National Artificial Intelligence
Policy Recommendations

Prepared by
The National Artificial Intelligence Task Force
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Introduction

In alignment with Jamaica's Vision 2030 and the transformative agenda set forth by the Government of Jamaica, the National Artificial Intelligence Task Force has embarked on a critical mission: **to make recommendations for Jamaica to harness the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a catalyst for innovation, economic growth, and enhanced societal well-being**. This task force was established to lay the evidence-based foundation for a comprehensive National A.I. Policy, reflecting Jamaica's commitment to positioning itself at the forefront of global digital transformation while responsibly managing the risks associated with A.I.

Our endeavor is driven by the understanding that A.I. is not merely a technological advancement but a pivotal force reshaping societies, industries, governance models, and public services on a global scale. For Jamaica, this shift presents both significant opportunities and challenges. As outlined in our Terms of Reference, we are tasked with several key objectives: assessing the current A.I. landscape in Jamaica, identifying opportunities for A.I. integration across various sectors, developing the necessary recommendations for infrastructure and regulatory frameworks, and recommending the implementation of ethical A.I. practices. By addressing these objectives, we aim to leverage A.I. to drive innovation and economic growth in Jamaica, ensuring that its benefits are distributed equitably and its risks managed responsibly.

Our mandate has been broad yet focused: to conduct rigorous research, engage with strategic stakeholders across the public and private sectors, and draw upon international best practices to forge a path forward that is tailored to Jamaica's unique economic, cultural, and social context. Through this process, we have analyzed the impacts of A.I. adoption, identified the skills needed for a future-ready citizenry and workforce, and proposed frameworks that prioritize digital literacy, safety, security, privacy, and inclusivity.

This document, titled National Artificial Intelligence - Policy Recommendations, represents the culmination of our detailed analysis and deliberative processes. It not only outlines actionable, SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) recommendations but also seeks to inspire a collective vision among all Jamaicans for an AI-empowered future. Presented to the Office of the Prime Minister, these recommendations are the outcomes of a transparent, collaborative, and comprehensive approach, ensuring that A.I. serves as a cornerstone for a prosperous, sustainable, and equitable Jamaica.

The Task Force

The Task Force is a multidisciplinary team of experts from the private sector, public institutions, and academia, possessing a deep and diverse skill set. Members bring a wealth of experience in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, digital policy and regulations, data analytics, business process outsourcing, data management, skills development, youth engagement and IT services from various backgrounds including the public and private sector, inter-governmental organizations as well as academia. This unique blend of expertise positions the Task Force to effectively address complex challenges, develop innovative A.I. solutions, and drive digital transformation initiatives across various sectors.

The Task Force members are listed on the following page.

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Background & Context

Global and Regional Best Practices & Research Perspectives

The National Artificial Intelligence Task Force conducted a comparative analysis of A.I. policy frameworks from a diverse set of countries. These frameworks, from countries recognized as leaders in A.I. policy development, provided key thematic insights that are relevant to Jamaica's A.I. policy. These global thematic areas include:

- **Workforce Adaptation:** Addressing the need for re-skilling and up-skilling to align with AI-driven economies.
- **Accountability and Transparency:** Ensuring clear responsibility for A.I. systems and transparent A.I. operations.
- **Data Governance and Privacy:** Implementing robust data protection frameworks and privacy safeguards.
- **Risk Assessment and Management:** Developing strategies for the identification and mitigation of risks associated with A.I. deployment.
- **Ethical and Human-Centric Considerations**: Emphasizing the ethical use of A.I. technologies that prioritize human welfare.
- **International Cooperation**: Fostering cross-border collaboration to advance A.I. research, regulation, and standards.
- **Research and Development (R&D):** Investing in R&D to drive innovation and enhance A.I. capabilities.
- **Investment in AI:** Attracting public and private investments to support A.I. initiatives and infrastructure.
- **Cybersecurity:** Strengthening A.I. systems' resilience against cyber threats and ensuring the protection of critical digital infrastructure.

Additionally, the **UNESCO Caribbean A.I. Policy Roadmap** was identified as a valuable resource that offers regional context. Developed through the collaboration between the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean and the Broadcasting Commission of

Jamaica, this document outlines the unique challenges and opportunities that the Caribbean faces in the realm of A.I. The roadmap serves as a foundation for formulating region-specific strategies that address the socio-economic realities of Caribbean nations.

By integrating insights from both global and regional sources, best practices and tailored recommendations were identified for Jamaica to ensure the successful implementation of A.I. technologies while safeguarding national interests and promoting equitable growth.

Ethical Considerations for the Use of AI

The ethical development, deployment, and use of A.I. technologies form the foundation of the policy recommendations. These ethical considerations have been articulated in industry standards, guidelines, A.I. legislation, and normative instruments such as the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of A.I. The following elements are of particular relevance to Jamaica as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS):

- **Limitations of A.I. Systems:** All A.I. systems, as of 2024, are narrowly trained, meaning they may excel in specific tasks but fail in others. For example, Large Language Models (LLMs) can produce errors, such as "hallucinations," where the A.I. generates inaccurate or misleading information. Service providers using these systems must ensure that users understand the limitations of A.I. and avoid fostering unwarranted trust. A.I. systems must be deployed with the understanding that errors are possible, and transparency about these limitations is crucial.
- **Transparency About A.I. Processes**: A.I. systems are typically trained on vast datasets that may contain inherent biases, depending on how the data was collected or the quality of the available data. When the training data does not fully represent the specific context in which the A.I. is applied, the results can be

erroneous. Organizations using A.I. technologies must be transparent about the processes underlying these systems, clearly labelling AI-generated content, and informing users of potential risks and limitations. It is imperative that proactive measures be taken to mitigate any injustices that may arise from AI-driven decisions.

- **Accountability**: Human operators of A.I. systems must be held accountable for the behaviour and outcomes of these systems. As organizations increasingly delegate tasks to A.I. tools, they cannot delegate their responsibility for the ethical and proper execution of those tasks. Comprehensive risk assessments must be conducted to evaluate the suitability of A.I. systems, particularly in cases where A.I. behaviour may be unpredictable. Additionally, appropriate disclaimers and warnings must be provided to inform stakeholders of potential risks and limitations.

- **Capacity Building**: To ensure that A.I. benefits society at large, all citizens must be equipped with the necessary digital, media, and information literacy skills to effectively engage with A.I. Fostering critical thinking, creativity, and a questioning mindset will help individuals avoid automation bias and develop informed trust in A.I. systems. Building this capacity is essential for ensuring that A.I. serves the best interests of all citizens and aligns with national development goals.

- **Data Privacy**: A.I. systems must adhere to the data privacy principles outlined in the Jamaica Data Protection Act (2020). This legislation emphasizes the ethical and legal handling of personal data, highlighting the importance of transparency, consent, and access rights. Very large A.I. systems that are executed by corporate computing resources may expose their users' inputs to those corporate employees. Organizations deploying A.I. systems must ensure that their operations do not inadvertently breach these legal requirements, particularly concerning data collection, storage, and processing.

- **Inclusivity and Accessibility**: A.I. technologies should be inclusive and accessible to all Jamaicans, ensuring that the deployment of A.I. does not exacerbate existing inequities. Vulnerable and marginalized groups must not be left behind as A.I. systems are integrated into public and private sectors. Instead, A.I.

advancements should be designed to benefit all citizens equitably, with a focus on bridging digital divides and promoting social inclusion.

By addressing these ethical considerations, the aim is to ensure that A.I. deployment in Jamaica is responsible, equitable, and aligned with the nation's broader development objectives.

SWOT Analysis: A.I. Use in Jamaica

Strengths

- **Government Support and Vision 2030 Alignment:** Jamaica's commitment to digital transformation, as outlined in Vision 2030, provides a strong policy foundation and government support for A.I. initiatives. The creation of the National A.I. Task Force signifies a proactive approach to integrating A.I. into national development strategies.
- **Strategic Geographic Location**: Jamaica's location as a gateway between North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean positions it well for international partnerships and investment in AI-related ventures, including logistics, e-commerce, and fintech.
- **Growing Tech Ecosystem**: The expanding tech sector in Jamaica, including initiatives like the Jamaica Technology and Digital Alliance (JTDA) and the Technology Innovation District, provide a strong base for A.I. adoption, with increasing interest in startups and entrepreneurship in A.I. and machine learning.
- **Youthful and Tech-Savvy Population**: Jamaica has a young, digitally engaged population that is eager to adopt new technologies. With proper training, this demographic can be mobilized to drive A.I. innovation and economic growth.
- **Collaborative Regional Efforts**: Jamaica's active participation in regional initiatives, such as the UNESCO Caribbean A.I. Policy Roadmap, enhances the country's ability to adopt best practices tailored to the region's specific needs and challenges.

Cultural Superpower: Jamaica has a global, cultural footprint that is highly disproportionate to its size, population and economic ranking. Therefore, culturally rooted A.I. innovations are more likely to be well received in the global markets, and the rapid appearance of new generative A.I. tools has reduced the technological barrier to producing such innovations.

Weaknesses

- **Digital Divide and Limited Infrastructure**: While Jamaica has made strides in improving digital infrastructure, there are still significant gaps, particularly in rural areas. Limited access to high-speed internet and digital devices can hinder widespread A.I. adoption and exacerbate existing inequalities.

- **Skills Gap and Workforce Preparedness**: There is a shortage of specialized A.I. talent and professionals with advanced technical skills in AI, data science, and machine learning. The current education system needs further alignment to produce a future-ready workforce equipped to leverage A.I. technologies.

- **Limited Research, Development and Innovation Funding**: A.I. research and development in Jamaica are constrained by limited public and private funding. This limits the country's ability to innovate and compete with more advanced economies that are heavily investing in A.I.

- **Regulatory and Ethical Challenges**: While there is growing recognition of the need for AI-specific regulations, the lack of established legal and ethical frameworks tailored to Jamaica's context could slow down A.I. implementation. Ensuring data privacy and managing A.I. risks require more robust governance structures.

- **Dependency on External Technology Providers**: Jamaica's A.I. ecosystem is largely dependent on foreign technology and expertise, leading to challenges related to control, customization, and the potential risks associated with importing technologies that may not fully align with local needs.

Opportunities

- **A.I. for Economic Growth**: A.I. has the potential to drive significant economic growth in Jamaica by transforming key sectors such as agriculture, tourism, healthcare, and finance. The adoption of A.I. can lead to increased productivity, innovation, and job creation across these industries.

- **Public and Private Sector Collaboration**: Stronger collaboration between the government and industry can lead to the development of A.I. solutions that address national challenges, from improving public services to enhancing disaster resilience and smart city initiatives.

- **International Partnerships**: Leveraging international partnerships and funding opportunities can accelerate Jamaica's A.I. adoption and innovation. Collaboration with global A.I. leaders, as well as involvement in international A.I. policy forums, can provide access to cutting-edge research, best practices, and technical expertise.

- **A.I. for Sustainable Development**: A.I. offers opportunities to address pressing social and environmental challenges in Jamaica, such as improving climate resilience, optimizing resource management, and supporting social services. AI-driven solutions can help Jamaica achieve its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- **Youth and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem**: Encouraging entrepreneurship in A.I. and supporting youth-led innovation can spur the creation of local A.I. startups and solutions that cater to Jamaican and regional needs, potentially creating new markets and employment opportunities.

Threats

- **Cybersecurity Risks**: The increasing integration of A.I. into critical sectors also increases vulnerabilities to cyberattacks and data breaches. Without proper safeguards, A.I. systems could be exploited, leading to economic disruptions, compromised data security, and a loss of trust in digital systems.

- **Ethical and Social Risks**: Unchecked A.I. adoption could exacerbate social inequalities, increase bias in decision-making systems, and erode privacy. The ethical implications of A.I., particularly in sensitive areas such as law enforcement and public services, pose significant risks if not properly managed.

- **Global Competition**: Jamaica faces stiff competition from more technologically advanced countries that are heavily investing in A.I. Without accelerated efforts to close the digital and innovation gap, Jamaica risks falling behind in the global A.I. race, potentially limiting its economic growth and influence.

- **Resistance to Change**: Cultural resistance to AI-driven change, particularly among traditional industries and segments of the population unfamiliar with digital technologies, could slow A.I. adoption and hinder economic progress.

- **Economic Displacement:** The rapid deployment of A.I. technologies could lead to job displacement in certain sectors, particularly those involving routine tasks. Without effective policies to manage this transition, A.I. could exacerbate unemployment and social instability.

Recommendations

The Recommendations developed by the Task Force are guided by a vision:

"To empower Jamaica's sustainable economic development through ethical A.I. innovation, enhanced public engagement and cultural preservation, while ensuring fairness, privacy and security."

1. A.I. for Innovation & Economic Growth

Policy Issue:

A.I. has the potential to enhance productivity, reduce costs, and open new markets. However, there is a gap between the technological advancements in A.I. and the readiness of Jamaican businesses to leverage these tools for innovation. In spite of the rapid development of A.I. technologies and apparent step changes in capabilities, they require careful fine-tuning in order to be productively deployed with commercial impact. This presents an opportunity to create innovative AI-based high-value products and services for both local and global markets; but grasping that opportunity at a national scale will require significant investment in R&D in AI-related fields.

Challenges:

- Limited access to A.I. knowledge and expertise.
- Inadequate funding and support for startups and A.I. research.
- Limited integration of A.I. in traditional industries like agriculture, manufacturing, and tourism.
- Limited awareness of how A.I. use could improve existing business operations causing a depressed demand for the development of A.I. tools and services.

- Relying heavily on foreign A.I. models and technologies exposes Jamaica to economic vulnerability, data privacy risks, and limits on customization to local needs. It may constrain local innovation, foster technological dependency, and increase exposure to external disruptions.

Policy Objective: Leverage A.I. research to spur industry innovation and the creation of more sophisticated value chains.

Recommendations:

Short-term:
- Create the ecosystem, through collaboration with universities, to support the virtual and eventual physical establishment of A.I. hubs and tech parks in a bid to support AI-driven startups.
- Create fora and other spaces for interactions between organisations that are willing to fund the development of A.I. solutions to their problems, and the entities that have the capacity to create those solutions.
- Increase awareness of the role of intellectual property protection in scaling startups.
- Update all industry policies and strategies to facilitate A.I. adoption in the private sector.

Medium-term:
- Introduce government grants, venture capital incentives, and public-private partnerships (PPPs) to fund A.I. research and innovation.
- Develop incentive programmes, including tax breaks and grants, to encourage private sector investment in A.I. innovation.

Long-term:
- Develop AI-centered industrial policies encouraging traditional industries to adopt AI, aiming to make Jamaica a regional A.I. innovation hub by 2035.

2. Education and Workforce Development

<u>Policy Issue:</u>

Within education, generative A.I. technologies have already disrupted traditional assessment methodologies as they push the boundaries of academic integrity and challenge teaching objectives; for example, allowing students to produce perfect answers without engaging with the educational material. However, A.I. competencies can be beneficial in the workforce, providing a productivity boost in diverse sectors. While some jobs will be automated, new roles will emerge requiring specialized A.I. knowledge. Jamaica's education system must find ways to build competences in A.I. literacy for both teachers and students alike, without compromising the validity of student assessment, and to equip the workforce with the necessary A.I. and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) skills to be competitive in the global economy.

<u>Challenges:</u>

- Insufficient AI-related curricula in secondary and tertiary education.
- Effecting change in curricula in a dynamic, technological environment is slow and lengthy resulting in curricula not necessarily being adequately responsive to training needs
- Lack of vocational training programmes in A.I. and related fields.
- Inadequate teacher training to effectively deliver A.I. education.

Policy Objective: Prepare Jamaicans to integrate into an AI-enabled global workforce.

Short-term:

- Integrate A.I. and coding into the national curriculum at all education levels.
- Launch teacher training programmes focused on responsible A.I. use and effective assessments.

Medium-term:

- Establish specialized A.I. vocational and professional development courses in collaboration with local and international institutions.

Long-term:

- Develop partnerships with global tech companies to establish A.I. centers of excellence, fostering research, internships, and continuous education in A.I. technologies.

3. Public Awareness and Sensitization

Policy Issue:

Public understanding of A.I. is critical to ensuring its acceptance and integration. However, there is limited awareness among the general population about AI, its benefits, and potential risks. Without adequate sensitization, misconceptions about A.I. could hinder its adoption and create resistance, particularly in sectors like healthcare, finance, and public services. Furthermore, the less informed our population is, the more susceptible they will be to AI-driven misinformation and disinformation. In contrast, attaining this awareness is likely to lead to new cultural expressions that incorporate A.I. technologies, with potential for global influence and commerce.

- Low public awareness of AI's potential and risks.
- Limited communication between policymakers, technologists, and the public.
- Potential public fear regarding AI's impact on employment and privacy.

Policy Objective: Ensure Jamaicans understand, adopt and can take advantage of the benefits of A.I.

Recommendations:

Short-term:

- Develop a programme on Digital Media and Information Literacy including AI's benefits, challenges, ethical considerations and responsible use of A.I.

Medium-term:

- Organize public consultations, workshops, and town halls to educate citizens about A.I. and address concerns directly.

4. A.I. Infrastructure and Technology

Policy Issue:

For A.I. to thrive, a robust digital infrastructure is essential. Jamaica must modernize its ICT infrastructure, including high-speed internet, data centres, and cloud computing services, to support A.I. development and deployment. On the other hand, not all of these infrastructural components are simultaneously required for every A.I. innovation. Jamaica needs to be strategic in its priorities for funding these infrastructural components, because the costs of energy and cloud usage can be crippling if not managed well. Additionally, access to high-quality data is a key component in building A.I. systems, and data management policies need to be established to address this.

- Insufficient digital infrastructure, particularly in rural areas.
- Limited access to cloud computing resources and data storage facilities.
- Absence of national data management frameworks to support A.I. development.
- Cost of Energy
- Negative environmental impacts

Policy Objective: Expedite the creation of infrastructure to support A.I. adoption and expansion in Jamaica.

Recommendations:

Short-term:

- Improve broadband coverage and speed across Jamaica, prioritizing underserved areas.
- Incentivize developer level access to cloud-based AI-based services.

Medium-term:

- Establish national A.I. data centres and cloud infrastructure with the support of international partners.

Long-term:

- Develop a national data management policy that ensures secure and ethical data sharing while fostering A.I. research and innovation.

5. International Cooperation in AI

Policy Issue:

A.I. development requires international cooperation to exchange knowledge, share resources, and align on global ethical standards. Jamaica must build strategic alliances with global A.I. leaders and participate in international forums that shape A.I. policies and regulations. Jamaica must also protect its cultural assets from being diluted or subverted by A.I. products developed elsewhere.

Challenges:

- Limited participation in global A.I. initiatives.
- Absence of bilateral and multilateral agreements on A.I. cooperation.
- Need for alignment with international A.I. ethical standards.
- Negligible local presence of multinational firms on the cutting edge of A.I.

Policy Objective: Establish and maintain global partnerships that can be leveraged to ensure Jamaica's global and regional positioning.

Recommendations:

Short-term:
- Join global A.I. organizations and networks to exchange knowledge and best practices.

Medium-term:
- Establish A.I. cooperation agreements with leading A.I. nations as well as countries with aligned views and interests, focusing on knowledge transfer and capacity building.
- Incentivize multinational technology firms to establish a presence in Jamaica, thereby increasing technology transfer.

Long-term:

- Position Jamaica as a key player in regional and global A.I. policy discussions by hosting A.I. summits and actively contributing to international A.I. frameworks.

6. Legal & Regulatory Frameworks for AI

Policy Issue:

A.I. raises new legal and regulatory challenges, particularly around data privacy, security, intellectual property and ethical use. Jamaica lacks a comprehensive regulatory framework to address these challenges, potentially slowing down A.I. adoption and raising concerns about AI's impact on human rights.

Challenges:

- Lack of AI-specific regulations addressing data privacy, security, and ethical concerns.
- Potential risks of A.I. misuse in surveillance, decision-making, and data handling.
- Uncertainty about liability in cases of AI-driven errors or bias.
- Slow resolution of intellectual property litigation.

> **Policy Objective: Strengthen Jamaica's legal and regulatory framework to guide and grow ethical A.I. practices in Jamaica.**

Recommendations:

Short-term:

- Develop interim guidelines for A.I. ethics and data privacy, ensuring A.I. applications comply with existing data protection laws.
- Ensure that the legal system is equipped to deal fairly and expeditiously with disputes, particularly around intellectual property.

- Implement new and/or review existing legislation to facilitate the use of A.I.

Medium-term:

- Create a national A.I. regulatory framework addressing issues such as A.I. liability, bias, and transparency.

Long-term:

- Establish a national A.I. regulatory authority responsible for monitoring A.I. development, enforcing ethical standards, and ensuring compliance with international best practices.

7. Government and Industry Collaboration

Policy Issue:

Collaboration between government and industry is crucial for AI's successful adoption and integration. However, there is a need for a structured approach to facilitate effective partnerships, ensure government support for industry-driven A.I. initiatives, and create a favourable business environment for A.I. companies.

Challenges:

- Lack of coordination between government agencies and the private sector in A.I. initiatives.
- Insufficient incentives for industry players to invest in A.I.
- Limited public-private partnerships (PPPs) focused on A.I. research and development.

Policy Objective: Create avenues for partnership between, and among, government and private sector to better monitor impact and needs for greater A.I. integration.

Short-term:

- Establish a National A.I. Policy Oversight and Implementation Committee comprising public sector, private sector and civil society representatives to drive collaboration, policy alignment and implementation.
- Define Government services that would benefit from A.I. use, and use these to seed initial local development in A.I.
- Recommend that A.I. solutions for the Government be built in ways that can be resold / reused in private companies.
- Encourage that A.I. solutions are open-source to be used for public good
- Incentivize private capital by giving early corporate participants privileged access to those solutions.

Medium-term:

- Foster government-industry partnerships to co-develop A.I. technologies and applications across key sectors like healthcare, finance, and agriculture.

8. Ethical Foundations of AI

Policy Issue:

A.I. poses ethical challenges, particularly around bias, discrimination, and accountability. Jamaica needs to establish a strong ethical foundation for A.I. development and usage, ensuring that A.I. technologies are used responsibly and in ways that promote fairness, transparency, and human rights.

Challenges:

- Risk of AI-driven bias and discrimination.
- Lack of clear ethical guidelines for A.I. development and deployment.
- Potential misuse of A.I. technologies in areas such as surveillance and decision-making.

Policy Objective: Ensure Jamaica's A.I. activities are grounded in ethical standards.

Short-term:
- Implement the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI
- Develop national A.I. ethics guidelines that outline core principles for responsible A.I. use, focusing on fairness, transparency, and accountability.

Medium-term:
- Establish an independent A.I. governance body to monitor A.I. developments, ensuring that they adhere to ethical guidelines and rules, as well as address any breaches of A.I. ethics.

Long-term:
- Embed ethical considerations into all A.I. regulatory frameworks, ensuring that A.I. technologies support inclusive and equitable development.

9. Cohesive A.I. Framework

Policy Issue:

Jamaica needs a cohesive framework that outlines how A.I. technologies can be adopted, scaled, and regulated across industries and the public sector. This framework should provide guidance on integrating A.I. into public services, businesses, and infrastructure.

Challenges:

- Absence of a clear roadmap for A.I. integration across sectors.
- Limited cross-sector collaboration on A.I. adoption.

- Lack of standardized protocols for deploying A.I. solutions in public and private sectors.
- Lack of standards for data interchange beyond AI
- Resistance to interoperability

> **Policy Objective: Clearly outline a comprehensive, accountable path to successfully achieving a cohesive A.I. framework.**

Recommendations:

Short-term:
- Draft a cohesive national A.I. framework that identifies priority sectors for A.I. adoption.

Medium-term:
- Implement pilot A.I. projects in selected sectors to demonstrate the technology's potential and create scalable models.

Long-term:
- Develop A.I. standards and best practices for widespread adoption, ensuring interoperability and consistent implementation across sectors.

Recommended Action Plan

To ensure the successful implementation of the National A.I. Policy, the recommendations have been organized according to implementation timelines/goals:

- **Short-term (1-3 years)**
- **Medium-term (4-6 years) and,**
- **Long-term (7-10 years**)

	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
A.I. for Innovation & Economic Growth	• Create the ecosystem, through collaboration with universities, to support the virtual and eventual physical establishment of A.I. hubs and tech parks in a bid to support AI-driven startups. • Create fora and other spaces for interactions between organisations that are willing to fund the development of A.I. solutions to their problems, and the entities that have the capacity to create those solutions. • Increase awareness of the role of intellectual property protection in scaling startups.	• Introduce government grants, venture capital incentives, and public-private partnerships (PPPs) to fund A.I. research and innovation. • Develop incentive programmes, including tax breaks and grants, to encourage private sector investment in A.I. innovation.	• Develop AI-centred industrial policies encouraging traditional industries to adopt AI, aiming to make Jamaica a regional A.I. innovation hub by 2035

	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
	• Update all industry policies and strategies to facilitate A.I. adoption in the private sector.		
Education and Workforce Development	• Integrate A.I. and coding into the national curriculum at all education levels. • Launch teacher training programmes focused on responsible A.I. use and effective assessments.	• Establish specialized A.I. vocational and professional development courses in collaboration with local and international institutions.	Develop partnerships with global tech companies to establish A.I. centres of excellence, fostering research, internships, and continuous education in A.I. technologies.
Public Awareness and Sensitization	• Develop a programme on Digital Media and Information Literacy including A.I.'s benefits, challenges, ethical considerations and responsible use of A.I.	• Organize public consultations, workshops, and town halls to educate citizens about A.I. and address concerns directly.	
A.I. Infrastructure and Technology	• Improve broadband coverage and speed across Jamaica, prioritizing underserved areas. • Incentivize developer level access to cloud-based A.I.-based services.	• Establish national A.I. data centres and cloud infrastructure with the support of international partners.	• Develop a national data management policy that ensures secure and ethical data sharing while fostering A.I. research and innovation.
International Cooperation in A.I.	• Join global A.I. organizations and networks to	• Establish A.I. cooperation agreements with leading A.I. nations as well as countries with aligned views and	• Position Jamaica as a key player in regional and global A.I. policy discussions by hosting

	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
	exchange knowledge and best practices.	interests, focusing on knowledge transfer and capacity building. ● Incentivize multinational technology firms to establish a presence in Jamaica, thereby increasing technology transfer.	A.I. summits and actively contributing to international A.I. frameworks.
Legal & Regulatory Frameworks for A.I.	● Develop interim guidelines for A.I. ethics and data privacy, ensuring A.I. applications comply with existing data protection laws. ● Ensure that the legal system is equipped to deal fairly and expeditiously with disputes, particularly around intellectual property. ● Implement new and/or review existing legislation to facilitate use of A.I.	● Create a national A.I. regulatory framework addressing issues such as A.I. liability, bias, and transparency.	● Establish a national A.I. regulatory authority responsible for monitoring A.I. development, enforcing ethical standards, and ensuring compliance with international best practices.
Government and Industry Collaboration	● Establish a National A.I. Policy Oversight and Implementation Committee comprising public sector, private sector , and civil society representatives to drive collaboration, policy alignment and implementation.	● Foster government-industry partnerships to co-develop A.I. technologies and applications across key sectors like healthcare, finance, and agriculture.	

	Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
	• Define Government services that would benefit from A.I. use and use these to seed initial local development in A.I. • Recommend that A.I. solutions for the Government be built in ways that can be resold / reused in private companies. • Encourage that A.I. solutions are open-source to be used for public good • Incentivize private capital by giving early corporate participants privileged access to those solutions.		
Ethical Foundations of A.I.	• Implement the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI • Develop national A.I. ethics guidelines that outline core principles for responsible A.I. use, focusing on fairness, transparency, and accountability.	• Establish an independent A.I. governance body to monitor A.I. developments, ensuring that they adhere to ethical guidelines and rules, as well as address any breaches of A.I. ethics.	• Embed ethical considerations into all A.I. regulatory frameworks, ensuring that A.I. technologies support inclusive and equitable development.
Cohesive A.I. Framework	• Draft a cohesive national A.I. framework that identifies priority	• Implement pilot A.I. projects in selected sectors to demonstrate the	• Develop A.I. standards and best practices for widespread

Short Term	Medium Term	Long Term
sectors for A.I. adoption.	technology's potential and create scalable models.	adoption, ensuring interoperability and consistent implementation across sectors.

Conclusion

This comprehensive set of policy recommendations provides a pathway for Jamaica to embrace A.I. as a catalyst for national development. By addressing critical policy issues, fostering innovation, and ensuring ethical A.I. use, Jamaica will be well-positioned to leverage A.I. for sustainable growth and cultural preservation, creating a future where technology and humanity thrive together.

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