

Feasibility Assessment of the Proposed Mlolongo Digital Technology Park

Two-Acre Digital Technology Park • Mlolongo, Kenya

Strategic rationale: positioning the park as an industry-facing Digital Technology Park and DSSP deployment centre, rather than another generic ICT training hub.

Page 1 — Strategic Feasibility and Market Position

1. Introduction

The proposed Mlolongo Digital Technology Park is envisioned as a two-acre technology and innovation facility established to support the development and deployment of Digital Solution Service Providers (DSSPs) and to accelerate the adoption of data-driven decision-making, digital technologies and Artificial Intelligence across industry, government and communities.

The fundamental proposition is not simply to establish another computer training centre. Kenya already has numerous institutions providing digital literacy, ICT training, coding, online-work preparation and entrepreneurship support. The feasibility of a new facility therefore depends less on whether Kenya needs another ICT hub and more on whether the proposed park addresses a different part of the digital-economy value chain.

The proposed park can occupy that space by concentrating on the transition: Education → Skills → Experience → Solution Development → Industry Deployment → Income and Enterprise Growth.

2. Why Mlolongo?

Mlolongo sits within the Mavoko/Nairobi metropolitan growth corridor, with direct connectivity to Nairobi, Athi River, Machakos and the wider Mombasa Road industrial corridor. This creates an opportunity to serve residents, businesses, manufacturers, logistics companies, SMEs, schools and colleges, government institutions, NGOs and technology companies requiring local implementation capacity.

3. The national opportunity

Kenya has developed significant capabilities in mobile financial services, ICT, cloud computing and technology entrepreneurship. The country's Artificial Intelligence Strategy 2025–2030 also places emphasis on AI infrastructure, data and AI governance, research, innovation and commercialisation. The proposed park can therefore focus on the application of technology to real economic problems.

4. Educational capacity: strength rather than weakness

Kenya already produces graduates and technically trained people through universities, TVET institutions, colleges and professional programmes. The more important gap is often the transition from education to productive application: experience solving organisational problems, exposure to enterprise systems, practical data analysis, client experience, AI-assisted productivity, project management, industry networks and opportunities to earn from knowledge.

5. Demand from industry

The demand proposition should be broader than demand for programmers. Modern organisations increasingly need assistance with data collection, information processing, analysis, reporting, decision support, automation and AI applications. Manufacturing, logistics, health, education, agriculture, SMEs, property and government can all require different forms of digital transformation.

6. Competition

The project will operate alongside Government digital hubs such as Jitume, Ajira Digital programmes, Centers of Excellence, universities and TVET institutions, private ICT training centres, innovation hubs, coworking spaces and technology companies. The park should therefore not attempt to beat these institutions at their own game.

7. Proposed competitive differentiation

The Mlolongo park should focus on five functions: industry solution deployment; DSSP recruitment and deployment; data-driven decision support; AI-enabled business transformation; and learning through real projects. It should complement existing training institutions by providing the post-academic industry-learning and deployment environment.

Function	Existing ecosystem	Proposed Mlolongo Park
Digital literacy	Strong	Supporting
Formal ICT education	Strong	Partnering
Online-work training	Strong	Supporting
Innovation/incubation	Available	Applied to client problems
Industry solution deployment	Less integrated	Core function
DSSP recruitment/deployment	Limited	Core function
Data-driven decision support	Emerging	Core function
AI-enabled business transformation	Emerging	Core function
Learning through real projects	Variable	Core function

8. Sustainability

The greatest financial risk would be constructing a large facility and then depending primarily upon training fees. A multi-revenue model is preferable. Potential income streams include DSSP membership and affiliation, professional and industry training, corporate digital services, coworking and project space, technology services, industry projects, incubation, events and conferences, and partnership funding.

9. The DSSP engine

The central operating cycle could be: Recruit → Assess → Onboard → Learn → Pitch → Match → Develop → Deploy → Earn → Reinvest. A participant enters the ecosystem not merely to receive a certificate but to identify an opportunity or problem, develop a solution concept, work with mentors and technology, and participate in a real project that can generate income.

10. Expected economic and social impact

Impact should be measured not by the number of people sitting in classrooms but by productive outcomes: DSSPs recruited and deployed; enterprises receiving digital services; digital solutions developed; organisations adopting data-driven systems; AI applications deployed; jobs and income created; enterprises formed; SMEs digitised; internships and apprenticeships created; partnerships established; and investment mobilised.

11. Overall feasibility assessment

The project is strategically feasible but commercially conditional. Kenya's digital economy, digital-skills programmes, technology ecosystem and national AI agenda provide a supportive environment. Mlolongo's location within a growing commercial, residential, industrial and transport corridor also provides a useful catchment. The principal risk is duplication.

12. Recommended positioning

The Mlolongo Digital Technology Park should be positioned as an Industry Digital Transformation Park: an industry-facing technology and innovation facility that connects educated and technically skilled people with real economic problems, enabling them to acquire practical experience, develop digital and AI-enabled solutions, provide services to industry and government, and create sustainable employment and enterprise opportunities through the DSSP ecosystem.

13. Investment conclusion

The appropriate next step is a bankable feasibility and business-model study covering the Mlolongo/Athi River catchment, potential client industries, DSSP supply, competing hubs within approximately 20–30 km, technology partners, capital expenditure, operating costs, conservative/moderate/high uptake scenarios, partnership and grant opportunities, and a phased minimum-viable first phase.

The critical investment principle is: don't build a bigger hub; build a different hub. The competitive advantage should be the ability to take people from education to industry, and industry from information to intelligence and AI-enabled action.

Indicative sources referenced in the assessment: Kenya Ministry of ICT and Digital Economy; Government of Kenya planning and digital-economy publications; Kenya Digital Economy Blueprint; Kenya AI Strategy 2025–2030; Machakos University programme information; Konza Knowledge Economy Centre information.