



## KEY FINDINGS

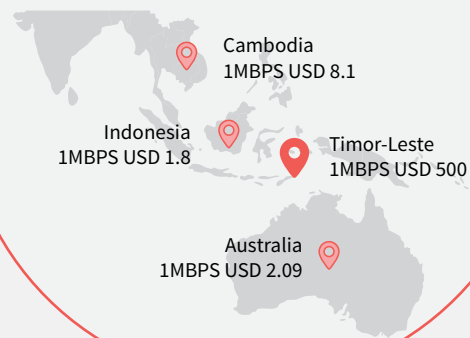
Timor is one of the few countries in the world **without a fibre optic cable connection.**

Only **12% of mobile subscriptions** in Timor-Leste include 3G internet access. On the bright side, **3G mobile coverage reaches almost 97%** of the population. This means there is huge demand potential as users in Timor start to use internet services through their mobile subscriptions.

The ITU (International Telecommunications Union) estimates that the average internet speed in Timor-Leste is **25 times slower** than other countries in Asia and the Pacific.

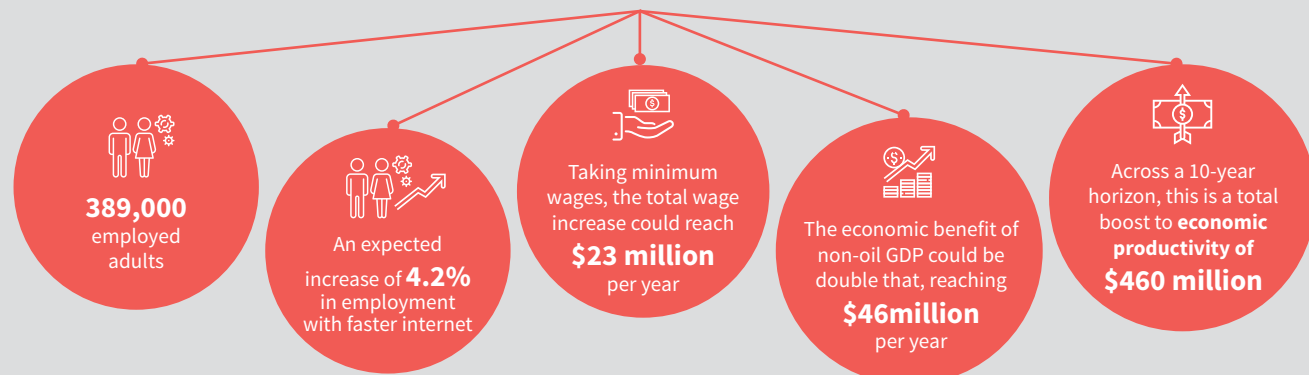
### THE CHALLENGES

**Costs of data are extremely high in TL.** Cost of 1MBPS in Timor-Leste versus other countries:



Only **25% of Timorese use the internet**, compared to a global average of 46% and Asia/Pacific average of 41.5%.

## VALUE TO THE TIMOR-LESTE ECONOMY



## IMPACT

### Economic impacts

#### Tourism

Tourism providers have the opportunity to promote their services directly with clients in a range of real-time, dynamic means.

#### Agriculture

Farmers can access information, share resources, understand markets and develop skills through greater connection.

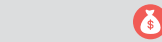
### Social impacts

- Education
- Healthcare
- Government

## FASTER, CHEAPER, MORE RELIABLE INTERNET

International evidence suggests that the arrival of **submarine cable internet leads to growth in economic activity.** Businesses will benefit and there will be significant employment creation.

Growth in employment is driven by profitable business opportunities.



Profit comes from timely and accurate information.



## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

### Transparency

Concerns about fairness, protection and operations can be alleviated if the government follows an open and transparent tender process. Transparency includes providing information to civil society, as well as giving opportunity for input from civil society and other stakeholders.

### Shared ownership

A public-private-partnership model provides a potentially helpful ownership structure for the process of building and managing a major piece of public infrastructure. The state (i.e. the citizens) benefits from profit, and also retains direct involvement in the project, allowing them to focus on protecting the public interest.

### Competition

Market competition provides an effective way to protect against the power of owners/businesses.