



unitar

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Unitar Online Catalogue

SDGs and Digital Futures: Changemaking Through AI/Digital Storytelling

Prosperity

Deadline: 31 May 2025

Type:	Webinar
Location:	Web-based
Date:	7 Jun 2025 to 19 Jul 2025
Duration:	2 Months
Programme Area:	Other
Website:	https://unitar.org/about/news-stories/news/unitar-ai-and-digital-storytelling-p...
Price:	\$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	hiroshima@unitar.org
Partnership:	City of Hiroshima, , Hiroshima Prefectural
Government	

BACKGROUND

Hiroshima continues to shape its legacy as a global city of peace, blending historical reflection with forward-looking innovation. From hosting the 2023 G7 Summit and the 2024 Rome Call for AI Ethics to the annual August 6th Memorial

Service, an event that unites stakeholders worldwide to reflect on the events of 1945 and advocate for a nuclear-free future, Hiroshima stands as a beacon of hope and progress.

This commitment to progress extends beyond its historical role to embrace cutting-edge technology and innovation. As the city hosts international dialogues and initiatives, there is a growing opportunity to incorporate AI and digital storytelling into training programs for youth and future leaders in local government and beyond. By leveraging digital technologies, including AI, Hiroshima can foster global understanding, collaboration, and meaningful action.

UNITAR's 80th Anniversary AI and Digital Storytelling Programme exemplifies this forward-thinking approach. In partnership with Microsoft, the program will provide resources on AI tools, host webinars to help youth in Hiroshima grasp the role of technology and culminate in a multimedia project where participants use AI and digital storytelling to share impactful narratives. The initiative will involve 10 youth from Hiroshima and 5 youth from across Asia, reinforcing Hiroshima's role as a hub for global collaboration and innovation.

Through these programs and initiatives, UNITAR continues to empower the next generation in Hiroshima, equipping them to make a meaningful impact on the world stage.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The 4 principal attainment targets are to: -

- Understand the fundamental concepts, opportunities, challenges, and ethics of generative AI, and how they relate to the achievement of SDGs.
- Explore various AI tools and their roles in art and digital storytelling.
- Incorporate various AI technologies and generative AI to craft meaningful digital stories.
- Gain direct insights from actual experts on how to present digitized stories.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

This online session introduce the use of AI tools in art and digital storytelling through an interdisciplinary approach. It blends an introduction to AI concepts and their connection to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with

practical applications of AI by field experts and an analysis of a well-known case study.

The online course consists of the following 8 modules: -

- Module 1: Orientation lecture on course overview, introduction to Hiroshima, UNITAR and 2030 SDGs.
- Module 2: Understanding GIS and creation of digital stories of Hibakusha.
- Module 3: Understanding the importance of learning AI and reflecting from the case study of St. Peter's Basilica.
- Module 4: Introducing AI and digital storytelling.
- Module 5: Utilizing Geographic Information System (GIS) technology for digital storytelling.
- Module 6: Creating and presenting digitized story (online practicum).
- Module 7: Information session for phase II in-person activities.
- Module 8: Exploring Microsoft Digital Education Projects.

METHODOLOGY

This online module features guest lectures delivered by experts in the fields of AI and storytelling, supplemented by a case study on the infamous St. Peter's Basilica. In addition, a series of online courses is provided, which students are expected to complete before each session to gain a comprehensive understanding and to encourage active engagement during the guest lectures. A forum-based discussion will be held at the end of each week, during which students are required to submit their reflections to demonstrate their understanding of what they have learned. Regular weekly mentoring sessions are also conducted by UNITAR experts to support students in achieving the course objectives. A review exam will be administered at the end of the online course to assess students' understanding and will be part of the evaluation for participation in the Phase II in-person activities.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

Youths age 18-25, fluent in English and based in either Hiroshima and abroad.