

OUTLIERS DATA & AI CENTRE™

Executive AI Guide

Lead data & AI with confidence

CEOs / CFOs / Executive Team · Flagship Edition 2026

Publication-ready resource for the Outliers Resource Library

1. Why Data & AI Now

Data and AI have moved from technical projects to core sources of value, efficiency and competitive advantage — and of risk. Executives do not need to build models, but they do need to set direction, allocate capital, govern responsibly and realise value.

2. The Executive Agenda

Priority	What to do
Strategy	Link AI investment to clear business value
Foundations	Fund data quality and governance — the bedrock of AI
Portfolio	Prioritise a small number of high-value use cases
Governance	Govern AI responsibly; tier by risk; assign ownership
Talent & culture	Build skills and a data-informed culture
Value	Track and bank benefits; retire what doesn't work

3. Common Pitfalls

- Buying AI tools without a value case
- Scaling AI on poor-quality data
- Pilots that never reach production
- Ungoverned 'shadow AI' creating risk
- Ignoring change management and adoption
- Treating AI as IT's problem, not leadership's

4. The First 90 Days

Phase	Focus
Weeks 1-4	Assess readiness and maturity; set direction
Weeks 5-8	Prioritise use cases; stand up governance
Weeks 9-12	Launch priority pilots; define value tracking

Notes & Disclaimer

This toolkit is a professional management resource, not legal or regulatory advice. Calibrate scoring, tiers, policies and governance to your organisation, sector and applicable regulation. Data-protection items should be confirmed against the Nigeria Data Protection Act (NDPA) and other applicable law; AI-specific obligations should be confirmed against current and emerging regulation.