



AFRICA CENTER
FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Communications Technology and African Security



Image source: <https://allonline365.com/africas-economic-strategy-for-digital-transformation/>

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Emerging Security Sector Leaders Program
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Impact through Insight

Roadmap

ICT-Enabled Threats

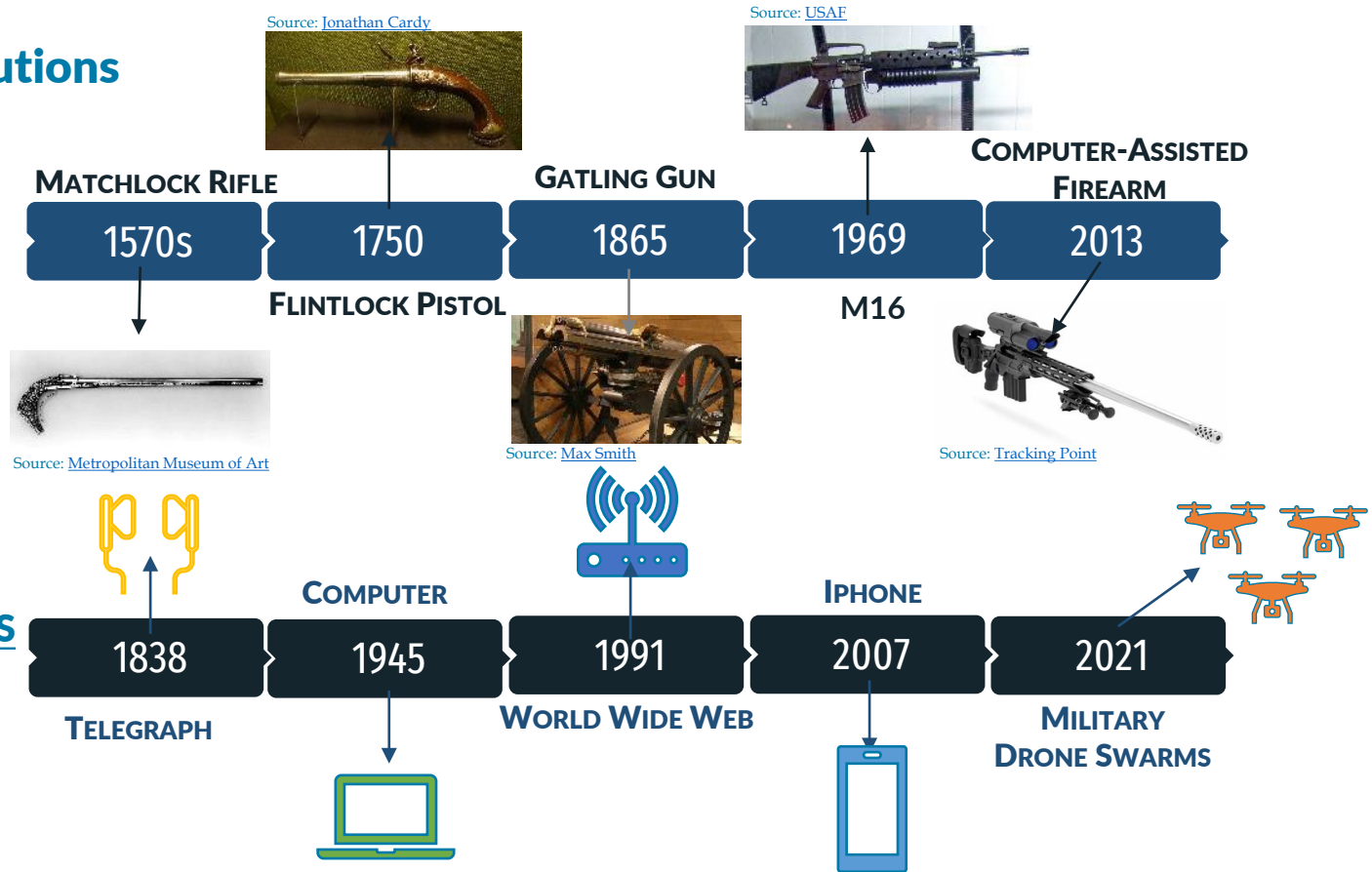
Government and Security Sector Responses

Implications for Security Actors

Evolutions in Communications and Firearms Technologies

Timeline of Evolutions in...

FIREARMS:



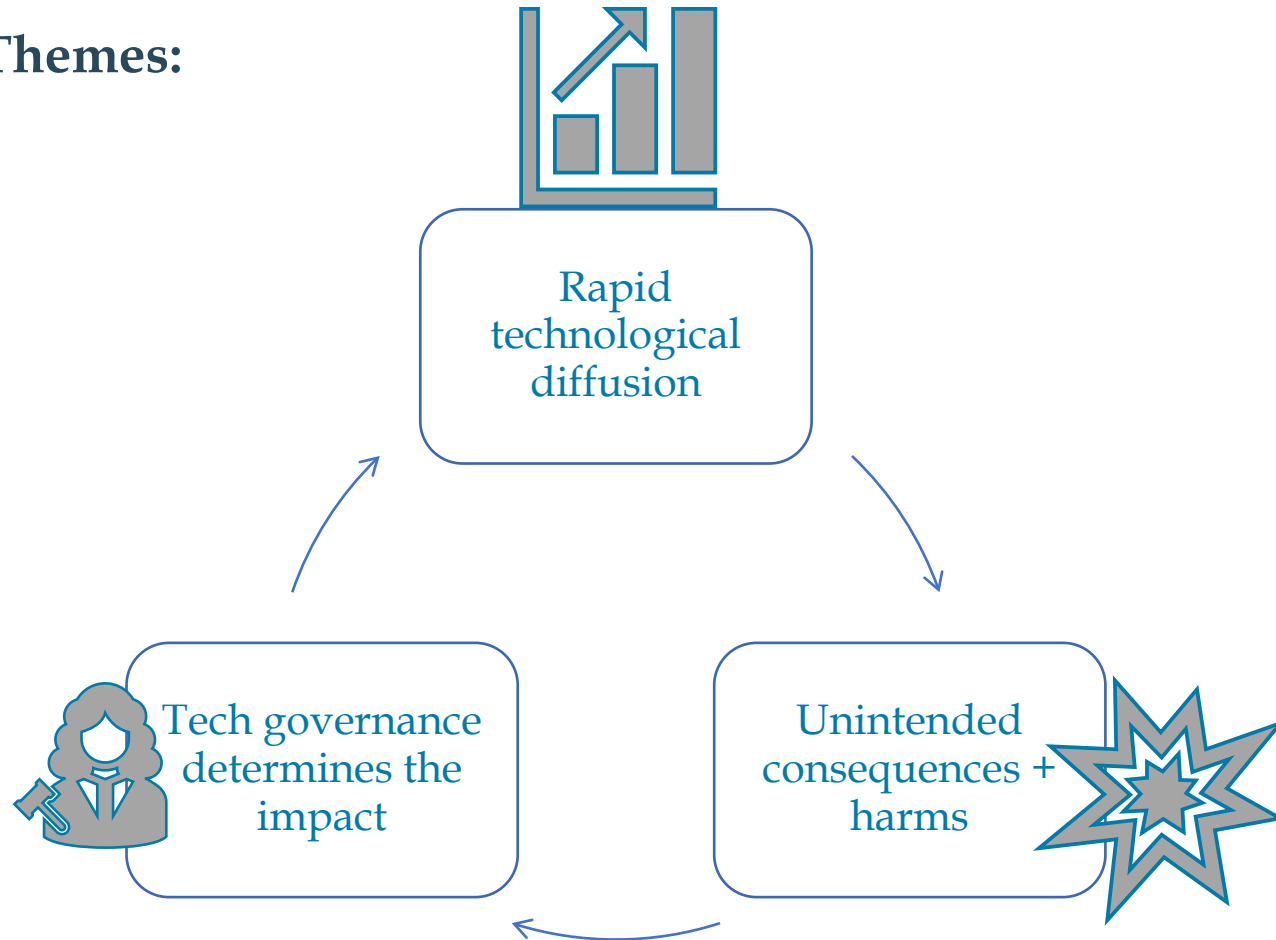
ICT-Enabled Threats

Figure 5: ICT-Enabled Threats and African Cases

Threat	Definition	Cases Used
Organized Crime	Criminal enterprises that profit from illicit activities through cyber-enabled means.	Silver Terrier Business Email Compromise Network
Critical Infrastructure Sabotage	Attempts to weaken or destroy national, government or military infrastructure, hardware, or systems.	Horus Group's Cyberattack Against Ethiopia Transnet Ransomware Attack
Espionage	Attempts to penetrate a system for the purposes of extracting sensitive or protected information.	China's Attack on the African Union Pegasus Malware
Armed Conflict Innovation	The use of cyber-enabled technology to facilitate organized violence through changes in external communications, international organization, and combat operations.	Libyan Drone War Al-Shabaab and Twitter
Disinformation	Intentional dissemination of false information with the intent of advancing a political objective	Russian Disinformation and Troll Farming Campaigns

Government Responses (1)

Three Key Themes:



Government Responses

African National Cybersecurity Strategies						
Country	Threat Assessment	Plan of Action	Timeline	Assignment of Responsibilities	Allocation of Resources	Last Updated
Benin	✓	✓		✓		2020
Burkina Faso		✓				2019
Egypt	✓	✓	✓			2018
Eswatini	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2020
Gambia		✓		✓		2016
Ghana		✓	✓	✓		2020
Kenya	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2014
Malawi		✓	✓	✓	✓	2017
Mauritius		✓	✓	✓		2014
Morocco		✓	✓	✓	✓	2013
Nigeria	✓	✓	✓	✓		2021
Rwanda		✓	✓	✓	✓	2015
Senegal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2017
Sierra Leone	✓	✓	✓		✓	2017
South Africa		✓		✓		2012
Tanzania		✓		✓		2016
Uganda		✓				2014
TOTAL	7	17	11	13	7	

Implications for Security Actors



Threats are likely to accelerate



Unconventional threats require unconventional solutions



Africa at a critical juncture



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