

AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

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Prompt: Cambodian Mine Action Centre (CMAC) at work demining, and with the use of mine-detecting rats. April 4, 2025 was International Mine Awareness Day and Cambodia reiterates its unwavering dedication to building a mine-free world.

Photo Credit:

01/06

1. AI and satellites help aid workers respond to Myanmar earthquake damage

Source: [The Associated Press](#)

AI has significantly enhanced disaster response in Myanmar's 7.7 magnitude earthquake by combining satellite imagery with computer vision. Relief organizations were able to quickly identify collapsed or heavily damaged buildings, prioritizing areas in need of assistance. Despite initial setbacks due to cloud cover, AI-driven analysis at Microsoft's AI for Good Lab processed new satellite images. Similar AI-assisted damage assessments have been used in past crises, highlighting its growing importance in humanitarian efforts.



Reference:

O'brien, M. (2025, April 1). AI and satellites help aid workers respond to Myanmar earthquake damage. *The Associated Press*.
<https://apnews.com/article/myanmar-mandalay-earthquake-artificial-intelligence-microsoft-ai-for-good-42a8d502f135bcbea21a2f36b41aa8e2>

2. Northeastern and Anthropic to lead in responsible AI innovation in higher education

Source: [Northeastern Global News](#)



Northeastern University and AI leader Anthropic have announced a strategic partnership to drive responsible AI innovation in higher education. This collaboration aims to integrate AI across teaching, research, and business operations, positioning Northeastern as a global model for AI-driven education.

Anthropic will work with Northeastern to develop best practices, AI-powered tools, and responsible AI adoption frameworks. By co-designing innovations, the partnership seeks to enhance student learning, equip faculty with AI resources, and ensure ethical AI use. Northeastern's commitment to AI as an educational tool aligns with Anthropic's goal of making AI safe, transparent, and impactful, reinforcing the university's position as a leader in AI-enabled education.

Reference:

Nordman, D. (2025, April 2). Northeastern and Anthropic to lead in responsible AI innovation in higher education. *Northeastern Global News*.
<https://news.northeastern.edu/2025/04/02/anthropic-ai-partnership/>

3. AI ignites new momentum in China's sci-fi industry

Source: [Khmer Times](#)



China's sci-fi industry is experiencing a surge in momentum, driven by AI-driven experiences. The 2025 China Science Fiction Convention in Beijing showcased advanced AI-powered experiences, including intelligent low-altitude aircraft and VR-powered space voyages. The industry generated 108.96 billion yuan (\$15.1 billion) in 2024, encompassing literature, films, gaming, and cultural tourism. AI-powered content creation is boosting efficiency, with 3D modeling times reduced from a week to minutes. Beijing is leading this growth, with an action plan to achieve a 100-billion-yuan sci-fi sector by 2027. Advancements in AI, quantum communication, and spaceflight are enabling rapid expansion of sci-fi industrial clusters.

Reference:

Xinhua. (2025, April 1). AI ignites new momentum in China's sci-fi industry. *Khmer Times*.
<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501662705/ai-ignites-new-momentum-in-chinas-sci-fi-industry/>

4. AI coming for anime but Ghibli's Miyazaki irreplaceable, son says

Source: [RTL Today](#)



AI is rapidly advancing in anime, but Studio Ghibli's unique artistry—especially that of Hayao Miyazaki—remains irreplaceable, according to his son, Goro Miyazaki. With AI-generated images mimicking Ghibli's style, the debate over copyright and artistic authenticity intensifies. While AI may soon create entire films, Goro questions whether audiences will embrace such works over traditional hand-drawn animation.

Reference:

AFP. (2025, April 2). AI coming for anime but Ghibli's Miyazaki irreplaceable, son says. *RTL Today*.
<https://today.rtl.lu/entertainment/news/a/2290840.html>

Japan's animation industry faces a shortage of skilled artists, partly due to low wages and changing generational interests. AI could fill this gap, but it cannot replicate the depth and emotional complexity woven into Ghibli's films. Hayao Miyazaki's works, shaped by his wartime generation, blend beauty with darkness—a nuance that AI lacks. Despite AI's growing role in animation, Ghibli's legacy remains deeply human, rooted in lived experiences and artistic passion that machines cannot yet replicate.

5. Ministry holds meeting on configuring AI functions

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

The Ministry of Civil Service (MCS) has taken a significant step in configuring artificial intelligence (AI) functions within government institutions. A meeting, chaired by Youk Bunna, Permanent Secretary of State at MCS, brought together representatives from various ministries, including MISTI and MPTC, to discuss AI implementation strategies.

This initiative aligns with Cambodia's broader public administration reform under the Pentagonal Strategy-Phase 1, which seeks to modernize state institutions for efficiency, growth, and sustainability. The discussions focused on defining core AI-related functions for each ministry and structuring their roles accordingly.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Som, S. (2025, April 3). Ministry holds meeting on configuring AI functions. *Khmer Times*.

<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501664135/ministry-holds-meeting-on-configuring-ai-functions/>

6. China's AI growth sparks hiring boom as demand outpaces supply

Source: [Khmer Times](#)



China's AI expansion is causing a surge in job openings, particularly in algorithm engineering and machine learning, with demand exceeding supply. With 12.22 million graduates entering the job market in 2025, AI is becoming a critical field for employment. Companies like BYD, Pony.ai, and Unitree Robotics are offering competitive salaries and benefits to attract top talent. AI education is also expanding, with over 500 Chinese universities offering AI programs since 2019. However, China faces a shortage of fundamental AI scientists and cross-disciplinary experts, which is crucial for AI chip development and industrial applications. Firms like Alibaba and Tencent are pushing further into AI, shaping China's tech landscape.

Reference:

Xinhua. (2025, April 3). China's AI growth sparks hiring boom as demand outpaces supply. *Khmer Times*.

<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501664104/chinas-ai-growth-sparks-hiring-boom-as-demand-outpaces-supply/>

7. Elon Musk confirms it – teachers will be the first to “go to war” against AI – sooner than previously thought

Source: [Union Rayo](#)



This article seems more sensationalized than realistic. While AI is undoubtedly reshaping education, the idea that teachers will be entirely replaced within a year is highly exaggerated. AI can certainly automate administrative tasks, provide personalized tutoring, and support students with adaptive learning, but it lacks the emotional intelligence, mentorship, and ethical guidance that human teachers provide.

The claim that “many places will begin to do without their teaching staff” by the end of 2025 is not supported by solid evidence. While education is evolving, AI is more likely to serve as an assistant rather than a replacement. Additionally, the reference to Musk as the “right-hand man of President Trump” suggests a political bias in the article.

A more balanced perspective would be that AI is a tool that can enhance education, making teachers more effective rather than obsolete. What do you think—do you see AI as a threat to education or a support system?

Reference:

Laura, M. (2025, April 1). Elon Musk confirms it – teachers will be the first to “go to war” against AI – sooner than previously thought. *Union Rayo*. <https://unionrayo.com/en/elon-musk-ai-will-replace-teachers/>

PUBLICATIONS

AIF Insights No. 6 (2025) | AI is Not Intelligent: History, Misnomer, and Misunderstanding

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, R. (2025, April 1). *AI is Not Intelligent: History, Misnomer, and Misunderstanding*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/?publication=aif-insights-no-6-2025-ai-is-not-intelligent-history-misnomer-and-misunderstanding>

This paper challenges the notion that AI is truly intelligent, arguing that it merely simulates cognitive abilities without understanding, intention, or ethics. While the term “Artificial Intelligence” persists for historical and marketing reasons, it creates misconceptions about AI’s capabilities. A Buddhist perspective further underscores the misinterpretation of AI as “wisdom.” Recognizing AI as a tool rather than a thinking entity is crucial for clarity in both academia and society.

References

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