

UN CTCN 2026 SIDS NDE Joint Programme: Voluntary Technology Talk and Network Fair

Summary Report

Date & Venue: 18 September 2026, BEXCO and NewCZ Centum Hotel, 2F, Meeting Room, Busan, South Korea

Background and objective for Voluntary Technology Talk and Network Fair:

The Network Engagement Strategy agreed during the 27th Advisory Board meeting responds to the continued growth of the CTCN Network by calling for more systematic, visible, and meaningful engagement modalities that move beyond ad hoc participation and project-based interaction. In this context, the Voluntary Technology Talk (VTT) programme serves as a technology outreach and engagement activity that strengthens endogenous capacity through direct exposure to emerging climate technologies, technology solution providers, and innovation ecosystems. Since 2023, the programme has supported 92 NDEs globally and facilitated the exploration of more than 300 climate technologies across sectors.

Beyond technology showcasing, the VTT programme supports countries in articulating technology needs in ways that are matchable to existing technological solutions and expertise. The programme also functions as an initiating platform for voluntary co-creation processes between NDEs and Network Members (NMs) through early-stage dialogue, exchange of expectations, and partnership exploration that may evolve into future technical assistance and collaborative activities. Complementing the VTT programme, the CTCN also trialed a “Network Fair” format during the Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean regional forums in 2026. While the VTT programme primarily focuses on technology outreach and engagement, the Network Fair format was designed as a targeted matchmaking space to facilitate direct interaction and partnership-building between NDEs and Network Members within regional forum settings.

This year’s VTT programme was held at the World Climate Industry Expo (WCE) 2026, themed “Energy for AI & AI for Energy”, organised by Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment (MCEE, Republic of Korea) and International Energy Agency (IEA).

Approaches and activities:

The programme included guided climate technology introductions, on-site matchmaking requests, voluntary exhibition exploration, targeted bilateral discussions and reflection. These activities were organized to connect SIDS NDEs with climate technology providers across five themes (Climate Industry, Clean Power, Net Zero, Future Energy, and Environment & Energy) and support exploring solutions relevant to their national priorities.

This programme took a five-step co-creation process as the main approach to enable collaborative and active discussion on climate technology for transformative change in countries of need: planning, sensitizing, facilitating, engaging, and analysing, to fully activate the participating NDEs' voluntary engagement with the potential partner seeking and ideating for scalable Technical Assistance (TA) projects (see Table 1).

Table 1 Summary of Voluntary Technology Talk (VTT) and Network Fair programme

Process	Methods Applied	Program Activities	Outputs
1. Planning	Segmentation and fit-for-purpose selection	Programme briefing, introduction to the booth exhibition	Preparation for technology exploration and engagement
2. Sensitizing	Exposure to curation	One-hour guided tour of five selected NMs booths	Increased awareness of technologies and their potential relevance to SIDS
3. Facilitating	Perceived benefits	NDEs' identification of NMs for afternoon follow-up	Requests for targeted bilateral discussions
4. Engaging	Voluntary choice	Deep-dive bilateral meetings OR independent VTT	Exploration of country demands, technology applications and collaboration opportunities
5. Analyzing	Individual documentation and peer exchange	Reflections, sharing top-three technology ranking, small-group exchange and open reflection	Documentation of technology interests, potential connections and programme feedback

Step 1. Planning:

Guided Hall Tour at WCE

CTCN checked the themes of exhibitions available across WCE. The WCE held five thematic halls: Climate Industry, Clean Power, Net Zero, Future Energy, and Environment & Energy Hall.



To connect NDEs directly with CTC's Network Members (NMs) and present practical technologies and solutions relevant to SIDS, particularly in AI and energy, below steps are taken:

- 1) Contact WCE exhibitors for full list of booths registered to each hall
- 2) Cross-check CTC Network members' presence in each hall
- 3) Direct reach out to identified NMs to arrange the booth visits on the day

During these steps, we identified and selected five NMs those who has expertise in climate intelligence, power systems, energy management, finance, and deployment.

Table 2 Network members selected for the guided tour at WCE

Network Members	Technology / Engagement Focus
DI Lab	AI-enabled climate intelligence
Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO)	Power systems and grid resilience
Korea District Heating Corporation (KDHC)	AI-based energy management
Korea Technology Finance Corporation (KOTEC)	Technology finance and commercialization
Korea Institute of Industrial Technology / Korea National Cleaner Production Center (KITECH/KNPCPC)	Energy efficiency and technology deployment

Step 2. Sensitizing:

On the day, the programme began with a briefing on the flow of the event and expected outputs from CTC Network Fair with guided tour at the WCE. Therefore, the NDEs were aware that the Network Fair was designed to provide a platform for direct engagement between NDEs and CTC's Network members.

The morning session allocated one hour to a guided tour of five selected booths, with approximately 10-15 minutes at each stop. At each booth, the format provided for a brief introduction to the organization and its technologies, questions on potential applications in participating countries, and identification of opportunities for future exchange or collaboration.



With CTCN Secretariats, NDEs stopped at DI Lab, Korea Electric Power Corporation, Korea District Heating Corporation, and Korea Institute of Industry Technology - Korea National Cleaner Production Center. A representative at Korea Technology Finance Corporation (KOTEC) was not available on the day, thus we skipped this booth.



Following the guided tour, NDEs shared their reflection and on-site matchmaking requests. NDEs were invited to identify Network members with whom they wished to continue discussions. Based on these requests, CTCN was to coordinate afternoon bilateral meetings focused on country needs, potential technology applications and collaboration opportunities.

Step 3 & 4. Facilitating and Engaging:

The afternoon session offered two parallel pathways: The deep-dive bilateral pathway provided for focused discussions with Network members and voluntary visit to other booths. The VTT pathway enabled participants to explore the exhibition independently and engage directly with exhibitors and technology providers according to their interests and national priorities.

A reflection form was provided to capture technologies of interest, key insights and potential connections. At the end of the session, participants were invited to identify and rank the three technologies that attracted their greatest attention.

Step 5. Analysing and Reflecting:

Following the deep-dive bilateral meetings and VTT at the WCE, NDEs exchanged technologies explored during the exhibition and reflected on the overall joint programme. The session included a

Figure 3 Day 3 – Site Visit

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30-minute small-group discussion followed by a 30-minute open reflection on learning experiences, programme improvements and future capacity-building interests.

NDES expressed surprise at the advanced technologies showcased at the booths. Their interests covered carbon markets, water treatment, integrated solar and food production, decentralized electricity generation, and battery and solar PV recycling. Table 3 summarizes the interests and potential applications recorded during the discussion, and Table 4 indicates the information of NDEs' interested companies.

Table 3 Technology Interests shared by SIDS NDES

Country	Interested Technology	Interested Company	Potential relevance or follow-up
Papua New Guinea	Digital carbon-market solutions	HYGINO	Expanding access to carbon markets in the Pacific and establishing a carbon-financing system.
Kiribati	Water-treatment technologies, including a sludge-treatment system	KZ	Addressing water quality, identified as a key national challenge, through accessible treatment technologies.
Cuba	Next generation solar-cell film or tile technologies for greenhouse applications	Qcells Korea	Exploring combined energy and food production, with consideration of hurricane impacts.
Naoero	Small plug-in solar kits for DIY electricity generation	Solbright	Exploring decentralized electricity generation in remote locations.
Fiji	Battery recycling	Korea Zinc (KZ)	Interest in battery recycling technologies.
Vanuatu	Recycling management and solar PV recycling	Wonkwang S&T	Exploring potential applications in the Pacific. Vanuatu indicated an intention to consult national solar-panel managers about panel types, following the provider's request for this information.

NDEs valued the programme's combination of practical technology exposure, expert presentations and peer exchange. Papua New Guinea reported an improved understanding of AI and its application to energy deployment, having entered the programme with limited knowledge of the subject. Cuba appreciated the lectures and opportunities to learn about cultural and national differences, while raising a question about how enterprises could strengthen their social responsibility. Fiji expressed interest in returning to Korea and described the journey from Incheon to Busan as a distinctive experience.

Table 4 NDEs' Interested Companies

Company Name	Types of Technology	Company Website	Current Network member (Yes / No)
HYGINO	AI-based energy monitoring and analytics (MRV; Monitoring, Reporting, Verification)	https://hygino.co.kr/	No
Qcells Korea	Building Integrated Photovoltaics (attachable and foldable solar-cell film)	https://qcells.com/kr/	No
Solbright	DIY 5kW Solar Power System Installation	https://sbtnation.com/	No
KZ	Waste-battery recycling and resource recovery; secondary battery materials	https://www.koreazinc.co.kr/	No
Wonkwang S&T	End-of-life solar PV module recycling and material recovery; solar power plant decommissioning and repowering	https://www.wksnt.com/	No

The reflections identified areas for further technology exchanges and programme development. Vanuatu's proposed consultation with solar-panel managers constituted a specific follow-up intention; other technology interests remained exploratory.

Annex I – Group Photo



Link to social media posts:

- <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7513507404370755584>
- <https://www.facebook.com/UNFCCC.CTCN/posts/pfbid02sM9JGWEj8p6A25ahSzD7zPEAVM565dNHDzFfrw3dcpUvXjNPs...>

Annex II– Final program concept note

Day 5 – Voluntary Technology Talk and Network Fair: Part 2 (18th September) Busan

Moderator: Jeawon Kim, Capacity Building and Network Engagement Specialist

Busan, NewCZ Centum Hotel, 2F, Meeting Room

Introduction	
09:30~10:15	Flow of the day and expected outputs
Relocation to BEXCO	
Session 5: Technology Exhibition and Network Fair	
10:30~11:30	Guided Hall Tour for NDEs by CTCN The list of Network Members participating with a booth is shared with NDEs prior to this session. During this session, accompanied by CTCN, NDEs will take a tour of the exhibition hall. The tour will introduce 6 to 9 CTC Network member's technologies and offer a direct discussion with them at each booth.
11:30~12:00	On-site matchmaking request submission for the afternoon NDEs will be asked to share which CTC Network members' booth(s) that they want to revisit after lunch break. CTCN will accompany for NDEs' revisit for deeper bilateral. NDEs those may want to explore other booths (non-CTC Network members'), they can visit. This free roaming is called as Voluntary Technology Talk.
Lunch Break – 90 minutes	
Session 6: Technology Matchmaking	
14:30~15:30	Parallel: Voluntary Technology Talk and Deep dive bilateral BEXCO Hall – Korea Energy Show and Net Zero Expo

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	NDEs with the map of entire exhibition halls (4 halls available), will have time to freely explore emerging technologies that are interest of theirs. A reflection form will be available for NDEs to make notes as they explore, network, and learn the next innovative technologies. At the end of the VTT and bilateral, NDEs will be asked to rank top 3 technologies that captured their full attention.
Relocation to the NewCZ Centum Hotel, 2F, Meeting Room	
Reflections and way forward	
16:00~17:00	Exchange of technologies explored among NDEs For 30 minutes, in a smaller group of 4, NDEs will exchange technologies that they have explored at the exhibition halls. Open reflection from NDEs For 30 minutes, NDEs are invited to share reflection of their experience on the programme overall.
17:00~17:05	Closing Remarks Tomoko Furusawa, CTCN