Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum 2026

24 November 2026

USP Emalus Campus, Port Vila

Theme: "30 years of Internet and Embracing Intelligence"

Vanuatu Time	Topic	Speaker
Day 1		
8:00 am – 8:30 am	**Registration**	
8:30 am – 9:30 am	**Official Opening Ceremony for VanIGF and Pacific IGF 2026** **Welcome address** **Special Address 1** **Session 1: 30 Years of Internet in Vanuatu (Keynote Speech)** **Cake cutting** **(Group Photo)**	*MC* **Jesse Benjamin, TRBR** **Sarai Faleupolu Tevita, Pacific IGF** **The Honourable Jotham Napath, MP, Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu**
9:30 am – 11:30 am	**Session 2: The Internet 30 years ago and now**	**Featuring Pioneers of the Internet in Vanuatu (Jean Yves Jacobe, Gerard Metsan, Robert Abbil)**
11:30 am – 11:45 am	**TEA BREAK**	
11:45 am – 12:30 pm	**Session 3: The WSIS+20 outcome document** **What does it mean?**	**VanIGF Secretariat**
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	**Session 4: DNS and AI Agent**	**Jiankang Yao** **CNNIC**
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	**LUNCH BREAK**	
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	**Session 5: Social Media Governance in Vanuatu**	**Dr. Jeff Garae and Panel**
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	**Session 6: Vanuatu Government AI Roadmap**	**Kyle McCurdy and DCDT**
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm	**COCKTAIL**	**TRBR and Sponsors**

Pacific Internet Governance Forum 2026

The virtual and hybrid Pacific Internet Governance Forum is organised by the Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) in partnership with various key stakeholders. It focuses on local issues and Internet Governance developments in the Pacific islands region and seeks to provide impartial advice to governments and the public on Internet-related matters that are relevant to Pacific Island people. The Pacific Internet Governance Forum will ensure a human-centric design thinking process to create new and innovative ideas to deal with the challenges faced by our members in the Pacific.

Dates – 25–26 November 2026

Venue: USP Campus, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Theme: "One Ocean, Our Internet: Pacific Leadership for a Resilient and Inclusive Future in the Age of Intelligence"

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Programme subject to change.

Day 0 24 November 2026 **8:30 am – 9:30 am**	**Opening Ceremony for VanIGF and Pacific IGF 2026** **Prayer** **Welcome address** **Special Address 1** **Special Address 2** **Keynote Address – 30 Years of the Internet in Vanuatu** **Cake cutting** **(Group Photo)**	**MC** **MC** **Jesse Benjamin, TRBR** **EU Representative** **Sarai Faleupolu Tevita, Pacific IGF** **The Honourable Jotham Napath, MP, Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu**
Day 1	***Wednesday 25th November 2026***	
8:30 am – 9:00 am	**Registration and Networking Coffee**	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Session 1: Pacific Solutions: Strengthening Pacific Digital Sovereignty and Regional Cooperation 1. Beyond Dependency: Reframing Internet Governance for Pacific Digital Capability, Sovereignty and Collective Value Creation 2. Developing Solutions for Telecommunications Networks within the Pacific Island Region	**Moderator – Andrew Molivurae** **Speakers:** **Russell Deka Harada** **Antony Casimaty**
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Session 2: Age of Intelligence – Pacific Leadership in Artificial Intelligence 1. Jane in the Terminal – Pacific Leadership in Locally Owned AI 2. From Vision to Responsible Adoption: Developing Vanuatu's National AI Strategy	**Moderator – Andrew** **Speakers:** **Suetena Loia** **Kyle McCurdy**
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Morning tea	
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Session 3: Inclusive Dialogue – Safe and Inclusive Digital Communities 1. A Community-Led Contribution on Turning Cyberbullying Awareness into Evidence for National Policy and Support 2. Trust Travels Further: A Pacific-Led Model for Helping Older People Stay Confident and Connected Online	**Moderator – Sarai** **Seluvaia Kauvaka** **Brent Carey and Cherie Lagakali**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	**Session 4: Resilient Future – Building a Secure and Trustworthy Internet (1)** *1. Keeping Pacific Digital Lifelines Running: Governance Beyond the Connectivity Dashboard*	**Moderator – Jobenz Manoa** **Speaker:** **Ahmed Taha Alhaddad**
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Lunch time	
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Session 5: Pacific Solutions – Building Capacity and Digital Inclusion 1. *Beyond Connectivity: Building Digital Capacity in Pacific Island Communities* 2. Opportunities and threats for ccTLDs in the Pacific	**Moderator – Swaran Ravindra** **Speakers:** **Kushima Authelsingh** **Tim Johnson**
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	**Session 6: CADE-Diplo Featured Policy Roundtable 1** **Pacific Digital Governance: Data Sovereignty, Digital Governance and Pacific Policy Leadership** **Discussion Topics:** - **Data Sovereignty and governance frameworks** - **Digital rights and online safety** - **Cybersecurity and trust in digital systems** - **Regional cooperation mechanisms** - **Pacific participation in global digital governance processes**	**Moderator – Sarai Tevita** **Fellows:** **Peti Farani Lauina** **Feagaimaalii Soti Mapu** **Mylovely Sualalu** **Taaniela Taufa** **Josephine Gure**
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Day 1 Rapporteurs' Summary and Reflections	**Pacific IGF Fellows**
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Welcome Reception and Networking Event	**MC**

Day 2	Thursday 26th November 2026	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	**Session 7: Resilient Future – Building a Secure and Trustworthy Internet (2)** *1. Cyber Resilience Beneath the Waves: Securing Pacific Undersea Cable Infrastructure*	**Moderator – Jobenz Manoa** **Speakers:** **Rohan Sachdeva (ISOC Fellow) and Suncica Rosic (CEU) – Swaran Ravindra**
10:00 am – 11:00 am	**Session 8: Inclusive Dialogue Panel – Leaving No One Behind in the Age of Intelligence** ***1. Making Online Safety Inclusive: Community Digital Literacy for a Resilient Pacific in the Age of Intelligence***	**Moderator: Russell Deka Harada** **Panelists** **Amelia Yagoloa Vosanibola, Seluvaia Kauvaka, Swaran Ravindra, Cherie Lagakali**
11:00 am – 11:30 am	**Morning tea**	
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Session 9: Our Ocean, Our Home – Climate Resilience, Data Sovereignty and Sustainable Development & Age of Intelligence – Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development** *1. Governing AI for a Resilient Pacific: Digital Inclusion, Data Sovereignty and Climate Adaptation* *2. From Digital Awareness to AI Adoption: Empowering Pacific MSMEs and Women Entrepreneurs*	**Moderator – Georgina Naigulevu** **Kushima Authelsingh and Dr Deewakarsingh Authelsingh** **Dipti Sharma**
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Lunch	
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	**Session 10: Building trust and resilience – the multi-stakeholder approach to policy development** ***Promote multi-stakeholder participation and community engagement to bring the community along on the journey of policy development***	**Barbara Schade, auDA**
3:00 pm – 4:15 pm	**Session 11: CADE-Diplo Featured Policy Roundtable 2 and Pacific Voices of the Future – Fellows, Youth and Community Innovators Showcase** Discussion Areas: • Opportunities and risks associated with AI adoption • AI governance and ethical considerations • Indigenous knowledge and AI • AI readiness and workforce development • Capacity-building priorities across the Pacific Also featuring PacIGF Fellows, youth leaders, researchers, and community innovators	***Moderator – Andrew Molivurae*** ***Fellows:*** ***Nikhil Singh*** ***Josephine Gure*** ***Feagaimaalii Soti Mapu*** ***Mylovely Sualalu*** ***Taaniela Taufa***
4:15 pm – 5:00 pm	**Session 12: Presidential awards to the pioneers of the Internet in Vanuatu**	***His Excellency Nikenike Vurobaravu, the Head of State of Vanuatu***
5:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Session 13: PacIGF 2026 closing remarks and Pacific IGF 2027 announcement	***Pacific IGF Team***
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm	***Closing Ceremony and closing reception***	