

Australia-Pacific Connections for a Digital Future

DIGITAL TRADE AND LABOUR MOBILITY

Pacific Connect Network Dialogue

11-12 March 2019 • Port Vila, Vanuatu

***Pacific Connect* is calling for expressions of interest from ambitious, accomplished and forward-thinking individuals to join the *Pacific Connect* Network Dialogue on Digital Trade and Labour Mobility in Port Vila, Vanuatu. Deadline for submissions - 15 February 2019.**

What is 'Pacific Connect'?

Pacific Connect was launched by the Prime Minister of Australia in September 2017 to forge strong and enduring strategic relationships between Pacific and Australian leaders across the public, private and community sectors. *Pacific Connect* is run by the International Centre for Democratic Partnerships (ICDP) and sponsored by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

What is the 'Network Dialogue'?

The Pacific is undergoing an unprecedented technological transformation, making it an ideal time to discuss and plan our region's digital future.

The *Pacific Connect* Network Dialogue in Vanuatu will bring together current and future leaders, technology and policy experts to consider the challenges and opportunities of digital connectivity for Vanuatu and the impact of ICT development on government service delivery, labour mobility, business and trade.

Through facilitated, outcome-focused roundtable discussions, Dialogue participants from the Pacific and Australia will identify challenges to solve, select practical projects to take forward, and develop them through a series of subsequent meetings and long-term collaboration.

What are we aiming for?

The Dialogue in Port Vila, Vanuatu will focus on digital trade and ways in which improved digital connectivity could ease the application process for the Pacific labour mobility schemes of Australia and New Zealand. Highly valued by Ni-Vanuatu workers and their employers, the Australian program saw 2,150 people from Vanuatu work in Australia in 2017.

Other potential discussion topics include the development of a government intranet to enhance public service collaboration and efficiency, and the use of blockchain in agriculture and farming.

The Dialogue will be co-hosted by **Mr Fred Samuel**, Director, Pacific Group, **Dr Ian Watt AC**, Chair of ICDP, and **Prof Ian Young AO**, Director of ICDP and Kernot Professor of Engineering at the University of Melbourne, Australia.

You can help set the Pacific's digital agenda through *Pacific Connect*.



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Who are we looking for?

We are looking for people with leadership skills, a positive, 'big picture' outlook, and a record of achievement in their own chosen field.

Our participants will be courageous and passionate free thinkers willing to share their networks and ideas to build a better tomorrow for all. A keen interest in technology is necessary, but technical skills are not.

How will you benefit?

Pacific Connect offers exciting opportunities for outstanding people in Australia and the Pacific to forge new relationships through continued engagement on common challenges. Through a "Second Track" process which encourages fresh thinking and concrete solutions, participants will be able to test their ideas, broaden their knowledge and widen their networks for future interaction.

Opportunities include:

- ▶ Internships and secondments with Australian and Pacific organisations
- ▶ An invitation to participate in major international forums, including the Annual Pacific Connect Forum in Sydney
- ▶ Unique networking opportunities with regional leaders

How can you get involved?

Please forward your CV and a brief overview of your relevant achievements to pacific_dialogue@icdp.com.au

Enquiries +61 409 810 190

Deadline 15 February 2019

PROGRAMME

Monday, 11 March 2019

Warwick Le Lagon - Vanuatu

4:00pm Registration & introductions

6:00pm Welcome Dinner

9:00pm Free time

Tuesday, 12 March 2019

8:30am Registration

9:00am SESSION ONE

10:30am Break

11:00am SESSION TWO

12:30pm Lunch

1:30pm SESSION THREE

3:00pm Break

3:30pm SESSION FOUR

5:00pm Vote of Thanks & Close

