



Vision, Policy and Skill-set for a Knowledge Economy

Keynote Speech

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Vision, Policy and Skill-set for a Knowledge Economy

Keynote Speech, AABEA Convention, detroit, MI

A knowledge economy requires alignment across vision, policy, and continuously renewed skills—technology alone is insufficient. Leaders should build an inclusive ecosystem of access, institutions, innovation, capabilities, and diffusion, then execute through measurable missions and public accountability. This talk focuses on the following.

- Which ecosystem layer is the biggest constraint in the target country or community?
- What single mission should leaders launch early on?
- Which metrics would prove the strategy is creating shared prosperity—not merely technology adopti

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Vision, Policy and Skills

How people, policy and learning can build shared prosperity in the age of AI

We need to establish a common language for leaders across government, education, business, and civil society.

Here AABEA can play a role

Knowledge now drives growth

Three big changes

01 Thinking tools scale

AI tools help people analyze, design and work together faster.

02 Ideas create value

Ideas, data, trust and know-how help organizations succeed.

03 Connection opens doors

Internet access expands work, markets and learning. Being offline closes those doors.

74%

of the world was online in 2026

53% of people in Bangladesh are online

70% of people in India are online

Technology is changing work faster than we can adapt

39%

**of today's key skills may
change by 2030**

Many jobs will require new skills.

59%

**of workers may need
training by 2030**

Most workers will need chances to learn.

1 in 4

**jobs may be affected by
generative AI**

Jobs are more likely to change than disappear.

The main risk is not technology itself. It is failing to help people and institutions adapt.

A knowledge economy needs five things working together



If one part is weak, the whole system delivers less.

A clear vision should improve everyday life

GOOD JOBS

Better jobs, stronger businesses
and smarter use of technology.

FOR EVERYONE

Opportunity reaches every
community and small business.

**SHARED
SUCCESS**

READY FOR CHANGE

People and organizations can
adapt when conditions change.

SAFE AND FAIR

Innovation respects rights,
safety and accountability.

Good policy connects five areas

01 INTERNET FOR EVERYONE

Affordable internet, secure digital ID and public systems that work together

02 LEARNING FOR LIFE

Strong basic skills, short courses and training linked to real jobs

03 IDEAS INTO USE

Research, new businesses and help for smaller firms to use technology

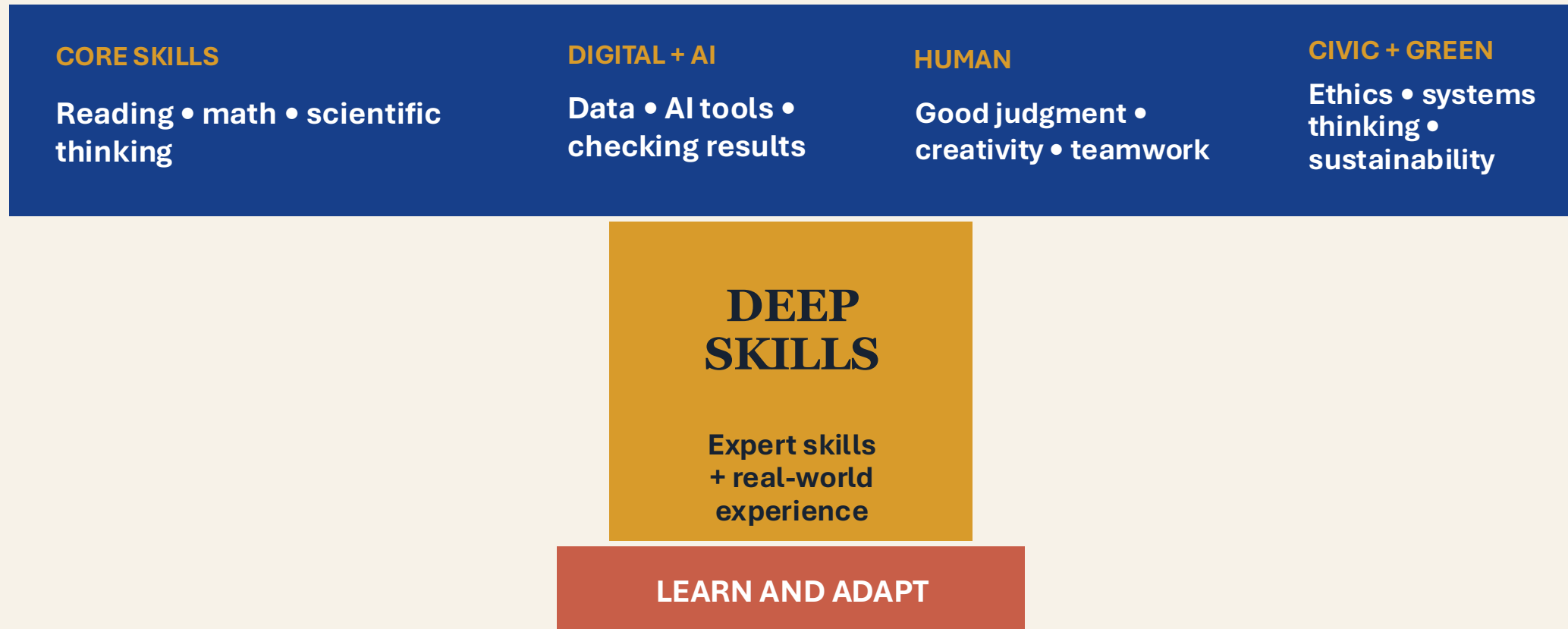
04 SUPPORT THROUGH CHANGE

Clear job information, flexible benefits and support between jobs

05 TRUST AND SAFETY

Privacy, cybersecurity, responsible AI and accountable institutions

We need broad skills, deep knowledge and lifelong learning



Broad skills help us move. Deep skills create value. Learning keeps us ready.

Countries are building the basics in different ways

1 BANGLADESH

Digital centres

Digital Centres help people access essential services in their own communities.

2 SINGAPORE

Skills for life

SkillsFuture helps people keep learning and connects training to real jobs.

3 FINLAND

Learning at every age

Education and employers help adults update skills as work changes.

The lesson: design services around people's needs.

Start small, measure progress and improve

TIMELINE

- 90 DAYS

Choose one goal

Name a leader, set a starting point and publish 3–5 measures.
- 2 YEARS

Build the basics

Connect schools, employers, public services and digital systems.
- 5 YEARS

Grow what works

Invest in proven ideas and stop what does not work.

MEASURE WHAT MATTERS

- CONNECTION

cost • coverage • useful access
- USE

online public services • businesses using new tools
- SKILLS

basic skills • AI skills • training completed
- RESULTS

productivity • good jobs • opportunity • inclusion
- TRUST

security • rights • public confidence • responsible use

Share results. Learn. Improve.

Together:
VISION
POLICY
SKILLS

Pick one goal. Build the team. Share the starting point. Open one clear learning path.

A knowledge economy grows through choices made together—again and again.

Thank you!



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