



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER & CABINET



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION HONIARA

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Rapid progress on the high speed internet cable connecting Solomon Islands with the world

The Solomon Islands and Australian Governments are progressing rapidly with the project to deliver high speed internet that will connect Honiara to the world, and Auki, Noro and Taro to Honiara.

On 20 October, the marine survey vessel the RV Northern Endeavour stopped in at Honiara Port to survey the area where the Coral Sea Cable System will connect to Honiara. It will now make its way to Auki, Noro and Taro to map the route it will take to lay the domestic cable.

The Prime Minister, senior Ministers and government officials had the opportunity to go on-board the vessel to see the facilities, meet the crew and understand more about the process for delivering this key nation building infrastructure.

The Solomon Islands Prime Minister, Rick Houenipwela was pleased to be marking this important milestone.

He said there has been a lot of work done behind the scenes since the signing of the Tri-party Agreement in July this year.

“This is yet another tangible development, a step forward in the progress of the Submarine Cable Project”.

The Prime Minister said the Solomon Islands Government remain committed to this important project.

The Australian High Commissioner, Roderick Brazier said ‘Australia is delighted to partner with Solomon Islands to deliver this key nation building project. It has the potential to be truly transformative and I am excited to be able to celebrate this important step towards its completion with the Prime Minister’.

The preliminary planning by the RV Northern Endeavour ensures the manufacture and installation of the cable is as precise as possible, taking into account Solomon Islands' unique topography. It also provides assurance that the impact of the cable on the natural marine environment is minimised.

The Coral Sea Cable System and the Solomon Islands Domestic Network will significantly improve Solomon Islands internet connectivity with the world, and domestically. It will allow businesses to access new markets, students to harness new learning opportunities and communities to reach out to other countries and people around the world.

It is a very tangible symbol of Australia and Solomon Islands' enduring partnership as well as both nations' strong commitment to growth and prosperity in the region.

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