



Africa Technology Policy Tracker (AfTech): Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is AfTech?

AfTech is an interactive digital platform that provides insight into the regulatory actions of governments across Africa. It tracks technology policies, laws, and regulations across four digital economy pillars: digital infrastructure, digital platforms, digital skills, and digital innovation.

2. Why was AfTech created?

Digital economy policies and regulatory frameworks across Africa are often dispersed across different institutions and countries, making them difficult to access and compare. AfTech was created to address this gap by consolidating these documents into a single, searchable platform. This enables policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders to better understand the continent's evolving digital regulatory environment.

3. What are the objectives of AfTech?

AfTech serves as a comprehensive resource for tracking digital economy policies, laws, and regulations across African countries. It supports policy analysis, enhances visibility into Africa's evolving tech regulatory landscape, and facilitates knowledge sharing among policymakers and stakeholders engaged in the continent's digital transformation.

4. Who can access AfTech data and are there any costs associated with accessing AfTech?

AfTech is an open repository for all users. Access to AfTech and its features is free of charge for all users. The platform is designed to promote unrestricted access to information on digital economy governance in Africa.

5. Who developed AfTech?

AfTech is developed by the Africa Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. AfTech was developed in three phases: pilot, AfTech 1.0, and now AfTech 2.0. AfTech 1.0 was developed in collaboration with the [African Telecommunications Union](#) (ATU).

6. What role did the ATU play in the development of AfTech?

The ATU helped expand AfTech's coverage by coordinating national participation through its member countries. Each country designated two experts to serve as focal points (during AfTech 1.0 and supported the data collection process.

7. How is data collected for AfTech?

Data for AfTech has been collected through desktop research conducted by the Carnegie Africa Program and focal points (limited to AfTech 1.0). Data synthesis and coding are undertaken by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

8. How is the data on AfTech organized?

The tracker organizes documents using an analytical framework built around four pillars of the digital economy: digital infrastructure, digital platforms, digital skills, and digital innovation. Within this framework, documents are tagged with thematic data points (see [glossary](#) for data points). Additionally, some documents address multiple policy areas simultaneously. When this occurs, the document is tagged across all relevant themes within the tracker's analytical framework. This allows users to search, filter, and analyze regulatory developments across policy areas and countries.

9. How are data accuracy and integrity ensured on AfTech?

All documents included in AfTech undergo a rigorous verification process conducted by the Carnegie Africa research team. Information is cross-checked with official government sources and validated before being uploaded into the tracker.

10. What types of documents are included in AfTech?

AfTech includes officially published or adopted digital economy laws, policies, strategies, and regulatory frameworks. The tracker focuses on national-level documents as well as relevant continental frameworks published by the African Union. Draft or unofficial documents are not included in AfTech.

11. How often is AfTech updated?

AfTech is an ongoing project, and the dataset is periodically updated as new policies, laws, and regulations emerge across African countries. Our research team continues to add new documents and expand the platform's coverage. Future updates will focus on adding new documents, expanding country coverage, and generating insights and analysis from the dataset.

12. Can users suggest new features or improvements for AfTech?

Yes. Feedback and suggestions are welcome and help improve the platform's quality and usability. Users can submit comments or inquiries to africatechtracker@ceip.org. All submissions will be reviewed and considered for future updates.