

AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

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Prompt: Meak Bochea night in Cambodia monks in saffron robes circle a moonlit Khmer temple with candles, incense drifting through a serene, sacred atmosphere.

1. Global software stocks hit by Anthropic wake-up call on AI disruption

ភាគហ៊ុនក្រុមហ៊ុនបច្ចេកវិទ្យាសូហ្វវែរធ្លាក់ចុះខ្លាំង ដោយសារបច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI ថ្មីរបស់ Anthropic

Source: [Reuters](#)



Global software stocks in Europe and Asia declined as investors reacted to AI-driven disruption, sparked by Anthropic's new legal AI tool, which raised concerns about the long-term viability of traditional software business models. While AI leaders continue to benefit, fears of intensified competition, shrinking growth prospects, and a potential tech bubble have made AI a key driver of market uncertainty and selloffs in the broader software sector.

Reference:

Masoni, D. (2026, February 4). Global software stocks hit by Anthropic wake-up call on AI disruption. *Reuters*.
<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/global-software-stocks-hit-anthropic-095550177.html>

2. Alphabet won't talk about the Google-Apple AI deal, even to investors

ក្រុមហ៊ុន Alphabet បដិសេធកិច្ចពិភាក្សាអំពីកិច្ចព្រមព្រៀង AI រវាង Google និង Apple សូម្បីតែជាមួយវិនិយោគិន

Source: [TechCrunch](#)

During its fourth-quarter earnings call, Alphabet avoided discussing its AI partnership with Apple, signaling uncertainty around how the deal supports its AI strategy beyond search. While Google has historically paid Apple heavily for search dominance and now reportedly supports Apple's AI models via Gemini, unclear returns, experiments with AI-driven ads, and growing competition from firms like Anthropic highlight how AI is reshaping revenue models and strategic priorities in the tech sector.



Reference:

Perez, S. (2026, February 4). Alphabet won't talk about the Google-Apple AI deal, even to investors. *TechCrunch*.
<https://techcrunch.com/2026/02/04/alphabet-wont-talk-about-the-google-apple-ai-deal-even-to-investors/>

3. NVIDIA nears deal to invest \$20 billion in OpenAI funding round, Bloomberg News reports

NVIDIA ជិតសម្រេចកិច្ចព្រមព្រៀងវិនិយោគទឹកប្រាក់ ២០ ពាន់លានដុល្លារក្នុង ក្រុមហ៊ុន OpenAI យោងតាមរបាយការណ៍ Bloomberg

Source: [Reuters](#)



Source: iStoke

Nvidia is nearing a \$20 billion investment in OpenAI as part of a massive funding round that could value OpenAI at about \$830 billion, underscoring intensifying competition to secure strategic positions in AI. With firms like Amazon and investors such as SoftBank also seeking partnerships, the move highlights how AI leadership is driving unprecedented capital flows, alliances, and long-term bets on infrastructure, models, and future IPO potential.

Reference:

Reuters. (2026, February 3). *NVIDIA nears deal to invest \$20 billion in OpenAI funding round, Bloomberg News reports*.
<https://www.reuters.com/business/nvidia-nears-deal-invest-20-billion-openai-funding-round-bloomberg-news-reports-2026-02-03/>

4. Google's annual revenue tops \$400 bn for first time, AI investments rise

ចំណូលប្រចាំឆ្នាំរបស់ Google កើនឡើងលើស ៤០០ ពាន់លានដុល្លារជាលើកដំបូង ខណៈការវិនិយោគលើ AI បន្តកើនឡើង

Source: [Yahoo!Finance](#)



Source: iStoke

Alphabet surpassed \$400 billion in annual revenue for the first time, driven by strong growth in search, cloud, and AI-powered services, while sharply increasing investment to meet surging AI demand. CEO Sundar Pichai noted that AI demand continues to outstrip supply, prompting capital spending of up to \$185 billion in 2026, as products like Gemini expand rapidly and reinforce AI as the central engine of Alphabet's growth strategy across cloud, advertising, and emerging bets like Waymo.

Reference:

Chapman, G. (2026, February 5). *Google's annual revenue tops \$400 bn for first time, AI investments rise*. *Yahoo!Finance*.
https://finance.yahoo.com/news/googles-annual-revenue-tops-400-002026416.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com&guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9jaGF0Z3B0LmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAGASUmi7Fvj-jQ2-amZzsg76gbx6_A6VDbSValu5OE6I26yeUgmACjIWrcDUaegtFxi3g7RqeUNuF8giMWCTF-v7ET6QWhsdYEXvf0p5DN7WP9Hk3CoIQKfthcGVmZPNnldUIABZl3eCtm_kelm-MqtKH8uNVtNmt8Ogmzln

5. AI, tokenised finance reshaping the foundations of financial trust

បច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI និងហិរញ្ញវត្ថុថ្មី (Tokenised Finance) កំពុងផ្លាស់ប្តូរ
មូលដ្ឋានគ្រឹះនៃទំនុកចិត្តលើប្រព័ន្ធហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ

Source: [Khmer Times](#)

AI, digital payments, and tokenised finance are improving efficiency and access but are fundamentally reshaping financial trust, especially during periods of stress. AI-driven automation and tokenised liquidity can accelerate capital flows and amplify market volatility, making strong governance and regulatory oversight essential to preserve financial stability as trust shifts from institutions to data and algorithms.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Watanabe, Y. (2026, January 30). AI, tokenised finance reshaping the foundations of financial trust. *Khmer Times*.
<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501836688/ai-tokenised-finance-reshaping-the-foundations-of-financial-trust/>

6. Amid Global AI Job Threat, Cambodia Prepares to Harness AI While Protecting Jobs

ក្នុងពេលដែលពិភពលោកបារម្ភពីបញ្ហា AI ប៉ះពាល់ដល់ការងារ កម្ពុជាបានត្រៀមខ្លួនប្រើ
ប្រាស់បញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត AI ព្រមទាំងការពារការងាររបស់ខ្លួន

Source: [Kiripost](#)



Source: iStoke

AI, digital payments, and tokenised finance are improving efficiency and access but are fundamentally reshaping financial trust, especially during periods of stress. AI-driven automation and tokenised liquidity can accelerate capital flows and amplify market volatility, making strong governance and regulatory oversight essential to preserve financial stability as trust shifts from institutions to data and algorithms.

Reference:

Meas, M. (2026, February 2). Amid Global AI Job Threat, Cambodia Prepares to Harness AI While Protecting Jobs. *Kiripost*.
<https://kiripost.com/stories/amid-global-ai-job-threat-cambodia-prepares-to-harness-ai-while-protecting-jobs>

7. ASEAN officials and diplomats deepen regional cooperation on AI diplomacy

មន្ត្រី និងអ្នកការទូតអាស៊ាន ពង្រឹងកិច្ចសហប្រតិបត្តិការតំបន់លើវិស័យការទូតបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI)។

Source: [Clingendael](#)



Source: iStoke

ASEAN officials and diplomats are strengthening regional cooperation on AI diplomacy through a four-day training programme held in December 2025, focused on responsible and trustworthy AI governance. The initiative helped participants understand AI's risks and opportunities for security, disinformation, and diplomatic practice, while building practical skills to apply AI governance tools in their institutions, highlighting AI's growing relevance in shaping regional coordination and modern diplomacy within ASEAN.

Reference:

de Boon, M. & Voorbraak, M. (2026, February 2). ASEAN officials and diplomats deepen regional cooperation on AI diplomacy. *Clingendael*. <https://www.clingendael.org/news/asean-officials-and-diplomats-deepen-regional-cooperation-ai-diplomacy>

8. China warns of security risks linked to OpenClaw open-source AI agent

ប្រទេសចិនព្រមានពីហានិភ័យសន្តិសុខ ពាក់ព័ន្ធនឹងភ្នាក់ងារ AI បើកចំហ (Open-source) ឈ្មោះ OpenClaw

Source: [Reuters](#)



Source: iStoke

China warned that the rapidly adopted open-source AI agent OpenClaw could create serious cybersecurity and data-privacy risks if poorly configured, highlighting how AI can scale vulnerabilities as quickly as innovation. While not banning its use, authorities urged stronger audits and access controls, underscoring the growing need for security-by-design and governance as AI tools spread across cloud platforms.

Reference:

Pan, C. & Goh, B. (2026, February 5). China warns of security risks linked to OpenClaw open-source AI agent. *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-warns-security-risks-linked-openclaw-open-source-ai-agent-2026-02-05/>

9. 'Deepfake abuse is abuse,' UNICEF warns

អង្គការ UNICEF ព្រមានពីការបំពានតាមរយៈរូបភាពក្លែងបន្លំ (Deepfake) គឺជា
ការបំពានពិតប្រាកដ

Source: [United Nations](#)



Source: iStoke

UNICEF warns that AI-powered deepfakes are exacerbating child sexual abuse, with over 1.2 million children affected in the past year. The organization states generative AI tools allow abuse to outstrip legal responses, normalizing exploitation and complicating enforcement. UNICEF demands urgent AI safety measures, stricter regulations against AI-generated child sexual abuse materials, and better platform safeguards, emphasizing that "deepfake abuse is abuse" and acknowledging its immediate harm.

Reference:

United Nations. (2026, February 4). 'Deepfake abuse is abuse,' UNICEF warns. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/02/1166886>

10. Amazon and Google are winning the AI capex race — but what's the prize?

Amazon និង Google កំពុងនាំមុខលើការប្រកួតប្រជែងលើការវិនិយោគ AI —
ប៉ុន្តែតើអ្វីទៅជាអង្គរពិតប្រាកដ?

Source: [TechCrunch](#)



Source: iStoke

Amazon and Google are at the forefront of significant AI-focused capital expenditure, planning substantial investments in AI infrastructure by 2026 to dominate computing power crucial for future AI advancements. Other tech companies like Meta, Microsoft, and Oracle are increasing their spending but not to the same extent. Despite cautious investor reactions leading to stock price declines over fears regarding scale and risk, the conviction in AI's long-term transformative potential encourages ongoing heavy investments from these firms.

Reference:

Brandom, R. (2026, February 5). Amazon and Google are winning the AI capex race but what's the prize. [TechCrunch. https://techcrunch.com/2026/02/05/amazon-and-google-are-winning-the-ai-capex-race-but-whats-the-prize/](https://techcrunch.com/2026/02/05/amazon-and-google-are-winning-the-ai-capex-race-but-whats-the-prize/)

PUBLICATIONS 2026

AIF Insights No. 1
(2026) | TRUE
INTELLECTUALS vs
PSEUDO-
INTELLECTUALS

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:
AI Forum Cambodia. (2025, January 1). *TRUE INTELLECTUALS vs PSEUDO-INTELLECTUALS*. AI Forum. <https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-1-2026-true-intellectuals-vs-pseudo-intellectuals>

This public guide by AI Forum Cambodia explains the difference between true intellectuals and pseudo intellectuals in the age of generative AI, where fluent writing has become easy but genuine thinking remains rare. It argues that machines can produce text, but only humans can produce understanding, judgment, and responsibility. Pseudo intellectuals rely on AI, jargon, and smooth language to appear knowledgeable, while avoiding uncertainty and accountability. True intellectuals, by contrast, use AI as a tool to support deeper thinking, accept limits to their knowledge, and write to clarify and benefit society rather than to impress or dominate. The guide is written for the public, educators, and policymakers as a simple framework to protect education, public debate, and ethical governance in an era where words are abundant but meaning is not.

AI Conversations





AI Conversations

“AI Beyond Borders: Legal Pathways for a Digital Future”

MODERATOR



Mr. Say Vithya Arthur
Research Fellow, AI Forum
Master’s in Business Innovation



SPEAKER



Mr. Pong Pich
Research Fellow, AI Forum
Master’s of Law and Bachelor’s in International Relations

30th January:
AI Conversations Episode #7: “AI Beyond Borders: Legal Pathways for a Digital Future”
Find us on: [YouTube](#)

PUBLICATIONS 2026

AIF Insights No. 2 (2026) | Ethical AI and Privacy: International Lessons and Local Actions

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Tann, T., Hout, S. & Som, H. (2026, January 17).
*Ethical AI and Privacy: International Lessons and
Local Actions*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-2-2026-ethical-ai-and-privacy-international-lessons-and-local-actions>

This article examines the growing use of artificial intelligence in Cambodia and the urgent need to address ethical and privacy concerns that come with it. Drawing on international frameworks such as the EU GDPR, the EU AI Act, the OECD AI Principles, UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of AI, and ASEAN guidelines, it highlights key global lessons on data protection, accountability, and responsible AI governance. The article then assesses Cambodia's current legal and policy landscape, noting gaps in data protection laws, institutional capacity, and oversight mechanisms. It concludes by outlining practical policy options for Cambodia, including adopting a comprehensive data protection law, developing national ethical AI guidelines, strengthening institutions, prioritizing high risk sectors, and enhancing regional and international cooperation.

Cambodia continues to face serious risks from landmines and explosive remnants of war despite decades of clearance efforts. This article reviews Cambodia's demining strategy and assesses the role of AI and emerging technologies in accelerating progress toward a mine-free country. It argues that while manual methods remain necessary due to terrain constraints, AI-driven tools can improve detection, planning, and resource use. Strategic integration of technology is essential to enhance safety, efficiency, and long-term recovery.

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, February 3). *Leveraging AI and Technology for Cambodia's Demining Efforts: A Path Toward a Mine-Free Future by 2025*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-3-2026-leveraging-ai-and-technology-for-cambodias-demining-efforts-a-path-toward-a-mine-free-future-by-2025>

AIF Insights No. 3 (2026) | Leveraging AI and Technology for Cambodia's Demining Efforts: A Path Toward a Mine-Free Future by 2025

Source: [AI Forum](#)

PUBLICATIONS 2026

This paper critiques dominant AI ethics frameworks that focus on machines rather than the social and cultural contexts in which they operate. It argues that ethical AI governance should shift from asking whether an AI system is ethical to examining whether its relationship with society is ethical. Using Cambodia as a case study, the paper highlights the limits of universal governance models and proposes an embedded approach informed by sociotechnical theory and Buddhist ethics. It concludes that ethical AI depends less on technical compliance and more on culturally grounded, adaptive governance processes.

Reference:

Waddell, A. (2026, February 5). *The Machine Has No Heart: Culturally Grounded Ethics for the Infosphere*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-4-2026-the-machine-has-no-heart-culturally-grounded-ethics-for-the-infosphere>

AIF Insights No. 4 (2026) | The Machine Has No Heart: Culturally Grounded Ethics for the Infosphere

Source: [AI Forum](#)

AIF Insights No. 5 (2026) | AI and Electricity: Safeguarding ASEAN's Energy Security and Integration in the Digital Era

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Ros, S. (2026, February 6). *AI and Electricity: Safeguarding ASEAN's Energy Security and Integration in the Digital Era*. AI Forum.

<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/ai-and-electricity-safeguarding-aseans-energy-security-and-integration-in-the-digital-era>

In the face of global energy instability and rising digital power demands, this article explores the critical role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in safeguarding energy security and fostering integration through the ASEAN Power Grid (APG). While ASEAN has established frameworks like the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) to target 23% renewable energy by 2025, a fully integrated regional grid remains a work in progress. The author argues that AI-driven smart grids can significantly enhance efficiency by predicting demand trends, managing real-time electricity flow, and reducing economic disruptions caused by blackouts. However, the transition faces substantial hurdles, including high implementation costs in developing nations, a regional technological gap, and heightened cybersecurity vulnerabilities. Ultimately, the paper concludes that for ASEAN to achieve true energy resilience, member states must prioritize collaborative defense capacity and regulatory frameworks to protect critical infrastructure against shared regional vulnerabilities.

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<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-warns-security-risks-linked-openclaw-open-source-ai-agent-2026-02-05/>
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<https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/02/1166886>
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<https://techcrunch.com/2026/02/05/amazon-and-google-are-winning-the-ai-capex-race-but-whats-the-prize/>

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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-1-2026-true-intellectuals-vs-pseudo-intellectuals>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-2-2026-ethical-ai-and-privacy-international-lessons-and-local-actions>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-3-2026-leveraging-ai-and-technology-for-cambodias-demining-efforts-a-path-toward-a-mine-free-future-by-2025>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-4-2026-the-machine-has-no-heart-culturally-grounded-ethics-for-the-infosphere>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/ai-and-electricity-safeguarding-aseans-energy-security-and-integration-in-the-digital-era>