

Digital Summit Hanoi 2026

26th May 2026, JW Marriott, Hanoi

Synopsis

From Connectivity to High Value Growth

As global supply chains are reshaped by geopolitical shifts, the rise of AI, and new investment flows, Vietnam is increasingly seen as a major digital economy in the Asia Pacific region, not just a manufacturing base. Geopolitics, AI adoption, and new capital flows are changing where value is created and where investment lands.

Vietnam's rapidly expanding digital economy is expected to contribute around 30 percent of GDP by 2030, supported by strong foreign direct investment in sectors such as semiconductors, AI, and smart manufacturing. This momentum brings opportunity, but also pressure. Advanced digital infrastructure and next-generation connectivity will decide whether Vietnam captures higher value activity or remains a cost-efficient link in global supply chains.

Telecommunications sit at the centre of this shift. Strong networks are no longer only about coverage. They shape productivity, support new industrial use cases, and enable the move towards data-intensive and AI-driven sectors. By strengthening its telecommunications networks and digital connectivity, Vietnam has an opportunity to support high value industries, enable innovation across the economy, and strengthen its role as a trusted node in the global digital ecosystem.

The GSMA Digital Summit Hanoi will convene industry leaders, investors, and policymakers to explore how Vietnam can move faster and more confidently. The focus is practical. What needs to change. What needs to scale. And where public and private decisions must align to support long term growth.

Discussions will focus on:

- **Driving digital investment and innovation**
How policy certainty, infrastructure readiness, and access to capital can support high value digital industries, startups, and local innovation ecosystems. The aim is a clear path towards a knowledge and technology driven economy, not just incremental growth.
- **Trust and cybersecurity**
Strengthening data protection, scam prevention, and regulatory frameworks to improve consumer confidence and business resilience. Trust is not a soft issue. It is a prerequisite for digital services at scale.
- **5G, AI-RAN, Open Gateway, and Open RAN for innovation**
Unlocking new business models, smart industries, and cross sector collaboration through 5G, AI-enabled services, and next-generation network architectures. This

includes the role of AI-RAN in improving network performance and efficiency, alongside Open RAN and Open Gateway as foundations for new business models and developer engagement.

Vietnam’s digital future will not be built by one actor alone. By strengthening coordination between government, industry, and the wider digital ecosystem, Vietnam can build a secure and inclusive digital future that attracts long-term investment, supports domestic innovation, and strengthens its position in the regional and global digital economy.

Event Agenda - Main Stage

08:45 – 10:40	Building Vietnam’s High-Value Digital Future
08:45 – 09:15	Registration
09:15 – 09:20	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julian Gorman, Head of Asia Pacific, GSMA
09:20 – 09:25	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex Sinclair, Chief Technology Officer, GSMA
09:25 – 09:35	Keynote Address
09:35 – 09:40	GSMA Government Leadership Award Ceremony <i>*Alex Sinclair, CTO, GSMA will present the award to the representative from MOST*</i>
09:40 – 10:20	Digital Leaders’ Keynote Panel: Viet Nam’s Digital Future – Competing and Thriving in the AI Economy <i>Viet Nam has emerged as one of the fastest-growing digital economies in the region, driven by a young, ambitious and highly motivated workforce. This growth has been supported by the rise of digital services and SaaS models, enabling Vietnamese companies to increasingly serve regional and global markets.</i> <i>But today, AI is reshaping how software is built and delivered, challenging traditional models. At the same time, AI and automation are redefining work and the way we think of human capital. This panel brings together digital leaders to explore what this means for Viet Nam’s next phase of growth. How can Viet Nam move up the value chain, sustain global competitiveness, and harness AI as an enabler of innovation rather than a disruptor of its strengths?</i> Moderator: Kalvin Bahia, Principal Economist, GSMA Intelligence

	<p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lt. Col. Thiêm Công Nguyễn, Deputy General Director, MobiFone Corporation • Rita Mokbel, Executive Vice President, Head of Ericsson Vietnam, Ericsson • Liên Vũ Hoàng, Chair, Vietnam Internet Association • Phạm Nam Long, Founder & CEO, ABIVIN Vietnam
<p>10:20 – 10:50</p>	<p>Keynote Panel: From Open RAN to AI-RAN: Building Smarter, Flexible Networks</p> <p><i>This panel will explore how Open RAN and AI-driven network architectures are reshaping mobile network design and operations, enhancing network flexibility and efficiency, driving innovation and enabling open, API-driven ecosystems to support scalable 5G and beyond deployments across Vietnam—unlocking new services and smart industry applications.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Jeanette Whyte, Head of Public Policy and External Affairs, APAC, GSMA</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyễn Phong Nhã, Deputy Director General, Viet Nam Telecommunications Agency (VNTA) • Vũ Tuấn Đức, Director of the Center for Technology Engineering, Viettel High Tech • Sadayuki Abeta, Chief Open RAN Strategist, NTT DOCOMO, INC.
<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>11:15 – 12:30</p>	<p>Building a Connected and Trusted Digital Ecosystem</p>
<p>11.15 - 11.30</p>	<p>Presentation: Combating Scams and Spam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trịnh Hoài Nam, Product Director, Viettel Cyber Security
<p>11:30 – 12:00</p>	<p>Panel: Building Digital Trust through Cross-Sector Collaboration</p> <p><i>Industry leaders and members of the GSMA APAC Cross-Sector Anti-Scam Taskforce (ACAST) discuss strategies to strengthen consumer trust, improve data sharing, and prevent scams through coordinated cross-sector initiatives, highlighting the importance of trust as a foundation for Vietnam’s digital economy.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Bensen Koh, Director, Policy, APAC, GSMA</p> <p>Panellists:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duy Nguyễn, Chief Executive Officer, ADT Global • Nguyễn Quang Đông, Director, Institute for Policy Studies and Media Development (IPS) • Lien Nguyen, Government Affairs and Public Policy Lead, Vietnam, Google
12:00 – 12:30	<p>Panel: Present Landscape of Open APIs and Future Potential with Artificial Intelligence</p> <p><i>Open APIs are reshaping Vietnam’s digital landscape, enabling greater connectivity, innovation, and efficiency across sectors such as finance, healthcare, and e-commerce. Today, Vietnamese businesses and developers are leveraging APIs to foster collaboration and streamline operations, while regulatory frameworks are gradually adapting to support secure and interoperable data exchange.</i></p> <p><i>Looking ahead, the integration of Artificial Intelligence with open APIs promises to accelerate digital transformation. AI-driven APIs will unlock real-time analytics, personalised services, and smarter automation, positioning Vietnam as a competitive player in the global tech arena. However, ensuring robust governance, data privacy, and widespread access remains vital for sustainable progress.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Kevin Henry, Head of Strategic Engagement, APAC, GSMA</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyễn Hoàng Minh, Deputy Director of Global Technical Center - Viettel Network • Stefan Kostic, Chief Executive Officer, IPification • Vaibhav Mehta, Founder & Director, Nabstrack • Sheng-Ann Yu, Director, Advanced Technology, Group Function Technology Asia-Pacific, Ericsson
Lunch Break	
13:30 – 15:00	Scaling 5G: Transforming Industries and Driving Next-Generation Services
13:30 – 13:40	<p>Presentation: Global Landscape and Trends on Intelligent Industry in 5G Era</p> <p><i>How 5G is accelerating intelligent industry worldwide—enabling AI at the edge, private networks, robotics, and real-time analytics—as well as key adoption trends, investment priorities, and implications for productivity, resilience, and sustainability.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affandy Johan, Industry Analyst, Ookla
13:40- 13:55	Presentation: 5G-Enabled Healthcare — Connected Care, Clinical Workflows and Better Outcomes

	<p><i>Case study learnings on how 5G and edge computing enable Holomedicine, clinical robotics, remote monitoring, connected ambulances, and smart hospitals—improving clinical decision-making, patient experience, and operational efficiency while addressing security, interoperability, and regulatory requirements for scalable deployment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Kee Yuan Ngiam, Group Chief Technology Officer and Head of the Artificial Intelligence Office at the National University Health System (NUHS) Singapore
13:55- 14:10	<p>Presentation: UAV as Digital Infrastructure for Smart Nations</p> <p><i>Explores how UAVs are evolving into intelligent digital infrastructure for smart nations, enabled by AI, autonomous systems, 5G/mesh connectivity, and real-time aerial data platforms. Covers practical applications in public safety, smart cities, infrastructure inspection, emergency response, and digital transformation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trần Thiên Phương, Vice President, Aerospace & Unmanned Vehicle System (AUVS) Vietnam Network
14:10- 14:25	<p>Presentation: Extending 5G Beyond the Shore: Enabling Coastal and Maritime Connectivity and Economic Transformation</p> <p><i>Coastal economies depend on ports, shipping, fisheries, offshore energy and tourism—driving demand for low-latency, high-bandwidth maritime connectivity where 5G extends coverage beyond shore and complements satellite for near-shore and mid-range communications.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinson Chan, CEO, eSIX
14:25- 15:00	<p>Panel: Scaling 5G from Pilots to Platforms — Transforming Industries and Public Services</p> <p><i>Leaders from operators, vertical industries and government discuss how to scale 5G use cases beyond pilots—covering private networks, APIs, devices, skills, ROI, and policy—to drive productivity, service quality and sustainable growth.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Terence Wong, Head of APAC 5G & IoT, GSMA</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Duong Van Thinh, President of the Artificial Intelligence & DC Club of Ho Chi Minh City • Jayant Moghe, AVP and Country Manager, 5G Communication Products, Pegatron Electronics India Pvt Ltd • Jackson Ma, Product Director, Quectel Wireless Solutions • Hoang Hung Hai, Staff Manager, Product Marketing, Qualcomm Vietnam

Coffee Break	
15:30 – 17:00	Enabling AI-Powered Innovation: Deployment, Revenue, and Business Impact
15:30 – 15:35	<p>Opening & Introduction</p> <p>As AI adoption accelerates, telecom operators are uniquely positioned to combine connectivity, distributed data centres, and data assets into a unified innovation platform.</p> <p>How can telcos translate AI investments into scalable deployment, new revenues, and measurable business impact?</p>
15:35 – 15:45	<p>Presentation 1: Scaling AI-Driven Operations for Nationwide Network</p> <p>AI is reshaping how operators manage network quality, energy and cost — but only when it moves beyond experimentation into governed, production-scale operations. This session examines the architecture and real-world deployments behind that shift, from closed-loop automation to measurable gains in efficiency and network performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyễn Duy Hưng, Principal OSS Architect, Viettel Network
15:45 – 15:55	<p>Presentation 2: Beyond Centralized AI: Enabling Distributed GPU Infrastructure Across Telco Data Centers</p> <p>As AI workloads continue to expand, telecom operators are evolving infrastructure strategies toward distributed architectures spanning multiple data centers. This session presents a real-world approach to interconnecting geographically dispersed GPU resources using high-performance optical networking such as IOWN All-Photonics Network (APN), enabling near-local performance across sites. The result is a scalable and flexible AI infrastructure that overcomes constraints in power, location, and resource availability while redefining the role of telco-operated data centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xiaojing Zhang, Director, IOWN Task Force, Innovation Center, NTT DOCOMO Business
15:55 – 16:05	<p>Presentation 3: Monetising AI Infrastructure: From Connectivity to Compute and Data Services</p> <p>Beyond connectivity, telcos have an opportunity to monetise AI through infrastructure-led services, including edge computing, GPU-as-a-Service, and sovereign AI environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheng-Ann Yu, Director, Advanced Technology, Group Function Technology Asia-Pacific, Ericsson

16:05 – 16:15	<p>Presentation 4: From Connectivity to AI Ecosystems: Leveraging Infrastructure and Data to Scale Trusted AI Services</p> <p>AI is redefining customer and enterprise services, from hyper-personalised consumer experiences to mission-critical enterprise applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pham Minh Tu, Chief Technology Officer / Chief Information Officer, Mobifone Digital Services Center</i>
16:15 – 16:55	<p>Panel Discussion: Owning the AI Value Chain: Networks, Data Centres, and the Fight for Revenue</p> <p>As AI reshapes the telecom landscape, the central question is no longer about adoption, but about who captures the value. This panel will gather leading insights from executives of telecom, cloud, and enterprise sectors to discuss the evolving role of telcos in the AI ecosystem.</p> <p>Moderator: <i>John David Kim, Head of 6G Partnership Forum & AI, GSMA</i></p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sadayuki Abeta, Chief Open RAN Strategist, NTT DOCOMO, INC.</i> • <i>Dr. Henry Tran Quang Hung, Chairman, Hanoi Innovation Hub</i> • <i>Pham Minh Tu, Chief Technology Officer / Chief Information Officer, Mobifone Digital Services Center</i> • <i>Karrman Kim, Vice President, Head of Samsung SDS Vietnam Research Institute and IT Service Team</i> • <i>Vijay Nagali, Principal Consultant, Nokia Bell Labs Consulting</i>
16:55 – 17:00	Wrap Up & Next Steps
17:00 – 18:00	Closing and Networking Cocktail