Preparing for an AI and robotic future requires investments in education and innovation. The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has compiled an Automation Readiness Index (www.automationreadiness.eiu.com)—a 25-country comparison of government-led efforts to shape outcomes of technological progress. Here’s a look at a few of EIU’s findings, and some observations from the consulting firm McKinsey & Co. [For more on the rise of the robot, check out this month’s feature articles.]

Education leaders provide students with a grounding in technical skills, like computational thinking.

Future jobs will require a significant increase in digitally skilled labor.

Innovation requires significant investment in R&D.

75% of businesses globally expect to “actively implement” AI in their internal processes or products by 2020.

Top 3 innovation environments
1. Japan
2. South Korea
3. Germany

Top 3 AI/robotics education policies
1. South Korea
2. Estonia
3. Singapore

81% of global automatable manufacturing hours and 49% of automatable labor value are in developing countries.

64% of working hours spent on manufacturing-related activities globally are automatable with currently demonstrated technology.

2015 McKinsey Report

Sources: All data from EIU, except where credited to McKinsey / Infographic: Alessia Kirkland
Robot hand: Getty Images