

Domestic Resource Mobilization & Partnerships | Global Issues



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Africa must seize its digital destiny! This article explores how the continent can leverage digitalization for inclusive growth, focusing on mobilizing domestic resources and forging strategic partnerships. Discover how leaders are working on key initiatives, including infrastructural investments, regulatory frameworks, and public-private alliances. Learn why technology, youth, and women are seen as defining forces for Africa's transformation, with examples like M-PESA and national AI policies. The shift to greener economies is also highlighted. News Directory 3 provides insights into how countries can lead their digital future democratically and inclusively. What innovative strategies are being implemented to ensure equitable access and foster enduring growth? Discover what's next in Africa's digital revolution.

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Africa too steer its digital future with domestic resources,partnerships

Updated May 30,2025

African schools are preparing for artificial intelligence. Girls attend a robotics bootcamp in Rwanda. (Credit: UN Women/Geno Ochieng)

ABIDJAN, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire — African leaders met May 27, 2025, at the African Development Bank annual meetings to discuss how the continent can leverage digitalisation for inclusive growth.

The key questions included how to mobilize african capital,foster transformative partnerships, and accelerate the shift to greener economies.

Africa has 18% of the world's population but less than 1% of global data center capacity. While more than 600 million Africans use mobile phones, smartphone penetration and connectivity remain low.

However, technology, young people, and women are seen as defining forces that can transform Africa. as telecommunications sector reforms in the early 2000s, African youth have used technology to drive progress.

Several of the continent's largest and fastest-growing companies are in the tech sector. Mobile money innovations like M-PESA have become global models. Unlike previous industrial revolutions, Africa is now helping lead a new economic era.

The African Development Bank reports that two-thirds of development finance in Africa comes from domestic sources, such as tax revenue and household savings. In 2020,African sovereign wealth funds managed over \$24 billion, and pension funds held assets worth \$676 billion in 2017. The African diaspora sends nearly \$100 billion in remittances every year.

Mobilizing thes resources requires strong institutions, regulatory frameworks, and public-private partnerships. Private sector initiatives are underway, but a shared vision and digitally empowered citizenry are needed.

Club de Madrid, a forum of former democratic leaders, emphasized at its Annual Policy Dialog on Financing for Development in Nairobi in April that digital transformation must serve inclusion and institutional strengthening.

The forum stressed investing in public digital infrastructure to ensure equitable access and establishing regulatory frameworks that protect personal data and encourage fair competition.

Members of Club de Madrid work to strengthen institutional trust and digital governance frameworks. They say that digitalisation without governance is a risk, but with openness and digital rights, it is an prospect.

Digitalisation can reinforce the social contract by building trust, reducing exclusion, and expanding access to essential services. It can also create jobs.

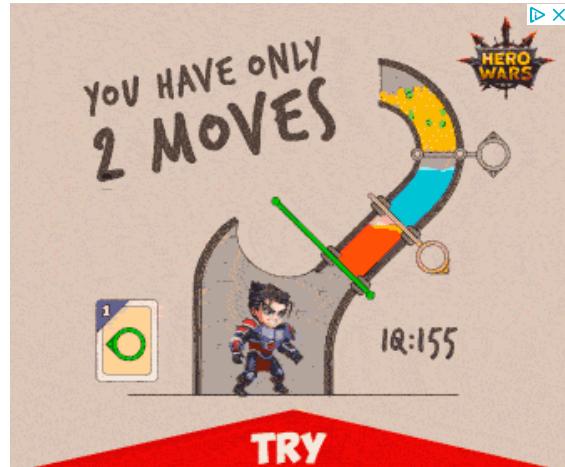
Artificial intelligence is being used by African governments to detect fraud, improve civil registries, and plan infrastructure. ghana and Rwanda are advancing national AI policies rooted in ethics.



Africa's digital future will be shaped by decisions taken today and by partnerships that empower African people and leadership.

What's next

In the coming years, Africa's success in harnessing its **digital future** will depend on strategic investments in infrastructure, education, and supportive policies that promote **domestic resources** and **strategic partnerships**.



Further reading

- Annual Meetings of the African Development bank (<https://am.afdb.org/en>)
- How Shared (<https://www.newamerica.org/planetary-politics/articles/how-shared-digital-infrastructure-can-bridge-the-gap-in-africa/>) Digital Infrastructure (<https://www.newsdirectory3.com/watch-out-for-new-scams-fraudsters-utilizing-faux-claims-and-photographs-of-former-prime-minister-settha-thaweesin/>) Can Bridge the Gap in Africa
- Africa's Digital Opportunity (<https://www.progressivepolicy.org/africas-digital-opportunity/>)
- What's Next for M-PESA (https://newsroom.safaricom.co.ke/innovation/whats-next-for-m-pesa/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
- annual Policy Dialogue on financing for Development held in Nairobi (<https://clubmadrid.org/work/annual-policy-dialogues/2025/>)
- AI Policies in Africa: lessons from Ghana and Rwanda (<https://www.ucd.ie/newsandopinion/news/2025/april/25/opinionaioliciesinafricalessonsfromghanaandrwanda/>)

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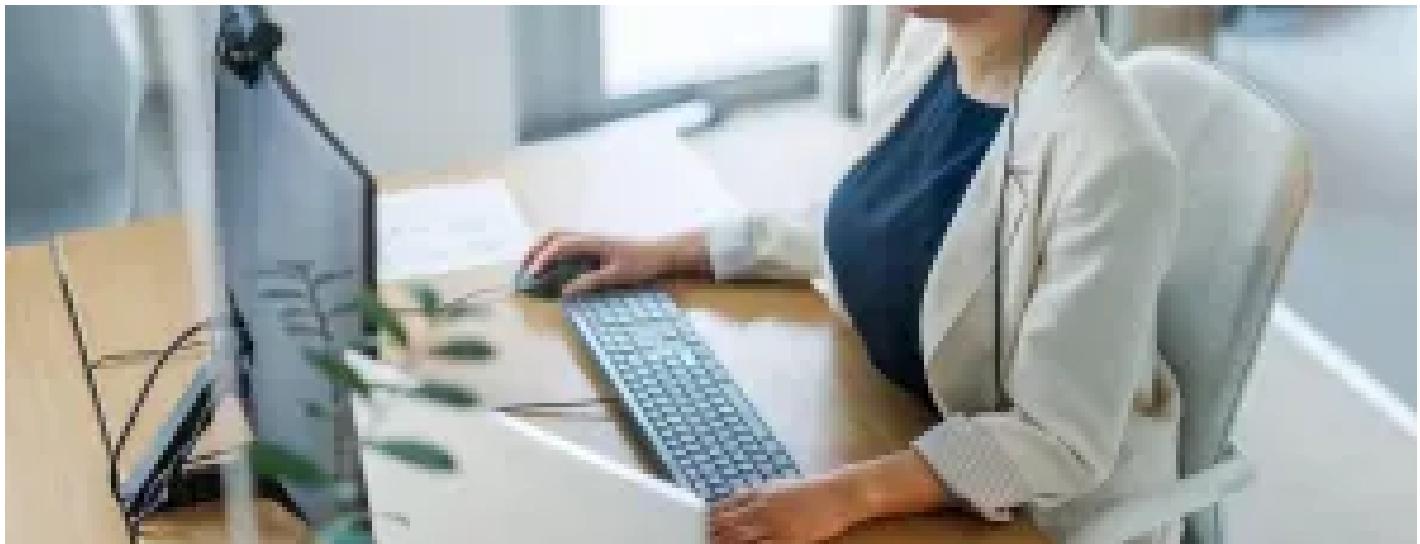
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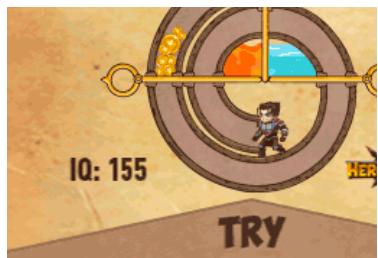
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