

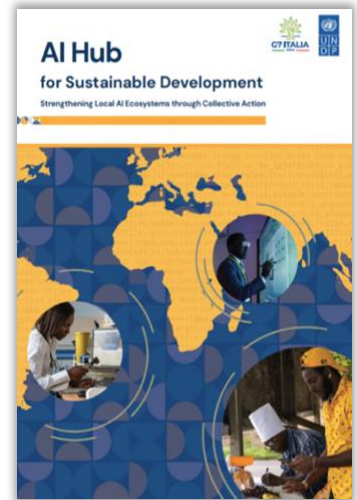
## Context

At a pivotal moment of the Global Digital Compact and the G7 Leaders' Declaration in 2024, the Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy (MiMIT) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) designed the AI Hub for Sustainable Development. This is in alignment with the Italy-Africa Mattei Plan, working with the African Union, governments, the private sector and start-ups, academia and international organizations.

### Co-designing our future means growing together

The G7 Italy Presidency, UNDP, African partners and the private sector launched a series of consultations in countries and 'learning by doing' pilots to co-design the AI Hub. Responses came from over 300 start-ups in Africa that are innovating AI foundations for the Sustainable Development Goals, and over 80 responses for local language digitization from the private sector and African countries.

The vision of the AI Hub for Sustainable Development is rooted in the belief that artificial intelligence can be a transformative tool for development, addressing critical global challenges across sectors such as health, agriculture, water, energy, education, and infrastructure. This document outlines the AI Hub's strategic focus, ensuring alignment across the diverse stakeholder groups.



The AI Hub's first public report  
July 2024

This strategic outline is high level and exists to enable a subsequent **delivery plan for 2025 – 2030**.

## One unified vision

*Why is this critical?*

We will harness private sector innovation to **strengthen AI foundations** in developing African countries, and drive sustainable, **inclusive development** across **six critical sectors**:

Education and Training

Agriculture

Infrastructure

Health

Water

Energy

## Four core pillars

*What will success look like?*

### Data

Making robust and comprehensive datasets available to enable more accurate and representative AI solutions.

#### Strategic Objectives

- Scale efforts to collect, use, share, govern high-quality datasets across six priority sectors
- Catalyze digitisation of Africa's unique diversity of languages.

### Green Computing

Private and public sector partnerships to reduce cost and empower end users with enhanced computing access, minimizing negative environmental and societal impact.

#### Strategic Objectives

- Engage organizations and start-ups to increase access to advanced computing infrastructure for Africa.

### Talent

Capacity building to drive job growth, re-skilling, and AI research, development, and innovation.

#### Strategic Objectives

- Create innovative partnerships to resource talent sustainability and equitably, with focus on women and girls.

### Enabling Environment

Developing local institutional norms, strategies and policies to enable the creation of safe, equitable, and innovative AI products and services.

#### Strategic Objectives

- Catalyze new models for Trust & Safety in AI systems, strengthening responsible AI in local ecosystems.

## Seven guiding principles

*How will we prioritise?*

### Equitable, Safe, and Secure Governance:

We foster public and private sector alignment, collaboration, and transparency on Trust & Safety governance measures to ensure societal safety in the deployment and development of AI.

#### Localized Approach:

We prioritize local needs and respond with context-specific solutions, ensuring AI development aligns with community requirements and cultural nuances.

#### Sustainability Focus:

We align AI initiatives with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, prioritizing projects that have a positive long-term social and environmental impact.

#### Inclusive by Design:

We champion participation of underrepresented groups, including women, in AI development and decision-making processes, promoting diverse perspectives and equitable outcomes.

#### Holistic Development:

We prioritise development and deployment of AI systems that respect human rights, privacy, and cultural diversity, considering the broader societal implications of AI technologies.

#### Long-term Viability:

We create self-sustaining models that can continue to operate and evolve beyond initial funding or support, ensuring lasting impact and growth.

#### Equitable Accessibility and Empowerment:

We champion innovation that reduces barriers to entry and enables equitable growth, focusing on promoting fair participation in the AI ecosystem.

[aihubfordevelopment.org](https://aihubfordevelopment.org)



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