



THE MICTSETA

BROADCAST

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NEWSLETTER

In conversation
with the Chief
Executive Officer
of the MICT SETA
**Matome
Madibana**



Former piglet is blown
away by technology

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MICTSETA

Media, Information And
Communication Technologies
Sector Education And Training Authority



Editor's note

We catch up with Our CEO Mr Matome Madibana, who has almost completed a Full Financial year in the office. He shares some valuable insights.

In spite of the effects that the COVID pandemic had in forcing institutional and economic slowdown, it has not broken the spirit of our youth whose quest for education and knowledge is tireless. Read our success stories: on pages 4 about Former piglet Nkululeko January who ditched his thoughts on medicine to Follow his passion For IT and Page 5 where NQF level 5 learners are breaking the barriers in the film and television industry.

We are pleased to note the number of events that the MICT SETA took part in shaping skills and empowering futures, from the TVET Summit in Cape Town discussing how to strengthen partnerships and particularly work-based learning, The 2nd Free State 4IR Summit discussing the transformation of manufacturing companies with 4IR technologies, The GOVTECH Conference discussing the positive impact that digital transformation will have on the quality of service delivery to citizens, the Fibre Industries' Digital Council Conext Conference, bringing Fibre industry players together to the C3SA Cybersecurity Summit that addressed the status of

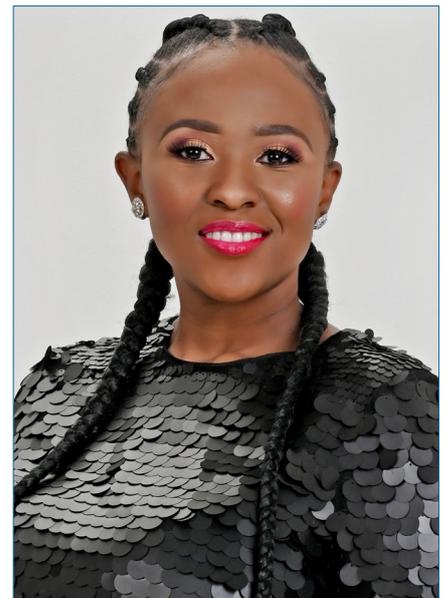
cybersecurity capacity in South Africa's public sector.

MICT SETA launched its Research Chairs initiative in Limpopo that seeks to bridge the digital divide (see Page 13) as the world evolves from a labour intensive industrial era to a knowledge-and-skill-intensive era where nations will need a ready pool of digital, technical and commercial talent to capitalise on emerging innovations.

The priority of MICT SETA is to give young people access to digital skills and this is being achieved in East London through a strategic partnership with the Cortex Hub, where tech-driven entrepreneurship training and 4IR skills development are given to drive job creation and economic growth.

We pay tribute to Ms Kelebogile Mologyane and share a column she wrote to commemorate her contribution to the sector. May her soul rest in peace.

This is an exciting time for learners in MICT SETA learnership programmes as doors open to scarce and critical IT skills in many sectors. The industries and the number of learners are numerous and too many to talk about here. However, in the creative arts sector, 250 learners graduated from the Creative Arts College



in Durban in the fields of Film and TV Production, Advertising, Sound Technology, Design Techniques, Animation, Radio Production and Photography. Kevin Palium, CEO of the South African Film Institute, advised graduates to take advantage of this fast growing sector as the world moves towards digitisation and content demand.

We are proud of the milestones achieved and continue in our quest to impact skills development exponentially.

Xaliso Matshikiza

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Breaking the barriers in the Film and Television industry



2nd Free State Provincial Industry 4.0 Summit



Creative Arts College - Graduation



Thought Leadership Focusing on women in ICT - Paying tribute to AB4IR late CEO

Editor: Xabiso Matshikiza
 Assistant Editor: Bellinda Mabunda
 Production Coordinator: Kgothatso Molefe
 Address: Block 2, Level 3 West Gallagher House Gallagher Convention Centre, 19 Richards Drive Halfway House Midrand, Johannesburg 1685
 Website: www.mict.org.za
 Email: info@mict.org.za



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Assistant Editor: Bellinda Mabunda



Production Coordinator: Kgothatso Molefe

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Cover Feature

In conversation with the CEO of the MICT SETA, Mr Matome Madibana

Matome Madibana was appointed CEO of the MICT SETA on 1 May 2022. Having completed almost a Full Financial year in office, he has made significant strides in a quest to massify digital skills in a fast-changing sector. Typically, the first 100 days in office of new CEO's are characterised by laying the groundwork for long-term success in an organisation, by identifying and engaging key stakeholders, building connections, setting goals and gaining traction rapidly. This was no different for Madibana as he set out to hit the ground running implementing the strategic priorities as set out in the MICT SETA Annual Performance Plan, with a key focus on collaboration to catapult the organisation to success.

Our Editor, Xabiso Matshikiza caught up with newly appointed CEO, Mr Matome Madibana:



■ Mr Matome Madibana, CEO

Q: Tell us about the person Matome, and where you grew up?

A: I grew up in a loving home with a deep appreciation for simplicity and hard work. Growing up in a rural village in Limpopo I developed a strong connection to the land and its people. Despite the challenges, I remained dedicated to my dreams, seeking knowledge and personal growth. My parents socialised us with an unwavering sense of humility, staying grounded and remaining grateful for our roots. As a result, today I can say I am committed to giving back to my community, not forgetting where I come from and continue on a quest to uplift and inspire others no matter the environments I occupy.

Q: What is it about the MICT SETA that piqued your interest?

A: The MICT SETA's main goal is to enrich industry skills set to meet the demands of rapidly changing economies, new technologies and to promote inclusive economic growth in South Africa. This vision closely resonates with the personal impact I would like to

make in the skills development sector. I associate this impact with revolutionizing skills amongst youth, who are in the majority in our country and therefore playing a key role in the improvement of their livelihoods, is important to me. Many South African youth deserve a quality life and education and playing a part in realising this is paramount.

Furthermore, with the MICT SETA being a strategic stakeholder in the PSET system, contributing towards the realisation of the National Development Plan Vision - which is to create a capable developmental state, becomes a conduit in forging our society ahead and it being part of the developed world when it comes to technology and digital skills.

Q: Why do you think it was important for the MICT SETA to look within to find a new CEO?

A: It is important for an organisation to look within when appointing a CEO because it gives the chance to select a leader who already has an intimate understanding of

the organisation's culture and strategies. The potential CEO will already have knowledge of the organization's policy, procedures, processes, and goals, as well as the challenges that the organization has faced in the past and how they were handled. The internal candidate also understands how the organization operates, which enables them to immediately begin work upon appointment. When an organization looks within its own ranks to find a CEO, it sends a clear message to the existing employees that hard work and dedication can be rewarded with higher positions within the company, giving the workforce additional motivation to succeed. On the other hand, bringing in an external candidate can be disheartening to employees, as the new CEO may have different values, goals and management style than the organisation is used to. Furthermore, internal candidates are often better able to foster teamwork and cooperation among the managerial staff, due to their strong familiarity with the company's people, departments, and operations. Looking within also allows the organisation to

promote rising stars and groom future leaders as part of a long-term succession plan. Finally, when selecting an internal candidate, the organisation can benefit from the CEO's increased knowledge of the organisation's competitive landscape and industry trends, enabling them to make informed decisions that best suit the organisation's needs.

Q: How would you describe your work ethic?

A: I believe that work ethic needs to strongly reflect a conviction that hard work and dedication have a moral advantage and an innate capacity or value to enhance character and personal skills. As a result, the overall dedication and positive attitude to one's work, should result in enhanced productivity and excellence. With this notion in mind, it goes without saying that professionalism, discipline and integrity are a prerequisite for good work ethic. Therefore, I believe that as a leader, good work ethic needs to be a conscious decision where one is able to positively influence the objectives to be achieved within an organisational context. This needs to be done in an honest, respectful and responsible way such that one listens to each stakeholder, fostering inclusion and diversity. These are all elements reflected in the Batho Pele principles that stand for better delivery of goods and services to the public. I have a personal motto of "never stop until its done" - this resonates closely with a great quote by Nelson Mandela that indicates that it does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop - "It always seems impossible until it is done".

Q: What impact are you making that ensures the MICT SETA continues to effectively bridge the skills gap in the MICT sector?

A: Adopting strategies and approaches and ensuring a well-prepared and skilled workforce that meets the evolving demands of the industry is a priority.

The education and training authority can bridge the skills gap in the ICT sector by collaborating closely with industry partners to identify the specific skill requirements.

It can develop comprehensive and industry-aligned training programs, promote internships and apprenticeships, facilitate partnerships with ICT companies, and leverage technology-enabled learning platforms.

Q: What inspires you?

A: Serving the people of South Africa in any capacity is more fulfilling than a Post Title hence I have been from the lowest positions in the service of the State to the highest, patiently building the blocks and serving as tirelessly as possible. Those I worked with in the past still share positive sentiments on our work relations, and share their gratitude and appreciation of the positive impact I had in their career and experience. I left the private sector to start a career in the public service deliberately because I became jealous of my efforts when I worked long hours and sacrificed everything to a few Shareholders of the company I worked for, I felt these major sacrifices I make are better if channelled to my fellow compatriots/ South Africans than a few Shareholders of a Company.

Q: What is your greatest professional strength?

A: Discipline and dedication, high moral ground and high ethical leadership. I allowed myself to learn a lot as I moved up the ladder in various institutions of Government and tried to master the basics in terms of Good Corporate Governance and why as a servant of the State, we must be ethical and beyond reproach. I also believe in the significance of "we rise by lifting others" Empowerment and growth is better if it benefits the greater good.

Q: What do your colleagues value about you as a teammate?

A: Great Team player, accessible, inspirational. I place great emphasis on performance and excellence. I acknowledge that by enabling them to be the best they can be, means I have automatically made a positive contribution in the workplace and in turn they would be able to pay it forward, which is why I am here. If we can't build the kind of public service that will stand the test of time when

time still allows, we are ill-fated, so inculcating a culture of truly serving and sacrifice is everything to me. I want the best for everyone such that even if they leave the entity, there must be a few features that distinguishes them from the rest (Developing a Quality Servant of the people of South Africa).

Q: MICT SETA has a mission to strategically lead the MICT sector skills development system in support of meaningful economic participation of our beneficiaries for improved socio-economic conditions in South Africa, how are you using your position to make sure it delivers on this mandate?

A: Our core mandate is to align and collaborate with industry to ensure that we build capacity in ICT skills development for unemployed youth, entrepreneurship and emerging innovators. By adopting this inclusive approach and keeping open and continuous contact with all stakeholders as far as possible, will help us realise this objective. We rely on strong partnerships and impactful solutions that promote a demand driven economy for the purpose of collaboratively creating a digitally skilled nation, reducing unemployment and inequality whilst building a better future for our South Africa. It is also imperative that we continuously create an enabling environment that allows access, collaboration, co-operation, and strategic partnerships to thrive in support of fair and improved economic participation by all relevant stakeholders. Key to this, is to also place augmented focus on service delivery for our people to access information and our services.

As servants of the public service, we have an obligation to serve and I always encourage a sense of urgency across the entire organisation in fulfilling our mandate. Put simply, I always encourage colleagues to be responsive to stakeholder needs, by supporting and assisting in their requirements as this leads to stakeholder optimism, trust and improved relations resulting in smoother operations for the organisation.

Q: How have you used your HR role to improve the company's overall performance?

A: I believe HR plays a very significant role in propelling an organisation to achieve overall success (and performance). Business imperatives such as purpose, decision making, structure, value, talent, learning amongst others have the ability to help an organisation execute its objectives with purpose. These are some of the imperatives that I have tried to hone into our HR strategic pillars in an effort to create long term value and cultivate an organisation that is more 'people-centred'. To respond to dynamic, diverse teams 'of the future', as an entity that is navigating the 4IR phenomenon, we have instigated a programme to drive effective internal controls and the development of relevant and adaptable work policies – I am a firm believer of when employees feel supported and valued, they will in turn become more engaged and committed to the organisation which will positively impact performance. The benefits for the organisation is that it results in increased productivity and positive audit outcomes. Our mandate to build a capable and developmental state, is also an internal value driven approach, where we hire the best talent, empower internal talent to deliver on our national skills development imperatives.

Lastly, promoting a positive work culture as the engine, drives accountability and a better employee experience not only for organisational performance, but importantly, individual and team performance.

Q: Your leadership skills and the manner you lead is your greatest strength, why have you chosen to lead in this way?

A: One of the MICT SETA values is customer centricity – this means we need to continuously ensure that our stakeholders are at the centre of all our goals, decision making and implementation imperatives. Therefore, a principle that needs to be consistently maintained is to lead by creating a conducive environment for a seamless, unified, responsive approach

to stakeholder needs in the organisation such that the landscape is transformed.

Q: Where the global agenda places digital transformation at the top, what guidance can you glean from this development in moving the SETA Forward?

A: The need to embrace these emerging technologies as broadly as possible, ensure we massify digital skills across all sectors of society and in every Geographical space so that no one is left behind. I refer to digital skills as a Human Rights issue because the greatest disservice to any young person is lack thereof, hence the approach adopted of allocating our stakeholders reduced numbers when it comes to Discretionary Grants is in the spirit of sharing and affording the majority a piece of the pie. We are Africans and the minute we realise the significance of sharing as little as possible so that as many people, as many communities are catered for, the better a society we become. We continue working tirelessly through our 4 IR Division to develop 4 IR qualifications with broader participation of stakeholders in the sector so that our provisions are fit for purpose and deliver on critical industry needs not limited to future skills. A lot of qualifications have been developed and we continue taking stock of emerging qualifications required by industry so that we produce future ready graduates who cannot easily transition into gainful employment but can also take up entrepreneurial opportunities through their own innovations and home-grown solutions and digital applications. The time is now for us to export our own locally made solutions.

Q: You said "Our youth – who make up the majority, are our competitive edge as a nation". In order to stimulate innovation and make it possible for us to fully participate in and compete in the mainstream digital economy, we must harness their talent and release their potential, how does the MICT SETA intend to accomplish this?

1. Continuous focus on effective implementation of both our

integrated digital strategy with strategic partners in both the private and public sector,

2. Launching Research Chairs and more Centres of Excellence and Research Hubs such that our Youth are given as many platforms and pathways to think critically, learn to figure things out and how the world of innovation and Artificial Intelligence works.
3. Identify challenges we face as an emerging economy with a clear vision to develop lifelong solutions, the kind of solutions that can change the game both locally, across the African Region and globally.
4. We are gently and deliberately in the process of creating as many platforms to stimulate critical thinking as possible for our Youth to test their digital thought processes and ideas which can be transformed or commercialized to gainful opportunities.
5. Private sector has a huge role to play by advancing or broadening issues of stable and uninterrupted connectivity which they will benefit from in the long run because the skills development machinery we are facilitating eventually serves both the sectors. In fact with the future skills most of our Graduates would have acquired, serve the private sector more than the public sector. Therefore, the need for a collaborative approach to properly eradicate the rising triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequalities is urgent. These challenges require a collaborative effort so much that companies have to triple the effort to accommodate Youth not only in job opportunities but also in their procurement Value Chain as Suppliers, Logistics partners and Cellphone and Mobile devices repairers through cooperatives within respective local communities. A process where the localisation of some of these skills across Township and Rural communities with private companies playing a strategic mentorship role needs to take place. The challenges we face are far beyond MICT SETA which is run with extremely limited budget.



Success stories

Former piglet is blown away by technology

Former piglet Nkululeko January, who is from a small community in King Williams Town, says that his interest in information technology began in matric when he used a computer for the first time

When a computer module was presented to Nkululeko in his matric year, he suddenly changed his mind about his original intention to become a doctor. He enrolled at Walter Sisulu University after rekindling his passion for technology, where he later graduated with a diploma in Information Technology System Development.

After getting his diploma, Nkululeko participated in the Capaciti Software Developer Bootcamp programme. He then completed a Harambee internship programme, where Dimension Data hired him. Throughout his tenure at Dimension Data. He would have the chance to get industry certifications, including CompTIA A+, N+, CCNA, and Microsoft Azure Fundamentals, Nkululeko, searching for his next chance, applied for the Little Pig MICT SETA Internship programme, becoming a member of the piglet community as part of the 2021/22 cohort.

Placed at Freshmark Systems, Nkululeko says his experience in

the Little Pig programme was fantastic as he was exposed to many different things. "I learnt a lot about IT, and everyone was eager to help where they could," said Nkululeko. Merging his formal qualification and previous work experience, Nkululeko spent his time at Freshmark working within both software development and technical support teams. "I got much exposure to many things that I wanted to know, and I was able to put the technical skills I have into practice."

Nkululeko only spent nine months in the programme, leaving at the end of July to return to Dimension Data for a permanent position as a Production Service Desk Agent. He says his time at Freshmark paved the path by giving him the skills and knowledge he needed, which he is now utilising at his current position.

Nkululeko is happy in his new position and optimistic about the future as he expands his range of responsibilities and incorporates new technologies. "I want to advance in my work and learn



new trades. Since I'm interested in learning more about the content strategy side of the business, I assume I'd like to be in a leadership role in the next five years." Nkululeko believes he is in a position where he will succeed. "Working with different devices and ensuring I understand how to utilise them; I appreciate that the company supports ongoing education."



Success stories

Breaking the barriers in the Film and Television industry

Film and Television Production NQF Level 5 learners in Bloemfontein are doing it

Bloemfontein, Free State - The MICT SETA in partnership with Aviwe BDS, a film and television production company implemented an NQF Level 5 Film and Television Learnership that aimed to catapult 15 learners, into success in the ever changing film and television industry. The programme recognised that women are a critical part of our country's creativity, inspiration and culture hence the inclusion of majority female learners as part of the programme.

As part of the experience gained in the programme, the learners were exposed to the film production process by being given an opportunity to produce three 10 minute Feature Films about relevant and inspiring issues facing the citizens of the Free State province.

An immersive experience crafted by upcoming film-makers
The learner's Feature Films Focused on the economic impact and

opportunities that exist in the Free State province. These learners produced high quality and insightful content with their three Feature Films.

The first Feature Film Focused on the story of 'Vula Vala's'. The Vula Vala's are 'taxi driver assistants'; they travel with a taxi driver and collect the taxi fare from passengers and they also manage the doors for the passengers as they come in and out of the taxi. The question that the learners wanted to find out with this well executed feature film was whether the Vula Vala's are necessary within the taxi industry. To produce this feature film the learners interviewed a Vula Vala, a taxi driver, a representative from a taxi association as well as the passengers.

The second group of learners Focused on 'Trolley Pushers'. Trolley pushers serve as assistance

to the customers. They push customer's groceries and goods to the taxi rank and thus receive a payment from their customers for their service. The learners received unique access to this flourishing industry of trolley pushers. They also engaged a government representative on this new and growing SMME sector in Bloemfontein.

Lastly, the learners looked at 'The Death of Siwelele: Bloemfontein Celtics'. The soccer team, Siwelele, Bloemfontein Celtic was sold and moved to another province and this had a huge negative economic and social impact to the citizens of the Free State. The learners took us on a memory lane as they engaged the entrepreneurs and fans that benefited with the games that were played by Bloemfontein Celtic in the Free State Province. They interviewed an entrepreneur who sold food at the stadium, to the face painters and the stadium

Success stories (continued)

security personnel who have all lost income with their favourite soccer team being sold. The fans also shared their memories and the negative social impact this move had on them.

Opportunities that help prepare aspiring film-makers strategically position themselves

The three films are an indication of the need to provide training opportunities and access to more film makers and story tellers. These Feature Films are based in the Free

State province and they are about the people in the province and the issues that they battle with on a day to day basis.

The learnership concluded late last year. Over the 12 months of the learnership; the learners learnt the art of film and television production through the integrated training approach offered by Aviwe Business Development Services. Their integrated approach looks at 30% theory, 20% assimilation work and 50% work placement with different host employers in the

television industry around the Free State province.

The partnership with the different host employers in the Free State province has yielded a much desired outcome in that more than 60% of learners taking part in the learnership have received employment and are now employed by their host employers. Almost 30% of the learners have stated that they will be starting their own production companies under the mentorship and coaching of the lead training service provider Aviwe Business Development Services.



■ Aviwe Learners



■ Death Of Siwelele



■ Learners At Work



■ Learners At Work



■ Trolley Pushers



■ Vula Vula



Events

TVET Summit Cape Town

A Ministerial Summit on Strategic Industry Partnerships with TVET Colleges took place in Cape Town

The two-day summit brought together the Post School Education and Training (PSET) sector, government departments, non-governmental organisations, labour and business to discuss how to strengthen TVET colleges' partnerships, particularly work-based learning.

Higher Education and Training Minister, Dr Blade Nzimande, has called on all employers to open their workplaces for the placement of TVET college students.

"The National Development Plan emphasises the necessity of TVET colleges turning into the preferred institutions for vocational education and training and emphasises the significance of workplace-based training in employment development. The significance of Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) in fostering the growth of connections between educational institutions and employers is also emphasised." Nzimande remarked.

He highlighted that extending chances for students to learn in the

workplace has proven difficult in the TVET college sector.

In response to President Cyril Ramaphosa's State of the Nation Address of 2022, Nzimande said the department had pledged to see that ten thousand TVET college graduates received work experience so they could finish their degrees, enhancing their chances of finding employment or launching their small enterprises.

MICT SETA CEO Mr Matome Madibana joined a panel discussion with Mr Luca Lahoba and Dr Raymond Patel, who spoke about the challenges of digital transformation and the strategy needed to bridge the gap between colleges, universities and industries that will employ the graduates.

Mr Lahoba opened the discussion by stating that there were four areas that they needed to look at. "The first area we have been interested in has been to look at any IP institutions we have developed that we can commercialise. The second has been about co-investing with our partners in developing

solutions that are of educational interest. Thirdly there's been access to skills, and the last one it has been on internships, and I'm glad to say that we have been able to do a pilot with Mateo where we brought in Chatbot technology to assist that institution practically in terms of the work that we are looking at from a collaboration point of view."

Mr Madibana said "the core of TVET mandate colleges' digital transformation plan is ensuring that they cultivate and establish a culture of innovation through ongoing research in science innovation and that these remarkable technologies are taken advantage of".

"We think our young people are best positioned to remain resilient at all times and embrace the dawn of a new era. Thus, we must deliver cutting-edge future skills developed through MICT SETA certifications now more than ever. These are the areas of the research system that need to be addressed, as there is an ingrained, inculcating culture of the research system of innovation across all TVET colleges that goes beyond universities."



Events

2nd Free State Provincial 4IR SUMMIT

The 2nd Free State 4IR Summit was held in Bloemfontein with the Free State Provincial Government in partnership with the Central University of Technology and the MICT SETA

The summit's theme was *Accelerating economic growth and development of the Free State through innovative 4IR technologies*. It featured presentations from various industry players, exhibitions of locally developed innovative products, and breakaway commissions that discussed topics such as the application of AI for precision farming, skills development and others.

Ms Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, the Minister of Communication and Digital Technologies, and Ms Sisi Ntombela, the Premier of the Free State, both made speeches at the summit's opening session. Professor Seeram Ramakrishna, a renowned academic and thought leader from the National University of Singapore gave the keynote speech.

Professor Seeram Ramakrishna explained that South Africa has to leverage the circular economy to achieve net-zero emissions

and growth objectives. "4IR is transforming how companies manufacture and supply products and services." Prof Ramakrishna is the advisor to the Singapore Ministry of Sustainability and Environment and Chairperson of the Plastics Recycling Centre of Excellence, Singapore.

Minister Ntshavheni discussed the significance of linking areas where government institutions are located and argued that connecting just the government was worthless. Without ensuring that the communities are connected, it is impossible to discuss internet access by 2024. The Minister explained her department's aim to have more than 3000 Wi-Fi hotspots in communities and questioned why we couldn't coordinate a VPN and make it available to the community. Ntshavheni added that while the government wanted 80% of South Africans to have access to the internet by 2024, her department has 100% of the population in mind.

Ntshavheni called for the transformation of the telecommunications industry through the emergence of other mobile network operators to disrupt the oligopoly enjoyed by Vodacom, MTN and Telkom. Additionally, she applauded ICASA for its efforts to curb South Africa's ever-rising data costs. "With the support of ICASA, data in South Africa no longer expires. And that's part of making the price of data affordable."

On the global stage, Ntshavheni declared that South Africa would become the Artificial Intelligence hub of Africa. Wits University and the University of Johannesburg are working to establish an AI Institute. "We must be precise and deliberate. Our mining business is quite strong in South Africa. Imagine continuing mining for gold underground without worrying about losing someone. Robots will increase manufacturing throughout

the day, according to Ntshavheni. She added that the Covid-19 pandemic offered her department particular difficulties in assisting other ministries, such as the basic education sector, in minimising the effects of the pandemic.

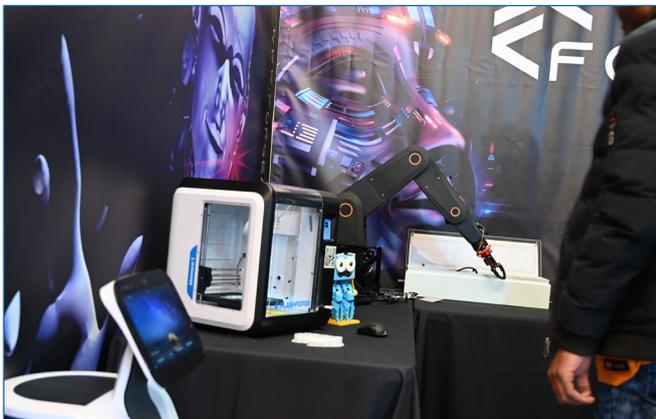
According to Minister Ntombela, the summit would examine various ways innovation might enhance the lives of the poor by speeding up service delivery, automating government functions like water and power billing, cutting lengthy lines at clinics and more. "While we have people who understand what the Fourth

Industrial Revolution is, we cannot simply come here and declare that we will do this or that while our people's lives remain unchanged. Things must not stay the same."

The Central University of Technology (CUT) used the summit to position itself as a front runner in innovative solutions in the Free State, the continent and the globe. The institution has developed technological capabilities that make it a game-changing institution. Delivering his remarks, Acting Vice Chancellor and principal, Prof Alfred Ngowi,

said, "As a university of the 21st century, we find ourselves part of the knowledge society, where increasing global connections, challenges, and imperatives have called for a realignment of the university's vision, our academic direction, and purpose with this reality."

He described the summit as an important platform that will provide a unique opportunity for researchers and graduate students to network and embrace intellectual development within the 4th Industrial Revolution.



3D Printing demonstration



Minister of Communication and Digital Technologies - Ms Khumbuzo Ntshavheni



Pupils interacting with digital innovations



MTN SA showcasing their offerings



MICT SETA representative engaging attendee



Mr Loyiso Tyira - MICT SETA Board Member

GOVTECH Conference

Reshaping Citizen Experience Through Enhanced Service Delivery

GovTech, the premier South African ICT conference devoted to the provision of services to the public sector, held its 14th annual meeting. This unique gathering of leaders had the opportunity to get first-hand information from decision-makers in government and industry about the positive impact digital transformation will have on the quality of services delivered to citizens.

The Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Ms Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, delivered the keynote address. The line-up of speakers included industry experts, DGs, DDGs, CIOs, Board members, CEOs and academics who spoke about connectivity, how technology can better enable the provision of services and the influence this will have on decision-making in the following areas; digital economy; innovation and SMME development; education; health and cybersecurity.

The Digital Council Africa (DCA) signed an MOU with the MICT SETA, at GOVTECH which sees them embarking on a programme to address the optic fibre skills deficit within the ICT sector. The programme is set to train twenty-five women as optic fibre technicians. The lack of skilled labour in the sector remains a big problem that is slowing down cable deployment in South Africa.

“A constantly changing world requires adaptable skills to meet the needs of the hour. We are proud to be partnering with the MICT SETA to help address the skills deficit within the ICT sector.” said Dr Andile Ngcaba, President of the DCA.

The DCA also signed an MOU with Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator committing to skills development and youth unemployment which are intricately linked.

Many conversations were had during the packed two-day programme, which featured plenary, track sessions, networking, thought leadership and an ICT solutions exhibition centre. Tech discussions explored and included technology such as; Cloud; Artificial Intelligence; Data Analytics; Big Data; NFTs and Blockchain, and IOT.

GovTech was created “by the government for the government” to provide ICT professionals SITA’s dedication to offering an ICT thought leadership platform that highlights the newest trends, technologies, and solutions and brings together many stakeholders from the public and commercial sectors is underlined by GovTech.

GOVTECH is an ICT thought leadership platform driven by the State Information Technology Agency (SITA).



Africa School of Technology representative flanked by Senior Manager, 4IR Gugu Sema (left) and Manager: Marketing Communications: Xabiso Matshikiza (right)



Engaging with stakeholder



Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies: Mr Philly Mapulane and Chairperson of the MICT SETA Board Mr Simphiwe Thobela in a panel discussion



Board member: Loyiso Tyira part of a panel discussion

Digital Council Africa Conext Conference

The Digital Council Conext conference was held in Cape Town, bringing fibre industry players and stakeholders together from the private and public sectors

The President of Digital Council Africa, Dr Andile Ngcaba, explained that Conext 2022 aimed to keep participants informed of sector advancement as they explore the world of digital infrastructure and its impact on the industry and the opportunities it holds for the continent.

“The exponential rate at which technology is developing, mutating, and adapting is so fast that we must apply certain effort to keep pace with technological change and how it will affect our business and lives. While the future is becoming more difficult to predict with each passing year, an accelerating technological change can be expected. To date, technology has changed every aspect of any business’s operations and never before has that change occurred so fast.”

Ngcaba, who is also chairperson of Convergence Partners Inq, specialists in ICT investment, remarked that the new standard draft by-law for the deployment of electronic communications infrastructure would mark a step in the right direction for industry players.

Deputy Communications Minister Philly Mapulane commented that government is of the view that there’s justification for consolidating the fibre assets of state-owned entities. He said this would form part of the next phase in creating the state-owned Digital Infrastructure Company.

“The Department of Communications and Digital Technologies is working on strategies and mechanisms to ensure this fibre infrastructure is consolidated to achieve the broadband connectivity objective.”

Mapulane explained that government’s emphasis is on access,

not coverage, saying that although the country has 100% network coverage, the disparity between coverage and access needs to be addressed.

“South Africa is strategically located to provide a leading role on the continent. The fibre consolidation will allow SA to link the rest of Africa, particularly the land-locked countries, with international submarine cables like Google’s Equiano, West Africa Cable System, Seacom and many others.

“Already, Broadband InFraco owns a stake in the West Africa Cable System, making connecting to the rest of Africa easier. Our vision must be to lead in the region and continentally,” Mapulane concluded. The Presidency and National Treasury’s joint initiative aims to accelerate structural reform implementation.

“The focus of the initiative is to reduce the cost to communicate and improve the quality of digital communications through, among other things, the auctioning of the high-demand spectrum, the completion of broadcasting digital migration, the finalisation of the rapid deployment policy and streamlining of the process for

wayleave approvals and connecting SA by rolling out broadband infrastructure across the country.” Deena Rajah, Wholesale Business Development Manager at Cell C, announced in a breakaway group at the conference that the company will launch its fixed-LTE products and services for business partners by the end of October. The announcement came barely a week after Cell C completed its recapitalisation deal. Rajah discussed the company’s transition from a traditional telco to a digital organisation.

CEO, Mr Matome Madibana, addressed industry unpacking the digital economy as an important driver of growth and creation of employment. He emphasised the importance of devising strategic partnerships between industry chambers and the private sector in an effort to identify and massify skills development interventions responsive to 4IR.

As part of the MICT SETA’s integrated Digital Skills Strategy which aims to identify strategic partners within our sector to address the digital skills shortages. The SETA and Digital Council Africa signed MoU.



■ left to right: Ms Gugu Sema Senior Manager: 4IR; Mr Matome Madibana, CEO MICT SETA; Mr Andile Ngcaba: President: Digital Council Africa; Ms Juanita Clark: CEO: Digital Council Africa

Sector Engagements

C3SA Cybersecurity Summit

Moloti Nkune, Chief Information Officer, MICT SETA was a panelist in the summit addressing the status of cybersecurity capacity in the South African public sector

The Cybersecurity Capacity Centre for Southern Africa (C3SA) has a National Development Plan (Vision 2030) to create a capable developmental state to develop the capabilities of people so that they can live the lives they desire, to develop the country so that we can grow faster, draw more people into work and raise the living standards for all, particularly the poor. This is the plan for South Africa which requires action, change and sacrifice from all sectors of society.

The National Skills Development Plan (Vision 2030) mandate for the SETAs is as follows:

- Understanding demand and signalling implications for supply
- Steering the system to respond to skills supply
- Supporting the development of the institutional capacity of public and private education and private institutions

Recent studies reveal that more than three-quarters of employees are not ready to operate in the digital world. This is a big problem, but the MICT SETA will work to address future skills.

They have developed the following qualifications: 5G, Web Design, Cyber Security and Technopreneur. MICT SETA has also developed qualifications in programming languages such as Python, HTML, Java, Javascript and C++. Under development are qualifications in Blockchain,

3D Printing, and Augmented and Virtual reality as well as Optical Fibre Network. As part of immediate plans, the priority programme development for MICT SETA is on Digital Terrestrial Television.

C3SA observed the following:

- Technological advancements in the public sector continue to increase the likelihood of cyber attacks on national critical information infrastructure assets.
- The recent cybersecurity capacity assessment in the SADC region revealed a deficit of cybersecurity professionals, given the increase in sophisticated cyber threats in the region.
- Despite numerous cybersecurity academies created by corporate South Africa and universities, the availability of professionals does not match the frequency and intensity of cyber attacks and the complexity of emerging threats and risks.
- It is predicted that to cope with the magnitude of cyber threats in both the public and private sectors, South Africa needs 4 million skilled cybersecurity professionals.

So the critical questions to answer are - Why are all these issues challenges which require attention not prioritised? Is cybersecurity a business problem? Does the



■ Moloti Nkune, Chief Information Officer

private and government industry understand the importance of having resources trained in cybersecurity? Or is cybersecurity a second-priority issue until an attack hits?

A proposed model to deal with the process of massifying digital skills was established with economic opportunities for digitally sound citizens; with PSET (varsities, TVETs, SETAs, lecturers, SDPs / SMMEs to drive this element) DBE is responsible for massifying advanced digital literacy, which is the driving force for the educators and change management is fundamental; and lastly ECD for massifying digital literacy where educators are central to facilitate.



Strategic Partnerships

The MICT SETA launches their Research Chairs initiative to bridge the digital divide

Limpopo province saw the introduction of the Research Chairs Initiative by the MICT SETA. Industry partners, provincial political leaders, senior government officials, strategic partners, the .za Domain Name Authority (ZADNA), and the MICT SETA were present at the launch

Leading and advancing research on creative solutions for the ICT industry and Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) research programmes is the principal goal of the Research Chair Initiative. MICT SETA CEO Mr Matome Madibana said “Pioneering ICT programmes that support rural development will be among its solutions, and it will serve as a central point for data collection to aid in implementing MICT 4IR learning programmes by government and businesses.”

Madibana explained that the partnership between the MICT SETA, The University of Limpopo, and ZADNA is intended to address

the ICT skills gap and help the South African population adapt to 4IR, ensuring that the country is producing skills that are required in this evolving landscape.

Every industrial revolution has changed how societies function, and it is expected that the current era will see rapid and significant change. As production transitions from labour-intensive to knowledge- and skill-intensive, nations will need a ready pool of digital, technical, and commercial talent to capitalise on emerging innovations.

The Research Chairs project will attempt to address the digital

divide in various ways, and this is just one of them.

“We predict growth in new products and services, and associated new tasks and paid work, driven by the adoption of new technologies, along with a large-scale fall in some sectors of paid work as functions within these jobs become automated or redundant. Rural areas struggle to keep up with the growth of digital connection; as a result, Internet and broadband infrastructures are difficult to access in these areas. We have teamed with our industry partners to develop the Research Chair programme in Limpopo” said Mr Madibana.

Strategic partnerships

MICT SETA Collaborates with the Cortex Hub to Accelerate Access to Critical Digital Skills

To give young people access to essential digital skills, the Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority (MICT SETA) in the Eastern Cape teamed with the Cortex Hub in East London

The partnership concentrates on developing tech-driven entrepreneurship training and 4IR skills development to accelerate local innovation and business capabilities to drive job creation and economic growth. A Memorandum of Understanding for the partnership was signed.

“Strategic cooperation with institutions like the Cortex Hub will strengthen our commitment to providing our youth with digital skills to enable them to prosper and survive our modern world,” stated Mr Matome Madibana, CEO of the MICT SETA.

The Cortex Hub is a model for excellence in technological education and research for creating high-calibre solutions and businesses that look for chances to innovate for the social and economic development of the Eastern Cape and the African continent. Mr Ayabulela Dlova, the Manager of Cortex Hub, remarked during the ceremony that technology could improve the situation in our townships and rural communities. “Our main objective is to ensure that we plan and carry out programmes that can mentor and assist start-ups in developing solutions with a social impact. We have optimism for the future of

work thanks to these businesses as we fight unemployment and poverty. The collaboration with the MICT SETA solidifies this to promote greater economic inclusion.

Mr Madibana added, “We want our young people to develop the capabilities to drive local technological innovations and growth effectively. Hence, we are committed to investing in our youth to unlock their full potential.”

Cortex Hub is one of five Eastern Cape hubs that MICT SETA and provides funding, for programmes that improve ICT skills.



■ Manager of Cortex Hub Ayabulela Dlova



■ Signing of Memorandum of Understanding with Cortex Hub
Left: Mr Andile Ngcaba, President, Digital Council Africa. Right: Mr Matome Madibana, MICT SETA CEO



Graduations

Creative Arts College – Graduation 2022

The Creative Arts College hosted a graduation ceremony at the beautiful Durban Kendra Hall

Two hundred and fifty learners graduated in various areas of scarce and critical skills, including:

- Film & Television Production,
- Advertising,
- Sound Technology,
- Design Techniques,
- Animation,
- Radio Production, and
- Photography.

The MICT SETA provided Funding For the initiative. The parents and guardians of the graduates, as well as the lecturers, were filled with pride and delight at the beautiful graduation.

Igor Kalishenko, a graduate of Creative Arts College of Ukrainian heritage, was given a special honour during this graduation for his outstanding academic achievement and for taking First place in the 48-hour film competition.

Kevin Palium, CEO of the South African Film Institute, said that

graduates were advised to take advantage of the Fast-growing media and communications sector. The knowledge and skills they had achieved from the Creative Arts College are exactly what the world needs as it moves towards digitisation and content demand.

Ms Jaclyn Cole, Public Affairs Officer For the US Consulate, outlined the past partnerships between the American Embassy and the Creative Arts College and encouraged graduates that they may enter the worldwide market with their abilities. She also provided them with a website link that offers employment and financial prospects.

Creative Arts College was proud that 80% of its alumni were already making a living doing what they were certified to do in such a short time despite setbacks like COVID-19. Five students received special recognition since they significantly contributed to the industry.

The Creative Arts College received recognition from Thami Zondi, Youth Directorate, on behalf of the Department of Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs for their 20 years of support in developing the KwaZulu-Natal creative media industry.

Special Guests:

From the American Embassy:

Ms Jaclyn Cole–Public US Consulate Affairs Officer

Mr Thula Ngcoba–Public Diplomacy Specialist

From the Department of Economic Development:

Mr Thami Zondi–Youth Directorate

From the South African Film Institute:

Mr Kevin Palium–CEO

Graduations (continued)



■ Mr Dumisani Mhlongo - Director of Tourism (MPTA) + Igor Kalishenko (Ukraine)



■ Ms Jaclyn Cole - US Consulate, Public Affairs Officer + Passmore Mutsakani



■ Ms Jocelyn Cole - US Consulate, Public Affairs Officer + Mr Thula Ngcobo - U.S Consulate, Public Diplomacy Specialist + Mr Kevin Palium - CEO, South African Film Institute



■ Siyakudumisa Wiseman Dlamini + Family Member



■ Andile Dlezi and Family



■ Siphesihle Manqoba Mkhize



■ Thakasile Madlala with her Family



■ Silindile Dlamini

Announcements and Sector Insights

MICT SETA Partners with Blitzz to Utilize App-Free, Video Support Platform for Site Inspections

Blitzz, the live mobile video platform for remote customer support, has partnered with MICT SETA (Media, Information Technology, Communications and Telecommunications Sector Education Training Authority), the leading sector education and training authority in South Africa

MICT SETA will use Blitzz's app-free, video support platform to evaluate if sites are meeting the requirements needed to successfully execute accredited skills training in advertising, film and electronic media, electronics, information technology, and telecommunications.

MICT SETA processes accreditation applications received by Skills Development Providers. It also provides quality assurance for the training that they implement throughout South Africa. Through the symbiotic partnership with Skills Development Providers, the SETA is able to address the significant shortage of technical talent and bring new opportunities to individuals and communities everywhere. The accreditation process can be onerous and time consuming because it involves assessing the availability of the required implementation site, vetting the prospective Skills Development Providers' ability to successfully implement MICT SETA programs, and access to the requisite training equipment.

Before Blitzz, the MICT SETA Quality Assurance team travelled to the various implementation sites for inspection, often requiring lengthy journeys and overnight visits. With the introduction of Blitzz, a 3-6

hour one-way trip is replaced by a remote video inspection, reducing costs, accelerating implementation site visits and improving turn-around times.

"MICT SETA does amazing work upskilling people, in implementation partnership with our Skills Development Providers throughout South Africa, but logistical challenges around on-site inspections limit our impact," said Ms Natalie Nelson Senior Manager: Education, Training and Quality Assurance. "Blitzz's video platform allows our team to rapidly review training implementation facilities in the most remote areas for accreditation and provider monitoring at a more efficient and effective pace. As a Sector Education Training Authority that operates in the media, ICT and 4IR space, we are really excited to launch this virtual site visits platform as it will assist with fast-tracking our processes which were severely affected by the advent of COVID-19, while benefiting both the SETA and our stakeholders".

The primary benefits of using Blitzz include:

- Reduced operational overheads: Less travel means less spending

on gas, maintenance, hotels, and other related expenses.

- Improved communication: Blitzz video-support technology allows MICT SETA to see each implementation site regardless of the distance, and to collaborate with on-site facility teams as required for site inspection.
- Enhanced visibility: MICT SETA Quality Assurance team can access a detailed tour of the premises, use augmented reality mark-up tools and notes, and capture images and videos for documenting, reporting purposes, and more. This feature ensures that aspects of site compliance are verified.
- No app required: On-site facility workers simply click a link in a text message to allow MICT SETA to see the facility remotely.

"Strong tech training for in-demand skill sets is critical for South Africa, but it can be time-intensive and expensive," said Rama Sreenivasan, Founder and CEO of Blitzz.

"Our video platform overcomes this challenge by helping MICT SETA approve training sites for accreditation sessions faster and at a lower cost, accelerating local innovation and driving economic growth around the country."

Announcements and Sector Insights

Fraud related to the usage of Education, Training and Development (ETD) Practitioner credentials

There has been a rising trend of fraud-related incidents concerning the unlawful and unauthorised use of Education, Training and Development (ETD) Practitioners' credentials at both the Accreditation Application and Exit Verification stages. As MICT SETA, we caution our Skills Development Providers (SDPs) and ETD Practitioners against sharing their credentials with third parties.

The current practice includes ETD Practitioners sharing their credentials and supporting documentation with other practitioners to gain access to opportunities to conduct assessment and moderation. The third-party ETD Practitioner then provides SDPs with access to the ETD Practitioners' credentials, without their consent, at a set fee. The third-party ETD Practitioner subsequently signs an SLA with the SDP post, which they apply for accreditation. At this stage of the process, i.e. the verification of the ETD Practitioner credentials, the MICT SETA ETQA establishes that the ETD Practitioner is unaware of their appointment by the SDP and fraudulently signed agreement.

The second practice which has become prevalent is that of co-appointed ETD Practitioners. This is when ETD Practitioners work together and have an agreement that provides consent for using their individual credentials, and the SETA often has no access to this SLA. The ETD Practitioners then conduct assessment and moderation interchangeably and sign on each other's behalf.

Both practices mentioned above are strictly prohibited and are a material breach of the ETD Practitioner Code of Conduct which Practitioners sign upon their registration. Based on this practice, SDPs are encouraged to remain vigilant and to engage directly with ETD Practitioners when obtaining their consent, approval and permission to use their credentials in accreditation and verification.

Take note that it is an offence in terms of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act No. 4 of 2013) ("POPI") to use one's personal information without their consent or not for the purpose it was intended.

Failure to adhere to this notice may result in any of the risks highlighted below:

1. The impact of both practices

affects the quality of learning delivered to learners as SDPs often do not use the same ETD Practitioners to conduct assessments but rather internal, unregistered staff.

2. The assessment process is thus invalid, with the risk noted to be the exiting of learners whose competence has not been validated by a registered assessor. The same is true for the moderator.
3. All providers currently engaging in this practice will have their accreditation suspended pending a Formal investigation, with the final recommendation made within 21 days of receipt of the complaint.
4. Third parties are unreliable sources for consent as they often have not received consent from the ETD Practitioner in question.

The MICT SETA takes a firm stance against the practice of fraud. Should you suspect any fraud taking place or misuse of credentials in the process of accreditation and verification, you are encouraged to report it to the following structures

Anti-corruption
hotline
Platform

FREE CALL: 0800 053 927
mict@thehotline.co.za

Fraud and corruption is everyone's business, report it, don't support it!



New Appointments



Matome Matshwi
Human Resources Generalist



Vuyisa Ngqawani
Graphic Designer



Sanele Baloyi
Monitoring & Evaluation
Senior Manager



Gugu Mahlangu
Monitoring & Evaluation
Advisor



Nontlantla Tshabalala
LPD Administrator



Gundo Randima
LPD Administrator



Ntathi Bangani
Committee Secretary



Nthabeleng Ngoepe
Risk & Compliance Officer



Rekilwe Serote
Internal Auditor



Feziwe Mbatha
Internal Audit Manager



Mokgadi Masekela
ETQA Advisor



Gugulethu Jiyane
ETQA Advisor



Thato Tsoka
Temp LPD Administrator

New Appointments



Bafana Mosoma
ETQA Administrator



Makwela Modibane
ICT Manager



Mbudzeni Mashamba
4IR Administrator



Thobang Mkhuma
4IR Technical Advisor



Nthabiseng Mtimkulu
SCM Officer



Mutondwa Mulaudzi
PA to CFO



Helvy Ndlovu
Regional Manager: KZN



Pearl Mabunda
LPD Administrator



Xolo Bigase
Regional Advisor



George Tsebe
PA to CEO



Bontle Mokoena
SSP Senior Manager



Siwe Siko
ICT Officer



New Appointments



Puleng Leseba
Regional Administrator:
East London



Kutlwano Mohumi
Monitoring & Evaluation
Administrator



Lydia Maleho
Regional Advisor:
Free State



Bongiswa Ntando
Regional
Administrator: Free State



Nokuthula Shange
Housekeeper:
KwaZulu-Natal



Sindiswa Pesika
Housekeeper: East London

Calling all stakeholders to share career opportunities

Your contribution helps the MICT SETA propel the careers of young people.



Calling all stakeholders to share career opportunities in the media and ICT-related sectors on the MICT SETA platforms.

Send graduate programme opportunities, internships, learnerships, skills programmes, and Work Integrated Learning programmes to info@mict.org.za and help us give more young people access to opportunities.



Stakeholder focus

4IR and Youth

“We dedicate this column to the late Ms Kelebogile Molopyane who made significant contributions to the sector and youth empowerment in 4IR skills. She submitted this article before her untimely passing.”

Commemoration Contribution by Stakeholder in ICT Sector: AB4IR

Having been in the youth development space for at least 23 years, it has been exciting to observe the evolution of youth engagement from a digital migration perspective. Just two years ago, we were all comfortable in our limited interaction with the digital space when suddenly, the world came to its knees due to the Covid-19 pandemic

Suddenly everything that we knew about going on with our daily lives was impacted in a way that we were unprepared for. We were all ordered to stay indoors and continue with our lives. Then technology took over fiercely, letting in the floodgates of 4IR, and the youth embraced it.

This was when we decided to create an entity called Africa Beyond the Fourth Industrial Revolution (AB4IR) at the heels of the growing buzzword; 4IR. We had observed the growing digital and gender divide from disadvantaged communities brought on by a lack of resources. We intentionally created a space that empowers communities through technology innovation and incubation. We wanted to test the notion of lack of skills vs lack of access to resources among the youth in disadvantaged communities. We placed the entity within a TVET college for ease of access.

Post set up and interacting with youth across the country, we have discovered remarkable talent, skill and resilience, which embraced the long-awaited opportunities that were brought to them. Many youths from these seemingly abundant areas were initially intimidated by the technology set before them but soon embraced it. Through our Digital Youth Festival, which

takes place every June, we have managed to ignite conversations with over 53 000 youth across the country to decode 4IR, we engage them on future skills and possible job opportunities while encouraging them to search for opportunities that will allow them to remain relevant in this digital era.

Most importantly, the MICT SETA has been at the heart of these discussions.

We have since noted an increase in interest in the programmes we offer, which are coding and programming for kids, IT Systems Development for unemployed youth, Drone Diva programme for young women and TVET work placement for unemployed TVET graduates in partnership with entities such as the MICT SETA. We have unveiled gamers, animators and programmers hungry to unleash their potential while embracing 4IR. Some of the innovations we have seen include: a young man creating a food delivery service in the township calling it Delivery Ka Speed creating jobs for other youth, another creating a cyber security and connectivity company calling it l'Curity doing incredible work and a young woman coming to our facilities for a training programme and leaving with a dream to create an animation blockbuster. This is what happens when youth and 4IR



Kelebogile Molopyane, AB4IR CEO

collide. I look forward to observing new incredible youth stories as we forge partnerships and encourage the youth to break barriers and create beyond their imagination. After all, the youth are the future, and the future is digital. The interventions and programmes the MICT SETA provides for the youth are invaluable. Let's keep changing lives, one youth at a time.



CONDOLENCE LETTER TO AB4IR & FAMILY OF KELEBOGILE MOLOPYANE

It is with heavy hearts that we acknowledge the loss of AB4IR CEO Ms Kelebogile Molopyane. Her passing has severely affected the Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority (MICT SETA), leaving an indelible void that resonates deeply within our organisation. The MICT SETA Family extends their sympathies to the Molopyane Family.

Ms Molopyane was a driving force behind the advancement of 4IR qualifications and unwaveringly supported MICT SETA in its endeavours. MICT SETA has a strategic partnership with AB4IR. The partnership, forged under her leadership, was instrumental in the creation of groundbreaking 4IR qualifications, notably in fields such as Artificial Intelligence, Design Thinking, and Software Development.

We were fortunate to benefit from Ms. Molopyane's unparalleled expertise in the ICT industry. Her humility, courtesy, and exceptional leadership were emblematic of her commitment to championing the cause of digital skills transformation and growth within the ICT sector.

Her commitment and dedication and tireless efforts to support and empower unemployed youth in the development of digital skills will leave an enduring legacy. Her death is a loss not just to her family, AB4IR, MICT SETA, and the ICT community in general.

As we mourn the loss of a visionary leader, our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with the Molopyane Family during this trying time. May Ms. Kelebogile Molopyane's memory continue to inspire us all as we carry forward the important work she began.



Organisational Updates

Measles awareness

A nationwide measles awareness and vaccination campaign kicked off in early February 2023 after an outbreak was declared by the National Institute for Communicable Diseases in South Africa

A nationwide measles awareness and vaccination campaign kicked off in early February 2023 after an outbreak was declared by the National Institute for Communicable Diseases in South Africa. This comes after 406 laboratory confirmed cases were reported in Limpopo, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Free State and North West. Confirmed cases range from two months old to mid-forties, with the majority of cases being between the five- to nine-year-old age group.

Measles is a very contagious respiratory infection that causes a total body skin rash and flu like symptoms. Parents with children under 14 years-old are encouraged to get them vaccinated against this virus.

The vaccination drive that ran until the end of March, aimed to limit the impact of the outbreak.

The national campaign responded weeks after the World Health Organization announced that since the COVID pandemic, measles vaccine coverage globally declined with nearly 40-million children missing their first measles vaccine during the peak of the pandemic.

Signs and symptoms

- High Fever which begins about 10 to 12 days after exposure to the virus.
- Runny nose, cough, red, watery eyes and small white spots in mouth can develop during initial stages.
- Initially, a rash develops, usually on the face and upper neck, eventually reaching hands and feet.

- The rash lasts for 5 to 6 days and then fade.

Serious complications more common in the under 5-years and over the age of 30

- Blindness.
- Brain swelling (encephalitis).
- Severe diarrhoea and dehydration.
- Ear infections.
- Severe respiratory complaints such as pneumonia.





Head Office

Gauteng | Block 2, Level 3 West
Gallagher House Gallagher Convention
Centre | 19 Richards Drive Midrand
PO Box 5585 | Halfway House, 1685
Tel: 011 207 2600/3 | Fax: 011 805 6833

Kwazulu Natal | Durban Bay House
4th Floor | 333 Anton Lembede Street
PO Box 763 | Durban, 4000
Tel: 031 307 7248 | Fax: 031 307 5842

Satellite Office

Klerksdorp | Vuselela TVET College
Jourberton Centre For Engineering
Studies | 11900 5th Street, Jourberton
Township | Tel: 010 003 5506

Cape Town | The Boulevard Office Park
Block F, Ground Floor | Searle Street
Woodstock | Cape Town
Tel: 021 461 3926 | Fax: 021 461 3939

East London | Blue Beacon Investments
206 Beacon Bay | Phase 2A Waverley
Office Park | Chiselhurst, 5205
PO Box 877 | East London, 5201
Tel: 043 726 0763 | Fax: 043 726 0790

Motheo TVET College (Faculty Tourism
and Hospitality) | Cnr Goddard Street /
O.R Tambo | Bloemfontein | 9301



www.mict.org.za



MICTSETA

Media, Information And
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Sector Education And Training Authority