WEBINAR REPORT FOR

PACIFIC COUNTRIES CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE 2021

1) Introduction:

The webinar was held by the PCCJE on the 23rdSeptember 2021 and titled:

"Artificial Intelligence – What Judges need to know?

The topic covered the following areas:

1) An introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)
2) The Use in overseas Judiciaries.
3) The PNG AI Judiciary Sentencing Engine
4) How to Identify a Trustworthy System

2) Program Objective (s)

The webinar was designed to:

> The purpose of this webinar is to introduce the topic of artificial intelligence, and to provide an understanding of how AI could be safely used in the Judiciary to support the work of a Judge.

3) Targeted Audience

The target audience for this presentation was specifically Judges. In total there were at least 10 participants that logged on to the webinar.

4) Venue

The webinar was presented by Ms Alison Hold the e-Judiciary Advisor to the Chief Justice, and whilst PNGCJE hosted the webinar the presenter logged in from the New Zealand. Invitations were issued to the following countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tokelau, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. Unfortunately, most of the participants were unable to attend due to attending a workshop organized earlier by Pacific Judicial Strength Initiative (PJSI).

It is noted that Vanuatu have submitted a request an audience with Ms Holt to present the webinar as they were unable to attend.

5) Presenter

Alison Holt started her career as a mathematician. She has been working on information technology and data governance international standards (including AI, cyber security, and digital forensics) over the last 15 years and she has published two books on these topics through the British Computer Society.

In 2018, she joined the National Judicial Staff Services as the Adviser e-Judiciary reporting directly to the Chief Justice.

Over these last 3 years Ms Holt and her team have rolled out a satellite network with satellite receiver dishes at each operational National Courthouse throughout PNG. With connectivity in place, the team is now working on projects to develop and deliver e-Judiciary services – digital online services to support the work of our Judges.

An internationally acclaimed expert in the governance of data and information, Alison has had experience as a director, a general manager, a research fellow, an adviser, a principal consultant and a virtual Chief Information Officer for multiple organisations.

Over the last three years, Alison has been working for the Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea as e-Judiciary Adviser. In this role, she has led the procurement and roll out of a national satellite network to enable all Provincial Courthouses to be connected to the internet, through a safe and stable connection. This network is providing opportunities for e-Judiciary products and services to be rolled out across the country. Alison's e-Judiciary Projects in development include an AI (artificial intelligence) sentencing engine created in line with CEPEJ (European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice) principles, a Judges Portal of resources, searchable and annotatable digital bench books, and a digital bail service to enable minor offenders to serve their sentences from home.

Alison's first book (The Governance of IT) was published by the British Computer Society in September 2013, and the sequel, Data Governance: Governing Data for Sustainable Business, was published in May this year.

6) Highlights from Webinar

The highlight of the presentation was outlining the workings of the PNG AI Sentencing Engine which could also be adopted and tailored to meet the needs of the other Pacific Island Countries.

7) Methodology

The method used in the webinar was a lecture based with Ms. Holt giving a Power Point presentation followed by Question and Answers.

8) Conclusion

The topic itself generated interest in that there is a global uptake in the use of AI throughout the judiciaries worldwide especially in this age of technology where it is inevitable that all judiciaries will require AI in running an efficient judiciary.

. Attachments

i.   Webinar Flyer
Attach the copy of the webinar flyer

ii.   PowerPoint Presentation
Attached is copy of PowerPoint presentation

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