



Thailand Eyes Becoming Global AI and Digital Infrastructure Hub

Thailand has the potential to emerge as a global hub for artificial intelligence (AI) and digital infrastructure, driven by growing investment in data centres and its strategic geopolitical position. According to the Digital Council of Thailand (DCT), the country has already attracted interest representing up to 5 gigawatts of potential data centre capacity, which could translate into hundreds of billions of baht in infrastructure and supercomputing investment.

Industry leaders have emphasised that Thailand's neutral geopolitical stance amid rising global tensions—particularly between major powers such as the United States and China—has made the country an attractive location for international technology companies seeking stable investment destinations. Major global technology firms, including Microsoft, Google, Amazon, Alibaba and Huawei, are reportedly exploring opportunities to expand their digital infrastructure in Thailand.

Suphachai Chearavanont, co-founder of the Digital Council of Thailand, noted that the country holds several advantages over regional competitors. These advantages include a robust electricity grid and geographic access to renewable energy sources from neighbouring countries. However, he emphasised that Thailand must develop a comprehensive national master plan to fully capitalise on these opportunities. Such a plan should integrate AI governance, large-scale data centre investment, and policies supporting clean energy to attract long-term investment from global technology leaders.

Experts also highlighted the importance of strengthening Thailand's digital capabilities and regulatory framework. In particular, policymakers have been encouraged to develop clearer data localisation laws to ensure that sensitive digital information can be securely stored within the country. At the same time, collaboration between global technology companies and Thai universities could help accelerate knowledge transfer and strengthen the country's research and development ecosystem.

In addition to regulatory reforms, the Digital Council of Thailand has proposed a number of policy initiatives to strengthen Thailand's position in the digital economy. These include integrating AI and computer science education into school curricula from an early stage, increasing the proportion of graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, and promoting the development of local startups and digital platforms. The council also plans to present a policy white paper to the incoming government outlining measures to develop digital talent, improve cybersecurity, and reduce Thailand's digital trade deficit, which currently reflects the country's heavy reliance on foreign digital platforms and technologies.