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Dakar, 5th July 2017 (IDEP)– Within the framework of IDEP’s Development seminars series, a high level round table dialogue on « Which Big Data for Africa? » will gather decision makers, officials and experts from African countries and international organisations, as well as experts from private sector or independent, people from academia and researchers working on issues related to digital development on the continent. The event will take place at IDEP headquarter in Dakar (Senegal), on the 5th of July 2017.

This event, which is very important for Africa’s development and structural transformation, will contribute to the debate on improving the quality, access, and velocity of production and use of data in Africa with the aim of boosting the ITC sector, document development analysis and inform public and private decision making.

As a matter of fact, « Big Data » holds a tremendous potential for socio-economic transformation, as it allows optimisation of decision-making process while ensuring strategic monitoring. The potential of the digital sector, job opportunities and other benefits are inestimable and inadequately exploited in Africa. The huge market of « Big Data » is very promising for developing African countries and those in their emergence path. There are lot of start-ups or services companies were created on the African continent in order to offer data storage, retrieval, transformation and processing solutions in real time.

Thus, over the past few years, there are lots of emerging challenges, related to data production, diffusion and use, with the explosion of data sources in Africa. Such challenges are of concern for public and private actors as well as citizens.

This round-table dialogue will allow discussions on the prospects of « Big Data » in Africa, mainly considering the requirements in terms of quality, reliability, access, velocity, infrastructure, capacities, security, governance and sustainable development.

More information, visit www.unidep.org [1] or contact a.sanghare@unidep.org [2].

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