

# Securing Fiji's ccTLD with DNSSEC

Building a trust for the Pacific Internet

**Mohammed Sajid**

sajidmohammed28@yahoo.com



# About Me

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- Mohammed Sajid
- Fijian of Indian Descent
- Final year student – Bachelor's degree in Networks and Security
- Research and development intern – University of the South Pacific
- Aspiring Masters Candidate in ML and cybersecurity

# Agenda

Where I come from

Fiji's Journey with .fj

Why DNS Security Matters

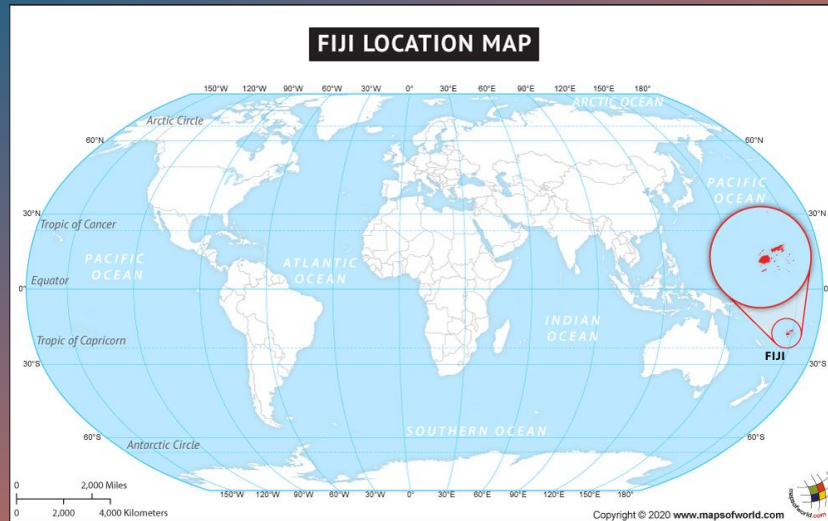
What is DNSSEC

Benefits and Regional Impact

Challenges

Questions, Suggestions and Advices

# Where I come from



- Pacific Island country
- Population – just under a million
- Home to the University of the South Pacific – a regional university serving 12 Pacific Nations
- Emerging hub for technology, education, and digital transformation.



# Fiji's Journey with .fj



Assessment & Vision



Collaboration  
(ICANN/APNIC/USP)



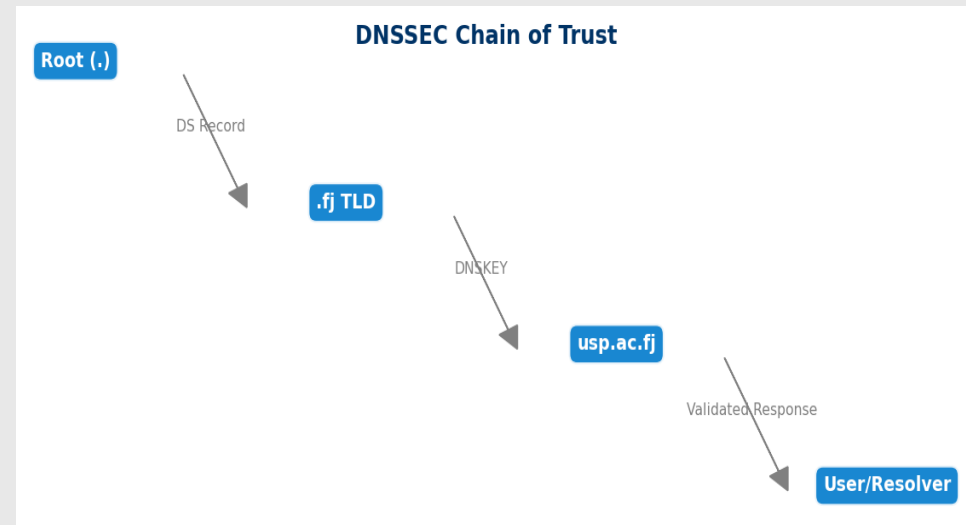
DNSSEC Rollout



Community  
Engagement &  
Capacity Building

# Why DNS Security matters

- What is DNS
- Without protection?
- Provides Visibility and Control



# What is DNSSEC



Domain Name System Security Extensions



Protects users from fake or redirected websites



Builds a chain of trust from the root -> .fj -> local domains



Validates responses using cryptographic keys



Strengthens trust and reliability in Fiji's Internet ecosystem

# Benefits and Regional Impact

- For Fiji
  - Build trust and confidence in online services (government, education, e-commerce)
  - Protects Fijian users from DNS hijacking
  - Strengthens Fiji's digital sovereignty – secure, locally managed, and globally trusted
  - Encourages adoption of secure Internet Practices among registrars and Local ISP's.

# Benefits and Regional Impact

- Regional Impact
  - Sets a blueprint for Pacific Island nations (.ws, .to, .tv, .ki) to follow.
  - Promotes collaboration and capacity-building through shared learnings
  - Enhances regional Internet Stability
  - Showcases Fiji's leadership in Internet governance and cybersecurity innovation.

# Challenges



Limited local expertise



Infrastructure Constraints



Awareness gap



Resource dependency



Operation continuity

# ICANN84

- What I aim to explore and take it back to the team.
  - DNS Abuse
    - Policies and mitigation frameworks
    - Best practices for DNS governance and security operations
    - Exploring policy models and compliance processes from other ccTLD's.
  - Advice for the Fiji Net Society
  - Building regional collaboration
  - How we can get youths involved in Fiji
  - Cyber Security for Kids

# Thank You!

Questions and Answers



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