



Fiji Innovation Hub

Dear readers, we are delighted to share with you the November 2025 edition of the Fiji Innovation Hub e-newsletter which includes the latest industry news and developments, and upcoming events and activities. Let's dive in! 😊

ECOSYSTEM

Fiji Tech Summit 2025

Key takeaways:

- **AI as a transformative force:** Artificial Intelligence is emerging as a major game changer, potentially even bigger than the internet. It is becoming an integral part of technology across areas like cybersecurity, data privacy, backups, and AI-powered hardware using Natural Processing Units (NPUs).
- **Focus on resilience and collaboration:** Across all sessions, the emphasis was on building adaptable systems that protect, empower, and sustain growth. Whether in AI, cloud-based storage, or cybersecurity, resilience and collaboration are essential for shaping innovation responsibly.

Reserve Bank of Fiji staff had the privilege to attend the Fiji Tech Summit 2025, held on 30-31 October 2025 at InterContinental Fiji Golf Resort & Spa, Natadola. Hosted by Datec Fiji in honour of its 40th anniversary, with the theme, **“Unlock the Future: AI, Cybersecurity, Sustainability, Cloud and Digital Transformation,”** brought together over 400 delegates and 29 global technology leaders.



To read more about this event, visit the [Datec LinkedIn](#) page.

New Zealand High Commission Networking Event | Pacific Innovation Hub and Auckland UniServices Networking Event

The Fiji Innovation Hub Secretariat and Advisory Group members were honoured to attend the NZ – Fiji Innovation Networking Reception on 11 November 2025. The evening featured **Professor Jemima Tiatia-Siau, Pro Vice Chancellor Pacific at the University of Auckland**, along with **Jen Anderson** from the **Pacific Innovation Hub**, celebrating innovation in Fiji. The event promoted opportunities to collaborate between programs and grow the available support within the region.

To read more about this event, visit the [New Zealand High Commission, Suva, Fiji](#) Facebook page.



TOP Executive Conference (TOPEX) 2025

The TOPEX 2025 was held on 20 – 22 November 2025 at Sofitel Resort & Spa, Nadi, hosted by the Fiji Commerce & Employers Federation, bringing together industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators to explore new opportunities, share insights, and discuss strategies for driving business growth in an evolving economic landscape.

The event featured impactful sessions on artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, workforce health, and labour challenges, alongside discussions on the Employment Relations Bill, and an update on the economy by **Petaia Tuimanu Chief Manager Financial Markets – RBF**.

Key takeaways included the importance of innovation, collaboration, and adaptability to drive sustainable growth, as well as fostering partnerships between businesses, government, and communities. Delegates left empowered with strategies to transform challenges into opportunities and strengthen Fiji’s economic resilience.

To read more about this event, visit the [Fiji Commerce & Employers Federation \(FCEF\)](#) Facebook page.

UNCONFERENCE 2025

Morning Pitches with Mark Achler

On the morning of 18 of November, the Reserve Bank of Fiji hosted a session for a few visionaries and entrepreneurs who pitched their business ideas to Mark, a venture capitalist, investor, and co-author of Amazon’s best seller “*Exit Right*.”

From an idea, to a prototype, to a launched product, these individuals pitched their business ideas to Mark, who gave them feedback on the way forward. Entrepreneurs will now be able to reach out to Mark for questions or to “bounce off” their ideas.

Unfiltered. Unscripted. UNCONFERENCE 2025



In the afternoon, the Hub along with Creative HQ hosted its first and much-anticipated UNCONFERENCE at Novotel Lami. This dynamic event brought together startups, entrepreneurs, academia, BDS facilitators and development partners. More than 80 participants braved the pouring rain to be at the event.

Lessons from a Global Venture Capital Investor – Mark Achler

The keynote address by **Mark**, set the tone with insights on fostering partnerships and creating long-term value through innovation. **“It’s Not About You.”** and **“Never Take No for an Answer”**. – Mark Achler. A simple yet impactful phrase resonated well with participants that partnerships fail when one party believes “they should adjust to me.” Both corporates and startups must move toward each other, work jointly, and design solutions that benefit the entire ecosystem – not just either side. But for startups NO should not be in the vocabulary, **keep working, keep grinding, keep persevering, and keep breaking barriers.**



To read more about this session, visit the [Fiji Innovation Hub](#) LinkedIn Page.

What Fiji Needs Next – Straight from the Experts

The unconference also featured an engaging panel session moderated by **Palinda Kaitu’u the Chairperson of the Advisory Group**. The discussion brought together influential voices from the Fiji and international’s innovation ecosystem, including:

- Mr Mark Achler – Venture Capital Investor, CEO, and Co-author of “*Exit Right*”
- Mr Esala Masitabua – Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji
- Mr Aquib Razab – Founder of Superstore
- Ms Aneth Kasabele – Regional Technical Specialist - Digital Financial Services Policy & Regulation at the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).



Key insights emphasized building an ecosystem through enabling policies, access to capital, and talent; fostering partnerships across sectors; and positioning Fiji as a leader in sustainability. A highlight was an update on technologies like **Superstore’s pyrolysis recycling**. Inclusive innovation for women, MSMEs, rural communities, and youth, alongside digital literacy and trust, was highlighted as essential. Regulators were urged to balance innovation with safety, while entrepreneurs were encouraged to be bold, collaborate, lead with passion, and build strong communities.



To read more about this session, visit the [Fiji Innovation Hub](#) Facebook Page.

The Conversations That Will Move Fiji Forward

Unlike traditional conferences, the Unconference format encouraged open dialogue and collaborative problem-solving. Participants engaged in two interactive discussion rounds, covering themes such as:

- Building Corporate – Startup Partnerships
- Supporting MSMEs and Financial Inclusion
- Leveraging AI for Productivity
- Digital & Gender Inclusion
- Sustainability
- Innovation for Financial Services



Key takeaways from discussions included:

- The need for **inclusive digital strategies** to bridge rural and gender gaps.
- Practical steps to **strengthen MSME capacity**, streamline compliance, and improve access to financing.
- Emphasis on **sustainability as a business imperative**, with opportunities in waste management and locally sourced materials.
- Calls for **policy reforms and regulatory sandboxes** to accelerate startup growth.



To read more about this session, visit the [Fiji Innovation Hub](#) Facebook Page.

The event concluded with a vibrant networking session, where participants connected over cocktails and appetizers. This informal setting provided the perfect opportunity to strengthen relationships and spark collaborations that would help drive Fiji's innovation agenda forward.

HACKATHON 2026



A brief rundown of the **HACKATHON 2026** and the **Accelerator Program** signalled new opportunities for entrepreneurs and innovators to develop impactful solutions, access structured support, and turn ideas into scalable ventures.

We'll be sharing more of the HACKATHON 2026 on our social media pages. Stay tuned for more!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Networking Event!

On Saturday, **13 December**, the **Fiji Innovation Hub** in partnership with the **MSME Council**, will be organising a Networking Event for our partners, sponsors, and the community.

More updates on this event will be published through our social media pages. So come and join us!

Certificate in Mentoring (9 – 11 February 2026)

Creative HQ will be conducting a Certificate in Mentoring workshop on the **9 – 11 February 2026**. Participants will learn innovation fundamentals, coaching techniques, and strategies for fostering impactful relationships.

SAVE THE DATE: Launch of the HACKATHON – 12 February 2026

Mark your calendars as we prepare to launch the **Hackathon 2026**, a three-day innovation sprint designed to ignite bold ideas, strengthen collaboration, and accelerate problem-solving within Fiji's emerging tech and entrepreneurship space.

Planned for **12–14 February**, the Hackathon will bring together aspiring founders, students, creatives, developers, and industry professionals to co-design practical solutions to real challenges. Participants will gain hands-on experience in rapid prototyping, teamwork under pressure, and pitching to experts—skills that lie at the heart of every thriving innovation ecosystem.



12 - 14 February 2026

Join us for Fiji's biggest innovation challenge — a high-energy, fast-paced Hackathon bringing together entrepreneurs, students, developers, creatives, and problem-solvers from across Fiji's innovation ecosystem.

Whether you're a coder, designer, founder, student, or simply curious — this is your chance to build bold solutions for real world problems, create new connections, and be part of Fiji's growing innovation ecosystem.

Registration opens soon!

Stay tuned for more details — the official link goes live in December.

More details on the venue, theme, registrations, and participation guidelines will be shared soon. For now, lock in the dates and get ready to build, create, and innovate with us.

CALL TO ACTION

CONNECT & COLLABORATE

We invite all stakeholders – financial institutions, technology providers, investors, academic institutions and government bodies – to actively engage with us.

Whether through mentorship, partnership opportunities or participation in our upcoming initiatives, your contribution is invaluable in co-creating a dynamic and inclusive digital economy for Fiji and the wider Pacific region.

Be part of our growing innovation community! Follow us on our social media pages for daily insights, event announcements, video content, and real-time updates on our launch and programs.

Click the links below to join our existing platforms:

- Facebook: [Fiji Innovation Hub](#)
- LinkedIn: [Fiji Innovation Hub](#)
- Instagram: [@innovationhub_fj](#)

[Join our e-Newsletter mailing list and Viber Channel](#) or SCAN the QR code below to receive monthly updates, stories, and event invites.



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“Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller

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