





Cybersecurity in the Republic of Fiji

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Abstract

Cybersecurity is a critical area that affects virtually everyone from governments, countries, organisations, multinationals, supermarkets, grocers, factories, schools, and individuals whose livelihood may depend on critical infrastructure or who use the Internet. Internet use ranges from pretty basic use, such as e-mails, to commercial transactions, such as Internet banking, shopping, or trading, to broadcasting content on social utility sites such as Twitter or commercial sports channels, etc. The cyber-environment is not limited to computers but covers all aspects of information and communications technology (ICT), including networks and infrastructure. The vulnerability of systems due to lack of a cybersecurity framework, poorly framed laws, and lack of appropriate policies are issues which need to be addressed. Whilst ICT is an enabler for economic growth, the illicit use of ICTs can also stunt growth. This paper discusses the challenges of cybersecurity in Fiji and offers recommendations. This is preliminary research, and it is envisaged that there will be other research papers to follow.

Keywords: cybersecurity; Fiji, cyber-environment; ICT challenges

Introduction

Cybersecurity affects everyone from national governments, the public sector, the private sector, and ordinary citizens in a country. It is important that small island developing states seek to understand it.

Fiji, as a small island developing state¹ is also categorised by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as an emerging and developing economy (IMF, 2010). Fiji faces numerous development challenges (UN, 2010). Some of these challenges include managing resource constraints and the manner in which resources are prioritised. Perhaps because cybersecurity is a relatively new phenomenon, it has yet to be addressed by having national strategies and policies put in place.

For emerging economies that are dealing with issues hot on the agenda, such as energy and climate change, ICT often tends to take the backburner. This paper is intended to create awareness for policy writers and stakeholders.

1 As described by the Permanent Mission of Fiji to the United States, 2010.

Effective strategy is needed to efficiently manage cybersecurity in Fiji, a country which is essentially playing catch-up; other regions are more advanced in their cyber-infrastructure. For example, in 2009, the European Commission (EC) launched a draft strategy designed to protect Europe's critical information infrastructure from large-scale cyber-attacks (Barker, 2009).

Cybersecurity: a growing concern

The increased availability and use of computers in Fiji has led to a corresponding growth in international data transmission requirements (Fintel, 2011).

Pacific Island countries are vulnerable to common cyber-attacks seen around the globe, which include phishing, secure shell (SSH) brute force attacks, malicious software (malware), and telephone number hijacking. As an example, telephone number hijacking has been known to cause disruption in the Cook Islands Public Switch Telephony Network (PSTN), where they estimated losses of over USD\$100 000 in just four hours (Tabureguci, 2007). The Republic of

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Marshall Islands also suffered a severe denial of service attack, which lasted for two days (Tabureguci, 2007).

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU), through its Telecommunications Standardisation Section (ITU-T), developed a definition of cybersecurity within its *ITU-T Recommendation X.1205* (Overview of Cyber Security). Clause 3.2.5 of *ITU-T Recommendation X.1205* defines cybersecurity as 'the collection of tools, policies, security concepts, security safeguards, guidelines, risk management approaches, actions, training, best practices, assurance and technologies that can be used to protect the cyber environment and organisation and users' assets' (ITU, 2008).

Objectives of cybersecurity

The principal objective of cybersecurity is to ensure the 'attainment and maintenance of security properties of the organisation and user's assets against relevant security risks in the cyber environment' (ITU, 2008).

The ITU has defined the general security objectives to include:

- Availability
- Integrity² which may include authenticity and non-repudiation
- *Confidentiality* (ITU, 2008, clause. 3.2.5)

These security objectives are critical as trade and commerce depends on them. For example, bank customers rely on and trust that banks have security mechanisms in place to protect their savings. These customers rely on the availability of systems and infrastructure within the cyberenvironment to allow them to transact freely. Customers also rely on banks to have systems in place that will preserve data integrity, whether in the form of identity authentication or having the requisite means to verify a person's identification. Customers also rely on the confidentiality of the systems to keep their transactions confidential.

Increasing dependence on the Internet

It is clear from Figure 1 that there has been an increasing dependency on the Internet over the years. Social networking sites (SNS) and plat-

2 Data Integrity is defined to be data that is not altered in an unauthorised manner in research on legislation in data privacy, security, and prevention of cybercrime.

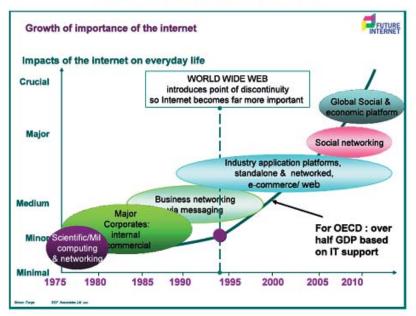


Figure 1. Increasing dependence on the Internet

Source: Towards a Future Internet (2010)



forms like Facebook (Barratt, 2010) are realising that their personal information, furnished for what subscribers believe to be for 'limited purpose', has been abused, hijacked, misused, repackaged, sold and laid bare to the world (Garrie *et al.*, 2009). One cannot discuss cybersecurity without knowing what aspect of the cyberenvironment needs to be secure.

The cyber-environment includes users, networks, devices, all software, processes, information in storage or transit, applications, services, and systems that can be connected directly or indirectly to networks (ITU, 2008, clause 3.2.4). The cyber-environment is related to the Internet access architecture: it does not exist in isolation.

Internet access architecture in Fiji

The Internet access architecture refers to the means within which Internet is accessed in Fiji. Fiji International Telecommunications Limited (FINTEL) and Telecom Fiji Limited (TFL) provide Internet access through connections to Southern Cross Cable. FINTEL provides connection to other Internet transit providers (ISPs).

The principal facilities-based competitors offering broadband Internet access are (Fong, 2010):

• Connect (TFL's ISP) – provides broadband

services through ADSL and a combination of 2.5G, 3G wireless and a VSAT as last resort.

- Kidanet (a fully owned subsidiary of FINTEL) provides wireless broadband services through WIMAX.
- Unwired provides wireless broadband services through WIMAX.
- Vodafone provides wireless broadband services through GPRS and HSDPA.
- Digicel provides wireless broadband services using EDGE; however, they have been allocated WIMAX spectrum and are considering WIMAX deployment.

There are at least seven principal ISPs in Fiji. Customers include individual users, businesses, banks, schools, universities, etc.

The Internet architecture does not exist in isolation; it exists within an ecosystem.

Internet ecosystem

The Internet ecosystem consists of licensed operators who provide backhaul capacity and Internet services, regulators, and other organisations who have a direct and indirect impact on the development of the Internet. The Internet ecosystem is made up of the organisations and communities that guide the operation and development of the

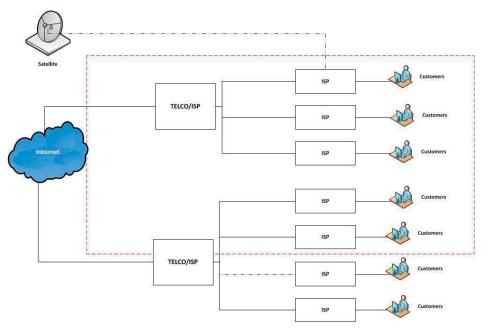


Figure 2. A basic physical diagram of how the Internet in Fiji is accessed by users.³

^{3 ©}Salanieta Tamanikaiwaimaro (2011)

technologies and infrastructure that comprise the global Internet (Internet Society, 2010).

The cyber environment in Fiji includes licensed operators, telecoms, as well as the ISPs, TAF, Commerce Commission, and other organisations and is linked to an Internet ecosystem. One of the challenges in Fiji is that there is not sufficient awareness amongst stakeholders within the cyber-environment of the stakeholders within the Internet ecosystem and how each relates to each other.

An organisation's and a user's assets include connected computing devices, personnel, infrastructure, applications, services, telecommunication systems, and the totality of transmitted and/or stored information in the cyber-environment (ITU, 2008). Cyber-attacks target different aspects of the cyber-environment. Sceptics may say that the Pacific Islands do not face cyberattacks and threats and therefore do not need protection.

Protection from whom/what?

Cyber-attacks and threats vary and can be politically driven or criminally motivated as the following examples illustrate.

• Arab – Israeli cyberwar

Geopolitical wars between the Arab and Israeli governments have transcended into cyberspace. The Israeli defense community has been aware of cybersecurity threats for the past two decades (Day Press News, 2010).

• Syria – Israel

Unofficial reports by foreign experts allege that Israel attacked Syria through cyberwar operations. In September 2007, an attack was launched on a Syrian structure housing a nuclear weapons development programme. Air defenses were hacked and controlled by the Israelis during the attack. Part of the attack involved simulating that Syrian skies appeared empty and safe to airdefense radars whilst Israeli jets infiltrated the airspace.

• Palestine – Israel

The Israeli Defense Force (IDF) was involved in heavy fighting in Gaza around 2009 when there was an attack on Israel's Amos 3 spy satellite. It was subsequently discovered that the attacker transmitted modulated digital video broadcasting to Amos 3 and inserted a TV programme called 'Oassam'. The frequency used by the attacker was identified as the feed – channel of Arab-Sat, which normally transmits the Al-Aksa TV channel of Hamas.

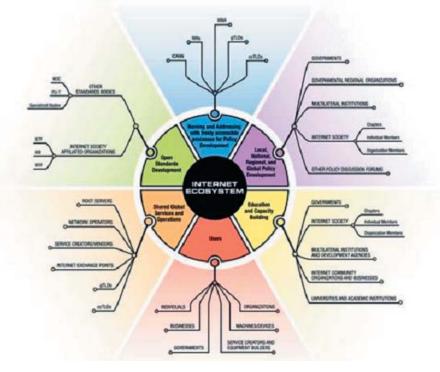


Figure 3. The Internet Ecosystem (Internet Society, 2010).

• Hezbollah – Israel

Hezbollah guerillas hacked Israeli communication, during the 2006 second Lebanon war through monitoring and deciphering frequencies. This enabled the Hezbollah to intercept intelligence and thwart tank assaults. The Hezbollah was assisted by Iran's revolutionary guards. The successful decryption allowed the Hezbollah to have constant access to IRD's troop movements, casualty reports, and supply routes. Whilst there was no official comment by the IDF, it is reported that a former senior officer revealed that the Hezbollah's ability to hack into Israeli's military transmissions had disastrous consequences for Israeli's offensive (Day Press News, 2010).

• Japan – South Korea

The Japanese BBS 2 channel (BBS 2ch) is Japan's biggest Internet forum and a Japanese Internet phenomenon (Katayama, 2007). BBS 2ch was also reported to have celebrated the lynching of a Korean international student in Russia by Russian skinheads in February 2010 and a post was said to have recorded 'damn Korean who deserved to die' (inewp, 2010). There was a subsequent post on BBS 2ch that stated that Korean figure skater Kim Yu Na bribed the judges following the winter Olympics. This sparked a massive cyber-attack, which was launched on 1 March 2010 by Korean web users against the Japanese site. The date on which the attack occurred was the 91st anniversary of the independence movement. It is reported that 10 000 Korean users coordinated their attacks through South Korean web communities (Min Sun-Young, 2010).

• Malaysia – Indonesia

A fierce cyberwar between Malaysian and Indonesian hackers was sparked by the alleged mistreatment of an Indonesian model by a Malaysian royal. The attacks infiltrated Yahoo! messenger (YM) and attacked several Malaysian websites in 2009 (WorldFuture, 2009).

• North Korea and South Korea and the USA

In 2009, a malicious cyber-attack thought to be launched from North Korea targeted South Korean and US government computers over a two-day period, shutting down websites of the White House, the Pentagon, and the New York Stock Exchange.

• The USA and China

Another example includes the USA's spy plane incident in April 2001, where the escalating political tension between the USA and China led to attacks by USA and pro-Chinese hackers on important websites and mail servers of the opposing side during a period of several weeks (Dang, 2011).

• Estonia and Russia: denial of service attacks

Estonia faced a series of denial of service (DOS) attacks allegedly from Russia that began in April 2007. Since the Estonian government heavily relied on the Internet, this in turn crippled Estonia's banking systems and government, including telephone access to emergency services, as reported by Hillar Aarelaid, CSO for Estonia's Computer Emergency Response Team (Kirk, 2007). The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) assisted them in tracking the source and origins of the attacks and said that analysts have found postings on web sites indicating that Russian hackers may have been involved in the attacks. According to Aarelaid, analysis of the malicious traffic showed that computers from the United States, Canada, Brazil, Vietnam, and others were used in the attacks.

• Iran: stuxnet virus

More recently, the United Nations General Assembly (GA) First Committee: Disarmament and International Security (DISEC) were informed at the ODUMUNC 2011 by Dang (2011) that the most recent cyber-attack was the detection of the Stuxnet⁴ virus seen early in 2011, targeting Iran's nuclear facilities. Experts believe that the Stuxnet malware was very well funded and was designed by a country.

Organised criminals/cyber mafias

There are numerous reasons why profiling criminal organisations that operate over the

⁴ Carefully designed malware that can infect computers and automatically look for a particular model of programmable logic controller made by Siemens to reprogram and even provide dangerous commands.

Internet can be difficult. Capturing data can be extremely difficult given that the Internet has no boundaries.

Wonderland Club

The dissemination of child pornography online has been an unfortunate abuse of the Internet and ICT. An example was the Wonderland Club, an international network with members in at least 14 nations ranging from Europe, North America, and Australia. Access to the group was password protected, and contents were encrypted. Police investigation of the activity, codenamed Operation Cathedral resulted in approximately 100 arrests around the world and the seizure of over 100 000 images in September 1998.

• Italian cybermafia

Organised crime in Italy is fully utilizing the Internet for malicious activities from propaganda to money laundering (Cybernaut, 2010).

• Russian and Brazillian cybermafia

Portugal is known as a playground for international cybermafia who are operating and laundering their profits in Portugal. Russian and Brazilian crime rings that are experts at phishing to obtain private personal information have netted more than €2 million in 2010. Online banks and money transfer sites are the most targeted, particularly those used by immigrants from Eastern Europeans (PressEurop, 2010).

• Japan disaster: target for cybermafias

The recent Japanese earthquake and tsunami, where the death toll has surpassed the 10 000 mark, has made Japan vulnerable to cybermafia who seek to exploit the disaster through phishing, spam attacks, and search engine poisoning (rediff NEWS, 2011).

• Republic of Marshall Islands

On 25 March 2011, news from what appeared to be an authentic CBS website (www.cbsbreakingnews.com) spread news that the Republic of Marshall Islands had legalised cocaine. This was later found to be libellous and the Office of the President issued an official notice stating that this was a hoax (Office of the President Republic of the Marshall Islands, 2011).

Impact of cybersecurity on infrastructure, national security and economic development

With the rapid evolution of ICT in Fiji, growing Internet penetration and growing reliance on the Internet for commercial operations, trade, and health makes cybersecurity a matter of concern for the Republic of Fiji. Resolution GPL/1 reaffirmed the awareness that ICTs have significantly modified the ways in which people access telecommunications and that its illicit use of ICTs should have a detrimental impact on a member state's infrastructure, national security, and economic development (ITU, 2010).

The illicit use of ICTs can adversely affect Fiji's infrastructure, national security, and economic development. It is vital that there are necessary mechanisms in place that will address cybersecurity issues. Currently there are no legislative mechanisms in place in relation to the criminalisation of the illicit use of ICTs. However, the telecommunications promulgation 2008 creates an obligation for the telecommunications authority to have mechanisms in place to preserve national security.

Critical infrastructure (CI)

Nowadays, computers are interconnected in network infrastructures that satisfy customer needs. In Fiji, with the increasing trends of convergence of services and devices, such as short message services (SMS) banking, checking FNPF eligibility and so forth are part of services that usually belong to public and private companies that provide facilities to citizens, like banks and Telcos. In Fiji, the housing authority recently signed agreements with two telecommunications companies, giving customers flexibility in making loan repayments through their mobile phones (Baselala, 2011).

The ITU defines critical infrastructure (CI) as the key systems, services, and functions whose disruption or destruction would have a debilitating impact on public health and safety, commerce, and national security, or any combination of those matters. CI consists of both physical elements (such as facilities and buildings) and virtual elements (such as systems and data).⁵

Model 1. ITU-D STUDY GROUP 1 4th STUDY PERIOD (2006–2010)

Different countries have different definitions of what they would classify as critical infrastructure, whether they are ICT, banking, energy, public health, and essential government services. There is little understanding of the critical infrastructure dependencies and how this affects the internet architecture or vice versa.

Most governments consider the publication of critical infrastructure to be classified in case of attacks by terrorist groups, etc. Interestingly, Fiji is classified by the USA as 'critical infrastruc-

5 Question 22/1 Securing Information and Communication Networks: Best Practices for developing a culture of cyber security developed by ITU-D Study Group 1, 14th Study Period (2006-2010) ture and key resources located aboard' due to Southern Cross Company Limited's (SCCLs) undersea cable that is connected to FINTEL (Fiji Times Online, 2010).

To appreciate an example of critical infrastructure interdependencies, see Figure 4 which shows how the infrastructure and industries are interrelated and how they affect each other. This will serve to show how when one is affected it can have a domino effect and impact other sectors.

Like the Dutch model, Fiji's infrastructure is dependent on the Internet. Banks, airports, energy, telecommunication, public health, and e-government are increasingly reliant and dependent on each other. Increasingly, customers in Fiji are given the opportunity to pay bills and loans with their phones and lately they even exercise the option of receiving their salaries through phones. With new waves of cybersecurity threats like smishing, where sms are hijacked, can also be cause for concern.

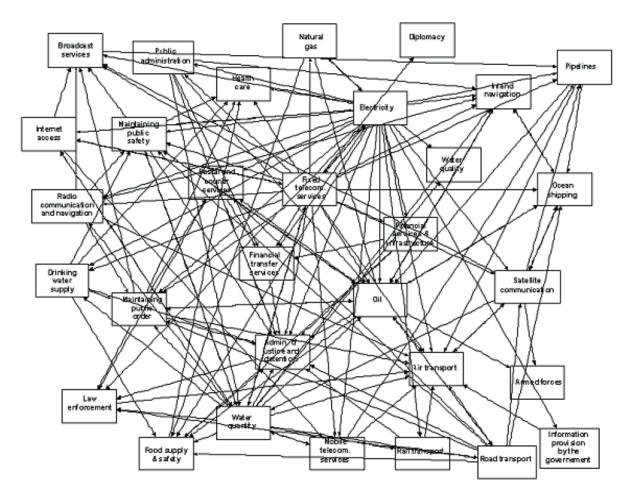


Figure 4. Critical infrastructure inter-dependencies (Luff, 2010).

The Fiji Cyber Security Working Group is in the process of mapping these dependencies. Recently, a major international gateway provider within Fiji tempered with connectivity of another operator on 1 July 2011 and whilst this was a commercial dispute it impacted a wide range of industries. Whilst it was down for only three hours, flights were grounded, health services were disrupted, and banks and financial institutions were also affected.

The cyber-environment needs to have means in place that would protect the critical information infrastructure.

Critical information infrastructure protection (CIIP)

Europol defines critical information infrastructure as 'physical and IT facilities, networks, services and assets which if disrupted or destroyed, would have a serious impact on health, safety, security or economic we well-being of citizens or effective functioning of governments' (DGTREN, 2007).

Critical information infrastructure protection (CIIP) is critical when addressing cybersecurity issues. The EC is at the forefront of developing strategies to protect CCIP. The EC's Communication on CIIP COM (2009) 149 Action Plan has five key pillars (Vandrianavaly, 2009):

- 1. Preparedness and prevention
- 2. Detection and response
- 3. Mitigation and recovery
- 4. International cooperation
- 5. Criteria for European Critical Infrastructures in the ICT sector

CIIP is critical because the degree to which it is protected directly affects the livelihood of the many people who depend on efficient security.

Fiji does not have any CIIP mechanisms in place. The protection of critical information infrastructure is crucial. There is a lack of methodology in this regard. The ITU has developed a national cybersecurity/ CIIP self-assessment tool which is a practical initiative by the ITU-D ICT Applications and Cyber Security Division to assist ITU member states who wish to elaborate on their national approach for cybersecurity and CIIP (Vandrianavaly, 2009).

Impact on economic development

The impact of cybersecurity on national security is a very real one. Likewise, ICTs impact economic development. Whilst an increase in ICT penetration throughout Fiji can bring economic growth, the illicit use of ICT can also adversely affect Fiji's economy. According to the ITU toolkit for cybercrime legislation, 'The interconnected networks of the Internet have enabled unprecedented economic opportunities and linked populations around the globe in ways never before possible' (ITU, no date b). ICT has revolutionized economic development in developing economies, as suggested by a World Bank Study in 2009 that observed that for developing countries every 10% increase in broadband penetration leads to 1.38% increase in GDP (Wei and Rossotto, 2009).

Figure 5 shows the capacity of ICT to impact economic growth for both high income and low and middle income economies. ICT is an enabler for trade, e-commerce, access to markets, education, and competition. However, the potential for economic growth can be aborted if cybersecurity is not managed:

The **benefits of the Internet**, however, are **being undercut** by those exploiting its capabilities to the detriment and harm of others. Improvements in security are required in order to ensure the continued positive contributions of the Internet. [Author's emphasis]

(ITU Toolkit for Cyber Crime Legislation)

Fiji is currently in the process of putting in place systems and mechanisms to enable it to measure the economic impact.

• Example 1: Impact of shutting down the Internet in Egypt

The recent Egyptian revolution, which lasted 18 days, cost the economy USD\$30 billion (Rabin, 2011). This is contrary to what OECD had predicted, which was USD\$90 million. This Egyptian scenario is interesting as it was inflicted by the Egyptian government in its own country.

• Example 2: Cybercrime costs – US and UK

Customers expect banks to foot the bill, when they have been defrauded. The cost of fraud is reported to cost the US banking industry, tens of billions of dollars (infosecurity.com,2010). UK Officials said e-crime is estimated to cost the UK several billion pounds a year (Corera, 2009). Cybercrime costs the UK economy some £27 billion a year and is thought to be endemic according to the first official government estimate of the issue published in February 2011 (MSNBC, 2011).

• Example 3: Cybercrime costs due to social engineering in Australia

In Australia, victims of scams via social engineering amount to hundreds of millions of dollars per annum (AusCERT, no date).

Mitigating cybersecurity risks

National strategies

In Fiji, there is no comprehensive national cybersecurity strategy in place to assess and mitigate the risks of cybersecurity. There are many countries around the world that recognise the need to address these challenges through their robust cybersecurity strategies, such as Germany, the UK, the USA. To show the level of priority that governments are placing on cybersecurity, a good example would be the USA.

Cybersecurity has been identified by President Obama as one of the most serious economic and national security challenges in the USA. Consequently, President Obama ordered a thorough review of federal efforts to defend the US information and communications infrastructure and the development of a comprehensive approach to securing America's information infrastructure (US National Security Council, no date).

The Cyberspace Policy Review is built on the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI) launched by President George W. Bush

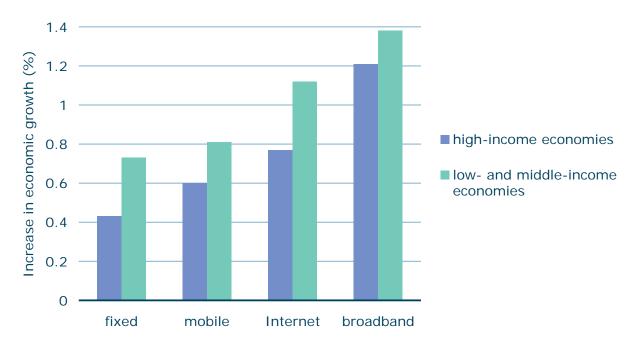


Figure 5. Economic Impacts of Broadband Information and Communications for Development 2009: Extending Reach and Increasing Impact – World Bank 2009 (Wei and Rossotto, 2009).

in National Security Presidential Directive 54/ Homeland Security Presidential Directive 23 (NSPD-54/ HSPD-23) in January 2008.

The CNCI's objectives are as follows:

- To establish a front line of defense against today's immediate threats.
- To defend against the full spectrum of threats.
- To strengthen the future cybersecurity environment.

In May 2009, President Obama endorsed recommendations of the Cyberspace Policy Review. The Executive Branch was directed to work closely with all key players in US cybersecurity, including state and local governments, as well as the private sector to ensure the following:

- A coordinated and cohesive response to future cyber-incidents.
- Strengthening public and private partnerships to find technology solutions.
- Investing in cutting edge research and developments to meet digital challenges.
- Campaigning to build digital awareness and digital literacy from the classroom to the boardroom and to build a digital workforce for the twenty-first century.

The President also directed that all these activities be conducted in a manner that ensured that privacy rights and civil liberties that were guaranteed in the constitution would be protected.

Lessons Fiji can learn

Fiji can review its structures and operations and identify how it can move towards a more coordinated and cohesive response. Fiji can also work towards strengthening public and private partnerships in the move towards developing robust policies in place. It can move towards campaigning to build digital awareness and digital literacy within primary schools, communities, villages, schools, etc.

Role of CERTS and CSIRTS

Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTS, also referred to as CSIRTS – Computer Security Incident Response Teams) are essential tools for CIIP. According to the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA), every single country that is connected to the Internet must have capabilities at hand to effectively and efficiently respond to information security incidents (ENISA, no date). ENISA has been working towards establishing CERTs in Eastern Europe, Africa, and to a certain extent, in Asia Pacific.

APCERT have been active in raising awareness within the Asia Pacific region. Izumi Aizu, a member of ICANN's At-Large Advisory Committee, believes that one of the first steps in establishing cybersecurity mechanisms within a country is establishing a CERT (pers. comm. 2010).

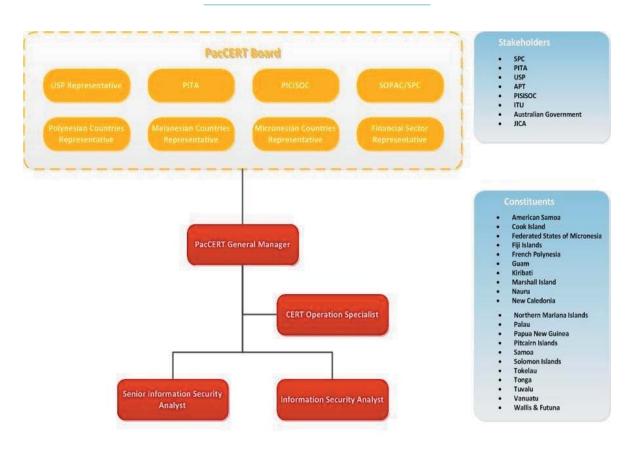
In the Pacific, most countries cannot afford their own CERT let alone the capacity to manage their CERTs for the time being. In the absence of national CERTs, PacCERT is in place to assist Pacific Island Countries like Fiji. In time, Fiji will have the capacity to have its own CERT.

• PacCERT

Pacific Island Countries (PICs) have a CERT in place called PacCERT. The ITU has the support of the Australian Government, which enabled it to commission AusCERT to conduct a preliminary assessment of the feasibility of having a CERT for the Pacific (Kim, 2009). Reports were tabled before the ITU Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting in Tonga 2009 which noted and supported the efforts towards the establishment of a PacCERT. Forum officials endorsed the establishment of a CERT for the Pacific at the APT Telecommunications ICT Policy at the Regulatory Meeting for the Pacific in 2009.

PacCERT's mission is to facilitate, coordinate, and monitor activities related to cybersecurity and safety and to secure fast and effective response to cybersecurity and threats.

Salanieta Tamanikaiwaimaro



* Source : PacCERT Presentation for the Pacific Regional Information Technology Officials and Ministers Meeting 16 - 18 June 2010 Nukualofa Tonga

Figure 6. PacCERT's organisation chart.

• FijiCERT

Fiji does not yet have a CERT in place because it simply cannot afford to. One of the challenges that developing countries like Fiji face, is the capacity to have sustainable means of generating its revenue to be able to self-sustain work on the ground. ICT stakeholders from within the government should ensure that the government is kept informed of issues such as cybersecurity that affect developments. It is critical that Fiji's ICT policy also be revised to address regulatory overlaps and matters of national security such as cybersecurity.

The regulatory framework has direct links to development.

Brief overview of Cybersecurity the regulatory framework in Fiji

Some of these organisations do not deal directly nor specifically with cybersecurity but are part of the regulatory landscape.

Commerce Commission

The Commerce Commission, established by the Commerce Act, which has since been repealed and is now enacted through the Commerce Commission Decree 2010, has extensive powers. Through the new decree, the Commerce Commission's decisions on telecommunication services cannot be legally challenged. The Commerce Commission regulates competition (preventing anti-competitive behaviour, exploitation of significant market power, and price control such as price determinations, price ceilings, and price floors).

• Cybercrimes Unit

The Cybercrimes Unit, which is a unit within Fiji's police force that deals with cybercrimes and cybersecurity issues. The government recognised the need to create a Cybercrimes Unit within its police force to enforce the Crimes Decree and the Criminal Procedure Code. They work in close partnership with the Ministry of Defence.

Cybersecurity in the Republic of Fiji

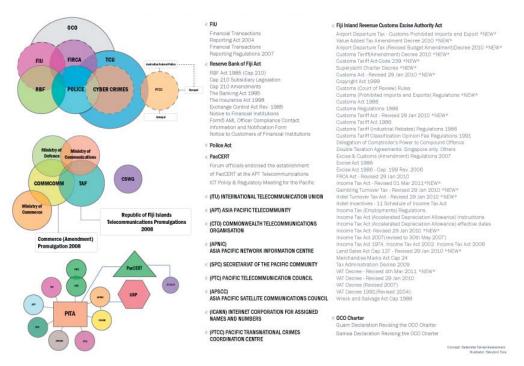


Figure 7. Illustration showing cybersecurity regulatory environment in Fiji.

Cybersecurity Working Group

The Cybersecurity Working Group was established in 2010 through a memorandum jointly sent by the Cybercrimes Unit and the Ministry of Defence, inviting multistakeholders to form a Cybersecurity National Working Committee and Group. This is based on a public private partnership model. The group is comprised of the government ICT, Ministry of Defence, Cybercrimes Unit, Finance Intelligence Unit(FIU), licensed operators, network service providers, banks, etc.

• Financial intelligence unit

The Financial Transactions Reporting Act 2004 established the Finance Intelligence Unit (FIU). The unit is regulated by the Financial Transactions Reporting Regulations 2007. It is responsible for monitoring illicit activities, such as money laundering and drug trafficking. FIU has had seven cybercrimes referred to the Fiji police.

• Fiji Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise Authority (FIRCA)

FIRCA, which was established by the FIRCA Act, regulates the revenue, customs, and excise controls. Tax evasion also occurs electronically and falls within cybercrimes and cybersecurity.

• Reserve Bank of Fiji

The reserve bank of Fiji, established by the Reserve Bank of Fiji Act 1985, is responsible for regulating the financial market. It relies on other legislations to regulate the financial market: The 1995 Banking Act 1995. The 1998 Insurance Act 1998, and the 1985 Exchange Control Act Rev.

National Anti-Money Laundering Council

The Financial Transactions Reporting Act 2004 established the National Anti-Money Laundering Council.

• Pacific Transnational Crimes Coordination Centre (PTCC)

In 2004, the Australian federal police assisted Pacific Island countries in establishing the Pacific National Crimes Coordination Centre.

• TAF

The Telecommunications Promulgation of 2008 established the Telecommunications Authority of Fiji (TAF), which regulates telecommunications. This encompasses the telecommunications networks and the interconnections amongst licensed operators and ISPs.

Transnational Crimes Unit (TCU) (Fiji)

The Transnational Crimes Unit (TCU) was established following the establishment of the PTCC.

Diversity of approaches and categorisation of cybersecurity and cybercrime

Diversity of approaches to definition

The EU's comprehensive version of cybercrime differs from that of the USA and likewise from other countries around the world. The EU Council, being the first to attempt to create an international convention to define cybercrime, also recognises the difficulty in defining what cybercrime is, despite efforts made by legislators, researchers, and LEA personnel (Europol, 2007). The difficulties were attributed to the different domestic legislation within the different countries that results in diverse approaches.

Categorisation

Cybersecurity has both a civil and criminal aspect to it. The civil aspect is where matters are not prosecuted as criminal infringements, and criminal matters are those which infringe on clear statutory provisions within the law. Countries differ in the manner in which they categorise cybercrime. For example, consider the EU, Australia, and the USA.

• The EU's categorisation

EU's Cybercrime Convention categorises computer crimes into five main categories, namely:

- 1. Crimes against the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of computer data and systems.
- 2. Computer related traditional crimes.
- 3. Content-related offences.
- 4. Offences related to infringement of copyright and related rights.
- 5. Infringement of privacy.

• Australia's categorisation

The Australian Institute of Criminology (Grabosky and Smith, 1998) categorises cybercrime into nine different categories:

- 1. Theft of telecommunication services.
- 2. Communications in furtherance of criminal conspiracies.
- 3. Telecommunications piracy.

- 4. Dissemination of offensive materials.
- 5. Electronic money laundering and tax evasion.
- 6. Electronic vandalism, terrorism, and extortion.
- 7. Sales and investment fraud.
- 8. Illegal interception of telecommunications.
- 9. Electronic funds transfer fraud.

• The USA's categorisation

The US Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 categorises computer fraud and abuse as follows:

- 1. Obtaining national security information.
- 2. Compromising the confidentiality of a computer.
- 3. Trespassing in a government computer.
- 4. Accessing a computer to defraud and obtain value.
- 5. Knowing transmission and intentional damage.
- 6. Intentional access and reckless damage.
- 7. Intentional access and damage.
- 8. Trafficking in passwords.
- 9. Extortion involving threats to damage computer.

• Fiji's categorisation

Fiji has yet to develop its categorisation of cybercrime. Whilst the crimes decree has provisions within that describe computer-related crimes, they do not efficiently address the broad spectrum of cybercrime.

Legal framework

International law

The United Nation's (UN) General Assembly's Resolutions (UNGA Res) 55/63 and 56/121 established the legal framework on countering the criminal misuse of information technologies:

- 1. UNGA Res: 57/239 on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity.
- 2. UNGA Res: 58/199 on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of essential information infrastructures.
- 3. UNGA Res: 41/65 on principles relating to remote sensing of the Earth from outer space.

Within the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in 2003 supported the activities of the UN to prevent the potential use of ICTs for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and which may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure within the States to the detriment of their security.

According to the declaration, it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources and technologies for criminal and terrorist purposes whilst respecting human rights. The Council of Europe's Convention on cybercrime was open for signing on 23 November 2001.

Domestic law

Table 1 shows the wide array of legal instruments and organisations that overlap and potentially whose scope of works covers cybersecurity.

Sir Carleton Allen in *Legal Duties* (Smith and Hogan, 1992) wrote that a crime is crime because it is wrongdoing which has direct consequences and seriously threatens the security or well-

Table 1. EU's cybercrime convention categories and corresponding Fiji laws

1. Crimes against the Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability of computer data and systems s.340 -s.346 Crimes Decree 2009 2. Computer related traditional crimes s.340 -s.346 Crimes Decree 2009 (not adequately codified) 3. Content-related offences s.340 -s.346 Crimes Decree 2009 (not adequately codified) 3. Content-related offences s.12,s14 of Compulsory Registration of Customers for Telephones Services Decree 2010 AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY's CATEGORISATION OF CYBERCRIME (Grabosky and Smith, 1998) s.2 1. Theft of Telecommunication Services z. 2. Communications Piracy s2 Copyright (Amendment) Decree 2009 4. Dissemination of Offensive Materials customs Act, Customs Tariff Act, Excise Act, Gambling Turnover Decree, Incomm Tax Act, Land Sales Act, Merchandise Marks Act, Value Added Tax Decree, Wreck and Salvage Act 6. Electronic Vandalism, Terrorism and Extortion s.317, 318 Crimes Decree 2009, part 7 Commerce Decree 2010 8. Illegal Interception of Telecommunications s.344 of Crimes Decree 2009, part 7 Commerce Decree 2010 8. Illegal Interception of Telecommunications s.344 of Crimes Decree 2009 and s.3-s.2: of Financial Transactions Reporting Act 2004 UNITED STATES DPT OF JUSTICE CATEGORISATION OF COMPUTER CRIMES (US Government, 1986) s.340 -s.346 Crimes Decree 2009 1. Obtaining National Security Information s.340 -s.346 Crimes Decree 2009 2. Com	EU's CYBER CRIME CONVENTION CATEGORIES	FIJI'S DOMESTIC LAWS
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	9. Extortion Involving Threats to Damage Computer.	

being of society, where it is not safe for it to be re-dressed only by compensation of the injured party.

Cybersecurity is a very real and tangible threat that affects everyone. It fits into Allen's definition, where the illicit use of ICTs consists of wrongdoing that directly and in serious degree threatens the security or well-being of society or the global community and because it not safe to merely compensate the parties injured.

The first reported case of computer crime in the world arguably dates back to 1958 (Bequai, 1987) and the first federal prosecution to 1966 in the USA. Since then, the definitions of cybercrime vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and each due to sovereignty of nation states as is made clear from the varying categorisation of cybercrimes. This is obvious from Table 1 which shows the EU's cybercrime convention categories and corresponding Fiji laws.

• Crimes Decree

Fiji has embryonic legal provisions that attempt to create computer offences. The Crimes Decree is the principal legal instrument that criminalises computer offences. The Crimes Decree does not begin to capture the complexities and the diverse range of cybersecurity breaches that occur in Fiji and that affect the cyber-environment and infrastructure in Fiji. The cybercrimes provisions within the Crimes Decree do no canvass the elements that are involved in the illicit use of ICTs and which are restricted to computers.

Fiji currently does not have a proper records capturing system. The reporting system is currently deficient as it merely records instances when charges are brought and does not capture the record of incidences or complaints that come in the first instance. One of the challenges for the cybercrimes unit and law enforcement authorities are that when complaints are investigated, criminal charges cannot be brought against alleged offenders for the simple reason that there was no express legislative provision criminalising the behaviour.

There is a need for better coordination in how statistics are kept. This data was furnished by the cybercrimes unit. The 2010 data range is strictly from January 2010 to November 2010.

The reports in Figure 8 are of alleged acts that were digital in nature and where no crimes were committed, the data is not captured. The statistics that are compiled are insufficient to determine the extent of the cybersecurity threats in Fiji. It is recommended that clear categorisation of threats be made that will enable law enforcement authorities to keep track.

According to the Cybercrimes Unit, as of December 2010 only two cases from 2006 made it to court. However, the suspects were charged

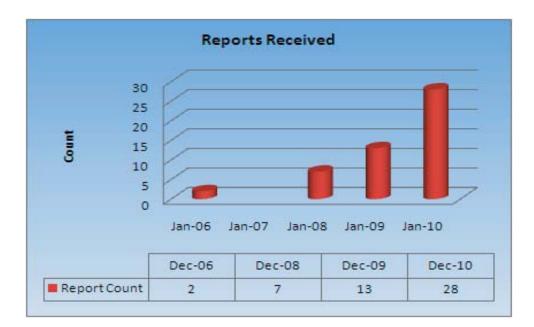


Figure 8. Cybercrimes Unit (Fiji Police Force, 2011).

for other offences that were not cybercrimes and only one of the cases was successfully prosecuted.

One of the challenges that the unit has found is that whilst there are reports made of the crimes, the crimes themselves do not constitute a criminal act under the current legislative instruments. The reports above are only those that could be charged under the existing laws.

The current approach to the existing drafting, in particular s340 – s346 of the Crimes Decree 2009, shows a 'real law approach' (Kurbalija, 2010).

In light of the reported attacks to some of the world's most sophisticated and developed countries, one can only imagine the extent of Fiji's vulnerability. The Internet has commonly been touted as the 'network of networks', therefore the vulnerability of the network's infrastructure and systems needs to be addressed through the development of a national cybersecurity strategy.

• Complexity

Given that the Internet comprises multiple layers and elements that are attributed to various interlinking components, which are part of the Internet architecture, it follows that there are numerous variables and factors that investigators and prosecutors need to consider. Criminal law thrives on linking causation, where the criminal acts must be linked to the offence.

Internet users leave traces when they use Internet services, which can be used to identify them if they exploit a system or network weakness and which can incriminate a person who may have been nowhere near the source of the attack. According to a World Bank study facilitated by the World Bank Treasury Security Team (entitled Cyber Zombies), one in three machines are enslaved to attack other machines, and cybercriminals are becoming increasingly sophisticated as they network with each other worldwide. In the process, cybercriminals now set up a crew to split the technical activities. This hinders investigations and in particular the ability to identify criminals. A criminal project can be prepared by different individuals namely (Europol, 2007):

- the coder who is the writer and creator of the malicious code;
- the launcher who will run it;
- the miner who will extract the data; and
- the washer who will launder the revenue, for instance in an e-payment system.

One of the difficulties that Europol faces is that often these threats come from abroad. Also, because of the lack of data available, police forces within the EU face serious problems in investigating BOTNETS or BOTS,⁶ because of the lack of proper legislation and the slowness of legal procedures to source data from abroad. This is due to the growing phenomenon as well as the increase in criminal groups and their sophistication. There are those whose medium of choice is to use public Internet cafes that do not require identification. In those cases, investigations will often fail. The same is relevant if offenders are making use of open wireless networks to mask their identity.

The phenomenon of BOTNETS or BOTS is currently considered to be one of the most dangerous cyberthreats on an international level due to difficulty in detection. There is little data available compared to the enormity of the issue, and police forces around the world sometimes have inconsistent legal tools with which to investigate them. Criminal activity is often outside the victim's country and it is common for victims to fail to report the issue to the police (Europol, 2007).

BBC reported that a coder, a 23-year-old hacker known as Iserdo, who created the Maripora virus code named 'butterfly', was arrested in Slovenia (BBC News Technology, 2010). After the arrest, the virus was dismantled after infecting 12.7 million computers. The three people who were running it were arrested in Spain in December 2009 (BBC News Technology, 2010).

⁶ BOTNETS or BOTS refers to robotic networks which is a script which can remotely undertake a computer (or a number of computers), eventually attacking other machines over the internet. This means that a computer connected to the Internet can be compromised by a hacker who takes control over the machine remotely through, e.g. an installed Trojan. The compromised machine (called Zombie or Drone) becomes a robot under in the control of the hacker and is used to attack other computers over the internet with the aim of extorting money, industrial espionage, theft of personal data, theft of bank account details, theft of credit card numbers etc.

Deficiencies of crimes Decree

The definitions of s.336 of the Crimes Decree, do not begin to capture the complexities and the diverse range of cybersecurity breaches. Access to data held in computers is limited to mean the following:

- display of the data by the computer or any other output of data from the computer;
- copying or moving of data to any other place in the computer or to a data storage device; and
- in the case of a program the execution of the program.

Criminal law is based on proving elements of an offence beyond reasonable doubt. Many of the cybersecurity threats that are prevalent in Fiji and around the world are not properly described within s340 – s346.

Some of these cybersecurity threats include those involved in the illicit use of ICTs and are not confined to computers. There is no mention of crimes that could be perpetuated through ICT, for example telecommunications. Some of the deficiencies include the lack of the following:

- Definitions of criminal offences.
- Illegal access the limitations of the current wording of drafting of illegal access.
- Illegal interception there is no clear definition of what is lawful and what is unlawful, which makes the work of regulators challenging.
- The use of modification is a hindrance as there is no mention of data interference or system interference.
- The misuse of devices.
- Computer-related forgery.
- Computer-related fraud.
- Production and distribution of child pornography over the Internet.
- Online intellectual property infringements and related rights.
- Prosecutorial and procedural requirements.
- Real-time collection of traffic data.

To begin addressing these deficiencies, Fiji needs to develop a form of categorisation and a review of existing legislative instruments that is

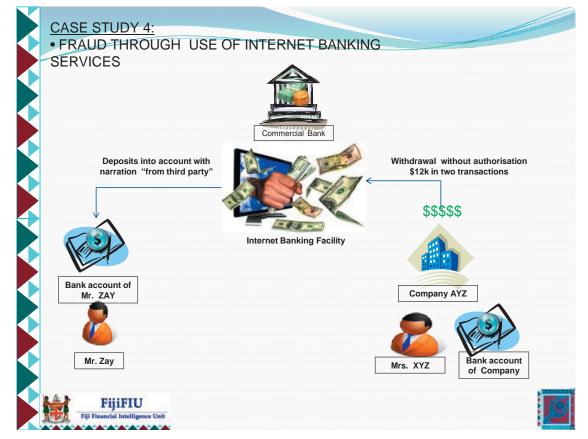


Figure 9. Fraud through the use of Internet Banking Service.

both a substantive and procedural analysis. The Cybersecurity Working Group will initiate comprehensive research and organise empirical analysis of research findings.

It is envisaged that a detailed study of the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and other existing policies will be carried out.

• Telecommunications promulgation

Section 13 of the Telecommunications Promulgation expressly stipulates that chapters 11 and 40 of the Penal Code (Cap.17) applies to any member of the board, the Tribunal, or any committee or body established under the Promulgation. Whilst the Penal Code has since been repealed and replaced by the Crimes Decree, the provisions are more or less related to the abuse of office, corruption and secret commissions provisions. There is no direct reference to the computer related offences nor illicit use of ICTs.

Section 72 of the Telecommunications Promulgation creates a statutory duty for the Telecommunications Authority of Fiji to prevent the illicit use of ICTs. Also, it must assist officers and authorities in enforcing criminal laws and imposing pecuniary penalties, protecting the public revenue, and safeguarding national security.

Section 73 of the Telecommunications Promulgation also creates a statutory duty for the licensees to prevent the telecommunications networks and telecommunications services and facilities from being used in, or in relation to, the commission of offences against the laws of Fiji. There are deficiencies in the Telecommunication Promulgation.

Deficiencies of the Telecommunication Promulgation

There are no clear provisions against the illicit use of ICTs. The second phase of research can look into outlining these. There have been complaints registered by licensed operators but to date this has yet to be addressed since there is no regulatory framework that encompasses these. • Financial Transactions Reporting Act

The Financial Transactions Reporting Act endeavours to criminalise fraud through the use of Internet banking services. Figure 9 is an example of a case study as prepared by the FIU to show fraud through Internet banking services.

• Commerce Decree 2010

Part seven of the Commerce Decree deals with consumer protection and unfair trade practices, such as misleading or deceptive conduct, unconscionable conduct, false or misleading misrepresentation, and false and misleading advertisements that could be widely read to canvass conduct taking place through the illicit use of ICTs.

Joint cooperation

There needs to be an increased cooperation amongst all stakeholders, and we can learn from Europe, the USA, Japan, and Australia about the increasing need for partnerships to combat cybersecurity threats. Given the nature of the Internet, it goes without saying that there is increasingly a need to have joint cooperation that is both vertical and horizontal. An example of joint cooperation is Europol's Joint Cooperation (Strategic and Operational) with non-EU countries.

The European Commission's 2009 draft strategy includes the CIIP policy, which 'complements existing measures in the area of police and judicial co-operation to prevent, fight, and prosecute criminal and terrorist activities targeting CIIs (Europol, 2007). The European Commission is exploring utilising a public – private sector model. The USA is already moving towards increased collaboration and engagement with the private sector.

In January 2011, Australia and the UK announced a cyberpartnership to combat cybersecurity threats in an effort at joint cooperation. The countries, along with the USA, Canada, and New Zealand, cooperated on cybersecurity issues in an organisation unofficially called the 'Five Eyes'.

Salanieta Tamanikaiwaimaro

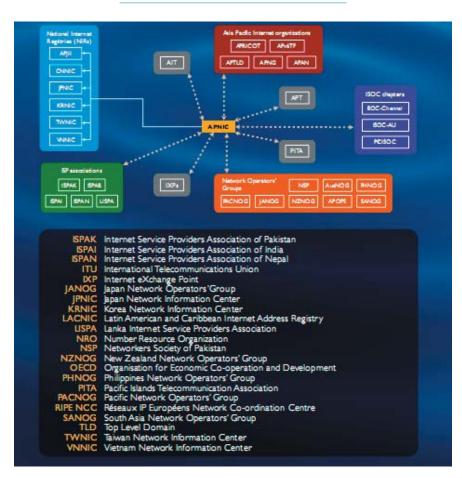


Figure 9a. Effective Internet governance in the Asia Pacific (APNIC, no date)

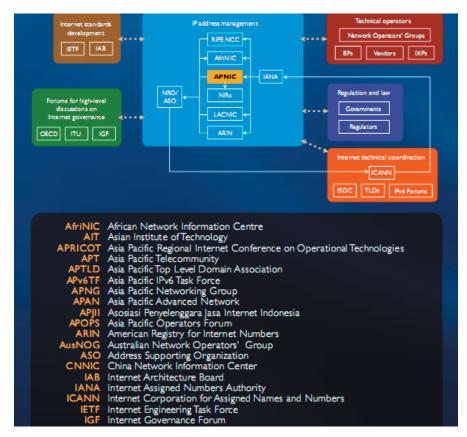


Figure 9b. Effective Internet governance from a global perspective (APNIC, no date)

Australian Attorney General Robert McClelland, on 11 March 2011, announced the creation of a counter-cyber-espionage unit which will operate within the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), a domestic agency equivalent to the UK's Military Intelligence, Section 5 (MI5) (Espiner, 2011). The United Kingdom is assisting Australia in setting up this unit.

In the Pacific, the Australian federal police in 2004 assisted Pacific Island countries in establishing the Pacific National Crimes Coordination Centre, and this has resulted in the establishment of the respective Transnational Crimes Units in forum island countries within the Pacific.

The Fiji Cybersecurity Working Group, which was initiated through a memo dated 24 August 2010 and sent by the Cybercrimes Unit in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence, established a working group that was tasked at looking into cybersecurity issues facing the industry. The objectives of the group were to increase joint cooperation, ensure child online protection, and discuss Internet governance challenges.

Recommendations

Stakeholders need to seriously assess and appreciate the gravity of having proper mechanisms in place that will ensure protection against cybersecurity threats. The following actions are recommended:

- A workshop to identify critical areas for development and create a strategic plan for the lead-up to the development of a national strategy.
- 2. A working group to jointly cooperate and identify categories of cybercrime.
- 3. Further research into the status of cybersecurity in Fiji and also into developing a sealed version and public version of the report to assess whether there is a need for a specific cybercrimes decree or to strengthen existing legal instruments.
- 4. Identify potential local, national, and regional partners.
- 5. Develop a holistic, cohesive, and effective policy and national strategy.

Conclusion

The Internet is, without a doubt, a world of its own and is made even more complex by the interdependency of networks and the infrastructure that allow it to exist. The challenges in managing cybersecurity in Fiji can easily be achieved through joint cooperation, dialogue, extensive research both beyond Fiji and within Fiji. It will also require strategic capacity development within Fiji.

Cybersecurity is a pressing issue that policymakers must consider as they deliberate on strategies. It is critical that the Ministry of Defence commission the national Cybersecurity Working Group to undertake field research for the purposes of empirical analysis and further diagnosis of areas that need to be strengthened, as well as provide a way forward in terms of the implementation of a national defence strategy.

In terms of reporting cybercrimes, stakeholders need to come to some form of agreement as to what form of categorisation it wishes to apply in Fiji and the levels of regulation.

It is critical that policy analysts and decisionmakers understand that whilst ICT can be an enabler for economic growth, this can also be opposed by the illicit use of ICTs. The illicit use of ICT and its governance issues require the formation of clear policies through cohesive coordination of institutions and stakeholders towards a common vision.

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