African Union Continental AI Strategy

AU-AI-STRATEGY-2024 · African_Union · policy statement

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Generated 2026-11-19T01:06:37 UTC

Summary

Continental-level non-binding strategy for 55 AU member states. Frames AI through development-rights / digital-sovereignty / capacity-building lens. Explicitly references unequal compute access + dataset coloniality as governance concerns absent from OECD-bloc instruments. Operationalisation via national strategies (e.g., Egypt 2030, Kenya AI Roadmap, South Africa NAIPF). Currency (2026-06-21): implementation began under a five-year plan (Phase 1 2025-2026: governance structures, national strategies, resource mobilisation; review 2027; Phase 2 from 2028), and a May 2025 AU High-Level Policy Dialogue in Addis Ababa (40+ states) issued a Communique declaring AI a strategic priority, with the next edition at the February 2026 AU Summit.

At a glance

Adopted

2024-07-19

Effective

2024-07-19

Status

in force

Primary source

AU Continental AI Strategy (Executive Council 45th Ordinary Session)

How to cite this article

APA

Policy Window. (2024). African Union Continental AI Strategy [Wiki article — Instrument]. https://policywindow.org/wiki/au-continental-ai-strategy

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BIBTEX

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@misc{policywindow-au-continental-ai-strategy,
title  = {African Union Continental AI Strategy},
author = {Policy Window},
year   = {2024},
```

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howpublished = {AU Continental AI Strategy (Executive Council 45th Ordinary Session)},
url    = {https://policywindow.org/wiki/au-continental-ai-strategy},
note   = {Primary source: https://au.int/en/documents/20240809/continental-artificial-intelligence-strategy}
}
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