AITLAP
ASSOCIATION OF IT LAW PROFESSIONALS

Second Edition

AITLAP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.



Driving Information Technology and Legal Education

It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of responsibility that I welcome you to the Second Edition of the AITLAP Digital IT Law Newsletter/Journal.

This monthly publication was created to foster informed dialogue, critical reflection, and courageous thought leadership at the intersection of law, technology, and digital policy. With this second edition, we move beyond introduction and into intention.

We are living through a defining moment. Artificial intelligence, data governance, cybersecurity, digital identity systems, and platform regulation are no longer abstract policy conversations they are actively reshaping legal education, justice delivery, professional ethics, and institutional governance. The pace of technological transformation demands more than passive observation; it demands principled leadership.

Building on the momentum of our inaugural issue, this edition deepens our commitment to sustained engagement. The reflections presented here speak to a shared urgency: ensuring that our legal frameworks, institutions, and professional practices evolve in step with rapid technological advancement, not reactively, but strategically.

This Journal is therefore a deliberate bridge: between scholarship and practice, policy and implementation, local realities and global trends. Most importantly, it is anchored in African perspectives within the broader digital discourse.

AITLAP is not simply a publication. It is a platform for intellectual courage. A space for practitioners, scholars, policymakers, technologists, and students to interrogate assumptions, share insight, and shape the future of digital law together.

I invite you to read with curiosity. Engage critically. Contribute boldly. The strength of this Journal lies not only in its pages, but in its community.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping shape what comes next.

Lorraine Eyetsa Ocloo
Creator, AITLAP Digital IT Law Newsletter
Head of IT, Digital Transformation & Innovation
Ghana School of Law

Assistant Editor & Admin, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet Mr. Frank Ablorh Sowah, an experienced Software Developer and IT Professional with over nine years of hands-on experience delivering robust, user-centered digital solutions. He holds an HND and a BSc in Computer Science and has worked across academia, public institutions, NGOs, and private sector organizations.

Frank specializes in full-cycle application development, cloud and DevOps solutions, and enterprise web platforms, with strong expertise in Python, JavaScript, PHP, Laravel, React, and AWS. He has led and contributed to major systems for the University of Ghana, Ghana School of Law, and Africa Skills Hub, Ocean Governance Project (OGP) Ghana Bar Association, combining technical excellence with a passion for innovation, training, and digital transformation.

Editorial Associate, AITLAP Monthly Newsletter



Meet Mrs. Judith Ama Afenyi-Donkor is a results-driven lawyer with a strong commitment to addressing social injustices affecting juveniles. She holds a BA in Information Studies (Major) and Sociology (Minor) from the University of Ghana, an LLB from Wisconsin International University College where she was named Best Student in Constitutional Law and served on the Judicial Council and an LLM in Information Technology Law from the University of Ghana, specializing in Data Protection, Cybersecurity Law, and Digital Rights. She currently serves as an Associate at Ghartey & Ghartey, with professional interests in IT Law, Constitutional Law, and Human Rights, and is recognized for her strong analytical and research capabilities, reflected in her published legal writings.

Beyond her legal practice, Judith is the Founder and Executive Director of the JAB Foundation, where she leads initiatives focused on children's welfare, education, digital safety, and health through sustainable community programs. She is married to Rev'd Fiifi Afenyi-Donkor, an Ordained Minister of the Methodist Church Ghana and Personal Assistant to the Presiding Bishop.

Creator of AITLAP's Monthly Newsletter



Meet Ms. Lorraine Eyetsa Ocloo, the Creator and Chief Editor of AITLAP's Monthly Newsletter, launched in January 2026 to share knowledge, inspiration, and opportunity across the intersecting worlds of technology and law. Ms. Ocloo is a leading Ghanaian design intelligence professional and digital transformation specialist with over 18 years of experience spanning strategic leadership and institutional reform, the creative industries, and the legal and justice sectors. Her career sits at the intersection of systems thinking, governance, and innovation, where she has consistently worked to reimagine how institutions evolve in response to technology.

Her work in digital transformation is driven by a strong commitment to bridging traditional African knowledge systems with modern technology, particularly in the context of Artificial Intelligence (AI). She actively advocates for the inclusion of African data, cultural logic, and problem-solving approaches in digital systems to ensure technologies are context-aware, inclusive, and globally relevant.Currently, she serves as Head of IT, Digital Transformation and Innovation at the Ghana School of Law, where she is leading technology-enabled reforms across legal education and justice delivery. Through AITLAP's Newsletter, she brings a clear, Africa-centred and future-focused editorial vision, creating a space for critical thought, practical insight, and cross-sector collaboration.



AITLAP is a voluntary, non-profit, non-political professional body registered under the laws of the Republic of Ghana, with perpetual succession and a common seal. Headquartered in Accra, AITLAP brings together IT Law students, lawyers, IT professionals, policymakers, and industry leaders committed to shaping Ghana's digital future through research, advocacy, and collaborative initiatives.

Core Objectives

- Bridge Law & Technology – Be the go-to body for organizations and government on IT policy.
- Advocate for IT Lawyers & Professionals – Champion their role in Ghana's digital transformation.
- Networking & Knowledge Sharing – Host workshops, webinars, and knowledge sessions.
- Consultation & Business Acquisition – Offer expert policy and legal advice.
- Policy Advocacy – Push for fair, inclusive, and innovative digital regulation.
- Capacity Building – Fund member training & international conference sponsorships.
- Flagship Annual IT Policy Conference – Ghana's biggest IT law event.
- Alumni Engagement – Homecoming for IT Law alumni to connect & collaborate.
- Monthly or quarterly meetup (lectureship).
- IT law Blog or newsletter per month.

Why This Association?

Ghana's digital economy is expanding fast, and with it comes new challenges in law, technology, and policy.

To meet this demand, we are creating a state-of-the-art platform where lawyers, IT professionals, policymakers, and alumni collaborate to shape Ghana's digital future.



Our Vision

To be Ghana's leading hub for IT law, policy, and technology innovation, building trust, fairness, and accountability in the digital economy.

Our Mission

To bring together experts from legal and IT fields to shape policy, foster knowledge sharing, and champion best practices for a secure, inclusive, and sustainable digital economy.

Fun & Community Activities

- Hackathons & Policy Pitch Competitions.
- Cybercrime Moot Courts & Trial Simulations.
- Tech & Law Movie Nights.
- Networking Mixers, Homecomings & Gala Nights.
- Annual Awards (Tech-Law Innovator of the Year).
- International Exchange & Travel Tours.
- Sports & Bonding Events (Lawyers vs. IT Professionals).
- Share topics among members to teach or facilitate capacity building.

Expected Impact

- Recognition as Ghana's leading IT law & policy hub.
- Strong collaboration between lawyers, IT experts, and policymakers.
- Greater global opportunities for members.
- A vibrant alumni-driven community with professional and social values.
- Build capacity to engage international organizations for policy alignment.
- Mentorship programs for upcoming professionals.

TAGLINE:

"Legal Minds for the Digital Age."



HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION OF IT LAW PROFESSIONALS – AITLAP AFRICA



The Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP Africa) was conceived from a shared vision to create a unified platform for professionals and scholars at the intersection of law and technology across Africa.

The founding idea was initiated by Ruben Mawuji (popularly known as Figo), who envisioned an association that would bring together IT law practitioners, academics, technologists, and students to advance discourse, policy development, and professional collaboration in the evolving digital landscape. He initially shared this vision with his course mates, Baffour Asare koreng Esq. and Yao Constant, who supported the concept.
Ruben subsequently informed the Association's current Patron, Dr Kwaku Boadu, about the initiative. Dr. Boadu advised that the vision should be aligned with alumni of the IT Law programme and encouraged engagement with previous course representatives and Dr kan Asigbey to build a strong institutional foundation.
Following this guidance, outreach was made to the course representatives of the earlier cohorts, including Eunice Oteng Dapaah Esq. (First Cohort) and Judge Sly (Second Cohort). Eunice Oteng Esq. further introduced Dr Sylvester Nyamekye, who currently serves as the Interim President and has played a key role in structuring and documenting the Association's development.

The founding vision was also shared with Hajia Naderatu Adams and Cephas Agbozo, who, together with Dr. Sylvester Nyamekye, are recognized as Co-Founders of AITLAP Africa. Their collective leadership laid the institutional and operational foundation for the Association.
AITLAP Africa was formally registered as a company on 10th November 2025, providing it with legal recognition and a structured governance framework.
The Association held its first official activity, a Health Walk on 5th December 2025 at the University of Ghana campus, marking the beginning of its public engagement and community-building initiatives.

MEET THE AITLAP EXECUTIVE MEMBERS



Its official launch took place on 29th January 2026, alongside the TechLaw Conference 2026, which was held the same day. The event was highly successful and was graced by the Deputy Minister for Communication, Digital technology and Innovation of Ghana Hon Mohammed Adams Sukparu, demonstrating strong institutional and governmental interest in advancing IT law discourse in the country.

As of today, AITLAP Africa has 182 registered members, supported by a duly constituted (10) Board and eight (8) Interim Executive Members overseeing its strategic direction and operations. The Association continues to grow as a professional body committed to promoting excellence in Information Technology Law, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and shaping Africa's digital legal ecosystem.

Membership Benefits



Access to Knowledge & Thought Leadership

Access to Knowledge & Thought Leadership
Members receive priority access to AITLAP's Digital IT Law Newsletter/Journal, research briefs, policy papers, and curated insights on emerging issues in IT law, digital governance, AI, data protection, and cyber regulation.

Policy Engagement & Advocacy Platform

AITLAP provides members with opportunities to contribute to policy dialogue, research, and advocacy initiatives that influence legislation, regulatory reform, and national digital strategy in Ghana and beyond.

Professional Development & Capacity Building

Members benefit from workshops, masterclasses, seminars, and conferences led by legal, technology, and policy experts, supporting continuous learning and practical skill development across law and technology.

Professional Development & Capacity Building

Membership offers access to a multidisciplinary professional network of IT law students, lawyers, technologists, policymakers, and industry leaders, fostering collaboration, mentorship, and career-building opportunities.

Membership is open to all individuals, organizations, and IT Law students who support the vision, mission, and objectives of AITLAP, and who are engaged in or have an interest in the field of information technology and law.

There shall be four categories of membership:

A. Full Members
Description: Lawyers in good standing, IT professionals, policymakers, and Academics.

B. Associate Members
Description: Law and IT students, interns, and early-career professionals.

C. Corporate Members
Description: Law firms

D. Description: Persons of distinction recognized for their contributions to the field.



Join Our Community

Register Now

Executive Highlight

Nyamekye and Partners

DR S. NYAMEKYE, ESQ



Hajia Naderatu Adams is a legal-tech executive, IT law expert, ICT marketing strategist, and Chief Executive Officer of Global Information Technology Solutions (GITS) with over two decades of experience driving digital transformation across Ghana and Africa. She blends legal scholarship, business leadership, and public-interest technology to advance innovation, regulatory compliance, and inclusive growth within the ICT sector.

She is widely recognized for her expertise in data protection and privacy, with specialized exposure to Colombian and German frameworks. Her multidisciplinary profile bridges law, technology, and strategic marketing, positioning her at the intersection of regulation and enterprise innovation. An ADR practitioner and Director of the Center for Citizen Empowerment she actively promotes digital rights awareness and citizen inclusion.

Beyond corporate leadership, Hajia Naderatu leads the Voice of the Widows Foundation, empowering women and vulnerable groups through skills training, legal aid access, social advocacy, and sustainable livelihood initiatives.

Executive Highlight



Hajia Naderatu Adams

IT law expert, ICT marketing strategist, and Chief Executive Officer of Global Information Technology Solutions (GITS)

Hajia Naderatu Adams – Legal-Tech Executive | CEO, Global Information Technology Solutions (GITS)



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Exclusive Short Courses from Global Legal Leaders

Eligibility

- Students enrolled in the MA/LLM National Security Law and Practice programme at the University of Ghana School of Law; and
- Students who have completed their coursework in the MA/LLM National Security Law and Practice programme at the University of Ghana School of Law but are yet to graduate.
- National Security Professionals actively working in the field.
- Professionals holding a Master's degree in Law, IT , Security Studies, International Relations, Defence and Strategic Studies, Public Policy, Intelligence Studies, Criminology, Cybersecurity, or other closely related disciplines, with demonstrated professional experience in national security, defence, intelligence, law enforcement, diplomacy, governance, risk management, or related areas.

In addition to the above, prospective applicants must possess a passport with a minimum validity date of 18th October 2026.

Unleash your potential with unparalleled professional seminars, meticulously crafted and delivered by the esteemed faculties of Columbia Law School, the Ghana School of Law and the University of Ghana School of Law



Ready to Join the Global Legal Dialogue?

Ready to Join the Global Legal Dialogue?

https://shortcourses.gslaw.school



6 - MONTH PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE COURSE IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND LITIGATION

This six-month non-residential certificate programme is designed to bridge the gap between the basic legal practice training available to prosecutors and the advanced professional legal education of defense counsel. It seeks to enhance the competence, confidence, and professionalism of officers involved in criminal prosecution and litigation.

Course Overview

- The programme aims to:
- Deepen participants' understanding of criminal procedure and the rules of evidence.
- Strengthen courtroom advocacy and litigation skills.
- Update knowledge of relevant legislation and the interpretation of laws.

Professional Law Course

This is a two-year program for Bachelor of Laws graduates from the University of Ghana, KNUST, and other Council-approved universities. It offers a Professional Law Course with a set of compulsory subjects.

https://gslaw.edu.gh/courses/professional-law-course

STATUTORY PROGRAMME

The Professional Law Course (PLC) is a two-year practical training programme designed for Bachelor of Laws (LLB) graduates from approved universities in Ghana and other common law jurisdictions. It equips students with the professional skills and ethics required to practise as Barristers and Solicitors of the Supreme Court of Ghana.

Part 1

- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- Civil Procedure
- Company & Commercial Practice
- Criminal Procedure
- Law of Evidence
- Law Practice Management & Legal Accountancy

Part 2

- Advocacy & Legal Ethics
- Conveyancing & Drafting
- Family Law & Practice
- Interpretation of Deeds & Statute

Who May Apply

- LLB graduates from public or private universities in Ghana accredited by the National Accreditation Board (NAB) and the General Legal Council (GLC)
- Ghanaian LLB graduates from foreign common law jurisdictions (e.g. UK, USA, Canada) who meet subject requirements.

UG | SCHOOL OF LAW



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAW (LL.M. & M.A.)

The world is in the information age, the fourth industrial revolution, and IT permeates all aspects of human experience. Every economy requires the proper implementation of information technologies to bolster growth and sustain its development process by raising productivity and efficiency in all other sectors of the economy. However:
What are the top-down high level issues of technology and the responses of law to technology required to ensure that the economy has the policy, legal and regulatory frameworks, and the right practitioner approaches essential to facilitate economic growth? and,

What are the bottom-up concepts of law, computer systems and technology trends that must be mastered for innovative participation in the creation of policy and regulatory structures; and the successful implementation of private and public sector IT projects; with contextual local and regional impacts on economic growth?

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

To help answer the need to facilitate economic growth, the University of Ghana School of Law's M.A./LL.M. IT Law programme adopts both top-down and bottom-up approaches to train public and private sector leadership and managerial staff with the objectives to:

1. Equip students with mastery over basic legal and computer system concepts essential for advanced studies in IT Law and for the confident handling of IT language and issues;
2. Explore the responses of law to issues of information technology;
3. Situate the issues of law and technology in the student's local and regional contexts, aligned with AU and AfCFTA goals;
4. Build and instill valuable employability skills that can be readily applied to a wide range of careers in the fields of IT Law and FIDIC in public and private sector projects;
5. Challenge students for creative thinking on legal and non-legal (ethical, social, cultural, economic) approaches to the regulation of technology.

COURSE DURATION

One (1) Academic Year

https://law.ug.edu.gh/admissions/masters



Join Our Community

Register Now

TECHLAW CONFERENCE 2026

Theme:

Ghana's Digital Transformation: An Era for IT Lawyers and Tech

AITLAP
ASSOCIATION OF IT LAW PROFESSIONALS

HOST DEAN



PROF. ATUDIWE P. ATUPARE

HOST DEAN, UG SCHOOL OF LAW

SPEAKERS



PROF. RAYMOND A. ATUGUBA

AG DIRECTOR, GHANA SCHOOL OF LAW



DR. KWEKU AINUSON

HOD INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES UG SCHOOL OF LAW



DR. KWAKU BOADU

IT LAW CORDINATOR, UG SCHOOL OF LAW



OWUREDU ASARE

HEAD OF FINTECH AND INNOVATIONS OFFICE BANK OF GHANA



DR S. NYAMEKYE, ESQ

FOUNDER AND MANAGING PARTNER NYAMAKYE AND PARTNERS



HER HONOUR SIRAN MAHAMA

CIRCUIT COUT JUDGE JUDICIAL SERVICE OF GHANA

TECHLAW CONFERENCE 2026

Theme:
Ghana's Digital Transformation: An Era for IT Lawyers and Tech

AITLAP
ASSOCIATION OF IT LAW PROFESSIONALS

Meet our
PANELISTS

Discussion topic: AI, Law & Digital Regulation

Moderator



Daisy Alabi

Panelist



Her Honour Siran Mahama
Circuit Court Judge
Judicial Service of Ghana



Dr Jamal Tonzua
Acting Deputy Director-General
Cyber Security Authority



Owureku Asare
Head of Research and Innovations
Office, Bank of Ghana



Raphael Acquah
Senior Manager, MIS IT Strategy & Solution Architecture



Ms. Deborah Asmah
Chief Marketing & Operations Officer,
Xpontu Technologies Limited

REGISTER:
https://tally.so/r/BzEQbR

Conference Proceedings and Official Report

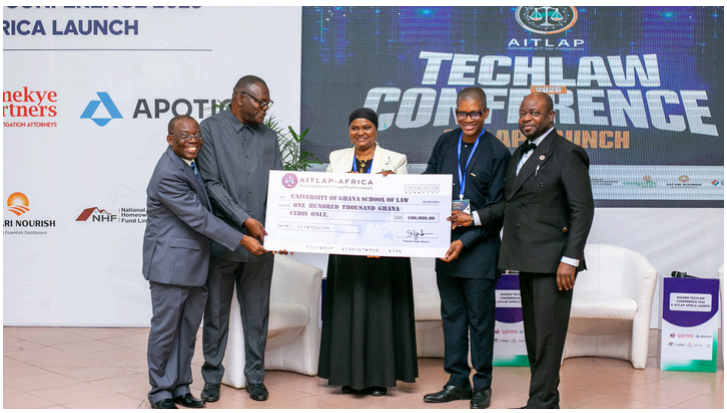


AITLAP CONFERENCE 2026

The TechLaw Conference 2026, held on January 29 at the University of Ghana School of Law (UGSoL) Auditorium, marked a pivotal milestone with the official launch of the Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP) Africa. The event focused on the theme "Ghana's Digital Transformation: An Era for IT Lawyers and Tech Innovators".

Key Outcomes and Highlights

- **AITLAP Africa Launch**: The association was established to bridge the gap between technology and law, promoting capacity building and collaboration across Africa.
- Major Donation: To support the future of legal education, AITLAP donated **GH₵ 100,000** to the UGSoL building project.
- **Government Commitment:** Deputy Minister Mohammed Adams Sukparu (MP) reaffirmed the government's support for strengthening legal frameworks in fintech, cybersecurity, and AI to ensure a secure digital economy.
- **Focus on AI and Ethics**: Discussions emphasized the role of Artificial Intelligence as a driver of efficiency while stressing the need for ethical standards and forward-looking legislation.
- **Regulatory Innovation**: Participants explored the use of regulatory sandboxes to foster innovation in digital finance while managing associated risks.





Conference Proceedings and Official Report





Key Panel Discussion Themes & Topics

The panel discussions, which featured experts from the legal and tech sectors, focused on the following areas:

- AI Governance & Ethics: Navigating the legal implications of Artificial Intelligence and ensuring responsible AI adoption.
- Fintech Regulation: Addressing regulatory frameworks for financial technologies in an evolving digital economy.
- Digital Justice Systems: Exploring how technology is transforming legal practice, including digital evidence and online dispute resolution.
- Data Protection & Compliance: Discussing the legal obligations regarding personal data and digital privacy.

Key Takeaways and Insights

- The "Evolutionary" Approach: The Ag. Director of the Ghana School of Law highlighted that IT integration into legal education should be evolutionary, focusing on equipping lawyers to regulate, protect, and ensure accountability in digital spaces.
- Investment in Legal Tech: AITLAP demonstrated its commitment to the field by contributing GHS 100,000 to the University of Ghana School of Law to support infrastructure for teaching IT Law.
- Industry Focus: Discussions highlighted that legal professionals are beginning to embrace "vibe coding" (using natural-language prompts to build software), marking a shift in how legal tech is developed.
- Future Outlook: The association aims to create a vibrant, alumni-driven community that bridges the gap between technology, policy, and law.

Speech by Hon. Mohammed Adams Sukparu (MP)



Conference Proceedings and Official Report

Ghana Pushes Stronger Legal Frameworks for Digital Innovation at TechLaw Conference 2026

MoCDTI - The Deputy Minister for Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations, Hon. Mohammed Adams Sukparu (MP), on Thursday 29th, 2026, underscored the government's commitment to building robust legal and policy frameworks to support Ghana's digital transformation.

Speaking on behalf of the Sector Minister, Hon. Samuel Nartey George (MP), at the TechLaw Conference 2026 and the launch of AITLAP Africa at the University of Ghana School of Law, Hon. Sukparu described the convergence of law, technology, and innovation as a defining force shaping Ghana's development.

He noted that the establishment of AITLAP Africa is timely and aligns with government efforts to strengthen regulations in areas such as fintech, e-commerce, data protection, cybersecurity, and artificial intelligence.

According to him, effective collaboration between legal experts, technologists, and policymakers is critical to ensuring that innovation remains inclusive, secure, and globally competitive.

The Deputy Minister highlighted artificial intelligence as a growing driver of efficiency in financial services, legal practice, and public administration, stressing the need for ethical standards and forward-looking laws to guide its adoption.

He reaffirmed the Ministry's open-door policy and pledged support for partnerships with AITLAP Africa to advance research, capacity building, and public awareness on digital rights and emerging technologies, urging stakeholders to play active roles in shaping Ghana's digital future.

Speech delivered by the AG Director of Legal Education/Ghana School of Law Professor Raymond Akongburo Atuguba



Conference Proceedings and Official Report

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before I begin, permit me a light remark. I am here today to remind those of you who thought you had gotten rid of me that you cannot do so that easily. I am only on leave for two years, and before you know it, I will be back.

On a more serious note, I am honoured to join you at this important gathering, which brings together two forces that increasingly define our present and shape our future: law and technology. I commend the organisers for convening this conversation at a time when Ghana, like many societies, is navigating profound questions about the intersection of law and emerging technology.

I was born to parents who were not only teachers but also farmers. My typical day as a child began early on the farm, sometimes chasing away partridges that unearthed and ate the sown seeds, then returning home to open the chicken coop, unpen the goats and sheep, fetch water from the dam, bathe, and head to school. After school, it was back to the farm, and then homework at night, though there was hardly much homework in those days.

As a farmer, I am used to sowing seeds. All my life, I have been in the business of sowing seeds and ensuring that they sprout. After sowing and seeing them sprout, I often vanish, because I was not given the special gift of tendering. That, I have learned, is for more advanced humans than myself.

One of the seeds that Dr. Kweku Boadu and I sowed in this School was the Information Technology Law Programme. I remember vividly the morning in August 2019 when we met in the Dean's Office to discuss the possibility of introducing IT Law. He proposed starting it as an undergraduate elective. I approved that. But I had other plans. At the time, I believed the School needed an IT revolution. Completely unaware that COVID 19 would soon push us into 100 percent online teaching, we began what I call doing our IT things. The rest, as they say, is history.

We went on to develop the LLM and MA Programmes in IT Law. From the very beginning, the vision was Pan African, one that would extend across the continent in teaching, research, and policy implementational advocacy, while drawing in extra continental resources.

I cannot adequately express how pleased I am to see that vision move a step further with the establishment and launch of the Association of Information Technology Professionals Africa.

Like the parable of the sower in the Good Book, where seeds fell on different types of soil, I can confidently say that the seed of the IT Law Programme fell on good ground. It also found an accomplished tenderer in Dr. Boadu. He deserves commendation for nurturing and growing what we planted.

But let us broaden the lens.

Recently, the new Chief Justice has launched a series of justice sector reforms under what is termed E Justice Plus. These initiatives include IT infrastructure expansion, e filing platforms, digital authentication systems, electronic case management, virtual and hybrid hearings, digitisation of court records, integrated judicial portals, digital payment systems, and the establishment of E Justice Service Centres. The ambition is to make these systems the default mode of prosecuting cases by the 150th Anniversary of the Supreme Court of Ghana in July 2026.

These developments are promising. However, let us watch it.

Digital tools have improved public services, expanded education through online learning, enhanced financial inclusion through mobile money, and strengthened efficiency in justice systems. Yet the same infrastructures can enable fraud, cybercrime, and data breaches. Digital systems are not neutral; they are designed by humans and can reproduce inequality, entrench discrimination, and obscure accountability behind technical complexity. As Dr. Boadu often reminds his students, garbage in, garbage out.

For Ghana and Africa, this conversation carries even deeper implications. Historically, the continent has experienced political domination, economic domination through neocolonialism, and ideological domination.

At the turn of this century, a fourth form emerged, digital or electronic domination.

Dominant technological models, especially in artificial intelligence, are often trained on Euro American data and worldviews, marginalising African epistemologies and ways of knowing.

Digital transformation offers powerful opportunity, but it is not a shortcut. Technology without governance can reproduce inequality and erode public confidence. When properly regulated, however, digital systems can expand access, improve oversight, and modernise delivery without sacrificing standards.

This brings me to legal education.

IT law is central to legal education reform. Future lawyers must not only know how to use digital systems but must also regulate them, protect rights within them, and ensure accountability in digital spaces. The intersection of IT and legal education must be evolutionary rather than disruptive. It must pursue expanded access, preserved quality, and strengthened institutional legitimacy.

Digital tools should complement, not replace, physical institutions. Reform must be guided by inclusive consultation with the Bench, the Bar, academia, and students. Our goal must be to produce legal professionals who are grounded in legal tradition yet prepared for a digital future, so that innovation strengthens justice and the rule of law rather than weakens them.

Finally, let me address a matter that has drawn some criticism, the range and inclusivity of our Master's programmes, particularly their openness to non lawyers. It is important to state clearly that law must remain a public good, not a private possession. Legal knowledge should not be treated as a secret potion reserved exclusively for lawyers. It should be accessible to those who seek to better their work, their lives, and society. This inclusive vision of legal education owes much to my predecessor and teacher, Professor Edward Kofi Quashigah, who quietly pioneered the teaching of law to non lawyers in this School. Building on that foundation, we expanded the LLM and MA programmes with the aim that within ten years they would evolve into internationally recognised centres of excellence for teaching, research, and policy implementational advocacy.

Today, seeing the Association of Information Technology Professionals move this vision closer to reality fills me with deep satisfaction.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I began with the metaphor of sowing seeds. The seeds have been planted. They have sprouted. They are being nurtured. The task before us now is to ensure that they grow into institutions strong enough to shape Africa's digital future so that technology serves justice, fairness, and the rule of law.

Thank you.

Lecture by Kwaku: Artificial Intelligence, Hype, and Human Responsibility



Conference Proceedings and Official Report

Lecture by Kwaku: Artificial Intelligence, Hype, and Human Responsibility

At the recent conference session, Kwaku delivered a thought-provoking lecture examining the realities and misconceptions surrounding Artificial Intelligence. His central argument was clear and emphatic: AI is powerful mathematics, but it is significantly overhyped and will not replace hard work, critical thinking, or human responsibility any time soon.

Overall Theme

The lecture challenged popular narratives portraying AI as an all-powerful force destined to replace human intelligence. Instead, the speaker framed AI as a mathematical and scientific tool whose capabilities are often exaggerated for commercial, political, or ideological reasons.

Fear and Hype Around New Technology

Kwaku began by placing AI within a broader historical context. He noted that societies have consistently reacted to new technologies with fear and exaggeration.

He referenced historical examples such as early reactions to television, which some perceived as "spirits in a box," and the 1865 United Kingdom Red Flag Act, which required a person to walk in front of motor vehicles carrying a red flag to warn others of their approach.

He also pointed to dramatic statements by global religious and business leaders who have described AI as:

- A "new god"
- Comparable in danger to nuclear weapons
- A tool that could allow whoever leads in AI to control mankind

According to the speaker, many of these claims are made without a proper understanding of what AI actually is.

What AI Is and Is Not

Kwaku framed AI through the lens of tractable and intractable problems:

- Tractable problems are those we know how to solve mathematically. These are translated into models, algorithms, and code, which computers execute step by step.
- Intractable problems involve deep human intuition and complex contextual reasoning that mathematics cannot yet fully capture.

He argued that the ultimate goal of AI is to capture aspects of natural human intelligence and embed them into machines. However, he maintained that this level of true human-like intelligence has not yet been achieved anywhere in the world. Claims suggesting otherwise, in his view, represent exaggeration.

Large Language Models and Their Limits
A significant portion of the lecture focused on Large Language Models (LLMs), particularly systems such as GPT. He explained that GPT stands for Generative, Pre-trained, Transformer, with the transformer component representing the mathematical architecture behind the model.

According to the speaker, LLMs function by:

- Training on vast quantities of internet text.
- Using mathematical probability to predict the most likely next word, sentence, or paragraph.
- Generating responses based on statistical patterns in existing data.

He stressed that such systems do not create new knowledge. Rather, they recombine and repackage information already present in their training data.
He also addressed the issue of "hallucinations," where AI systems confidently generate incorrect information. He clarified that this is not a simple malfunction but a natural outcome of probability-based prediction models.

Practical Failures and Overpromises
The lecture highlighted several instances where AI initiatives failed or did not meet expectations. Examples included:

- A Swedish company that reportedly replaced hundreds of employees with AI systems, only to rehire them when performance declined.
- Research reports suggesting a high percentage of AI projects fail to deliver measurable results.
- Claims that large-scale AI initiatives in sectors such as healthcare and drug discovery have struggled to produce tangible breakthroughs.
- Commercial systems marketed aggressively to governments without clear evidence of effectiveness.

Kwaku described this trend as similar to "snake oil" marketing, warning policymakers and institutions to demand proof before investing heavily in AI-branded solutions. He cautioned that soon nearly every product and service may carry an "AI" label to justify increased costs.

Risks to Society, Education, and Law
The lecture also explored the societal risks associated with uncritical adoption of AI.

Education
The speaker expressed concern about students overrelying on AI tools instead of developing independent thinking skills.

He cited an example from his own classroom, where a high failure rate was linked to students depending excessively on AI-generated answers.

Media and Misinformation
He noted that AI systems can generate large volumes of persuasive but false content, increasing the risk of misinformation and fake news.

Legal Practice
In the legal field, he warned of lawyers using AI to generate case citations that do not exist, leading to fabricated references and professional embarrassment.
He emphasised that misunderstanding AI as a mystical or supernatural force discourages people from learning the mathematics and science behind it. This, he warned, risks leaving technological development in the hands of a few global actors while others become passive consumers.

Core Message and Call to Action
Kwaku concluded with a strong call to intellectual responsibility. His key messages were:

- AI is mathematics and science, not magic.
- It does not eliminate the need for human effort, discipline, or critical thinking.
- Real progress depends on learning the underlying science rather than blindly trusting technological products.
- Policymakers and institutions should demand evidence of real-world implementation and measurable outcomes before adopting AI solutions.

In his final remarks, he reiterated that AI will not replace hard work or intelligent human judgment today or in the foreseeable future. Rather than waiting for technology to solve every problem, individuals and institutions must continue doing the hard work themselves.
Conclusion
The lecture offered a measured and critical perspective on artificial intelligence. While acknowledging its potential, Kwaku urged caution against exaggerated claims and unexamined enthusiasm. His message underscored the importance of education, scientific literacy, accountability, and human responsibility in navigating the future of AI.

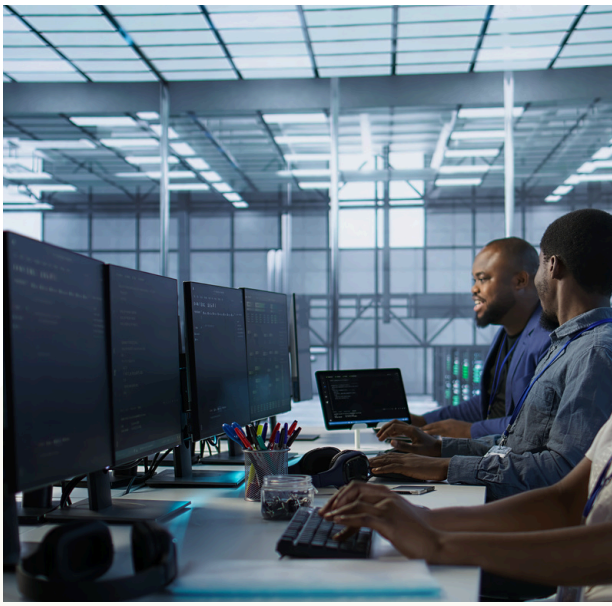


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Industry Highlights

IT Law Professionals



Recent developments in IT Law across Africa, particularly in late 2025 and early 2026, are focusing on artificial intelligence (AI) regulation, cybersecurity enhancements, and data governance. Key trends include Nigeria's move toward comprehensive AI regulation and Ghana's focus on digital transformation through the Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP) Africa.

Key Developments (2025-2026)
AI Regulation (Nigeria & Regionally): Nigeria is expected to pass a National Digital Economy and E-Governance Bill by March 2026, which would make it one of the first African nations to regulate AI systems in banking, public services, and surveillance.

AITLAP Africa Launch (Ghana): The Association of IT Law Professionals (AITLAP) Africa is holding its launch and TechLaw Conference in Accra, Ghana, on January 29, 2026. This conference aims to address legal frameworks for AI and digital regulation.

Cybersecurity Act Amendments (Ghana): Following the enactment of the Cyber Security Act 1038 in 2020, there are active calls and efforts to amend the act to fill gaps and better address emerging technology threats.

Tech law in Africa is rapidly evolving, driven by 2026 reforms in AI governance, fintech, and data protection, particularly in Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa
. Key trends include accelerating digital justice, strict cybersecurity compliance (with costs high), and the rise of AI-driven legal tools to improve accessibility.
TechAfrica News +4

Key 2026 Tech Law Highlights & Trends

- AI and Legal Tech Adoption: The University of Johannesburg launched Africa's first AI and Law Institute to focus on ethics and regulation. Legal tech startups are booming, aiming to bridge access to justice gaps.
- Regulatory Reforms: Ghana, among other nations, is strengthening frameworks for artificial intelligence, fintech, and data protection, as discussed at the TechLaw Conference 2026.
- Data Protection & Cybersecurity: Data privacy remains a critical issue, with increased focus on cybersecurity as digital transformation exposes economies to cybercrimes.
- Digital Rights & Policy: The Africa Law & Tech Festival continues to drive dialogue on digital policy and, to tackle misinformation, governments are implementing new regulations.
- Growth in Fintech & Startups: There is a notable rise in legal tech startups focusing on fintech and enhancing legal services accessibility across the continent, particularly in hubs like Nigeria and Kenya.
- Tony Blair Institute for Global Change +7

Key Areas of Development

- AI Governance: Moving towards ethical AI to manage risks in public administration and law.
- Data Sovereignty: Strengthening local data protection laws.
- Digital Economy Regulations: Taxing big tech and regulating fintech platforms.
- Tony Blair Institute for Global Change +3

Industry Highlights

IT Law Professionals

The landscape of technology law in 2025–2026 is defined by rapid regulatory catch-up, particularly regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI), tightening data privacy, and the rise of "agentic" AI systems
. Key highlights focus on the "great re-papering" of EU cybersecurity laws, the impending enforcement of the EU AI Act, and the shift toward value-based, AI-driven legal services.
Legal 500 +1
Here are the key highlights in tech law and policy:

1. Artificial Intelligence Regulation

- EU AI Act (Full Application by Aug 2026): The EU's comprehensive AI regulation came into force in August 2024, with full compliance required by August 2026. It categorizes AI based on risk, imposing strict requirements on "high-risk" systems.
- AI Agents and Liability: 2025 is expected to see a rise in legal issues regarding AI agents—systems that take action on behalf of users. Legal challenges focus on IP infringement (data ingestion) and liability for AI-developed drugs or autonomous decisions.
- Deepfakes and Misinformation: Regulatory bodies are struggling with the balance between free speech and the risks of AI-generated misinformation.
- EU AI Act +2

2. Data Privacy and Cybersecurity

- EU Regulatory Expansion: The EU's NIS2 Directive (network and information security) became applicable in October 2024, expanding cybersecurity requirements to more sectors.
- DORA (Operational Resilience): The Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA) becomes fully applicable in January 2025, specifically targeting financial entities' IT security.
- Data Act (2025): The EU Data Act becomes applicable in September 2025, harmonizing rules on data access and sharing.
- US Privacy Landscape: The "Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act" (H.R. 4639) is a key 2024/2025 proposal aimed at restricting law enforcement's ability to buy personal data from third-party brokers.
- Right On Crime +1

3. Intellectual Property (IP) and Digital Assets

- AI Training Data: Continued litigation surrounds whether training AI models on copyrighted data constitutes "fair use".
- Smart Contracts and Blockchain: As digital assets and blockchain grow, legal frameworks are focusing on the enforceability of self-executing "smart contracts" requiring clear legal definitions to avoid disputes.
- Taylor & Francis Online +3

4. Legal Tech Trends (How Law is Practiced)

- Generative AI in Legal Work: Law firms are actively integrating tools like Harvey AIand Lexis+ AI for document review, legal research, and drafting.
- Shift to Value-Based Models: Technology is accelerating the move away from hourly billing to value-based billing, as AI reduces the time required for routine tasks.
- Virtual Law Firms: The rise of remote, AI-enabled tools is enhancing access to justice, enabling virtual court proceedings, and allowing for faster dispute resolution.
- Drexel +4

5. Emerging Tech Issues

- Quantum Computing: As quantum computing develops, its potential to break current encryption standards is prompting early discussions about "quantum cryptography".
- Spatial Computing (Metaverse): Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) are raising complex, new IP and trademark disputes.
- Legal 500

Key Takeaway: The "great re-papering" of EU regulations (NIS2, DORA, AI Act) makes 2025–2026 a critical period for global companies to align their data and AI practices with strict new compliance standards.
Legal 500

Industry Highlights

IT Law Professionals

New AI governance platform seeks to map Africa's digital future across 54 nations





New AI governance platform seeks to map Africa's digital future across 54 nations

A new Ghana-registered foundation has launched what it describes as Africa's first comprehensive intelligence platform dedicated to tracking artificial intelligence governance and infrastructure across all 54 African Union member states.

The African AI Governance Index Foundation announced the initiative in Accra in February 2026, unveiling a suite of open-access tools designed to centralise fragmented data on national AI strategies, regulatory frameworks and compute infrastructure across the continent.

The launch positions the Foundation as a new institutional player in Africa's rapidly evolving digital policy landscape, seeking to provide clarity for governments, investors and development partners navigating the continent's AI ambitions.

"The data existed. It was scattered across 54 different places, buried in government websites, locked in consultant reports, or simply uncollected," said Kwame A. A. Opoku, Founder and Executive Director of AAGI. "We built the infrastructure to centralize it, verify it, and make it useful. Africa cannot lead on AI governance if no one can see where Africa stands."

At the centre of the initiative is the African AI Policy Tracker, now live and monitoring national AI strategies, regulatory developments and institutional frameworks across every AU member state.

The Foundation describes the platform as the first open-access resource offering a consolidated view of which countries have published AI strategies, which are drafting them and which have yet to begin formal processes.

While global benchmarks such as Oxford Insights' Government AI Readiness Index assess nearly 200 countries, the Foundation argues that Africa-specific depth has been lacking. Its model is built around an 80-indicator framework, which it says offers more detailed resolution for regional policy analysis.

Beyond policy mapping, the Foundation is preparing to roll out an Infrastructure Tracker in the coming weeks, aimed at providing visibility into Africa's growing data centre ecosystem.

According to figures released by the organisation, the platform will track 223 data centre facilities across 38 countries, covering a market valued at $3.49 billion in 2024 and approximately 780 megawatts of IT capacity.

The infrastructure tool will extend beyond counting facilities to map submarine cable landing points, hyperscale cloud presence, energy sources powering compute infrastructure, regulatory conditions and AI-specific computing capacity.

“Africa holds less than 2% of the world's data centers while preparing to absorb the largest demographic expansion in human history,” Opoku noted. “Investors are making billion-dollar infrastructure decisions without adequate intelligence. We're fixing that.”

The Foundation’s assessment model spans eight pillars, including strategy and vision, governance and regulation, infrastructure and data, human capital and research, innovation ecosystems, ethics and inclusion, regional integration, and implementation impact. It says the full methodology, including its Indicator Codebook, Data Collection Protocols and Scoring Criteria, will be made public to allow governments and researchers to scrutinise and build upon the framework.

As part of its initial rollout, the organisation has begun a 10-country pilot assessment designed to test its methodology through direct government engagement and local validation before scaling continent-wide. The pilot seeks to reflect Africa’s regional and economic diversity.

Botswana has been confirmed as the first formal country partner through a collaboration with Ai4Botswana, while Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa are listed among the Founding Pilot Nations as memoranda of understanding are finalised.

“We're not building a remote observation post,” Stella Agara, Founding Partner explained. “We're building a network. Every Country Partner strengthens the data, validates the methodology, and extends AAGI's reach. By the time we've covered 54 nations, we'll have 54 partners invested in the accuracy of what we publish.”

The Foundation argues that its work comes at a pivotal moment. Africa’s data centre market is projected to reach $6.81 billion by 2030, expanding at an annual rate of 12.86 per cent. At the same time, hyperscale technology firms are expanding their footprint across the continent, the African Union has endorsed continental AI frameworks, and development finance institutions are increasing allocations to digital infrastructure.

According to the Foundation, major policy and investment decisions are being taken without sufficient consolidated intelligence on regulatory clarity, energy readiness, talent pipelines and governance safeguards.
AAGI has opened calls for partnerships spanning country-level data collaborators, research institutions, funding bodies, strategic amplifiers and advisory board members. It describes itself as a non-profit research institution committed to open-access intelligence, with registrations in Ghana and subsidiary entities in Kenya and Delaware in the United States.
By combining continental data aggregation with on-the-ground validation through local partners, the Foundation says it aims to create what it calls a “single source of truth” for Africa’s AI governance readiness, positioning itself as an information backbone for the continent’s next phase of digital transformation.

Industry Highlights

IT Law Professionals

Parliament is due to pass the Legal Education Reform Bill, 2025, to expand access to professional legal education in Ghana.

The House has already adopted the report of the Constitution and Legal Affairs Committee, which earlier considered the bill and submitted its report to the House on February 3 this year.

Given the 88 clauses contained in the bill that the House needed so much time to amend, the bill was referred to the Winnowing Committee to fine-tune it.

Once the committee is done with its work and submits its report by Thursday or Friday, it will pave way for the bill's passage by Friday.

This is because the bill already enjoys a bi-partisan support from both sides, and as such they have recommended the adoption of the Constitutional and Legal Affairs' report and its passage.

Breaking GSL's monopoly

The Attorney General and Minister for Justice, Dr Dominic Ayine, presented the bill to the House on October 24, last year.

The bill, if passed, will seek to establish the Council for Legal Education and Training to regulate professional legal education in Ghana and provide the curriculum and standards for legal education.

To achieve those objectives, the Bill proposes to break the monopoly the Ghana School of Law (GSL) has over professional legal education and its entrance exams that has over the years, barred many from pursuing further legal training to be called to the bar.

As a remedy, the bill, if assented to by the President, will extend accreditation to other universities, including private ones, to offer professional legal programmes.



National Bar Examination

The bill introduces a Law Practice Training Course to be offered by accredited universities, which will prepare candidates for the National Bar Examination.

The Law Practice Training Course will emphasise clinical legal education and the acquisition of practical lawyering skills, rather than purely theoretical instruction.

Holders of the Bachelor of Laws degree or other approved first degrees in law will be required to gain admission to that course before qualifying to sit the National Bar Examination.

Equality of opportunity

Moving the motion for the bill to be read the second time last Tuesday, Dr Ayine said the bill was in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution in Article 25 to create equality of opportunity for Ghanaian citizens desirous of becoming lawyers.

He said the bill sought to clear the bottleneck associated with the monopoly of the GSL and also the so-called entrance exam that made it virtually impossible for even students who graduated with First Class from very reputable universities to get into the GSL.

As part of innovations contained in the bill, Dr Ayine said the government was introducing an accreditation programme that would make sure that it was not every mushroom bachelor of law (LLB) school that would produce lawyers who would go on to write the bar exam.

There would be accreditation and quality control to ensure that if there was a university producing LLB candidates, those candidates would have gone through a training that was either "equivalent to or better than what I went through or what the Majority Leader went through before becoming lawyers".

"We are also introducing the National Bar Exam so that those who go through the law practice training course at the accredited universities can all write the National Bar Exam, which will be a standardised exam that will be administered by the Council for Legal Education and its Bar Examination Committee," he said.

We don't have too many lawyers

On the misperception that there were already too many lawyers in Ghana, the A-G firmly described such a belief as untrue.

He said, unlike in the United States of America, where the lawyer-to-citizen ratio was four lawyers to 1,000 residents, Ghana had one lawyer to 5,000 plus citizens and, therefore, denied that there was an oversupply of lawyers in Ghana.

We can't maintain GSL's monopoly

The Majority Leader, Mahama Ayariga, argued that year after year, the issue of access to professional legal education had been a perennial problem.

He also said the House received several petitions from associations of students who had written the examination but failed to get into the law school, feeling unfairly treated.

He recalled how the General Legal Council had to carry out some reforms in the examination process with a view to introducing some level of accountability, fairness and justice in the process.

Credit-Business Ghana

Industry Highlights

IT Law Professionals

Gov't to introduce 15 new bills to reform digital sector – Sam George

The Minister for Communication, Innovations, and Digital Technologies, Sam George, has announced that the government is undertaking one of the most comprehensive legal reforms of Ghana's communications sector since 1996.

Speaking on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at the launch of the 30th Anniversary of the National Communications Authority (NCA), Sam George revealed that the Ministry is working on a package of about 15 new and revised bills to modernise the country's digital and communications landscape.

"The Government is undertaking one of the most comprehensive updates to the sector's legal framework since 1996. The Ministry is currently working on a package of approximately 15 new and revised Bills aimed at modernising communications regulation, data governance, digital services, cybersecurity, and oversight of emerging technologies," he said.

He explained that the reform programme is designed to ensure Ghana's digital ecosystem remains competitive, secure, and innovation-friendly in a rapidly evolving global environment.

Beyond legal reforms, Sam George highlighted the launch of the One Million Coders Programme, an initiative aimed at equipping Ghanaian youth with globally competitive digital skills.

"Infrastructure alone does not create opportunity. That is why the Government has launched the One Million Coders Programme. Digital access must lead to productivity, and connectivity must translate into opportunity," he stated.



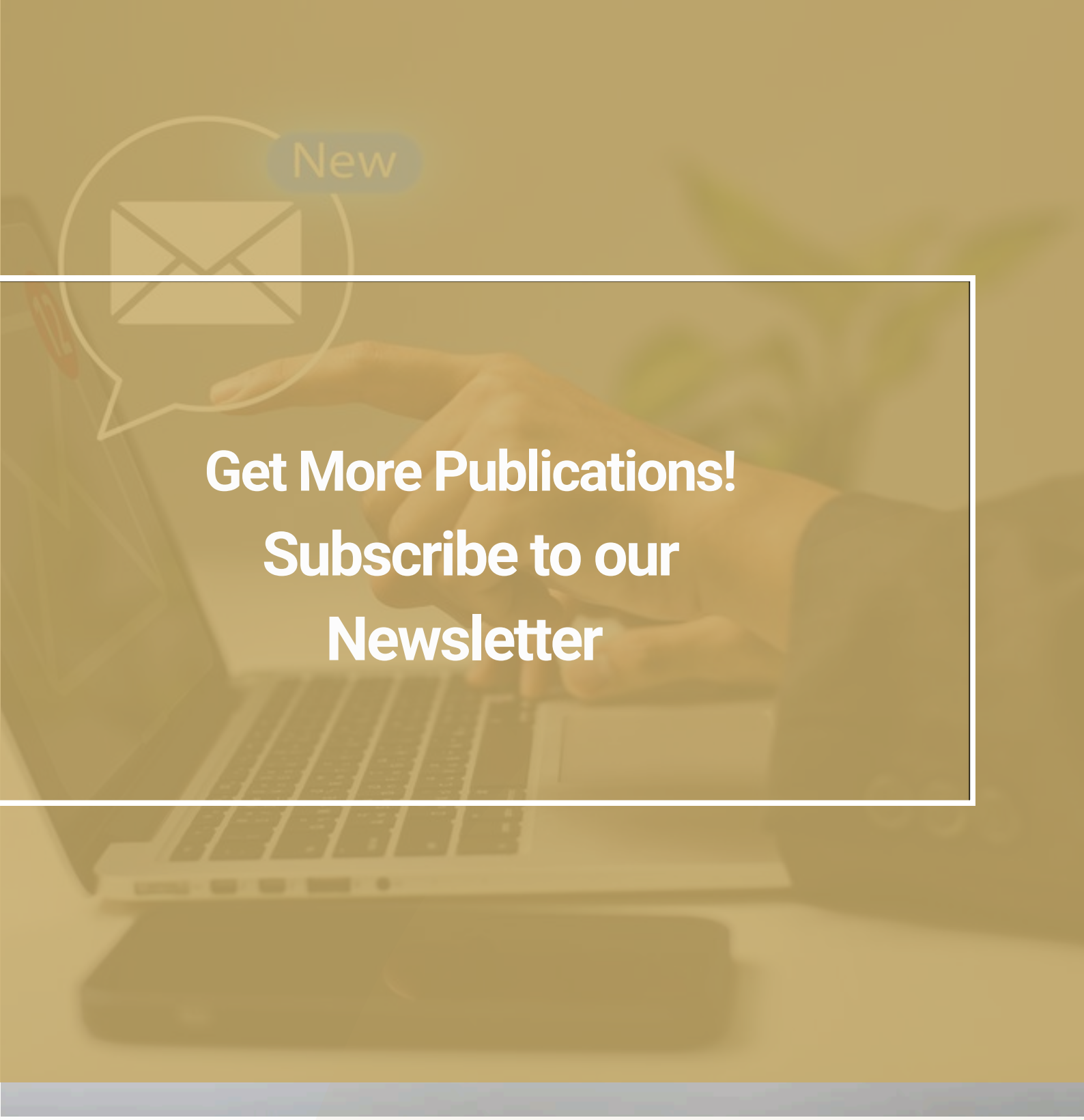
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The Minister said the combined focus on regulatory reform and skills development reflects the government's broader strategy to strengthen Ghana's digital economy and position the country as a competitive technology hub in the region.

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“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.” — George Bernard Shaw

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