GSMA

Digital Nation Summit Manila

Synopsis

Realising the Vision of a Digital Nation

Creating a truly digital nation requires more than just the adoption of technology—it calls for a cohesive vision that aligns infrastructure, innovation, data governance, security, and most importantly, people.

The objective is not merely economic advancement but also to enhance the quality of life for all citizens. This involves improving digital literacy, fostering continuous upskilling, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

A digital nation builds resilience, ensuring equitable access to opportunities across all communities. Achieving this depends on strong, trust-based collaboration between governments, the private sector, and society. At the core of this vision is digital trust, which underpins successful partnerships, drives adoption, and enables sustainable transformation.

Event Agenda - Main Stage

	Building the Foundations for Digital APAC
08:45 – 09:15	Registration
09:15 – 09:20	Welcome • *Julian Gorman, Head of Asia Pacific, GSMA*
09:20 – 09:25	Video Welcome • *Ernest Cu, Globe President and CEO*
09:25 – 9:35	**Presentation**: Highlights from the GSMA Digital Nations in Asia Pacific report • *Julian Gorman, Head of Asia Pacific, GSMA*
09:35 – 09:50	**Presentation:** "5G and the Evolution of Digital Healthcare" • *Speaker: Dr Gao Yujia, Consultant Surgeon and Assistant Group CTO, National University Health System, Vice-Chairman, Holomedicine Association*
09:50 – 10:10	**Fireside chat:** Paving the Path to a Digital Philippines: Insights from mobile players This panel brings together leading mobile network operators (MNOs) in the Philippines to share their vision, strategies, and challenges in advancing the country's digital transformation. The session will explore their collective efforts in driving connectivity, expanding digital infrastructure, fostering innovation, and building a secure, inclusive digital environment.

	Moderator: *Julian Gorman, Head of Asia-Pacific, GSMA* Panellists: • *Darius Jose Delgado, Chief Commercial Officer, Globe Telecom* • *Anastacio Martirez, Chief Operating Officer, Smart Communications*
10:10 – 10:45	**Panel discussion**: Network Technologies for a Digital Nation *How will transformative network technologies like 5G Advanced/Redcap, Open RAN, Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN), AI and secure access to global APIs shape the development of digital nations? What are the collaborative efforts required among telecom operators, tech companies, and policymakers to implement these advanced networks effectively, ensuring they contribute to national digital transformation goals and broader digital inclusion efforts.* Moderator: *Jeanette Whyte, Head of Public Policy and External Affairs, APAC, GSMA* Panellists: • *Ralph Christian Cabello, Technical Account Manager, APAC, Lynk* • *Susila Johnston, Head of APAC, Ookla* • *Sheng-Ann Yu, Director, Advanced Technology, CTO Office, Ericsson* • *John Garrity, Chief of Party for USAID/Philippines' Better Access and Connectivity (BEACON) Programme*
10.45 – 10.55	**Keynote:** Vision for a Digital Philippines • *Secretary Ivan John E. Uy, DICT*
	Coffee Break
11:15 – 11:55	**A Digital Future for All: Prioritising Digital Literacy and Upskilling**
11:15 – 11:30	**Fireside Chat**: "Konektadong Pinoy – Connected Philippines" *How does the Konektadong Pinoy Bill aim to address the country's digital divide by promoting accessible and affordable internet services for all Filipinos as a tool for economic empowerment? What are some challenges and key learning points?* Moderator: *Rahul Shah, Director, Mobile for Development (M4D) APAC, GSMA* Panellists: • *Philip Amadeus D. Libre, Technical Consultant, Office of the Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, NEDA*

11:30 – 11:50	**Panel discussion**: Building a Digitally Inclusive Society: Digital Trust and Upskilling in the Age of AI *How do we ensure that vulnerable communities are not left behind? As organisations rapidly adopt AI technologies, building trust with users and stakeholders becomes paramount. Simultaneously, the workforce must be equipped with the skills to navigate and leverage these advanced technologies effectively.* Moderator: ***Syed Khairulazrin, Director Policy, APAC, GSMA*** Panellists: • ***David Almirol Jr., Undersecretary for E-Government, DICT*** • ***Lope Doromal Jr., CTO, Microsoft Philippines*** • ***Gina Romero, Co-Founder, Connected Women***
11:50 – 12:30	**Fostering Innovation through Partnerships**
11:50 – 12:05	**Presentation**: "Digital Philippines – Commitment to Digital Transformation and ICT Development" Speaker: ***Maria Victoria Castro, Bureau Director, National ICT Planning, Policy and Standards Bureau, DICT***
12:05 – 12:25	**Panel Discussion**: From Policy to Practice – Designing PPPs for Digital Innovation Moderator: ***Bensen Koh, Senior Policy Manager, APAC, GSMA*** Panellists: • ***Emmanuel Estrada, Vice President for Regulatory Development and Strategy, Globe Telecom*** • ***Undersecretary Catherine Fong, Department of Finance*** • ***Jove Tapiador, Co-founder, GoodTech*** • ***Antonio G. Zaballos, Director of Digital Technologies for Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB)***
12:25 – 12:30	**ITC-GSMA Partnership Announcement:** Digital Inclusion of Small Businesses in the Philippines
	Lunch Break
13:30 – 14:45	**Building Trust Together: A Roadmap for Digital Security**
13:30 – 13:40	**Presentation** "Trusted Access: How Digital Lending is Changing Communities for the Better"

	Speaker: ***Baby Aquino, Chief Product Officer and Strategy Head of Fuse Lending, GCash***
13:40-14:05	**Panel Discussion**: "United against Scams: Technological Solutions and Partnerships" *As scams become increasingly sophisticated, leveraging technology and forming partnerships among stakeholders is essential to protecting consumers and maintaining trust in digital platforms. The panel will discuss secure access with Global Open APIs, as well as innovative solutions and collaborative strategies to combat scams and fraud in the digital age. How can MNOs leverage global APIs* Moderator: ***Ewan Lusty, Director, Flint Global*** Panellists: • ***Ret. Justice Andres Reyes Jr., Highly Technical Consultant, Cybercrime Investigation and Coordinating Center (CICC)*** • ***John Gonzales, President & CEO, PLDT ClarkTel and FVP, Strategic Business Development for PLDT Enterprise*** • ***Lito Villanueva, Chair, Fintech Alliance.ph / Chief Innovations and Inclusion Officer and EVP, RCBC***
14:05 -14:20	**Presentation**: "Regulatory Frameworks for Digital Trust" *This keynote will address the critical role of regulatory frameworks in fostering digital trust in an increasingly complex and interconnected digital landscape. With rising concerns about data privacy, cybersecurity, and AI, establishing robust regulations is essential for protecting individuals and organisations alike.* Speaker*: **David Turkington, Head of Technology, APAC, GSMA***
14:20-14.45	**Fireside chat**: "Harnessing AI for Cybersecurity: Opportunities and Challenges" *With the increasing sophistication of cyber threats, AI presents both significant opportunities for enhancing security measures and challenges that need to be addressed. This conversation will delve into how we can effectively leverage AI technologies while being mindful of the associated risks.* Moderator: ***David Turkington, Head of Technology, APAC, GSMA*** Panellists: • ***Daniel Toh, Chief Solution Architect APJ, Imperva, Thales*** • ***Roleen Del Prado, Head, Cybersecurity & Infosec, DITO***
	Coffee Break

15:15 -16:30	**Realising the Vision of a Digital Nation: Transforming Industries for Global Competitiveness**
15:15 - 15:20	**Session opening:** "How 5G impact industries transformation in APAC" 5G technology deployment, a strategic move expected to revolutionize connectivity and spearhead economic resilience and growth. It is a crucial enabler of the next digital era in the recent published APAC 5G case studies showcasing the versatility and impact of 5G technologies in healthcare, manufacturing, logistics and public safety, etc. Speaker: *Terence Wong, Head of APAC 5G Industry & IoT, GSMA*
15:20 – 15:40	**Joint Presentation:** "5G Private Networks: Unlocking the SMART Industry Era" Discover how 5G private networks are revolutionizing industries with unparalleled connectivity, security, and scalability. From enabling real-time operations in mining and logistics to driving automation and efficiency in smart manufacturing, this session explores transformative use cases across sectors. Learn how next-gen technology is paving the way for the Smart Industry Era, where innovation meets operational excellence. Gain industry insights on harnessing 5G for advanced manufacturing solutions. Speakers: • *John Gonzales, President & CEO, PLDT ClarkTel and FVP, Strategic Business Development for PLDT Enterprise* • *Jonathan Mondero, Ph.D. Senior Director, Head of IT Operations and Executive Staff, Amkor Technology*
15:40 – 15:50	**Presentation:** "Sustainable Development: Harnessing the power of software defined automation and AI for next-level Smart Building in 5G era" Explores the transformative potential of software defined automation, digital twin, and supporting AI technologies. We will delve into market analysis and real-world case studies to showcase the tangible benefits and competitive advantages to be found from adopting this innovative technology in Smart Building. Speaker: *Sankar V S, Director, Advanced Digital Engineering, Digital Services Leader (East Asia), ARUP*
15:50 – 16:00	**Presentation:**

	"Unlocking Business Innovation with the Power of Connections" Beyond technology, Globe Business focuses on understanding businesses' unique needs and collaborating to co-create solutions. By building strong relationships and fostering a proactive approach, they empower businesses to navigate the digital landscape and unlock their full potential. This is achieved through robust network connectivity, a thriving ecosystem of partners, and a hands-on consultative approach that guides businesses through their digital transformation journeys. Speaker: **KD Dizon, Vice President and Head, Globe Business**
16:00 – 16:30	**Panel Discussion**: "Discover the transformative power of 5G in shaping the future of industries" How 5G enables advanced digital transformation for global competition. The integration of 5G, AI, XR, IoT, and big data enhances new use cases and potential for focused economic growth with sectors competing across the region. Our expert panel delves into cutting-edge insights, real-world applications, and the convergence of technology and enterprise needs. What are the challenges and opportunities? Moderator: **Terence Wong, Head of APAC 5G Industry & IoT, GSMA** Guests: • **Roy Lim, Founder and CEO, Robocore** • **Rajeshwari Kanesin, Regional Head, APAC (Business and 5G), Apoqlar** • **Sankar V S, Director, Advanced Digital Engineering, Digital Services Leader (East Asia), ARUP** • **Neelesh Maglani, Chief Architect-Telco, South East Asia, HPE**
16:30 – 17:30	**Closing and Networking Cocktail**