



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT 2025

*Theme: Driving Papua New Guinea's Digital Future through
Innovation, Inclusion and Good Governance*

CONCEPT NOTE & PROGRAM

DTS25

24th – 27th November 2025, STANLEY HOTEL, PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1. CONCEPT NOTE

PAPUA NEW GUINEA DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT 2025 (DTS25)

THEME: **DRIVING PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S DIGITAL FUTURE THROUGH INNOVATION, INCLUSION AND GOOD GOVERNANCE**

DATE: **24TH - 27TH NOVEMBER 2025**

VENUE: **STANLEY HOTEL, PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

HOST: **DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT)**

Introduction & Overview

Papua New Guinea (PNG) stands at a pivotal point, celebrating **50 years of nationhood** while propelling its digital transformation agenda toward an inclusive, innovative, and well-governed future. Under the Marape–Rosso Government, digital transformation has become a central pillar of public sector modernization, economic diversification, and citizen empowerment.

Anchored on the **Digital Transformation Policy 2020**, enforced by the **Digital Government Act 2022**, and operationalized through the **Digital Government Plan 2023–2027**, PNG's vision is to build a connected, **citizen-centric, and trusted digital nation**. The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) leads this national agenda through multi-sectoral reforms, enabling digital ID, secure connectivity, data interoperability, and service integration across government.

Building upon key milestones:

- **National ICT Summit 2021:** Established the policy foundations for national digital transformation.
- **Pacific ICT Ministers Dialogue 2023:** Delivered the *Lagatoi Declaration*, strengthening regional cooperation for a "Smart Pacific."
- **Digital Transformation Summit 2024:** Launched the *Digital Government Plan 2023–2027*, DICT Corporate Plan, and the first *Citizen e-Government Portal*.

The **Digital Transformation Summit 2025 (DTS25)** will serve as **a national and regional milestone event** to consolidate progress, empower the Digital Transformation Officers (DTOs) network, and position PNG as a **leader in trusted digital infrastructure, AI, innovation, and governance** across the Pacific.

Purpose

DTS25 aims to **mobilize national and regional stakeholders** toward advancing PNG's digital future through **innovation, inclusion, and good governance**. It will serve as a flagship platform for policy dialogue, innovation exchange, and institutional capacity building.

Specifically, the Summit seeks to:

- i. **Reaffirm PNG's digital leadership** and showcase progress in governance, cybersecurity, interoperability, and citizen services.
- ii. **Strengthen institutional capacity and awareness of Digital Transformation Officers (DTOs)** as key change agents driving transformation within the public sector.

- iii. **Demonstrate innovation** through technology showcases featuring AI, fintech, GovCloud, and digital ID.
- iv. **Foster dialogue and partnerships** between government, industry, academia, and development partners to accelerate implementation of national and regional digital priorities.
- v. **Engage youth and communities** through hackathons, coding, digital literacy, and creative technology challenges.
- vi. **Promote digital inclusion and good governance** through awareness on SevisPass, cybersafety, and data responsibility.
- vii. **Celebrate PNG@50** by linking innovation with national pride under the theme "50 Years of PNG, 50 Years of Innovation."

Objectives

Aligned with the Summit's theme, DTS25 will deliver a **holistic and inclusive digital transformation framework** built around the following objectives:

- i. **Policy & Governance:**
Facilitate high-level dialogues on digital transformation governance, AI ethics, data protection, and public sector reform to strengthen national coordination under the Digital Government Act 2022.
- ii. **DTO Empowerment & Capacity Building:**
Raise awareness, build capacity, and equip **Digital Transformation Officers (DTOs)** across all government agencies with the knowledge, skills, and tools required to lead digital transformation and ensure compliance with the Digital Government Act.
- iii. **Technology & Innovation:**
Showcase practical innovations and interoperable platforms, including SevisPass, SevisWallet, GovCloud, and national data exchange systems.
- iv. **Cybersecurity & Trust:**
Strengthen institutional resilience and national coordination under the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), promoting digital safety and citizen trust.
- v. **Inclusion & Access:**
Promote equitable access to connectivity and digital services for rural women, youth, and persons with disabilities.
- vi. **Partnerships & Investment:**
Deepen collaboration with the private sector, academia, and development partners through MoUs, investment sessions, and innovation roundtables.
- vii. **Youth & Community Engagement:**
Empower youth through hackathons, coding and content creation competitions, and digital entrepreneurship initiatives.
- viii. **Culture & National Pride:**
Celebrate PNG's 50 years of independence through technology exhibitions that fuse **digital innovation with cultural identity**.

Expected Outcomes

- i. **Enhanced coordination and capability of DTOs** across all government agencies, leading to improved implementation of digital government initiatives.

- ii. **Strengthened policy and governance frameworks** for digital transformation, data protection, and cybersecurity.
- iii. **Increased adoption of national digital platforms** (SevisPass, SevisPortal, SevisWallet).
- iv. **Expanded innovation ecosystem** with active participation from youth, academia, and private sector innovators.
- v. **New partnerships and investments** supporting the implementation of national and regional digital agendas.
- vi. **Elevated public awareness** on cybersafety, digital rights, and responsible online behavior.
- vii. **Reinforced regional leadership** of PNG as a digital hub and trusted partner in the Pacific.

Program Overview & Key Segments

Day 1: Reaffirming the Vision & Direction

This day sets the tone for the Summit by revisiting Papua New Guinea's digital transformation vision under the Digital Government Act 2022 and related national frameworks. It features high-level addresses from political and policy leaders to reaffirm commitment, align priorities, and articulate the roadmap for a secure, inclusive, and innovative digital nation.

- i. **Showcase Segment:** Showcasing of Digital Government Services (video presentation & demonstration)
This segment showcases how digital transformation is reshaping core government functions through the introduction of **Digital Government Services**, beginning with a live demonstration of the SevisPass & **e-Recruitment System** - a key reform under the Digital Government Act 2022.
- ii. **Address: Regional Partnership**
The importance of collaboration among various regional stakeholders to address common challenges and foster sustainable growth. The presentation highlights successful partnership models, innovative strategies, and the benefits of working together across sectors to enhance community development and economic prosperity. Key insights will be shared on how these partnerships can drive positive change and improve the quality of life in the region.
- iii. **Panels 1-4 Discussion Sessions:**
 - **Session 1: Governing a Digital Nation**
This opening session brings together national leaders, policymakers, and key institutional partners to discuss what it truly means to **govern a digital nation** in the 21st century. The conversation will explore how digital transformation is reshaping governance, regulation, finance, and national security, and how leadership, coordination, and accountability must evolve to match this new reality.
 - **Session 2: Building a Resilient Critical Digital Infrastructure & Connectivity leveraging AI for PNG**
This session focuses on the backbone of a digital nation, its **critical digital infrastructure**. As Papua New Guinea advances toward a connected and technology-driven

economy, resilience across its telecommunications, financial, energy, and utilities networks becomes essential. Panelists will discuss how infrastructure reliability, redundancy, and security underpin digital transformation. The conversation will highlight opportunities for collaboration across sectors to ensure that PNG's digital foundation remains **robust, trusted, and future-ready**, capable of supporting government, business, and citizen services nationwide.

- **Session 3: National Cyber Resilience Framework - Establishing National and Sector CERT Capabilities**

This session focuses on strengthening Papua New Guinea's cyber resilience by establishing a National Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) under the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). Panelists will explore the frameworks, partnerships, and operational capabilities needed to safeguard government systems, critical infrastructure, and citizens from evolving cyber threats. The discussion will highlight the importance of national coordination, private sector collaboration, and international and bilateral support from partners such as the GFCE, ACSC, and PeopleIN in building a secure and trusted digital environment for PNG's digital future.

- **Session 4: Cloud/Data Centre Hosting Innovations**

This session highlights the critical role of reliable, secure, and scalable hosting and cloud infrastructure in driving Papua New Guinea's digital transformation. It brings together leading domestic providers to share insights on cloud adoption, hybrid infrastructure models, data sovereignty, and government hosting frameworks. The discussion aims to chart a path toward a resilient national cloud ecosystem that supports secure data management, digital service delivery, and the broader ambitions of PNG's Digital Government and Digital Economy.

- iv. **Demonstration of SevisPass, SevisDex, SevisWallet**

This session presents a live demonstration of Papua New Guinea's core Digital Public Infrastructure components: *SevisPass (Digital ID)*, *SevisDex (Data Exchange Platform)*, and *SevisWallet (Digital Payments)*. Together, these platforms represent the foundation of PNG's digital government and digital economy ecosystem, enabling secure identity verification, trusted data sharing, and seamless digital transactions. Showcasing how these integrated systems empower citizens, streamline government services, and foster an inclusive digital economy aligned with the Digital Government Act 2022 and the Lagatoi Declaration for a Smart Pacific.

Day 2: Converging Academia, Industry & Government for Co-Creation

The focus shifts to collaboration and innovation. Academia, industry, and government share platforms to co-design solutions that enhance interoperability, research-driven innovation, and industry linkages, showcasing how cross-sector partnerships can accelerate service delivery and economic growth.

- i. **Plenary Session 1: Connectivity & Digital Critical Infrastructure**

- **Google Pacific Cable**

This presentation highlights the transformative impact of the new Google Pacific Cable system on regional connectivity and digital resilience. The project positions Papua New Guinea as a strategic node in the Pacific's growing digital network, enhancing bandwidth, reliability, and international linkages.

The session will emphasize how this infrastructure investment underpins national priorities in digital government, cloud adoption, and economic growth, laying the foundation for a more connected and competitive PNG in the global digital economy.

- **Starlink**

The innovative satellite internet constellation developed by SpaceX. This session covers its technology, deployment challenges, global impact on internet accessibility, and its potential to revolutionize communication in remote areas.

ii. **Plenary Session 2: Cloud/Data Centre**

This session explores Innovations in Scalable cloud solutions, local data centres, and hybrid models for data sovereignty, secure hosting, and government frameworks.

- **AI for Governance & Service Delivery**

This segment explores how Artificial Intelligence can revolutionize governance and public service delivery in Papua New Guinea. Oracle Cloud will showcase practical applications of AI in automating government operations, enhancing decision-making, and improving citizen experience through data-driven insights.

The discussion will demonstrate how AI-powered systems can strengthen efficiency, transparency, and accountability across the public sector, driving smarter, faster, and more responsive digital governance.

iii. **Parallel Breakout Sessions 1-11:**

- **Breakout 1: Cyber War Game**

Cyber War Game is a high-level simulation exercise designed to strengthen national cyber readiness and coordination between government agencies and industry partners. Facilitated by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) and CyberCX, the exercise aims to test real-time decision-making, communication, and incident response capabilities in the face of simulated cyberattacks targeting critical national infrastructure. It serves as a practical platform to evaluate PNG's operational resilience under pressure and promote a whole-of-nation approach to cybersecurity.

Participants will gain deeper insight into the complexities of cyber crisis management, inter-agency collaboration, and the importance of information sharing. The exercise is expected to produce actionable lessons to enhance PNG's National Cyber Resilience Framework, strengthen CERT coordination protocols, and identify capacity gaps for future policy, technical, and training interventions.

- **Breakout 2: National Cyber Security Roadmap**

This session provides a focused briefing on the development of Papua New Guinea's *National Cybersecurity Roadmap*, a strategic framework to guide the nation's approach to securing its digital ecosystem. The roadmap outlines key priorities for policy, infrastructure, capacity building, and international cooperation to strengthen national cyber resilience. This closed session brings together senior government, industry, and

partner representatives to validate strategic directions, align ongoing initiatives, and agree on actionable steps toward a safer and more trusted digital future for PNG.

- **Breakout 3: AI & Emerging Tech Use Cases, Ethical Adoption & Governance Challenges**

This session explores practical and transformative applications of Artificial Intelligence across government and industry, highlighting how emerging technologies can enhance efficiency, transparency, and service delivery. AI is no longer a distant concept, but it is now shaping how we process information, recruit talent, and make policy decisions.

- **Breakout 4: Showcase of Major Research Projects**

This session highlights the innovative research and academic contributions driving Papua New Guinea's digital and knowledge transformation. It provides a platform for universities to showcase applied research, emerging technologies, and policy insights that can inform national development and digital innovation.

The session brings together presentations from **PNG University of Technology (UniTech)**, **Divine Word University (DWU)**, **Western Pacific University (WPU)**, and the **University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG)**. Their work reflects the growing partnership between academia, government, and industry, demonstrating how research can translate into practical solutions for a smarter, more inclusive Papua New Guinea.

- **Breakout 5: Digital ID & Interoperability- Demonstration of Use Case & Consultation**

This session showcases how **digital identity and interoperability** form the backbone of a connected and secure digital government ecosystem. It will demonstrate how **SevisPass**, Papua New Guinea's national digital ID platform, enables seamless authentication and trusted data exchange across sectors, empowering both citizens and service providers.

The session will feature two live demonstrations: **Tech5 will present on SevisPass & Use Case on financial inclusion**, while **John Burke, CEO of Kyudo Ltd.**, will demonstrate how SevisPass can **enhance ease of doing business in the banking sector** through secure digital verification. These demonstrations illustrate the transformative potential of digital ID in driving interoperability, efficiency, and trust across PNG's digital ecosystem.

- **Breakout 6: Digital Signature for whole-of-Government**

This session highlights the critical role of **digital signatures** in advancing secure, paperless, and efficient government operations across Papua New Guinea. As the public sector transitions toward fully digital workflows, digital signatures provide the legal and technical assurance needed for trusted electronic transactions and document authentication.

The session will feature a **pilot deployment presentation by DataCo and SignFlow**, demonstrating how this technology is being implemented within the government ecosystem. The discussion will emphasize how digital signatures support the **Digital Government Act 2022**, enabling interoperability, accountability, and improved service delivery across agencies in a whole-of-government approach.

- **Breakout 7: Vice Chancellor Roundtable Discussion. Universities as the platform for innovation and incubation hubs, aligning Research to the GovTech Stack.**

This high-level roundtable brings together Vice Chancellors from Papua New Guinea's leading universities to strengthen collaboration between **academia, government, and industry** in driving the country's digital transformation agenda. The discussion focuses on aligning university research and innovation with the national **GovTech Stack**, ensuring that academic outputs directly contribute to solving real-world policy and technological challenges.

The session will also explore the **establishment of university-based innovation and incubation hubs** as platforms for nurturing young talent, fostering startups, and accelerating digital solutions for national development. The program will conclude with **DICT's presentation of support cheques**, symbolizing the government's commitment to strengthening research partnerships and building a vibrant innovation ecosystem across higher education institutions.

- **Breakout 8: Development & International Partners**

This closed-door session convenes Papua New Guinea's key **development and international partners** to strengthen coordination and alignment in supporting the country's digital transformation priorities. It provides a strategic platform for partners to exchange insights, identify synergies, and reaffirm collective commitment to advancing inclusive and sustainable digital development across governance, infrastructure, and human capacity.

Papua New Guinea's digital transformation journey must reach beyond Port Moresby and provincial capitals — it must **touch every ward, every school, every aid post, and every household**. As the nation celebrates 50 years of independence, this session brings together **development partners, regional organizations, and bilateral missions** to focus on how strategic partnerships can directly improve the lives of citizens in rural and remote communities, where **connectivity, digital literacy, and access to services** remain limited but have transformative potential.

Through collective effort, development partners have already made visible contributions, from rural ICT access programs, satellite connectivity and e-health pilot projects, to digital literacy and women's empowerment initiatives. Yet, the challenge ahead is to **integrate these efforts into a unified national ecosystem**, ensuring that digital public infrastructure, connectivity, and skills development reach the last mile and leave no one behind.

- **Breakout 9: Digital Health in Rural and Remote Communities**

Harnessing digital capabilities in rural and remote communities of Papua New Guinea significantly improves citizens' lives by enhancing access to healthcare through telemedicine, promoting health education, and improving data collection for public health initiatives. It enables early detection, creates economic opportunities, and fosters better connectivity and community empowerment. These advancements can bridge the urban-rural divide and lead to a higher quality of life for individuals in these areas.

- **Breakout 10: Digital Government Standards & Compliance**

This session focuses on the foundational legal and regulatory instruments that ensure the integrity, security, and interoperability of government digital systems in Papua New Guinea. As digital transformation accelerates, adherence to national standards and

compliance frameworks is crucial for maintaining trust, accountability, and consistency across all government platforms.

- **Breakout 11: GovCloud**

This session introduces **Papua New Guinea's Government Cloud (GovCloud)**, a cornerstone of the nation's digital transformation and secure digital infrastructure. GovCloud provides the foundation for hosting, managing, and delivering government digital services in a scalable, cost-effective, and resilient environment.

The session will cover an overview of the **GovCloud platform**, its **architecture and security framework**, and the **onboarding and management processes** that enable agencies to migrate and operate safely within the cloud. Together, these presentations will demonstrate how GovCloud strengthens digital sovereignty, promotes efficiency, and ensures data protection across government systems.

- iv. **DTO Meeting**

This exclusive session brings together **Digital Transformation Officers (DTOs)** from across government agencies to review progress, share experiences, and coordinate next steps in implementing the **Digital Government Act 2022** and the **Digital Government Plan 2023–2027**. DTOs play a pivotal role as the link between DICT and their respective agencies, championing digital reforms, driving adoption of national platforms, and ensuring compliance with digital standards and policies.

Facilitated by the **DTO Network**, this meeting provides a forum focused dialogue on practical implementation challenges, lessons learned, and upcoming priorities. It aims to strengthen collaboration, align agency initiatives to the national GovStack architecture, and reaffirm the shared commitment toward building a **connected, efficient, and citizen-centric digital government**.

Day 3: FutureGen Inclusion & Immersion

This day celebrates youth engagement and digital talent development. Activities include coding challenges, gaming, hackathons, and digital literacy programs aimed at empowering young innovators and promoting inclusive participation in the digital economy.

- i. **Parallel Breakout Sessions 1-10:**

- **Breakout 1: Modern Warfare Gaming Competition**

The **gaming competition** brings an exciting and interactive element to the Summit, showcasing the growing influence of e-sports and digital entertainment in engaging PNG's youth and tech communities. Featuring a **Call of Duty Mobile (CODM) Battle Royale – Elimination and Final Round**, this event highlights teamwork, strategy, and digital skill in a competitive virtual environment.

The competition promotes digital inclusion and innovation by demonstrating how gaming can foster critical thinking, collaboration, and digital literacy—key capabilities for the next generation of PNG's digital talent.

- **Breakout 2: Coding**

This session is designed to inspire and engage emerging developers, students, and innovators through hands-on **coding challenges and demonstrations**. It provides a

practical platform for participants to apply problem-solving skills, experiment with new technologies, and explore real-world digital solutions relevant to Papua New Guinea's development context.

The two coding sessions will foster collaboration, creativity, and technical excellence—encouraging participants to contribute to the country's growing **innovation and digital talent ecosystem**. These sessions reflect the Summit's commitment to nurturing a new generation of coders and digital creators who will drive PNG's future digital economy.

- **Breakout 3: Cyber Safety Session: Online Challenges - Frauds, Scams, Youth Safety**

This session focuses on building the **digital capability and safety awareness** essential for citizens, students, and professionals to participate confidently in Papua New Guinea's evolving digital society. As connectivity expands, so too does the need to promote responsible online behaviour, protect personal information, and foster a culture of digital ethics and resilience.

The two sessions will highlight practical strategies for strengthening **digital literacy, cyber safety education, and online protection frameworks**. The discussions aim to empower users with the knowledge and skills to navigate the digital world safely, responsibly, and productively—supporting PNG's broader vision of a digitally inclusive and secure society.

- **Breakout 4: Digital Solutions for Public Sector Transformation**

This session highlights practical, integrated solutions that enable government agencies to modernize operations and deliver efficient, citizen-centered services through digital means. It focuses on how technology providers and key government partners are supporting the **digital uplift of public bodies**—from infrastructure and systems to workflow automation and service delivery.

- **Breakout 5: Inspire Talk by Content Creators & e-Safety Ambassador Announcement**

This session celebrates the creativity, influence, and innovation of Papua New Guinea's **digital content creators**, who are shaping narratives, inspiring communities, and driving engagement across social media platforms. It highlights how digital storytelling, when used responsibly, can promote culture, education, entrepreneurship, and national pride in the digital age.

Featuring **four inspiring speakers from different social media platforms**, this session will share personal journeys, creative insights, and lessons on building authentic digital identities. The discussion aims to encourage responsible content creation, foster digital entrepreneurship, and empower a new generation of creators to contribute positively to PNG's digital society.

- **Breakout 6: ICT Act Review, Spectrum Management Plan, 5G Deployment Roadmap to support Reset@50 & Digital Transformation.**

This session provides a comprehensive overview of key policy and regulatory developments shaping the future of Papua New Guinea's digital and telecommunications landscape. As the nation advances its connectivity goals, robust governance, efficient spectrum use, and updated legislative frameworks are essential to enable innovation and safeguard national interests. The session will cover three critical areas:

- a) The **Spectrum Management Plan**, outlining strategies for efficient spectrum allocation to support emerging technologies and nationwide connectivity.
- b) The **5G Deployment Roadmap**, detailing PNG's pathway toward next-generation mobile networks, innovation, and digital inclusion.
- c) An **update on the ICT Act Review**, highlighting proposed reforms to modernize the legal framework, strengthen regulatory oversight, and align with the **Digital Government Act 2022** and evolving industry trends.

Together, these updates will reinforce PNG's commitment to building a **secure, competitive, and future-ready digital ecosystem**.

- **Breakout 7: Roundtable Discussion on Strategic Collaboration and Partnerships towards combating Cybercrime**

This session examines the growing threat of **cybercrime** and its implications for Papua New Guinea's national security, economy, and social well-being. As digital connectivity expands, so too does the risk of cyber-enabled offences such as online fraud, data breaches, identity theft, and misinformation, requiring a coordinated response across law enforcement, policy, and technical domains.

The session will provide an overview of the **cybercrime landscape in PNG** and assess the **effectiveness of the Cybercrime Code Act** in addressing emerging threats. It will also discuss PNG's progress toward **acceding to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime**, a key international instrument for cooperation in investigation, evidence-sharing, and cross-border enforcement.

Together, these discussions aim to strengthen PNG's **cyber resilience, legal preparedness, and international collaboration** in combating cyber threats and safeguarding the nation's digital future.

- **Breakout 8: Public Sector Branding and Communications for Development**

Public sector branding and communications are vital for fostering engagement and trust between government entities and citizens. This field goes beyond traditional marketing, focusing on creating a narrative that reflects the values and mission of public institutions. Effective branding and strategic communication play crucial roles in promoting transparency, enhancing credibility, and driving social change. As we explore these concepts, we will highlight best practices and innovative approaches that contribute to development goals within the public sector, ultimately aiming for a more connected and informed society.

- **Breakout 9: A case presentation on Innovation and Acceleration Hub by Queensland University of Technology**

By learning from QUT's approach, Papua New Guinea can take significant steps toward building a more innovative and resilient economy, ultimately improving the livelihoods of its citizens.

The session focuses on fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among students and local communities. It highlights the hub's role in providing resources, mentorship, and support to help individuals and startups turn their ideas into viable businesses. Key features of the hub may include collaborative workspaces, workshops, networking opportunities, and access to funding. The aim is to create an ecosystem that encourages creative thinking, technological advancement, and sustainable business practices, ultimately contributing to economic growth and community development.

- **Breakout 10: Roundtable Discussion on developing and enhancing Digital Literacy and Digital Skills to thrive in a Digital Society**

The Roundtable Discussion focused on the importance of developing and enhancing digital literacy and skills essential for thriving in a digital society. Participants emphasized the need for accessible education and training programs to equip individuals with the necessary tools to navigate the digital landscape effectively. Key topics included the role of schools, businesses, and community organizations in fostering digital competencies, the significance of lifelong learning, and addressing the digital divide to ensure equitable access to technology. The conversation also highlighted the importance of adapting to rapidly changing technologies and the need for collaboration among stakeholders to create a more digitally literate society.

Day 4: Next Steps: Partnering to Deliver

The final day focuses on action and sustainability. It brings together partners to formalize commitments through MoUs, share feedback, and outline collaborative implementation pathways to sustain momentum beyond the Summit.

2. PROGRAM

Day 1: Reaffirming the Vision and Direction

This day sets the tone for the Summit by revisiting Papua New Guinea's digital transformation vision under the **Digital Government Act 2022** and related national frameworks. It features high-level addresses from political and policy leaders to reaffirm commitment, align priorities, and articulate the roadmap for a **secure, inclusive, and innovative digital nation**.

Day 2: Converging Academia, Industry, and Government for Co-Creation

The focus shifts to **collaboration and innovation**. Academia, industry, and government share platforms to co-design solutions that enhance interoperability, research-driven innovation, and industry linkages—showcasing how cross-sector partnerships can accelerate service delivery and economic growth.

Day 3: FutureGen Inclusion and Immersion

This day celebrates **youth engagement and digital talent development**. Activities include coding challenges, gaming, hackathons, and digital literacy programs aimed at empowering young innovators and promoting inclusive participation in the digital economy.

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Papua New Guinea Digital Transformation Summit 2025 (DTS25)

Monday, 24th November 2025

Day 1: Reaffirming the Vision and Direction

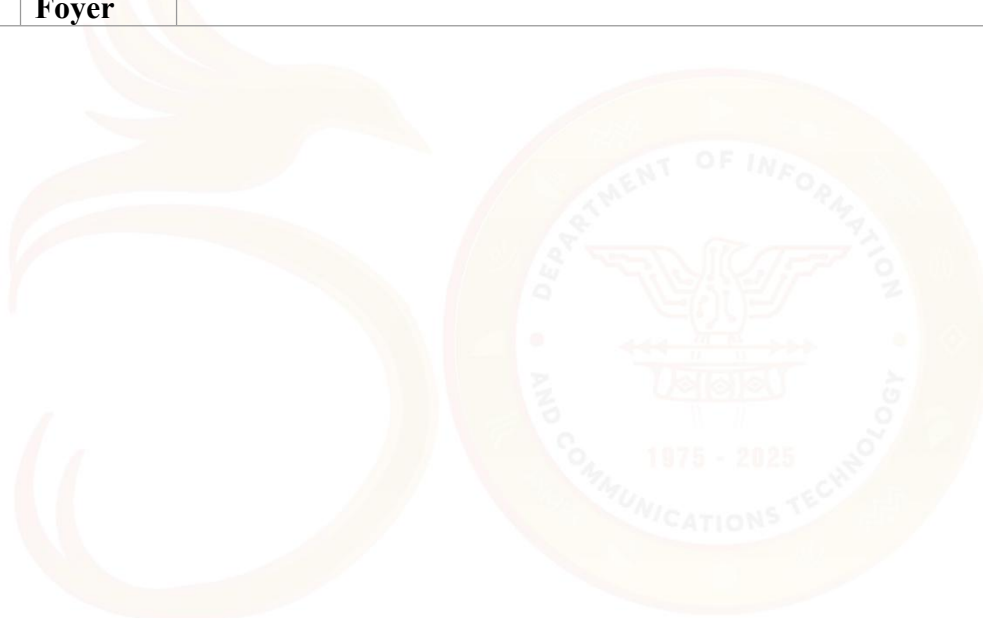
THEME: Focus on leadership, policy direction, and reaffirming PNG's digital vision.

TIME	ROOMS	PROGRAM	SPEAKERS/PANELISTS	DESCRIPTION
07:30 - 08:30	Ground	Check-in to Summit		
08:30 – 08:45	Main Plenary	National Anthem National Pledge Opening Prayer		
08:45 – 09:00	Main Plenary	Welcome Remarks	Steven Matainaho, Secretary, Department of Information & Communications Technology (DICT)	Overview of the Summit and PNG@50 linkage.
09:00 – 09:15	Main Plenary	Opening Address	Hon. Peter Tsiamalili Jr., MP – Acting ICT Minister	Key political commitment to digital transformation.
09:15 – 09:30	Main Plenary	Keynote Address	Hon. James Marape, Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea	Vision for PNG's digital future
09:30 – 09:45	Main Plenary	Group Photo	- PM & Acting Minister, DICT SMT, Partners & Gold Sponsors - DTOs	
9:45-10:00	Foyers	Morning Tea Break		
10:00-10:05	Main Plenary	MoA Signing	NiuPay & DICT	
10:05-10:10	Main Plenary	International Telecommunicatio n Union (ITU)	Atsuko Okuda – Regional Director for ITU Asia Pacific Regional Office	
10:10 – 10:30	Main Plenary	Showcase Segment: SevisPass,	Officiated by: Steven Matainaho,	SevisPass Video Demo

		SevisDEx & E-Recruitment	Secretary, Department of Information & Communications Technology (DICT) • Taies Sansan, Secretary, Department of Personnel Management (DPM)	• E-Recruitment Video Demo
10:30 – 10:45	Main Plenary	Regional Partnership Address	His Excellency Mr Ewen McDonald - Australian High Commissioner to PNG & Special Envoy for Pacific and Regional Affairs	Discussion on regional collaboration, Lagatoi Declaration, and partnerships for a “Smart Pacific.”
Panels 1-4 Discussion Sessions				
10:45 – 11:45	Main Plenary	Session 1: Governing a Digital Nation	• Hon. Allan Bird, MP Governor of East Sepik (TBC) • Hon. Powes Parkop, MP NCD Governor • Hon. Peter Tsiamalili Jr., MP - Acting ICT Minister • Prof. David Kavanamur, Managing Director, Kumul Consolidated Holdings Ltd. • Charles Punaha, Former CEO, NICTA Moderator: Hon. Marsh Narewec, MP, Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Media & Communications	High-level dialogue on governance, regulation, finance, and security in a digital era.
12:00 – 13:00	Foyers	Lunch Break • Expo Pavilion Open		
13:00 – 13:45	Main Plenary	Session 2: Building a Resilient Critical Digital Infrastructure &	• Ronesh Dayal, GM Retail Bank, BSP (context presentation) • Tarik Boudiaf, CEO, Digicel PNG Ltd.	Strategies for fortifying essential sectors (telecom, finance, energy, utilities)

		Connectivity leveraging AI for PNG	• Ronald Prasad, Chief Strategy Officer, Vodafone PNG • Amos Tepi, CEO, Telikom PNG Moderator: Paul Komboi, GCL, OBE, Managing Director, PNG DataCo Ltd	with reliable connectivity infrastructure, emphasizing redundancy, accessibility, and integration for PNG's remote and urban needs.
13:45 – 14:50	Main Plenary	Session 3: National Cyber Resilience Framework - Establishing National and Sector CERT Capabilities <i>(Presentations)</i>	• Hamilton Vagi, Acting Executive Manager – DS & CS, Digital Government & Information Delivery, DICT • John Paitaridis, CEO, CyberCX • Australia Cyber Security Center (ACSC) • Cimas Alberto, Cyber Security Advisor, Deloitte Moderator: David Hwenpla Tekwie, CEO, Ark Cyber Security Consultants Pty Ltd	Dedicated focus on strengthening PNG's cyber defences, including NCSC, led PNGCERT coordination for threat detection, incident response, and international partnerships.
14:50– 15:00	Foyers	Afternoon Tea Break		
15:00 – 15:45	Main Plenary	Session 4: Digital Public Infrastructure for Economic Growth <i>(Presentations)</i>	• Rahul Parthe, CTO & Co-founder, Tech5 – (presentation) • Sailen Kotecha, Director, Strategic Initiatives, JAPAC Centre of Excellence, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure • James Inglis, CEO, NiuPay • Troy Bell, Prime Named Account Executive, MuleSoft Moderator: John Burke, CEO, Kyudo Ltd	Role of DPI (digital ID, payments, data exchange) in economic innovation.
15:00 – 15:15	MV3	Ideathon Induction	• Microsave Consulting - Anshul Pachouri & Akshat Pathak	

			• DICT - Glen Bireo, Research & Statistics Officer	
	MV4	Hackathon Induction	• Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - Sailen Kotecha, Director, Strategic Initiatives, JAPAC Centre of Excellence • DICT - Pamela Ipai, System Analyst/Programmer	
15:45 – 16:30	Main Plenary	Demonstration of SevisPass, SevisDEx, SevisWallet	Facilitator: Jessy Sekere, Acting Deputy Secretary, DICT & Rahul Parthe, CTO & Co-founder, Tech5	Live demo of core DPI components for identity, data exchange, and payments.
18:00 – 20:00	MW Foyer	Official Networking Reception – By Invitation Only		



Tuesday, 25th November 2025

Day 2: Converging Academia, Industry, and Government for Co-Creation

THEME: Highlight collaboration, interoperability, and innovation across sectors.

TIME	ROOMS	PROGRAM	FACILITATORS/SPEAKERS
07:30 – 08:30	Ground	Check-in to Summit	
08:30 - 16:30	MV3	Ideathon	• Microsave Consulting - Anshul Pachouri & Akshat Pathak • DICT - Glen Bireo, Research & Statistics Officer
	MV4	Hackathon	• Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - Sailen Kotecha, Director, Strategic Initiatives, JAPAC Centre of Excellence • DICT - Pamela Ipai, System Analyst/Programmer
08:30 – 09:15	Main Plenary <i>(Open session)</i>	Session 1: Connectivity & Critical Digital Infrastructure <i>(Presentation & Q&A)</i>	• Google Pacific Cable Shirshendu Bhattacharya, Director of Partnerships at Google Singapore • Starlink Rebecca Slick Hunter, Director, Starlink Global Licensing & Market Activation • Astranis Space Technologies Donald Chew, Managing Director, APAC Moderator: Jack Tomon, Coordinator, Project Management Unit, DICT
09:15 – 10:30	Main Plenary <i>(Open session)</i>	Session 2: Cloud/Data Centre Hosting <i>(Presentation, Q&A)</i>	• Trevor Manokore, Software Partnerships, Aus/Pacific, Amazon Web Services • Carlos Cienfuegos, VP & Head of Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - AU and Pacific Islands • Edward Fuyufei, HUAWEI

			• Christopher G. Chelliah, SVP, Technology & Customer Strategy, Asia Pacific & Japan, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - AI for Governance & Service Delivery. • Satyen Singh, CEO, Digitec ICT Ltd Moderator: Robertson Asari, Enterprise Architect & ICT Strategist
10:30 – 10:45	Foyers	Morning Tea Break	
Parallel Breakout Sessions			
10:45 – 12:00	MV1&2 <i>(Closed Session)</i>	Cyber War Game Duration: 2 hrs.	Facilitators: Hamilton Vagi, Acting Executive Manager – DS & CS, Digital Government & Information Delivery, DICT & John Paitaridis, CEO, CyberCX
10:45 – 12:00	MW 3&4 <i>(Closed Session)</i>	Roundtable Discussion: Development & International Partners <i>“Connecting Every Village: Partnering for Inclusive and Community-Driven Digital Transformation”</i> Target Audience: <i>Senior Public Officers & heads of Public Bodies</i> Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitators: Ambassador, Mr Paulias Korn, OBE & Hera John, Executive Manager, Investment Partnerships, DICT Multilateral: • Han Fraeters, Division Director for PNG, Solomon Islands & Vanuatu, EACGF, The World Bank Group. • Saira Shameem, UNFPA Country Rep • Wycliffe Ngwabe, Country Lead & Lead Technical Specialists, UNCDF • Dominic Meoli, Cyber Telecommunications Digital Infrastructure Australian High Commission, Port Moresby • Soon Chan Hong, Asian Development Bank (ADB) Country Operations Head, PNG • ITU (TBC) • UNDP (TBC)
10:45 – 12:00	Main Plenary <i>(Open Session)</i>	AI & Emerging Tech Use Cases, Ethical Adoption & Governance Challenges	Facilitator: Kila Gulo-Vui, Former CEO, NICTA Presentations by: • Dr. Eric Kwa, Secretary,

		Duration: 1 hr.	Department of Justice & Attorney General • Daniel Sultana, Regional Manager, Queensland & South Pacific, TechnologyOne • Ross Thompson, CEO, PEOPLEIN • Mahesh Anthal, CEO, SoftLogic Ltd. • Uriel Aaroni, CEO, FASIO
10:45 – 12:00	MW2 <i>(Open session)</i>	Showcase of Major Research Projects by Post-Graduates Duration: 1 hr. 30 min	Facilitator: Dr Martin Daniel, PhD Academic Dean & Associate Professor, Faculty of Business & Informatics, Divine Word University Presentations by: • PNG University of Technology (PNG UoT) Paul Pinjik – School of Business Studies. Professor Raj Kumar – School of Electrical and Communication Engineering. Mr. Elias Mandawali – School of Electrical and Communication Engineering. Dr. Arun Singh – School of Mathematics and Computer Science Dr. Benson Miro – School of Mathematics and Computer Science. • Divine Word University (DWU) Cronicle Nambahin - Senior Tutor, Department of Information Systems. Jonathan Zureo - Information Systems Lecturer. Maryanne Bagore - Lecturer, Information Systems Department Picky Airi – Director, Center for Learning and Teaching. • University of PNG (UPNG) Miss Henrietta Simon - Lecturer Samuel Kiap – Lecturer Sambao Abol – Lecturer Mathew Kumbuk - Postgraduate research Student Silas Tokwakwasi - Postgraduate

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		Duration: 1 hr.	
13:00 – 14:00	MW2 (Closed Session)	Vice Chancellor Roundtable Discussion. Target Audience: <i>DTOs, DICT, Senior Officials & Heads of Public bodies & Higher Institution Students.</i> Duration: 1 hr. 30 min	Facilitator: Dr Rehan Syed, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Vice Chancellors of Higher Institutions • Prof. Ora Renagi, VC, University of Technology • Dr. Emmanuel Aquino & Havea Daure, Lecturer in the IT Department, Western Pacific University • Prof. Fr. Philip Gibbs, SVD, BE, Divine Word University • Prof. Lohi Matainaho, Pacific Adventist University • Dr. Miok Komolong, Lutheran University • Prof. Ian Findlay, University of PNG • Deepan, Head of Digital Learning & Asela, Manager, Information and Communication Technology, IBSU • Prof. Aisak G. Pue (PhD), UNRE DICT Presentations of Cheques
14:00 - 15:00	Main Plenary (Closed Session)	Digital Government Standards & Compliance Target Audience: <i>DTOs, Senior officials & Heads of Public Bodies</i>	Facilitator: Counsel Ian Kwaimani Speakers: • Benedict Sike, Manager, Digital Government Standards, DICT Standards, Compliance & CoC process • DTO (National, Provincial, District Representatives) Perspective on Digital Government Standards & Enforcement
15:00 – 15:15	Foyers	Afternoon Tea Break	
	Main Plenary	GovCloud Target Audience: <i>DTOs, closed session for DTOs, heads of public bodies and senior public officials</i>	Presentation by Lizarhmarie Warike, Acting Executive Manager, Digital Government Coordination and GovCloud, DICT • GovCloud Overview • Architecture & Security • Onboarding & Management
15:15 – 16:15	MW2	Digital Health in Rural	Presentation by Dr. Ramesha Saligrama

	<i>(Open session)</i>	and Remote Communities	Krishnamurthy, ITU AI Expert
16:15 – 16:45	Main Plenary <i>(Closed Meeting)</i>	DTO Meeting Facilitator: DICT & DTOs	



Wednesday, 26th November 2025

Day 3: FutureGen Inclusion and Immersion

THEME: Dedicated to youth, gaming, coding, and digital inclusion activities.

TIME	ROOM	PROGRAM	FACILITATORS/SPEAKERS
07:30 – 08:30	Ground	Check in to Summit	
08:00 – 16:30	MV3	Ideathon	• Microsave Consulting - Anshul Pachouri & Akshat Pathak • DICT - Glen Bireo, Research & Statistics Officer
08:00 – 16:30	MV4	Hackathon	• Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - Sailen Kotecha, Director, Strategic Initiatives, JAPAC Centre of Excellence • DICT - Pamela Ipai, System Analyst/Programmer
Parallel Breakout Sessions			
09:00 – 12:00	Main Plenary <i>(Open Session)</i>	MW Gaming – CODM Competition Target Audience: <i>Interactive</i> Duration: <i>3 hrs.</i>	Facilitator: MW Gaming PNG
09:00 – 11:00	MV1&2 <i>(Open Session – limited seating)</i>	Coding Sessions (x2) Target Audience: <i>Interactive</i> Duration: <i>2 hrs.</i>	Facilitators: Sailen Kotecha, Director, Strategic Initiatives, JAPAC Centre of Excellence, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure & Priscilla Kevin, Co-founder, PNG Digital ICT Cluster Inc.
09:00 – 10:00	MW2 <i>(Open session)</i>	Cyber Safety Session: Online Challenges - Frauds, Scams, Youth Safety Duration: <i>1 hr.</i>	Facilitator: NICTA (TBC) • Cheryl Seeto - Meta (<i>online presentation</i>) • Aizowe Otu, Social Media Management Desk, DICT • Office of Censorship (TBC)

09:00 – 10:00	MW3&4 (Open session)	Digital Solutions for Public Sector Transformation Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitator: Jack Tomon, Coordinator, Project Management Unit, DICT Presentations by: - Seth Butcher, Head of IM, APCS - Russell Tato, Acting CEO, Datec PNG Ltd - Rajul Shah, CEO, Kumulsoft Limited
12:00 – 13:00	Foyers	Lunch Break	
13:00 – 14:00	Main Plenary (Open session)	Inspire Talk by Content Creators & e-Safety Ambassador Announcement Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitator: Joys Eggins, Project Manager, Government Information, DICT Speakers: - Julius Sailas, Tulimahn, PNG Content Creator - Danny Paon, Darkchild, PNG Content Creator
13:00 – 14:00	MV1&2 (Open session)	Roundtable Discussion on Strategic Collaboration and Partnerships towards combating Cybercrime Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitator: Oala Moi, Chief Legal Officer, NICTA
13:00 – 14:00	MW3&4 (Closed Session)	Public Sector Branding and Communications for Development Target Audience: Government PR Officers Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitator: Ian Hetri, Founder, Exepreneur Magazine & The Pacific CEO Playbook
14:00 – 14:15	Foyers	Afternoon Tea Break	
14:15 – 15:15	Main Plenary (Open session)	ICT Act Review, Spectrum Management Plan, 5G Deployment Roadmap to support Reset@50 & Digital Transformation. Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitator: Charles Punaha, former CEO, NICTA - Noel Mobiha - Team Leader, Reset@50, Principal 2, Big Bet 4 (TBC) - Oala Moi, Chief Legal Officer, NICTA - Hans Adeg, Director, NICTA
14:15 – 15:15	MW3&4	A case presentation on	Presentation by Dr Rehan Syed &

	(Open session)	Innovation and Acceleration Hub by Queensland University of Technology Duration: 1 hr.	Dr Darshika Koggalahewa, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)
14:15 – 15:15	MV1&2 (Open Session)	Roundtable Discussion on developing and enhancing Digital Literacy and Digital Skills to thrive in a Digital Society Target Audience: <i>DTOs, Learning Institutions, NGOs, Students (secondary schools) & International Partners</i> Duration: 1 hr.	Facilitator: Jimmy Son, Chairman, PNG Computer Society (PNGCS)

Thursday, 27th November 2025

Day 4: Next Steps: Partnering to Deliver

THEME: Focus on partnerships, MoUs/MoAs, feedback, and collective delivery outcomes.

TIME	ROOM	PROGRAM	SPEAKERS	DESCRIPTION
07:30 – 08:30	Ground	Check-in to Summit		
08:30 – 09:00	Foyers	Morning Tea		
09:00 – 09:15	Main Plenary	Opening Remarks & Keynote Address: PNG's Next 50 Years of Digital Transformation	Steven Matainaho, Secretary, Department of Information & Communication Technology (DICT)	Reflections and forward vision.
09:15 – 09:45	Main Plenary	MoU/MoA Signing	- MoA - Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) & DICT. Signing by: Kearneth Nanei, Chief Secretary, ABG - MoU - Western Pacific University (WPU) & DICT	Formalizing partnerships with academia, industry, and international entities.
09:45 – 10:00	Main Plenary	Hackathon & Ideathon Winners Showcase	Awards presented by: Hon. Peter Tsiamalili Jr., MP - Acting ICT Minister	Recognition of innovation winners
10:00 – 10:15	Main Plenary	CODM Awards Presentation	Awards presented by: Hon. Peter Tsiamalili Jr., MP - Acting ICT Minister	Recognition of gaming competition winners.
10:15 – 10:30	Main Plenary	Concluding Remarks	Steven Matainaho, Secretary, Department of Information & Communication Technology (DICT)	Summit wrap-up and call to action.
10:30 – 10:45	Main Plenary	Closing Address	Hon. Peter Tsiamalili Jr., MP - Acting	

		Minister for ICT	
10:45 – 12:00	Foyers	Lunch & Expo Pavilion Final Close	
12:00		Event Officially Closed	
18:00 – 20:00	Main Plenary	Final gala dinner Evening celebration with live entertainment	



As Papua New Guinea marks its 50th year of independence, the Digital Transformation Summit 2025 is both a celebration and a call to action. By empowering Digital Transformation Officers, engaging citizens, and fostering innovation, PNG reaffirms its commitment to a digitally empowered, inclusive, and well-governed nation—driving the next 50 years of transformation through innovation, inclusion, and good governance.



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT 2025