

Nigeria Artificial Intelligence Industry Collective



NIGERIAN AI COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY WEEKLY DIGEST

WEEK ENDING 13 JUNE 2025

Explore the Latest from Our Community: Key Resources, Insights, and Hot Topics in AI

This Week's Highlights:

Nigerian Government and Gates Foundation Partner for AI Scaling Hub

The Nigerian government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation officially launched the Nigeria Artificial Intelligence (AI) Scaling Hub on June 3, 2025. This initiative aims to accelerate the responsible development and deployment of AI-driven solutions across critical sectors such as health, agriculture, and education. The announcement was made during a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between the Federal Ministry of Communications, Innovation & Digital Economy and the Gates Foundation, held in Abuja.

The AI Scaling Hub is a multi-stakeholder initiative designed to coordinate the scaling of mature AI solutions in Nigeria. The Gates Foundation has committed up to \$7.5 million over a three-year period to support the hub's activities. The initiative will bring together government agencies, private sector tech companies, academia, and development partners to support large-scale implementation of AI innovations. It is expected to serve

as a catalyst for Nigerian innovators, providing resources, mentorship, and support necessary to translate ideas into impactful solutions.

Minister of Communications, Innovation & Digital Economy, Dr. Bosun Tijani, emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring that AI-driven solutions are developed responsibly and deployed equitably. He stated that the AI Scaling Hub would strengthen Nigeria's capacity to ensure that AI innovations address key sectors and position the country as a leader in emerging technologies in Africa.

The launch of the AI Scaling Hub marks a significant milestone in Nigeria's digital transformation journey and underscores the growing collaboration between the government and international partners to harness AI for sustainable development.





Further enriching the understanding of scaling innovation in Africa was a panel discussion during the Gates Foundation Goalkeepers Event which held on the 5th of June 2025 featuring Nkem Okocha, Founder of MamaMoni, and Dr. Bayo Adekanmbi, CEO of Data Science Nigeria moderated by Lele Balde.

Nkem Okocha highlighted MamaMoni's journey in providing financial solutions for low-income women. They started with a progressive web app and later adopted an agent banking model using POS terminals. She further explained that trust-building through community engagement, transparency, and empathetic customer service has been crucial to their success.

Dr. Bayo Adekanmbi emphasized the importance of building localized, context-aware AI systems that understand African languages, cultures, and value systems. He shared the success of Equalyz AI, which generates learning content in local languages, and stressed the need for AI solutions to be designed by Africans for Africans. The key lesson was the importance of localization and using available resources ("use what they have to deliver the solution they need"). Dr. Bayo noted that the speech data needed for AI to speak many

Nigerian languages is already being developed by Gates Foundation in Nigeria, highlighting emerging support systems.

Finally, for scaling with integrity and impact, he stressed that "people are not codes, people are not statistics, people are bundles of emotions" and that when building AI for the continent we must put people at the center.

In essence, both the reported AI Scaling Hub initiative and the insights from the panelists underscore the growing momentum for AI development in Africa, emphasizing the need for local context, data, and talent, supported by strategic partnerships and funding, to create solutions that truly serve the continent's diverse population.



Google I/O 2025: Gemini 2.5, Veo 3, and More

Google's annual developer conference, I/O 2025, underscored the company's aggressive push in artificial intelligence with over 100 AI-related announcements. The centerpiece was the Gemini 2.5 model series, which is now leading global benchmarks for web development and learning, and offering enhanced reasoning, coding, and multimodal capabilities. Notable features include native audio output, advanced security, and the experimental "Deep Think" mode for complex tasks. Gemini 2.5 Pro and Flash models are rolling out to developers and

enterprises, with Flash available to all Gemini app users and Pro coming soon to Google AI Studio and Vertex AI. Google also launched Veo 3, its most advanced AI video generator, now available in 71 more countries (excluding the EU for now). Veo 3 can generate highly realistic video clips from text prompts, complete with synchronized lifelike audio, dialogue, and sound effects. The realism of Veo 3's outputs has sparked both excitement and concern among creators, as the line between AI-generated and real video becomes increasingly blurred. Veo 3 is currently

accessible to Ultra subscribers at \$249.99/month, with limited trial packs for Gemini Pro users.

Google has rolled out AI Mode in its search engine, making it available to all US users. This feature allows users to interact with the search engine in a more conversational manner, providing detailed reports and graphical presentations of data. AI Mode is designed to enhance the search experience by providing advanced reasoning and multi-modality capabilities, allowing users to dive deeper into their searches.

Google showcased its Android XR smart glasses, which integrate Gemini AI to provide real-time assistance and enhance user interaction. These glasses are part of Google's broader push into augmented reality and AI-driven hardware.

Project Starline, now rebranded as Google Beam, is an AI-first 3D video communication platform that aims to revolutionize how people connect and collaborate remotely.



Anthropic launches Claude 4

Anthropic has just launched Claude 4, its most powerful AI model yet, setting a new benchmark in artificial intelligence technology. Claude 4 stands out with its unprecedented intelligence, capable of handling complex tasks and generating human-like text with improved contextual understanding. This model also boasts enhanced creativity, acting as a creative partner for content drafting, brainstorming, and problem-solving. Safety is a top priority for Anthropic, with Claude 4 featuring robust safeguards to ensure ethical and responsible AI use. Designed for seamless integration into existing systems, Claude 4 is an invaluable tool for businesses and developers looking to leverage cutting-edge AI. As AI continues to play a crucial role in our daily lives, Claude 4 represents a transformative step forward, inviting developers, business leaders, and AI enthusiasts

to explore its potential. Embrace the future of AI with Anthropic and discover how Claude 4 can elevate your projects and inspire innovation.



Telegram and xAI Forge \$300 Million Grok AI Deal

Telegram and xAI have just announced a groundbreaking partnership with a \$300 million deal centered around Grok AI, marking a significant milestone in the integration of advanced artificial intelligence technologies. This collaboration is set to revolutionize how users interact with AI on the Telegram platform, bringing cutting-edge AI

capabilities directly into one of the world's most popular messaging apps.

The deal involves substantial investment from both parties, aimed at enhancing Grok AI's capabilities and expanding its reach. Grok AI, known for its advanced conversational abilities and deep learning algorithms, will be integrated into Telegram to provide users with an unparalleled experience. This integration promises to offer features such as real-time language translation, intelligent chatbots, and personalized content recommendations, all powered by Grok AI's sophisticated technology.

For Telegram users, this means access to a more intelligent and responsive platform that can understand and anticipate their needs like never before. Whether it's for personal use or business communications, the integration of Grok AI will make interactions smoother, faster, and more intuitive.

This partnership also underscores the growing importance of AI in the tech industry and highlights the commitment of both Telegram and xAI to stay at the forefront of innovation. By combining Telegram's extensive user base with Grok AI's advanced capabilities, this collaboration is poised to set new standards for what a messaging platform can achieve.



Linux Foundation: Open-Source AI Drives Cost Savings and Growth

The Linux Foundation's latest research, supported by Meta, highlights the transformative impact of open-source AI on economic growth and business efficiency. Key findings include:

- » Nearly 9 in 10 organizations using AI leverage open-source technology.
- » Open-source AI reduces business unit costs by over 50% and is 3.5 times cheaper than proprietary alternatives.
- » Open-source models (like Meta's Llama) are widely adopted, especially by small and medium enterprises, enabling innovation and competitiveness.
- » Many organizations expect to increase their use of open-source generative AI tools, with open-source infrastructure comprising about 41% of GenAI codebases.
- » AI adoption is projected to boost the global economy by up to \$15.7 trillion by 2030, with AI skills commanding wage premiums and supporting workforce development.

The Linux Foundation also announced new open-source projects, including BeeAI (for agent-to-agent workflows), Docling (for document intelligence), and Data Prep Kit (for data quality and preparation), further strengthening the open AI ecosystem.

Opportunities and Events

An overview of upcoming events, available funding, proposal invitations, and other timely opportunities shared within the Community.

JournalismAI Academy for Newsrooms in Sub-Saharan Africa

The JournalismAI Academy is a FREE online programme that offers journalists and media professionals a deep dive into the potential of artificial intelligence. It is designed by the JournalismAI team at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and powered by the Google News Initiative.

- » **Eligibility:** Newsrooms and journalists in Sub-Saharan Africa interested in leveraging AI for journalism.
- » **Benefits:** Free academy training, networking, and collaboration opportunities.
- » **How to apply:** See Opportunities for Africans or the JournalismAI Academy website.

Deadline: June 15, 2025

Cooperative AI – Research Grant (2025)

The Cooperative AI Foundation (CAIF) Research Grant that improves the cooperative intelligence of advanced AI for the benefit of humanity, according to their website. This includes funding research projects focused on multi-agent cooperation problems within AI systems. CAIF aims to support research that addresses risks related to multi-agent interactions and enhances human cooperation with advanced AI.

Upcoming Events

1. SuperAI Singapore

Date: June 18–19, 2025

Location: Singapore

SuperAI Singapore is set to be Asia's biggest AI gathering, drawing global tech leaders, investors, and innovators. Expect major announcements on AI's role in business transformation, smart cities, and creative industries. This is the event to watch for global investment trends, partnership opportunities, and insights into the next generation of AI-powered business models.

THE PREMIER AI EVENT IN ASIA
SUPERAI
18–19 JUNE 2025 • SINGAPORE

7,500+ ATTENDEES | 150 SPEAKERS | >70% C-LEVEL



2. AI for Good Global Summit

Date: July 8–11, 2025

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

The UN's flagship summit focuses on harnessing AI for the Sustainable Development Goals. The program features live demos, startup pitches, and high-level policy discussions. Business leaders should look out for actionable ideas on responsible AI, ESG integration, and how global standards are evolving—critical for those shaping strategy or seeking international partnerships.

3. IndabaX Nigeria

Date: July 16–17, 2025

Location: Offa, Kwara State, Nigeria

Nigeria's premier AI event brings together researchers, industry experts, and entrepreneurs. This year's focus is on practical AI applications for economic development and sustainability. It's a prime opportunity for executives to discover local talent, explore industry use cases, and help steer the direction of Nigeria's AI ecosystem.



4. Deep Learning Indaba (DLI)

Date: August 17–22, 2025

Location: Kigali, Rwanda

Africa's largest AI and machine learning conference will gather top minds from across the continent. With workshops on AI for business, finance, and climate, plus keynotes from global leaders, DLI is the go-to event for forging cross-border partnerships and understanding Africa's evolving AI landscape.

Tanzania AI Community

APPLY TO ATTEND
THE DEEP LEARNING INDABA, 2025!



The Deep Learning Indaba is the annual meeting of the African machine learning and AI community. Since 2017, its mission has been to Strengthen African AI, and to ensure that Africans are owners and shapers of the coming advances in AI. As an educational charity, DLI focuses on learning, teaching, research, and the work of peer learning and community building in supporting growth and prosperity.

Application Deadline: 23rd February, 2025 (23:59:59 UTC)

Stay Tuned for an Information Session to Gear up for your Applications

in Tanzania AI Community www.ai.or.tz

1-4 SEPTEMBER 2025



Forging the Rise of Digital Nigeria



SUPPORTING PARTNER
NITDA
National Information Technology Development Agency

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GET IN TOUCH

5. GITEX Nigeria 2025

Date: September 1–4, 2025

Location: Abuja & Lagos, Nigeria

The summit unites policymakers, industry leaders, and tech experts to explore AI's transformative role in public services and digital transformation. With a focus on innovation and investment, the summit is a critical initiative for advancing Africa's digital leadership and aligning with the National Digital Economy Policy to drive sustainable governance solutions for West Africa's future.

Research & Innovation Spotlight

AI Translation: Breaking Down Scientific Barriers in Pidgin

Paper: [How Effective Are AI Models in Translating English Scientific Texts to Pidgin: A Low-Resource Language](#)

Authors: Flora Oladipupo, Anthony Soronnadi, Ife Adebara, & Olubayo Adekanmbi (Data Science Nigeria)

Ever wondered if AI can truly democratize science for all Nigerians? This award-winning research explores how well today's AI models translate complex English scientific texts into Nigerian Pidgin. The team built a new dataset (Eng-PidginBioData) and tested models like Pidgin-UNMT and GPT-4.0.

While Pidgin-UNMT excelled in translating Pidgin to English, all models struggled with technical terms and fluency when translating from English to Pidgin, underlining the need for more domain-specific training and richer datasets.

WAZOBIA-NER: Powering Nigerian Languages with AI

Paper: [Development of a WAZOBIA-Named Entity Recognition System](#)

Authors: S.E. Emedem, I.E. Onyenwe, E.G. Onyedinma

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Thought Leadership



Dr. Bosun Tijani

(Minister of Communications, Innovation & Digital Economy, Nigeria)

Dr. Tijani emphasized the collaborative spirit behind Nigeria's National AI Strategy, stating:

"The National AI Strategy was developed through an open, collaborative process involving government, academia, and industry. It reflects a distinctly Nigerian approach drawing on the expertise of local and diaspora talents to craft a forward-looking, locally relevant, and globally aligned framework for development." (2025)

Read more: [Punch](#) | [TechCabal](#)



Introduction to Our 13-week packed Learning Series

Are you a visionary business leader or a forward-thinking decision-maker ready to steer your organisation into the AI-powered future? Welcome to our exclusive and immersive 13-week learning series, meticulously designed to demystify the world of artificial intelligence and equip you with the knowledge and strategies to drive innovation, efficiency, and growth.

It is a deep dive into the heart of AI innovation. On the learning content, we will explore a comprehensive curriculum that covers the foundational aspects of AI, its role in business growth, efficiency, governance, ethics, and much more. You'll gain invaluable insights and practical strategies to harness the power of AI, transforming your organisation and staying ahead in the competitive landscape.



What You'll Gain:

Strategic Insight: Understand how AI can transform your business operations and strategic decision-making.

Practical Knowledge: Acquire the skills to implement AI solutions that drive efficiency and innovation.

Competitive Edge: Stay ahead of the curve by leveraging the latest AI technologies and trends.

Confidence: Equip yourself with the knowledge to lead your organisation confidently into the future.

Comprehensive Understanding: From AI governance and ethical considerations to its role in sustainability and social good, you'll gain a holistic view of AI's potential and challenges.

Join Us on This Exciting Journey!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to be at the forefront of the AI revolution. Subscribe to our channel and hit the notification bell so you don't miss any updates.

Click the link below to access the complete playlist and embark on your learning journey:

[Nigerian AI Collective Learning Series](#)

Something Big is Coming to the Nigerian AI Collective

The Sectoral Networks by the Nigerian AI Collective is designed to connect experts across critical industries with the country's growing AI community. This initiative aims at bridging the gap between sector experts and tech innovators, this initiative is sparking bold conversations and inspiring practical, AI-powered solutions that can drive real change.

We're bringing together seasoned professionals in health, finance, education, agriculture and more, to share critical insights and for the next generation of AI talent to develop prototypes that tackle Nigeria's most pressing sectoral challenges.

This is more than an event, it is the beginning of a long-term, collaborative approach to driving strategic AI adoption in Nigeria's key sectors.

This June, we'll be hosting a virtual event that kicks off our Sectoral Networks, starting with a deep dive into a key industry that affects millions of Nigerians.

If you're ready to be part of something that blends knowledge, innovation, and impact stay tuned for more details.

The Sectoral Champions are coming.

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