



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY POHNPEI

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EAST MICRONESIA CABLE LANDS IN KOSRAE

The East Micronesia Cable has landed in Kosrae, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), with the international telecommunications cable now just months away from being ready for service.

The East Micronesia Cable project will deliver the first submarine cable connection for Kosrae, marking a critical junction in FSM's digital future by providing the community with faster, high quality, more affordable and reliable internet.

Funded by Australia, the United States and Japan, the cable will improve connectivity across Kosrae, Nauru, and Tarawa in Kiribati. Local partners are leading delivery of the project, which in FSM includes the Department of Transportation, Communications and Infrastructure and FSM Telecommunications Cable Corporation.

The cable lay ship – the Normand Clipper – successfully landed the cable at Lelu Harbor, Kosrae on 16 August. The occasion was celebrated with an event that marked the formal handover of the Cable Ceremonial Buoy, used to float the cable into shore.

The Honorable Aren B. Palik, Vice President, Federated States of Micronesia, Governor Kosrae State, Tulensa W. Palik, and FSM Congress Senators, the Honorable Yoselyn Sigrah marked the occasion, alongside senior representatives from the FSM national and Kosrae state governments, and the project's funding partners – Australia, the United States and Japan.

"The East Micronesia Cable is a symbolic realisation of a new era for Kosrae...and will provide opportunity for all citizens to participate in the digital economy" said Vice President Palik in his keynote address.

Australia, the United States and Japan, are proud to invest combined grant funding of USD95 million in this critical infrastructure asset that will have a real impact for the people of FSM.

The cable landing is an important milestone towards increased economic growth and development for the region. Once in service, the cable is expected to provide more than 100,000 people across FSM, Nauru and Kiribati with increased availability of digital services, enabling increased trade and employment opportunities.

"The East Micronesia Cable project will play an essential role in securing FSM's digital future," Australia's Charge to FSM, Ms Sarah McCarthy said. "Australia is proud to celebrate this

milestone alongside our partners and invest in critical infrastructure that meets the priorities of communities across the Pacific.”

The event follows successful cable landings in Kiribati and Nauru in recent weeks and marks the final connection point for the cable. The cable is expected to be ready for service in November 2025.

For more information about the project, visit the [AIFFP website](#) or the [East Micronesia Cable website](#), which provides information in Kosraean, English, Nauruan and Gilbertese.

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