



SOLOMON ISLANDS

eTrade Readiness Assessment



UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD

Population:
0.6 million (2016)

GDP:
\$1134 million (2016, USD)

Internet users ≈ 100,000

Growth:
(GDP, 2016) +4%

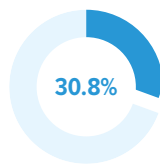
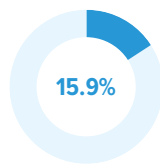
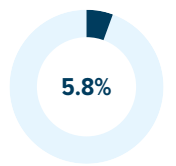
E-commerce legislation

Electronic transactions: ✗
Consumer protection: ½*
Privacy & data protection: ✗
Cybercrime: ✗
*Legislation requires updating

Rank, ITU' information & communication technology development index:

157/176

% FIRMS IDENTIFYING ACCESS TO FINANCE AS A MAJOR CONSTRAINT 2013-17



SOLOMON ISLANDS

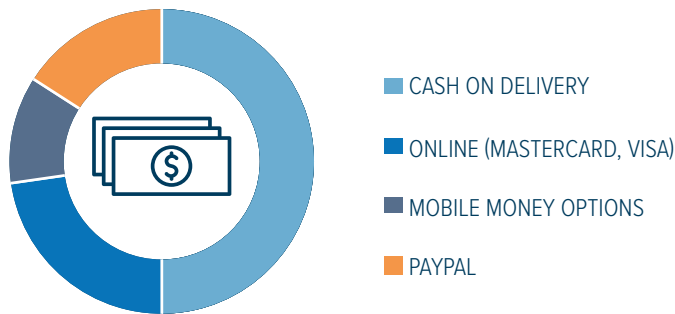
WORLD AVERAGE

LDCS

7x IN 2015, SOLOMON ISLANDERS CONDUCTED AT LEAST SEVEN TIMES MORE MOBILE BANKING TRANSACTIONS THAN THEIR PACIFIC ISLANDS AND SMALL STATES COUNTERPARTS

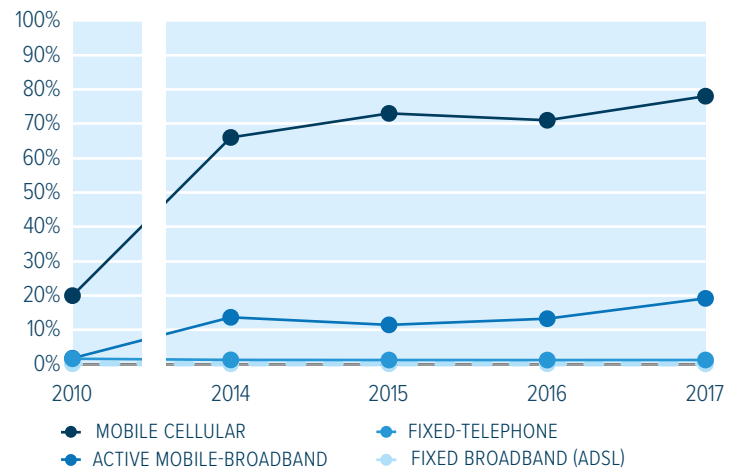
THE SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT HAS COMMITTED TO CONVERT **80%** OF ITS PAYMENTS TO DIGITAL CHANNELS BY 2020 (JOINING THE BETTER THAN CASH ALLIANCE)

PAYMENT SYSTEM OFFERED BY BUSINESSES TO CUSTOMERS (N: 27)

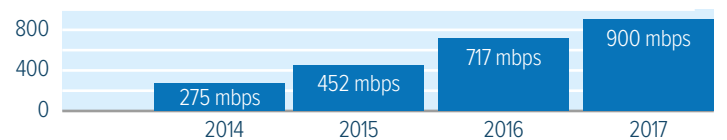


KEY ICT INDICATORS FOR SOLOMON ISLANDS

PHONE & DATA SUBSCRIPTIONS (PER 100 INHABITANTS)

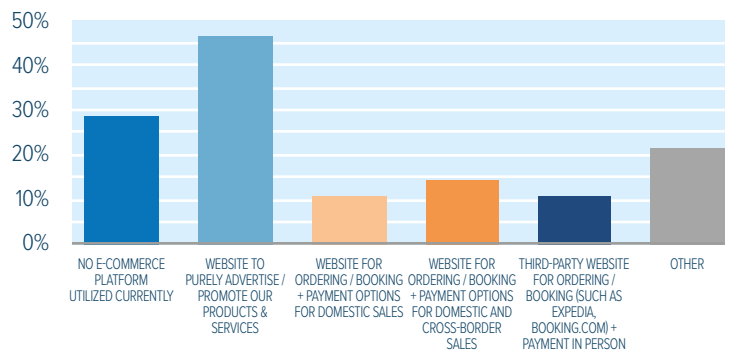


INTERNATIONAL INTERNET BANDWIDTH (mbps)

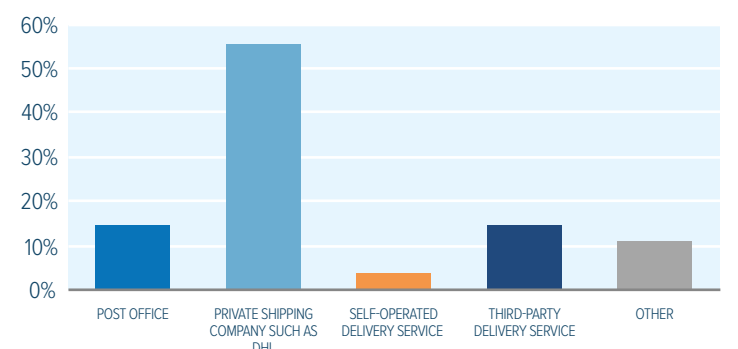


SOURCE: Telecommunications Commission Solomon Islands (TCSI) <http://www.tcsi.org.sb/market-competition/market-statistics.html>

UTILIZATION OF ONLINE PLATFORMS BY BUSINESS (N: 28)



CHOICE OF SHIPPING VENDOR (N: 27)



The current low use of e-commerce in Solomon Islands belies significant potential for the sector to grow swiftly and make economic and socioeconomic contributions to the country.

- UNCTAD Solomon Islands Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment

RECOMMENDATIONS



E-COMMERCE READINESS ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGY FORMULATION

Ensure future strategies include market-side and e-commerce components.

Strengthen public-private dialogue on ICT development with focus on e-commerce and digital economy



ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

Implement submarine cable project, deploy fair-play model, and provide diverse services via high-speed broadband.



TRADE LOGISTICS AND TRADE FACILITATION

Facilitate paperless trade and institutional cooperation.

Advocate for demand-side adoption of 'what3words' addressing system and accelerate adoption of national post code system.



PAYMENT SOLUTIONS

Improve financial literacy, especially outside capital city, to encourage consumer appreciation of benefits of cash-less financial transactions.



LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Adopt legislation on e-transactions, data protection and cybercrime law; adapt the Consumer Protection Act to reflect e-transactions.



E-COMMERCE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Develop institutional collaboration mechanism to communicate skills requirements between private and public sectors and skills-providers.



ACCESS TO FINANCING

Strengthen linkages between commercial lenders and sector associations, focusing on e-commerce early adopters (e.g. tourism, agro-industry).