



DataFest Africa 2025

Outcomes Report

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01

Executive Summary

Executive Summary



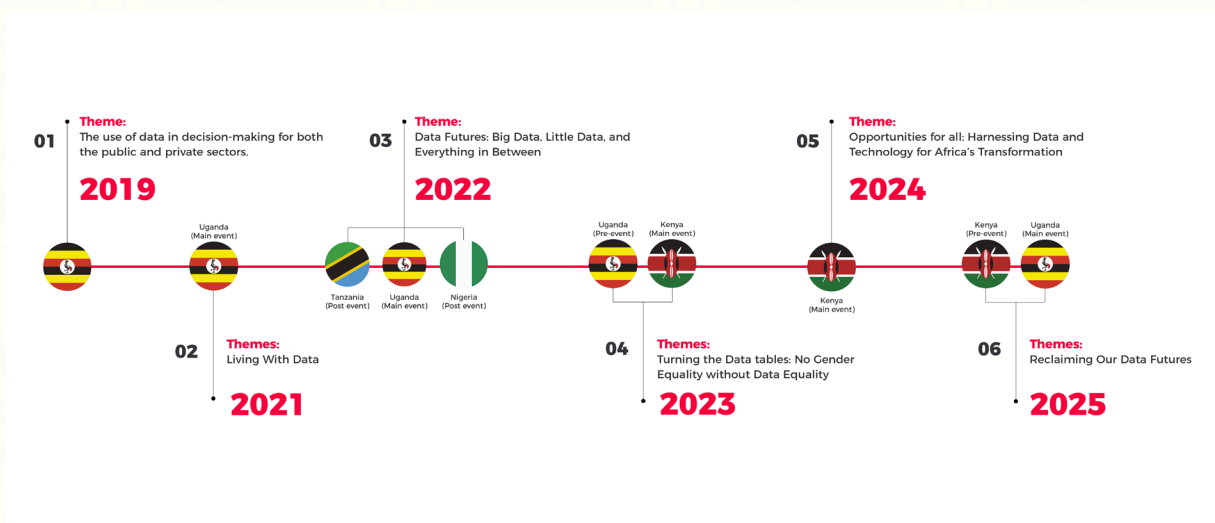
DataFest Africa 2025, the 6th edition of Africa's premier data festival, convened in Kampala, Uganda, at the National ICT Innovation Hub, on 30th and 31st October 2025 bringing together data enthusiasts, scientists, technologists, innovators, policymakers, digital rights advocates, and community leaders from across the African continent and the globe. Over two days, the event created a platform for dialogue, learning, and collaboration on the critical role of data and technology in shaping Africa's sustainable and inclusive development.¹

Central to the theme, Reclaiming Our Data Futures, delegates engaged around three core goals: making data work for communities (not just institutions), reclaiming and governing digital data in transparent and fair ways, and harnessing technology to empower rather than exploit African people. Discussions, workshops, and showcases emphasized Afro-feminist values, community-led data innovation, and human-centered digital governance.

Notably, DataFest Africa 2025 reaffirmed that Africa's digital future must be collaborative, inclusive, and built on the voices and needs of its communities. The event featured compelling keynote addresses spotlighting the risks and opportunities of Artificial Intelligence (AI); immersive features like the Afrofeminist Data Museum that challenged audiences to rethink data's meaning and consequence; launch of new partnerships and policy initiatives including community dialogues on the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) Resolution 620 (Access to data) and Resolution 631 (public service content in the digital age), alongside inputs to the emerging Alliance on Access to Data in Africa; high-participation workshops addressing data safety, digital rights, and AI for social good; and regional collaborations to strengthen data governance, open data ecosystems, and local innovation infrastructure.

¹ <https://DataFest.africa/>

The Community and Program Highlights



For our much-anticipated return to Uganda since 2022,² DataFest Africa 2025 welcomed an assembly of participants from government, civil society, academia, donor organizations, the private sector, and the creative industries, who reflected on a pan-African commitment to innovation and social impact. More than a year after the 5th edition of DataFest Africa at the Aga Khan University in Nairobi,³ a shift in the data and digital rights landscape, geopolitical tensions, shrinking funding space, and rising conflict on the continent, some of which are powered and fueled by emerging technologies, various of these dynamics reflected in attendance and impacted this year's agenda.

DataFest Africa 2025 presented a robust program over two days in Kampala, featuring 28 sessions made up of high-impact panel discussions, workshops, masterclasses, lightning talks, and interactive exhibitions. The festival including the pre-events hosted a total of 375 in-person attendees and 70 speakers, representing a wide mix of countries, sectors, and communities from across Africa and beyond.

28
SESSIONS

375
IN-PERSON
ATTENDEES

70
SPEAKERS

02
DAYS

² <https://policy.org/resource/2022-DataFest-africa-report/>

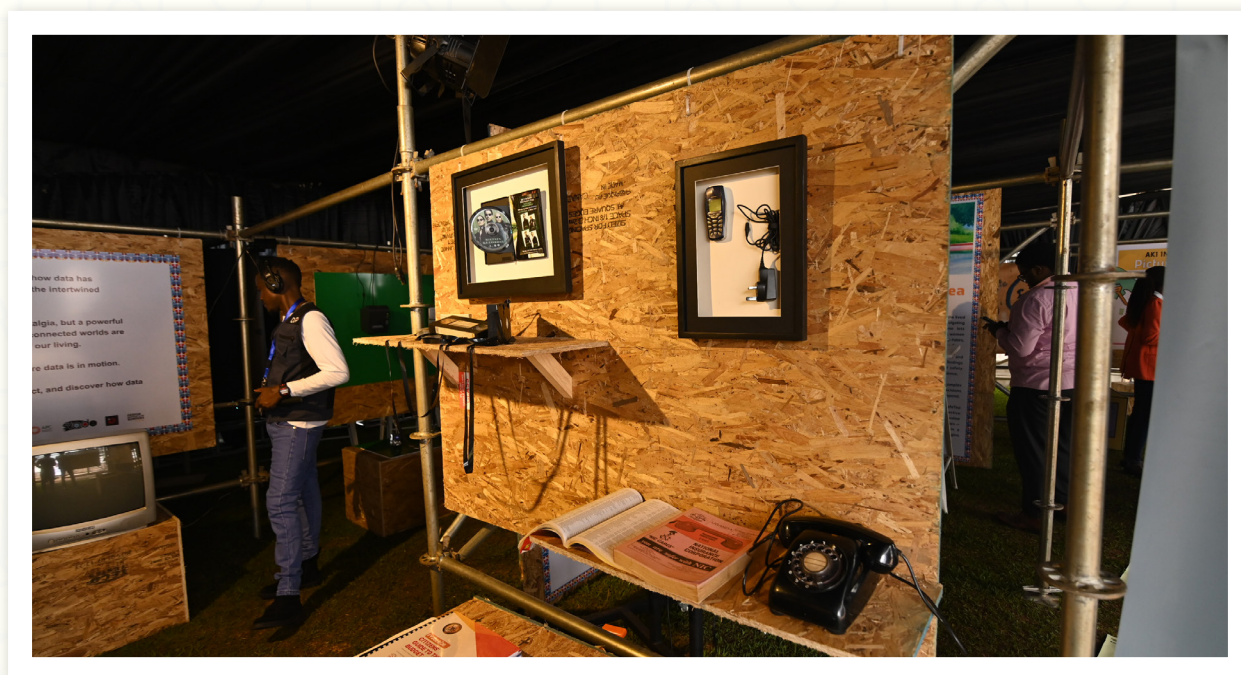
³ <https://policy.medium.com/reflecting-on-DataFest-africa-2024-share-your-highlights-and-feedback-fcaec6abc603>



02

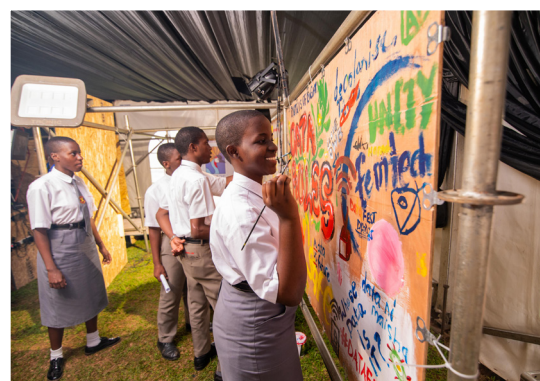
The Special features
at DataFest Africa
2025.

The Afrofeminist Data Museum 2025.



For its second edition, the Afrofeminist Data Museum titled “A Purple Sunrise Exhibition-Curating joy in a turbulent world” curated by Pollicy in collaboration with Vodo Arts Society was a multi-room and sensory, immersive installation that turned abstract debates about data, power, and gender into a tactile, emotional, and deeply political experience. Designed as a living scaffold for imagining a feminist internet, the museum used mixed media, games, archival materials, sound, light, and interactive interfaces to explore how data moves through our lives: from data collection, surveillance, and biometric systems, to online violence and collective memory. Visitors navigated a maze-like space that made them feel how easy it is to get stuck in exploitative systems, but also how resistance, care, and creativity can open new exits and pathways.

Take a peek into the [Afrofeminist Data Museum](#) Catalogue.



REDATA: Bringing TFGBV Data to Life Through Motion in the Afrofeminist Data Museum



Our Games Design Fellow, Kamogelo Makhoba, brought Play, motion and data storytelling to the space through REDATA. Rather than presenting data as neutral numbers, Kamo insisted data has weight, history, and consequence inviting participants to feel, interact with and reflect on the human realities behind the numbers. The installation reframed data as a living, rooted in our experiences, histories and vulnerabilities making the abstract metrics tangible and emotionally resonant. As Kamogelo explains, REDATA is more than an installation, it's a declaration: "We are data. Our stories, our bodies, our movements shape the digital world." By turning research insights into a multi-sensory, playful, and participatory experience, REDATA embodied DataFest's theme of inclusivity and African-led innovation in the data space.

For a deeper dive into REDATA, the design process, and its impact on participants, [read the full blog on REDATA here.](#)

Play as Feminist Learning - The Games Nook



DataFest Africa also featured a Games Nook, a dedicated space where play, art, and learning converged. The nook featured a series of interactive games designed to make complex topics in data, digital rights, and online safety accessible, engaging, and participatory. The games included Error!OK⁴ and Sticky Web⁵ by STEMTOTO, Digital Safetea⁶, Choose Your Own Fake News⁷ Where's My Data?⁸ by Pollicy, and AKI and Twogere by Design Without Borders.⁹

These games and tools transformed learning into hands-on, embodied experiences. For example, the card game Error!OK and the financial literacy game AKI allowed participants to explore intricate concepts such as digital safety, misinformation, and financial inclusion through simple, interactive mechanics. Visitors could experiment, make mistakes, and learn in a safe, playful environment turning abstract or intimidating topics into tangible and relatable experiences. Alongside the Games Nook, the mural wall offered a creative outlet, described by many participants as art therapy amid the heavier discussions on data governance, digital rights, and online violence.

⁴ <https://stemtoto.org/error-ok>

⁵ <https://stemtoto.org/sticky-web>

⁶ <https://www.digitalsafetea.com/>

⁷ <https://chooseyourownfakenews.com/>

⁸ <https://neemaiyer.com/work/where-s-my-data>

⁹ <https://designwithoutborders.com/tools>

Data Ladies and Data Clubs



In 2018, Pollicy launched DataClub, to create a community amongst individuals working with and interested in data to share knowledge and ideas. From this foundation, the Data Ladies program was born, to build inclusive data ecosystems and foster young women's engagement with data and technology.

At DataFest, Ninsiima Lilian, a Data Ladies alumna and student at Kololo Senior Secondary School, delivered a powerful lightning talk sharing her transformative journey. Through the 2025 Data Ladies cohort, hosted in partnership with the National ICT Innovation Hub, Ninsiima moved from seeing data as just computers and numbers to gaining hands-on skills in data, AI, and digital safety. Playful, context-aware tools such as interactive learning games helped her make abstract concepts like data flows and privacy concrete, while coding exercises with variables, loops, and control flow demystified programming and opened pathways for her towards pursuing data science careers. Ninsiima emphasized the broader impact of programs like Data Ladies, explaining how they build confidence, skills, and a sense of belonging for girls in STEM. She shared her aspiration to become a future data scientist who uses data to solve problems in her community and called for the program to expand, so more young women can gain similar opportunities. In her talk, she underscored the importance of multi-stakeholder investment in gender-responsive STEM pipelines, beginning in secondary schools, and encouraged girls to view technology not as something to fear but as a powerful tool for agency, creativity, and leadership in Africa's digital transformation.

Data on Wheels: Gole's Journey to DataFest Africa 2025



We partnered with Andrew Gole, a biker and Founder of the DIG/SEC initiative, on a five-day Data on Wheels journey around communities along Lake Victoria. Combining digital security expertise with community engagement, Andrew biked to bring data awareness, digital literacy, and empowerment directly to local communities.

Along the way, he documented stories and perspectives on reclaiming Africa's data futures, showing how data shapes everyday life from access to public services to online safety. His participatory approach emphasized that meaningful change comes through connection, dialogue, and active involvement, inviting communities to become co-creators in Africa's data transformation.



Joy Over Burn Out: The Wellness Hub



Once again, our wellness hub featured as a space dedicated to rest, reflection, and collective care. Recognizing that feminist organising and digital work can be intense and emotionally taxing, the Hub provided participants with a moment to pause, recharge, and reconnect with themselves and others.

By prioritizing well-being alongside learning and advocacy, the wellness hub reinforced that participation, engagement, and innovation flourish when people are cared for, not drained. We ensure that DataFest remains inclusive, restorative, and joyful centering human experience in the pursuit of digital justice.





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Key Outcomes and Takeaways



DataFest Africa 2025 featured two days focusing on how data can work for the growth and benefit of African local communities. We witnessed how states, businesses, community leaders, teachers, youth groups, artists, and grassroots communities are using data to advance services, safeguard neighbourhoods, employ citizen science to map and monitor local needs, boost local economies, and spark social change.

At a time when powerful institutions and corporations hoard African data leaving communities voiceless, exposed to extractive practices, and governed by opaque algorithms that fuel misinformation, DataFest Africa 2025 highlighted grassroots innovators who are reclaiming Africa's identity, building community-driven data tools to challenge falsehoods, and co-creating practical solutions aimed at shared prosperity.

The opening ceremony featured powerful remarks from Pollicy and Partners, including the National ICT Hub, Amara Hub, Aga Khan University, and the Personal Data Protection Office. The opening celebrated DataFest's evolution from a local gathering to a major pan-African convening. Partners framed the importance of centering community, justice, and care in how African data is created, governed, and used.

Provocative reflections from Bonnita Nyamwire, Pollicy's Director of Research, highlighted the urgent need for an Afro-feminist reimagining of data systems, challenging the DataFest community to move beyond extractive, outsider-driven models toward approaches rooted in equity, care, and collective power. The unveiling of the Afrofeminist Data Museum as part of the opening served as both a symbol and an action step, inviting all attendees to engage deeply with questions of data ethics, visibility, and ownership.



The Afro-feminist lens ensures that community care comes before corporate gain and that data should serve the people who produce it, not extract from them.

Bonnita Nyamwire, Director of Research, Pollicy



The National ICT Innovation Hub under the Ministry of ICT and National Guidance, co-host of DataFest Africa 2025, called for collaboration, open data use. Emphasized the importance of building a data-driven culture essential to building a resilient digital economy.



Here at the hub, we nurture homegrown innovations. Data is not just numbers or statistics, but it is insights, intelligence, and most importantly, it is the fuel that powers informed decision making and innovation.

Winfred Nankanja, Communications and PR Associate,
National ICT Innovation Hub




Daniel Odongo, Team Lead at Amara Hub and co-host of a DataFest Africa pre-event in Northern Uganda's Lira City, highlighted the power of grassroots, community-driven approaches to data stewardship and storytelling. He highlighted the launch of Data Trust Africa at the pre-event, an initiative that promotes data circles. Through Data Trust Africa, Amara Hub shall continue positioning women, youth, and rural communities not as passive data subjects but as active creators and authors of their own data narratives. He emphasized the importance of contextual, participatory, and ethical data practices, addressing longstanding challenges of exclusion and invisibility in conventional data systems. A powerful example of how local innovation and collective agency can reshape the landscape of data governance and evidence in Africa.

“

Our role is not just to collect data but to co-create; turning data into a tool that empowers and encourages ownership, where people are not simply data points but data authors.

Daniel Odongo, Team Lead, Amara Hub.



Aga Khan University, through its Data Innovation Office, played a catalytic role at DataFest Africa 2025 by bridging the gap between technical data infrastructure and real community needs, as well as addressing inequity in digital access and skills. Speaking to delegates, Anthony Kagure, Product Marketing Specialist in the Office of the Chief Data Innovation Officer, highlighted Aga Khan University's commitment to making data education accessible from the earliest levels of primary school. He emphasized the importance of robust, cost-efficient data systems designed to work for people in all contexts. He highlighted models for using AI to break barriers, such as improving communication for the deaf and leveraging generative AI to capture lived experiences often missing from mainstream datasets.

The keynote address delivered by Baker Birikujja, the National Data Protection Director, highlighted agency, privacy, and legal rights, connecting inclusivity and empowerment to responsible data use. He emphasized that Uganda's 2019 Data Protection and Privacy Act is not a barrier to innovation, but a framework to ensure data is used responsibly and benefits all stakeholders. Illustrating this, he recounted the case of a woman whose privacy was breached when a loan company accessed her financial information without authorisation, showing how easily individuals can lose control over their own data.



The Data Protection and Privacy Act (2019) gives an individual the right to know who has their information, what it's been used for, and to complain where information is misused. But reclaiming our data futures is not about being scared, it's a call for participation and inclusivity.

Baker Birikujja, National Data Protection Director, Uganda.



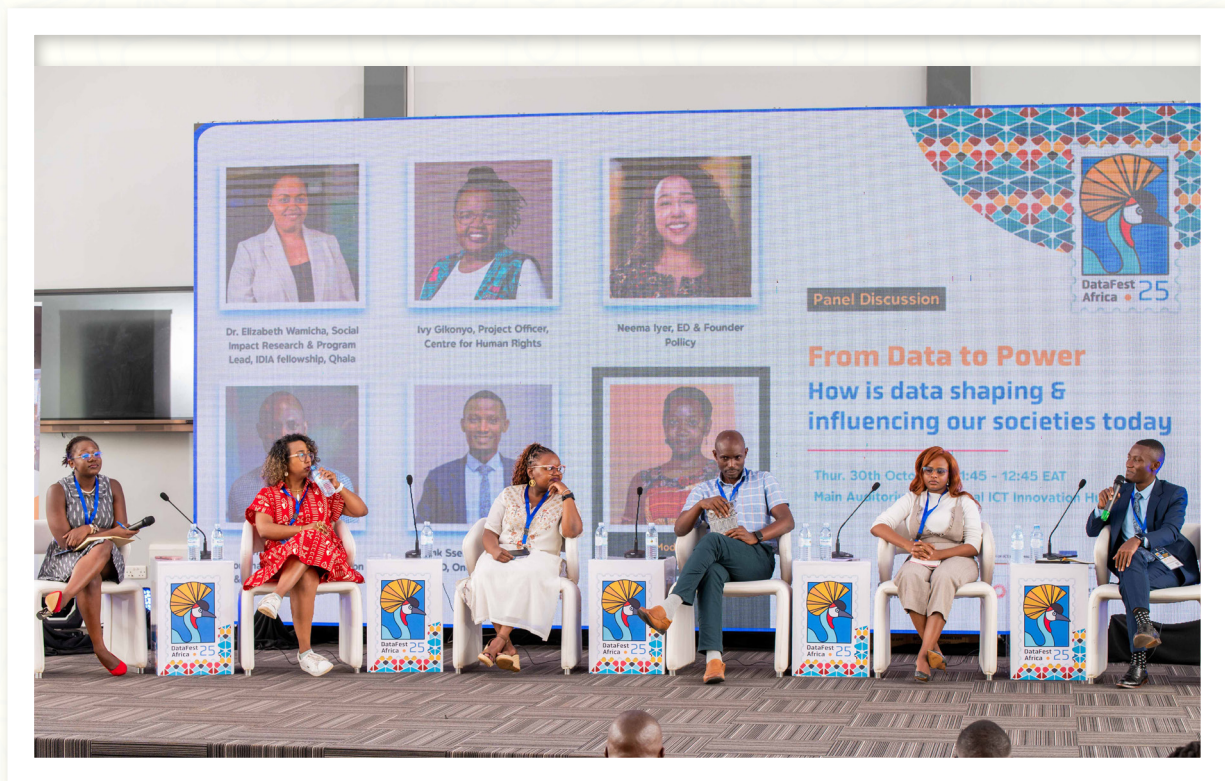
To make the concept of data value relatable, Baker compared it to coffee farming. While farmers invest in the crop, most value is captured downstream by processors and retailers, leaving the producer with little benefit. Similarly, individuals and communities whose information drives AI and other data products deserve a fair and visible stake in the value created. He also demystified cybersecurity, urging practical action. People should know where their data is held, understand how to correct it, and have tools to address breaches. Recognizing initiatives like the Afrofeminist Data Museum¹⁰ He highlighted efforts to make data's history and value accessible. Baker reassured innovators that reclaiming Africa's data future is not about stopping progress, but about fostering participation, agency, and legal protection. He concluded by emphasizing inclusivity and local context, calling on both citizens and innovators to act as co-stewards of Africa's data destiny.

The main panel featuring speakers from Pollicy, OneTechConnect, CIPIT, Centre for Human Rights, African Population and Health Research Center and ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa emphasized that data governance is not abstract technical debate, but a matter of life, dignity, and sometimes survival. Panelists stressed that data systems shape who received government services and whose needs remain invisible. Drawing on Uganda's COVID-19 cash relief and social protection schemes, speakers highlighted how poorly defined vulnerability criteria, fragmented registries, and unscientific targeting undermine fairness. They noted that context aware data such as village registers, poverty mapping and health indicators can support more equitable interventions.¹¹

A core takeaway was the urgent need to shift from extractive and top-down approaches toward human-centred, African-led data governance.

¹⁰ <https://datafest.africa/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Catalog-Data-Museum-25.pdf>

¹¹ https://devinit.org/files/documents/1484/how_does_ugandas_data_ecosystem_inform_social_protection_systems.pdf



Panelists called for adopting a human rights and Afrocentric lens that links data protection, access to information, and AI governance to broader questions of justice, accountability, and sovereignty. They also warned against data extractivism where African data fuels global AI systems without delivering local benefit. Strategic public interest litigation was highlighted as a critical tool for enforcing accountability and challenging Big Tech non-compliance. Initiatives like African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) Resolution 620 on access to data and the emerging Alliance on Access to Data in Africa were cited as key vehicles for continental norm-setting and civil society engagement

At the same time, speakers cautioned that calls for protection can be weaponised by governments to justify censorship or opacity, stressing that the goal is responsible use protecting rights while enabling data to serve development. They emphasized the importance of ethics and capacity building, pointing to free data governance training and the need to equip policymakers, researchers, and practitioners with both technical and ethical literacy. Finally, the panel reinforced that meaningful data governance must be co-created with communities: researchers and advocates should act as bridges between government and citizens, meet people where they are, and ensure that diverse communities understand their data rights and can demand better. As one speaker framed it, if data is the new gold, then Ubuntu the ethic of collective care and interdependence must be Africa's refinery, shaping how data is collected, shared, and used for the public good.

These insights set the agenda for two days of lightning talks, interactive panels, workshops, and community dialogues, with the community co-creating actionable solutions and narratives that truly reflect African realities and aspirations. The technical and experiential lessons were reflected across three major thematic tracks.

A. Innovation, Technology, and the Future



Participants engaged with emerging trends in AI and homegrown digital innovation, demonstrating the necessity of context-relevant and African-centered technological solutions. Technological literacy, cloud computing, and hands-on Artificial Intelligence (AI) workshops showcased the potential for local talent to drive Africa's digital transformation.

The AI Made in Africa project, by GIZ delegation to the African Union delivered a session on Data Accessibility for AI development in Africa, highlighting the growing momentum around AI on the continent alongside persistent challenges in data availability and governance. Discussions emphasized that although Africa's AI economy is expected to expand significantly in the coming years, the continent's contribution to global AI datasets remains comparatively limited.



Africa's AI market is projected to reach USD 17 billion by 2027, yet the continent contributes less than 5% of global AI datasets and only 0.1% of web datasets. International organizations control 60% of open datasets linked to Africa, compared to 25% held by government portals and just 15% by community or university repositories.



Yonas Gebremichael Difer, Advisor, AI Made in Africa project.

A statistic that points to a widening gap between emerging opportunity and the level of data readiness needed to fully support inclusive AI development. The key recommendations for AI development in Africa included strengthening national open data policies and infrastructure, promoting fair data-sharing models, empowering universities and communities in data stewardship, and investing in skilled data curation to ensure datasets are AI-ready. Collaborative funding mechanisms such as the Lacuna Fund were recognized as essential for building high-quality datasets in health, agriculture, and African languages, while collaborations with Big Tech were deemed necessary but required careful governance to ensure African interests are protected.

The MERL Tech Initiative Launched a study on how AI is Shaping Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) Across Africa, offering a practitioner-led perspective that moves the conversation from hype to grounded, decolonized practice.¹² Drawing on interviews with 23 African evaluators, AI experts, civil society leaders, and policymakers, the research applied a Made in Africa framework rooted in concepts like Sankofa (learning from history for the future) and Ubuntu (communal decision-making). It explored how AI can support evidence-informed policymaking without perpetuating colonial dependencies or western-centric biases.

An expert-practitioner panel emphasized that Made in Africa AI should be defined not by geography, but by local control, benefit, and co-design. African communities must lead the development of tools, ensuring systems reflect local languages, values, and priorities, while addressing intersectional impacts on gender, geography, class, and ethnicity.

¹² <https://merltech.org/africa-ai-merl-landscape-study/>

The panel also highlighted the environmental and ethical risks, such as resource extraction and AI architectures that erase African voices, calling for a human-rights approach that demands accountability, environmental justice, and equitable partnerships.



The Game Development Tutorial by Pollicy and Design Without Borders showed how simple, structured game design can drive social learning, behaviour change, and community engagement. Using three guiding cards on theme, mechanic and constraint participants rapidly prototyped games on topics like relationships, social media, and livelihoods, creating playable concepts such as Love Maze, a social media icon recognition game, and Rolex Rolla, a Kampala street-vendor game modeling risk and reward. The exercise demonstrated that non-technical audiences can generate meaningful, playable prototypes, building confidence, teamwork, and design thinking skills. Key takeaways included the value of games as educational and advocacy tools, the effectiveness of structured frameworks in guiding creativity, and the need to expand play-based approaches in African education, ensuring design aligns with social impact goals.

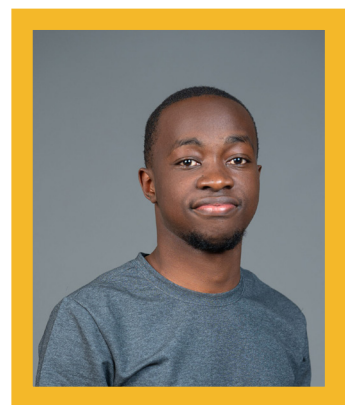


Pollicy's Vibe Coding session introduced participants to vibe coding as a practical way to build applications using natural language instead of traditional programming, positioning AI as a co-developer that writes most of the code while humans provide intent and context. Attendees walked through creating a one-page cocktail website by defining tone "classy drink", color palette "pink", and visual feel a "beach video" background, then passing this detailed prompt through an AI assistant and into the Lovable coding tool, which generated and deployed a functional site in minutes clearly illustrating how beginners can move from idea to working product through AI-accelerated development. The session framed vibe coding as especially powerful for rapid, small-scale applications. Still, it stressed that effective use depends on context engineering, which is providing precise, non-abstract prompts and using vibe keywords (for style, motion, and visuals) so the AI produces code that matches the user's intent. Key outcomes included the need to raise participants'



Vibe coding is using natural language to program generative AI, letting AI write the code for you, but it is still the human's responsibility to ensure the software is safe, meaningful, and fit for purpose.

Rashid Kisejjere, Data Products and IT Assistant, Pollicy.



awareness of a growing ecosystem of vibe coding tools; embedding the four-step vibe coding loop as a mental model; and surfacing concrete risks that require active human oversight, including debugging complexity, security vulnerabilities, and embedded biases or ethical contradictions in generated code.

A dialogue on *Shaping the Future of Work: A Foresight Perspective for Women in Communities* demonstrated how strategic foresight can help women and communities move from reactive to proactive change. The dialogue introduced foresight as a structured way to explore possible, probable, and preferable futures in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous environment, emphasizing that it is not about predicting the future but about preparing for it by exploring what might happen and making wise decisions today. Participants examined how tools like trend analysis, scenario planning, backcasting, and horizon scanning can be embedded into local government, organizational, and community planning so that policies and strategies remain resilient and relevant over time. The session practically explored Dubai's Vision 2020/2050, Rwanda's Vision 2050, and Finland's long-term foresight practices to show how future thinking can shape national development, investment, and resilience.

The Global Center on AI Governance, on a Global South-Led Responsible AI Measurement, outlined how the Global Index on Responsible AI (GIRAI)¹³ is reframing how responsible AI is measured by centering Global South realities and local accountability. GIRAI responds to the global measurement deficit, where traditional indices apply one-size-fits-all metrics that privilege policy presence over real-world impact and ignore African data sovereignty needs, by using in-country researchers to gather grounded evidence, build local capacity, and amplify Global South experiences. Key outcomes included the reinforcement that responsible AI must be evaluated at the local level, where human, social, and environmental impacts are actually felt through decentralized, community-driven accountability mechanisms; and showing how GIRAI's three pillars, which are government frameworks, government actions, and non-state initiatives, offer a more realistic picture of progress than high-level policy counts. The session also highlighted Uganda-specific examples, such as Pollicy's work to integrate AI into feminist and data governance movements,¹⁴ and the Ministry of ICT & National Guidance's multilingual AI model¹⁵ and relatively open, up-to-date policy documentation, as indicators of emerging responsible AI practices. Crucially, participants were reminded that the mere existence of AI strategies is meaningless if frameworks are hard to find or opaque; accessibility and transparency of policy documents form the first pillar of accountability, because hidden frameworks cannot be audited by civil society or invoked by citizens to claim their rights.

¹³ <https://www.global-index.ai/>

¹⁴ <https://pollicy.org/resource/principles-of-afro-feminist-ai-data/>

¹⁵ <https://ict.go.ug/media/news/uganda-launches-an-artificial-intelligence-ai-language-model>

B. Digital Safety, Economy, and Resilience



Sessions under this track highlighted the continual risks of data misuse, the realities of platform accountability, and the growing urgency around digital rights for all.

The International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) and Co-creation Hub (CchUB) showcased their work on platform accountability focusing on how social media and digital platforms both enable democratic participation and systemically expose women in politics to Tech-Facilitated Gender- Based Violence. MacLean Kamusiime, the Division Mayor of Kabale Municipality opened up the session with her lived experience, describing the constant online and offline threats, appearance-based attacks and gendered disinformation women face when occupying male-dominated political roles.

Research from CchUB and Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET) illustrated how algorithms amplify sensational harmful content and how AI tools are being used to manipulate women's images and reputations during elections. Deliberations highlighted that platform design and responsiveness contribute to this problem with reporting tools that are often slow or opaque, automated moderation which poorly captures gendered harms, and the limited support structures for women particularly in African contexts.



AI often misses the nuances of Technology Facilitated Gender Based Violence, while the monetary incentives of platforms often run counter to user safety.

Brenda Namata, Program Manager, Pollicy.



The session brought about consensus that TFGBV in elections is systemic, not incidental, and that accountability must be framed from an African, communal lens, rather than adopting Global North models in whole. The session called for aligning and enforcing national laws to close impunity gaps around online violence against women in politics. Building dedicated reporting and support mechanisms, including pre- and post-election monitoring, early-warning systems, and gender-sensitive documentation of cases. Investing in capacity-building so women candidates and communities understand platform risks, safeguards, and redress options. Panelists also emphasized the need for evidence-based studies on TFGBV patterns, severity, and impacts, disaggregated by gender, age, and disability, to guide regulatory and platform reforms.



The push for more women in politics must be matched with conditions that protect credible, competent women from being driven out of public life by violence.

Eweka Yvonne Ogieomo, Senior Programme Manager,
Election and Governance, CcHUB.



The discussion also highlighted legal and regulatory successes such as litigation against Google LLC for violating Uganda’s Data Protection Act as a blueprint for digital justice, demonstrating the importance of state and platform accountability in protecting women in African political spaces.¹⁶



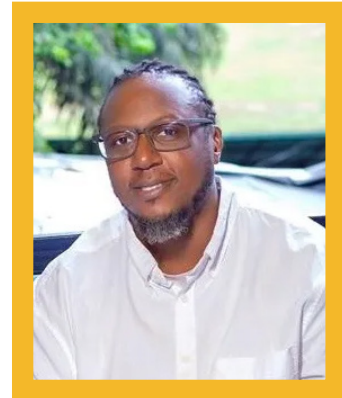
On Bridging Civil Society Participation in AI Regulatory Sandboxes, it was highlighted that while there are 66 AI and data sandboxes globally, almost all are concentrated in the global north revealing a stark geographic and governance imbalance. Discussions emphasized that civil society is largely excluded from these processes, as illustrated by Uganda’s failed biometric payments-by-CCTV initiative, which proceeded with government and technical actors but without local NGOs or community input, undermining legitimacy and public trust. Sandboxes, then, are time-bound, collaborative environments (regulatory, operational, or hybrid) that should serve regulators, the private sector, and communities alike, provided civil society is treated as a co-creator, not a passive stakeholder.

¹⁶ <https://cipesa.org/2025/07/ugandan-regulator-finds-google-in-breach-of-countrys-data-protection-law-orders-local-registration/>



Civil society surfaces and leads experiences of the community, especially for marginalized groups, and often these are missed by developers and regulators.

Brian Byaruhanga, Technology Officer, CIPESA



Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC) while consulting on ACHPR Resolution 620¹⁷ (LXXXI) 2024 as a pathway to Realizing the Promise of Data for Human Rights and Sustainable Development, highlighted the tension between the need for data to advance accountability and services, and the equally strong need to protect individuals and companies from misuse, over-taxation, competitive harm, and privacy violations. Stakeholders surfaced concrete examples of why actors are reluctant to share data. At the same time, the discussion clarified that some categories of telecom data, like aggregate demographic data, call-center metrics, service availability, and practice disclosure, can be shared more safely, whereas financial data, precise location data, and certain third-party data remain highly sensitive and should be subject to strict safeguards and court-ordered access.

Legally, consultations underscored how access-to-information and data protection laws in Uganda are meant to control who may access which kinds of data, and under what conditions, emphasizing that exposing another person's private data should be contingent on proper legal processes. Gilbert Sendugwa from the Africa Freedom of Information Centre stressed the conceptual and rights-based distinctions that matter for governance: "We cannot work with information without data," yet "there is a big difference between information and data," and "right holders accessing information is different from individuals having access to data." The call to action focused on ensuring transparent data practices, promoting equitable (rights-based) access to data, addressing bias in datasets, investing in data quality and literacy, and protecting against data exploitation so that data can truly serve human rights and sustainable development rather than erode them.

¹⁷ <https://achpr.au.int/en/adopted-resolutions/620-data-access-tool-advancing-human-rights-and-sustainable-development>



Individuals fear that exposing financial records could trigger unfair taxation or surveillance, while private companies, such as telecoms, worry that sharing commercially sensitive information could weaken their competitive position.

Gilbert Sendugwa, Executive Director,
Africa Freedom of Information Centre.



Women of Uganda Network led a session on safeguarding digital rights, centering communities most often silenced online. The discussion highlighted how structurally silenced women face growing threats through surveillance, privacy breaches, coercive police data demands, phishing, and network disruptions. Participants noted that these harms are shrinking online expression and creating fear and self-censorship ahead of the 2026 elections.



The discussion emphasized that these harms are not generic, but layered onto existing marginalization. Participants called for gender-inclusive legal reforms, mandatory court oversight for surveillance, and stronger regulatory accountability from bodies like the Uganda Communications Commission. They also urged private actors to adopt ethical data, AI, and biometric practices that protect safety and anonymity. Stakeholders stressed that awareness-raising, community education on digital rights, and civil society monitoring are essential to counter the chilling effects pushing structurally silenced women offline.

Media Monitoring Africa, on behalf of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa led a session to Co-Create ACHPR Resolution 630¹⁸ Guidelines for Africa, focused on platform responsibility and the centrality of independent fact-checking in protecting information integrity across Africa. The discussion highlighted requirements for platforms to ensure full content moderation in all African languages with adequate human oversight, integrate and amplify independent fact-checking in their systems, and support fact-checkers with resources and data access, while warning that community-sourced mechanisms like “community notes” are insufficient and vulnerable to manipulation. Calls to action included legal and regulatory reforms, multi-stakeholder collaboration, public awareness campaigns on information rights, and elevating independent fact-checking bodies that are free from state control so that information integrity efforts themselves do not become tools of censorship.

The Digital Rights Frontlines session cyber safety and online content incident handling emphasized that protecting personal data and navigating digital spaces safely are critical especially in contexts where men still dominate tech spaces and women and children face disproportionate harm. Participants highlighted common threats such as impersonation, hacking, scams, gendered harassment, child sexual exploitation, and Image-Based Sexual Abuse, noting how manipulated images and leaks are used to extort, shame, and silence victims, sometimes with severe mental health consequences. The session stressed that cyber threats are rarely random, they are intentional, coordinated, and strategic, often aimed at gaining money, power, or control making strong data protection practices essential as information crosses borders and can easily fall into the wrong hands.

A key outcome was the promotion of a practical incident response framework, including case intake and verification, assessment and classification, coordination and escalation, response and mitigation and Ongoing monitoring and follow-up as a practical model for organizations and support networks handling digital rights violations.

The session also called for greater public awareness on data protection, strengthening cybercrime and data protection laws to address new realities including AI-enabled abuses,

¹⁸ <https://achpr.au.int/en/adopted-resolutions/achpres630-lxxxii-2025>

and scaling initiatives that provide support, advocacy, and safe spaces for victims of cyberbullying and online harassment.



Protecting digital rights starts with us, and every user is a defender of digital space; we have a shared responsibility alongside the need for stronger legal and institutional protections.

Tony Kenyi, IT Officer & SafetyComm Lead, Digital Rights Frontlines, South Sudan.



The Debunk Media Initiative on the Future of Fact-Checking explored whether Artificial Intelligence can combat disinformation, showing that while AI is a powerful ally, it also poses significant risks in today's information ecosystem. Disinformation, particularly manipulated videos and images, spread faster than factual content and AI tools alone cannot reliably detect all deepfakes, especially in African contexts where training data is limited and often western-centric. The session emphasized that human fact-checkers remain essential, with AI serving as a support layer for tasks like automated claim detection, reverse image searches, and language processing, rather than replacing human judgment. Participants practiced a simple verification workflow, taking a screenshot from a viral video, running a reverse image search, and tracing it back to verified sources to confirm its authenticity.

Participants were urged to adopt routine verification habits, localize and collaborate around fact-checking infrastructures, and use AI while keeping the human in the loop, recognizing that AI can be both a tool and a threat, and that false news spreads six times faster than factual content.

C. Data, Equity, and Society



From open data for service delivery to gender-responsive data systems, discussions under this track repeatedly underscored that communities should not be treated as data subjects but as data owners with a central role of decisions on data use.

On data for equitable public services and budgets, city officials from Jinja and Fort Portal, through the Data Cities Consortium,¹⁹ showcased how data is transforming urban governance in Uganda. The consortium has supported newly created cities' move from ad hoc, low-quality records to structured data systems that inform budgeting, service delivery, and revenue collection. Concrete results included Fort Portal's local revenue increasing from 8.5 billion to 9.2 billion after cleaning property tax data and digitizing key revenue centers like street parking. In Jinja, officials developed a new data strategy and strategic statistics plan aligned with the city development plan, grounding decisions in better-quality evidence and participatory planning.²⁰


¹⁹ <https://www.datacities.ug/>

²⁰ <https://torodev.co.ug/how-fort-portal-city-is-growing-smarter-with-data-thanks-to-the-datacities-initiative-in-ugandas-emerging-cities/>

They highlighted ongoing challenges including limited data literacy, capacity constraints, poor governance, and fragmented records underscoring the need for structured data governance, capacity building, and targeted interventions to unlock equitable urban services.

Quality of data didn't conform with the standards, and thus the decisions weren't made on accurate data.

Peter Kusemererwa, Senior Assistant
Town Clerk, Fort Portal City



Africa Owns the Data: Participants also interrogated who truly controls African data and framed current data practices as a continuation of digital and economic colonialism. Stressing that those with capital and infrastructure, especially Big Tech companies that manufacture devices and embed opaque end-user agreements, are the de facto data owners, while African users become the product in systems they do not design or govern. Data was described as both borderless and deeply political, a commodity that can shape health, technological innovation, and policy in ways that largely serve external interests, with funding agendas often predetermining what is researched, collected, and valued.

In a masterclass led by the Defenders Protection Initiative, participants explored how young people can move from being passive users to active owners and designers of digital systems that shape their lives. Attendees mapped their digital identities on platforms like TikTok and X, defining digital ownership as having control and agency over one's data and representation, even in a world where "the internet never forgets."

The session emphasized digital sovereignty, which is local control over data infrastructures and governance to reduce dependence on foreign platforms, cables, and cloud systems that concentrate power outside Africa. The Key outcomes included promoting informed consent and addressing the imbalance between Big Tech and African users.

Decolonizing digital content and resisting technofeudalism. Encouraging youth participation across access, literacy, design, and governance. Framing AI as an aid, not a replacement for critical thinking, while addressing risks like over-reliance and cross-sharing of data. Participants were urged to demand transparency and accountability from tech companies, invest in local digital infrastructure, and pursue strategic litigation and advocacy, following examples like the case of *Ssekamwa Frank & 3 Others vs Google LLC*²¹ to ensure African digital practices protect users' and creators' rights.

The SOS Support Public Broadcasting Coalition, South Africa explored how the ACHPR Resolution 631²² aims to redefine public service content in a platform-dominated, AI mediated information ecosystem. Digital platforms are now primary information sources but remain largely unregulated and detached from public interest obligations while content on education, health, children and civic life competes with algorithm driven, monetized, and sometimes AI-generated material that can be misleading or misaligned with African realities.

The session positioned Resolution 631 alongside Resolutions 620 on data access and 630 on platform accountability as part of broader efforts to update continental media law, emphasizing that public service content is no longer solely the domain of traditional broadcasters. Influencers, podcasters, community media, and independent creators are already filling gaps, particularly where state-controlled media restrict pluralism. Notable outcomes included a shared agenda to democratize content production by recognizing and incentivizing new creators while safeguarding independence from state capture. Addressing language and accessibility gaps through local-language content, translation, subtitling, and inclusive formats. Mitigating AI risks with evolving guidelines for responsible AI use in newsrooms and content production, avoiding a simple transfer of legacy broadcast rules. Stakeholders also called for micro-grants, public-interest content funds, training, tools, recognition, and platform partnerships that prioritize the quality and discoverability of public-interest content over purely paid or sensational material.

Shetechte Uganda, on swiping with caution, delivered a powerful lightning talk mapping Uganda's digital scam epidemic exposing how online scams particularly fake work-abroad schemes are systematically targeting young Ugandans, especially women and girls seeking economic opportunity. The session illustrated how scammers exploit socioeconomic desperation: with unemployment high and remittances critical to Uganda's GDP (contributing 3% in 2024), young people are vulnerable to pressure tactics and artificial urgency as in the case of a woman convinced within a week to solicit 5 million shillings from relatives for a fake work visa, only to discover the ticket was fraudulent at the airport.

²¹ <https://observer.ug/viewpoint/understanding-the-decolonisation-of-africas-digital-future/>

²² <https://achpr.au.int/en/adopted-resolutions/631-achp,, „rres631-lxxxii-2025>



Data from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime shows that overseas job offers represent the largest category of scams, followed by phishing attacks (fraudulent calls and messages seeking personal or financial information), investment schemes, and rumor-based fraud, with WhatsApp, Facebook, and Telegram being the most infiltrated platforms.



Florence Nanono, Founder, Shetechtive Uganda.

In a lightning talk, the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, explored how sovereign debt can function as a modern tool of control and extraction, echoing Thomas Sankara's warning that "debt is a cleverly managed conquest of Africa." The session showed how access to debt data can shift public power, a single tweet sharing a Kenyan debt spreadsheet sparked youth-led protests, demonstrating that when citizens can see how much their governments have borrowed, from whom, and at what cost, they begin demanding accountability and transparency.

A key example was the *Wanjiru v. Republic of Kenya* case, which challenges the secrecy surrounding sovereign borrowing and debt-for-nature swap agreements made without public participation.²³ The talk highlighted how courts, journalists, and technologists can work together to expose opaque debt practices and push for reform. The call to action emphasized multisectoral engagement, lawyers challenging debt secrecy through litigation, journalists investigating borrowing schemes, and technologists building tools that make complex debt contracts accessible and understandable to the public.

²³ <https://new.kenyalaw.org/akn/ke/judgment/kehcc/2024/15918/eng@2024-12-13>



04

Side Events and Partner Activities

A. DataFest Africa Nairobi Edition

To mark the start of DataFest Africa 2025



To open DataFest Africa 2025, Pollicy, in partnership with the Aga Khan University Data Innovation Office, hosted the Nairobi edition of the festival at Aga Khan University. The convening brought together organizations and practitioners, students, journalists, and civic innovators eager to strengthen practical skills and deepen conversations on data governance. Participants were reminded that as African citizens and data subjects, they hold both the power and responsibility to shape how their data is collected, governed, and used. The gathering featured innovation showcases, lightning talks, exhibitions, and community dialogues designed to spark new collaborations, spotlight homegrown solutions, and advance user-driven data transformation. Sessions explored participatory models for data collection, local governance, trust-building, and scalable services, while asking critical questions about how data can move beyond serving institutions to truly empowering communities.

B. FemTech Agency and Ownership Convening



On the eve of DataFest Africa 2025, The FemTech Futures session brought together leaders, activists, technologists, and creatives from across Africa to advance women's agency in shaping the continent's digital and data futures. With participants from Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, and Nigeria, the convening centered feminist leadership, care, equity, and creativity as foundations for inclusive tech ecosystems.

Discussions produced three key priorities including building safe and visionary tech spaces for women and marginalized groups, addressing the invisibility of women's realities in mainstream data through research, participatory campaigns, and creative advocacy and linking FemTech to stronger funding and investment pipelines through partnerships and narrative building.

The convening laid the groundwork for mentorship programs, new research collaborations, and a pan-African advocacy network, while also highlighting persistent challenges including language exclusion, gender-blind policy, limited access to digital and economic resources, online violence, and patriarchal norms shaping technology. Participants underscored the urgency of context-specific, community-driven solutions that move feminist tech from vision to sustained practice.

C. DataFest Africa Lira Edition



The DataFest Africa 2025 pre-event at Amara Hub in Lira created a powerful space to confront how women’s realities in Northern Uganda remain largely absent from the data that drives policy, budgets, and development priorities. What began as a technical discussion on gender data quickly became a collective reflection on lived experience, highlighting that women sustain households and communities through farming, caregiving, market work, savings groups, and daily survival labour yet much of this work is unpaid, uncounted, and invisible in official statistics.²⁴ Participants emphasized that equitable systems cannot be built on incomplete evidence, and gender equality is impossible when women remain unseen in the data guiding decisions.

Through group dialogue and idea stations, the convening surfaced key gaps including unpaid care work which is rarely measured, informal economic activity that goes undocumented and digital surveys which often exclude women through barriers of language, literacy, and access, and gender data remaining fragmented across institutions. These blind spots distort wellbeing planning and lead to programs that overlook caregivers, misidentify farmers, and ignore challenges like time poverty, childcare, and mobility. In response, participants called for community-led gender data initiatives where women define what should be measured,

²⁴ <https://medium.com/@amarahub/seen-heard-and-counted-76316dd4d93b>

alongside culturally grounded tools such as time use assessments and narrative diaries that capture women's experiences with dignity. The Lira pre-event reaffirmed Amara Hub's mission of building local agency and strengthened DataFest Africa's wider commitment to taking data justice conversations beyond capitals ensuring rural communities are not treated as research subjects, but as co-authors of the evidence shaping their futures.

“
Women carry the weight, but data carries the proof, to make women seen, heard, and counted, African data systems must evolve in ways that honour the women who keep households alive, farms running, and communities thriving.
”





05

Community Voices and Reflections

DataFest Africa 2025 steered transformative discussions and inspired learning at every turn. Participants reflected on the power of data as not just numbers, but as a force that shapes identity, equity, and opportunity across Africa.



It was truly inspiring to be part of a community shaping the future of data and technology in Africa. Every moment was a reminder that data is not just information, its power, identity, and opportunity.

- AWS Cloud Club at Makerere University



The immersive Afrofeminist Data Museum was widely hailed as one of the most imaginative and thought-provoking parts of the festival, helping participants see data as something with “weight, history, and consequence, not just ones and zeros.” For many, this reframing made clear that Africa’s data story is one to be “molded, reclaimed, and redefined” by the people themselves.




Data is not just numbers; it's people, culture, and power. It shifted minds, mine included. I left Kampala, reminded that reclaiming Africa's data future isn't just a movement, it's a mindset.



Stories ranged from youth learning about data governance through hands-on programs to policymakers and city officials sharing their journeys towards stronger data ecosystems for local service delivery. Others highlighted the necessity of sustainability, noting that “you can only run philanthropic projects for so long; someone needs to pay for it. There has to be a sustainable model for it in Africa.

Gender equity and community inclusion were prominent themes. Participants voiced the importance of making data serve people rather than institutions, advocating for the expansion of gender-sensitive data and the co-creation of localized, context-aware data solutions.



“

Communities should not be treated as data subjects, but data owners.

”

Workshops on digital rights and digital ownership were described as eye-openers, sparking a new awareness that “our data is a part of us, and reclaiming our data future begins with awareness, knowing what we sign up for, and choosing consciously.” This was echoed in sessions on youth futures, platform accountability, and the power of game design in addressing complex societal challenges.



“

It was inspiring to see how much brilliance, creativity, and commitment exist across this continent, all working toward the same goal of a fair and inclusive digital world.

Digital Rights Frontlines.





06

Recommendations for Next Steps, Policy and Practice

The DataFest Africa 2025 surfaced a clear, collective mandate which is Africa's digital future must be designed, governed, and owned by Africans. Across the board, participants converged around a shared agenda of reclaiming data and technology from extractive models and redirecting them toward justice, care, and community power. Building on the diverse insights, experiments, and commitments that emerged from Kampala, Lira, Nairobi and beyond, the following recommendations and forward-looking priorities outline how Governments, communities, movements, and industry practitioners can translate DataFest's ethos into sustained policy change, institutional practice, and collaborative action.

(a) Institutionalize Inclusive Data Governance.

Governments, civil society, and private sector actors should work together to develop, enact, and enforce data policies that prioritize participatory decision-making, gender inclusion, accessibility, and transparency. Legally mandate community and civil society participation in regulatory sandboxes, and require public disclosure of national digital and AI strategies to enable auditability and citizen oversight.

(b) Invest in Local Digital Infrastructure.

To achieve genuine digital sovereignty, African governments and development partners must invest in local cloud infrastructure, fiber-optic networks, and community-driven data platforms, reducing dependence on foreign entities and enabling secure, equitable access to digital tools and services.

(c) Champion Responsible, Context-Aware AI and Data Ecosystems.

Adopt responsible AI practices measured by frameworks like the GIRAI Index and Made-in-Africa AI principles ensuring tools are developed, tested, and governed in local African languages and contexts, with robust provisions for human rights, bias mitigation, environmental accountability, and participatory monitoring.

(d) Build and Fund Interdisciplinary Capacity.

Establish and scale training programs focused on digital rights, AI literacy, data stewardship, and ethical technology development for women, youth, marginalized groups, policymakers, journalists, and practitioners. Facilitate peer-to-peer and cross-community knowledge exchange to ensure inclusiveness and cultural relevance.

(e) Advance Public Interest Content and Platform Accountability.

Develop new incentive structures including grants, mentorship, content funds to boost public service and civic content production, especially by underrepresented storytellers and communities. Hold platforms accountable for TFGBV, disinformation, and algorithmic bias by enforcing timely redress options, human oversight in moderation, and content discoverability that centers local realities.

(f) Strengthen Legal and Regulatory Responses to Digital Harms.

Update cybercrime, privacy, and gender-based violence laws to reflect emerging threats (e.g., AI-facilitated abuse, digital scams, discriminatory data use). Promote strategic litigation to challenge debt secrecy, big tech noncompliance, and ensure digital practices serve public, not just commercial, interests.

Emerging Priorities for the Community

(a) Decolonize and Democratize Technology.

Shift the narrative from Africa as a consumer to a co-creator and global leader in digital futures. Prioritize agency in designing, owning, and using data and AI to challenge technofeudalism and digital extractivism.

(b) Intersectional Inclusion and Justice.

Ensure all technology, policy, and capacity initiatives address the intersectional realities of gender, language, disability, youth, rurality, and class to avoid reinforcing systemic exclusions and digital divides.

(c) Community Ownership and Data Empowerment.

Support the creation of data hubs, circles, and trusts that allow communities to collect, own, interpret, and benefit from their own data. Amplify storytelling, creative arts, and archival initiatives like the Afrofeminist Data Museum as drivers of public engagement and transitional justice.

(d) AI, Climate, and Resource Justice.

Integrate environmental justice into all AI and digital development projects, making visible both the ecological costs for example mining and energy and the potential for tech for good that centers sustainability and fairness.



07

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Equally, heartfelt thanks go to the speakers, facilitators, exhibitors, volunteers, and attendees who brought their expertise, lived experience, and creativity into every keynote, session, workshop, game nook, and installation. DataFest Africa 2025 was not a top-down conference but a co-created space where technologists, data practitioners, activists, artists, policymakers, educators, students, and community organizers collectively imagined and prototyped fairer digital futures.

The program was enriched by leaders and teams from organizations including CIPESA, Africa Freedom of Information Centre, UNFPA, Digital Rights Frontlines, Makerere University, MERL Tech Initiative, Debunk Media Initiative, SOS Support Public Broadcasting Coalition, Uganda Christian University, Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET), Shetechive Uganda, the Center for AI Ethics and Governance in Africa, Defenders Protection Initiative, Kololo Senior Secondary School (Data Ladies), Datasphere Initiative, Twaweza East Africa, Media Monitoring Africa, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission Kenya, Paradigm Initiative, ToroDev, IREX, Talk to SEMA, the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria, OneTech Connect, CcHUB, Sunbird AI, Digital Inclusion Alliance, the Global Center on AI Governance, the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa, Vodo Arts Society and Lab, DIG/SEC initiative, Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law (CIPIT), Design Without Borders, the Personal Data Protection Office Uganda, AWS Cloud Club Makerere, Ai Kenya, Signvrse, Phoenix Analytics, Nubian Rights Forum, ICON Data and Learning Labs Africa, Prescott Data, Africa Water Ambassadors, Qhala, and many others.

Access the list of speakers <https://DataFest.africa/session-leads/>

Media Publications

1. Uganda hosts the 6th DataFest Africa to explore data, technology, and development. DataFest Africa 2025 kicked off its sixth edition at the National ICT Innovation Hub in Kampala, convening data scientists, innovators, policymakers, and digital rights advocates to explore how Africa, with a spotlight on Uganda, can leverage data, technology, and innovation to drive sustainable and inclusive development.

<https://pmldaily.com/news/2025/10/uganda-hosts-6th-DataFest-africa-to-explore-data-technology-and-development.html>

2. Experts Raise Alarm Over Misuse of Artificial Intelligence and Personal Data.

<https://www.ugnewsline.com/experts-raise-alarm-over-misuse-of-artificial-intelligence-and-personal-data/>

3. As governments and global digital firms continue to invest across the continent, African experts and policymakers are calling for stronger local control of personal data.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pX_UEUCy7xk

4. The 6th DataFest Africa in Kampala spotlighted both the promise and the dangers of AI & personal data use, with experts urging stronger policies and enforcement to protect privacy and security.

<https://nilepost.co.ug/news/298488/experts-warn-of-ai-misuse-personal-data-abuse>

5. As Uganda heads towards the 2026 general elections, leaders in the technology industry are calling on the government to protect digital rights and avoid internet shutdowns.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnKzQS0jqx0>

6. At DataFest Africa 2025, experts warned of the generative AI paradox, the risk of advanced AI technologies fueling misinformation and exploiting data, while policymakers and the public lack access to the data required for accountability and informed decisions.

https://www.newvision.co.ug/category/science/africa-warned-of-generative-ai-paradox-as-dat-NV_222784

7 The DataFest Africa 2025 – Nairobi Satellite Edition is part of Africa's largest celebration of data, technology, and innovation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki5k4bVJFYM>

8 AI Approaches in Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) landscape study at DataFest Africa 2025 spotlighted the urgent need for African-led approaches to using AI in evidence-building for policy and social impact.

<https://merltech.org/launch-recap-made-in-africa-artificial-intelligence-approaches-in-monitoring-evaluation-research-and-learning-a-practitioner-perspective-and-landscape-study/>

9 There is growing usage of AI in Uganda, but regulators warn that Artificial Intelligence, long praised for its potential to transform health, education, and business, is increasingly being misused to harass, deceive, and manipulate individuals.

https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/business/technology/ai-misuse-sparks-calls-for-stronger-data-control-5269348#google_vignette

10 Advancing African-Centred AI is a Priority for Development in Africa

<https://cipesa.org/2025/11/cipesa-at-DataFest-africa-2025-advancing-ethical-ai-and-digital-rights-in-africa/>

11 OPINION: Building technology that serves people, not just systems.

<https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2025/12/opinion-building-technology-that-serves-people-not-just-systems/>

12 Supporting Safer Digital Participation at DataFest Africa 2025: Our Clinic and Masterclass in Action.

<https://www.defendersprotection.org/2025/12/10/supporting-safer-digital-participation-at-DataFest-africa-2025-our-clinic-in-action/>

