Key takeaways
Towards Embracing AI in Africa

Why Embrace AI?

*"…A need for **African policy** responses, at national, regional, continental and international levels, to ensure that the continent's **innovators**, **enterprises**, **communities**, **governments**, and **other actors** are able to reap **AI's benefits** and **mitigate its threats**. Sound policy approaches needed to enable African nations to **build ecosystems** that are **inclusive**, **socially beneficial**, and **adequately integrated** with **on-the-ground realities**…"*

Source; Artificial Intelligence (AI) Deployments in Africa: Benefits, Challenges and Policy Dimensions, The African Journal of Information and Communication, 2020

Africa Status AI – Ranks Low

The only African countries at the bottom
Tunisia, S.Africa, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria

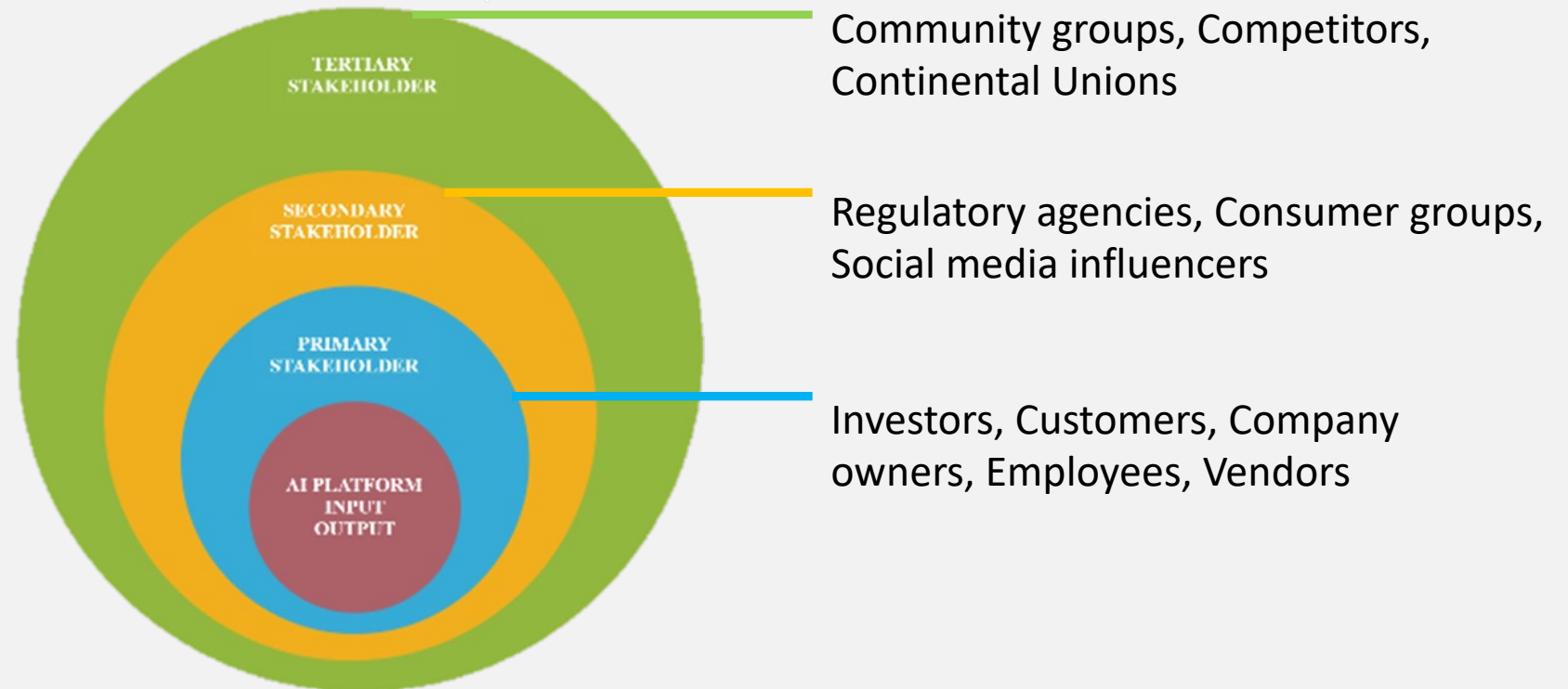| Show: Rank			Implementation			Innovation		Investment		
Country	Talent	Infrastructure	Operating Environment	Research	Development	Government Strategy	Commercial	Total rank
🇺🇸 United States of America	1	4	35	1	1	17	1	1
🇨🇳 China	24	1	6	2	2	2	2	2
🇬🇧 United Kingdom	3	23	24	5	11	11	4	3
🇻🇳 Vietnam	49	47	57	51	56	26	55	52
🇮🇩 Indonesia	51	50	52	55	41	36	45	53
🇹🇳 Tunisia	41	56	40	45	60	58	59	54
🇿🇦 South Africa	54	51	45	56	34	62	36	55
🇲🇦 Morocco	56	52	43	53	59	55	60	56
🇦🇲 Armenia	48	57	46	59	55	56	40	57
🇱🇰 Sri Lanka	50	58	59	60	50	48	61	58
🇪🇬 Egypt	60	55	62	50	46	27	56	59
🇰🇪 Kenya	61	60	60	61	27	60	54	60
🇳🇬 Nigeria	57	62	53	58	45	60	53	61
🇵🇰 Pakistan	45	61	61	49	47	57	57	62

Source: Global AI Index

The Ecosystem Stakeholders
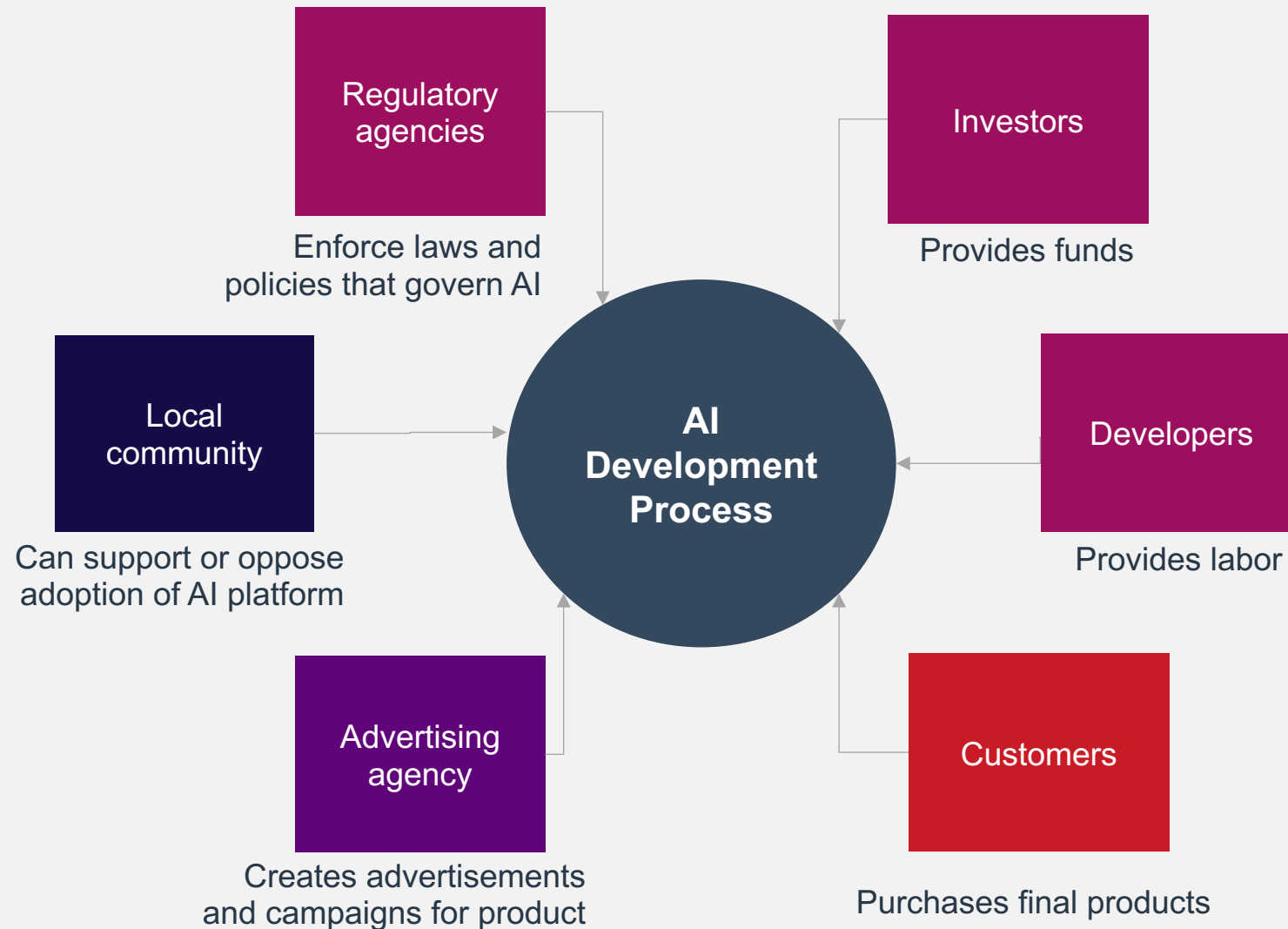
Stakeholders impact to and from AI project.

Primary are essential to the AI company/project; have direct input and directly impacted by the company's AI products.

Secondary - indirect input, indirectly impacted by AI technology
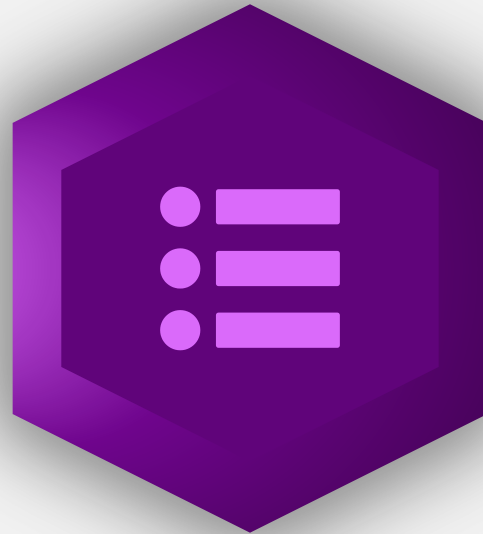
Tertiary stakeholders even less so.

TERTIARY STAKEHOLDER

SECONDARY STAKEHOLDER

PRIMARY STAKEHOLDER

AI PLATFORM INPUT OUTPUT

Community groups, Competitors, Continental Unions

Regulatory agencies, Consumer groups, Social media influencers

Investors, Customers, Company owners, Employees, Vendors

Source: AI in Africa: Framing AI through an African Lens

The Ecosystem Stakeholders

Regulatory agencies
Enforce laws and policies that govern AI

Investors
Provides funds

Local community
Can support or oppose adoption of AI platform

AI Development Process

Developers
Provides labor

Advertising agency
Creates advertisements and campaigns for product

Customers
Purchases final products

What needs to be done

Partnership
research institute,
Private, NGO etc

Investment
Human capital expertise, training
Technology (Data, Storage, specialist tools)
Change (product development, going digital,
making innovation operational

Strategy
Regulators,
authorities government

Recommendations

Build **sustainable local AI ecosystems** (AI solutions) to advance **national developmental priorities**

supporting **inclusive** and prosperous African societies.

Global AI frameworks address the particular challenges AI poses in the region

Involve broad set of stakeholders

Local tech, data entrepreneurs, social justice groups and communities that may be directly affected by AI policies.