IAI PAPERS 25 | 17 - JULY 2025

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ISSN 2610-9603 | ISBN 978-88-9368-370-8

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Italy-Africa Digital Partnership under the Mattei Plan

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

ABSTRACT

By 2050, Africa's population is expected to reach approximately 2.5 billion. By the end of the 21st century, the continent will account for 40.6 per cent of the world's working age population, underscoring an urgent need to create at least twenty million new jobs annually. These demographic shifts present both opportunities and challenges for Italy-Africa cooperation under the Mattei Plan, particularly in the digital sector, as the technological and digital transformation has the potential to drive innovation, spur economic growth, empower rural communities, foster continental integration and accelerate progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the same time, Africa's digital transformation has sparked concern over asymmetric power structures. With majority of digital infrastructure, platforms and services originating either in China, Europe or north America, questions around technological dependency, lack of transparency, data sovereignty and the risks of perpetuating "digital colonialism" have come to the fore. By enhancing digital governance frameworks and investing in targeted capacity-building initiatives, the Italy-Africa digital partnership under Mattei Plan can serve as a catalyst for strengthening African agency.

keywords

Africa | Digital policy | Foreign investments | Italian foreign policy

Italy-Africa Digital Partnership under the Mattei Plan

by Darlington Tshuma and Marianna Lunardini*

Introduction

Africa's digital landscape is undergoing rapid transformation driven by a surge in venture capital financing, entrepreneurial activity and widespread adoption of digital tools and technologies. According to a 2020 report by the International Finance Corporation, Africa's digital economy could grow to 712 billion dollars by 2050 from 180 billion dollars today.[1] To date, over forty African countries have established digital policy frameworks and strategies, demonstrating continental commitment to leverage digital innovation for sustainable development and socioeconomic transformation.[2] However, regulatory and governance frameworks remain weak and under resourced. Additional challenges include Africa's growing infrastructure gaps, limited digital skills, financing and a fragmented digital landscape increasingly driven by geopolitics and geoeconomic competition.

Italian businesses, technology firms, academic and research institutions and civil society are well-positioned to forge strategic partnerships with the European Union and African countries to address structural constraints, close critical infrastructure gaps and mobilise additional investment finance. Through coordinated efforts that leverage both public and private capital, such collaborations can help drive inclusive growth and foster shared prosperity, a key objective of Prime Minister

[1] Google and International Finance Corporation (IFC), *e-Conomy Africa 2020. Africa's $180 Billion Internet Economy Future*, 10 November 2020, p. 17, https://www.ifc.org/en/insights-reports/2020/google-e-conomy.

[2] Darlington Tshuma, "Digital Transformation: Aligning Italy's Piano Mattei with African Development Priorities", in *IAI Papers*, No. 25|07 (June 2025), https://www.iai.it/en/node/20196.

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· Paper produced in the framework of the project "Development and Digitalisation in Africa: Italy's Cooperation Policy and Synergy with EU Plans". This project has benefited from the financial support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Mercator Stiftung, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo and Fondazione Centro Studi sul Federalismo. Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors only.

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Giorgia Meloni's flagship initiative for Africa, the Mattei Plan.[3] Italy's Digital Flagship Initiative developed in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and four African countries – Ghana, Mozambique, Ivory Coast and Senegal – exemplifies the kind of strategic and forward-looking partnerships needed to transform Africa's digital sector.[4]

Through its Mattei Plan – named after Enrico Mattei, the founder of Italy's energy giant Eni, which in the 1950s and 1960s pursued a policy of more equal cooperation and revenue-sharing with the countries in which it operated – Rome can support African countries to meet their energy access and climate goals by investing in both hard infrastructure, know-how and best practices, fostering diplomatic engagement.[5] By leveraging its leadership in international fora and mobilising EU member states through instruments like the Global Gateway,[6] Italy can play a catalytic role in accelerating Africa's renewable energy transition. At the same time, targeted investments in digital infrastructure, particularly in sustainable data centres can foster a new growth industry, enhance digital resilience and create cross-cutting benefits for climate-smart innovation and economic transformation.

1. Building Africa's next frontier: Unlocking infrastructure investment through digital public infrastructure

A landmark report by the United Nations Trade and Development Agency (UNCTAD) estimates that African countries lose more than 89 billion dollars annually to illicit financial flows (IFFs).[7] These losses undermine domestic development financing and by extension continental developmental aspirations that find expression through Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063, the flagship development initiatives by the United Nations and African Union (AU), respectively. UNCTAD estimates that countries with high IIFs spend less on social protection, including health

[3] The Mattei Plan is an Italian national initiative to support Africa's development and reshape the country's relationship with Africa. Presented in 2023, it has counted on an initial endowment of more than 5.5 billion euros between credits, grants operations and guarantees. See Italian Chamber of Deputies-Research Department, "D.L. 161/2023 - Disposizioni urgenti per il «Piano Mattei» per lo sviluppo in Stati del Continente africano", in *Provvedimenti*, 10 January 2024, https://temi.camera.it/leg19/provvedimento/disposizioni-urgenti-per-il-piano-mattei-per-lo-sviluppo-in-stati-del-continente-africano.html.

[4] See UNDP, *Launch of Italy's Digital Flagship with Africa Initiative Aims to Close Africa's Sustainable Financing Gap*, 14 November 2024, https://www.undp.org/node/493966.

[5] Italian Chamber of Deputies-Research Department, "D.L. 161/2023", cit.

[6] The Global Gateway is an EU strategy launched in 2021 with the aim to mobilise up to 300 billion euros in investments to develop sustainable infrastructure projects in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean regions. European Commission, *The Global Gateway* (JOIN/2021/30), 1 December 2021, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=celex:52021JC0030.

[7] UNCTAD, *Economic Development in Africa Report 2020. Tackling Illicit Financial Flows for Sustainable Development in Africa*, September 2020, https://unctad.org/publication/economic-development-africa-report-2020.

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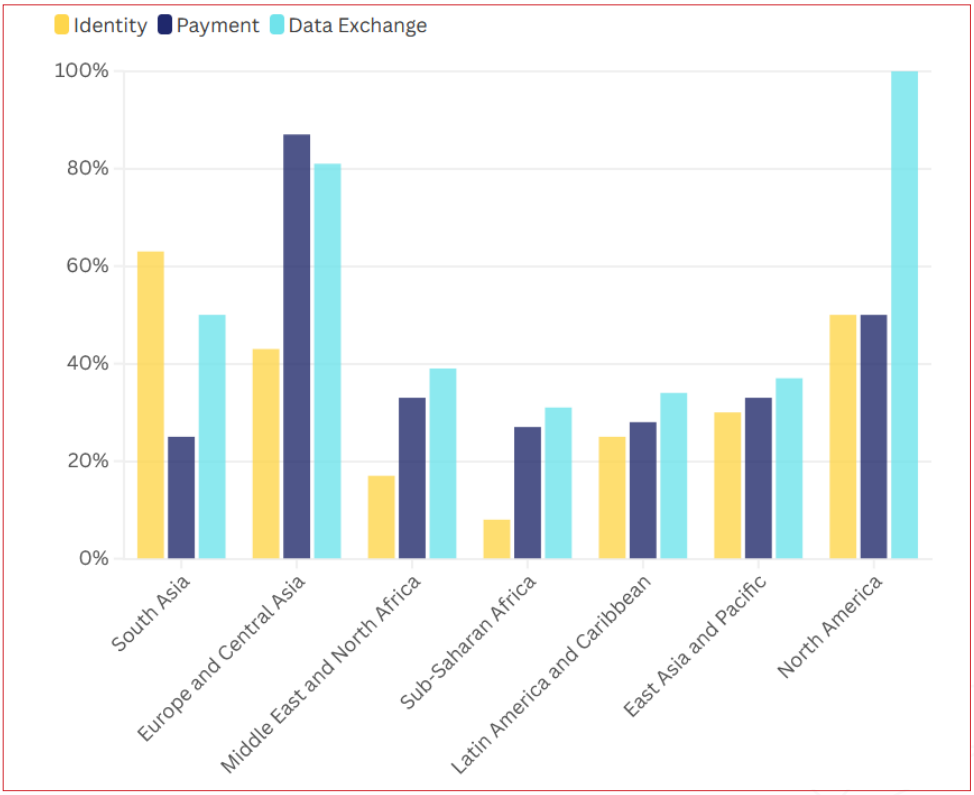
and education, than those with low IFFs.[8] In the current context characterised by declining traditional donor funding, mounting fiscal pressures and escalating debt burdens, digital innovation can help African countries generate, mobilise and allocate resources more efficiently and effectively. Strengthening Africa's digital public infrastructure is critical to curbing IFFs and mobilising additional resources needed to bridge Africa's financing and development gaps.

Figure 1 | Prevalence of systems meeting DPI criteria[9] across global regions



Source: Cathal Long and Antoine Lacroix, "What Do We Know about Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in Africa?", cit.

Several African countries have deployed digital public infrastructure (DPI) systems including digital ID systems, digital payments solutions and modernised tax systems. In fact, 85 per cent of African countries now have ID systems with digital capabilities, and over 70 per cent collect biometric data for authentication. Countries like Ghana, Kenya and Lesotho report optimal levels of adoption (around 90 per cent), while others such as Togo (40 per cent), Liberia (30 per cent) and

[8] UNCTAD and UN Economic Commission for Africa, *Report on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa*, November 2022, p. 18, https://unctad.org/system/files/non-official-document/IFFsAfrica_FinalReport_20221121.pdf.

[9] To see the criteria for a system to qualify as a DPI, according to the UCL analysis, please refer to Cathal Long and Antoine Lacroix, "What Do We Know about Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in Africa?", in *ODI Expert Comments*, 18 November 2024, https://odi.org/en/insights/what-do-we-know-about-digital-public-infrastructure-dpi-in-africa.

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South Sudan (13 per cent) lag far behind.[10] These variations present opportunities for Italian businesses, technology firms and companies to support development and deployment of DPI in countries where demand is strong and capacity weak. Half a billion people on the African continent still lack a foundational ID.[11]

DPI can also support efforts to mobilise additional resources needed to bridge Africa's financing and development gaps, estimated at 194 billion dollars per year until 2030.[12] Currently, on average African countries have the lowest tax-to-GDP ratio in the world at 16 per cent compared to 19.3 per cent in Asia and the Pacific, 21.5 per cent in Latin America and the Caribbean and 34 per cent in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries[13] (see Figure 2).

Figure 2 | Global tax-to-GDP ratios for 2012 and 2022

Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation, *Financing the Africa We Want*, cit., p 29.

[10] Sanyia Ansar and Julia Clark, "The Importance of ID Access in Three Charts: Insights from Sub-Saharan Africa", in *Digital Transformation World Bank Blog*, 9 September 2024, https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/digital-development/the-importance-of-id-access-in-three-charts--insights-from-sub-s.

[11] Diana Sang, Jane Munga and Nanijira Sanduli, "Digital Public Infrastructure: A Practical Approach for Africa", in *Carnegie Papers*, February 2025, https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2025/02/digital-public-infrastructure-a-practical-approach-for-africa.

[12] Mo Ibrahim Foundation, *Financing the Africa We Want: Facts & Figures*, May 2025, p. 17, https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2025-05/2025-forum-facts-figures.pdf.

[13] OECD, *African Union Commission and African Tax Administration Forum, Revenue Statistics in Africa 2024. Facilitation and Trust as Drivers of Voluntary Tax Compliance in Selected African Tax Administrations*, Paris, OECD Publishing, December 2024, p. 10, https://doi.org/10.1787/78e9af3a-en.

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By strengthening national systems and deploying digital public infrastructure, African countries can improve revenue collection from the current 16 per cent of GDP to sustainable levels, enabling investment in critical digital infrastructure like energy and water systems, fibre cable networks, data centres, skills training, research and development. Furthermore, robust DPI systems with strong regulatory and monitoring systems can serve as effective de-risking mechanisms to enhance fiscal transparency and accountability. This will mitigate perceived risk by creditors and improve confidence in Africa's governance systems. Currently, approximately 46 billion dollars in potential revenue in Africa remains uncollected due to redundant tax incentives and poor governance.[14]

Within the framework of the Italy-Africa Digital Partnership, Italian businesses, financial institutions and technology firms can play a catalysing role in supporting African countries to develop inclusive and efficient digital public infrastructure ecosystems. By deploying cutting-edge digital solutions, development partners can help modernise tax and revenue collection systems, enable real-time tracking of financial flows and significantly reduce inefficiencies in public resource management. For instance, estimates show that countries like Benin and Senegal could achieve universal primary school meal coverage with an investment equivalent to just 0.3-0.5 per cent of GDP.[15] For Benin, allocating an additional 0.2 per cent of GDP to school feeding programmes would more than double its current coverage. These examples highlight the transformative potential of digital innovation when combined with resource enhancing reforms that integrate domestic resource mobilisation with digital public infrastructure.

At a high-level Summit in Rome on "The Mattei Plan for Africa and Global Gateway", European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen underscored a strategic link between Africa's digital transformation and global demand for critical raw materials.[16] Digitalisation is a key enabler of development and transformation of the continent's extractive sector which is essential to global green transition, the artificial intelligence (AI) revolution and the production of high-tech commodities including mobile phones, electric vehicles (EVs), semiconductors and military-grade technologies. Projections indicate that by 2029 Africa could account for up to 9 per cent of the global supply for rare earths, with at least twelve African countries holding 5 per cent or more of global critical mineral reserves.[17] For instance, South Africa holds the largest palladium reserves globally (77.8 per cent) and currently meets 36 per cent of global supply.[18] Strengthening digital

[14] UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA), *Unpacking Africa's Debt. Towards a Lasting and Durable Solution*, November 2024, https://www.un.org/osaa/node/1658.

[15] Kevin Watkins et al., "Seven Country Case Studies on School Meals Financing", in *Sustainable Financing Initiative Policy Briefs*, 2022.

[16] European Commission, *Speech by President von der Leyen at the Summit "The Mattei Plan for Africa and Global Gateway: A Common Effort with the African Continent"*, Rome, 20 June 2025, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_25_1579.

[17] Mo Ibrahim Foundation, *Financing the Africa We Want*, cit., p. 54.

[18] Ibid.

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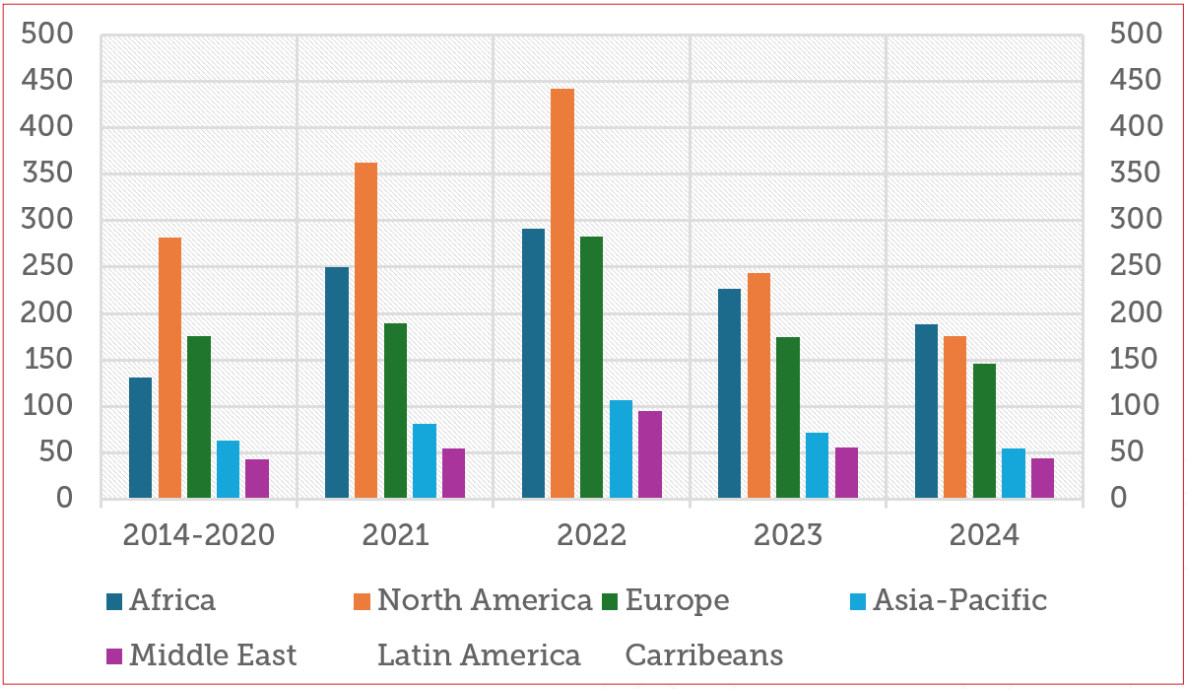
governance, infrastructure and innovation capacity is therefore not only central to Africa's economic development, but also to ensuring secure, transparent and sustainable global supply chains.

2. Bridging capital market gaps: Strengthening local investment ecosystems for inclusive growth

Another frequently overlooked dimension is the structure of financing within Africa's digital ecosystems. Although 2024 marked the first notable uptick in venture capital contributions from African-based investors, the overall landscape remains heavily dominated by foreign capital (see Figure 3).

Figure 3 | Investors participating in venture capital in Africa, 2014-2024 (million dollars)



Source: AVCA, *Venture Capital in Africa Report*, cit., p. 43.

According to the African Private Equity and Venture Capital Association, investors headquartered in North America accounted for over 42 per cent of all venture capital deals in Africa between 2019 and 2024,[19] with African-based investors contributing only 20 per cent of total venture funding[20] (see Figure 4). This financing imbalance reinforces disparities in access to capital which compels

[19] African Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (AVCA), *Venture Capital in Africa Report*, March 2025, p. 43, https://www.avca.africa/data-intelligence/research-publications/2024-venture-capital-in-africa-report.
[20] Ibid.

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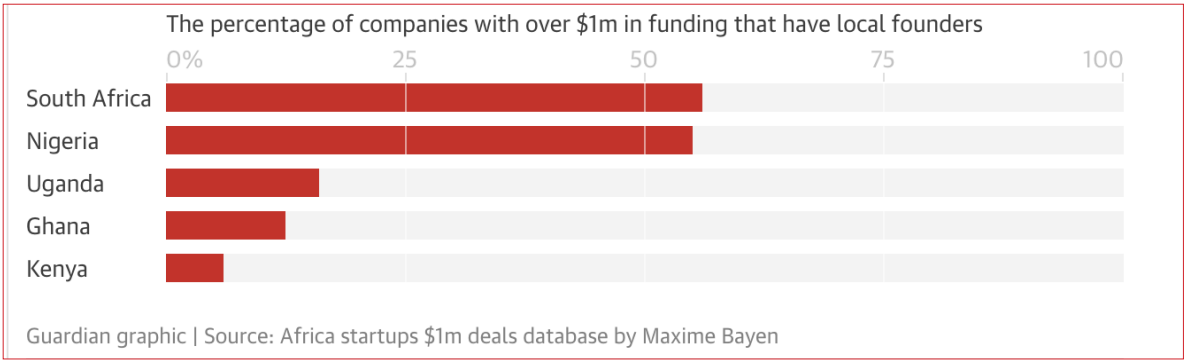
African tech entrepreneurs in underdeveloped financial markets to rely heavily on external – primarily Western – capital. Notably, in 2024, eight of the ten African-based start-ups that secured the highest levels of venture funding were led by non-Africans.[21] According to a 2017 study by Village Capital, in East Africa only 10 per cent of all funding for start-ups went to local founders.[22] These cases underscore enduring challenges to technological sovereignty, limited local ownership and restricted access to financing within Africa's digital and tech ecosystem.

Figure 4 | Expat founders receive more funding than locals



Source: Larry Madowo, "Silicon Valley Has Deep Pockets for African Startups – If You're Not African", in *The Guardian*, 17 July 2020, https://www.theguardian.com/p/eamcf.

As shown in Figure 4, countries with relatively well-developed domestic capital markets, advanced financial systems and well-established venture capital networks like South Africa can tap into their domestic markets to support local entrepreneurs before seeking out international capital. Similarly, by virtue of Nigeria's market size (largest population on the continent) combined with a growing digital consumer base that creates strong incentives for local tech-solutions, Nigerian local entrepreneurs can scale domestically before tapping into external markets. On the other hand, weak and undeveloped domestic capital markets skew funding towards expat-led ventures which are perceived as lower risk by global investors in Kenya, Ghana and Uganda, even though these countries have all vibrant innovation and tech ecosystems.

The challenge for the Italy-Africa digital partnership is to reverse this negative trend in countries with underdeveloped financial markets like Ghana, Kenya and Uganda. This can be achieved by facilitating regulatory reform and capacity building for local financial institutions to encourage venture capital activity and private equity in Africa's technology and digital sector. Additionally, creating dedicated financing facilities to provide equity and concessionary debt to start-ups led by African founders and entrepreneurs in undercapitalised markets could help empower them.

[21] Ibid.

[22] Village Capital, *Why Do Investors Continue to Shortchange Entrepreneurs in Emerging Markets?*, 12 May 2017, https://medium.com/village-capital/f57a8bf4a7d8.

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ISSN 2610-9603 | ISBN 978-88-9368-370-8
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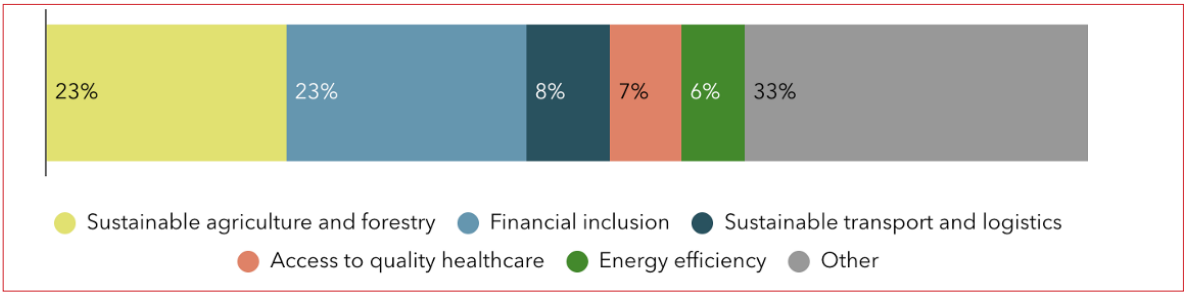
Figure 5 | Venture capital deals by sector



Source: Charles Avery, "Data Snapshot: Impact Investors' Growing Presence in African VC", in *New Private Markets*, 14 April 2025, https://www.newprivatemarkets.com/?p=170404.

As illustrated in Figure 5, nearly 50 per cent of all venture capital deals in Africa are concentrated in two sectors: sustainable agriculture and forestry, and financial inclusion. These are followed by transport and logistics (8 per cent), health (7 per cent) and energy (6 per cent). The sectoral concentration closely mirrors the "six thematic pillars" of the Mattei Plan,[23] presenting a strategic opportunity to forge synergistic partnerships that align with and amplify existing EU and Italian development initiatives.

3. Plugging Africa's digital infrastructure and skills gaps

Africa's digital transformation is hindered by significant obstacles, particularly widening infrastructure gaps, regulatory and data governance concerns, limited digital skills and skewed venture capital financing. With Africa's population expected to reach approximately 2.5 billion by 2050,[24] population growth will likely outstrip investment in critical digital infrastructure like grid and fibre optic connections, water systems and data centres.

Currently, according to the Africa Data Centres Association (ADCA), African countries represent 2 per cent of the world's data centres and infrastructure footprint.[25] Despite being home to over a billion people, Africa has only 183 data centres spread across 33 countries. By comparison, Canada and Japan each have over 180, while the United States hosts more than 3,600.[26] ADCA estimates that the continent will require an additional 1,200 MW in data centre capacity by 2030

[23] The six pillars of the Mattei Plan are: education/training, healthcare, water, agriculture, energy and infrastructure (both physical and digital). See Italian Government, *The Six Pillars of the 'Mattei Plan'*, 15 March 2024, https://www.governo.it/sites/governo.it/files/Italia-Africa_MatteiPlan_6pillars.pdf.

[24] Mo Ibrahim Foundation, *Financing the Africa We Want*, cit.

[25] Africa Data Centres Association, *How Africa Can Leapfrog the World in Sustainable Digital Infrastructure Development*, 17 July 2024, https://africadca.org/?p=4253.

[26] Data Center Map website: *Data Centers*, https://www.datacentermap.com/datacenters.

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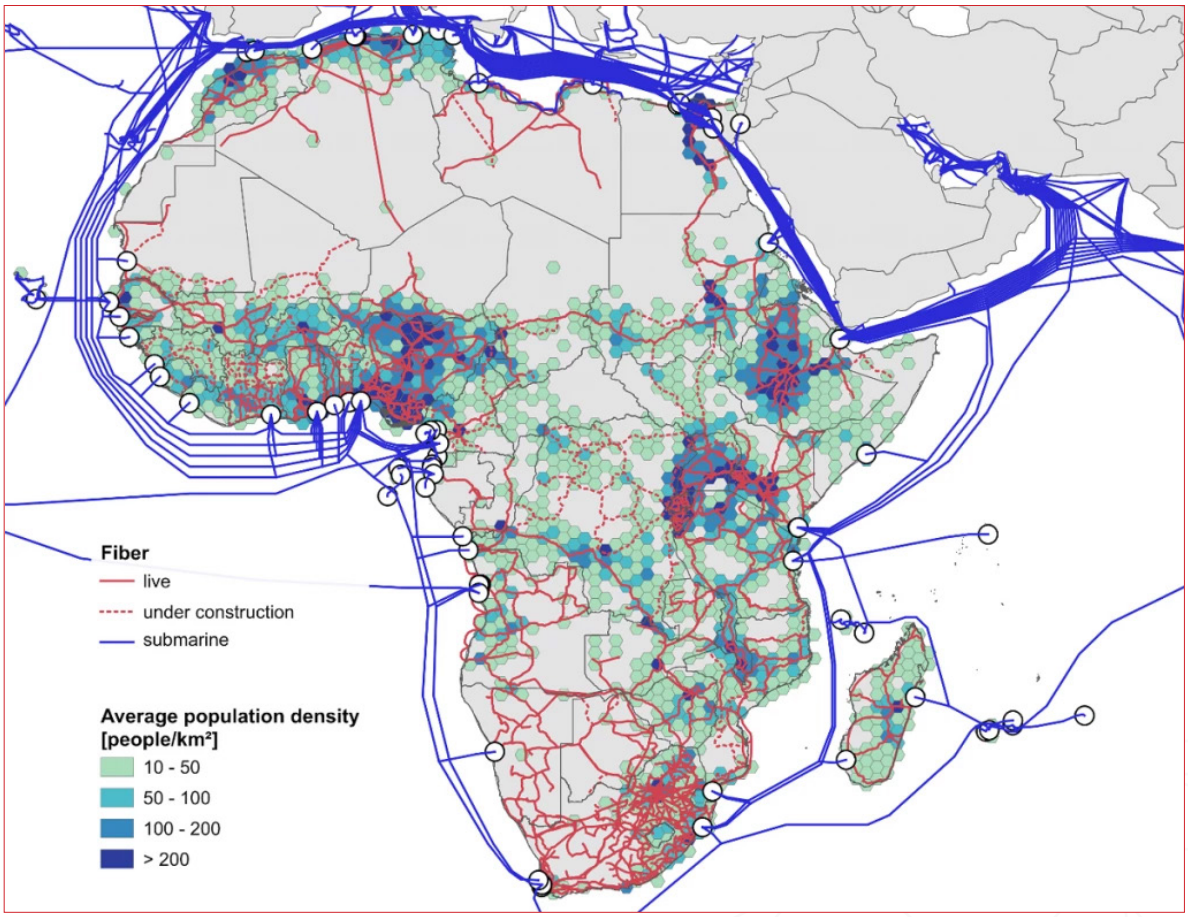
to meet surging demand for digital technologies and services.[27] Among the four countries participating in the Digital Flagship Initiative, Ghana stands out with the highest concentration of data centres, positioning it as a potential digital hub in West Africa. Despite this promising scenario, even Ghana faces significant challenges, including risks of downtime and rising electricity and water costs.[28]

Figure 6 | Fibre infrastructure per population density in Africa



Source: Roku Fukui et al. "Africa's Connectivity Gap: Can a Map Tell the Story?", in *Digital Transformation World Bank Blog*, 7 November 2019, https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/digital-development/africas-connectivity-gap-can-map-tell-story.

Access to secure and broad Internet connection is another problem. More than three hundred million Africans currently live at least fifty kilometres from a cable or fibre broadband connection[29] (see Figure 6). The International Finance Corporation

[27] Africa Data Centres Association, *How Africa Can Leapfrog the World*, cit.

[28] "Ghana's Digital Infrastructure Companies Groan under Fuel, Power Costs", in *Hyperscalers News*, 4 October 2024, https://africa.hyperscalers.news/?p=6925.

[29] AU-EU Digital Economy Task Force, *New Africa-Europe Digital Economy Partnership. Accelerating the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals*, June 2019, https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/node/1744.

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estimates that Africa needs about half a million kilometres of fibre-optic cable construction to provide continent-wide coverage to its 1.2 billion citizens.[30]

In some countries, investments in energy and water infrastructure have not kept pace with population growth. Six hundred million Africans, nearly half the continent's population, lacks access to reliable and affordable energy solutions.[31] These challenges underscore the continent's widening investment and infrastructure gaps. Large scale investments in clean energy solutions including solar, wind, hydro and geothermal power are needed to make data centres a sustainable growth industry. Ethiopia, for example, is capitalising on its green energy mix to become a renewable energy hub in East Africa. The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), the Koysha Hydropower Dam and the Aysha Wind Farm constitute flagship energy infrastructure projects initiated by the government to advance the objectives of its Energy Development Plan (EDP).[32]

Africa's digital skills sector is ripe for private sector investment and participation. By 2100, Africa will account for 40.6 per cent of the global working age population.[33] Conservative estimates are that around the same time, Africa will have added eight hundred million young people to its labour market, requiring at least twenty million new jobs annually.[34]

Africa's nascent digital sector has the potential to drive innovation, spur economic growth, empower rural communities and create new jobs. Through tailored training programmes and capacity building initiatives, Africa's digital sector and its value chains can create economic and livelihood opportunities for millions, particularly in the agriculture, creatives and renewable energy sectors which combined have the largest absorption capacity alongside the potential to create over three million new jobs annually.

However, structural challenges that include high data and mobile device costs, poor infrastructure, limited digital skills as well weak regulatory and outdated policy frameworks hinder the sector's viability and full potential. For instance, in sub-Saharan Africa, where internet penetration is the lowest globally, the cost of a smartphone exceeds 40 per cent of the average monthly income and data prices remain nearly three times the global average.[35] In Nigeria, a 2020 amendment

[30] International Finance Corporation (IFC), *Fiber-Optic Cables Connect Africa to the Digital Economy*, 27 August 2019, https://www.ifc.org/en/stories/2010/fiber-optic-cables-connect-africa-to-digital-economy.

[31] International Energy Agency (IEA), *Africa Energy Outlook 2022*, June 2022, https://www.iea.org/reports/africa-energy-outlook-2022.

[32] Darlington Tshuma, "'Energising Africa': Italy vis-a-vis Ethiopia's Renewable Energy Development", in *IAI Commentaries*, No. 24|34 (June 2024), https://www.iai.it/en/node/18665.

[33] Mo Ibrahim Foundation, *Financing the Africa We Want*, cit.

[34] David McNair (ed.), *Why Europe Needs Africa*, Washington, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, July 2024, https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2024/07/why-europe-needs-africa.

[35] Darlington Tshuma, "Digital Transformation", cit.

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to the National Broadcasting Code introduced several restrictive provisions that disproportionately impacted digital service providers, content creators and platforms. Critics note that these changes continue to impede innovation, deter investment and weaken the country's competitive edge.[36]

Africa's Millennials and Gen Z represent the continent's most digitally educated and entrepreneurially driven demographic in decades. However, despite this strong foundation, Africa's digital landscape remains deeply fragmented and characterised by access disparities linked to geography, gender, income, ethnicity and education. Similarly, without proper regulatory frameworks and awareness, disruptive and emerging technologies like AI can have negative consequences including on labour participation and workplace rights.[37]

Italian businesses and technology firms have experience in creating secure digital ID systems.[38] Rome can leverage this experience to support development of robust regional digital regulatory frameworks and deployment of DPI in support of Africa-led initiatives like intra-African digital trade and integration. In addition, to ensure that Africa's digital transformation is both inclusive and human-centred, targeted interventions are needed to reach historically excluded populations – particularly rural communities, women, minorities and marginalised groups. This includes equipping them with future-work-ready skills in data literacy and analytics, AI ethics, responsible AI deployment and the use of generative AI for learning, innovation and problem-solving. Supporting this process in Africa with digital cooperation will unlock a broader base of talent, foster inclusive growth and attract domestic capital to support a burgeoning cohort of tech innovators and creatives.

Structured programmes between Italian and African tertiary institutions such as joint research initiatives, virtual fellowships and peer-to-peer mentoring between tech entrepreneurs and creatives can serve as powerful vehicles for fostering intercontinental collaboration. These platforms can accelerate the transfer of critical skills in emerging fields such as AI, data science, digital design and ethical innovation, while also strengthening innovation ecosystems across both regions.

[36] Vincent Obia, "Regulatory Annexation: Extending Broadcast Media Regulation to Social Media and Internet Content", in *Communication Law and Policy*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (2023), p. 99-123, https://doi.org/10.1080/10811680.2023.2206382.

[37] Jacki O'Neill et al., *AI and the Future of Work in Africa. White Paper*, AUDA-NEPAD, June 2024, p. 32, https://www.nepad.org/node/17740.

[38] Marianna Lunardini, "Digital Transformation in Africa: The Role of International Cooperation and the Mattei Plan", in *IAI Papers*, 2025 (forthcoming).

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Policy recommendations

Several priority action areas are critical to advancing an inclusive and mutually beneficial Italy-Africa digital partnership:

- Support a #TeamEurope approach in cooperating with African stakeholders, by deepening dialogue and collaboration among EU partners and strengthening the role of platforms such as the EU D4D Hub[39] and strengthening synergetic partnerships between the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) with D4D Hub activities.

- Prioritise the development of regional digital policy frameworks to compliment national-level approaches. Regional frameworks promote market aggregation, creating larger, integrated markets that attract Italian and European private sector investment. This aligns with Africa Continental Free Trade Area goals of continental integration and enables cross-border infrastructure and regulatory harmonisation.

- Reverse disparities in access to capital, consider creation of a dedicated Italy-Africa Innovation Fund within the Italy-Africa Digital Partnership to provide equity and concessionary debt to startups led by African founders in undercapitalised markets like Ghana and Kenya. Structure the fund to co-invest with African-based angel and seed-stage investors, leveraging Italy's capital and de-risking role.

- Strengthen local entrepreneur readiness and bankability by pairing African innovators with Italian and EU-based accelerators and business development services to support product-market fit, scale-up strategies and cross-border expansion.

- Strengthen digital inclusion across Africa by investing in digital governance and capacity-building initiatives that leverage local talent and institutional capacities. Empower institutional actors like the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) to enhance social protection systems through integrating digital technologies and tools.

Updated 15 July 2025

[39] The Digital for Development (D4D) Hub is a strategic platform that aims to strengthen digital cooperation between the European Union and its member states (Team Europe) and partners in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the EU neighbouring countries.

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