

**10th Regional Symposium on
Effective Governance and AI Transformation: Revitalizing Public
Institutions through Innovation and Cooperation to Accelerate
Action towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Draft Agenda

**25 to 27 November 2026
10:00 AM – 6:00 PM (Seoul, KST)**

24-26 November 2026, 8:00 PM – 4:00 AM (New York, EST)

In-person and via zoom

Organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)
Project Office on Governance (UNPOG)
with the Ministry of the Interior and Safety of the Republic of Korea (MOIS) and
Incheon Metropolitan City

Draft Agenda

Day 1 – 25 November 2026 (Wednesday)	
Time (KST)	Agenda
10:00–10:45	High-level Opening Session Moderator: Mr. Changseob Han, Head of the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), DPIDG/UN DESA Speakers • Mr. Li Junhua, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) • Mr. Yun Ho-jung, Minister of the Interior and Safety, the Republic of Korea (tbc) • Mr. Park Chan-dae, Mayor, Incheon Metropolitan City, the Republic of Korea (tbc) • Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations (Video Message) • H.E. Mr. Cha Ji Ho, National Assembly Member, Republic of Korea (tbc) • H.E. Mr. Harry Tekaiti, Minister of Culture and Internal Affairs, Kiribati • Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Member of Parliament and Coordinator to the Prime Minister for Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Pakistan • Mr. Nonu Lemauga Saleimoa Vaai, Chairman, Public Service Commission, Samoa (tbc) Keynote Speech • Mr. Yoshua Bengio, Co-Chair of UN Independent International Scientific Panel on AI (tbc) • Group photo (5 min)
10:45–11:00	Health Break
11:00–12:15	Setting the Scene: Governing in the Age of AI: What Is Changing in Public Institutions, and Why Does It Matter? Moderator: Mr. David Green, Principal, Green Resilience Insights Speakers • Mr. Rolf Alter, Senior Fellow, Hertie School of Governance, UN CEPA Member (tbc) • Mr. Steven Nouri, CEO and Co-Founder GenAI Works (tbc) • Ms. Luana Faria, Founder of LA-BORA! Gov – Innovation Lab; General Coordinator for Innovation and Strategic Governance,

	Ministry of Management and Innovation in Public Services, Brazil • Mr. Vincenzo Aquaro, Chief, Digital Government Branch, DPIDG/UN DESA (tbc)
12:15–14:00	Lunch Break
14:00–15:15	Thematic Session 1: From AI Innovation to Adoption: Strengthening Public Administration Readiness Moderator: Ms. Ana Thorlund, Governance and Public Administration Expert, UNPOG/DPDIG/UN DESA Speakers • Mr. Carlos Santiso, Head of Division, Digital, Innovative and Open Government, OECD (tbc) • Mr. Yi Zeng, Wu Yuzhang Chair Professor, Renmin University, China (tbc) • Dr. Jan Ziekov, Director, National Institute for Public Administration, Germany, Former UN CEPA Member (tbc) • Ms. Alice Oh, Professor, KAIST School of Computing, Leader of the Subcommittee on Global Collaboration within the Presidential Council on Korean National AI Strategy, Republic of Korea (tbc) Interactive Discussion
15:15–15:30	Coffee/Tea Break
15:30–16:30	Learning Lab 1: Building Institutional AI Readiness Facilitator • Mr. Zaber Moinul, Computer Scientist, Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom
16:30–16:45	Health Break
16:45–17:50	Special Session: 20th Anniversary of UNPOG: Two Decades of Strengthening Public Institutions and Looking Ahead Beyond 2030 Moderator: Professor Pan Suk Kim, Professor Emeritus of Public Administration in the Department of Global Public Administration, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea, Former UN CEPA Member Speakers • Mr. Li Junhua, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (tbc) • Ms. Hye Young Kim, Former Head of UNPOG (tbc) • Mr. Tapan Mishra, Former UN Resident Coordinator • Mr. Soodeok Park, Director General for International Administrative Cooperation, Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS), Republic of Korea

18:00	Welcome dinner hosted by the Ministry of the Interior and Safety of the Republic of Korea
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Day 2 – 26 November 2026 (Thursday)	
Time (KST)	Agenda
10:00–11:15	Thematic Session 2: Governing Agentic AI Systems in Public Institutions: Accountability and Human Oversight Moderator: TBD Speakers • Member of the UN Independent International Scientific Panel on AI (tbc) • National Information Society Agency (NIA), Republic of Korea (tbc) • Government of Singapore (tbc) • Cambridge/Oxford University (tbc) Interactive Discussion
11:15–11:30	Health Break
11:30–12:15	Learning Lab 2: Quantum Computing: Preparing Public Institutions for the Next Technological Frontier Facilitator: • Ms. Hanhee Paik, Director, Quantum Algorithm Centers and IBM Research Academic Collaboration Program (Online) (tbc) • Professor Seongsu Park, Director, Institute of Quantum Information Technology, Yonsei University
12:15–13:15	Lunch Break
13:15–14:30	Thematic Session 3: Anticipatory Governance for Inclusive and Future-Ready Public Institutions Moderator: Dr. Marius Oosthuizen, Foresight Faculty, University of Pretoria, South Africa Speakers • Mr. Ozcan Saritas, Professor of Future Foresight and Strategic Planning Senior Advisor in Governance Public Policy and Sustainable Development, UN CEPA Member • Ms. Angela Hanson, Innovation Lead, OECD Observatory of Public Sector Innovation (tbc) • Ms. Diane Gail Maharjan, Director of the Innovation Staff, Department of Economy Planning and Development (DEPDev), Philippines (tbc)

	• Mr. Prabin Maharjan, Programme Management Expert, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA Interactive Discussion
14:30–14:45	Health Break
14:45–16:00	Thematic Session 4 Strengthening Institutional Resilience through AI-Enabled Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Action Moderator: Mr. Rajib Shaw, Professor, Graduate School of Media and Governance, Keio University's Shonan Fujisawa Campus (SFC), Japan (tbc) Speakers • Mr. Sanjaya Bhatia, Head of the Office of United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Office for Northeast Asia (ONEA) and Global Education • Ms. Xin Liang, Professor, School of Emergency Management, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China (tbc) • Dr. Non Arkaraprasertkul, Senior Expert in Smart City Promotion, Digital Economy Promotion Agency (DEPA), Thailand • Mr. Han Kyung Yi, Former Vice Minister for Disaster and Safety Management of the Interior and Safety (MOIS), Republic of Korea Interactive Discussion
16:00–16:15	Coffee/Tea Break
16:15–18:00	Field Visits

Day 3 – 27 November 2026 (Friday)	
Time (KST)	Agenda
10:00–11:15	Thematic Session 5 Bridging AI Divides through Strengthening Institutional Capacity, Data Governance, and Cooperation Moderator: Ms. Crystal Rugege, Managing Director, Rwanda Centre for the 4th Industrial Revolution (C4IR) (tbc) Speakers • Mr. Lei Zheng, Professor, Director of the Lab for Digital and Mobile Governance, Fudan University (tbc) • Mr. Abere Shiferaw Abegaz, Consultant, UNPOG/DPIDG/UN DESA • Ms. Mitchell Chivunga, Founder and CEO of Global Policy House (GPH), UK • Representative from Portugal (tbc)

	Interactive Discussion
11:15–11:30	Coffee/Tea Break
11:30–12:30	Local Governance and Partnership Forum: AI and Local Governance: Empowering Local Governments through Institutional Capacity, Service Delivery Innovation and Cooperation Moderator: Dr. Alex Brillantes Jr., Secretary General, EROPA Speakers • Mr. Shin Koseki, Assistant Professor, School of Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture, Université de Montréal (tbc) • Ms. Sara Tawfik Hamouda, Senior Continental Governance Officer, African Peer Review Mechanism, South Africa (tbc) • Representative from the Government of Korea (tbc) Interactive Discussion
12:30–13:15	Lunch Break
13:15–14:15	Youth Session: Youth, AI and Meaningful Participation in Public Decision-Making Moderator: Mr. Alan Herbert, Sign Media, Kenya Speakers • Ms. Zara Khanna, Youth Ambassador, She Loves Tech, Singapore • Mr. Rajab Lukwago, Vice Chairperson, African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) Young Professionals Network • Youth Forum Participant Interactive Discussion
14:15–14:20	Regional Symposium Summary • TBD
14:20–14:30	Closing Ceremony • Mr. Min Jae Kim, Vice Minister, Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS), the Republic of Korea (tbc) • Mr. Li Junhua, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs (tbc)
14:30–14:45	Group Photo

14:45–20:00	Seoul Cultural Tour
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