



Ministry of Science and ICT



APCTT  
Asian and Pacific Centre  
for Transfer of Technology



Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Thailand

## Advancing Inclusive Technologies for a Society for All Ages: On-device AI, Robotics, Living Labs, and Health Care

12:45-13:45, 23 April 2026 | Conference Room 4, UN Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

**Organized by** Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPPI), Hanbat National University, Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology (KICT), Republic of Korea; and BRIN, Indonesia (tbc)

**Hosted by** Ministry of Science and ICT, Republic of Korea; Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Thailand; and Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of UN ESCAP

### Background

Guided by the theme “Leaving no one behind: advancing a society for all ages in Asia and the Pacific,” this session addresses key demographic and socioeconomic priorities, including employment across age groups, healthy ageing, women’s economic empowerment, the future of care, and social inclusion.

The Asia-Pacific region is undergoing a dual demographic shift, characterized by rapid population ageing in some countries and persistent youth populations in others. These trends intersect with structural transformations driven by climate change, urbanization, digitalization, and artificial intelligence. As a result, economic and social systems must be redesigned to ensure that all age groups can participate in and benefit from sustainable development, supported by lifelong learning, reskilling, and strengthened care systems.

Although artificial intelligence has the potential to support these transitions, its benefits remain unevenly distributed. Key barriers include limited infrastructure, dependence on cloud-based systems, connectivity constraints, affordability challenges, data protection concerns, and insufficient capacity for real-world testing and deployment.

These limitations indicate a structural issue. Many AI systems fail in practice due to a lack of alignment with local conditions, user needs, and application contexts, rather than purely technical shortcomings.

To address this, the session introduces the **AHA Framework (Appropriate–Human-centered–Application)** as a guiding principle for inclusive AI deployment. The framework defines three conditions:

- **Appropriate:** alignment with local infrastructure, resources, and constraints
- **Human-centered:** alignment with user needs, usability, and acceptance
- **Application-driven:** integration into real-world services with validated outcomes

Within this framework, on-device AI is positioned as a practical foundation for delivering AI services in environments with limited connectivity and strict privacy requirements. The session will present application cases, including robotic services for ageing populations and AI-enabled mobile healthcare, to demonstrate how AHA-aligned approaches enable effective deployment.

To support scaling, the session will also address digital twins, verification and validation (V&V), and living labs as mechanisms for testing, adaptation, and evidence generation. These approaches enable safe implementation, context-specific optimization, and policy-relevant insights, supporting regional cooperation and technology transfer across ESCAP member States.

## **Objectives**

- Establish the AHA Framework (Appropriate–Human-centered–Application) as a guiding principle for inclusive AI deployment in the Asia-Pacific region
- Demonstrate how AHA-aligned approaches enable practical and scalable solutions, with a focus on on-device AI, robotics, and mobile healthcare for a society for all ages
- Present operational methodologies for implementation and scaling, including digital twins, V&V, and living labs as mechanisms for real-world testing and adaptation
- Identify pathways for regional cooperation and technology transfer, enabling ESCAP member States to adopt context-appropriate, human-centered, and application-driven AI solutions.

## **Target Audience**

Government officials and policymakers on ageing, social development, labour, and digital transformation; national innovation agencies; technology firms and developers; academics and researchers; civil society organizations; and international organizations and development partners working on inclusive, age-friendly solutions.

# Tentative Programme

Moderator: Dr. Eun Joo KIM, Principal Researcher, STEPI

| Time        | Agenda Item   | Speaker)  | Note  |
|-------------|---|---|---|
| 12:45–12:55 | <b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening Remarks</li> <li>Welcome Remarks</li> <li>Congratulatory Remarks</li> </ul>   | <b>Dr. Ji Woong YOON</b><br><i>President of STEPI</i><br><b>Dr. Preeti Soni</b><br><i>Head of APCTT</i><br><u>Minister of Republic of Korea to Thailand (tbc)</u>   | <i>Pre-recorded/<br/>On site</i>            |
| 12:55–13:30 | <b>Presentation Session</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designing AI That Works for All, Not Just for Some: Appropriate, Human-centered, and Application-driven AI for Inclusive Deployment in Asia-Pacific</li> <li>Region-based On-device AI services in Indonesia (tbc)</li> <li>On device AI and its application in public services for inclusive society</li> </ol>   | <b>Prof. Changbeom CHOI</b><br><i>Hanbat National University, ROK</i><br><b>Dr. Khairul RIZAL</b><br>Director of Measurement and Indicators for Research, Technology and Innovation, BRIN ( <i>National Research and Innovation Agency</i> ), Indonesia<br><b>Mr. Vugar ALIYEV</b><br>Lead Innovation Officer, SUP VC, Azerbaijan | <i>Virtually online or<br/>Pre-recorded</i> |
| 13:30–13:45 | <b>Panel Discussion Topics</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy &amp; Institutional Frameworks to define and institutionalize standards for "appropriate AI" under the AHA Framework</li> <li>Design human-centered AI systems in care, health, and social services</li> <li>Ways to facilitate AHA framework through regional cooperation &amp; technology transfer platforms among member countries</li> </ol> | <b>Mr. Byungjin LEE</b><br><i>Expert on ICT, UN ESCAP</i><br><b>Dr. Sang Hwa JUNG,</b><br><i>Head of Andong Center, KICT</i><br><b>Mr. Yohan LEE</b><br>Sales Director, VSI<br><b>APCTT Expert (TBC)</b>  |   |
| 13:45       | <b>Closing Remarks</b>  | <b>Dr. Eun Joo KIM, STEPI</b>   |   |