

Oceania's Tech Landscape: AI Surges, Funding Shifts, and Digital Transformation

Technology · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which Pacific nation is rapidly solidifying its position as the region's technology powerhouse, with global leaders crediting its aggressive adoption of AI and cybersecurity?

A) Fiji

B) Papua New Guinea

C) Samoa

D) Tonga

2. According to recent reports, which sectors have emerged as the dominant beneficiaries of startup investment across Australia and New Zealand, leading to a concentration of capital into fewer, more mature companies?

A) Climate and Clean Tech

B) AI and Fintech

C) Biotechnology and Healthtech

D) Energy and Natural Resources

3. What is the primary focus area identified by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) for Tonga's threshold program, as announced in August 2025?

A) Agriculture and Fisheries

B) Tourism and Hospitality

C) Digital Technology and Energy

D) Education and Healthcare

4. In the Solomon Islands, a national broadband infrastructure project in partnership with Huawei aims to complete a specific number of telecommunications tower sites by the end of 2025. How many towers are expected to be completed?

A) 28

B) 38

C) 48

D) 58

5. What is a key challenge identified in Pacific Island countries regarding donor funding for digital transformation initiatives?

A) Insufficient funding for physical infrastructure

B) Limited attention to system maintenance and local technical capacity development

C) Over-reliance on outdated technology

D) Lack of interest from international donors

6. As of April 2026, what significant trend has been observed in Australia and New Zealand's tech startup investment, characterized by fewer deals but larger funding amounts?

- A) A surge in early-stage seed funding
- B) A decrease in overall investment value
- C) A shift towards later-stage, deployable technologies**
- D) An increase in the number of small, individual investments

7. Which initiative is the U.S. Department of State planning to support with \$540,000 to enhance navigational safety and maritime domain awareness in Tonga and Samoa?

- A) Subsea cable branching units
- B) Cloud migration for government data
- C) Automatic Identification Systems (AIS)**
- D) Cybersecurity training programs

8. In the context of digital transformation across Pacific Island nations, which of the following countries are highlighted as leading in digital transformation and state of readiness?

- A) Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands
- B) Vanuatu and Tuvalu
- C) Fiji, Tonga, and Samoa**
- D) Kiribati and Nauru

9. What is a notable outcome of the regional workshop on Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC) held in Palau in June 2025, involving representatives from nine Pacific Small Island Developing States?

- A) A decision to halt all digital development projects
- B) The formation of a new regional technology regulatory body
- C) A shared vision for a digitally inclusive Pacific**
- D) A significant increase in mobile data prices

10. Prime Minister James Marape of Papua New Guinea has declared that which two sectors will be the driving forces of the nation's development over the next 50 years?

- A) Agriculture and Mining
- B) Tourism and Education
- C) Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
- D) Energy and Infrastructure