

China establishes National Data Group in Xiongan to develop data resources for AI

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China creates state-owned firm in Xiongan to develop nation's AI data resources

The new firm – based in China's 'city of the future', Xiongan – is tasked with developing a national data industry ecosystem

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Ann Cao in Shanghai

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China has set up a new state-owned enterprise dedicated to managing the country's massive data resources, a significant move designed to turbocharge the nation's artificial intelligence industry and bolster its digital economy.

The National Data Group Co – based in China's "city of the future", Xiongan New Area in northern Hebei province – is tasked with "developing and utilising data resources, unlocking the value of data elements, serving AI development and fostering a data industry ecosystem", according to a report by state news agency Xinhua.

Vice-Premier Ding Xuexiang attended the company's launch ceremony on Tuesday. Ding described the creation of the state-owned company as a "major strategic decision" made by the party leadership, led by President Xi Jinping.

The move was crucial for China to "seize the initiative in AI development, accelerate the construction of a 'digital China', and build new national competitive advantages", Xinhua quoted Ding as saying.

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