

AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

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Prompt: On April 8, in celebration of International Buddhist Day, many Cambodian monks gather at pagodas to pray for peace, compassion, mindfulness, harmony, and inner peace for all.

Photo Credit: ChatGPT

01/06

1. AI is set to drive surging electricity demand from data centres while offering the potential to transform how the energy sector works

Source: [International Energy Agency](#).

The International Energy Agency (IEA) report reveals that artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming the global energy sector. By 2030, data centre consumption is expected to double, reaching levels comparable to Japan's current electricity use. AI-driven data centres could account for nearly half of electricity demand growth in countries like the US. Despite these challenges, AI offers opportunities to improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions, enhance cybersecurity, and accelerate innovation in technologies like batteries and solar PV. The report urges countries to invest in electricity infrastructure, improve data centre efficiency, and foster collaboration among policymakers, the tech industry, and the energy sector. The IEA is also launching an Observatory on Energy, AI and Data Centres to monitor developments and guide informed decision-making.



Source: iStoke

Reference:
International Energy Agency. (2025, April 10). *AI is set to drive surging electricity demand from data centres while offering the potential to transform how the energy sector works*. <https://www.iea.org/news/ai-is-set-to-drive-surging-electricity-demand-from-data-centres-while-offering-the-potential-to-transform-how-the-energy-sector-works>

2. When security meets agentic AI: Paris-based Qevlar AI lands \$14M to enhance security analysts' productivity

Source: [Tech Funding News](#).



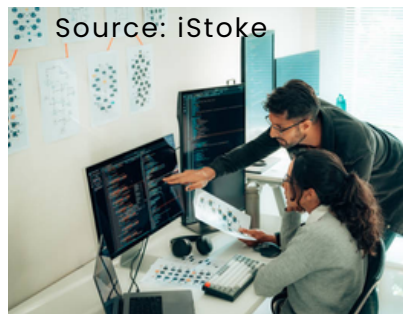
Source: iStoke

Paris-based Qevlar AI has raised \$14 million, including a recent \$10 million round led by EQT Ventures and Forgepoint Capital, to enhance cybersecurity operations through agentic AI. Founded in 2023 by Ahmed Achchak and Hamza Sayah, the company tackles critical issues like alert fatigue, talent shortages, and increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. Qevlar's autonomous investigation agents significantly reduce alert processing time—from 40 minutes to just 3—while achieving over 99% classification accuracy, surpassing human analysts. Seamlessly integrating with existing security systems, the platform boosts SOC efficiency by up to 90%, allowing human analysts to focus on more complex threats. Qevlar AI's approach transforms reactive security operations into proactive threat hunting, marking a major breakthrough in the use of AI to automate and improve cybersecurity at scale.

Reference:
Chesnokova, S. (2025, April 8). When security meets agentic AI: Paris-based Qevlar AI lands \$14M to enhance security analysts' productivity. *Tech Funding News*. <https://techfundingnews.com/when-security-meets-agentic-ai-paris-based-qevlar-ai-lands-14m-to-enhance-security-analysts-productivity/>

3. Bulgaria's INSAIT partners with China's Vivo on AI research

Source: [SeeNews](#)



Source: iStoke

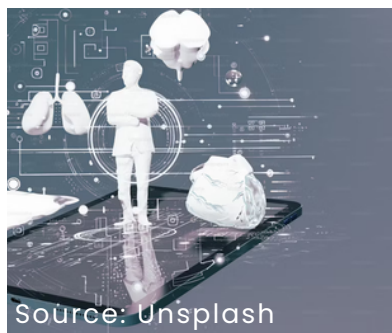
Bulgaria's Institute for Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Technology (INSAIT) has partnered with Chinese tech giant Vivo Mobile Communication to advance next-generation AI research. The collaboration focuses on key AI fields like computer vision and 3D scene understanding, which are crucial for improving mobile technology's intelligence and functionality. The partnership boosts Bulgaria's AI research capabilities and highlights the global integration of AI innovation in consumer tech. Vivo, a top smartphone manufacturer, is expected to apply breakthroughs from the collaboration to enhance its AI-driven services and devices.

Reference:

Miteva, M. (2025, April 7). Bulgaria's INSAIT partners with China's Vivo on AI research. *SeeNews*.
<https://seenews.com/news/bulgarias-insait-partners-with-chinas-vivo-on-ai-research-1273415>

4. H.E. Kim Khorn Long Is Turning Cambodia Into Southeast Asia's Next Tech Lifestyle Destination

Source: [Prestige](#)



Source: Unsplash

H.E. Kim Khorn Long, a government official, entrepreneur, and founder of AI Farm, is leading Cambodia's AI revolution. Born in rural poverty, Kim studied philosophy, mastered five languages, and earned advanced degrees abroad. Inspired by young Cambodian engineers, he launched initiatives in robotics, generative AI, STEM education, and smart manufacturing, helping Cambodia gain international recognition in tech competitions. His advocacy has influenced national policy, with AI now integrated into education, agriculture, and business. Kim is also leading the push to develop a Khmer-language AI model, requiring \$5-6 million in funding and top-tier Cambodian talent. In 2025, he will host the Super AI & Robotics Tech Conference, marking Cambodia's serious entry into the global AI and robotics arena. Kim's message is that Cambodia must skip traditional development and leap straight into the future, transforming the country from a digital follower into a regional innovator.

Reference:

Nou, S. (2025, April 10). H.E. Kim Khorn Long Is Turning Cambodia Into Southeast Asia's Next Tech Lifestyle Destination. *Prestige*.
<https://www.prestigeonline.com/kh/cambodia/can-cambodia-become-the-next-tech-powerhouse-h-e-kim-khorn-long-thinks-so/>

5. Cambodian businesses urged to embrace conversational AI

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

At a recent event hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce in Cambodia, Deepesh Trivedi, CEO of UIB Holdings and a key figure behind WhatsApp's business success in Asia, urged Cambodian businesses to embrace conversational AI to remain competitive in a fast-evolving digital economy. Trivedi emphasized that while companies typically operate across multiple communication channels, customer interactions often remain ineffective, pointing to a gap that conversational AI can fill by delivering personalized, automated, and efficient experiences at scale. Citing successful regional examples like Grab, which cut operational costs and improved customer satisfaction through AI-powered messaging, he highlighted Cambodia's readiness for such innovation, given its strong internet connectivity, widespread digital payment adoption, and MSME engagement in e-commerce. Additionally, local opportunities lie in Khmer-language AI localization, voice-based interfaces, and natural language processing to better serve low-literacy users. The event spotlighted how embracing conversational AI can enhance service delivery, reduce costs, and strengthen customer engagement, marking a crucial step in Cambodia's broader digital transformation.



Source: Freepik

Reference:
Sreekanth, R. (2025, April 9). Cambodian businesses urged to embrace conversational AI. *Khmer Times*.
<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501666997/cambodian-businesses-urged-to-embrace-conversational-ai/>

6. AI method outperforms current standard in predicting antibiotic resistance

Source: [Medical Xpress](#)

Tulane University researchers have developed an AI-powered method called the Group Association Model (GAM) to detect antibiotic resistance in bacteria like *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*. The GAM, a machine learning-based approach, outperforms current standards by accurately identifying genetic mutations linked to drug resistance. It analyzes full genome sequences without prior assumptions, identifying resistance patterns without prior assumptions. When combined with machine learning, GAM enhances predictive accuracy and reduces false positives, outperforming WHO databases in tests with over 11,000 bacterial strains. This breakthrough offers faster, more precise treatment decisions in clinical settings and potential for broader use in agriculture.

Reference:

Tulane University. (2025, April 7). AI method outperforms current standard in predicting antibiotic resistance. *Medical Xpress*.
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2025-04-ai-method-outperforms-current-standard.html>

PUBLICATIONS

AIF Insights No. 7 (2025) | AI, Cyberspace, and ICTs: Untangling the Digital Universe

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Chhem, S., Hul, S., Lim, P. C., & Ros, S. (2025, April 9). *AI, Cyberspace, and ICTs: Untangling the Digital Universe*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/?publication=aif-insights-no-7-2025-ai-cyberspace-and-icts-untangling-the-digital-universe>

This paper explores the evolving landscape of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cyberspace, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), emphasizing the crucial role of society and human agency in defining and governing AI. While AI often mimics human cognition to aid decision-making, its development, application, and ethical oversight must remain rooted in human values and societal needs. The study underscores that ambiguous definitions and externally imposed technological frameworks risk creating legal and ethical gaps, particularly in developing nations. As AI becomes more embedded in critical infrastructures, this work calls for locally contextualized terminology, ethical governance, and inclusive policy-making that prioritizes human-centric outcomes. Integrated and harmonized governance—led by people, not just machines—remains key to shaping AI as a tool for societal good.

AIF Insights No. 8 (2025) | Who Should Govern AI?

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>

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming a pivotal force in shaping economies, governance, education, and human development worldwide. For developing countries like Cambodia, AI presents a critical opportunity to transition from low-value economic activities to a competitive digital economy. This paper emphasizes that the governance of AI cannot be left to engineers alone. While technical expertise is essential for building and deploying AI systems, engineers may not fully address broader societal concerns such as ethical implications, equity, legal accountability, and cultural sensitivities. Effective AI governance requires an inclusive approach that integrates diverse perspectives—combining technical knowledge with ethical frameworks, interdisciplinary collaboration, and strategic policy planning—to ensure AI development is equitable, responsible, and aligned with national and human development goals.

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