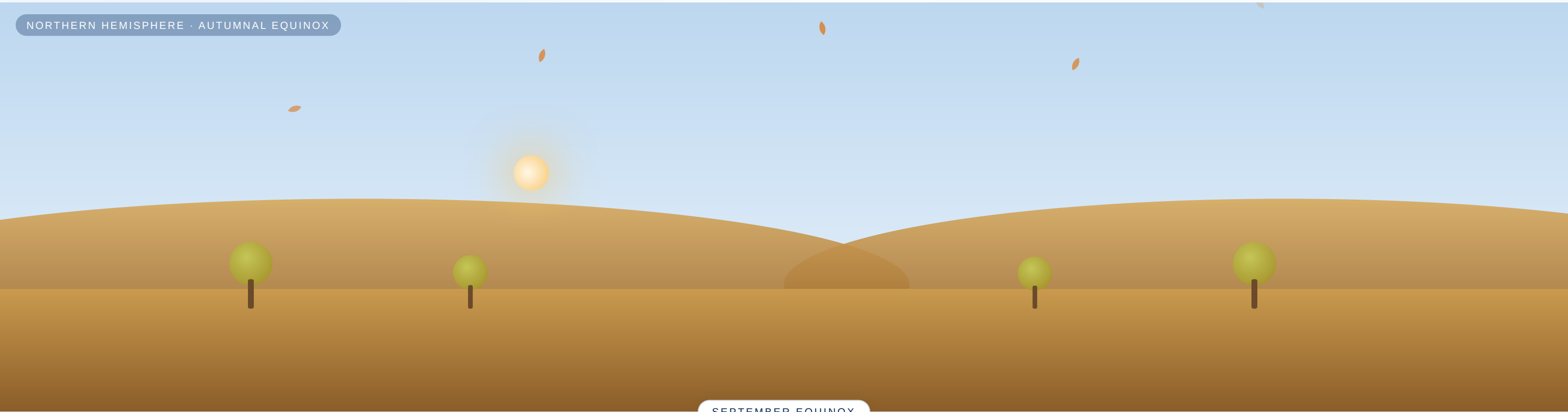
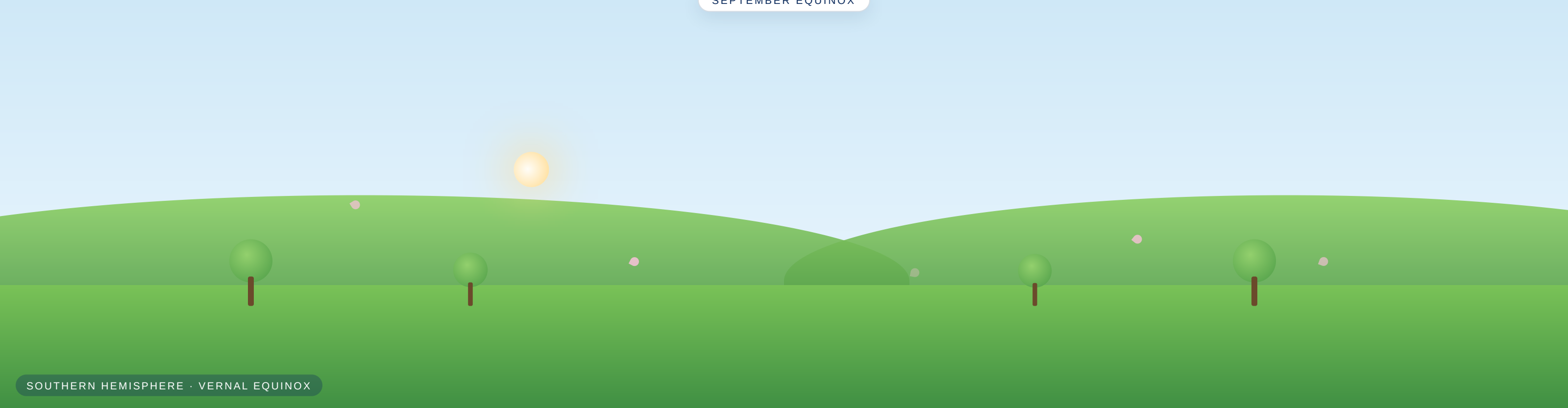




NORTHERN HEMISPHERE · AUTUMNAL EQUINOX



SEPTEMBER EQUINOX



SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE · VERNAL EQUINOX



● A PRESENTATION FOR THE SEPTEMBER EQUINOX

The changing seasons of international travel

Trust as a foundation for all seasons



CHAPTER 1 · A MOMENT OF TRANSITION

The changing seasons of travel.

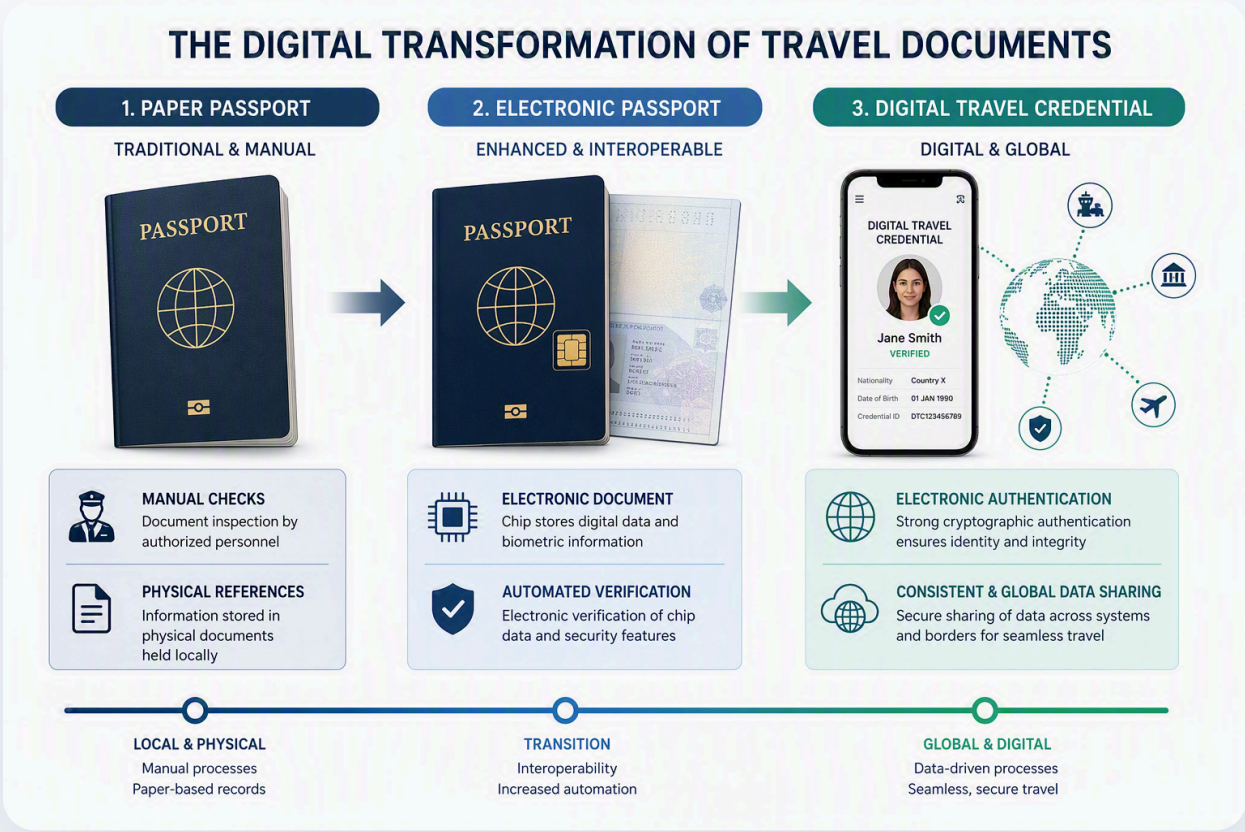
As with the seasons, cross-border travel is changing. Change is inevitable — but a successful transition depends on stability of the foundations through the change.

⇒ **From physical to digital** — travel documents have become electronic; digital credentials are the next step.

🔍 **From inspection to electronic and digital verification** — trust is established by confirming digital signatures, not only by the human eye.

🌐 **From local knowledge to global trust systems** — confidence must be shared across borders, systems and stakeholders.

⚓ **The constant** — as with the seasons, underlying laws endure. In travel, that enduring law is the need for verifiable trust.





● CHAPTER 2 · THE SEASON WE ARE SLOWLY LEAVING BEHIND

The Physical Document Era

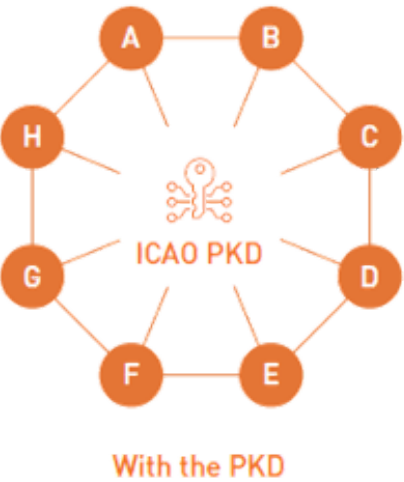
The physical passport era was not and is not being replaced overnight — the landscape has simply evolved. The ICAO PKD has emerged as the trust infrastructure underpinning that evolution.

- Decades of investment in passports and, later, ePassports.
- Human inspection gradually augmented by electronic verification.
- The establishment of a global trust framework based on ICAO PKI.
- The creation and growth of the ICAO PKD from 2007 onwards.

🔑 THE ICAO PKD. SINCE 2007

🛡️ **The trust repository**

The globally endorsed model for sharing the keys required for authenticating ePassport signatures.



A shared repository of trust — States exchange the keys needed to authenticate travel documents through the ICAO PKD.



● CHAPTER 3 · THE WINDS OF CHANGE

Digital Transformation is Accelerating

The question is no longer *whether* digital transformation will happen — but *how* trust will be maintained as it does.

01

Automated Border Control

Kiosks and eGates expanding globally.



02

Contactless & seamless travel

Reducing friction across the journey.



03

Digital Travel Credentials

Digitally signed identity data.



04

Mobile identity & advance data

Remote and pre-travel processing.





● CHAPTER 4 · NATURAL BALANCE

Assuring a balanced transition

The same balance we observe in nature is required as we evolve border management. Digitisation without trust creates risk; security without facilitation creates friction.



Facilitation & Security



Innovation & Governance



Speed & Trust



National sovereignty & Global interoperability

The ICAO PKD facilitates success at the interfaces of the competing demands.





● CHAPTER 5 · THE PKD AS A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Why the PKD Matters More Than Ever

Many travel technologies are highly visible — kiosks, wallets, gates. These are the leaves. The PKD is closer to the roots.



The PKD enables **electronic verification** which is quicker, more consistent and typically more robust compared to physical inspection.



Trust becomes **machine-readable, enabling self-service processes and automation.**



Digital credentials can only be verified when the **public keys** are shared in a trusted way. The PKD accomplishes this through globally agreed processes.



Digital signatures require **global verification.** The PKD connects authorities in every region across the world.

Without trusted verification, digital credentials, automation and interoperability cannot scale.



Hover the tree — explore the canopy, trunk and roots.



How the PKD Has Evolved

The PKD is not merely responding to change — it is positioning itself for what comes next.

GROWTH

Wider participation

111 participating entities.



MODERNISATION

**A new long-term strategy,
leveraging a new PKD system**

New operator, platform and governance.



NEW DATA

Beyond ePassports

DTCs, visas, travel authorizations, health credentials.



STAKEHOLDERS

A wider ecosystem

Private Sector Use Initiative.





Preparing for the Future

Just as the equinox causes us to anticipate the next season, today's developments signal the future travel ecosystem: credentials exchanged digitally before travellers arrive, authenticity established remotely, trust infrastructure a pre-requisite.



Digital Travel Credentials moving from pilot to practice.



Verifiable digital travel data exchanged ahead of the journey.



Remote verification models across the travel continuum.



Trusted digital ecosystems and deeper public–private collaboration.



New document types and credential formats.

The PKD strategy explicitly anticipates DTCs, expanded participation and private-sector engagement — positioning the PKD as a cornerstone of digital identity verification.





● CHAPTER 8 · A SHARED GLOBAL HARVEST

No Country Left Behind

The ICAO PKD has invested heavily to ensure that yhe harvest of digital transformation should be available to all. Trust systems only work when participation is broad — and the benefits increase as participation grows.

- Digital transformation must be global to be effective.
- Capacity building remains essential.
- Every State benefits from stronger global interoperability.

CAPACITY BUILDING

ICAO PKD Efforts

PKD Guidance and Documentation, Webinars, Global and regional workshops & Coaching Programs





● CHAPTER 9 · HARNESSING MOMENTUM

The Next Season of Cross-Border Trust



Transformation is a natural part of progress.



Global travel stands at a **point of balance** between physical and digital worlds.



New credentials, technologies and operating models are emerging rapidly.



One requirement is unchanged: **trust must be verifiable**.



The PKD was important for ePassports — it becomes **indispensable** for digital credentials.



"Just as one season gives way to another today, the September Equinox, we stand at a similar point of transition in global travel. The future may be digital, but trust remains the constant. The ICAO PKD is how that trust travels forward."



Thank you

Trust as a foundation for all seasons — enabling
seamless, secure and data-driven travel across the
world.

