of Tuvalu Vaka cable as well as embedding climate resilience design and nature-based solutions in the project's terrestrial works.



### LOCAL CONTENT



In support of **increased in-country knowledge and capacity**, Google will work closely with **Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation** to support local service operations and maintenance of the Tuvalu Vaka cable.

