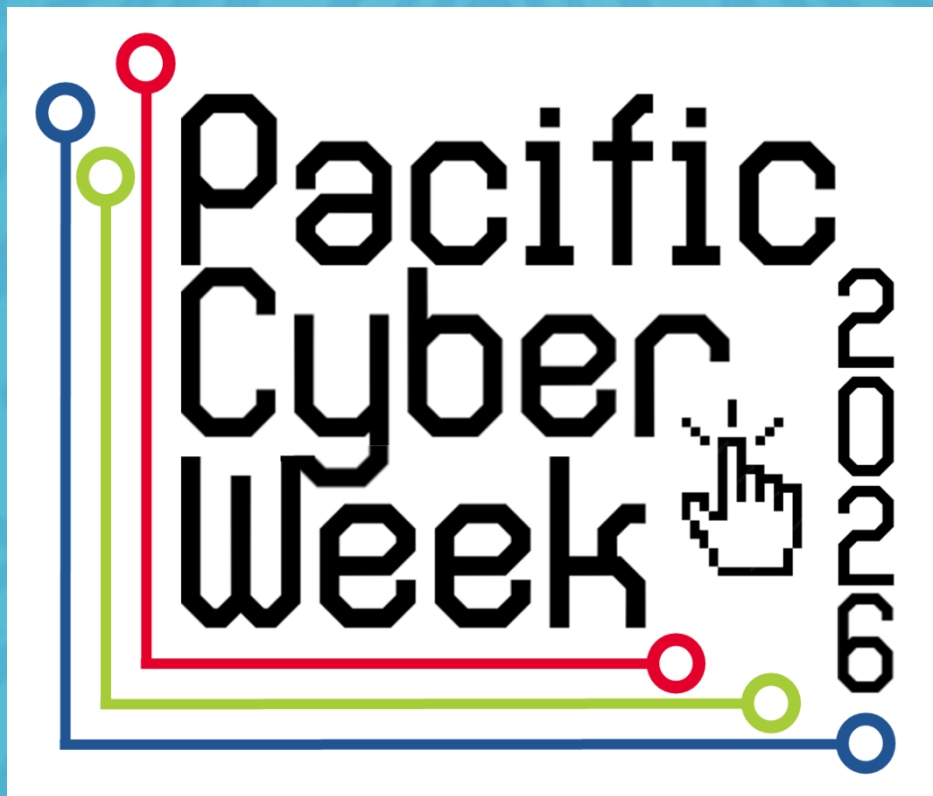




20 – 23 July 2026

APEC Haus, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

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Welcome to Pacific Cyber Week

Partnering with the Pacific, the United States and Australia are pleased to once again hold Pacific Cyber Week. This year, held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, we are excited to bring these activities closer to the Pacific Islands Forum and the work of our ICT Ministers and our Pacific Leaders through the *Lagatoi Declaration for Digital Transformation in the Pacific*.

Across this week, we will gather together to address key challenges and consider the opportunities our Blue Pacific has artificial intelligence and digital public infrastructure. In addressing challenges related to online safety, discussions will emphasis ransomware, scams and child protection issues.

At Pacific Cyber Week, we are also delighted to support:

- The Counter Ransomware Initiative's Pacific Regional Meeting on Tuesday 21 July.
- Community meeting of the Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society on Tuesday 21 July.
- *Bridge the Gap: Pacific Digital Inclusion & Safety Challenge 2026*, a policy-hackathon for online safety led by RMIT on Thursday 23 and Friday 24 July.

We consider discussion and whole-of-region participation on these issues critical to our national and regional success in cyber security.

Information for Attendees and Delegates

Accommodation Information

Pacific Cyber Week attendees who receive financial assistance from New Zealand, United States and Australia will be staying in The Stanley Hotel and Suites, in Port Moresby. There will be shuttle buses to transfer between the hotel and APEC Haus.

Meals and room charges at Stanley Hotel and Suites

Delegates who received financial assistance have breakfast included in their room reservations. Other day meals will be provided throughout the conference 20 – 24 July, with two official dinners (20 and 21 July at APEC Haus). Delegates with financial assistance will be able to utilise their per diems or pay out of pocket for room service. Delegates are responsible for additional costs incurred as part of their stay during Pacific Cyber Week.

Identification and Government Only Sessions

Photo identity is not required to be provided as part your registration. However, please ensure that you wear your lanyard and Pacific Cyber Week badge throughout the conference in case of an emergency.

Some sessions are noted as government only. Information about whether you have been invited to these sessions will be provided in the email sharing the program. If you have any questions about these sessions, please contact us.

Program – Day 1

Monday 20 July – OPENING CEREMONY & PACIFIC CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING AND COORDINATION CONFERENCE

08:00 –	Digital Transformation Summit Registration	Stanley Hotel
08:30		
08:30 –	Digital Transformation Summit and Pacific Cyber Week <i>combined</i> Opening Ceremony	Kokoda
10:00	Opening ceremony commences with welcome speeches and opening address by Papua New Guinea Ministers and Senior Officials. Addresses by Australia's Special Envoy to the Pacific Ewen McDonald AM and US's Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asia and Pacific Affairs Dan Cintron.	Ballroom, Stanley Hotel
10:00 –	Group Photo	Kokoda
10:15	Group Photo of Digital Transformation Summit and Pacific Cyber Week	Ballroom, Stanley Hotel
10:15 –	Digital Transformation Summit and Pacific Cyber Week combined Opening Ceremony	Kokoda
10:45	Opening Ceremony continues with address by the Deputy Assistant Secretary Dan Cintron, United States and Special Envoy to the Pacific, Ewen McDonald AM	Ballroom, Stanley Hotel
10:45 –	Pacific Cyber Week Delegates transfer to APEC Haus	
11:00		
11:00 –	Pacific Cyber Week <i>registration</i>	Foyer, Lower Floor, APEC Haus
11:15	All Pacific Cyber Week attendees, speakers and guests may register and collect their badges in the foyer of APEC Haus. Morning tea will be served throughout the registration window.	
11:15 –	Pacific Cyber Capacity Building and Coordination Conference – Welcome and Remarks	Ballroom, APEC Haus
11:30	Government representatives join together to commence Pacific Cyber Week and share initial remarks reflecting on progress as individual countries in the region and as a Pacific region. <i>Master of Ceremony: Rosemarie 'Shaz' Botong</i>	(government only)
11:30 –	Pacific Cyber Capacity Building and Coordination Conference – Priorities Discussion	Ballroom, APEC Haus
12:30	Government representatives are invited to break out into discussion groups to reflect on regional priorities, national needs and suggestions on how the governments can collaborate with each other and nongovernment stakeholders to strengthen cyber security capacity building outcomes. <i>Facilitated by Fee-Marie von der Brelie, Independent Diplomat and Hafsa Lak and Ayan Islam, Cambridge Global Advisors, Izzy Cox, Acting Director Pacific Cyber Cooperation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Australia</i>	(government only)
12:30 –	Talanoa	Talanoa: Leader's Boardroom, APEC Haus
13:15	Pacific Heads of Delegation from Pacific and Pacific partner governments speak together in a closed session Talanoa.	Workshop: Ballroom, APEC Haus
	AI Sovereignty Workshop What does data sovereignty actually mean operationally (not just as a slogan)? What are the legal/policy implications of using hyperscaler infrastructure, and the realistic options Pacific governments have today? <i>Led by David Keane and Sam Maher, Southern Cross AI</i>	
13:15 –	Lunch	
14:15		
14:15 –	Pacific Cyber Capacity Building and Coordination Conference – Cyber and Digital Embedded	Ballroom, APEC Haus
15:15	Advisor Models Drawing on lived experience working in Pacific contexts, cyber advisors share their lessons learned and insights on implementing policies and programs for Pacific governments. This is an opportunity for Pacific representatives and Pacific partners to understand the capacity and capability required to utilise their expertise, and to understand challenges associated with working in resource constrained settings. <i>Facilitated by Grace Cullen and Tony Hall, CyberCX; Panel Includes: Pua Hunter and Allan Cabanlong</i>	(government only)
15:15 –	Panel Discussion – Combatting Cyber Enabled Scams in the Pacific	Ballroom, APEC Haus
16:15	Delegates are welcome to participate in a panel style discussion on the whole of government approach the United States and its delivery partners are taking to identify diplomatic and capacity building efforts to combat cyber enabled scams. <i>Facilitated by Michelle Yao and Shanthini Dawson</i>	(government only)
16:15 –	Afternoon Tea	
16:45		

16:45 – 17:30	Pacific Cyber Capacity Building and Coordination Conference – Hearing from leaders and elders on the Pacific Experience Pacific Cyber Week welcomes our leaders and elders to share their insights and experiences guiding, leading and experiencing digital transformation through the Pacific. • <i>Ms Linda Folaumoetu’i, Attorney General, Tonga</i> • <i>Ms Simona Tenanoia, Chief Executive Officer, Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation, Tuvalu</i> • <i>Mr Ticker Hayka, Director, Timhay Consulting, Papua New Guinea</i>	Ocean View Room, APEC Haus
17:30 – 18:30	Networking and Cocktail Hour	APEC Haus
18:30 – 20:30	Pacific Cyber Week Official Dinner <i>Australian and United States are delighted to invite all Pacific Cyber Week guests, attendees and registered participants to join us for dinner at APEC Haus. Dress code is bula or business casual.</i> • <i>Jessica Hunter, Ambassador for Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia</i> • <i>Dan Cintron, Deputy Assistant Secretary, East Asia and Pacific Bureau, Department of State, United States</i> • <i>Steven Matainaho, Secretary, Department of ICT, Papua New Guinea</i>	Ballroom, APEC Haus

Select Biographies

Linda Folaumoetu’i, Attorney General, Tonga

Ms Linda Folaumoetu’i is the Attorney General of Tonga, a position she has held since 2019. Attorney General Folaumoetu’i began her career as a Legal Officer in Tonga’s previous Crown Law Department in 1993 and was admitted to the Supreme Court of Tonga and the High Court of New Zealand in 1994. Attorney General Folaumoetu’i was appointed as the Solicitor General of Tonga in 2006 before working as a litigation advisor to the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands from 2008-2014 where she was also admitted to the High Court of Solomon Islands. On her return to Tonga, Attorney General Folaumoetu’i was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Office of the Ombudsman and later as a member of the Electoral Commission and as Law Lord and Member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council by His Majesty the King. Attorney General Folaumoetu’i holds a Bachelor of Arts and Law from the University of Auckland, a Post Graduate Diploma in Legislative Drafting from the University of the South Pacific and a Master of Laws from the University of Melbourne.

Steven Matainaho, Secretary, Department of ICT, Papua New Guinea

Steven Matainaho is the Secretary of the Papua New Guinea Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT), a role that positions him as a key driver of the country’s digital transformation agenda. With a strong commitment to modernizing public administration and enhancing service delivery through technology, Matainaho is spearheading innovative policies and initiatives that aim to build an inclusive digital economy in Papua New Guinea.

Dan Cintron, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs, Department of State, United States

A member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service, Dan Cintron is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the East Asia and Pacific Affairs (EAP) Bureau responsible for regional security and assistance policy and programs, press relations, and public diplomacy programs. Prior, he was the Director of the Office of Japanese Affairs during 2025-2026. He served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at U.S. Embassy in Rangoon, Burma (Myanmar) from 2023 to 2025. He was the Political Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during 2020-2023, and the U.S. Olympic Coordinator at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo during 2018-2020. During 2017-2018 he was Chief of Staff to the EAP Assistant Secretary of State. Dan served during 2016-17 as the Director for Japan and Oceania Affairs at the National Security Council at the White House. His other positions at the State Department include Deputy Director of the Japanese Affairs Office, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, and UN General Assembly Coordinator. His other overseas assignments included positions at the U.S. Embassies in Kabul, Tokyo, Beijing, and Manila.

Jessica Hunter, Ambassador for Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology, Australia

Jessica has an extensive background in cyber security working with international partners, government and industry for more than 20 years. Jessica has led Australia's cyber security initiatives including as the Australian Government's National Cyber Incident Response Lead, and leading Australia's first national cyber uplift and resilience program. She has previously held senior roles within the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) as head of Australia's Cyber Security Resilience Division and head of Cyber Security Services Division, where she was responsible for delivering Australia's operational cyber threat intelligence programs, services and publications for hardening critical networks. In 2021, Jessica worked in the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS) as the Senior Cyber Security Principal Advisor.

Simona Tenanoia, Chief Executive Officer, Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation

Tenanoia Veronica Simona is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Tuvalu Telecommunications Corporation (TTC). Prior to her new role, she was working for the Government of Tuvalu as the ICT Programme Manager in the Ministry of Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs. She has more than 17 years of experience in the ICT and Telecommunication sector. Tenanoia holds a Master in Information Technology Management from the University of Sydney, Australia, and a Master in Commerce majoring in Information Systems from the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and Information Systems from the University of the South Pacific (USP) Suva, Fiji.

Rosemarie 'Shaz' Botong, General Manager, PNGFM, [Pacific Cyber Week Master of Ceremonies](#)

My name is Rosemarie Botong, but many know me as "Shaz." My journey into radio broadcasting was anything but conventional. After high school, I dreamed of becoming a pilot, but financial constraints made that path impossible. During those challenging times, I found comfort and inspiration in 96 Nau FM, a station, in my opinion, that truly connected with the youth of Papua New Guinea. With nothing to lose, I auditioned for a position at the station and, to my surprise, was hired. However, early in my career, I was let go—a moment that I now see as a blessing in disguise. That experience humbled me and taught me lessons I carry to this day.

Determined to grow, I pursued a teaching qualification at Gaulim Teachers College and spent several years shaping young minds in Western Province. Yet, my passion for radio never faded. When the opportunity arose, I returned to the industry with a renewed sense of purpose—not just as a broadcaster but as a voice for those who felt unheard. This dedication eventually led to my appointment as General Manager of PNG FM in March 2020. Now, I proudly oversee stations like Nau FM, YUMI FM, and Legend FM, striving every day to inspire, empower, and leave a meaningful impact on the media landscape in Papua New Guinea. Outside of work, I'm a lifelong rugby league enthusiast and have been a Brisbane Broncos fan for as long as I can remember—a passion that fuels my energy and spirit in everything I do.

Grace Cullen, Manager, CyberCX Strategy & Consulting

Grace brings experience in cybersecurity management, strategy development, and international relations. Grace is currently deployed as a Cyber Security Advisor to the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Prior to this regional deployment, Grace worked across national government agencies, critical infrastructure providers, and large private sector organizations to drive cybersecurity uplift and resilience across complex environments. With deep expertise across cybersecurity advisory and strategy implementation, she is passionate about building meaningful, long-term cybersecurity resilience across the region.

Anthony Hall, Manager in CyberCX's Strategy & Consulting

Anthony has experience delivering technical cyber security uplift, implementation support, and governance initiatives across government, telecommunications, financial services, and higher education. He is currently deployed as a Technical Cyber Security Advisor to the Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Marshall Islands, based in Palau. Anthony has worked across critical infrastructure and regulated industry contexts on

complex engagements including strategy planning, security framework maturity assessments, and control uplift. He brings strength in translating risk, threat, and control requirements into clear, actionable guidance to deliver pragmatic outcomes in ambiguous environments. He is passionate about bridging the gap between strategic priorities and technical execution to build long-term, sustainable cyber security resilience across the region.

Tepua 'Pua' Hunter

Pua brings over thirty years of experience within the Government of the Cook Islands, specialising in ICT, digital transformation and cyber development, including twenty-five years in senior leadership roles. She has represented the Cook Islands at regional and international ICT forums, contributing to high-level discussions on ICT and digital resilience. As Pacific Hub Director for the GFCE for two years, she led regional coordination efforts and strengthened Pacific engagement in global cyber initiatives, working closely with governments, regional organisations and development partners. She continues to support Pacific countries in cybersecurity capacity building, internet governance and digital transformation.

Hafsah Lak, Chief of Global Operations, Cambridge Global Advisors

Hafsah Lak leads Cambridge Global Advisors' international cybersecurity and AI programming – spanning strategy, workforce development, technical assistance, and incident response – across the Indo-Pacific, ASEAN, the Pacific Islands, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Central Asia. She brings more than 15 years of experience designing and leading cyber and development programs for governments and multilateral partners worldwide, including the U.S. State Department, Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and the United Nations.

Ayan Islam, Senior Advisor, Cambridge Global Advisors

Ayan Islam is a recognized cybersecurity leader and strategist with extensive experience in federal policy, workforce development, and critical infrastructure protection. Most recently, she served as the Director of Cyber Workforce at the White House Office of the National Cyber Director (ONCD). In this pivotal role, she was a significant contributor to the development and execution of the National Cyber Workforce and Education Strategy (NCWES) as well as the several AI, Tech, and Cybersecurity Executive Orders. Her work involved coordinating across the Executive Office of the President and multiple federal agencies to address the national cyber talent deficit, focusing on expanding the cyber ecosystem through public-private partnerships, transforming cyber education, and advancing the federal and private sector cyber/tech/AI workforce.

Fee-Marie von der Brelie, Policy Officer, Independent Diplomat

Fee-Marie von der Brelie advises governments—particularly small and underrepresented states—on navigating international cyber and digital diplomacy. In this role, she translates challenges at the intersection of technology, diplomacy, and international security into practical, actionable guidance, helping governments build resilient, future-ready strategies in complex multilateral spaces. Before joining Independent Diplomat, Fee-Marie was a Project Officer for Cyber Diplomacy and International Partnerships at the EU Institute for Security Studies, where she led the implementation of the 'Advancing the Cyber Programme of Action' project and supported the EU's Cyber Diplomacy Initiative, 'EU Cyber Direct'. She conducted research, provided policy advice, facilitated stakeholder engagement, and led capacity-building initiatives, to strengthen the EU's international cyber and digital engagements. Fee-Marie is recognised for her ability to bridge technical and diplomatic perspectives, ensuring cyber and technology policy is clear, actionable, and impactful. She holds an MSc in Crisis and Security Management, an MA in International Relations, and a BA in Arts and Culture.

Program – Day 2

Tuesday 21 July – COMMUNITY EVENTS and CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY

08:00 –	Women in Cyber Networking Breakfast		Ballroom, APEC
10:00	The Australian Government, and the Pacific Cyber Security Operational Network welcome women to a networking breakfast. This event honours women working in cyber security and recognises the significant contributions of Georgina Kiele to Papua New Guinea and for Pacific women in cyber. <i>Facilitated by Hafsa Lak, Chief of Global Operations, Cambridge Global Advisors</i> • Ms Linda Folaumoetu'I, Attorney-General, Tonga • Ms Jessica Hunter, Ambassador for Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology, Australia • Ms Veronika Kolek Netolicka, Cyber Attache to the Indo-Pacific, Czechia • Ms Diane Kombanei, Director, National Gender-based Violence Secretariat, Department for Community Development & Religion, Papua New Guinea		Haus
10:00 –	Responsible Artificial Intelligence Adoption		Ballroom, APEC
11:00	How do Pacific countries are approaching the adoption of responsible AI, with a particular focus on ensuring that standards-based approaches remain practical, relevant and locally grounded across the region • Miina-Lina Lind, Undersecretary for Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia • Jesse Riddell, Senior Manager, Strategic Partnerships & Growth, Standards Australia, • Athena Matalavea, Principal Incident Cyber Incident Response, SamCERT, Ministry of Information Communications Technologies, Samoa • Mr Justin Fair, Director, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Cyberspace & Digital Policy, Office of Bilateral & Multilateral Affairs • Mr Josh Mandell, Lead Client Partner – Foreign Affairs IBM Consulting		Haus
11:00 –	Morning Tea		
11:30			
11:30 –	Digital Public Infrastructure and Artificial Intelligence –	Addressing mis/ disinformation in	Panel: Ballroom,
13:00	Models and Considerations for meeting Pacific needs Panellists will discuss the nexus between DPI and AI, strategies to include Pacific voices in AI products and services, and how DPI can be utilised to overcome the unique digital challenges faced by the Pacific. • Secretary Steven Matainaho, Department of ICT, Papua New Guinea • Ministry of External Affairs (TBC), India • Nele Leosk, Team Lead, Knowledge Hub, Digital, European Commission (Former Ambassador for Digital Affairs, Estonia) • Sarah Sloan, Cisco Head of Cyber Security Policy Asia-Pacific, Japan, and China • Dr Rudra Chaudhuri, Vice President, Global Innovation Square (GIS): A Raisina-ORF Initiative,	a digital age Workshop The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade hosts a workshop on mis and disinformation challenges in our digital age.	APEC Haus Workshop: Boardroom 4 APEC Haus
13:00 –	Lunch		
14:00			
14:00 –	AI for a Secure Pacific	Digital Public Infrastructure	Roundtable:
15:00	The discussion will explore how Pacific countries can shape and adopt AI in ways that are safe, practical and beneficial for the region. It will consider opportunities for AI to strengthen cyber resilience and enhance data protection, while also addressing key challenges and risks associated with its adoption. There will be an opportunity for audience questions and discussion. • Toshiro Baum, Business Sales and Delivery Executive, Foreign Affairs, IBM Consulting U.S. Federal • Justin Fair, Director, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Cyberspace & Digital Policy. Office of Bilateral & Multilateral Affairs	Workshop Implementing digital solutions in a Pacific way is crucial to successful adoption of public infrastructure tools. This workshop will explore how LLMs and other AI tools can be tailored to preserve and protect Pacific language and culture. <i>Led by Ekant Tyagi and Zeena Fruitwala, Centre for Open Societal Studies</i>	Leader's Boardroom, APEC Haus Workshop: Ballroom, APEC Haus

• Daniel Fowell, Sales Manager, ANZ, Sans Institute			
15:00 –	Counter Ransomware Initiative Event	PICISOC Community Meeting	CRI: Ballroom
16:00	Pacific Cyber Week is delighted to host the Counter Ransomware Initiative Pacific Regional Event. This meeting is an opportunity to discuss ransomware, our actions and how the Pacific can collectively strengthen our responses.	The Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) hosts an exploratory discussion reflecting on achievements, lessons learned, and the evolution of Internet governance across the Pacific, while inviting participants to contribute ideas on future priorities for a secure, inclusive, and resilient Internet.	Internet Society: Courtroom
16:00 –	Afternoon Tea		
16:30 –	Counter Ransomware Initiative Event	PICISOC Community Meeting	CRI: Ballroom
18:00	This event continues for Counter Ransomware Initiative Members + Invited Only	This event continues for all Pacific Cyber Week delegates.	Internet Society: Courtroom
18:00 –	Networking and Cocktail Hour		APEC Haus
19:00			
19:00 –	Pacific Cyber Week Official Dinner		Ballroom, APEC Haus
20:30	Australian and IBM are delighted to invite all Pacific Cyber Week guests, attendees and registered participants to join us for dinner at APEC Haus. Dress code is bula		

Select Biographies

Ewen McDonald AM, Special Envoy to the Pacific and High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea, Australia

In support of Ministers, Mr McDonald coordinated Australian Government efforts with our Pacific family to build stronger relationships with Pacific leaders, governments, and people, as well as with regional organisations and institutions. Mr McDonald served as the Australian High Commissioner to New Zealand, with accreditation to the Cook Islands and Niue, working closely with New Zealand on collaboration and cooperation in the Pacific. Prior to joining DFAT, Mr McDonald was Deputy Director General at AusAID and Deputy Secretary in the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace relations. Mr McDonald's career has spanned a variety of portfolios in commonwealth and state government covering central agencies, social policy and foreign affairs.

Toshiro Baum, Business Sales and Delivery Executive, Foreign Affairs, IBM Consulting

Toshiro works in IBM's federal consulting practice and is the acting Project Deputy Director for the U.S. State Department East Asian and Pacific Cyber Secure Services (EAP CSS) project as well as a Business Sales and Delivery Executive for the Foreign Affairs Account. Previously, he was the project officer for the USAID Cybersecurity Protection and Response program and also served in the U.S. State Department's Office of Foreign Assistance, the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, and in the U.S. Agency for International Development's Africa Bureau, Office of Transition Initiatives, and Asia Bureau. He holds a Master of Arts in Public Affairs from Princeton University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Johns Hopkins University. Toshiro has PMP, CISM, Security+, and AI Governance Practitioner (AIGP) certifications.

Diane Kambanei, Director, National Gender-based Violence Secretariat, Papua New Guinea

Diane is an advocate for women's rights and adolescent sexual reproductive health in Papua New Guinea. She sits on the National Capital District Provincial Health Authority Clinical Governance Committee. She's the former host of the TV program PNG EXTRA which focused on stories that empower women and youth in PNG. Diane is a Chevening Scholar and has a Masters degree in Global Health specialising in sexual reproductive health from Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh, United Kingdom. She is the current Senior Program Manager-Electrification Partnerships at Oil Search Foundation.

Veronika Kolek Netolicka, Cyber Attache for the Indo-Pacific, National Cyber and Information Security Agency, Czech Republic

Veronika currently serves as Cyber Attaché for the Indo-Pacific at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Australia. This continues her career at the National Cyber and Information Security Agency where she has worked for seven years and previously led the National Strategy and Policy Unit. She received her master's degree in security and strategic studies at Masaryk University in the Czech Republic, where she is continuing her Ph.D. study with a focus on detailed analysis of cybersecurity threats and their risks. In 2018, she participated in a long-term research stay in Vietnam at the Ho Chi Minh University of Technology. Furthermore, she is an alumnus of the Program on Cybersecurity Studies at the George C. Marshall Centre in Germany. In 2021, she graduated from the international program The Young Leaders Program at National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Japan, where she received her master's degree in public policy.

Dr Rudra Chaudhuri, Vice President, Global Innovation Square (GIS): A Raisina-ORF Initiative,

Dr Rudra Chaudhuri's research and policy work focuses on the important role of technology and innovation in diplomacy, statecraft, development and business. He works closely with India's growing innovation ecosystem. His research also focuses on the diplomatic history of South Asia and contemporary security issues. He served as the Director of Carnegie India from 2018 till January 2026. In this time, he co-led the Global Technology Summit, co-hosted with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. He was a lecturer and a senior lecturer (Associate Professor) at the Department of War Studies at King's College London from 2009 to 2019. In 2012, he established the U.K. Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office's (FCDO) Diplomatic Academy for South Asia at King's College London. He served as its founding director from 2013 to 2022.

Josh Mandell, Lead Client Partner in IBM Consulting's U.S. Federal

Josh Mandell is the Lead Client Partner in IBM Consulting's U.S. Federal practice, where he manages the Foreign Affairs portfolio and leads strategy, client engagement, and program development. Previously, Josh led digital transformation, AI, and data modernization engagements for U.S. federal agencies and global development organizations. He holds a Master of Public Administration from New York University's Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and a Bachelor of Arts in Middle East and African Studies from Trinity College.

Program - Day 3

Wednesday 22 July – ONLINE SAFETY

9:00 – 10:00	Protecting Children in the Digital Age Featuring expert speakers from Australia, delivery partners and Pacific island country governments on protecting children in the digital age. Online safety is fundamental to how children, young people and communities participate in digital life. Drawing on experiences from those developing online safety responses, the panel will showcase government and partner insights, support regional dialogue, and enable panellists to compare practical, adaptable and resource-conscious approaches, implementation lessons and opportunities for continued collaboration. Facilitated by Ms Jadranka Matijas, Director, Digital Platforms, International and Policy Branch, Online Safety and Classification, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sports and the Arts, Australia • Mr Filipe Batiwale, Commissioner, Online Safety Commission, Fiji • Ms Ella Serry, Director International Engagement, Australian eSafety Commission, Australia • Ms Michelle Yao, Co-Founder, CyberLite	Ballroom, APEC Haus	
10:00 – 11:00	Responding to Cyber Crime The widespread impact of cybercrime challenges our ability to prevent and respond to crime and protect our people, communities and our systems. Building on discussions on scams, ransomware and reflections of online safety, panellists will reflect on the process and challenges of responding to cybercrime and reflect on the needs of specific groups within our community. <i>Facilitated by Pacific Cyber Security Operational Network</i> • Mr Mark Rysanek, Cyber Liaison Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police • Ms. Aoife Rigby, A/g Assistant Director National Office of Child Safety, Australia, • Mr. Elliot Binder, Acting Team Leader, Cyber Safety Pasifika, Australian Federal Police, Australia • Dr. Claire O’Neill, Officer in Charge, Cyber and Special Investigations, Australian Federal Police Australia	Building Whole-of-Society Resilience for Critical Infrastructure and Supply Chain Security in Small Island States (Workshop) This interactive discussion will share practical experience from small states on applying a whole-of-society approach to strengthening resilience in critical infrastructure protection. It will explore how public– private partnerships can support preparedness and enable coordinated responses to cyber threats and highlight key elements of resilient ecosystems, including regulation, trusted information sharing, cross-border cooperation, and capacity building. It will reflect on how critical infrastructure protection is prioritised, what lessons have proven effective, and how these experiences may be adapted in other contexts. Led by Ms Liina Areng, Director EU CyberNet, Ms Veronika Kolek Netolicka, Cyber Attache Indo-Pacific, Czechia	Cybercrime: Ballroom, APEC Haus Workshop: Boardroom 4, APEC Haus
11:00 – 11:30	Morning Tea		
11:30 – 13:00	Online Safety Response Pathways Workshop This interactive workshop will help to map stakeholders and potential gaps for responding to online safety issues impacting the Pacific region. This session will focus on online harms including child cyberbullying, age-inappropriate content for children and young people, and the non-consensual sharing of intimate images. <i>Led by Ella Serry and Isabella Glover, Australian eSafety Commissioner</i>	Scams Centre Proliferation in the Pacific The Royal Canadian Mounted Police offers a workshop on addressing scam centres as they continue to proliferate across the Pacific. <i>Led by Mark Rysanek, Royal Canadian Mounted Police</i>	Online Safety: Ballroom, APEC Haus Scams: Boardroom 4, APEC Haus
13:30 – 14:00	Lunch		

14:00 – 16:00	Cyber Deterrence Approaches This combined panel and workshop sessions will feature expert speakers from the United Kingdom, Pacific partners and the Pacific island country governments on cyber deterrence. Cyber deterrence moves cyber security beyond response and attribution to strategic thinking, horizon scanning and forward preparedness. While each country and region will have their own priorities, shared concepts on deterrence frameworks will support a stronger Pacific regional approach. The panel will showcase government insights while enabling dialogue across the region, allowing panellists to compare approaches and share lessons learnt. <i>Led by the Foreign, Development and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom</i>	Public-Private Partnerships for Ransomware IST invites Pacific representatives to share insights from their research on scams and ransomware to share case studies and develop a simple outline of how public-private partnerships can be harnessed to strengthen national responses and management of ransomware. <i>Led by Gigi Bustamante Flores, Senior Associate, Institute for Security and Technology</i>	Cyber Deterrence: Ballroom, APEC Haus (some sections government only, please check with facilitator on the day) PPP: Boardroom 4, APEC Haus
16:00 – 16:30	Afternoon Tea		
16:30 – 17:30	Closing Ceremony		Ballroom, APEC Haus

Select Biographies

Filipe Batiwale, Commissioner, Online Safety Commission, Fiji

Mr. Batiwale is a dedicated senior lawyer with a current practicing certificate in Australia, specialising in commercial law, cyber law, and digital asset protection. With a strategic blend of experience gained from esteemed global and national law firms, Mr. Batiwale brings over seven [7] years of experience in cyber law and digital asset protection, making him an invaluable addition to the Commission. Mr. Batiwale holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Canterbury that complements his practical knowledge in both commercial law and cyber law. His qualifications and work experience make him ideally suited to help guide the Online Safety Commission in its efforts to address the evolving challenges of online safety.

Dr Nele Leosk, Team Lead, Knowledge Hub Digital, European Commission

Dr. Nele Leosk is a globally recognized pioneer in digital governance and technology diplomacy who has dedicated over 25 years to developing open, inclusive, and safe digital societies worldwide. In her current role, she supports the EU in planning and implementing global digital cooperation and partnerships, focusing on digital government, connectivity, artificial intelligence, and digital economy initiatives. From 2020 to 2024, Dr. Leosk served as Estonia's Ambassador for Digital Affairs, where she established and managed the country's groundbreaking digital diplomacy framework. In this pioneering role, she positioned Estonia at the forefront of global technology governance, overseeing digital diplomacy implementation across digital economy, innovation, democracy, development cooperation, and security domains.

Michelle Yao, Co-Founder, CyberLite

Michelle Yao is the co-founder of Cyberlite, an award-winning organisation dedicated to advancing cyber safety, digital wellbeing, and generative AI education in Asia Pacific. She is a fellow of the High Commission of the United Kingdom's UK-SEA Women in Cyber Fellowship, a prestigious recognition of her contributions to the cybersecurity industry and her commitment to promoting diversity within the field. A specialist in child online protection and AI safety, she drives strategy, innovation, education, and policy for young people around the world. Michelle is also the co-author of two widely used cyber safety publications Ready, Get Set, Connect! and The Ultimate Guide to Cyber Safety. In 2026, Cyberlite became the recipient of the Digital for Life Champions award by Singapore's President Shanmugaratnam for their significant contributions towards national cyber safety education.

Shanthini Dawson, Head of Operations, CyberLite

Shanthini Dawson is a development practitioner with over 30 years of experience across post-conflict and emerging economies in Asia and beyond, including Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Sierra Leone. She served as strategic advisor to Afghanistan's Ministers of Rural Development and Education, and led a UNICEF-backed Health Governance programme in Sierra Leone. Holding a graduate degree from Oxford, Shanthini has worked in international agencies including WWF, FAO, WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, and USAID, shaping national policy. Her biodiversity fieldwork led to the discovery of two new mammal species in Vietnam. In India, she has spent the past 15 years in social development and environmental justice. She now heads operations at Cyberlite, bringing a career of serving communities across the developing world to the task of making digital safety education reach the people who need it most. Her focus is on social impact and community: ensuring that as the digital world grows more complex, no community is left without the skills to navigate it.

Liina Areng, Director, EU CyberNet, European Union

Liina Areng is the Director of EU CyberNet and President of the Latin America and Caribbean Cyber Competence Centre LAC4. Both EU-funded cyber capacity building initiatives are implemented by the Estonian Information System Authority (RIA), a government agency managing Estonian core e-government platforms (X-road, eID, e-election information system, open data and proactive government services) and national cybersecurity. Prior to joining EU CyberNet, Liina served as RIA's Director of International Relations, where she led the agency's external engagements and acted as a spokesperson advocating for Estonia's digital solutions in e-governance and cybersecurity. Liina has been engaged in cybersecurity since 2007, as a diplomat in NATO, Adviser at the Estonian Ministry of Defence, and Director of International Relations at the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence. She has been awarded the Order of the White Star by the President of Estonia.

Ella Serry, Manager International Engagement, Australian eSafety Commissioner, Australia

Ella leads a team focused on advancing eSafety's international strategic priorities with other regulators, governments, multi-lateral organisations, international NGOs, academics and policy experts, as well as delivering online safety capacity building projects in the Indo-Pacific region. Ella joined eSafety in early 2019 as a Senior Education Advisor. Prior to joining eSafety, she developed and delivered a number of child safety and student wellbeing initiatives across government and the non-government sector. Ella has a Master of Policy and Human Services from RMIT University and completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Melbourne and Trinity College Dublin.

Program – Day 4

Thursday 23 July - Workshops

Reminder: Pacific Islands Forum ICT Minister's Meeting is held in APEC Haus, alongside these sessions.

Pacific Cyber Week Workshops All workshops held in Ballroom A, APEC Haus		Bridge the Gap: Pacific Digital Inclusion & Safety Challenge 2026
09:30 – 10:30	Improving Cyber Hygiene in the Pacific or 'How I Keep Getting Into Pacific Governments – And How You Stop The Bleeding' Walking participants through the three most reliable ways they get into a Pacific Island government - backup files left in the web root, ancient unpatched vulnerabilities that cause cascading failures across a whole country, shares insights on new vulnerabilities in software that was procured and funded without anyone ever asking for it to be secure. <i>Led by David Crees, Director and Security Researcher, Abstract Shield</i>	Thursday 23 July and Friday 24 July, all day, in Ballroom B, APEC Haus Participating universities only
10:30 – 11:00	Morning Tea Break	
11:00 – 12:30	Digital Public Infrastructure Models and Approaches COSS invites representatives of Pacific island countries and key development partners to build on discussions and workshops about digital public infrastructure to unravel current models and approaches and explore what is needed for the Pacific. <i>Led by Ekant Tyagi and Zeena Fruitwala, Center for Open Societal Studies</i>	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 14:30	Workshop – WALK IN OPPORTUNITY	
14:30 – 15:30	Afternoon Tea Break	
16:00 – 17:00	Workshop – WALK IN OPPORTUNITY	

SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

Monday 20 July

Departure Time	Location	Arrival Time	Location
10:30	Stanley Hotel	10:45	APEC Haus
11:30	APEC Haus	12:00	Stanley Hotel
13:15	Stanley Hotel	12:45	APEC Haus
16:00	APEC Haus	16:45	Stanley Hotel
17:30	Stanley Hotel	18:00	APEC Haus
21:00	APEC Haus	21:30	Stanley Hotel

Tuesday 21 July

Departure Time	Location	Arrival Time	Location
07:45	Stanley Hotel	08:00	APEC Haus
11:30	APEC Haus	12:00	Stanley Hotel
13:15	Stanley Hotel	12:45	APEC Haus
16:00	APEC Haus	16:45	Stanley Hotel
17:30	Stanley Hotel	18:00	APEC Haus
21:00	APEC Haus	21:30	Stanley Hotel

Wednesday 22 July

Departure Time	Location	Arrival Time	Location
08:30	Stanley Hotel	08:45	APEC Haus
11:30	APEC Haus	12:00	Stanley Hotel
13:15	Stanley Hotel	12:45	APEC Haus
17:45	Stanley Hotel	18:00	APEC Haus

Thursday 23 and Friday 24 July

Departure Time	Location	Arrival Time	Location
08:00	Stanley Hotel	08:20	APEC Haus
17:30	Stanley Hotel	18:00	APEC Haus