

5 Reasons to Invest in Kiribati

Investment Promotion Division (IPD)
Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MTCIC)

May 2025



Slide 1

GUO This is not a picture of any islands in Kiribati, pls use picture from Kiribati
Guest User, 2025-03-25T12:01:50.341

5 Reasons to invest in Kiribati

1. Young & emerging economy with attractive investment opportunities

Despite its size, Kiribati is one of the most rapidly growing markets in the Pacific region, reaching a GDP average growth rate of 3.6% over the past 5 years (2018-2023), outpacing East Asia & Pacific (3.0%) and Pacific Island States (0.7%). Its projected growth for 2025 (4.1%) also surpasses the Pacific Island States (3.9%) and the World (2.7%).

2. Strategic export platform

Preferential market access for exporting to over 2.9bn people across 62 countries. With a 3.4 million km² Exclusive Economic Zone, the largest among the Pacific Islands and 12th in the world, Kiribati offers vast untapped potential.

3. Friendly and stable business environment

Kiribati ranks 3rd in Voice and accountability, 4th in Political stability & absence of violence, and 7th in Rule of law among 22 countries in Southeast Asia & Pacific. This highlights its strong governance and peaceful environment for investments.

4. Competitive operational costs

Most competitive minimum wages (US\$150/month) in the Pacific region, and low electricity rates, making it an attractive choice for cost-conscious investors.

5. Young, vibrant and educated labor force

With 60% of the population under 30, Kiribati offers a dynamic labor pool, surpassing the world (47%) and East Asia & Pacific (37%) averages. It also has a strong commitment to education, with 16.6% of GDP dedicated to it, exceeding the world average (3.7%) and East Asia & Pacific (3.4%).

Slide 2

GUO please include Kiribati competitive advantage in its EEZ
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Content

1. Who we are
2. Emerging & dynamic economy
3. Strategic connectivity with preferential market access
4. Friendly business environment with solid legal framework
5. Competitive operational costs
6. Young, vibrant and educated workforce





Who we are?



Kiribati at a glance



Independent since 1979 from the British protectorate



Parliamentary republic sharing some features of presidential system, with capital Tarawa



Island state in the Pacific made up by 3 groups of islands (Gilbert, Line and Phoenix) with 811Km² of territory and 1,143Km of coastline dispersed on 3.4 million Km² of exclusive economic zone water (12th largest worldwide)



132.500+ inhabitants (60% under 30 years)



Australian Dollar as currency (US\$1 = AU\$1.5 avg.)



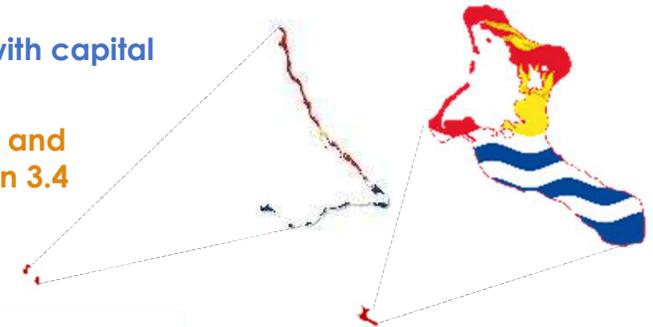
English and Gilbertese as official languages



Christian dominant religion (mainly catholic)



Tropical climate (hot & humid) all year. Warm season (May to October) and wet season (November to April) - Susceptible to cyclones



Investment Promotion Division (IPD)

Part of the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MTCIC), it is responsible for promotion, facilitation, aftercare, registration and monitoring of domestic and foreign investments in Kiribati

1



Market analysis & tailored information

2



Institutional & commercial linkages (agendas)

3



Soft-landing support

4



Investment registration & monitoring

Priority sectors with investment opportunities



Tourism

- **Accommodation:** Luxury eco-resorts, mid-range hotels, budget guesthouses, and boutique lodges.
- **Hospitality:** Wellness retreats, venues, restaurants, bars, and retail.
- **Tour operators & services:** Diving centers, cultural experiences, & boat and fishing excursion.
- **Infrastructure:** Airport facilities and air connectivity, inter-island transport, cruise terminals and jetties, and motorcycle rentals.
- **Tourism vocational training centers**
- **Tourism-related sites and facilities**

Fisheries

- **Sustainable commercial fishing**
- **Coastal fisheries:** Aquaculture and hatcheries.
- **Processing:** Filleting, freezing, canning, fishmeal and fish oil.
 - **Cold chain logistics:** Warehouses, refrigerated transport and landing sites.
 - **Seafood certification**
- **Maritime repair & resupply:** Shipyards, dry docks and resupply stations.
- **Maritime infrastructure:** Transshipment hubs, jetties, and wharves

Agri-Processing

- **Coconut:** Farming, virgin oil, cold-pressed processing, water & beverage, copra and food products (dried chips, flour, milk, sugar), and shell & fiber utilization.
 - **Seaweed:** Farming, food products (dried seaweed, nori sheets, and seasoning powders), hydrocolloids, packaging & bioplastics, organic fertilizers, and animal feed.
- **Other:** Organic, certified high-value crops for export, and crops to enhance food security and imports substitution.



2

Emerging &
dynamic economy



Young & emerging economy with outstanding performance



- Dynamic emerging economy:** Despite its small size (US\$279m), Kiribati stands out as one of the most rapidly growing markets in the Pacific region.
- Outstanding performance:** Over the past 5 years (2018-2023) Kiribati achieved an annual average growth rate of 3.6%, exceeding the East Asia & Pacific (3.0%) and Pacific Island States (0.7%) average.
- Rapid projected growth:** 4.1% for 2025, outpacing the average for Pacific Island states (3.9%) and the World (2.7%).

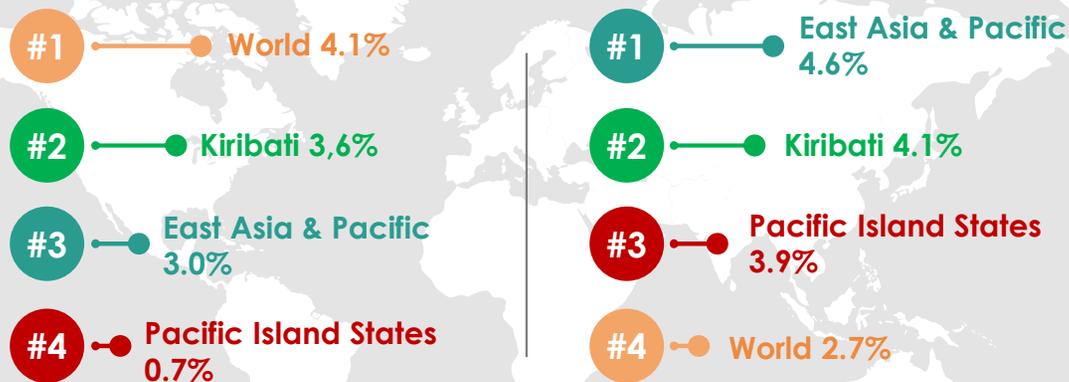
Pacific Island States GDP Size, 2023 (US\$ Million)

Papua New Guinea	30,729
Fiji	5,442
Solomon Islands	1,633
Vanuatu	1,126
Samoa	938
Tonga	518
Micronesia	460
Cook Islands	310
Palau	282
Kiribati	279
Marshall Islands	259
Nauru	154
Tuvalu	62

GDP growth (%)

2018-2023 Avg. Growth*

Forecast 2025



Note: GDP size at current USD prices. Growth on constant process.

* CAGR: Compound annual growth rate

Source: The World Bank Database (<https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators#>)

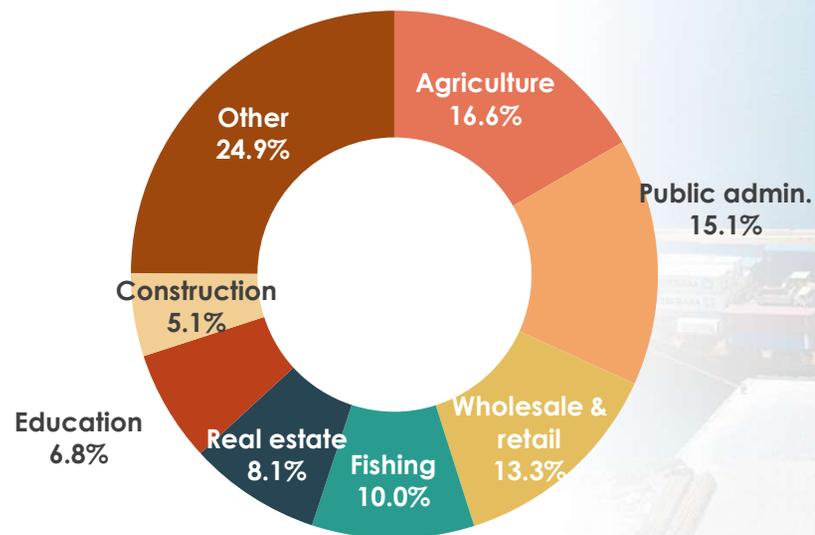


Solid and diverse economy



High concentration: Agriculture, Public administration and Wholesale & retail collectively contribute to over 45% of the GDP, creating a need for economic diversification.

Kiribati GDP by Sectors, 2023



Other: Finance 5.0%, Manufacturing 4.6%, Transport & storage 4.6%, Health 4.3%, Accommodation & food service 3.1%, Other 3.4%.
Source: Kiribati National Statistics Office (GDP at constant prices) (<https://nso.gov.ki/statistics/economy/gdp/>)



Emerging and dynamic economy



9.3% Inflation 2023
Lower than Low Income
Countries (10%)



**10.9% Unemployment
rate 2020***

US\$ 2,106 GDP Per capita 2023
Ranking high among Lower Middle-
Income Countries (US\$1,136-4,465)

132.5K inhabitants 2023
With 60% under 30 years,
exceeding the World (47%) and
East Asia & Pacific (37%) averages

Note: GDP at current USD prices. Inflation average consumer prices
* Latest available figures are for year 2020.

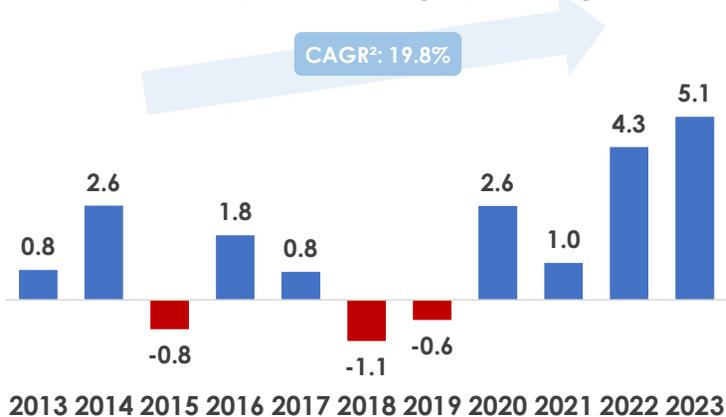
Source: The World Bank Database (<https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators#>) - Kiribati National Statistics Office
<https://nso.gov.ki/statistics/social/labor-market/>



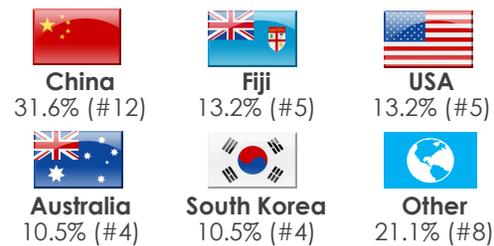
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Kiribati

- Dynamic growth:** Despite its cyclical trend and some disinvestments, Kiribati has experienced a growth in its foreign direct investment inflows, with an average yearly rate of 19.8% over the last 10 years.
- Top investors:** China, Fiji and USA stand out as top 3 source of investment in Kiribati, accounting over 57% of the investment projects, equivalent to 22.
- Leading recipient sectors:** Fisheries, Distribution and Construction emerge as the top 3 sectors receiving FDI in Kiribati, accounting for over 50% of the investment projects, equivalent to 19.

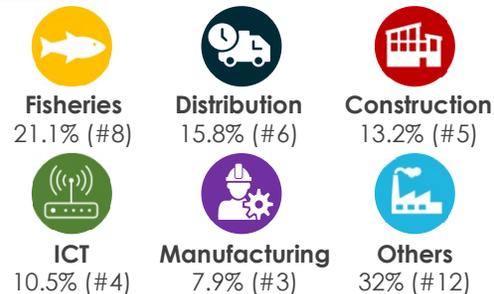
Foreign Direct Investment Inflows in Kiribati, 2013-2023 (US\$ Million)



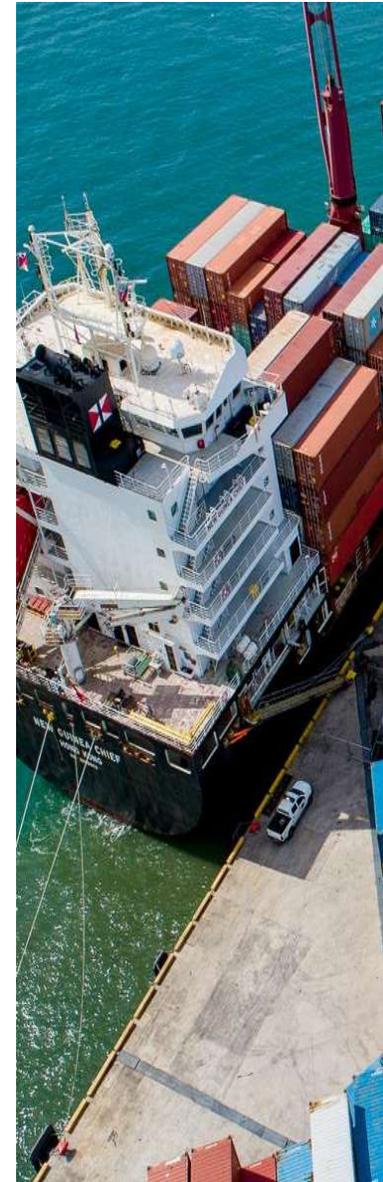
FDI by Country (# of projects¹), 2015-2024



FDI by Sector (# of projects¹), 2015-2024



¹ Number of Foreign Investment Certificates issued by the Investment Promotion Division (IPD)
² CAGR: Compound annual growth rate
 Source: World Bank Data base - Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MTCIC)



Some Successful investment Stories



Christmas Lodge - 2019

- USA
- Tourism - US\$233.000 – 39 employees
- Hotel development: Establishment of a hotel operation, enhancing tourism and hospitality services



Tarawa Shipyard - 2017



- South Korea
- Maritime manufacturing - US\$2M – 28 employees
- Shipyard & vessel services: Providing boat construction, repair, and parts supply for fishing and transportation boats

GUO



vodafone

Vodafone - 2015

- Fiji
- Telecommunications - US\$100.000 – 108 employees
- Telecommunications expansion: Enhancing network coverage, connectivity, and digital access for businesses and communities



Kiribati Fish - 2012



- China / Fiji
- Fisheries - US\$4M – 169 employees
- Fishing & processing facility: Commercial fishing, processing, and packaging for value-added production and export



Kiribati

Punjas Kiribati - 2007

- Fiji
- Distribution - US\$50.000 – 78 employees
- Wholesale & retail: Distribution of basic food items and general merchandise for local consumption



KiriCraft



- Australia
- Maritime manufacturing – US\$75.000 – 9 employees
- Boatbuilding & maintenance: Shipyard for boat construction, repair, and maintenance, supporting maritime industries



Slide 13

GU0 Tarawa Shipyard start up capital is only \$2m

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J10 0 Done. It was 127m initially as that was the number provided in the list of successful FDI cases.

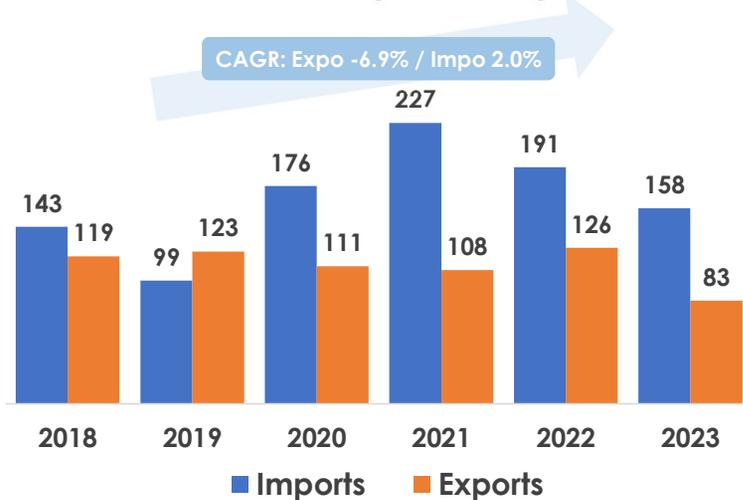
Juan Anzola - IFC, 2025-03-31T06:07:47.410

Kiribati international trade

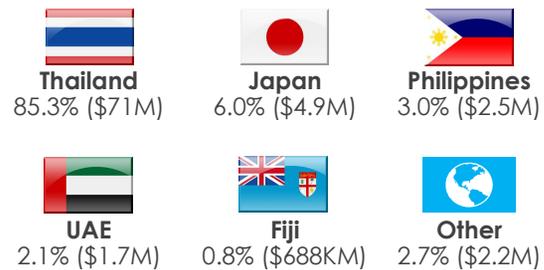


- Continuous trade dynamics:** Despite its trade deficits, Kiribati has shown consistent changes in its international trade, with an average yearly increase in imports of 2% and a decrease of -6.9% in exports over the last 5 years.
- Top export destinations:** Thailand stand out as single top destination for Kiribati's exports, accounting over 85% of the flows, followed far below by Japan (6.0%) and Philippines (3.0%).
- Leading import providers:** China, Australia and Fiji emerge as the top 3 sources of Kiribati's imports, accounting for nearly 60% of the flows.

Kiribati's Trade Balance of Goods, 2018-2023 (US\$ Million)



Exports by destination (US\$), 2023



Imports by origin (US\$), 2023



*CAGR: Compound annual growth rate

Source: Observatory of Economy Complexity (www.oec.world/en)

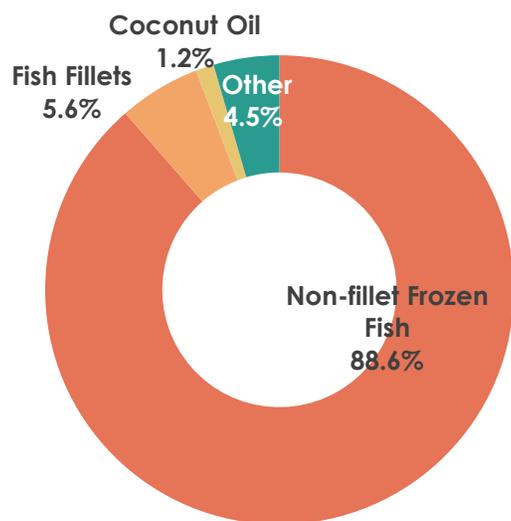


Main traded goods

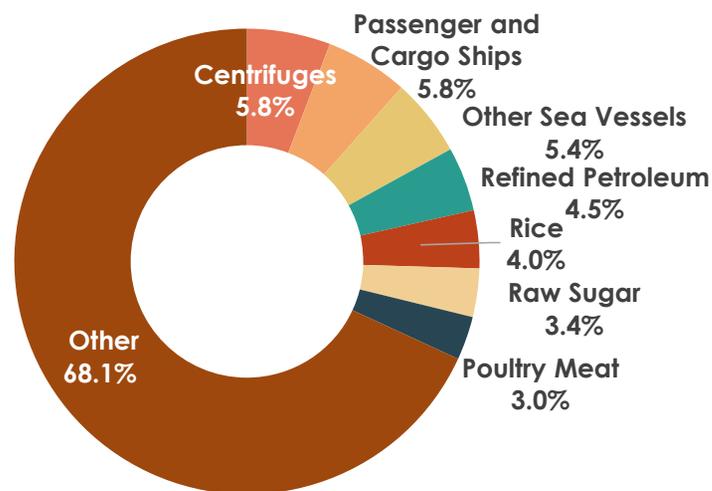


- 📌 **Concentrated export mix:** Non-fillet frozen fish stand out as the single top exported product, accounting for 88.6% of export flows, followed far below by Fish fillets (5.6%) and Coconut oil (1.2%). Together the top 3 products represent over 95% of total exports.
- 📌 **Diverse import portfolio:** Wide range of products, with Centrifuges, Passenger & cargo ships, and Other sea vessels standing out as the top 3, accounting for 17% of the import flows.

Exports by products (HS4), 2023



Imports by products (HS4), 2023



Source: Observatory of Economy Complexity (www.oec.world/en)





Strategic connectivity
with preferential
market access



Kiribati's connectivity by air



Connectivity by Air: Despite its remote location, Kiribati is connected with the rest of the South Pacific region with over 6 direct weekly flights to 4 overseas destinations.



Primary International Gateway: Located near Tarawa from capital city, Bonriki International Airport is the main gateway for international travelers to Kiribati. Cassidy International Airport situated on Kiritimati also serves as international airport with lower connectivity.

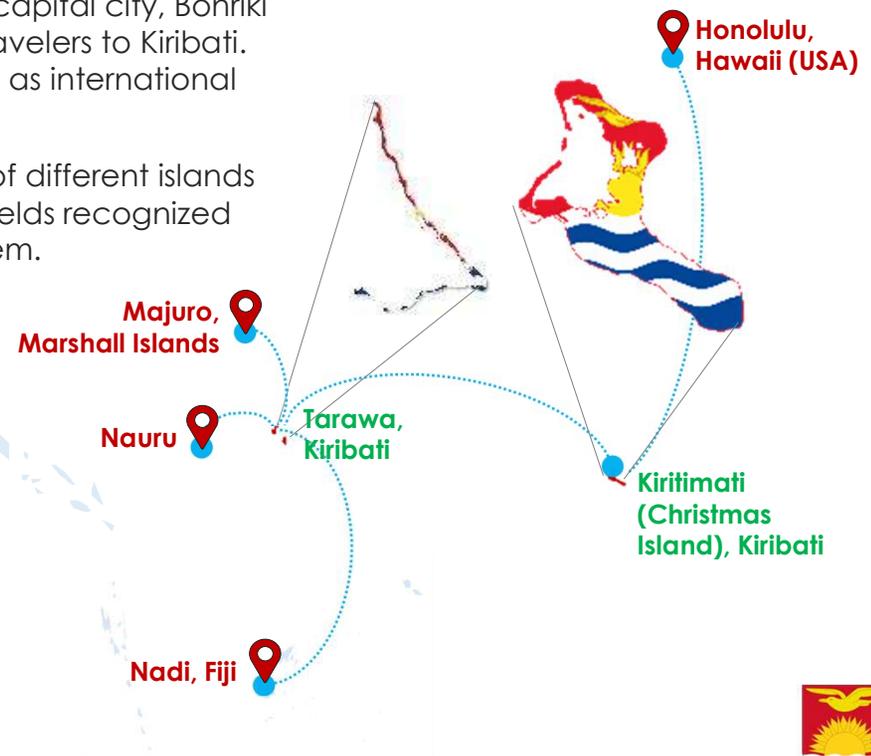


Domestic Connections: Due to its geographic composition of different islands spread in a vast Pacific Ocean, Kiribati has 19 domestic airfields recognized by IATA and/or ICAO. Air Kiribati is the airline connecting them.

 **FIJI AIRWAYS**

Nauru Airlines 

 **Air Kiribati**



Note: Information only as reference. Air routes and airlines may change due to latest updates
IATA: The International Air Transport Association. ICAO: International Civil Aviation Organization.
Source: www.flightconnections.com/ - <https://www.fluentcargo.com/search>



Kiribati's maritime connectivity



Strategic location: Position in the South Pacific, Port of Betio (Tarawa) is the main cargo gateway connects the island states with the rest of the world. There is also Kiritimati port with lower capacity.



Shipping network: 4 international shipping companies provide services to 5 direct overseas destinations in the region.



Key port infrastructure: Port of Betio (Tarawa) is a small port with maximum berthing ship's length of 200m and anchorage Depth of 7.1m - 9.1m.

Direct routes from Port of Betio (Tarawa)



Lautoka, Fiji



Noumea, New Caledonia



Allis & Futuna



Busan, South Korea



Various ports in China



SWIRE SHIPPING



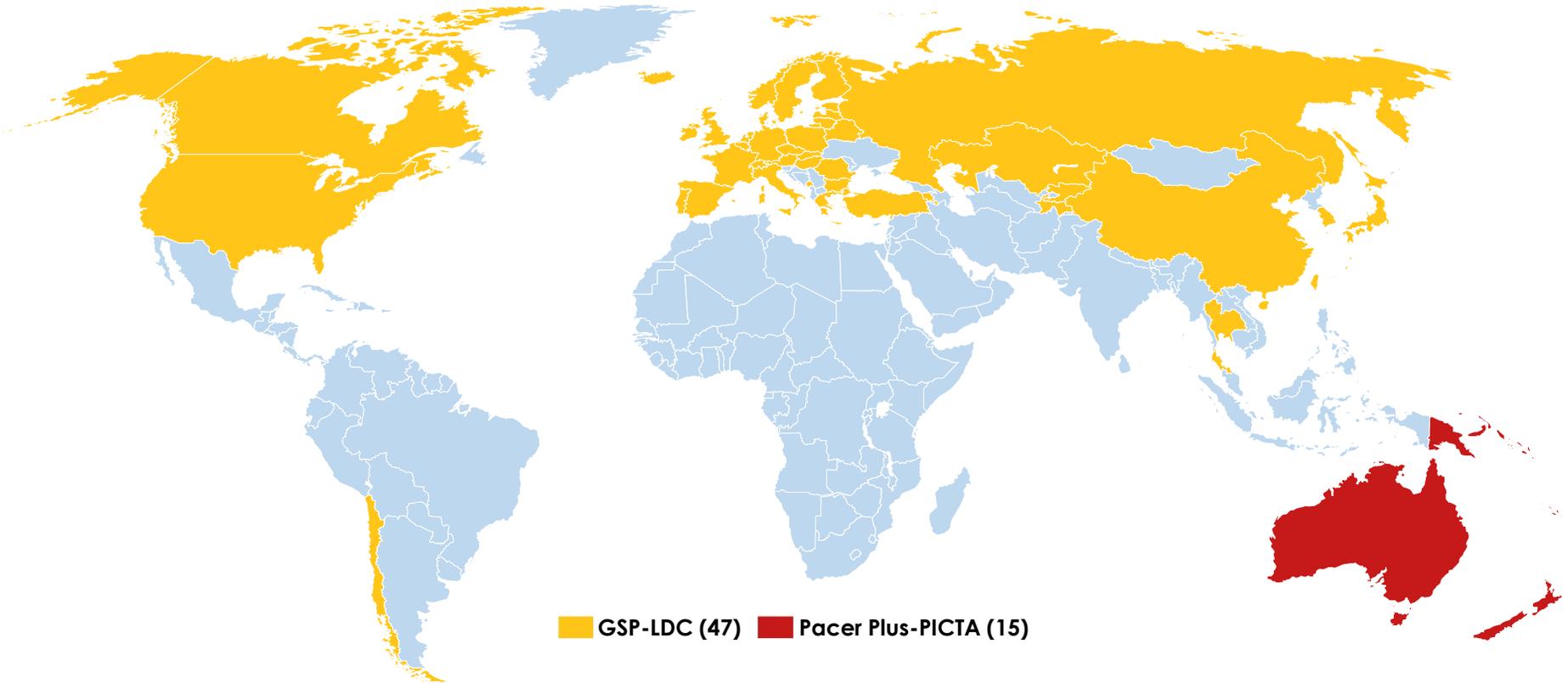
Your Pacific Shipping Line

Note: Information only as reference. Air routes and airlines may change due to latest updates
Source: <https://www.fluentcargo.com/search/> - <https://www.searates.com/>



Export platform to 5 continents

Preferential market access to 2.9+ billion people in 62 countries



Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and Least Developed Countries (LDC): 47 countries grant duty-free and quota-free market access for exports (Armenia, Belarus, Canada, Chile, China, European Union, Iceland, Japan, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Taipei, Turkey, United Kingdom and USA).
Pacer Plus-PICTA: Plurilateral free trade agreement between 15 Pacific Island countries (Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu).
Source: MacMap.org



Kiribati's Exclusive Economic Zone

Vast ocean opportunity



12th largest exclusive economic zone in the world, covering 3.5 million km² of marine territory, offering vast untapped potential for commercial fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean-based industries, reinforcing its position as a blue economy frontier.

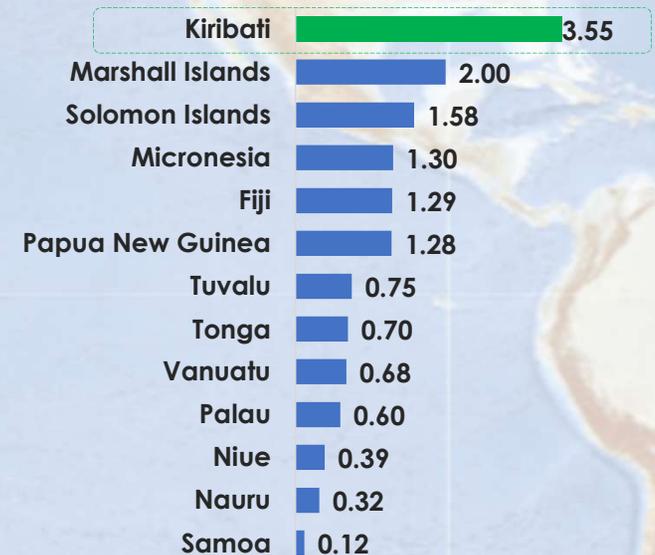


Strategic location in the Pacific trade corridor connecting 3 continents (Americas, Asia and Oceania).



Access to rich biodiversity within the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA), the world's largest UNESCO-listed marine reserve.

EEZ Area Pacific Island States
(Million km²)





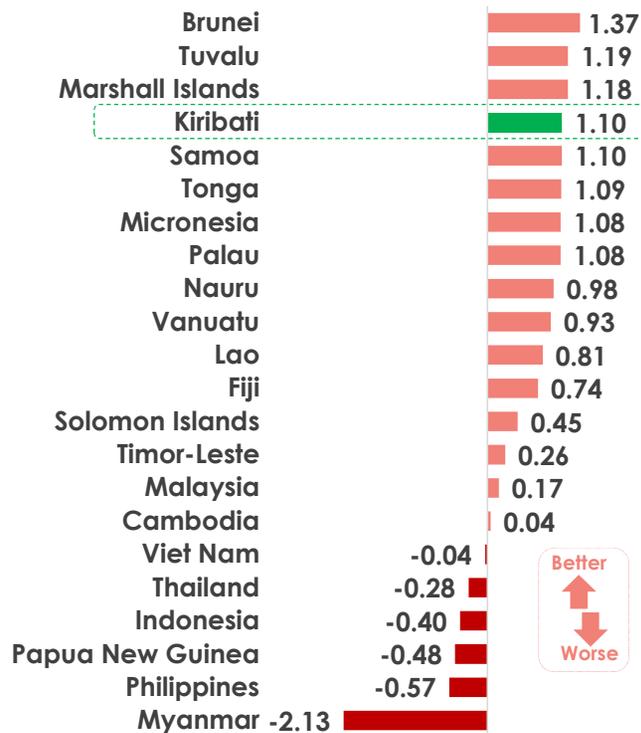
Friendly business environment with solid legal framework



Peaceful and stable country



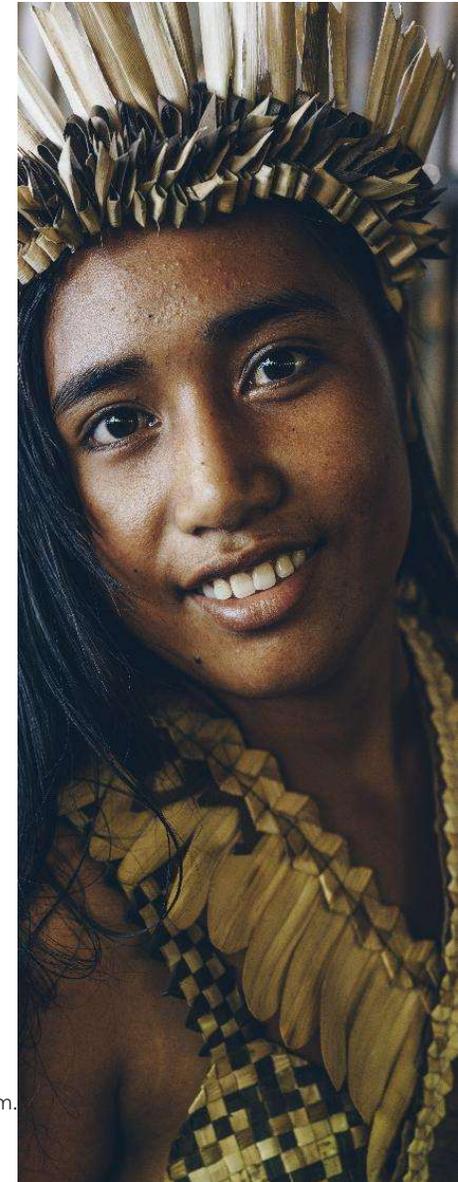
Political Stability & Absence of Violence Index in Southeast Asia & Pacific*, 2023 (Score)



Kiribati stands out as one of the **most peaceful and stable economies** in Southeast Asia & Pacific*, providing a solid foundation for economic activities and investment.



High ranking in governance: Kiribati ranks 4th in Political Stability & Absence of Violence among 22 countries in the region*



Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism: Perceptions of the likelihood of political instability and/or politically-motivated violence, including terrorism.
 *Excluding high income economies (Australia, New Zealand & Singapore)
 Source: The World Bank Database

Peaceful and stable country

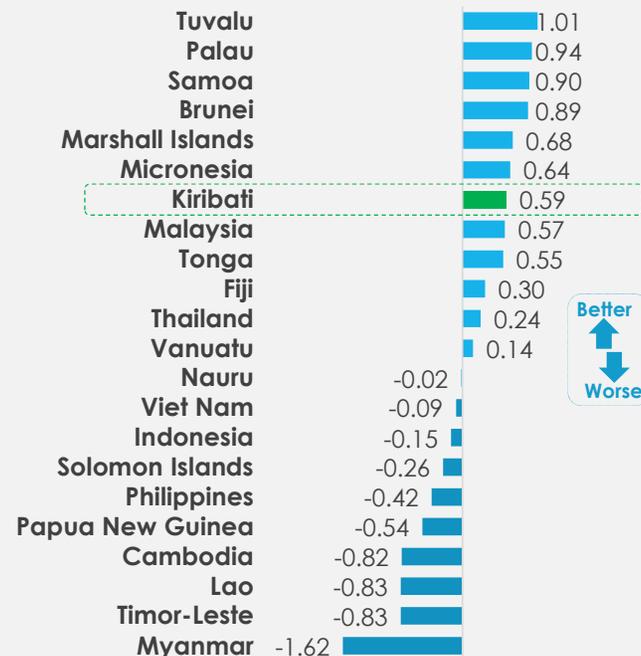


- 🇰🇮 Kiribati stands out as **one of the best** countries in Southeast Asia & Pacific* for its **conductive business climate**.
- 🇰🇮 **High ranking in governance:** Kiribati ranks 3rd in Voice and Accountability and 7th in Rule of Law among 22 countries in Southeast Asia & Pacific.

Voice and Accountability Index in Southeast Asia & Pacific*, 2023 (Score)



Rule of Law Index in Southeast Asia & Pacific*, 2023 (Score)



Voice and Accountability: Perceptions of the extent to which a country's citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and a free media.

Source: The World Bank Database

*Excluding high income economies (Australia, New Zealand & Singapore)

Rule of Law: Perceptions of the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police, and the courts, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence

Solid and robust legal framework for investors



Investment regulation

- ↳ Kiribati Foreign Investment Act 2018
- ↳ Foreign Investment Regulation 2019
- ↳ Kiribati National Investment Policy Framework 2018-2028

International investment agreements

- ↳ ACP - EU Samoa Agreement (2023)¹
- ↳ PACER Plus (2017)²
- ↳ Cotonou Agreement (2000)
- ↳ SPARTECA (1980)

Investment Guarantees and Rights

- ↳ **No discrimination:** Foreigners are equal with Kiribati citizens before the law (except when it is defined by the law).
- ↳ **Expropriation:** Investments shall not be nationalised, expropriated or related except by provision of a law, without just compensation.
- ↳ **Review concerning** expropriation and compensation.
- ↳ **Funds repatriation:** No restrictions. Investor may transfer into and outside Kiribati funds relating to their investment.
- ↳ **Investment disputes:** Recourse to Kiribati justice system to settle disputes.

¹ ACP - EU Samoa Agreement: African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (77 states) - European Union (28 states). It includes same states from Cotonou Agreement

² Pacer Plus: Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (14 states). It includes same states from SPARTECA

Source: <https://investmentpolicy.unctad.org/country-navigator/112/kiribati>



Constrained activities for foreign investors (1/2)



Reserved List (Kiribati Citizens)

- ↳ **Public bus services:** Urban and rural licensed passenger transport for the general public. *Excludes:* Private school, hotel, shuttle, or worker transport services.
- ↳ **Public taxi services:** Motorized taxi services (urban, suburban, and interurban).
- ↳ **Vehicle rentals:** Leasing/hiring private vehicles *without* drivers.
- ↳ **Distribution sector:** Retail and wholesale trade (unless pre-existing under the Act). *Excludes:* Beverage retail for on-premise consumption.
- ↳ **Tour guide services:** Includes bird watching, game fishing, diving, and surfing tours.
- ↳ **Handicraft production:** Traditional design and crafting of local items.
- ↳ **Sawmilling:** Cutting logs into timber.
- ↳ **Fishing (inshore):** Artisanal and commercial fishing within 12 nautical miles.
- ↳ **Tibuta garment making:** Designing and sewing traditional Tibuta clothing.

Restricted List of Activities

- ↳ **Salt production:** Foreign investors must form a joint venture with a local partner.
- ↳ **Virgin coconut oil:** Foreign investors must establish a joint venture with a local partner.
- ↳ **Recycling services:** Refuse disposal for recyclable items (except PET 14, lead-acid batteries, aluminum cans) must be supplied via a commercial presence. Consulting excluded.
- ↳ **Liner shipping services:** License required, evaluated on frequency, type, price, and impact. Preference for Kiribati-owned and staffed carriers. Local agent mandatory.
- ↳ **International shipping (Bulk/Tramp/Passenger):** Local agent in Kiribati required.
- ↳ **Maritime agency services:** Must operate through a local agent established in Kiribati.
- ↳ **Aluminium Industry**

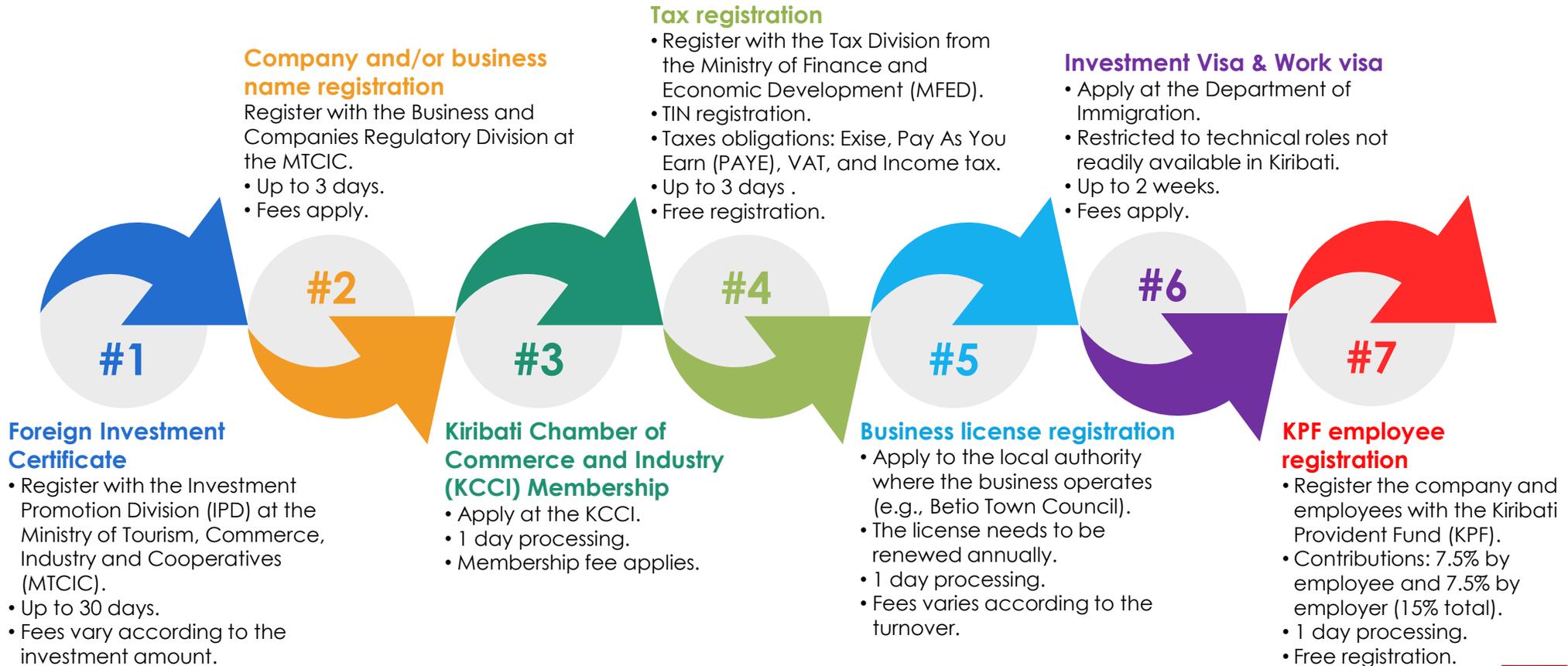
Constrained activities for foreign investors (2/2)

Prohibited List

- ↳ **Weapons & hazardous materials:** Includes production, testing, or import of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons and hazardous waste.
- ↳ **Human cloning:** Research related to human cloning is not permitted.
- ↳ **Narcotic drug production:** Production of illegal narcotic substances is prohibited.
- ↳ **Protected wildlife exploitation:** Hunting or trading of conserved bird species.
- ↳ **Treaty violations:** Any activities banned under Kiribati's international agreements.
- ↳ **Fishing:** In conserved areas, coral and turtle harvesting, endangered species, berried female lobsters, giant clams, sharks.
- ↳ **Agriculture:** Exporting millionaire salad, coconut crab harvesting, logging coconut-bearing trees.



Steps to set up a business in Kiribati



Slide 27

GU0 Can you separate the Kiribati Provident fund from Step 4 and create Step 5

Guest User, 2025-03-31T22:37:37.836

GU0 0 Noting that KPF is another compliance authority

Guest User, 2025-03-31T22:38:17.462

JIO 1 Perfect. Thanks!

Juan Anzola - IFC, 2025-04-02T08:39:42.371



Competitive operational costs & labour force

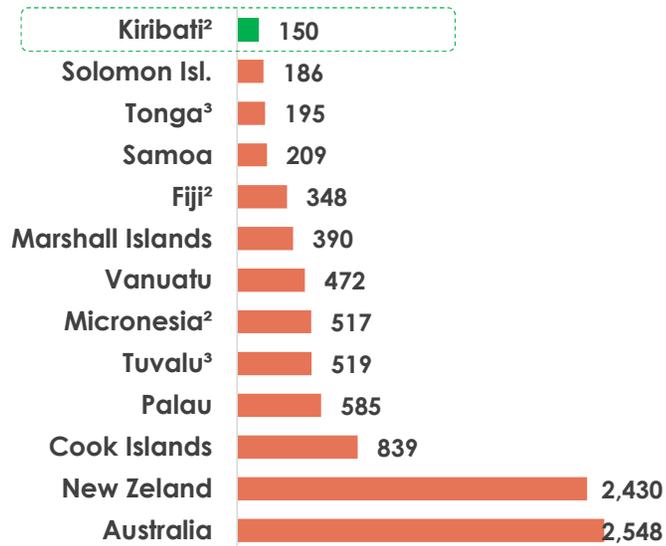


Most competitive salaries in the Pacific region



- 📌 **Most competitive salary** among the Pacific states with a monthly minimum wage of US\$150⁴
- 📌 **Friendly and business-oriented labour regime**, fostering the creation of new employment

Monthly Minimum Wage in the Pacific, 2024 (US\$/Month)¹



Mandatory Benefits for Employer in Kiribati⁴

US\$150/month⁴
AU\$225
Minimum wage
(US\$0.9 per hour
AU\$1.3)

7.5% for Social security⁴
For National Provident Fund + Workmen Compensation Insurance

12 salaries per year
No obligation for bonuses & allowances but are common practice

Note: Values only for reference. These may change according to exchange rate fluctuations. Salaries do not include mandatory social benefits.

¹ Average monthly salary corresponds to 195 hrs./month avg. (9 hours per day x 5 days per week x 4.33 weeks per month – exceptions may apply)

² Minimum wages are set according to province, industry and skill level. In this case an average is taken.

³ There is no statutory minimum wage. Lowest average salary is used in stead.

⁴ **Kiribati labor regime: Minimum monthly wage:** US\$150 for local businesses and companies (US\$0.9/hrs) and US\$346 for overseas-funded projects (US\$2/hrs).

Working hours: 40hrs per week across 5 days. **Overtime:** 150% rate without a maximum number of hours per week. **Annual leave:** Optional, 10 days common practice. **Health insurance:** Public healthcare system funded by the government; private is optional. **Severance:** Varies according to years of service and salary (formula applies). For more info review Employment and Industrial Relations Code 2015 (EIRC) and Labour Act 2003

Source: <https://wageindicator.org/salary/minimum-wage/minimum-wages-per-country> - <https://www.salaryexplorer.com/#browsesalaries> - <https://www.rivermate.com/guides>

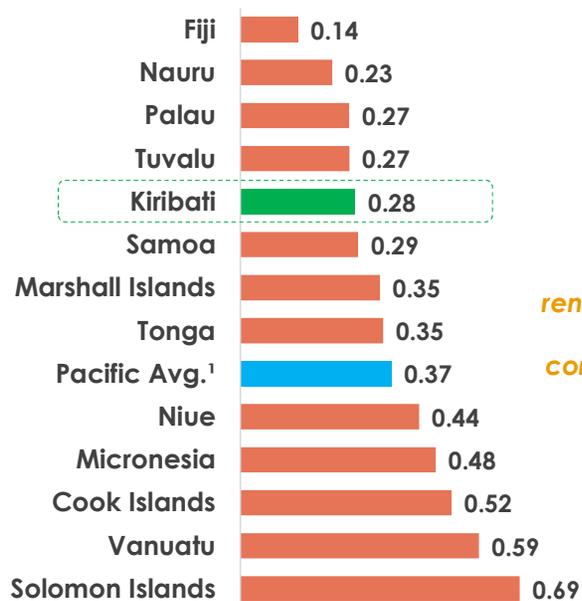


Competitive electricity prices in the Pacific



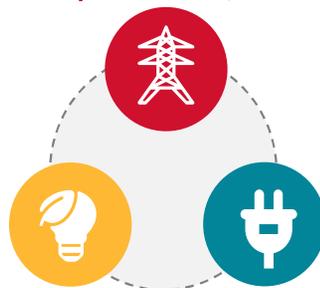
📌 Kiribati offers **competitive electricity prices** at an average of US\$0.28 per kWh, lower than regional average* of US\$ 0.37 per kWh

Average Electricity Price in the Pacific¹, 2021 (US\$ per kWh)



Cheapest: US\$0.07 kWh
Most expensive: US\$0.39 kWh

16%+ of generation is renewable, coming from solar source. The rest corresponds to fossil fuel



92.8% of the population has electricity access, surpassing World (31%) and Pacific region (86%) average

¹ Pacific (Oceania including Australia and New Zealand) is the most expensive continent in the world, averaging US\$ 0.30 kWh. In this case The Pacific region average (US\$0.35 kWh) is estimated based on the Pacific Island States, excluding developed economies and overseas territories.
 Source: <https://www.cable.co.uk/energy/worldwide-pricing/> - IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) – World Bank Database

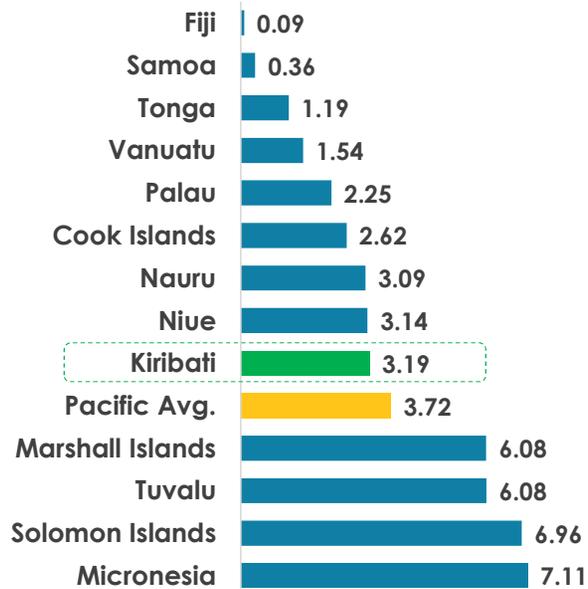


Competitive mobile data in the Pacific



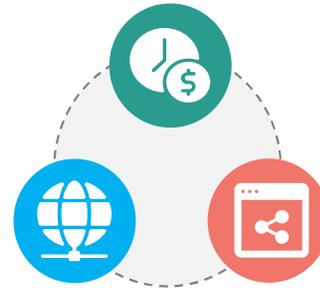
Competitive mobile data prices among the Pacific states averaging US\$3.19 per 1GB, lower than the regional avg. (US\$ 3.72) and New Zealand (US\$5.89)

Average Mobile data Price in the Pacific¹, 2023 (US\$ per 1GB)



Cheapest: US\$.92 per 1GB
Most expensive: US\$3.19 per 1GB

Well connected country with 1 operational submarine cable and another under construction, providing high-speed and reliable internet



53% population access to internet, below Pacific region avg. 65%

¹ Pacific (Oceania including Australia and New Zealand) is one of the most expensive continents in the world per 1GB per 30 days.

Source: <https://www.cable.co.uk/mobiles/worldwide-data-pricing->
<https://www.submarinecablemap.com/>

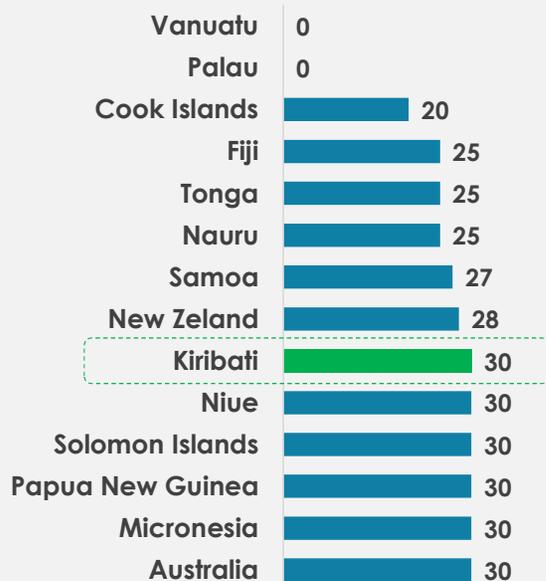


Competitive tax regime among Pacific* island states

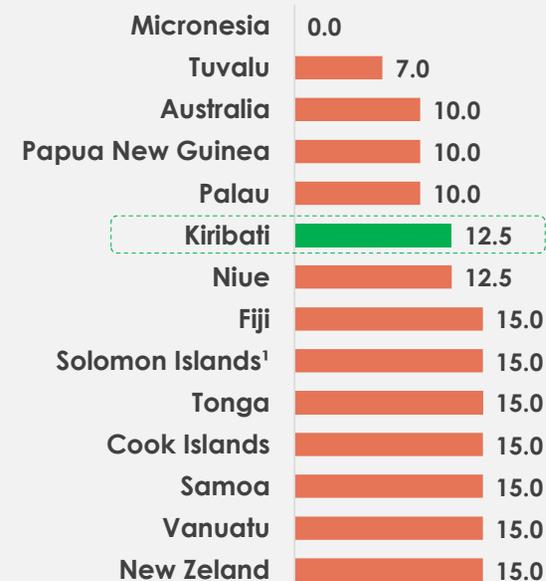


- 🇰🇮 **Standard Corporate tax:** 30% rate comparable to most of the Pacific states including Australia.
- 🇰🇮 **Competitive Sales tax:** Kiribati 13% Sales tax is below the average rate in the region, ensuring a favorable tax environment.

Corporate Income Tax Rate in the Pacific, 2024 (%)



Sales Tax Avg. (VAT) Rate in the Pacific, 2024 (%)



Note 1: Rates only for reference. They may vary according to company's sector, revenue, size, new legislation, etc.

* Includes Australia and New Zealand

Source: Tax Foundation (<https://taxfoundation.org/data/all/global/corporate-tax-rates-by-country-2023/>)

¹ 10% for domestic products.

Source: VAT Calc (<https://www.vatcalc.com/global/global-vat-gst-sales-tax-rates/>) - Trading Economy (<https://tradingeconomics.com/country-list/social-security-rate-for-companies?continent=Australia>) - Rivermate (<https://www.rivermate.com/guides>)



6

Young, vibrant
and educated
workforce



Young and vibrant labour market



132K

Population in Kiribati
5th largest among the Pacific Island States¹

61%

Of the population is part of the labour force

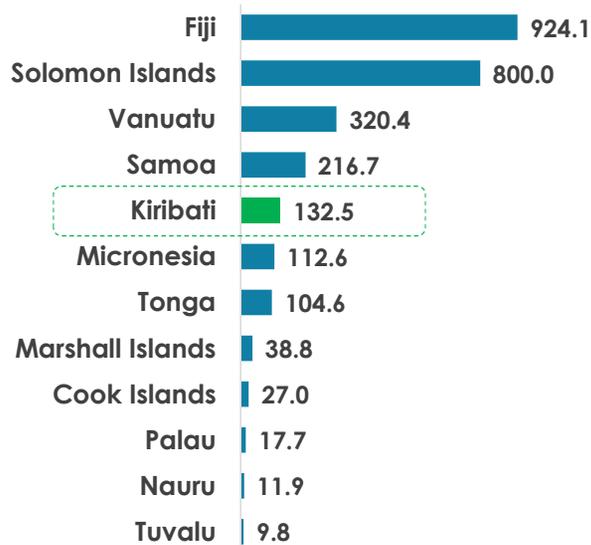
60%

Of the population is below 30 years old
Surpassing World (47%) & East Asia & Pacific (37%)

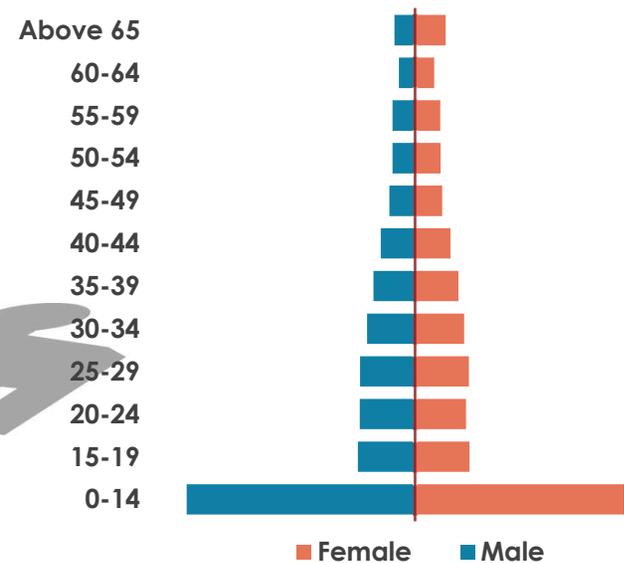
1.6%

Population growth rate
surpassing World (0.9%) & East Asia & Pacific (0.2%)

Pacific Island States Population, 2023 (Thousands)



Population by age & gender in Kiribati, 2023 (%)



¹ Pacific Island States: Excluding Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea for their large dimensions, and overseas territories (except by Cook Islands).

Labour force: population between 15-65 years old.

Source: The World Bank Database (<https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators#>)



Educated and energized population



● **High literacy rate:** 90.6% literacy rate, larger than the World average of 86.8% (2021)



● **Significant education investment:** Kiribati's government has the highest education expenditure in the region with 16.6% of GDP, exceeding the World average of 3.8% and East Asia & Pacific average of 3.4% (2022)



● **83.6% labour force with advanced education***, higher than regional average (81.2%) and World (75.8%)



● **4 institutions lead higher education in Kiribati**

GUO



Note: East Asia & Pacific average literacy rate of 96%

*Advanced education comprises short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree, or equivalent education level according to the International Standard Classification of Education 2011 (ISCED 2011).

Source: The World Bank Database (<https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators#>) – USAID (<https://idea.usaid.gov/cd/kiribati/education#tab-tertiary-education>) / <https://www.worldeducation.info/kiribati/universities> - <https://univ.cc/search.php?dom=ws&key=&start=1> - <https://www.scholaro.com/u/Countries/Kitibati/Universities> - <https://www.university.im/kiribati/>



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is it 4 institutions or 3

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Let's explore Kiribati together!

GU1

Investment Promotion Division (IPD)

Part of the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MTCIC)



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Slide 36

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