

# Higher Education in Low and Middle-Income Countries: How is AI likely to disrupt the sector?

Anthony Maina<sup>\*</sup>, Jane Kuria

<sup>a</sup>School of Computer Science and IT, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Private Bag, Nyeri, Kenya, <sup>\*</sup>E-mail: [anthony.maina@dkut.ac.ke](mailto:anthony.maina@dkut.ac.ke)

## Abstract

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionize higher education by enhancing teaching and learning processes, improving access to education, and facilitating administrative tasks. However, the implementation of AI in low and middle-income countries (LMICs) comes with its own set of opportunities and challenges. This study aims to explore the opportunities and challenges of AI in higher education among LMICs, taking into consideration the socioeconomic context and specific needs of these countries. The findings suggest that AI can address the educational inequalities and improve access to quality education in LMICs. However, challenges such as limited resources, lack of infrastructure, and cultural barriers need to be overcome for successful implementation. To fully leverage the potential of AI in higher education, it is crucial for institutions to invest in faculty development, research, and collaboration to ensure responsible and effective implementation.

**Keywords:** artificial intelligence, low and middle-income countries, higher education, technology disruption