

TECH INNOVATORS NETWORK

newsletter

Using DPI to Deliver Community Powered Technology

Digital Public Infrastructure & Digital Public Goods in Practice

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) is emerging as a powerful approach to delivering inclusive, scalable, and people-centred technology across Africa. By combining DPI with Digital Public Goods (DPGs), governments and communities can move away from siloed, proprietary systems toward open, interoperable platforms that reduce digital divides and strengthen public service delivery.

THiNK is putting this vision into practice through an open-source DPI stack that includes digital identity, consent and trust frameworks, payments, and a unique Bot-of-Bots orchestration system. This approach enables national solutions, such as GovBot, to scale effectively from over 635 government agencies down to counties, while remaining locally relevant, multilingual, and accessible to citizens.

By prioritising open-source technologies, community engagement, and GovStack alignment, THiNK is fostering transparency, innovation, and local capacity building. Through initiatives like its Developer Program and Community of Practice, THiNK continues to empower developers, governments, and partners to co-create digital public goods that truly serve people and support sustainable digital transformation.

For more information: <https://govstack.gitbook.io/use-cases/use-cases/ai-chatbot-discoverability-government-services>

During the Kenya Software Summit 2025, we had the opportunity to showcase **GovBot**, Kenya's upcoming digital assistant developed in collaboration with **eCitizen** and the **Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Digital Economy**.

Built on open innovation principles, GovBot is designed as a **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)**, enabling collaborative co-development and shared ownership. We look forward to actively engaging our **Community of Practice (CoP)** to help expand, enhance, and complete this initiative in support of efficient and inclusive government service delivery.



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- **ABSA-CSK Conference 2025**
- **National Model for Women's Safety Online**
- **LLaMA Impact Accelerator**
- **A Policy Paper On The Ethical Principles That Should Govern Artificial Intelligence**

...and much more

We are excited to contribute to Kenya's digital transformation journey, working alongside innovators who are shaping the future of technology in Kenya and across Africa.

Access the web version here: web.think.ke



Demonstrating how Govbot is simplifying government interactions



Representatives from eCitizen and THINK (Tech Innovators Network) pose together at the eCitizen exhibition booth

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

ABSA-CSK Conference 2025

As digital finance continues to evolve, strong governance, ethics, and collaboration among banks, regulators, and tech innovators remain vital to building resilient financial systems that foster trust, transparency, and long-term sustainability.

In recognition of this, THiNK joined a thought-provoking forum organized by the Compliance team in partnership with the Compliance Society of Kenya (CSK) and Strathmore Business School (SBS). The event, themed “**Financial Crime and Sustainable Finance in the Age of AI: Navigating Risks and Opportunities,**” brought together leaders from the financial and technology sectors to explore how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the fight against financial crime while promoting sustainable finance.

Discussions delved into AI’s dual nature as both a catalyst for innovation and a source of emerging risks—highlighting issues such as deepfakes, crypto-related fraud, and the growing need for agile regulation, ethical governance, and continuous upskilling.

Speakers underscored the importance of balanced regulatory approaches and strengthened legal frameworks to ensure that AI is applied responsibly and sustainably across the financial sector. The forum reinforced a powerful message: **responsible AI adoption is essential to combating financial crime while advancing sustainable finance and inclusive growth.**

THiNK remains committed to promoting ethical AI practices, fostering collaboration among innovators, and supporting platforms that drive responsible digital transformation across Africa’s financial ecosystem.

For more information visit: cop.think.ke



Brian Omwenga (Team Lead, THiNK) sharing insights on AI’s transformative power in the banking sector



LLaMA Impact Accelerator

At the Meta Youth Summit, THiNK had the opportunity to engage with a series of impressive youth-led innovations. Among the standout pitches were Therabot, an AI-powered mental health companion; an AI-driven solution designed to support persons with disabilities; and an AI Neural Analyzer aimed at accelerating the interpretation of medical scans such as MRIs. These innovations reflect the growing potential of responsible AI to drive inclusion, improve healthcare, and address real-world challenges.



Conrad Kabuye (Community Engagement and Partnerships Lead, THiNK) with Simon Mwangi (Strategic Partnerships and Product Manager, JHUB Africa) at the Meta LLaMA Impact Accelerator.



Some of the participants at the Meta LLaMA Impact Accelerator

National Model for Women’s Safety Online

Two of Tech Innovators Network - THiNK AI projects, **SHE Bot** and **GovBot** were recognized by IREX under the National Models for Women’s Safety Online (NMWSO) Safety by Design Challenge 2025.

SHE Bot (Secure, Human, Empowered) is a digital ally for women’s online safety, linking women to verified hotlines and resources to combat tech-facilitated violence.

GovBot is a trusted AI-powered assistant that connects citizens and residents to verified government services in a safe and inclusive way.

This recognition reinforces our commitment to building ethical, human-centered AI solutions that foster trust, inclusion, and digital safety.

Access the web version here: web.think.ke



Angela Kanyi (DevOps Engineer & QA) offering key insights on the SHE Bot



The THiNK team alongside the IREX team

Botathon #12: University Of Embu



Participants of Botathon 12 alongside the THINK team

Thanks to initiatives like the Tech Innovators Network - THINK Botathon, Embu County is emerging as a vibrant hub for AI innovation, empowering students at the University of Embu to transform cutting-edge technologies into real-world impact. We recently held the 12th THINK Botathon at the University of Embu, marking our third visit to the institution. Special appreciation goes to the six teams for their outstanding performance.

For more information visit: cop.think.ke



Llama Impact Accelerator: Dubai

THiNK was at the Meta AI Summit in Dubai, engaging in forward-looking conversations on responsible AI governance and inclusive innovation. It was energizing to connect with ecosystem leaders from across Africa, the Middle East, and Türkiye, and to see how Llama-powered solutions are shaping real impact. Grateful to Meta for fostering spaces where collaboration meets purpose.



For more information visit: cop.think.ke

Community Stroll #2

THiNK held its second Community Stroll at Karura Forest, bringing community members together for a relaxed walk, open conversations, and connection with nature. The stroll created space for informal networking, reflection, and discussions around innovation, wellbeing, and community building.

Building on the success of the first stroll, the event reaffirmed THiNK’s commitment to fostering inclusive, people-centered engagement beyond formal tech spaces. More community activities like this are planned as THiNK continues to grow and strengthen its ecosystem.

For more information visit: cop.think.ke



PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Verified Bots

Department of Refugees

Your trusted guide for refugee services and support in Kenya

National Registration Bureau

Provides information about national identity cards, including new applications and replacements for citizens.

Konza Technopolis Development Authority

Provides information about the development of Konza Technopolis and investment opportunities in the tech hub.

Department of Immigration

Provides information about passports, visas, work permits, and residency requirements.

Integrated Population Registration System (IPRS)

Your digital assistant for all IPRS inquiries

Civil Registration Service (CRS)

Streamlining civil registration for every Kenyan.

ICT Authority (ICTA)

Provides information about national ICT standards, e-government services, and digital infrastructure.

Kenya Film Classification Board (KFCB)

Provides information about film rating, content regulation, and classification guidelines in Kenya.

Kenya Film Commission (KFC)

Provides information about the development, promotion, and marketing of the local film industry.

Business Registration Service (BRS)

Provides information about registering companies, business names, and collateral registries.

Unverified Bots

THiNK Safety Bot

An internal bot for all things AI safety curated by THiNK

The New Rain Hotel Bot

The New Rain Hotel Bot

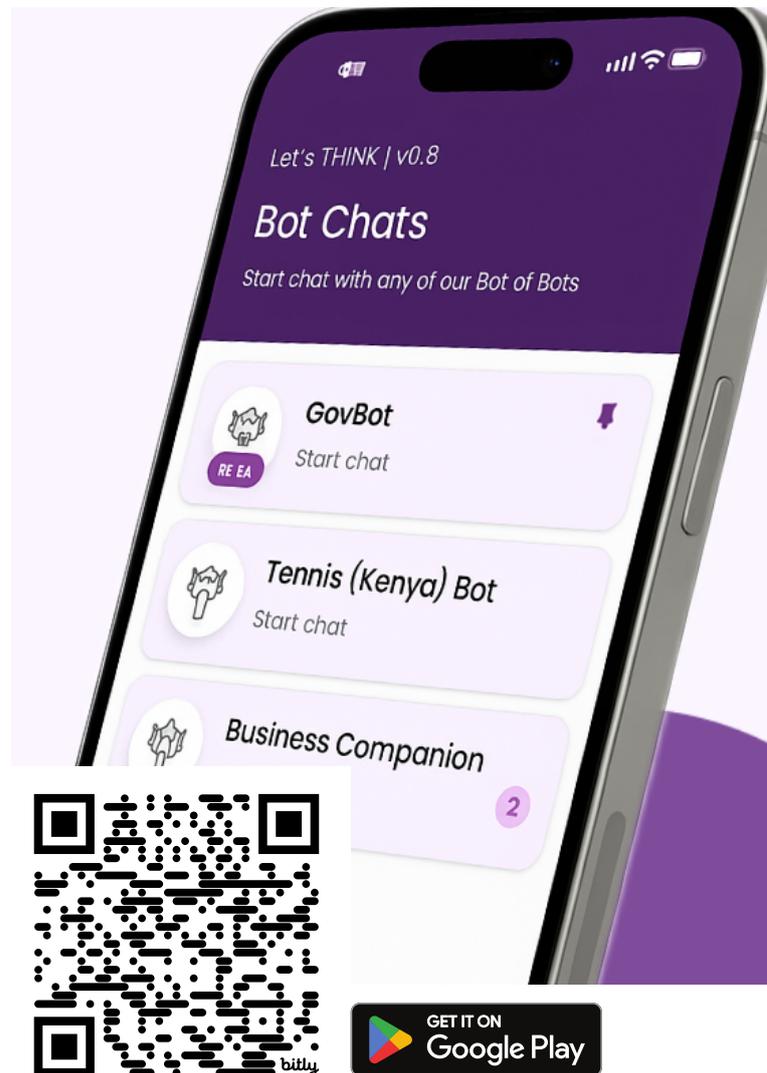
SCCoDev

Shalom Centre for Counselling and Development Bot

Agent Assistant

An Agent assistant bot

Access the bots here: web.think.ke



RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT



A Policy Paper On The Ethical Principles That Should Govern Artificial Intelligence

As Artificial Intelligence becomes deeply embedded in everyday life, ensuring it serves humanity rather than undermines it is more urgent than ever. At THiNK, ethical and community-centred technology is a core priority.

A recent policy paper by Dr. Crispus Kinuthia Kinyanjui, Team Lead of the THiNK Ethics Committee, outlines preliminary ethical principles to guide the responsible development and adoption of AI. The paper highlights key risks associated with AI – including bias, misinformation, loss of human autonomy, and cultural erosion – while emphasizing that innovation must always protect human dignity and the common good.

Drawing from African communal ethics, the paper argues that AI systems should be community-driven, culturally grounded, and developed with active participation from developers, institutions, governments, and society at large.

Five core principles anchor this vision: **respect for human dignity, community and connection, protection of the common good, commitment to truth, and care against harm and misuse.**

Together, these principles reflect THiNK’s commitment to advancing responsible, inclusive, and human-centred AI for Africa and beyond.

Read the full policy paper here: cop.think.ke/research

PARTNERS IN THIS ISSUE



Strathmore UNIVERSITY

