

## Supporting economic growth in the South Pacific

The New Zealand Companies Office (NZCO), along with The International Finance Corporation (IFC) (on behalf of the World Bank Group), have again been busy helping out a Pacific Island neighbour.

This time it's the Kingdom of Tonga who are the recipients of a new Corporate Body Register and [website](#) which was launched 1 December 2009.

The Tongan registry was based largely on the Niue Companies Office registry regime and website, which was successfully launched and implemented in 2006 with the assistance and support from the NZCO.

In 2006, riots during a period of civil disturbance resulted in extensive damage to the central business district of Nuku'alofa. The company and business licence registries were destroyed by fire and no back-ups had been made so re-establishing the registry has been a difficult task. The building of an electronic register is therefore an exciting step forward for the Kingdom of Tonga.

The New Zealand Companies Office has a keen interest in supporting and building economic growth in the South Pacific through the provision of electronic corporate registers.