

collaboration for impact

e-skills
news

an e-skilled nation

20

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NEMISA intends to benefit the total SA population by harnessing ICT for equitable prosperity and global competitiveness. It leads in the creation of key e-skills development strategies, solutions and practices within SA.

It is a national catalyst, collaborator, facilitator and responsive change agent in the development of SA – within the context of national goals and within a worldwide evolving information and knowledge-based environment.

e-skills international collaboration

International partnerships to develop SA's e-skills capacity

NEMISA part of SA delegation at the 3rd BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting, Hangzhou, China

International collaboration is part of NEMISA's mandate. This organisation's aim is for South Africa to be an e-skilled society by 2030, as outlined in the National Development Plan, the national Integrated ICT Policy White Paper, and other national policies.

NEMISA operates as a collaborative platform for stakeholders. It is structured to align e-skills initiatives with national priorities to maximise the impact, avoid duplication, fill gaps and maximise the use of infrastructure and resources.

NEMISA part of SA delegation to BRICS meeting

NEMISA was part of the South African delegation that accompanied the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS) at the 3rd BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting in Hangzhou, Republic of China. The group included state-owned enterprises, industry and SMMEs. The theme of the meeting was: 'ICT Innovation and Integrative Development in the Era of Digital Economy'. (BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.) The event began on 27 July 2017.

BRICS collective priorities

In his opening remarks, DTPS Minister Dr Siyabonga Cwele noted that the collective priorities should remain on ICT infrastructure and connectivity rollout, developing new apps for enterprise development, **supporting e-skills development for the digital economy**, and developing local incubation programmes to support ICT and e-commerce for SMMEs.

Public-private partnership opportunities

He spoke of public-private partnership opportunities around the broadband rollout and other connectivity projects, ensuring affordable services and devices, and developing local content applications to increase uptake and usage. **He also mentioned partnerships for promoting e-skills.**

NEMISA named as potential designated regional BRICS Institute for Future Networks

In a follow-up presentation, South Africa's enabling policies were discussed and this included looking at Digital Access and the need for e-skilling. e-Skills, research and development were listed under the government investment initiatives. NEMISA was named as the potential designated regional BRICS Institute for Future Networks.

Cooperation to achieve a digital economy

Minister Cwele said that achieving a digital economy relies on "substantial cooperation amongst BRICS members to change the international rules and standards to ensure inclusive participation by developing and emerging markets". This includes growing trade and economic cooperation within BRICS.

BRICS ministerial declaration

The BRICS group put forward a ministerial declaration on ICT:

1. Encourage transformation of sector: infrastructure and innovation through smart technology.
2. Transformation through SMME participation in economy and industrial development of new applications.
3. Joint collaboration on standards development to transform industry and break monopolies.

? **What is an e-skill (digital skills)?** An e-skill is more than knowing the basics of how to use a computer (computer literacy). **An e-skill means being able to use technology effectively to add benefit to your life – to actively take part in the world and move ahead.**

What is the Digital Economy? This refers to an economy based on digital technologies. It is also increasingly seen as conducting business through markets based on the internet. The digital economy is not limited to traditional business models, time or location.

What is broadband? Broadband means fast, always-on access to the internet.

(L-R) Representatives at the 3rd BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting, China; NEMISA CEO at a networking session.



e-Skills essential for effective internet access and broadband use

promoting awareness around e-skills

Knowledge-based Economy and e-Social Astuteness (e-Literacy) e-Skills CoLab at Soweto Youth Month event ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab at OR Tambo Broadband Project Launch

There is increasing global recognition of the role that e-skills (digital skills) play in developing an information society and digital economy.

Broadband rollout and e-skills

On a national level, the broadband rollout is positioned within national policies (such as SA Connect – the broadband policy and the Integrated ICT Policy White Paper) which show the need for creating an ecosystem.

This ecosystem is not just about building ICT infrastructure but creating a demand and supply environment that involves developing e-skills (digital skills) so that people have the ability to use technology effectively, in a way that improves their lives and the lives of their communities.

'Internet for all' and e-skills

Internationally there is a strong drive to develop e-skills. This includes the World Economic Forum (WEF) initiative 'Internet for All'. The DTPS Minister launched South Africa's 'Internet for All' at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Africa event during June 2017.

What is 'Internet for All'?

'Internet for All' focuses on providing meaningful access

to the internet for all South Africans. It builds on the WEF's 'Internet for All' initiative which aims to accelerate internet access and adoption to the over 4 billion people that are not connected to the internet.

South Africa is partnering with the WEF, the private sector and civil society to connect 22 million South Africans to the internet by 2020. The first step is setting up working groups to develop a road map.

The WEF initiative is driving the development of scalable and replicable on-the-ground models of public-private collaboration. This is outlined in the WEF report 'Internet for All – a framework for accelerating internet access and adoption'.

It emphasises the need for an ecosystem approach that simultaneously addresses challenges related to infrastructure gaps, affordability of data and devices, e-skills development, increased awareness and confidence in using the internet, and relevant digital content. Read the report at http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Internet_for_All_Framework_Accelerating_Internet_Access_Adoption_report_2016.pdf.

eSkills4All demo training at Soweto Youth Month event



eSkills4All training at the Soweto Youth Month event hosted by the DTPS Deputy Minister, Ms Stella Tembisa Ndabeni-Abrahams.

The 'Internet for All – connecting the unconnected' event was held on 19 June 2017 in Soweto as part of Youth Month. It was hosted by the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS) Deputy Minister, Ms Stella Tembisa Ndabeni-Abrahams.

NEMISA representatives: It was attended by representatives from NEMISA's central office and the Knowledge-based

Economy and e-Social Astuteness (e-Literacy) e-Skills CoLab, based at the Vaal University of Technology (VUT).

e-Skills awareness activity: With facilitators from VUT, the e-Skills CoLab set up eSkills4All training as part of the digital skills (e-skills) needed for using the internet effectively. There were short training sessions for youth and the local community.



Article continued: **e-Skills essential for effective internet access and broadband use**

eSkills4Teachers demonstration at OR Tambo District Connectivity Launch

The launch of the national broadband project in the OR Tambo District occurred on 7 July 2017 at Reuben Ntuli SSS in Tsolo, Eastern Cape.

The event was hosted by Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, with Minister Dr Siyabonga Cwele and Deputy Minister Ms Stella Tembisa Ndabeni-Abrahams from the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS). Guests included the community, school pupils, local, provincial and national government leaders, and the business sector.

The OR Tambo District Municipality is one of the 8 sites selected for the first phase of broadband roll-out. In the past few months, around 300 schools, clinics and municipal sites have been connected, by USAASA, via Wi-Fi hotspots.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa's address: Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa noted that the event marked a milestone in ensuring access by all communities – both urban and rural – to broadband internet and ICT. Government sees this as a priority “because technology holds the key to economic freedom”.

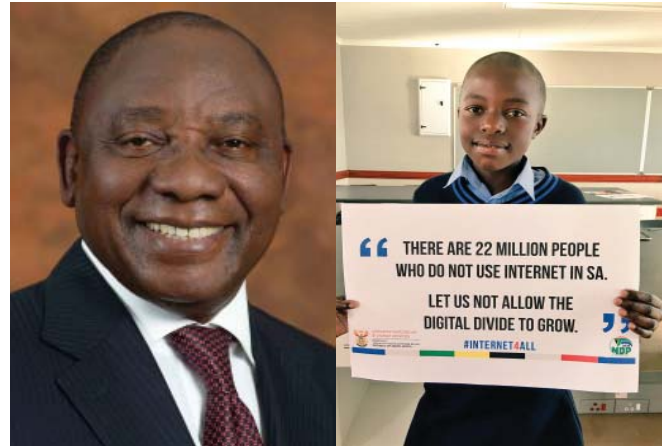
Technology is seen as a tool to address the skills deficit, to create jobs and opportunities for SMMEs, to improve services, to eradicate poverty, to grow the economy, and to improve the overall quality of people's lives. He said that universal access to broadband is critical for inclusive economic growth, particularly in rural areas, and that digital technologies are seen as key enablers for developing countries.

He specifically mentioned the work that NEMISA will be undertaking “to support this project through e-skills courses aimed at empowering learners and teachers for e-learning”.

NEMISA representatives: It was attended by representatives from NEMISA's central office, the NEMISA Board Chair, and the ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab, based at Walter Sisulu University (WSU), Eastern Cape.

e-Skills awareness activity: The e-Skills CoLab had an exhibition stand where the eSkills4Teachers courses was demonstrated. This was done with the help of trained e-learning specialists from the provincial Department of Basic Education.

“Bringing ICT connectivity to schools will play a big role in helping young people be prepared for the future. However, teachers and pupils need e-skills to enable schools to use the broadband connectivity effectively,” said Ms Lorna van der Merwe, Acting Coordinator at the e-Skills CoLab. “The CoLab is working with the Provincial Department of Basic Education to roll-out computer literacy training for teachers.”



Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa was at the launch of the national broadband project.



Students gather at the launch of the national broadband project in the OR Tambo District.



Representatives from NEMISA central office and the ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab with VIPs.

News updates

Videos of the NDP summit speeches: The Vision 2030 Summit was held from 21-22 June 2017 in Johannesburg. It focused on the National Development Plan (NDP), unpacking the document – including how government departments, provinces, municipalities, state-owned enterprises and agencies align to the NDP.

- As a summit partner, NEMISA CEO Mymoena Ismail spoke on **'The 4th Industrial Revolution and its implications for South Africa'**. See www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHDAtsQsJal for the speech.
- You can also see the speech from Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services **Deputy Minister, Ms Stella Ndabeni Abrahams** – www.youtube.com/watch?v=89x86LDJIRA.



The provincial e-skills CoLabs

The provincial e-skills CoLabs are based at universities. Each leads in a specific area in e-skills:

- **e-Inclusion and Social Innovation CoLab**, based at the University of the Western Cape
- **e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery CoLab**, based at Durban University of Technology
- **ICT for Rural Development CoLab**, based at Walter Sisulu University
- **Creative New Media Industries CoLab**, based at the National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA) central office, Gauteng
- **Connected Health CoLab**, based at the University of Limpopo
- **Knowledge-based Economy and e-Social Astuteness (e-Literacy) CoLab**, based at the Vaal University of Technology
- **e-Agro-Tourism CoLab**, based at the North-West University



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e-skills development for e-astuteness

e-Literacy for inclusion

KZN graduation ceremony (National Certificate: End User Computing) Training for unemployed engineering students in Eastern Cape Web 2.0 for KZN disabled learners Training for KZN SACTWU Communications skills for eThekweni Municipality

While there are a range of e-skills that need to be developed to advance South Africa into the Digital Economy, the first step is ensuring digital literacy for the nation. Digital literacy (or e-literacy) is the foundation on which other e-skills (digital skills) develop. For South Africa to be an e-skilled nation by 2030 – as set out by the National Development Plan – the emphasis needs to be on e-literacy.

Focus on e-literacy

The gap between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' in South Africa is a legacy of apartheid, with its skewed economy

and benefits for few. Part of dealing with this gap is to focus on inclusion across all sectors of society. From an e-skills perspective this starts with ensuring that all citizens are equipped with the fundamental e-skills.

This is the start of a journey where digital inclusion encompasses meaningful internet access (Internet for All), being part of the broadband ecosystem with its potential opportunities (gaining access to information, business potential, communication, education etc), and gaining marketable skills.

KZN graduation ceremony for the National Certificate: End User Computing



Graduates and VIPs at the graduation ceremony for the National Certificate: End User Computing (NQF Level 3) held on 15 June 2017.

The graduation ceremony for the National Certificate: End User Computing (NQF Level 3) was held on 15 June 2017 at Durban University of Technology (DUT). The guest speaker was Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS) Deputy Minister, Ms Stella Tembisa Ndabeni-Abrahams.

About the course: This one-year course gives learners a basic knowledge and understanding of computers, focusing on the various Microsoft packages. The programme includes communication and mathematics modules. It is delivered by the e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab, based at DUT, KZN. The qualification is MICT SETA accredited. The pilot course began in March 2015. This graduation ceremony was for the 2015/2016 cohort.

About the graduates: The course was targeted at

educators from the provincial Department of Basic Education (DBE) and unemployed disabled learners. Fifty-three students, which included 40 teachers and 13 disabled unemployed youth, graduated.

Multi-stakeholder initiative: Role players are noted below and their representatives attended the graduation.

- NEMISA and the e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab
- DUT
- Provincial DBE
- Disabled People of South Africa (DPSA)
- Education Training and Development Practices Sector Education Training Authority (ETDP SETA)
- Media, Information, and Communications Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority (MICT SETA)

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Article continued: [e-Literacy for inclusion](#)

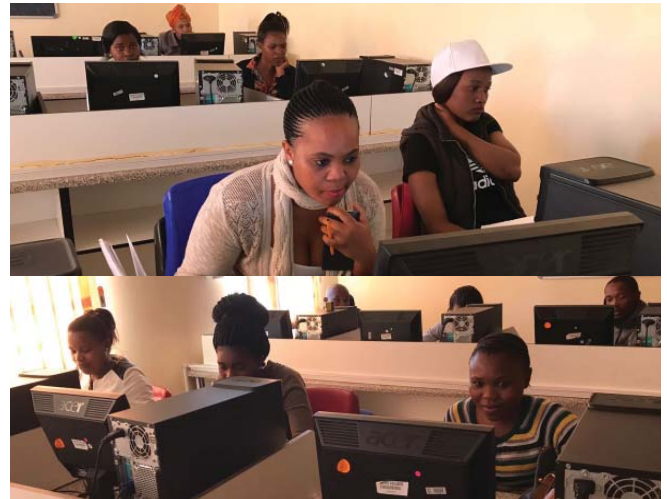
eSkills4All training for unemployed engineering students in Eastern Cape

The ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab, based at Walter Sisulu University, Eastern Cape, sponsored training in the eSkills4All course. This is a digital literacy (e-literacy) course.

Partnership: The training was conducted by King Sabata Dalindyebo (KDS) TVET College – a partner of the CoLab.

Target audience: The training was for 20 unemployed engineering students (who studied at the TVET college but did not have digital skills training due to the syllabus used at the time).

Date: The training started 10 July 2017 in Mthatha.



Training for 20 unemployed engineering students.

Web 2.0 for disabled learners in KZN

On 2 June 2017, Dr Surendra Thakur, from the e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab based at the Durban University of Technology, KZN, presented on Web 2.0.

Target audience: There were 52 partially blind learners.

About the course: The Web 2.0 course included the following topics.

- Introduction of Web 2.0
- The internet and connectivity
- Social Media
- Dangers of social media
- Internet safety

Feedback: "The event was a great success. Students participated and reported back that they had learnt a lot," says Dr Thakur.

Training for KZN members of the Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union



e-Skills training for KZN Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (SACTWU)

The e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab, based at the Durban University of Technology, KZN, conducted a training programme on Microsoft Word. This took place at DUT from 26-30 June 2017.

Partnership: The e-skills intervention was a partnership between the e-Skills CoLab, NEMISA, DUT, W&R SETA (Wholesale and Retail Sector Education and Training Authority), MICT SETA (Media, Information and Communication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority) and SACTWU.

Target audience: The delegates were 33 SACTWU employees from the KZN area. The learners' portfolios of evidence are currently being assessed before internal moderation takes place. Then there will be external verification by MICT SETA. →

Article continued: **e-Literacy for inclusion**

Communications skills for eThekweni Municipality

From April to June 2017, the e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab, based at the Durban University of Technology, KZN, conducted a series of communication skills workshops. Topics included:

- Creative writing and editing
- Sub-editing and proof reading
- Media management
- Strategic marketing for thinkers
- Journalism for communicators
- Online journalism
- Feature writing

Partnership: This was a collaboration between the e-Skills CoLab, DUT, eThekweni Municipality and DC Communications. The aim was to enhance the skills of the eThekweni Communications Division.

Target audience: The programme was targeted at eThekweni Municipality employees, particularly in the Communications Department. ☑

Developing e-skills for sector users, digital leadership and ICT practitioners

e-skills development for e-astuteness

**CISCO training in the Eastern Cape
Facilitating ICT in elections module
Eastern Cape Case Method workshop**

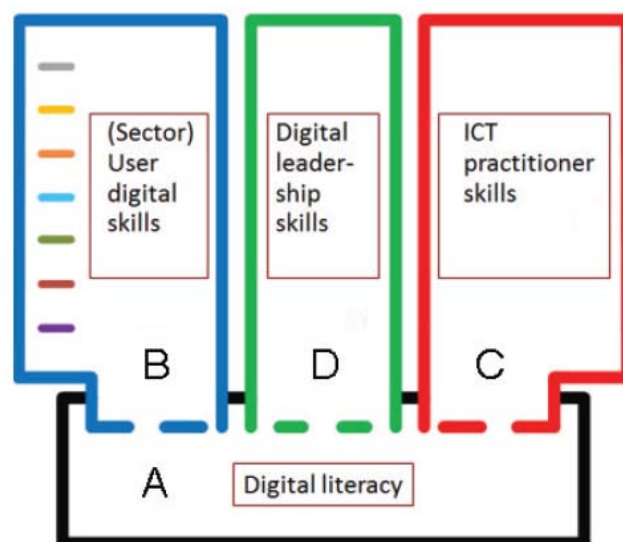
NEMISA is developing the Framework for e-Skills (Digital Skills) in collaboration with e-skills stakeholders. The framework is needed because the range and complexity of technologies echoes the range and complexity of e-skills needed in an Information Society. Different e-skills are needed for different types of work in different situations and there are a wide range of e-skills needed in the new digital world.

While e-literacy is needed for inclusion and as the base for all other e-skills, it is important to close the e-skill gaps on all the different levels. Currently the framework shows four levels or groupings of e-skills:

- **e-literacy or digital literacy:** involves more than a very basic level of e-skills, rather e-skills that can lead to meaningful use in life, work and learning, both for individuals and in small organisations
- **(sector) user skills:** can be generic, or sector- (or profession-) specific (sector-specific e-skills are represented symbolically by colour bars in the framework)
- **e-leadership/digital leadership skills**
- **ICT practitioner skills:** some people

refer to these as 'professional skills', where the e-skills needed refer to professions in the ICT field eg programmers

Framework for e-Skills (Digital Skills)



The following initiatives show e-skill interventions around (sector) user skills, digital leadership skills and ICT practitioner skills. →

Article continued: **Developing e-skills for sector users, digital leadership and ICT practitioners**

CISCO training in the Eastern Cape



CISCO training delegates were drawn from ICT SMMEs in the Eastern Cape.

10-16 July 2017 for internationally-accredited CISCO certification. Cisco is a networking and telecommunications system.

Target audience: 34 candidates were drawn from ICT SMMEs throughout the province, those employed in networking in the government sector, as well as unemployed graduates with basic networking/ICT skills. The 2 CISCO certification courses offered were IT Essentials and CCNA1 (Cisco Certified Network Associate 1), depending on the candidate's background.

Partners: The e-Skills CoLab partnered with WSU's IT Department at Buffalo City Campus, which houses an accredited CISCO Networking Academy. The initiative also involved ECITI (a provincial incubator) and the Black IT Forum – both of whom helped source beneficiaries. The e-Skills CoLab assisted with sourcing beneficiaries in government departments and unemployed graduates.

About the CISCO courses: The CISCO IT Essentials programme prepares one to be an ICT technician. The CCNA1 programme covers more advanced topics and prepares one for a career in computer networking. Delegates receive certificates of attendance and those who pass the exams receive CISCO Academy Certificates.

The overall drive for the provincial e-Skills CoLabs is to facilitate and expedite ICT skills development in the province. The ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab e-Skills CoLab is based at Walter Sisulu University (WSU) in the Eastern Cape.

At a provincial broadband skills workshop held late in 2016, the need to capacitate the ICT SMME sector in the province was highlighted. At a follow meeting held in June 2017, it was agreed to deliver pilot networking training for practitioners in the region. A week-long workshop ran from

Opportunities from the broadband rollout: The e-skills intervention allows the delegates to make use of the opportunities presented by the recent broadband internet connectivity rollout in the OR Tambo District. The rollout, via Wi-Fi hotspots, is to 300 schools, clinics and municipal sites.

"This intervention can immediately have an impact for our trainees by providing opportunities for employment as networking technicians – and business opportunities for our small ICT incubators," says Ms Lorna van der Merwe, Acting Coordinator of the e-Skills CoLab.

Facilitating ICT in elections module

Dr Surendra Thakur, from the e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab, based at the Durban University of Technology, KZN, co-facilitated the 'ICT in elections' module of the Management of Democratic Elections in Africa (MDEA) programme, UNISA. This occurred on 26 July 2017 in Pretoria.

About the elections programme: The 'Management of Democratic Elections in Africa' (MDEA) programme aims to

equip senior officials of electoral management bodies with necessary election management skills. The course is funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the independent Electoral Commission, South Africa, is a partner ([www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Colleges/Graduate-Studies/Schools,-Institutes-&-Research-Chairs/School-of-Transdisciplinary-Research-Institutes-\(STRI\)/Institute-for-African-Renaissance-Studies-\(IARS\)/Management-of-Democratic-Elections-in-Africa](http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Colleges/Graduate-Studies/Schools,-Institutes-&-Research-Chairs/School-of-Transdisciplinary-Research-Institutes-(STRI)/Institute-for-African-Renaissance-Studies-(IARS)/Management-of-Democratic-Elections-in-Africa)).



Article continued: **Developing e-skills for sector users, digital leadership and ICT practitioners**

Eastern Cape Case Method workshop

The ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab, based at Walter Sisulu University (WSU), Eastern Cape, hosted a 1-day workshop on the Case Method. This was done in collaboration with the US Fulbright programme. The workshop was held on 20 July 2017 in Mthatha, Eastern Cape. The workshop was facilitated by Fulbright Scholar Dr Grandon Gill. Dr Gill has been conducting Case Method training around the South African e-skills agenda since 2014.

Participants: The delegates comprised academics drawn from Health Sciences, Education, Business, IT and Environmental Science faculties. It was opened by the WSU Mthatha Campus Rector, Prof Jadezweni.

Workshop focus: The workshop introduced participants to the use of the Case Method, both as a means of research and of instruction. The focus was on developing discussion and research cases, employing discussion cases in the classroom, and understanding case writing for publication.

What is the Case Method? As an interactive teaching and research

method, it involves using a detailed description of a real-world decision situation. The objective is to help improve judgment under conditions of considerable uncertainty and ambiguity.

About the facilitator, Dr Grandon Gill: He is based in the Information and Decision Sciences, College of Business, Department at the University of South Florida (USF), USA. He is a leading figure in case study methodology. He holds a BA (cum laude) from Harvard College and an MBA (high distinction) and DBA from Harvard Business School.



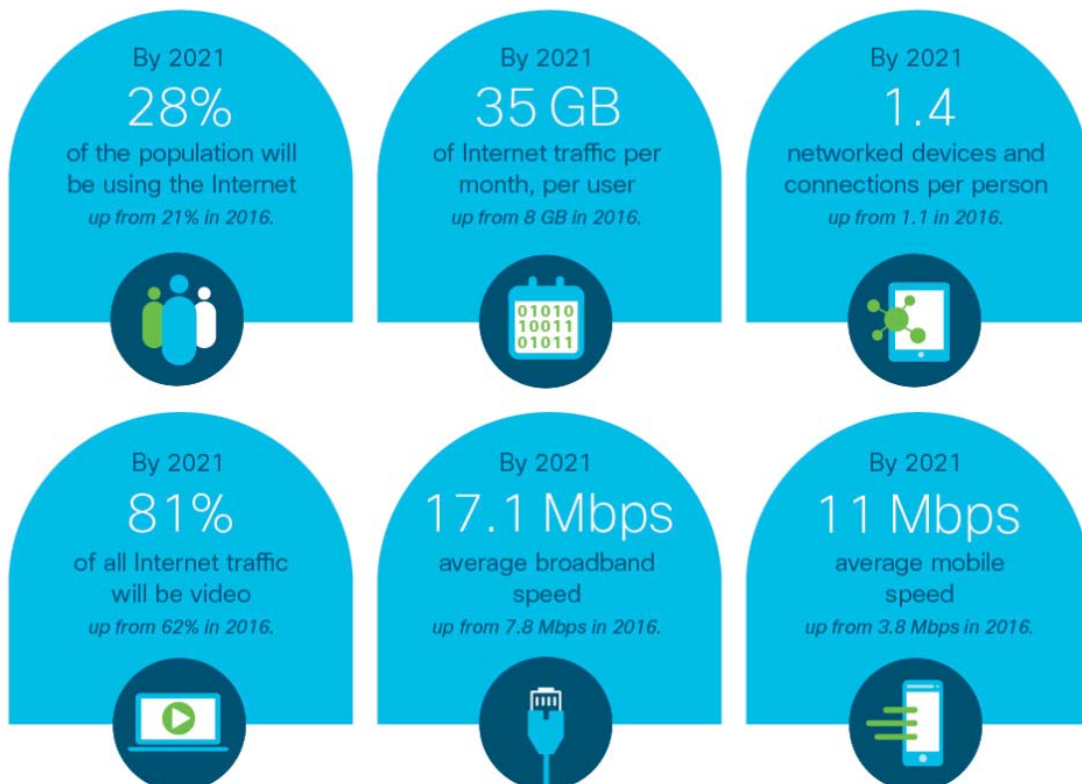
Delegates at the Eastern Cape Case Method workshop.

Trends in e-skills and the e-skills environment

- **Important factors for contributing to a knowledge economy:** While connectivity is important for digital content creation and knowledge production, other important factors are wealth of a country, innovation capacity (such as innovation hubs and local entrepreneurial initiatives) and public spending on education. Just focusing on connectivity doesn't automatically mean higher levels of digital engagement. The research is from the University of Oxford, UK – 'Engagement in the Knowledge Economy: Regional Patterns of Content Creation with a Focus on Sub-Saharan Africa', (<http://itidjournal.org/index.php/itid/article/view/1479>). Read more on www.itweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=162883.
- **Falling short on skills according to the PwC Digital IQ survey:** The report notes there is "a skills gap that puts transformation efforts at risk. Respondents say skills in their organization lag across a range of highly important areas, including cybersecurity and privacy, business development of new technologies, and, yes, user experience and human-centred design. Worse, skill levels have declined since our last survey, even as the demands of digital keep advancing." (www.pwc.com/us/en/advisory-services/digital-iq/assets/pwc-digital-iq-report.pdf)
- **'The Digital Evolution Index 2017'** (by researchers at Tufts University in partnership with Mastercard) looks at digital economy ranking. South Africa is ranked 43 out of 60 countries (<https://techcentral.co.za/sa-ranked-low-new-digital-competitiveness-report/75658/>). For the full report see: https://sites.tufts.edu/digitalplanet/files/2017/05/Digital_Planet_2017_FINAL.pdf

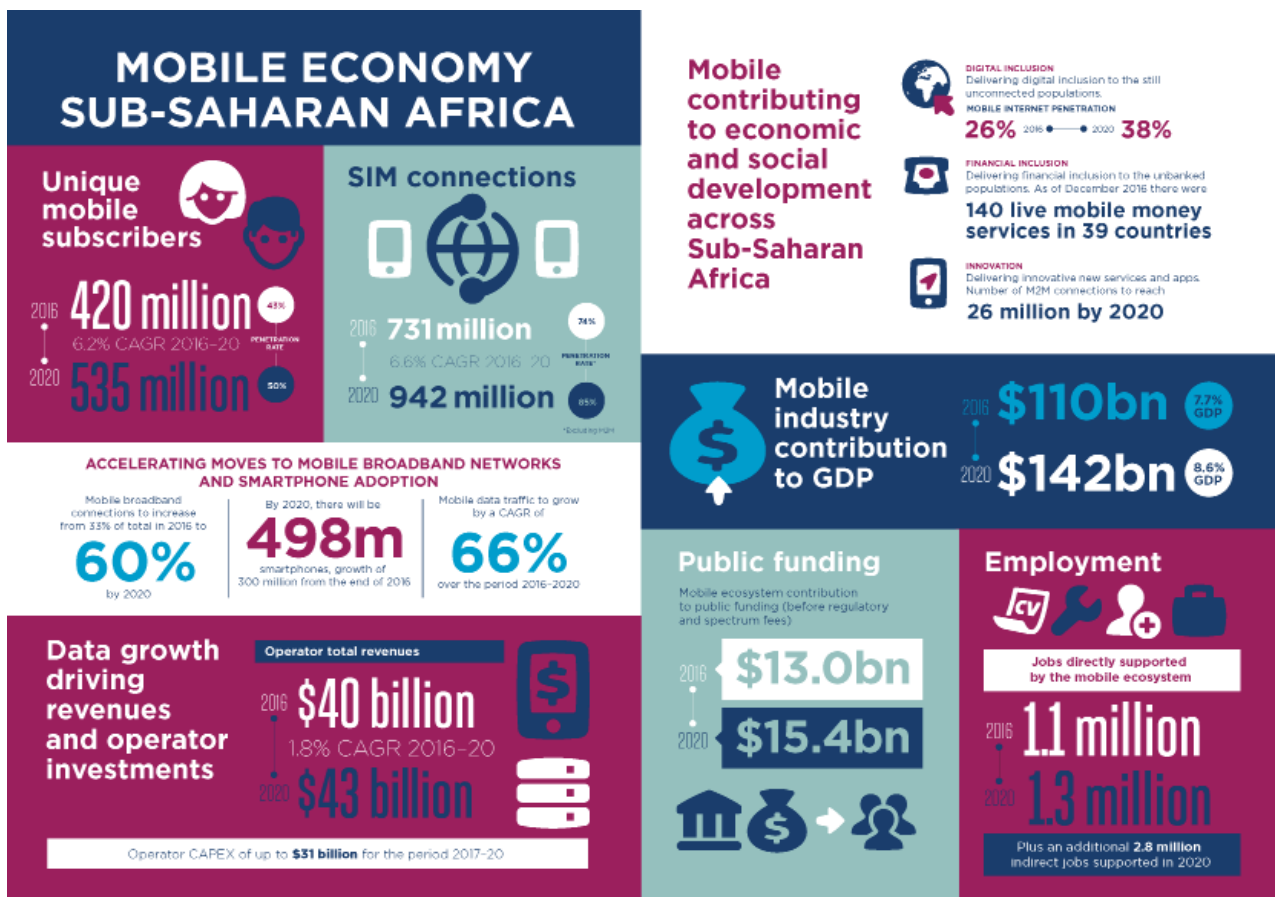
Trends in e-skills and the e-skills environment

- **Projecting the future of digital transformation – 2016 to 2021** (from Cisco's 12th annual Visual Networking Index Complete Forecast www.cisco.com/c/en/us/solutions/service-provider/vni-network-traffic-forecast/infographic.html)



Trends in e-skills and the e-skills environment

- **'Digital Skills for Decent Jobs Campaign'** is part of the United Nations 'Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth'. The aim is to encourage the global community to provide five million young people with digital training by 2030. The initiative highlights the link between digital skills (e-skills) training and better and more inclusive employment opportunities as well as entrepreneurship. (www.itweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=162669)
- Following are the **highlights of the 'Internet Access in South Africa 2017 study'** (by World Wide Worx in partnership with Dark Fibre Africa – www.worldwideworx.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Exec-Summary-Internet-Access-in-SA-2017.pdf):
 - The South African internet user population is expected to grow to at least 22.5 million in 2017. This is equal to 40% internet penetration.
 - The single most common use of the internet among South African adults is Communication (31%). This is followed by Social Networking (24.9%), Information (23.7%) and Entertainment (22.1%).
 - The percentage of internet penetration for adult South Africans declines in parallel with reduced income earning: 82.4% (more than R30 000 a month); 61.3% (between R14 000 and R18 000); 42% (between R3 000 and R6 000), and below 30% (below R2 500 a month).
 - A third of adult internet users rely on their cellphones as their primary means of access.
 - Education is also a barrier to internet access – there is a correlation between level of education and internet access.
- **GSMA Intelligence has released the 'The Mobile Economy - Sub-Saharan Africa 2017'**. (See www.gsmaintelligence.com/research/?file=7bf3592e6d750144e58d9dcfac6adfab&download for the full report.) Below are the highlights:



About NEMISA

Unite around a common pillar to fight poverty and inequality, active citizenry, an inclusive economy, building capabilities, a capable developmental state and leadership working together to solve problems

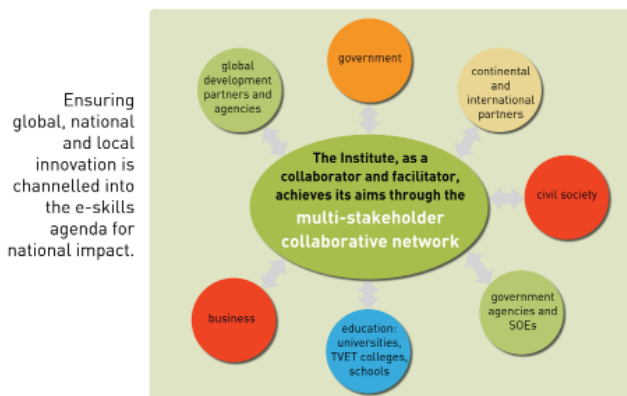
NEMISA is a globally-recognised collaborative model that allows stakeholders to sustainably meet South Africa's e-skilling objectives.

NEMISA is a national catalyst, facilitator and responsive change agent in the development of SA, within the globally evolving information and knowledge-based environment, by leading the creation of key e-skills development strategy, solutions, practices and implementation, to benefit the total population.

Alignment to government policy: The above objectives are aligned to the new broadband policy, South Africa Connect, and the National Development Plan 2030, among other national and international goals.

Multi-stakeholder collaborative platform: NEMISA provides a formal multi-stakeholder collaborative platform that aligns all stakeholders (business, government, civil society and education) with a common vision. This common vision ensures that e-skills initiatives are coordinated within a national framework, reducing duplication and increasing impact.

multi-stakeholder collaborative network



Five focus areas: NEMISA primarily focuses on five components.

- Knowledge for innovation (research)
- e-Astuteness (teaching and learning)
- Multi-stakeholder collaboration
- Innovation
- Aggregation (monitoring and evaluation framework)

Providing national, provincial and community level access:

Through collaborative partnerships, NEMISA is organised on a national

Join NEMISA's network

As a national catalyst for the development of e-skills in South Africa, NEMISA calls on e-skills stakeholders to become involved in the integrated approach to e-skills development through our multi-stakeholder collaborative network.

Contacting NEMISA

For more information, contact info@nemisa.co.za.

level, a provincial level and a local community level. NEMISA's central office coordinates nationally and globally.

The e-skills knowledge production and

coordination CoLabs (e-skills CoLabs): These are situated at universities, with one in each province. There are currently 7 e-skills CoLabs:

- **e-Inclusion and Social Innovation CoLab**, based at the University of the Western Cape
- **e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery CoLab**, based at Durban University of Technology
- **ICT for Rural Development CoLab**, based at Walter Sisulu University
- **Creative New Media Industries CoLab**, based at the National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA)
- **Connected Health CoLab**, based at the University of Limpopo
- **e-Literacy and e-Business (knowledge economy and e-social astuteness) CoLab**, based at the Vaal University of Technology
- **e-Agro-Tourism CoLab**, based at the North-West University

There will ultimately be nine e-skills CoLabs correlating to the nine South African provinces.

The e-skills CoLabs provide knowledge spaces for collaboration at a provincial level.



Article continued: About NEMISA

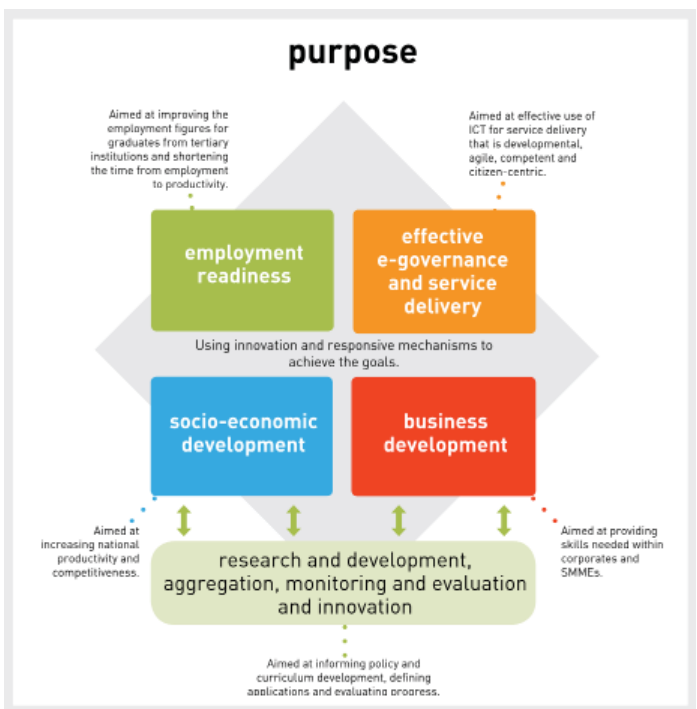
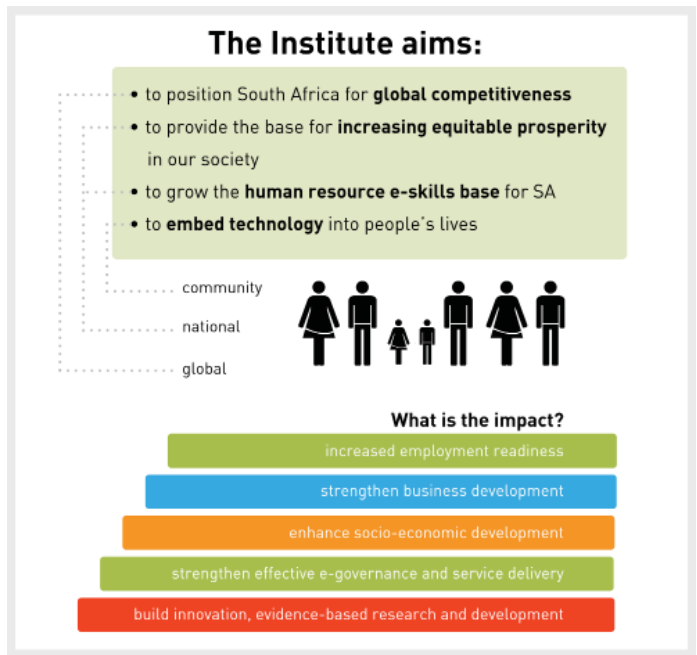
Smart community knowledge production centre (smart centre): These allow for interaction and coordination at a local community level. NEMISA's smart centre network is currently being developed across the country.

NEMISA's national research network is a multi-stakeholder collaborative network that focuses on knowledge for innovation (research).

NDP Priority Areas supported by NeSPA 2013
Pillar 1: Unite around a common pillar to fight poverty and inequality
Pillar 2: Active citizenry
Pillar 3: Inclusive economy
Pillar 4: Build capabilities
Pillar 5: A capable developmental state
Pillar 6: Leadership throughout society to work together to solve problems

Wide-ranging opportunities for business: NEMISA's positioning and organisational model provides numerous opportunities for businesses to engage effectively within the e-skills space:

- There is high-level government engagement. This is integral to developing the e-skills agenda and ensuring that national and provincial policies, as well as all stakeholder decisions, reflect a common goal.
- Business corporate social investment (CSI) has an elevated impact that is aligned with national priorities. The elevated impact and the high-level government engagement allow businesses to position their individual CSI initiatives prominently to their stakeholder base, including the media.
- Businesses are given the opportunity to showcase their talents nationally, provincially and locally.
- Because of the inclusive national priority alignment within the NEMISA's multi-stakeholder collaborative network, businesses are able to position their work within a local context and a developing country framework.
- The link that NEMISA has with universities through its CoLabs and research network means that business can also align new approaches using the benefits of an academic environment and a research function.



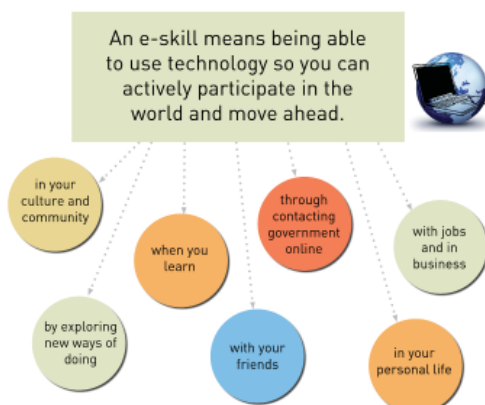
- Most importantly, NEMISA provides an environment where CSI is part of a model where stakeholders work together – 'doing with' and not 'doing for'. ☑

Taxonomy for e-skills

An e-skills taxonomy is more than just definitions. The e-skills agenda requires a shift in thinking with outcomes such as changes in policy. The terms used are part of creating the environment for this shift. Following are definitions for some of the words that form part of the e-skills taxonomy.

e-Astuteness	<p>The capacity to continuously appropriate the technology into personal work, education, business, social and family contexts for both personal and collective benefit.</p> <p>e-Astuteness is defined as a knowledgeable capacity, based on personal and interpersonal skills, that involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding people and situations • Building alignment and alliances • An acute understanding of strategic direction • Applying strategic behaviour <p>e-Astuteness allows individuals to take personal advantage of ICT in social or economic situations, through the appropriate e-skills. (Building social connections is an example of a social situation and obtaining a job or starting a business is an example of an economic situation.)</p> <p>e-Astuteness does not necessarily depend on formal education or high levels of literacy.</p>
e-Literacy (digital literacy)	e-Literacy (digital literacy) is the ability of individuals to use digital tools and facilities to perform tasks, to solve problems, to communicate, to manage information, to collaborate, to create and share content and to build knowledge, in all areas of everyday life and for work.
e-Skills	The ability to use and develop ICTs within the context of an emerging South African information society and global knowledge economy, and associated competencies that enable individuals to actively participate in a world in which ICT is a requirement for advancement in government, business, education and society in general.
e-Social astuteness	<p>e-Social Astuteness is defined as the use of ICT and e-skills for more astute ways of people interacting with others, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social interactions • A level of awareness and understanding of diverse social situations • The various alternatives open to them for response <p>e-Astuteness focuses on individual benefit whereas e-social astuteness focuses on interacting with others for group benefit.</p>

What is an e-skill?



Official South African definition (from the National e-Skills Plan of Action)

The ability to use and develop ICTs within the context of an emerging South African information society and global knowledge economy, and associated competencies that enable individuals to actively participate in the world in which ICT is a requirement for advancement in government, business, education and society in general.

Partners in NEMISA's multi-stakeholder collaboration

Education



Government/South Africa



Civil society



Business



Global developmental partners

