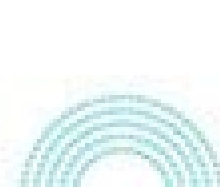


Unlocking the Potential of AI

How MFIs can Navigate & Partake in the Current AI Landscape

Jed Adao

Senior Manager, APAC Operations
TechSoup



About TechSoup

Our Mission is to build a dynamic bridge that **leverages technology to enable connections and innovative solutions** for a more equitable planet.



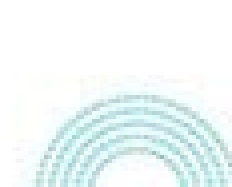
A little about today's **guru**



Jed Adao

Senior Manager, APAC Operations

Nonprofit digital transformation consultant for 10+ years. I'm 100% an organic being that runs on black coffee - and the occasional snickers bar.



AI is overwhelming

How can challenged institutions **keep up**?



First, let's **pull back**

How well do we **understand** AI?



Grab your phone and **open Google**

Ask what's the **weather like tomorrow** in your hometown

*e.g. What's the weather like tomorrow in **Quezon City**?*

Typing **one word at a time**, see if Google can guess your query **before** you finished typing your entire question.



Grab your phone and **open Google**

**Now ask again but add a
distant date in the future**

*e.g. What's the weather like tomorrow in Quezon City on **August 13, 2096**?*

Did Google guess your date **before** you completed your query?



Solutions begin with **simplifying**

AI is made complex (and simple) because of its thought process

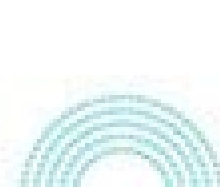


AI reality check

BSP paints a picture of effort, PIDS says it's not enough

BSP's survey among FI's in 2024 show 44% having deployed at least one AI system and 29% having included AI in their roadmaps.

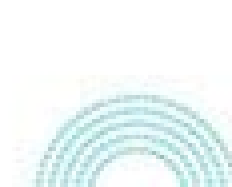
PIDS' study of different industries in 2025 shows only 14.9% of businesses actually use AI, majority being IT firms and BPOs.



Nonprofits express **cautious optimism** around the rise of AI

TechSoup's surveys in the US, Europe & Africa all paint a similar picture that MFIs could potentially relate to - AI is an equalizer that we need to keep in check through education & governance.

In the US, 90% express strong optimism in AI's capability to improve operations. This is shared by nonprofits in Africa (87%) and to a lesser extent in Europe (49%).



How can MFIs begin AI adoption?

Let's explore some practical tips



Tip 1

Focus on available business plans first, experiment later

Are you stuck debating on which platform to use?

Beginners should prioritize privacy and security above all else, followed by ease of use through integration with other daily platforms. **Focus on leveraging built-in AI companions included in your Google or Microsoft business plans** to leverage enterprise grade security.



Tip 2

Build AI use cases around human-led **workflows** not tasks

Evaluating whether it's worth it considering your needs?

We often struggle with tunnel vision and focus far too much on the deliverable or output and less about the process to arrive at that point. Look at AI as a means towards **supplementing existing workflows and capabilities**, not replacing them.



Tip 3

AI is not Google, so let's not use it like Google

I know you're tired of hearing it but prompting is crucial!

Remember, imagine you're just filling out a form that dictate AI's ...

- **Persona** - who you are or who you want AI to assume it is
- **Task** - what you want AI to perform and how
- **Format** - how you want to receive your output
- **Context** - what else is relevant?

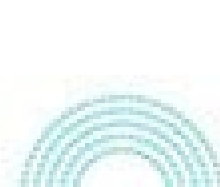


Final Tip

AI is **individualistic** but you can encourage sharing

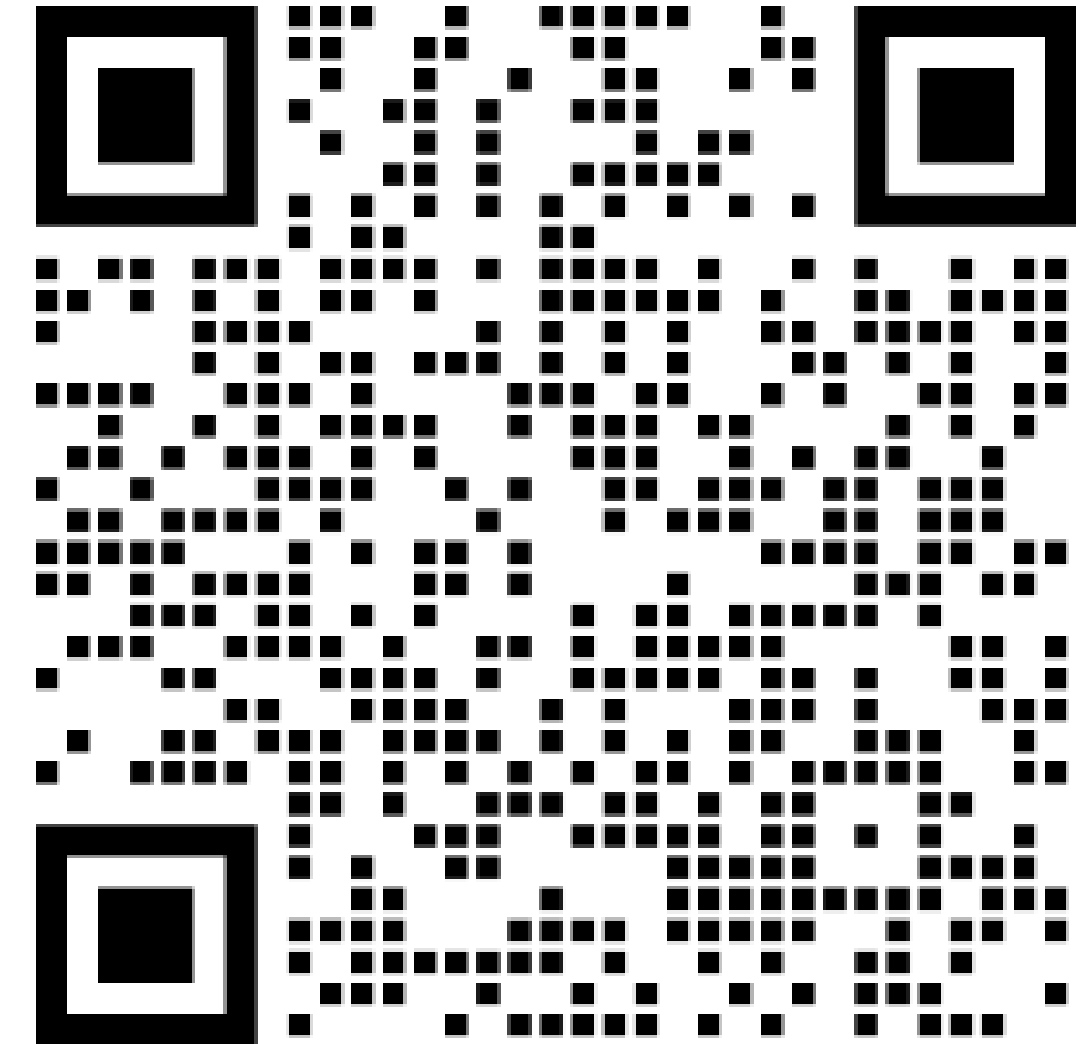
Encourage open discussions and sharing on prompts, custom GPT ideas, and use cases.

AI will always be highly individualistic, so pivot towards opening discourses around current and ideal appropriate use cases to guide better governance and adoption strategies.



Let's continue through the **APAC AI Learning Community**

Join for free so you can access our community forum thread. You can ask questions, share your work and get advise through the forum.



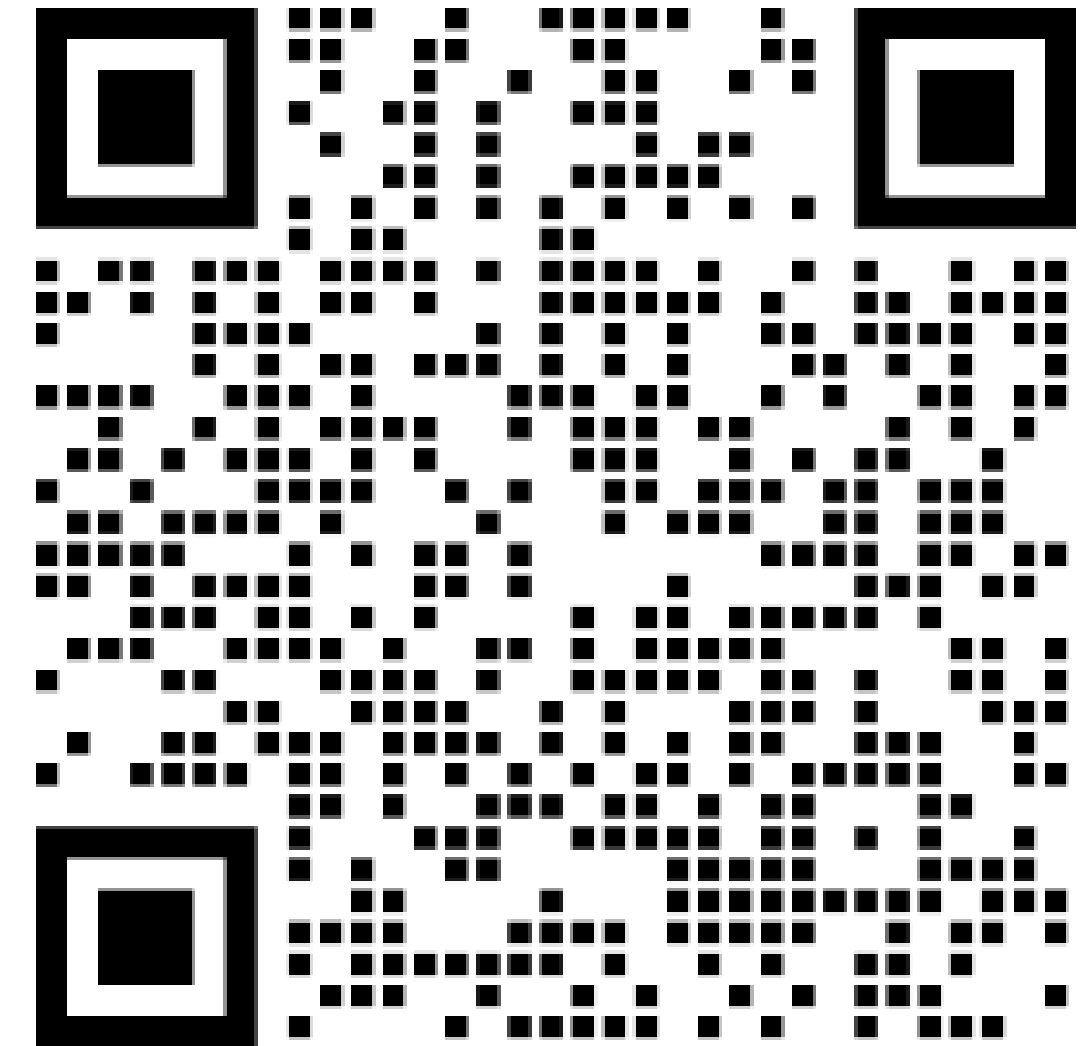
Sign up for free at:
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Join and access 10 hours of **free mentoring** for nonprofits

Let's continue your AI adoption journey together to explore private mentoring sessions for additional training, consultations or even agent development

Continue the convo with me at
jadao@techsoup.org



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