



Ministry of Meteorology, Energy  
Information, Disaster Management,  
Environment, Communications and  
Climate Change

**TLP: White**<sup>1</sup>

## **Advisory - Protecting your website**

Dear Constituents,

CERT Tonga has received reports of organisation's websites being defaced or compromised. **Website defacement** is the act of having unwanted content placed on your website.

As you are aware that due to the website being compromised, the services that are provided through it are affected and it also affects the image of your organisation. Furthermore cyber adversaries can also publish malicious content on the website and lure visitors from across the globe to visit the website and as a result will be infected themselves and further advances the goals of these malicious actors.

### **What to do**

- Apply appropriate updates/patches on the Operating System and Application software that your website is hosted on. This also includes the Web Server, Content Management System (CMS), Plugins and themes used by your website. Please use updating and patching best practices including testing and backing up your website before applying the patches.
- Automate software updates and domain renewals. If not possible make a note to regularly update the platform your website is hosted on (This is not referring to updating of the content)
- Make regular backups of your website.
- Regularly review your website for things that seem out of place.

### **Reference**

- <https://www.cert.govt.nz/business/guides/secure-your-website/protect-it/>

Please for more information you can contact us:

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1 CERT Tonga adopts the [Traffic Light Protocol](#)

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