



**Australian Government**

**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

# AUSTRALIAN CYBERSECURITY, INFRASTRUCTURE AND DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Luke Slattery and Mitchell Dunn  
Presented Thursday 24 October



# AUSTRALIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

- **AUD\$4 billion** loan and grant facility through AIFFP.
- Support undersea cable connectivity in 9 PICs and Timor-Leste since 2018.
- **USD\$1.33 billion** in financing, through Export Finance Australia to support Telstra's acquisition of Digicel Pacific.



# DIGITAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

- Quad leaders recognised the power of DPI to support sustainable development in Indo-pacific and deliver economic and social benefit
- Australia supporting world bank ID4D project
- Australia affirms a principles approach for development of DPI.



# DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT

- Digital development is fundamental for our region.
- Australia is committed to supporting regional partners with digital development.
- Strives to be a partner of choice.
- Seeking to share experience of Australian industry, government and civil society.



# CABLE CONNECTIVITY AND RESILIENCE CENTRE

- Australian Government initiative to work with governments and industry to support development and management of undersea cables.
- \$18 million over four years.
- Launched by Senator Wong in July 2024.
- Contribution to Quad Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience

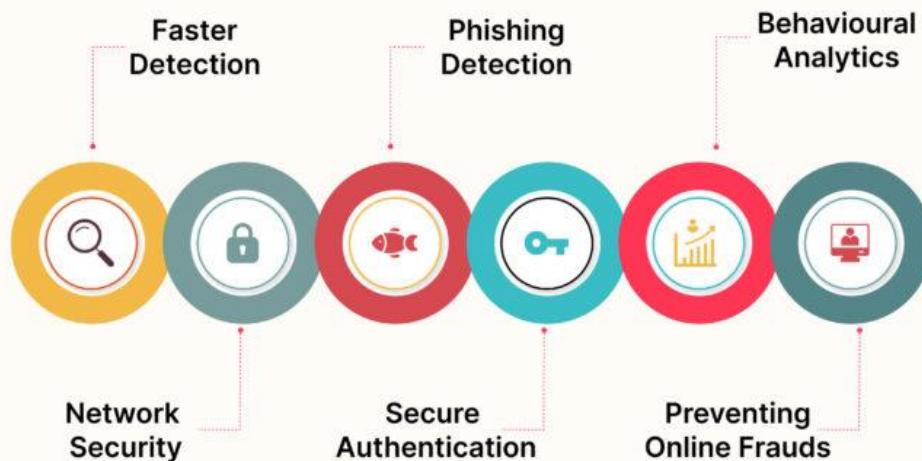


# REGIONAL TRENDS IN DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT AND CYBER SECURITY

- Digital economy – opportunity and risk
- Interconnectedness



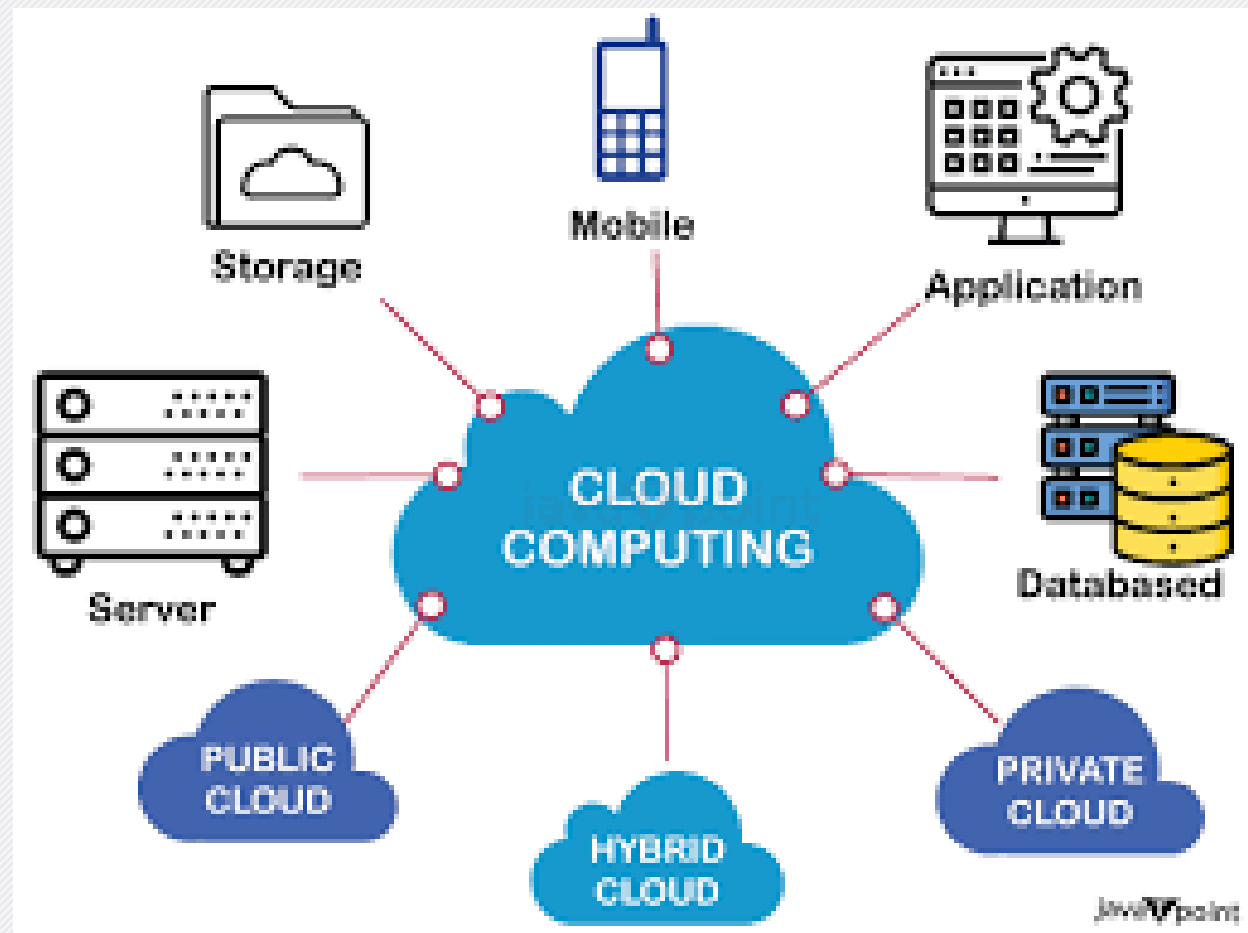
## AI in CyberSecurity



- Cyber criminals and state actors
  - Ransomware
- High risk vendors
- Data protection and 'sovereignty'
- Emerging technology
  - E.g. AI and cloud adoption

# CLOUD SOLUTIONS

- Security and resilience
- Cost efficient
- Scalable
- Access to new tech
- Support digital economy



## COLLECTIVE RESPONSES

- Regional Approach
  - Regional architecture
  - Pacific-led
- Coordination and deconfliction
- Sharing – information and capability



**PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM**



# AUSTRALIAN MEASURES

- Cyber and Critical Technology Cooperation Program
  - E.g. cyber awareness training, online safety, strategy development, legislative drafting, network testing
  - Provides funding to Cyber Safety Pasifika, PaCSON.
- RAPID incident response program
  - Pacific island countries can request support during a cyber crisis through their Australian High Commission.
- Modernisation in the Pacific
- Policy and information exchange

