



INNOVATION
FOR POLICY

2025

IMPACT
REPORT

<https://i4policy.org>

 INNOVATION
FOR POLICY
FOUNDATION



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A message from our Co-Directors

Planting seeds in the storm

There's no getting around it - 2025 was a bad year, and 2026 hasn't been looking up. Global conflict has soared, there have been widespread climate-related disasters and we have witnessed democracy under threat. The very real dismantling of USAID, along with major foreign aid budget cuts announced in both the UK and Germany will have repercussions far beyond last year. As a global society, we are becoming increasingly polarised, with worsening economic insecurity, staggering levels of inequality and with more of us than ever before having no trust in our government¹.

It's clear to more and more people that our current systems of governance are outdated and unfit for today's challenges. The problems we are facing are collective problems, and as such require collective solutions. We believe a new inclusive, participatory system of governance is possible, and that it is the key to solving these global challenges together.

For i4Policy, 2025 was therefore about planting seeds to build these inclusive, co-created governance frameworks. Navigating a difficult funding landscape, we took essential time to focus on our organisational structuring. By refining our co-leadership model and experimenting with horizontal decision-making, we ensured we practice internally the

democratic innovations we preach.

Speaking of our co-leadership, we have some happy news to share: our co-director Belinda recently became a mum! While she is taking some well-deserved time off to be with her new family, we are thrilled that Maeva is stepping in as Co-director to help guide us through this next chapter.

We also brought our vision for inclusive governance to life through tangible action:

Championing Inclusive Policymaking

Staying close to our core focus on entrepreneurship in Africa, we facilitated participatory policymaking processes, most notably driving the [Cabo Verde Startup Act](#) and hosting a validation

workshop in Burundi. Simultaneously, we adapted these proven methodologies to pioneer civic deliberations on complex emerging topics, ranging from sustainable farming in Ghana and Ivory Coast to data governance and the value of death.

Advancing Civic Tech

We dedicated significant research and development to evolving our tech infrastructure, successfully transitioning the Citizen Engagement Platform (CEP) to an open-source model to make democratic tools accessible to all, alongside scoping human-centred AI integrations to further upgrade our platforms for the future.

¹ See "[World Social Report 2025: A New Policy Consensus to Accelerate Social Progress](#)"

Developing Tools & Resources

To inform and support the wider ecosystem, we continued to train 629 policymakers through our Learn platform and workshops. On top, we developed an open-source methodology paper solidifying the Africa Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Index (AEEI), providing policymakers and advocates with vital, actionable data.

These tangible projects are not isolated efforts; they are the building blocks designed to create a global shift in how our societies are governed. Of course, this systemic transformation cannot be achieved alone: it requires a collective effort.

So looking ahead to 2026, we know that for this work to be successful, or to even be possible, we must all work together and support one another. We are therefore actively pursuing new partners, new collaborations and new ways to strategically and sustainably fund the work we do with governments and regional bodies. We want to make sure that we are coordinating and not competing; building on the strength and experience of everyone that is working for a more inclusive and participatory world.

From our participatory policymaking work, we know that building and strengthening communities from the bottom up is core, but equally we support policy-makers and government decision-makers from the top

down. Real change happens where top-down and bottom-up actions meet.

With this in mind, we are excited to be working in 2026 on equitable digital and green transitions across Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, and Ghana. We will reach new countries, explore new topics, and upgrade our civic tech with human-centred AI integrations.

Through all our growth and pivoting, our guiding principle remains unchanged: placing the voices of people at the heart of decision-making.



**BELINDA
BAAH**
Co-Director



**TIM
GELISSEN**
Co-Director



**MIKE
PERRY**
Co-Director

Meet our global team



MAEVA
HEAD OF ADVISORY
- FRANCE



ANIYA
RESEARCH AND
ADVISORY ANALYST
- FRANCE



TIM
CO-DIRECTOR -
NETHERLAND



EVELINE
LEGAL & POLICY
EXPERT - GERMANY



RACHEL
COMMUNICATION
SPECIALIST- GHANA



BLAISE
POLICY & DATA
EXPERT - GHANA



BELINDA
CO-DIRECTOR
- GHANA



LINCOLN
HEAD OF TECH
- KENYA



MIKE
CO-DIRECTOR
- UGANDA



BEN
FULL-STACK
DEVELOPER - KENYA



MARIUS
ART LEAD - RWANDA



BELISA
LEAD INSTRUCTIONAL
DESIGNER - SOUTH
AFRICA



SEBASTIAN
HEAD OF R&D -
COLOMBIA



LOUISE
HEAD OF INNOVATION
& IMPACT - BRAZIL

Our year of impact

In 2025, i4Policy's work across its R&D, Strategic Advisory, and Knowledge-sharing pillars remained deeply rooted in our foundational values. Grounded in integrity, inclusivity, and our strong belief in collective intelligence, we continued to reshape the landscape of policy design.

By ensuring that diverse voices do more than just participate, by actively shaping decisions and co-creating solutions, we delivered processes that are not only participatory but also practical and results-oriented. Throughout the year, we embraced open-mindedness and innovation, successfully expanding our methodologies into pioneering domains such as agroforestry, participatory data governance, and AI governance.

Our process-focused methodology enabled this knowledge to be scaled through diverse forms of engagement, further strengthening our network of practitioners.

In the following sections, we illustrate how this approach came to life through our work in 2025. Building on last year's momentum, we are ready to scale our impact even further.

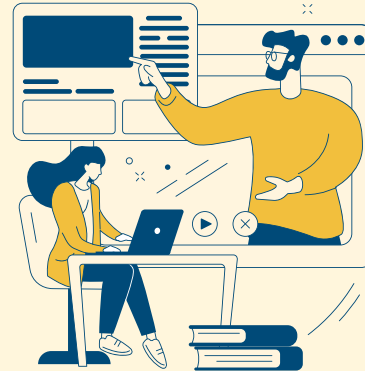


2025 impact in numbers



21,200+

Individuals engaged virtually through our platforms



240

Total new learners registered for our online courses

(**66%** increase since previous year)



12

Conferences contributed to



1,000+

Individuals engaged and introduced to participatory policy processes



15

In-country participatory policy processes* conducted

(**389** Participants engaged in participatory processes)

*Process = official policy process



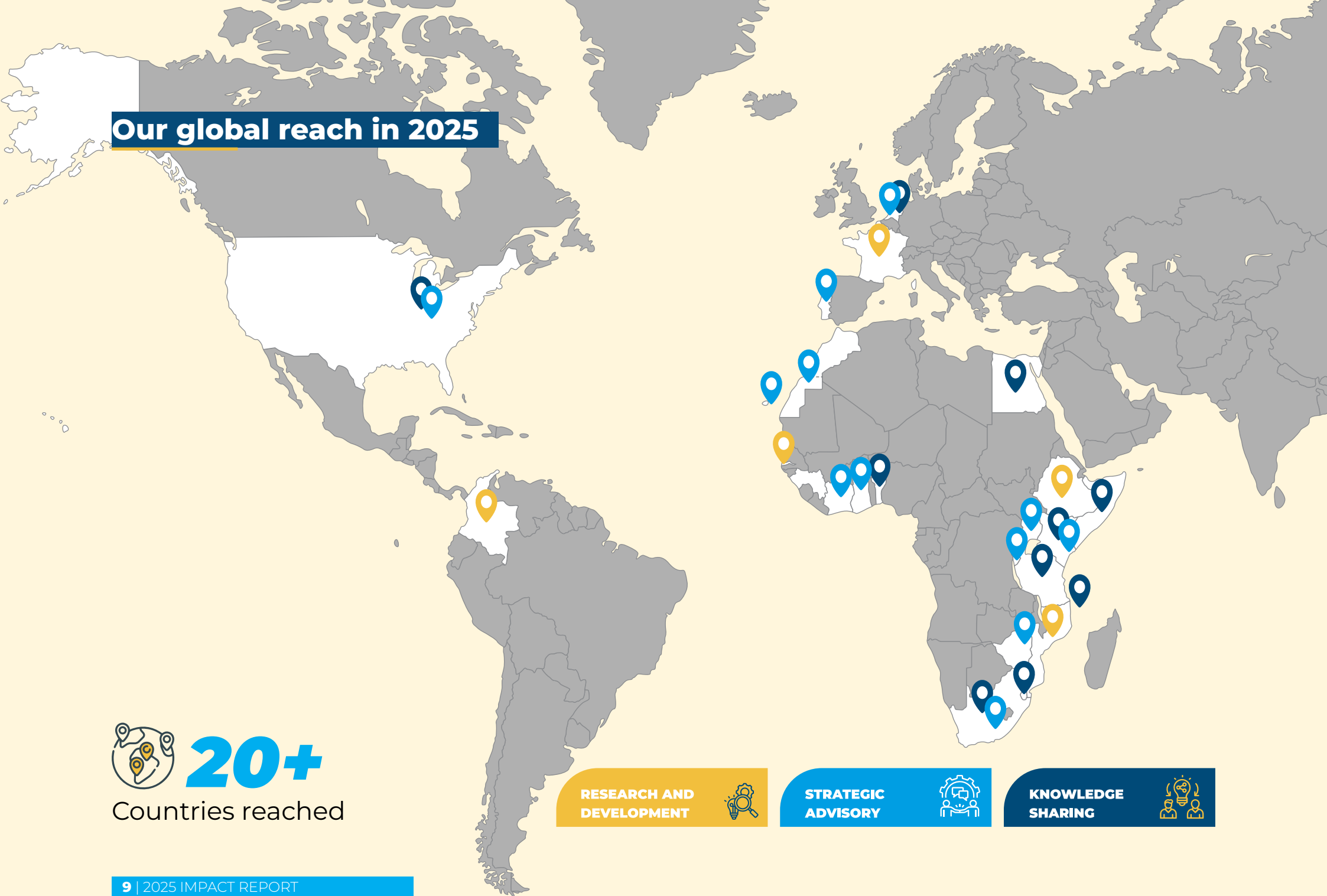
17

Participatory policy workshops** conducted

(**614** Participants Introduced to Participatory Processes)

**Workshop = trainings

Our global reach in 2025



20+

Countries reached

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT 

STRATEGIC ADVISORY 

KNOWLEDGE SHARING 

Global recognition

i4Policy wins the Policy Catalyst Award



Presented by the [Global Entrepreneurship Network \(GEN\)](#), the Compass Awards recognise outstanding contributions to the advancement of entrepreneurship through research, policy innovation, investment, and ecosystem development.

The [Policy Catalyst](#), went to Innovation for Policy Foundation

(i4Policy), which was honoured for its pioneering work in participatory policy reform. i4Policy, a core GEN partner, continues to influence how entrepreneurship policy is designed and implemented across African economies.

i4Policy and its partners were recognised in three strategic categories. [Read more here.](#)

i4Policy becomes member of the Africa Evidence Network

i4Policy is a proud member of the Africa Evidence Network.

Established in 2012, the Africa Evidence Network is a diverse community of over 5,000 members dedicated to advancing evidence-informed decision-making across all sectors and countries in Africa. Through strategic collaboration and advocacy, the network fosters a pan-African ecosystem that integrates various forms of evidence into policy and practical implementation.

Visit the [AEN Communities of Practice here.](#)



i4Policy is a member of the Internet for Trust Knowledge Network

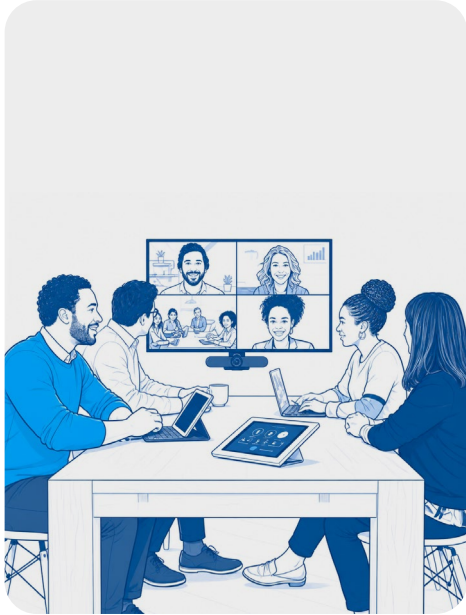
i4Policy is a member of the Internet for Trust Knowledge Network (i4T Network), a community of leading international think tanks and research centers supported by UNESCO to advance research on the governance of digital platforms.

Our participation in the i4T Network builds on our involvement in the flagship 2022 [Internet for Trust Conference](#), which launched a global conversation on the regulation of digital platforms. During the conference, we supported expanding access beyond in-person attendees by opening digital channels that enabled broader participation. This contribution supported UNESCO's effort to open up the consultation process and bring in more diverse perspectives across regions and stakeholder groups.

Learn more about the [i4T Network here.](#)



What our community shared



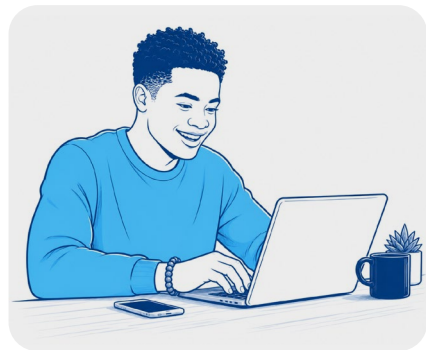
“

I would like to extend my deepest thanks to you for joining AL for Governance Community Call on “Building a Career of Impact.” Your insights made the session truly special- weaving together powerful reflections on creativity, communication, leadership, and purpose.

Your openness and authenticity created a space for genuine learning and inspiration. The conversation reminded our community that building a meaningful career is less about titles and more about values, growth, and consistency in the pursuit of impact.

On behalf of the AL for Governance Team, thank you once again for your time, preparation, and thoughtful contributions. It was a privilege to moderate such a rich discussion alongside you.

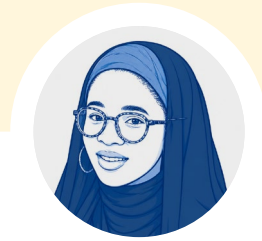
- Gabriella Stadhauer
AL for Governance (Partner: African Leadership Academy)



“

I am excited to announce that I have successfully completed six certifications as part of The Entrepreneurship Policy Learning Series, enhancing my capacity to contribute to a stronger and more inclusive innovation ecosystem in Africa: A big thank you to the community for the valuable knowledge and tools provided. Excited to put these skills into action!

- Ikele Likwango. MBA (Alumni)



“

Thank you for engaging everyone and fostering such a collaborative environment. On behalf of the fellows and the entire ACDT community, we deeply appreciate you leading this session. Your team’s generosity truly enriched the experience.”

We value your expertise and eagerly anticipate future partnerships that will benefit both our organizations.

- Evelyn Kwarteng
(Africa Center for Digital Transformation)



“

i4Policy has removed barriers, strengthened ecosystems, and fostered inclusive innovation across Africa.

- Global Entrepreneurship Network (Partner)

What our community shared



“
On Learn I completed Course One: Introduction and Fundamentals under the Entrepreneurship Policy Learning Series by the 4Policy.

It was an engaging and eye-opening platform that deepened my understanding of entrepreneurship policy-and I've even recommended it to friends who are eager to grow in this space.

- **Tigist Mezmur (Alumni)**



“
[Their] approach was not only technically sound but also deeply collaborative, ensuring strong ownership from our local institutions. [in addition they] demonstrated a deep understanding of the African digital innovation landscape.

- **Cabo Verde Digital (Partner)**

“
Whereas in 2019 I was involved in discussions of the Ghana Startup Act. Formalizing the process (through the MOOC) makes it easier and brings into perspective some relevant discussions.

- **Anonymous (Alumni)**

“
O Policy Hackathon foi um grande sucesso, Os participantes saíram sentindo-se empoderados e com a sensação de terem contribuído para algo verdadeiramente inovador para Cabo Verde. Parabéns a toda a equipa pelo excelente evento e votos de boa viagem!

- **Bryan Caplan (Cabo Verde)**

Project highlights

After six years strengthening our presence and positioning in entrepreneurship-focused projects, 2025 marked a period of expansion. We moved beyond this space to engage with new fields, including agroforestry, data governance, and the

value of death. This shift demonstrates that the value of our approach extends far beyond a single sector, proving adaptable to diverse contexts and governance challenges. In 2026, we aim to continue expanding our work both within and

beyond the entrepreneurship ecosystem, bringing our methodologies and perspectives to an even broader range of initiatives.

Agroforestry

Commissioned by the **Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)** and the **Dutch Embassy in Ghana**, i4Policy led a three-phase participatory process to strengthen Ghana's agroforestry ecosystem, engaging over 100 stakeholders in policy co-creation.

Phase 1: Ecosystem Diagnosis

Through workshops in Accra and Kumasi, stakeholders mapped the landscape, identifying systemic challenges in land tenure, institutional coordination, and financing. The resulting report, "[Agroforestry Development in Ghana: A Participatory Approach to Progress](#)," established a national consensus on the need for a harmonized policy framework.

Phase 2: Policy Design

Regional policy hackathons in Tamale and Kumasi crowdsourced actionable proposals, culminating in the "[Scaling](#)

[Agroforestry through Inclusive Policy in Ghana: Policy Insights & Actions Framework](#)" framework. Key priorities included farmer-centred incentives, private sector engagement in cocoa and timber, and integrating agroforestry into climate planning.

Phase 3: The Agroforestry Technical Working Group (ATWG)

In October, the **ATWG** was established as a permanent 13-member coordination mechanism. The group, hosted by the Ghana Food and Agriculture Organisation but also including the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Forestry Commission, is mandated to lead policy validation and roadmap development.

Impact

This initiative shifted Ghana's agroforestry discourse from fragmented interventions

to a coordinated, policy-driven ecosystem approach. It successfully transitioned consultative dialogue into a formal, multi-stakeholder platform grounded in institutional commitment and climate resilience.



Data Governance

Through the Dataicipation project, i4Policy has been supporting the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the African Union (AU) in their efforts to strengthen

the AU's developing of harmonised data policies and building of regulatory and institutional capacity, focusing especially on the topic of participatory processes (digital and analogue) and inclusion, which

are key to increase meaningful African citizen engagement in governance, policy making and implementation processes.

The project was structured around three main workstreams:



Citizen Engagement Platform (CEP)

We ensured the continued development and quality of the Citizen Engagement Platform (CEP), working with Mobidev Kenya to improve performance, security, and functionality through regular updates and user-driven enhancements. We also worked to position the Citizen Engagement Platform (CEP) as a Digital Public Good by open-sourcing the platform, publishing its documentation and codebase, and submitting an application for official recognition as a Digital Public Good.



Developing Data Governance Frameworks

We supported governments in developing data governance frameworks through public participation, including the delivery of capacity-building activities with public officials from AU member states such as Somalia, Mozambique, and Lesotho. Look out for the upcoming Participation Champion Handbook, which enables more meaningful participation in policymaking with a particular focus on data governance in African and Global South contexts.



Inclusive and Gender Transformative Policymaking

We advanced inclusive and gender-transformative policymaking by facilitating a participatory process to co-create a Policymakers' Edition of the Gender Data Futures Handbook, originally developed by Pollicy and scheduled for publication in 2026. Alongside this, we conducted research that will result in a resource on Intersectionality and Data Governance aimed at helping governments embed intersectional thinking into policymaking processes.

Value of Death



In 2025, we explored a new and deeply human area of governance: The Value of Death.

In partnership with the **Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Department at University College London** and the **Lancet Commission on the Value of Death**, we began exploring how societies understand death, dying, and grief. Inspired by the Commission's call to rebalance modern "death systems," this initiative lays the groundwork for a future Global Assembly on Death, Dying, and Grief.

To guide the design of this global deliberation, the project follows the

Double Diamond design framework consisting of Discover, Define, Develop, and Deliver.

We began phase one, or the **Discover phase**, by examining how end-of-life experiences are understood and governed across different contexts. Through a knowledge review, workshops, and interviews with Lancet Commissioners from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds, we explored the dilemmas shaping death systems globally.

Beyond its institutional implications, this subject made us reflect more deeply on our own relationship with death, dying, and grief and how our systems, beliefs,

and cultures shape that relationship.

Building on this foundation, the subsequent phases will progressively engage a broader and more diverse set of relevant stakeholders. This will enable the construction of a global dialogue, grounded in a multistakeholder governance approach and supported by tools and practices from deliberative democracy.

There is much more to explore and we look forward to continuing this journey!

You can follow our work here: <https://valueofdeath.org/>



Research and Development Pillar

Research and Development: Events





Research and Development: Impact spotlights



Advancing Participatory AI Governance

Our research also contributed to global conversations on Responsible AI governance. Together with partners including Connected by Data, CIPESA, NIYEL, ILDA, Mission Publique, the Deliberation & Technology Network, and the Collective Intelligence Project, we advanced the concept of Collective Intelligence for Artificial Intelligence: South-South AI Governance. As part of this effort, we co-signed and promoted an open letter addressed to the organisers of the Global AI Summit on Africa, calling for stronger public participation in AI governance, greater inclusion of civil society and local communities in shaping AI policies, and increased investment in participatory approaches across the AI development lifecycle.

Other Spotlights

We are incredibly proud of the R&D impact in [Ghana's Participatory Agroforestry Policy Design](#) and in the **DataCipation Participatory Data Governance Project**, with more details available in the project highlights above.



Research and Development: Insights

Our R&D pillar serves as the laboratory for the future of governance. In 2025, our research focused on the intersection of Artificial Intelligence, Data Sovereignty, and Deliberative Democracy, ensuring that technological advancement does not outpace public oversight. Much of our work centered on adapting the Decision Thinking methodology to diverse policy contexts, designing participatory processes that combine broad inclusion with clear steps that translate participation into concrete decisions and recommendations.

A major focus was our contribution to the Ghana Agroforestry initiative. We designed the overall participatory approach using the Decision Thinking framework, selecting

methods that responded to the local policy context, stakeholder dynamics, and institutional needs.

We also expanded our work on data governance through the Dataicipation programme. In Lesotho, Mozambique, and Somalia, we designed and delivered workshops for public officials and stakeholders to strengthen understanding of participatory data governance. These sessions combined policy literacy, practical tools, and collaborative exercises to help institutions explore how data governance frameworks can become more transparent, inclusive, and accountable.

Beyond sectoral projects, our R&D efforts also contributed to global conversations

on participatory AI governance. Together with partners including Connected by Data, CIPESA, NIYEL, ILDA, Mission Publique, the Deliberation & Technology Network, and the Collective Intelligence Project, we advanced the concept of Collective Intelligence for Artificial Intelligence: South-South AI Governance, promoting inclusive, multistakeholder approaches to Responsible AI.

Finally, we designed the participatory approach for the Value of Death process, exploring how sensitive societal questions can be addressed through structured and inclusive deliberation.



I'm proud that this year we were able to show, in practice, that participatory solutions can play a key role in addressing global challenges. From our work on agroforestry and climate resilience to the governance of artificial intelligence, what stayed with us is how these processes create space for people to come together, make sense of complexity, and shape decisions collectively.

- Sebastián Calderón (Head of R&D)



Strategic advisory pillar

Strategic Advisory: Events

ABSA Youth Dialogue (South Africa)

We collaborated with ABSA and AGCAE to bridge financial inclusion and policy, highlighting the need for impact data to restore government trust.

Feb 19, 2025

Startup Policy Webinar (Zimbabwe)

We guided the co-creation of a Zimbabwe Startup Act, emphasizing contextualized legal reforms over “copy-paste” international models.

Mar 05, 2025

Cabo Verde Policy Hackathons (Cabo Verde)

We conducted three one-day participatory events in Sal, Mindelo, and Praia, bringing together 84 stakeholders across the locations to identify key challenges, solutions, and collaboratively develop policy proposals.

Jun 02-06, 2025

Cabo Verde Tech Ecosystem Focus Group (Cabo Verde)

As part of the ongoing participatory policy process for the Cabo Verde Startup Act, a targeted Tech Ecosystem Stakeholder Focus Group was held virtually with 19 participants. The session aimed to build on the outcomes of previous hackathons and consultations.

Jul 22, 2025

Feb 25-28, 2025

Burundi Agenda Setting (Burundi)

i4Policy conducted stakeholder interviews and a validation workshop with a technical working groups to prioritise recommendations from the Burundi Policy Hackathon, building local reform champions.

May 14-16, 2025

AU Capacity Programme (Kenya)

We equipped 40 youth organizations with skills to align their work with Agenda 2063, utilizing the CEP for impact reporting.

Jun 07, 2025

Cabo Verde Female Entrepreneurs Brunch (Cabo Verde)

A dedicated session for 11 women entrepreneurs was hosted in Praia, to allow them a safe and dedicated space to share experiences and develop policy proposals addressing gender-specific barriers. building local reform champions.



Strategic Advisory: Events

Global Entrepreneurship Congress (USA)

At GEC, we engaged global policymakers on the necessity of proven case studies to secure funding and attention for participatory processes.

Jun 02-05, 2025

DPI Conference (South Africa)

We explored Digital Public Infrastructure as “universal public rails,” advocating for open-source, interoperable systems like Digital ID and Data Exchange.

Nov 04-06, 2025

Transform Africa Summit (Guinea)

At this high-level forum, we focused on AI sovereignty and the shift of government roles from “operators” to “enablers.”

Nov 12-14, 2025

Ivory Coast Compost Focus (Ivory Coast)

i4Policy and AKVO co-created a shared roadmap for organic compost adoption to improve soil health and climate resilience in cocoa.

Nov 20, 2025

Oct 30-31, 2025

DataFest 2025 (Uganda)

This East African forum focused on reclaiming data sovereignty, localized AI datasets, and integrating “safety by design” to combat gender-based violence.

Nov 09, 2025

Cabo Verde Web Summit (Portugal)

We engaged Cabo Verdean founders and political leadership to validate Startup Act ideas and mobilize diaspora investment for early-stage ventures.

Nov 15, 2025

Africa Day Amsterdam (Netherlands)

We advocated for equitable Africa-Europe partnerships, focusing on sustainable value chains in the cocoa sector and inclusive global order.

Dec 4, 2025

Digital and Green Innovation Summit (DGI) Africa at Latitude59 (Kenya)

i4Policy facilitated a workshop to identify investment barriers and co-design actionable startup policy reforms for Africa's digital and green ecosystems. [DGI Report](#)



Strategic Advisory: Impact spotlights

Cabo Verde Startup Act Journey

Partnering with the World Bank and i4Policy, Cabo Verde is co-creating a landmark Startup Act using the ADDIS methodology. Through regional policy hackathons and a dedicated Technical Working Committee, the journey focuses on tax incentives, reduced bureaucracy, and inclusivity, positioning the nation as a digital economy “hidden gem.”

The 2025 timeline moved rapidly from Agenda Setting in April to an intensive Drafting Phase between May and July, featuring multi-island engagement events. These collaborative sessions crowdsourced legal reforms directly from entrepreneurs. By September 2025, the process transitioned into Decision-Making and Implementation, establishing

operational guidelines to translate these co-created policies into measurable economic growth.

You can read more on this process through dedicated website: <https://cabo.verde/ecosystem/build/>





Entrepreneurship Policy Development in Burundi

In Burundi, we supported national stakeholders in exploring pathways to strengthen the country’s entrepreneurial ecosystem, including the potential development of a Small Business Act. The initiative was implemented with the support of RVO (the Netherlands Enterprise Agency) and the Embassy of the Netherlands in Burundi, and brought together government institutions, entrepreneurs, civil society, and ecosystem actors to examine how existing policies could better reflect the realities of Burundian entrepreneurs.

In 2024, we brought together Burundian stakeholders to identify key barriers facing entrepreneurs and generate practical policy ideas. In 2025, a Validation Workshop convened members of the Technical Working Group to review and confirm insights from these earlier participatory activities. Building on this progress, we aim to continue the work and invite all partners to support and stay engaged in ongoing policy conversations in Burundi.



Digital and Green Innovation Summit (DGI) Africa at Latitude59

At the Digital and Green Innovation Summit Africa during Latitude59 Kenya, i4Policy had the pleasure of putting our facilitation skills to the test by hosting the workshop “Attracting Investment in Africa’s Digital & Green Startups.” The session brought together policymakers, investors, founders, and ecosystem actors for a lively discussion on the barriers holding back investment in Africa’s digital and green startups.

Participants worked collaboratively to unpack the policy and financing challenges behind the continent’s “missing middle” funding gap and to explore practical actions that could help unlock greater investment. The energy in the room made it clear that these conversations are both timely and necessary. Several of the reflections and ideas generated during the workshop were later captured in the [Summit’s final report](#) and discussions on mobilising investment for Africa’s twin digital and green transitions.



Strategic Advisory: Insights

Our Strategic Advisory pillar provides high-level technical expertise and roadmap design for governments, regional bodies, and financial institutions. In 2025, we focused on shifting the narrative from “policy as a document” to “policy as a catalyst” for investment, infrastructure, and sustainable growth.

As the global landscape evolves, so do the needs of the institutions and ecosystems we support. In response, we adapted both the sectors we engage with and the pace and structure of our advisory work. Throughout 2025, we placed greater emphasis on dialogue, collaboration, and ecosystem listening, recognizing that

effective policy today must be grounded in the realities and needs of those it seeks to serve. Agriculture emerged as a key focus in West Africa: in Ghana, we led a three-phase participatory process to strengthen the agroforestry ecosystem, convening public institutions, researchers, private actors, and farmers to identify barriers and co-design solutions. In Côte d’Ivoire, we carried out ecosystem research and engagement to better understand compost use and define pathways to scale its adoption, particularly within the cocoa sector. While this represents a shift from our historic focus on entrepreneurship and innovation, our methodology remains constant: listening first, diagnosing

ecosystems, and co-creating solutions that can translate into actionable roadmaps and lasting coordination mechanisms.

At the same time, we continued advancing entrepreneurship policy reform. In Morocco, policy hackathons helped lay the foundation for stronger collaboration between government and ecosystem actors. In Burundi, we finalised an entrepreneurship policy process grounded in ecosystem consultations before identifying high-impact policy options. In Cabo Verde, the Startup Act advanced rapidly from crowdsourced policy drafts to government decision-making and implementation.



This year, our work felt more anchored than ever in the voices and needs of the ecosystems we engage with. By treating policy as a catalyst rather than an endpoint, we were able to support more practical and collaborative pathways to change.

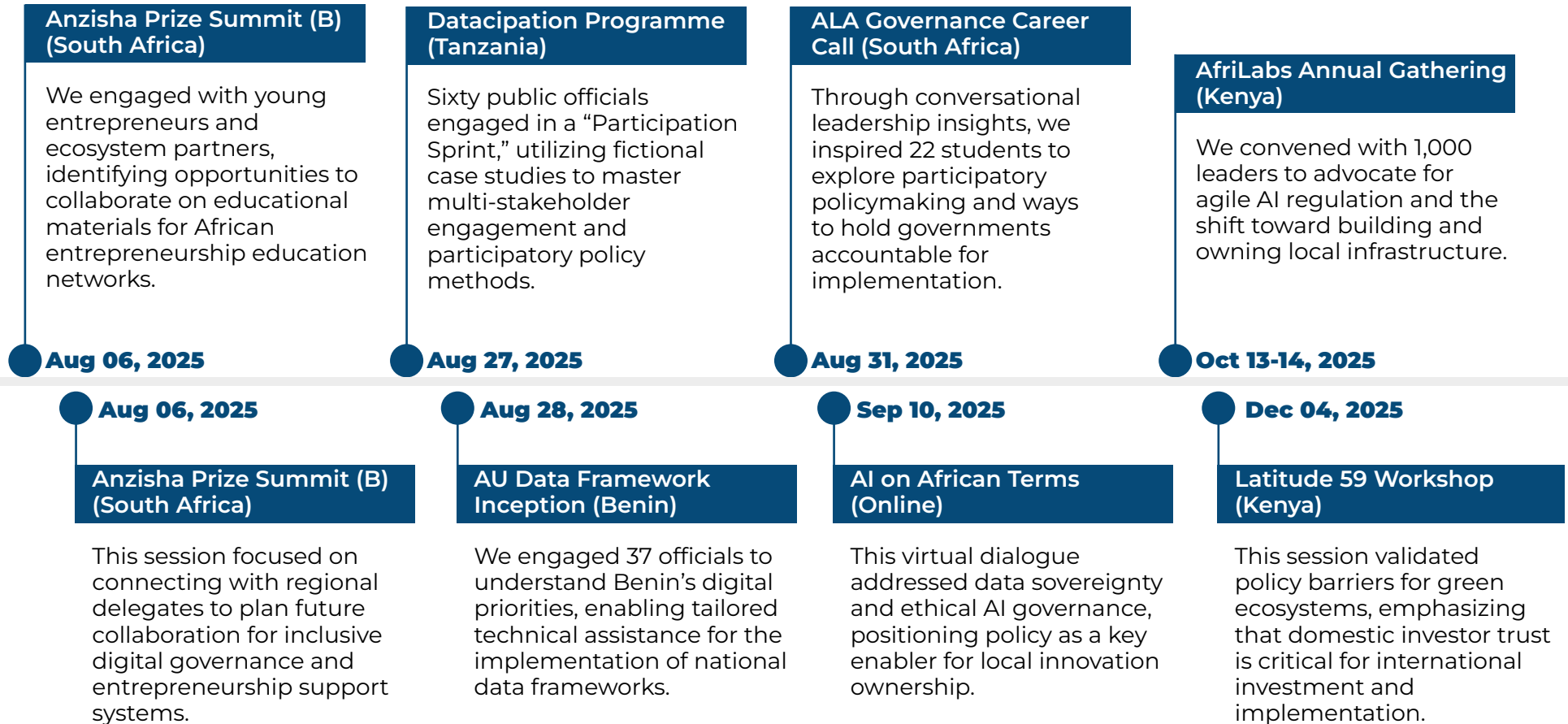
- Maeva's Kpadonou (Head of Advisory)



Knowledge-sharing pillar

Knowledge-sharing: Events







Knowledge-sharing: Impact spotlights

Pan-African Policy Taskforce

The Pan-African Policy Taskforce is a participant-led platform co-led by [Smart Africa Alliance](#), [i4Policy](#) and [Allan Gray Centre for Africa Entrepreneurship \(AGCAE\)](#). The Taskforce was created from a collective need voiced by the African startup ecosystem to cultivate connections, enable the flow of information, and provide a venue where specific expertise, learnings and best practice can be shared.

Pan-African Policy Taskforce held its fifth session on May 22nd, 2025, centered on unlocking the potential of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to support startup growth across the continent.

[Download key insights from the Taskforce Newsletter](#)

Pan-African Policy Taskforce held its sixth session on October 23rd, 2025, centered on unlocking insights for action through the African Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Index (AEEI).

[Download key insights from the Taskforce Newsletter](#)

Become a member

The Taskforce is a peer-to-peer learning platform. As a member, you will meet peers experienced with developing and implementing entrepreneurship, startup or innovation policies. You will be able to leverage the expertise of other participants and can expect to learn about - and share - key lessons, challenges and factors of success in implementing different aspects of entrepreneurship, startup or innovation policies. There is no membership fee or requirement, but the platform is geared towards policymakers, civil society organisations, donor institutions and ecosystems players. Interested in becoming a member of the Taskforce?

[Sign Up](#) here

Guest speakers at our taskforce gatherings



Dr Phumlani Nkontwana
Director,
AGCAE



Rafiki Murenzi,
Doctoral Researcher,
AGCAE



Alban Jackohango,
Senior Advisor,
Tony Blair Institute



Gideon Brefo,
Co-Founder and CEO,
HapaSpace Innovation
Hub, Ghana



Knowledge-sharing: Insights

Our knowledge-sharing pillar serves as the bridge between theoretical frameworks and transformative global governance. In 2025, we participated in 17 projects that applied the ADDIS methodology and Decision Thinking to actionable governance worldwide. These efforts concentrated on using specific framework models to address real-world policy challenges in various regions, demonstrating that our tools are effective in any local context.

A significant part of the year's work involved expanding the organization's learning community. By adding 240 new participants, the total number of learners grew to over 750 across 76 countries.

Designed for impact, our courses combine robust theoretical foundations with practical, hands-on application. These interactive learning experiences empower participants to test and implement new concepts in real time, equipping them to adapt these insights to their local policy environments. This expanding community has introduced a wealth of diverse viewpoints, particularly within our forum discussions, where global exchanges consistently spark innovative ideas and creative solutions.

To support this growth and share information, i4Policy published 15 blog posts in 2025 on our ecosystem.build platform, including amplifying the work

of our institutional partners such as Allan Gray Centre for Africa Entrepreneurship (AGCAE), Systemic Innovation, and Anzisha Prize team.

Key outputs from the year included a report based on our participatory approach to agroforestry Policy in Ghana and two partner publications by AGCAE.

Additionally, the Pan-African Policy Taskforce underwent a visual and structural update, which was shared in the most recent newsletter. These efforts provided stakeholders with updated resources and a more organized platform for policy development.



We're a learning organisation at heart, always adapting through continuous growth and curiosity.

We work closely with partners and experts, share open resources, and turn insights into learning for everyone.

It's especially rewarding to see our cohorts bring niche policy knowledge from our courses into real-world practice."

- Belisa Rodrigues (Lead Instructional Designer)



Connect with us in 2026

Phew, what a year! 2025 has presented a range of challenges, but also a wealth of opportunities. We are excited about what lies ahead and about the opportunities that 2026 will bring. As our work continues to evolve and expand across different sectors and regions, we remain committed to building new partnerships and strengthening existing collaborations.

If you are active in Senegal, the DRC, Mozambique, Ghana, Kenya, or elsewhere across the region, we would love to connect and explore ways to work together.

You can also find us at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC), GEC+Africa, and the Transform Africa Summit, where we look forward to engaging with partners, practitioners, and policymakers shaping the future of innovation and governance.

Interested in collaborating or learning more about our work? Don't hesitate to reach out.

The future is co-created!

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