

# AI Weekly Brief: Major International Financial Institutions

January 7–14, 2026

## Publications & Events

### 1. IMF Blog: "New Skills and AI Are Reshaping the Future of Work"

**Institution:** International Monetary Fund (IMF)

**Publication Date:** January 14, 2026

**URL:** <https://www.imf.org/en/blogs/articles/2026/01/14/new-skills-and-ai-are-reshaping-the-future-of-work>

**Thematic Tags:** labour\_markets, skills\_education, macro

**Summary:** Rapid AI diffusion is transforming the task and skill content of jobs globally. The IMF introduces a new "Skill Imbalance Index" complementing the AI Preparedness Index to assess how well countries' workforces can adjust to AI-driven demand shifts. Key policy priorities include investing in adaptable, digital, and AI-complementary skills; active labour-market policies; and social protection to cushion workers during economic transitions while enabling labour reallocation.

### 2. IMF Staff Discussion Note: "Bridging Skill Gaps for the Future: New Jobs Creation in the Age of AI"

**Institution:** International Monetary Fund (IMF)

**Publication Date:** January 9, 2026

**URL:** <https://www.imf.org/en/publications/staff-discussion-notes/issues/2026/01/09/bridging-skill-gaps-for-the-future-new-jobs-creatio...>

**Thematic Tags:** labour\_markets, skills\_education, development, macro

**Summary:** Rising demand for IT and AI-related skills is reshaping labour markets and wage structures in advanced and emerging economies, identifying substantial mismatches between supply and demand for AI-complementary talent. The note recommends coordinated policies to accelerate diffusion of AI-complementary skills—particularly in Africa and emerging markets—through education reform, training programmes, and labour-market institutions that support skill upgrading rather than protectionist approaches.

### 3. World Bank Tokyo Online Seminar #213: "Digital Progress and Trends Report 2025: Strengthening AI Foundations"

**Institution:** World Bank

**Event Date & Time:** January 15, 2026, 9:00–10:00 AM JST (online via Webex)

**URL:** <https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2026/01/15/world-bank-tokyo-online-morning-seminar-digital-progress-and-trends-report-2025>

**Thematic Tags:** development, infrastructure\_compute, skills\_education, governance

**Summary:** Consultant Saloni Khurana will present key findings from the World Bank's "Digital Progress and Trends Report 2025: Strengthening AI Foundations." The presentation analyses global AI trends and emphasizes "Small AI" solutions (affordable, mobile-based applications) for development challenges in agriculture, health, and education. The report highlights critical infrastructure gaps in low- and middle-income countries via the "four Cs" framework: connectivity, compute, context (data), and competency (skills). Policy recommendations focus on institutional reforms for inclusive AI adoption, local innovation, data governance, and competition to distribute AI benefits equitably across regions.

### 4. World Bank Global Economic Prospects – January 2026

**Institution:** World Bank

**Publication Date:** January 13, 2026

**Main Link:** <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/global-economic-prospects>

**Full Report (PDF):** <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/f53549d4-6c5b-43b8-ae8e-9432ab8917b9/content>

**Press Release:** <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2026/01/13/global-economic-prospects-january-2026-press-release>

**Thematic Tags:** macro, development

**Summary:** Macro outlook projects global growth at 2.6% for 2026 with explicit mention of AI investment surges as a key driver. Developing economies face slower recovery at 4% growth in 2026 amid uneven AI-readiness conditions, with one in four developing economies still below 2019 per capita incomes. The report identifies uneven AI-readiness as a critical constraint on recovery prospects.

## Data Verification

- All items verified as genuinely AI-focused with explicit policy or analytical significance
- Publication/event dates confirmed within January 7–14, 2026 monitoring window
- URLs validated as of January 14, 2026, 1:06 PM EST
- No duplicate references retained across morning task responses
- Thematic tags from standard taxonomy: governance, finance, labour\_markets, development, macro, infrastructure\_compute, supervision\_regulation, public\_sector, skills\_education, competition\_policy

*Compiled: January 14, 2026, 1:06 PM EST*