



“Australia-Pacific Connections for the Digital Future”

Pacific Connect Network Dialogue

19-20 November 2019 • Nuku'alofa, Tonga

***Pacific Connect* is calling for expressions of interest from ambitious, accomplished and forward-thinking people to join its Network Dialogue in Nuku'alofa, Tonga on 19-20 November 2019 to discuss innovative ways to apply digital solutions to local challenges. Apply by Friday, 25 October.**

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 delivered by the International Centre for Democratic Partnerships (ICDP) and sponsored by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

What is the 'Network Dialogue'?

Since the announcement of *Pacific Connect* in 2017, ICDP has been working with regional partners to create a series of Network Dialogues for emerging leaders and entrepreneurs from the Pacific and Australia.

The *Pacific Connect* Network Dialogue, delivered using the unofficial, informal, consultative style of the 'Second Track' process, enables participants to work on specific issues and their possible ICT solutions, as well as practical projects that can be taken further.

In 2019 ICDP convened three *Pacific Women in Business* Dialogues in Brisbane (February, June and November), *Digital Trade and Labour Mobility* in Port Vila (March), *Disruptive Technology in Agriculture* in Port Moresby (April), *Creative Industries* in Apia (May), *Digital Opportunities in Freight and Logistics* in Honiara (June), *Digital Marketplace* in Port Vila and *Technology Enabling Inclusiveness* in Suva (July).

On 18-19 September 2019, over 60 *Pacific Connect* Community members attended the Annual Ideas Exchange at NSW Parliament House in Sydney.

What are we aiming for?

Tonga faces significant development challenges, and increasing its digital capabilities will drive economic diversification and augment its capability to overcome natural disaster hurdles. Overseas remittances account for over a quarter of Tonga's GDP, with exports relying heavily on squash and fisheries trade. Efforts to build digital capacity are underway, focusing on trade and the delivery of government services.

Pacific Connect's first Tonga Dialogue will bring together current and emerging leaders from the Pacific and Australia to discuss digital capacity building. It will empower Tongans to participate in business and formal economic activities, mitigate risk scenarios and increase development opportunities. Potential areas of focus during the two-day Dialogue include digital capacity building initiatives that will impact trade, tourism and education opportunities between Tonga, Australia and the wider Pacific.

Through facilitated, results-driven discussions, the Dialogue will explore collaborative opportunities and innovative business models enabled by digital capacity building outcomes in the Pacific. Participants will workshop potential projects with experts in the field to increase their knowledge and capacity to provide digital services as well as enabling valuable networking and information-sharing.

The Dialogue will be co-facilitated by **Kenneth Katafono**, Founder and Managing Director of Traseable Solutions, and **Andrew Carriline**, ICDP Ambassador and Non-Executive Director, Kina Securities.



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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 chosen field.

Our participants will be courageous and passionate free thinkers willing to share their own networks and ideas to build a better tomorrow for all. A keen interest in digital 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 the development of concrete solutions, participants will be able to test their ideas, broaden their knowledge and widen their networks for future interaction.

Opportunities include:

- ▶ Mentoring and internships with Australian and Pacific organisations
- ▶ An invitation to participate in future regional *Pacific Connect* Dialogues and international forums, including an Ideas Exchange at NSW Parliament House in Sydney
- ▶ Unique networking opportunities with regional leaders
- ▶ New commercial partnerships

For a full description of opportunities available for Community members, see the ***Pacific Connect Participant Lifecycle Diagram*** in attachment and refer to our website: www.icdp.com.au

PACIFICCONNECT

International Centre for Democratic Partnerships

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 19 November 2019

Venue TBC

- 3:45pm Arrival and Registration
- 4:00pm Leadership Roundtable
- 6:30pm Free time
- 7:00pm NETWORKING DINNER
- 9:00pm Close

Wednesday, 20 November 2019

Venue TBC

- 8:45am Networking, Tea & coffee
- 9:00am 1ST PLANNING SESSION
- 10:30am Morning Tea
- 10:45am 2ND PLANNING SESSION
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:30pm FINAL PLANNING SESSION
- 3:00pm Dialogue Closes

How can you get involved?

Please forward your career history, a brief overview of your relevant achievements, an outline of any community work or a recent CV to pacific_dialogue@icdp.com.au

Enquiries info@icdp.com.au

Deadline 25 October 2019

PARTICIPANT JOURNEY

