

AI FORUM NEWSLETTER

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Prompt: Celebration and recognition event for 2025 Grade A and Level 3 TVET top students in Phnom Penh, highlighting exam reform success, rising pass rates (84.56%), and growth from 11 top students in 2014 to 3,020 in 2025.

Photo Credit: ChatGPT

01/13

1. Cambodia joins Global AI Summit at 5th DCO General Assembly in Kuwait

កម្ពុជាចូលរួមកិច្ចប្រជុំកំពូលបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI) សកល ក្នុងមហាសន្និបាត DCO លើកទី៥ នៅប្រទេសគុយវ៉ែត

Source: [Khmer Times](#)



Source: iStoke

Cambodia joined the 5th DCO General Assembly in Kuwait to engage in global discussions on AI governance and digital cooperation. Focusing on “Inclusive Prosperity in the Era of Artificial Intelligence,” the country emphasized ethical AI use, managing systemic risks, and protecting digital infrastructure. Cambodia also secured partnerships for digital capacity-building and policy training, highlighting AI as a key pillar of its development strategy.

Reference:

AKP. (2026, February 7). Cambodia joins Global AI Summit at 5th DCO General Assembly in Kuwait. *Khmer Times*.

<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501841293/cambodia-joins-global-ai-summit-at-5th-dco-general-assembly-in-kuwait/>

2. Stocks swing following latest AI-fuelled sell-off on Wall St

តម្លៃភាគហ៊ុនមានការប្រែប្រួលខ្លាំង បន្ទាប់ពីមានការសម្រុកលក់ចេញក្នុងវិស័យ បច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI នៅផ្សារភាគហ៊ុន Wall Street

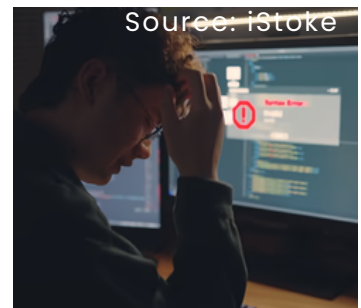
Source: [Khmer Times](#)

Global stocks fluctuated after another AI-driven sell-off on Wall Street, sparked by concerns over heavy investment and potential bubble risks in the AI sector. News that AI startup Anthropic introduced a legal-work tool unsettled software and financial firms, while weak forecasts from AMD added pressure. Although some Asian markets stabilized, volatility persists due to AI uncertainty, a strong US dollar, and geopolitical tensions. The episode highlights how developments in artificial intelligence are increasingly influencing global financial markets and investor sentiment.

Reference:

AFP. (2026, February 5). Stocks swing following latest AI-fuelled sell-off on Wall St. *Khmer Times*.

<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501839928/stocks-swing-following-latest-ai-fuelled-sell-off-on-wall-st/>



Source: iStoke

3. ASEAN Foundation launches Digital Outlook, flags readiness gaps

មូលនិធិអាស៊ានបានដាក់ចេញនូវស្បៀង Digital Outlook និងបង្ហាញពីគម្លាតនៃការត្រៀមលក្ខណៈរបស់ស្ថាប័ននៅមានកម្រិត

Source: [Daily Tribune](#)



The ASEAN Foundation launched the ASEAN Digital Outlook and initial findings from the AI Ready ASEAN research, emphasizing that while AI use is rapidly expanding across Southeast Asia, governance, skills, and institutional readiness lag behind. The reports highlight a major gap: students widely use AI tools, but educators and parents lack sufficient AI literacy and structured training. ASEAN is shifting focus from infrastructure to responsible AI governance, cybersecurity, and people-centered capacity-building to ensure AI supports inclusive growth under ASEAN Vision 2045.

Reference:

Megadia, C. (2026, February 11). ASEAN Foundation launches Digital Outlook, flags readiness gaps. *Daily Tribune*.
<https://tribune.net.ph/2026/02/10/asean-foundation-launches-digital-outlook-flags-readiness-gaps>

4. Japan firms seek AI-savvy talent at ASEAN career fair

ក្រុមហ៊ុនជប៉ុនស្វែងរកអ្នកមានជំនាញផ្នែកបញ្ញាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI) ក្នុងពិធីរណ៍ការងារអាស៊ាន

Source: [NHK World Japan](#)



Japanese companies are increasingly recruiting AI-skilled talent from Southeast Asia, highlighted by the ASEAN Career Fair in Singapore where 13 Japanese firms met over 600 candidates. Companies like NOK Corporation are seeking experts in AI and robotics to drive innovation and expand into new business areas, showing how AI capability has become central to corporate competitiveness. As Japan faces strong competition from China and South Korea for tech talent, attracting AI-savvy graduates from ASEAN is now a key strategy to sustain technological growth and global relevance.

Reference:

NHK World Japan. (2026, February 10). Japan firms seek AI-savvy talent at ASEAN career fair.
https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20260210_24/

5. Speaker Dy urges ASEAN alliance for responsible AI governance

លោក BabayevDy ដែលជាវាលគ្គិនជំរុញឱ្យអាស៊ានរួបរួមគ្នា ដើម្បីគ្រប់គ្រង
បច្ចេកវិទ្យា AI ប្រកបដោយការទទួលខុសត្រូវ

Source: [Manila Standard](#)

Speaker Faustino Dy III urged ASEAN parliaments to strengthen cooperation on responsible AI governance, warning that AI and emerging technologies can be misused for terrorism and disinformation. While recognizing AI's benefits for governance and economic growth, he stressed the need for aligned laws, oversight, and safeguards to balance security, human rights, and regional stability.



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Cruz, M. (2026, February 11). Speaker Dy urges ASEAN alliance for responsible AI governance. *Manila Standard*.
<https://manilastandard.net/news/314702587/speaker-dy-urges-asean-alliance-for-responsible-ai-governance.html>

6. ByteDance in talks with Samsung on AI chip plan ក្រុមហ៊ុន ByteDance កំពុងចរចាជាមួយក្រុមហ៊ុន Samsung លើគម្រោងផលិត បន្ទះឈីប AI

Source: [News.AZ International](#)



Source: iStoke

China's ByteDance is reportedly in talks with Samsung Electronics to manufacture its own AI chip, aiming to secure processor supply amid rising global demand and export restrictions. The chip—designed mainly for AI inference—forms part of ByteDance's broader strategy to strengthen in-house AI capabilities, reduce reliance on Nvidia, and support products like chatbots and large language models. With plans to produce up to 350,000 units and invest over \$22 billion in AI this year, the move highlights intensifying global competition in AI hardware and the strategic importance of semiconductor self-sufficiency.

Reference:

Babayev, N. (2026, February 11). ByteDance in talks with Samsung on AI chip plan. *News.AZ International*.
<https://news.az/news/bytedance-in-talks-with-samsung-on-ai-chip-plan>

7. AI Governance And Digital Innovation Reshape Finance Sector

អភិបាលកិច្ច AI និងនវានុវត្តន៍ឌីជីថល កំពុងផ្លាស់ប្តូរមុខមាត់វិស័យហិរញ្ញវត្ថុ

Source: [Grand Pinnacle Tribune](#)



Financial institutions worldwide are accelerating AI adoption to strengthen fraud detection, risk management, and operational efficiency, with 81% of African firms prioritizing digital transformation in 2026. However, experts warn that rapid AI integration without strong governance frameworks risks bias, errors, regulatory violations, and reputational damage. Uneven regulations, cybersecurity concerns, and talent shortages further complicate implementation. The sector's future depends on "living" AI governance systems—ensuring transparency, continuous monitoring, compliance, and fairness—so innovation enhances trust rather than undermines financial stability.

Reference:

Grand Pinnacle Tribune. (2026, February 11). *AI Governance And Digital Innovation Reshape Finance Sector*. <https://evrimagaci.org/gpt/ai-governance-and-digital-innovation-reshape-finance-sector-528335>

8. Veritone Strategically Positioned as AI Agents Demand Data, Governance and Orchestration

ក្រុមហ៊ុន Veritone ត្រៀមខ្លួនរួចជាស្រេច ក្នុងពេលដែលភ្នាក់ងារ AI ត្រូវការគ្រប់គ្រង និងត្រួតពិនិត្យទិន្នន័យ

Source: [Investing News Network](#)



Reference:

Investing News Network. (2026, February 11). *AI Governance And Digital Innovation Reshape Finance Sector*. <https://investingnews.com/veritone-strategically-positioned-as-ai-agents-demand-data-governance-and-orchestration/>

Veritone, Inc. positions itself at the center of the emerging AI agent economy by providing data governance and orchestration rather than standalone AI models. Its aiWARE™ platform acts as a control layer that coordinates multiple AI systems, enforces policy, and ensures transparency through audit logs, while its Veritone Data Refinery (VDR) processes and licenses unstructured data like audio and video for enterprise use. As AI agents automate workflows and reduce reliance on traditional SaaS interfaces, Veritone aims to capture value in trusted data, compliance, and model orchestration—critical components for enterprises deploying autonomous AI systems at scale.

9. China's Alibaba launches AI model to power robots as tech giants talk up 'physical AI'

ក្រុមហ៊ុន Alibaba បានដាក់ចេញម៉ូដែល AI ថ្មីសម្រាប់បញ្ជាមនុស្សយន្ត ខណៈក្រុមហ៊ុនបច្ចេកវិទ្យាធំៗចាប់ផ្តើមប្រកួតប្រជែងលើ 'Physical AI'

Source: [Consumer News and Business Channel](#)

Source: iStoke



Reference:

Kharpal, A. (2026, February 10). China's Alibaba launches AI model to power robots as tech giants talk up 'physical AI'. *Consumer News and Business Channel*.
<https://www.cnn.com/2026/02/10/alibaba-ai-model-robotics-rynnbrain-china.htm>

Alibaba Group has launched a new AI model called RynnBrain, designed to power robots and advance "physical AI" — machines that use AI to interact with the real world. Developed by Alibaba's DAMO Academy, the model enables robots to recognize objects and perform tasks, such as identifying fruit and placing it in a basket. The move positions Alibaba alongside global players like Nvidia and Google, which are also building AI world models for robotics. By open-sourcing RynnBrain, Alibaba aims to expand adoption and strengthen its role in the rapidly growing robotics and AI hardware ecosystem, a key frontier in U.S.-China tech competition.

10. Empowering Cambodia's Future Leaders: Peng Houth Group Hosts Career Guidance and AI Workshop for Scholarship Students

ក្រុមហ៊ុន ប៉េង ហ្គត គ្រុប រៀបចំសិក្ខាសាលាប្រុងទិសការងារ និងការប្រើប្រាស់បញ្ហាសិប្បនិម្មិត (AI) សម្រាប់និស្សិតអាហាររូបករណ៍

Source: [Construction & Property News](#)



Source: iStoke

Reference:

Construction & Property News. (2026, February 12). Empowering Cambodia's Future Leaders: Peng Houth Group Hosts Career Guidance and AI Workshop for Scholarship Students. <https://construction-property.com/empowering-cambodias-future-leaders-peng-houth-group-hosts-career-guidance-and-ai-workshop-for-scholarship-students/>

Peng Houth Group hosted a career and AI workshop for scholarship students, including participants from the Cambodian Children's Fund, to strengthen digital skills and career readiness. The program emphasized practical AI use in education, mentorship, and professional exposure, helping prepare Cambodian youth for the evolving digital economy.

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



The graphic is a yellow rectangular banner for 'AI Conversations'. At the top left is the AI Forum logo. In the center, a brain icon is above the text 'AI Conversations'. Below this is the episode title '“AI Beyond Borders: Legal Pathways for a Digital Future”'. Two circular portraits are shown: on the left, Mr. Say Vithya Arthur, labeled 'MODERATOR'; on the right, Mr. Pong Pich, labeled 'SPEAKER'. A white audio waveform icon is positioned between the two portraits. Below each portrait is the speaker's name and affiliation.

AI Conversations

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

MODERATOR

SPEAKER

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

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.

PUBLICATIONS 2026

Effective use of generative AI (GenAI) requires transitioning from a “single-tool mindset” to a deliberate system that aligns task purposes with specific model capabilities, operational modes, and rigorous human oversight. While prompting is a starting point, failures often stem from a misalignment between these elements, as different models excel at distinct functions like reasoning, retrieval, or synthesis . Furthermore, users must navigate between rapid, intuitive “System-1” modes for brainstorming and slower, analytical “System-2” modes for complex decision-making. Because GenAI outputs are probabilistic and lack accountability, the framework emphasizes that human verification—proportionate to the task’s risk—is a core professional competency. Ultimately, the paper argues that professional expertise in a GenAI-augmented world is defined by the intentional and accountable integration of these tools into human judgment.

AIF Insights No. 6 (2026) | Generative AI Use: A Task- Model-Mode- Verification Framework

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Lim, S. (2026, February 11). *Generative AI Use: A Task-Model-Mode-Verification Framework*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-6-2026-generative-ai-use-a-task-model-mode-verification-framework>

AIF Insights No. 7 (2026) | Learning with Generative AI: Making Thinking Harder, Not Easier

Source: [AI Forum](#)

Reference:

Lim, S. (2026, February 13). *Learning with Generative AI: Making Thinking Harder, Not Easier*. AI Forum.
<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-7-2026-learning-with-generative-ai-making-thinking-harder-not-easier>

This article argues that the educational impact of generative AI depends not on access but on patterns of use. While GenAI can create an illusion of mastery by encouraging cognitive offloading and passive consumption, it can also function as a cognitive amplifier when used to increase effort, deepen reasoning, and strengthen self-regulated learning. The discussion highlights three common confusions — offloading versus desirable difficulty, fluency versus understanding, and plausibility versus accuracy — and proposes a three-purpose framework of inquiry, practice, and production. The central claim is that GenAI improves learning only when it preserves learners’ cognitive work, supports deliberate practice, and reinforces verification, accountability, and critical judgment.

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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-6-2026-generative-ai-use-a-task-model-mode-verification-framework>
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<https://www.aiforumcambodia.org/archives/publications/aif-insights-no-7-2026-learning-with-generative-ai-making-thinking-harder-not-easier>