Red Lantern ANALYTICA

# TECH AND AI DIGEST

July 2026

# India and EU Deepen Strategic Technology Partnership

India and the European Union agreed to expand cooperation in artificial intelligence, semiconductors, quantum technologies, high-performance computing, telecommunications, clean energy and resilient supply chains. The third Trade and Technology Council meeting also advanced Horizon Europe association talks, a joint EV-charging innovation hub and a deep-tech startup partnership, strengthening broader strategic ties.

# Madagascar Tests Direct-to-Cell Satellite Technology

Madagascar became the third African country, after Kenya and Uganda, to test Direct-to-Cell satellite connectivity. Airtel Madagascar and the government successfully demonstrated messaging, voice and video calls using conventional 4G smartphones connected directly to satellites. The technology could improve connectivity in remote areas and maintain communications during disasters when terrestrial networks fail.

# African Space Solutions Market Opens in Abidjan

Abidjan hosted the second African Space Solutions Market from July 7-9, bringing together governments, companies, researchers, investors and startups. The exhibition showcased satellite imagery, geomatics, artificial intelligence, drones and telecommunications, highlighting practical applications of space technology in agriculture, land management, mining and other sectors supporting Africa's socioeconomic development.

# US and Saudi Arabia Sign Landmark Nuclear Deal

The United States and Saudi Arabia signed a landmark civil nuclear cooperation agreement that could enable Riyadh to develop nuclear power and potentially enrich uranium. The agreement has attracted scrutiny over proliferation risks and Saudi Arabia's nuclear ambitions, particularly regarding safeguards, enrichment capabilities and the wider regional security implications of expanding nuclear cooperation.

# India and Australia Launch Cyber and Critical Technologies Partnership

India and Australia launched the Partnership on Cyber, Critical Technologies and Supply Chains (PACTS), replacing their 2020 cyber framework. The initiative covers supply-chain resilience, AI, semiconductors, telecommunications, cybersecurity, digital public infrastructure and defence research. It aims to strengthen trusted technology ecosystems and regional resilience across the Indo-Pacific.

# EU and Ukraine Agree on Joint Drone Production

The European Union and Ukraine agreed to cooperate on joint drone production, combining European industrial capacity with Ukraine's battlefield experience. Kyiv will share technology and expertise while European partners provide investment and manufacturing capabilities. The initiative seeks to rapidly expand drone and counter-drone capabilities as Europe confronts growing security challenges along its eastern flank.

# Brazil Joins China-Backed AI Organisation

Brazil has joined Cuba, Russia and Venezuela in a China-backed artificial intelligence organisation, expanding participation in a Beijing-led technology initiative. The move strengthens Brazil's engagement with alternative international technology frameworks while potentially broadening cooperation on AI development, governance and technological capacity beyond institutions traditionally dominated by Western powers.


# Huawei Deepens Strategic Technology Engagement in Vietnam

Huawei is expanding its presence in Vietnam through partnerships focused on 5G infrastructure, artificial intelligence and digital energy. The collaborations support Vietnam's broader digital transformation ambitions, including smarter industrial systems and telecommunications. Huawei's growing role also highlights increasing competition among global technology providers for influence in Southeast Asia's rapidly developing digital economy.

# India and Japan Deepen Cooperation on Artificial Intelligence

India and Japan elevated their relationship to a strategic AI research and development partnership, focusing on trustworthy AI, cybersecurity, semiconductors, computing infrastructure and talent development. The countries will pursue joint research, AI governance coordination and multilingual models while encouraging Japanese investment in India and greater mobility of Indian AI professionals.

# South Korea Unveils $880 Billion AI and Chip Plan

South Korea announced an ambitious 1,350 trillion won, approximately $880 billion, decade-long investment strategy covering semiconductors, AI data centres and robotics. Samsung and SK Hynix will lead major chip investments, including new fabrication capacity. Seoul aims to reinforce its semiconductor dominance and compete more aggressively with the US, China and Taiwan.


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