

KOICA-ESCAP Joint Capacity Building Training Programme on Digital Technologies for Addressing Climate Change Impact in the Pacific

20-30 August 2025,
Brisbane, Australia

By invitation only

Background

Pacific Island Countries contribute minimally to climate change yet face severe impacts and vulnerable to rising sea levels, salinization, and intensified tropical storms. Recognizing the urgent need for innovative adaptation strategies, a project funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) aims to enhance the capacity of Pacific Island Countries by developing digital governance frameworks that leverage digital technologies and data, aligned with the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (APIS) platform. Implemented in partnership with Jeju National University and supported by the APNIC Foundation, the project delivers a capacity-building workshop designed to equip government officials with the necessary skills and knowledge to design and implement policies for climate change adaptation.

This project responds to the Astana Ministerial Declaration on Digital Inclusion and Transformation in September 2024, which requested ESCAP to provide technical assistance, policy analysis, and capacity development to promote digital innovation for sustainable development. It also aims to foster knowledge-sharing among members, particularly least developed, landlocked, and small island developing states. In addition, the project responds to the APIS Steering Committee requests for continued ESCAP support for countries in special situations (LLDCs, LDCs, and SIDS) per ESCAP resolution 79/10, the Astana Declaration, and the APIS Action Plan 2022-2026. The project also aligns with the 'Technology and Connectivity' theme of the 2050 Blue Pacific Continent Strategy—prioritizing digital capacity building in Pacific Island Countries—and supports the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS by enhancing vulnerable populations' access to emerging technological innovations.

Organisers

- The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



- with the support from Jeju National University in Korea and the Asia Pacific Network Information Centre Foundation in Australia

Date, venue, & meeting mode

- Date: 20 August 2025 – 30 August 2025 (excluding travel days)
- Venue: (TBC), Brisbane, Australia
- Meeting mode: In-person

Sponsorship

The organizers will sponsor three nominated government officials from each of Fiji, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu, and selected experts.

Language

The capacity building training workshop will be conducted in English.



Programme (First Draft)

Date/Time	Sessions
19 August	Arrival of participants in Brisbane, Australia Preparation meeting for the programme by organizers
Day 1 (20 Aug 2025) – Orientation and country reports	
09:00 - 09:20	Opening and welcome speeches
09:20 - 11:30	Orientation: reviewing progress since the last training
11:30 - 13:30	Networking lunch & knowledge sharing Updated national reporting from participating Pacific Island Countries
13:30 - 18:00	Welcome dinner <i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and Tae Hyung Kim</i>
18:00 – 20:00	
Day 2 (21 Aug 2025) – Artificial intelligence (AI) and climate adaptation	
09:00 - 12:00	Lecture 1: Climate Change Impacts on Built Environments: Adaptation Strategies for Coastal Areas of Islands (Prof. Na, Won Bae, Pukyung National University)
14:00 - 17:00	Lecture 2: Sustainable Built Environments Responding to Climate Change Risks: Digitally Based Illustrations (Prof. Lee, Incheol, Pukyung National University) <i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and experts</i>
Day 3 (22 Aug 2025) – Digital connectivity, ocean tech & sustainable resource management	
09:00 – 12:00	Lecture 1: Analysis of Marine Environment and Fish Catch using Marine Monitoring Data (Prof. Kim, Pukyung National University)
14:00 - 17:00	Lecture 2: Utilization of Coastal Sediment Microbial Fuel Cells for Climate Change Adaptation (Prof. Kim, Pukyung National University) <i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee, Korean experts and Tae Hyung Kim</i>



Day 4 (23 Aug 2025) – Field visit and study tour #1	
09:00 – 16:00	<i>Leading moderator: Aftab Siddigui, Byung Gul Lee & Korean experts</i>
(24 Aug 2025) – Free time / Sunday	
	Free time
Day 5 (25 Aug 2025) – Ocean renewable energy	
09:00 - 12:00	Lecture 1: Harnessing the Power of the Ocean: An Introduction to Marine Renewable Energy
14:00 - 17:00	Lecture 2: "Waves, Tides, and Currents: Technologies Driving Ocean Renewable Energy"
	<i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and Korean experts</i>
Day 6 (26 Aug 2025) – Digital carbon & climate policy	
09:00 - 12:00	Lecture 1: Digital carbon trading & climate policy for Small Island States
	Lecture 2: The role of digital nomads in climate innovation and Sustainable Development
14:00 - 17:00	Lecture 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Green economy and digital transformation” (Mr. Jonathan Brewer, Pacific ICT Expert) • “Digital connectivity in Pacific Island countries – are we connected?” (Dr. Amanda Watson, Australia National University) • “Challenges and opportunities of broadband infrastructure deployment in Pacific Island countries”, (Mr Aftab Siddiqui, APNIC Foundation)
	<i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and Siope Vakataki ‘Ofa</i>
Day 7 (27 Aug 2025) – Field visit and study tour #2	
10:00 – 16:00	<i>Leading moderator: Aftab Siddigui and Byung Gul Lee, Siope Vakataki Ofa</i>
Day 8 (28 Aug 2025) – Tech-driven climate world	
09:00 - 12:00	Lecture 1: Citizen science and participatory mapping for climate advocacy
14:00 - 17:00	



	Lecture 2: Digital futures: preparing the Pacific Youth for a tech-driven climate world <i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and Siope Vakataki 'Ofa</i>
Day 9 (29 Aug 2025) – Pacific strategic discussion on national action plans on digital technologies for climate adaptation	
09:00 - 12:00	Countries discussions for drafting of national action plans on digital technologies for climate adaptation
14:00 - 17:00	Country presentations of draft national action plans on digital technologies for climate adaptation <i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and Korean experts</i>
Day 10 (30 Aug 2025) – Field trip#3 and closing ceremony	
09:00 - 12:00	Lecture 1: Group tour in city
14:00 - 17:00	Lecture 2: Closing ceremony & farewell dinner <i>Leading moderator: Byung Gul Lee and Korean experts</i>
31 Aug 2025	<i>Depart Brisbane, Australia</i>

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