



Africa Connected: Digital transformation trends and challenges

Issue 6

AFRICA CONNECTED

27 April 2021

Digital transformation trends and challenges in Africa is the theme of this edition. We have articles on issues ranging from the use of artificial intelligence tools in the legal sector as well as regulatory challenges to satellite broadband providers, to open banking and financial inclusion across the continent. Read the articles below or download the full magazine-style PDF by clicking on the button to the right.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Aiscension: AI in the legal sector

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One area of risk which AI can help mitigate, and detect, is cartel activity. DLA Piper has recently launched Aiscension to help detect and prevent cartel activity in collaboration with Reveal Data.

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- Expanding into Africa: Regulatory challenges for satellite broadband providers

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In this article, we set out some examples of challenges for satellite broadband service providers expanding into Africa, by reference to specific African jurisdictions and identify potential workarounds, where available.

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- Digitization: Facilitating the implementation of AfCFTA

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Digitization and the use of technology presents a major opportunity for the African continent in the implementation of AfCFTA. Pre-existing challenges in the nature and extent of infrastructure on the continent can be avoided, efficiencies can be leveraged and innovative solutions suitable to the African continent can be harnessed.

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- Decision Support Systems: Using technology to enhance decision-making in the African legal industry

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To meet the difficulties of decision-making in the digital information age, the global legal industry is gradually transitioning to automated systems that use predictive algorithms to support and enhance the decision-making process, generally referred to as decision support systems (DSSs).

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- Data collection in the health and education sectors: An African perspective

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There is no doubt that the pandemic has adversely affected education and health services in Africa and elsewhere. The accelerated digitization has led to increased collection of data in all its ramifications. All of these have raised privacy and data protection concerns due to the sheer volume of personal data being collected.

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- Open banking in Africa after COVID-19

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Anchored on providing better customer experiences, open banking has stirred a lot of interest in Africa, including banking apps with detailed analytics of finances, the ability to send money from one bank to another using mobile phones, or the ability to transfer money from one telecoms network to another.

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- Digital transformation and financial inclusion in Nigeria

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Innovations such as blockchain, mobile payments and savings, peer-to-peer lending platforms, crowdfunding and similar internet-based solutions have radically transformed the financial services landscape in Nigeria. However, beyond the noteworthy advancements in this sector, a key concern is giving the country's growing population access to these innovative solutions.

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- The development of the digital economy: Competition regulation in Africa

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Business is characterized by new competitive practices in the digital market, mergers and acquisitions of market shares and new forms of monopolies by major global companies. The question arises as to the state of the digital economy in Africa in the face of these new competitive practices and whether regulation of competition in Africa takes them into account.

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- Smart contracts and trust in Africa's e-commerce revolution

27 April 2021

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The focus of this article is trust, and the question of whether smart contracts offer a unique opportunity for the issue to be addressed in African e-commerce.

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