



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/DIR/AFR/DM/017

Geneva, 27 May 2026

To:  
Administrations of ITU Member States in Africa  
region

**Subject: Invitation to Participate in the AI Capacity-Building Needs Assessment for Africa**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly becoming a key driver of Africa's digital transformation, supporting economic competitiveness, improved governance, innovation, and progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063. To guide this transformative shift, Africa now benefits from a set of complementary references: the [African Union's Continental AI Strategy \(2024\)](#), the [World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 \(WTDC-25\) Baku Action Plan](#), the new WTDC Resolution 91 (Baku, 2025) 'Artificial intelligence technologies in telecommunication development', and the five [Africa Regional Initiatives \(AFR1–AFR5\)](#). Together, these instruments outline a shared ambition to develop an inclusive, trustworthy, ethical, and context appropriate AI ecosystem for the continent.

Unlocking the full societal benefits of artificial intelligence requires a strong foundation of capacity building, underpinned by the adoption and harmonization of globally recognized standards.

In this context, ITU is conducting a comprehensive AI Capacity-Building Needs Assessment, in the form of a questionnaire, across all African Member States. The objective is to identify national priorities, capacity gaps, and readiness levels for AI deployment, particularly in standards, governance, digital skills, and infrastructure.

The questionnaire will be made available through an online form available [here](#) for ease of submission and data analysis. We kindly request your Administration to designate the most relevant national entity or focal point to complete the questionnaire by **26 June 2026**.

Your country's contribution is essential to ensure that the forthcoming regional programme is tailored to national realities and aligned with continental priorities.

Should you require any further information, please contact the ITU Regional Office for Africa at: [itu-ro-africa@itu.int](mailto:itu-ro-africa@itu.int).

Yours faithfully,

*(signed)*

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava  
Director