

Solomon Islands



487 km



Solomon Islands (.sb)

- **Solomon Islands**

- 900+ islands, most inhabited, some very remote
- Population 600,000, indigenous population is primarily Melanesian
 - 30 native languages, 70 dialects
- Non-indigenous includes Gilbertese, Chinese

- **Solomon Telekom**

- Provides telephony, data, mobile (GSM), TV station and Internet
 - sbNIC, ISP, Web hosting
 - Dial-up, ADSL, WiFi hotspots, Wireless Broadband
- Principal owners are Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (2/3) and Cable and Wireless (1/3)
- Primary revenue source is from international phone calls, Internet revenue is close

Issues

- Political/Social Instability
 - Land Ownership, Ethnic Tension
 - Cultural Issues
 - Legal/Judicial environment for ICT
- Infrastructure
 - Significant proportion of population and territory without electricity & telecommunications
 - Harsh physical environment
 - No undersea cable
- Education and Experience
 - General literacy (outside Honiara and provincial centres)
 - IT specific experience and knowledge
 - Scale – just 175 active domains

487 km



Positives

- **Strong interest in IT at all levels**
 - Locals clubbing together to get a broadband connection (SBD\$900 per month)
 - Local business close to providing alternative web hosting
 - Demand from provincial centres for broadband access
- **Revenue growth**
 - Internet revenue projected to exceed international call revenue by 2007/08 (not particularly because of VOIP)

Objectives

- Growth
 - Infrastructure reach
 - Domains
 - Capacity
 - Internal IP traffic
 - Revenue
- Stability
 - Political
 - Network

487 km

