

# collaboration for impact

e-skills news

an e-skilled nation

# 21

newsletter, edition 21, 2017



## Contents

- p1** **ICT and e-skills are important gender equalisers**  
NEMISA presents at the Eastern Cape Young Women Summit
- p2** **The provincial e-skills CoLabs**
- p3** **e-Skills collaboration through thought leadership**  
Connected Health e-Skills CoLab presents at first Limpopo South African Council for Educators Conference
- p4** **Upskilling in e-skills essential for educators**  
Big Data and social media engagement session in KZN
- p5** **Developing SMMEs for the Digital Economy**
  - e-Skills and entrepreneurship training in Northern Cape
  - Further Intel easy steps training in Limpopo
- p7** **Online courses for national rollout**  
e-Courses for the Limpopo health sector
- p8** **Contact NEMISA**
- p8** **Trends in e-skills and the e-skills environment**
- p10** **About NEMISA**
- p12** **Taxonomy for e-skills**



[www.nemisa.co.za](http://www.nemisa.co.za)



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 catalytic thought leadership

## ICT and e-skills are important gender equalisers

NEMISA presents at the Eastern Cape Young Women Summit

### ICT White Paper reflects NDP goals

The National Integrated ICT Policy White Paper focuses on inclusion. It outlines a range of interventions to ensure that everyone in South Africa can improve the quality of their lives through the benefits of participating in the digital society. Developing e-stuteness and digital literacy is considered fundamental in achieving this goal.

The main purpose of the White Paper is to unlock the potential of ICTs to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality in South Africa by 2030. ICT is seen as enabler to achieving the vision of the National Development Plan (NDP) – the country's guide to an equal and prosperous society.

### NDP goals reflected across the SDGs

The concepts and aims outlined in the NDP and the ICT White Paper are reflected in the international Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs). To achieve success, each of these goals needs technology. ICT is the enabler for the international vision as well as for the national vision. ICT is a tool we use in daily life. (See <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/> for more information on the SDGs.)

**?** **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.**

### NEMISA part of promoting gender equality

As part of the focus on Women's Month and to promote gender equality, the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS) held events around ICTs as an enabler. NEMISA, as a state-owned company falling under the DTPS, was part of some of these events.



## The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals



## Article continued: ICT and e-skills as an enabler for gender equality

### Eastern Cape Young Women Summit

Ms Mymoena Ismail, NEMISA CEO, presented on 'The 4th Industrial Revolution – Its implications for South Africa'. This was at the Eastern Cape Young Women Summit on 26 August 2017. It was held in Mthatha, Eastern Cape, with an exhibition as part of the event.

Ms Ismail further highlighted the work NEMISA is currently doing in e-skills with partners such as Microsoft and Intel. She called for the establishment of local platforms for women to become active participants in the digital economy and digital society. This is important for the economic growth.

**About the summit:** The Minister of Tourism Tokozile Xasa, the Deputy Minister of Telecommunications and Postal Services Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams and the Deputy Minister of Transport Sindisiwe Chikunga together held the Eastern Cape Young Women Summit at the Mthatha Airport Hangers. The summit brought together government departments, state-owned entities and private companies.

**Audience:** There were more than 400 young women from across the province (learners, students and entrepreneurs), as well as representatives from provincial and local government.

**Summit aims:** The event was conducted during Women's Month – 'the year of OR Tambo: Women United in Moving South Africa Forward'. The aim was to expose young women in the province to opportunities available in the three sectors.

- Facilitate enterprise development
- Ensure that district and local municipalities adopt Young Women Empowerment Programmes
- Facilitate networking and support of young women in transport, ICT, tourism, and other key sectors
- Develop an action plan for the provincial Young Women Empowerment Programme
- Encourage young women to penetrate and succeed

in the various industries through training, skills transfer, coaching and mentoring

**The ICT perspective:** DTPS Deputy Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams spoke on ICTs for women's economic empowerment and how the Department has prioritised this through programmes. These include the DTPS' ICT SMME Support strategy and techno girl. The Department is ensuring that 30% of procurement is set aside to benefit SMMEs, youth and women to accelerate the development of sustainable small enterprises. Techno girl involves mentorship around informed career choices emphasising science, engineering and technology. She noted that women need to be active participants in our own transformation and emancipation. This includes being aware of available opportunities. ☑



#### Watch the video

Watch DTPS Deputy Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams address the Eastern Cape Young Women Summit in Mthatha: <https://twitter.com/GovernmentZA/status/902106509970206720?s=08>.

## 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** in-house training 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

## e-skills catalytic thought leadership

## e-Skills collaboration through thought leadership

### Connected Health e-Skills CoLab presents at first Limpopo South African Council for Educators Conference

Collaboration is essential for there to be a significant impact on increasing e-skills capacity in South Africa. Creating an e-skilled nation by 2030 is an enormous task. It requires the participation of government, business, education, organised labour and civil society. The need for partnerships and collaborations is also included in the Sustainable Development Goals – Goal 17.

#### Benefits of a collaborative platform

NEMISA has a multi-stakeholder collaborative platform that operates across the country. This allows stakeholders to engage with e-skills interventions of mutual benefit – at a national, provincial or local level. The organisation collaborates with relevant institutions, organisations and

entities around e-skills courses/programmes to maximise impact, avoid duplication, fill gaps and maximise the use of infrastructure and resources. It also ensures alignment to national policies.

#### Developing a collaboration process

Developing a collaboration process is an extensive undertaking in its own right. Part of the process is exposing potential stakeholders to the platform provided by NEMISA and the provincial e-Skills CoLabs. It also involves raising awareness of the importance of e-skills and showing the potential role that e-skills and technology have in developing individuals, communities, sectors, and the country.

### Connected Health e-Skills CoLab presents at first Limpopo SACE Conference

On 10 June 2017 the Connected Health e-Skills CoLab, based at the University of Limpopo, participated in the first Limpopo South African Council for Educators (SACE) Conference. The one-day event was held at the university.

**Conference focus:** The conference included the following.

- Professionalising the teaching profession
- Integrating ICT in teaching and learning
- Broadening the understanding of inclusive education
- Professional Learning Communities – sharing best practices

**e-Skills CoLab intervention:** The Connected Health e-Skills CoLab was given two 90-minute breakaway sessions to present on education technology and the CoLab's involvement in Limpopo.

- Dr Farivar Rahimi, Director at the e-Skills CoLab, informed delegates on the CoLab activities in the education field and the relationship with DTPS and NEMISA.
- Mr Andrew Scholtz, organiser at the e-Skills CoLab, introduced the 'Teaching with Technology Community of Practice' online forum and urged everyone to join.
- Ms Phuti Ragophala, a retired school teacher and

#### The role of South African Council for Educators (SACE)

- Registers educators
- Promotes and manages a system for educators' continuing professional development
- Sets, maintains and protects ethical and professional standards for educators

principal who promotes the use of technology in Limpopo schools particularly primary schools, presented on technology activities in the classroom and the impact on learners.

- Ms Omashani Naidoo from SchoolNet gave an overview of the technologies and resources available to teachers.
- Prof Martin Potgieter, from the University of Limpopo Science Education Centre, outlined the function and activities of the Centre.

**Delegates:** There were 42 delegates in the first session and 32 in the second session. ☑



The Connected Health e-Skills CoLab presenting at the first Limpopo South African Council for Educators (SACE) Conference.

## e-skills development for e-astuteness

The rapid increase of technologies means that the way we work and live is always changing. There is a constant need to upgrade current skills to keep on top of technology and the ability to use it meaningfully.

### Meaningful use of technology

An e-skill is defined as being able to use technology effectively and meaningfully to add benefit to your life – to actively take part in the world and move ahead. e-Astuteness takes this further. It is about 'being astute' (savvy and 'clever') with technology tools in all areas of life.

### e-Skills as part of a successful broadband system

e-Skills and e-astuteness are essential to a successful

## Upskilling in e-skills essential for educators

### Big Data and social media engagement session in KZN

broadband ecosystem. With the broadband rollout, infrastructure is being developed. At the same time – as outlined in SA Connect and in the National Integrated ICT Policy White Paper – elements of the ecosystem are being developed. These elements include services, local content, e-skills and e-astuteness.

### Upskilling educator e-skills

NEMISA is positioned as a catalyst organisation for developing e-skills capacity in South Africa. Part of this mandate is to develop e-skills at all levels. An example of educator e-skill development is the Big Data and social media engagement session in KZN.



Presenters and delegates at the Media Monitoring: Big Data and Social Media engagement session.

## Big Data and social media engagement session in KZN

The Media Monitoring: Big Data and Social Media engagement session took place on 28 June 2017 at Durban University of Technology (DUT). Dr Surendra Thakur, Director of the e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery e-Skills CoLab, was one of the presenters. The e-Skills CoLab is based at DUT. The audience was predominantly academics.

**Engagement content:** The main focus was on social media activism, media monitoring and using Big Data. This session looked at tools and solutions that offer meaningful representations of Big Data, in particular social media.

- Dr Thakur presented the key elements of social media.
- Prof Anthony Collins, DUT Media Language and Communications lecturer and professor, spoke on social media activism, looking at political and social change through vigorous campaigning and the correlation with social media. An example is the #FeesMustFall movement.

- Prof Randhir Rawatlal, Academic Leader of Research from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), focused on the relevance of Big Data and its uses by demonstrating how data can be shaped to provide insightful analysis that assists academic institutions.
- Joash Kisten, UKZN Research Manager, illustrated how monitoring big data trends are used geographically.
- Tonya Khoury, Managing Director of ROi Africa, is a media monitoring expert. Her company uses technology to provide intelligence, monitoring and trend reporting across the various media platforms. Of note is that social media content is now the driving force around discussions rather than print media.

Post the presentations, there was an engagement session between the audience and the panel of experts. One of the predominant themes was the integral role that social media plays, to the extent of persuading US voters to elect Donald Trump. ☑

## e-skills development for e-astuteness

## Developing SMMEs for the Digital Economy

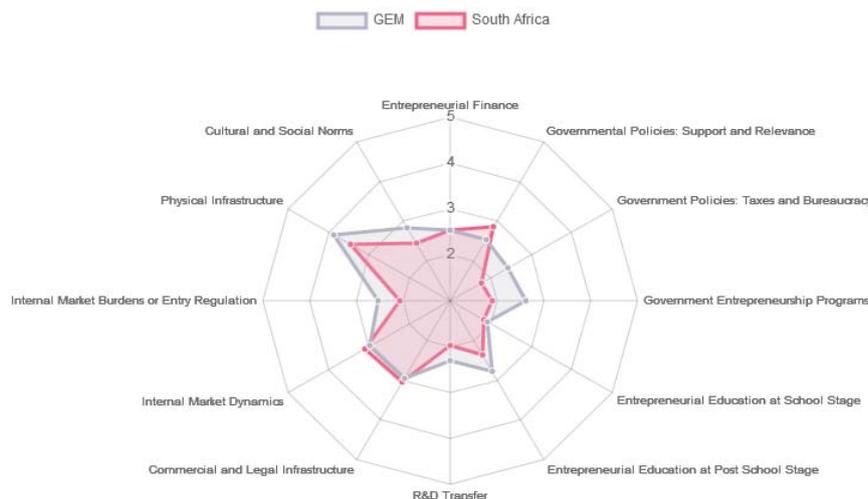
### e-Skills and entrepreneurship training in Northern Cape Further Intel easy steps training in Limpopo

The National Development Plan considers that the majority of new jobs will be with SMMEs (small, medium and micro enterprises). National government has also positioned SMMEs as a significant part of the solution to unemployment. Small businesses are a priority but they need an enabling environment to succeed.

### South Africa profile on 2016/17 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor report The Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

Most recent data: 2016

Expert Ratings: 1 = highly insufficient, 5 = highly sufficient



### 2016/17 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor report

The 2016/17 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor report shows that SMMEs in South Africa contribute 36% to gross domestic product ([www.gemconsortium.org/country-profile/108](http://www.gemconsortium.org/country-profile/108)). The South Africa-specific report notes that the country has had a "series of political and economic setbacks". There is

persistent poverty and inequality, with unemployment "at its highest level ever (27.6%), with an expanded rate of over 40% and youth unemployment at over 65%".

The report recommends introducing "reforms aimed at fostering a more enabling business environment, particularly for the small and medium sized enterprises which contribute so much to employment".

### e-Skills essential for SMMEs

Part of enabling SMMEs is capacitating them with digital skills (e-skills) so that business can be done more efficiently and effectively. Furthermore, this allows SMMEs to participate in the Digital Economy. NEMISA and the provincial e-Skills CoLabs provide training interventions around digital literacy, e-skills and entrepreneurship.

## e-Skills and entrepreneurship training in Northern Cape

In 2016, the e-Literacy and e-Business e-Skills CoLab (Knowledge Economy and e-Social Astuteness) conducted e-skills interventions, along with associated skills training, in Pofadder. (The e-skills CoLab is based at the Vaal University of Technology covering the Northern Cape/Southern Gauteng.)

The youth and community development project is a partnership with Atlantica Yield, a solar power company and the majority stakeholder in Kaxu Solar One, a commercial solar plant. Kaxu Solar One has a social development division called SEED+. The delegates were 60 unemployed youth comprising 15 learners from four communities – Pofadder, Pella, Onseepkans and Witbank. All the training took place in Pofadder.



2017 e-skills and entrepreneurship training in the Northern Cape.

## Article continued: Developing SMMEs for the Digital Economy

### About the e-skills and entrepreneurship training

The aim is to equip unemployed youth in targeted disadvantaged communities with e-literacy skills (digital literacy), skills in finding jobs, and entrepreneurship skills. The courses included:

- eSkills4All is an online learning programme that covers digital literacy (e-literacy). It was created in South Africa for South Africans.
- Goal2Work is an instructor-led training programme aimed at providing the learner with a 'toolkit' for the recruiting process.
- Introduction to Entrepreneurship is a programme to build entrepreneurship skills. It involves delegates developing basic business plans in groups and then presenting these to 'judges'.

Goal2Work and Introduction to Entrepreneurship involve digital literacy (e-skills) as basic skills needed to take part in the courses.



2017 e-skills and entrepreneurship training in the Northern Cape.

### 2017 mentoring and coaching phase for previous year's delegates

Basic business plans were developed in the 2016 Introduction to Entrepreneurship course. In 2017, the e-Skills CoLab returned to the four communities to launch the mentoring and coaching phase. This is done in partnership with Jika Communication and Training. The aim is to assist upcoming entrepreneurs to take their businesses to the next level.

**Audience:** The audience comprised start-up business owners from the two communities. There were 18 small businesses and entrepreneurs that attended the mentoring. Some of the business ideas included:

- One-stop printing, copying and internet services in Pella as community members have to drive as far as Springbok to access such services
- Making and selling cultural clothing and food
- Opening accommodation which caters for cultural and adventure tourists
- Providing carpentry services

It also included existing businesses who want to expand their operations and outside entrepreneurs who had not been part of the training in 2016.

**Dates:** In Pofadder, 3 delegates presented their business cases from 12-13 May 2017. In Pella, 15 delegates presented their business cases from 20-21 May 2017.

Further communication takes place electronically throughout the year.

**Course content:** A need was identified in 2016 after the completion of entrepreneurship training in these communities for a mentoring and coaching session for the new start-up businesses. The learners were given time to improve on their business plans.

**Future plans:** This is an ongoing process. Feedback from the trainers and participants was the need for strategies around start-up funding and funding mechanisms.

### 2017 e-skills and entrepreneurship training

This year the e-skills intervention continues. All 3 courses are being run again: eSkills4All (e-literacy), Goal2Work (interview 'toolkit'), and Introduction to Entrepreneurship. The training is now being given in the community rather than transporting delegates.

**Audience:** Jika Training was contracted by Kaxu, in association with the e-Skills CoLab, to present the courses to unemployed youth from within the Pofadder and Pella regions of the Northern Cape.

**Dates:** Pofadder training ran from 8-14 May 2017. Pella training ran from 15-21 May 2017. There will be 2 more similar training interventions in Witbank, Northern Cape, and Onseepkans. This will start in October 2017. The training targets 30 individuals from each of the communities.



## Article continued: Developing SMMEs for the Digital Economy

### Further Intel easy steps training in Limpopo

The Intel Easy Steps course is offered by the Connected Health e-Skills CoLab, based at the University of Limpopo, in partnership with the Intel 'She Will Connect' initiative in Africa. The programme has been running since 2015. It is facilitated by the e-Skills CoLab.



**What does the course involve?** Intel Easy Steps involves acquiring basic computer skills in word processing,

presentations, spreadsheets, email and the internet. Then participants discover how these skills can be applied so as to have a positive impact on their daily lives. This includes entrepreneurship skills and managing finances.

**e-Skills training in April 2017:** The target group was unemployed youth and there were 12 delegates. It ran from 27 March to 7 April 2017.

**e-Skills training in June 2017:** 132 delegates completed the Winter Recess Intel Learn Easy Steps course. The e-Skills CoLab opened the course up to people of both genders between the ages of 15 and 30. It ran from 12 to 23 June 2017. ☑

## e-skills development for e-astuteness

NEMISA is a catalytic organisation with a mandate to provide the framework for an e-skilled nation by 2030. Its multi-stakeholder collaborative platform provides a network to assist organisations of all sizes to contribute to e-skills initiatives.

### Partners are crucial

The concept of multi-stakeholders or partners is crucial to success. Both the National Development Plan and the national Integrated ICT Policy White Paper position partnerships between government, business, education, labour, and civil society as instrumental in creating an information society and digital economy.

### Partnerships for targeted online courses

Collaborative e-skills interventions are not exclusive to training e-skills (digital skills). The NEMISA e-skills mandate

### Online courses for the Limpopo health sector

The Connected Health e-Skills CoLab, based at the University of Limpopo, has developed a partnership with a non-governmental organisation, Limpopo Initiative for Newborn Care (LINC).

**Neonatal Transition and Newborn Resuscitation (NTNR) online course:** In March 2017, the e-Skills CoLab facilitated the deployment of LINC's NTNR course on the University of Limpopo's learning management system, Blackboard. The e-Skills CoLab is also supporting registration of facilitators and course participants.

In April 2017, the following training occurred:

- 23 advanced midwives at the Mankweng Campus of the SA Nursing College

## Online courses for national rollout

### e-Courses for the Limpopo health sector

includes creating partnerships to provide online courses and content. The nature of online means that, with the broadband rollout and the necessary e-literacy skills, people can access content and courses. The initial focus of the online courses relates to the thematic areas of the provincial e-Skills CoLabs:

- e-Inclusion and Social Innovation
- e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery
- ICT for Rural Development
- Creative New Media Industries
- Connected Health
- Knowledge-based Economy and e-Social Astuteness (e-Literacy)
- e-Agro-Tourism CoLab

The following intervention looks at creating access to online health (connected health) courses.

- 7 interns at the Marweng Hospital
- 11 Capricorn district nurses

In May and early June 2017, the following training occurred:

- 20 interns from the Pietersburg/ Mankweng Hospital Complex
- 4 interns from the Thabazimbi Hospital

→

Article continued: Online courses for national rollout

**Management of Small and Sick Newborns (MSSN) online course:** In June 2017, the e-Skills CoLab facilitated the deployment of LINC's MSSN course on the University of Limpopo's learning management system. The e-Skills CoLab is also supporting registration of facilitators and course participants.

**Target audience:** Interns, midwives and nurses as identified by LINC. The focus is on Limpopo but the aim is to make the courses available nationally.

**Continuing Professional Development (CPD):** LINC is currently organising for the two courses to receive CPD points for participation from the Health Professionals Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and possibly the South African Nursing Council (SANC). ☑



## Contact The Institute

The Institute (NEMISA changing to iNeSI) can be contacted at the following:

- [info@nemisa.co.za](mailto:info@nemisa.co.za)
- 011 417 5100 / 011 484 0583
- PO Box 545 Auckland Park, Johannesburg, 2006
- South Building Waterview Corner, 2 Oppenheimer Ave, Bruma Lake Office Park, Bruma 2026

## Trends in e-skills and the e-skills environment

- 'A day in the life of a smart-city commuter' is **an account of how a smart city works from a user (commuter or villager) perspective**. It provides an accessible way to understand the concept of smart cities. (<https://theconversation.com/a-day-in-the-life-of-a-smart-city-commuter-and-why-its-not-so-far-from-reality-78369>)
- 'How women were crowded out of the computing revolution' – perspectives from a history professor on the lack of gender equality in ICT. ([www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2017-08-19/how-women-got-crowded-out-of-the-computing-revolution](http://www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2017-08-19/how-women-got-crowded-out-of-the-computing-revolution))
- **South Africa is placed 80th worldwide in terms of average broadband speeds**, according to new research by M-Lab (a partnership between New America's Open Technology Institute, Google Open Source Research, Princeton University's PlanetLab, and other supporting partners). This research covers 189 countries. (<https://techcentral.co.za/sa-placed-80th-worldwide-broadband-speeds/76246/>)
- **Global 5G connections are forecast to reach 1.4 billion globally by 2025**, an increase from the one million connections predicted for 2019. This is according to a new report from Juniper Research ([www.itweb.co.za/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=164076&A=IOT&S=Internet&O=E&E=3-4048](http://www.itweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=164076&A=IOT&S=Internet&O=E&E=3-4048)). 5G means the fifth generation of mobile wireless and refers to the next and newest mobile wireless standard. Each generation usually brings improvements, for example, in the speed of the network.

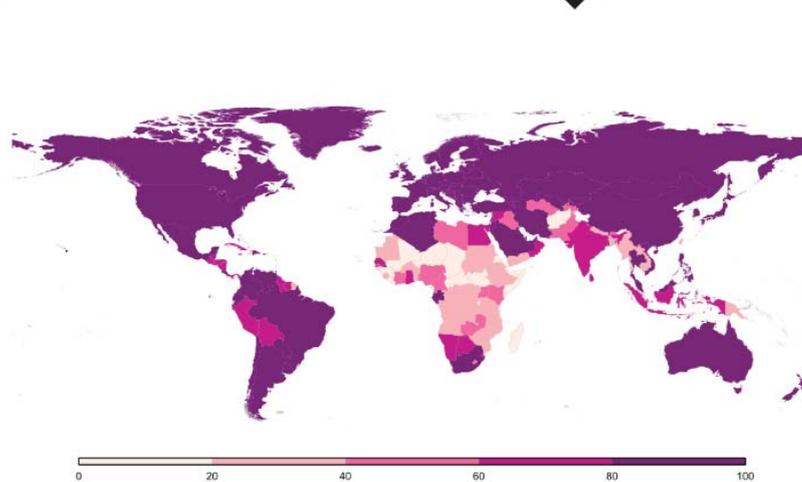


## Trends in e-skills and the e-skills environment

- The **International Telecommunication Union's (ITU's) ICT Facts and Figures 2017** has been released (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/facts/default.aspx>).

# 70% OF THE WORLD'S YOUTH ARE ONLINE

## Proportion of youth (15-24) using the Internet, 2017\*



Source: ITU.  
Note: \* Estimates.

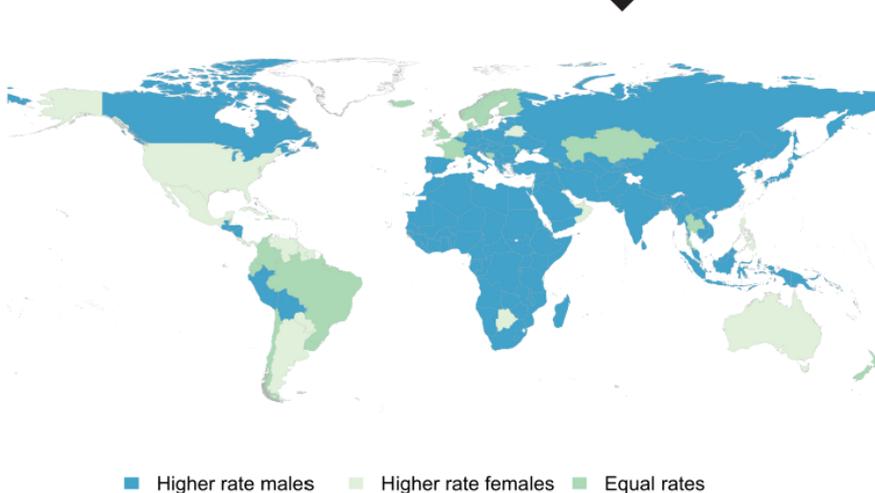
In 104 countries, more than 80% of the youth population are online.

In developed countries, 94% of young people aged 15-24 use the Internet compared with 67% in developing countries and only 30% in Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Out of the 830 million young people who are online, 320 million (39%) are in China and India.

Nearly 9 out of 10 young individuals not using the Internet live in Africa or Asia and the Pacific.

## Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by gender, 2017\*



Source: ITU.  
Note: \* Estimates. Proportions in this chart refer to the number of women/men using the Internet, as a percentage of the respective total female/male population.

The proportion of men using the Internet is higher than the proportion of women using the Internet in two-thirds of countries worldwide.

There is a strong link between gender parity in the enrollment ratio in tertiary education and gender parity in Internet use.

The only region where a higher percentage of women than men are using the Internet is the Americas, where countries also score highly on gender parity in tertiary education.

## 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**

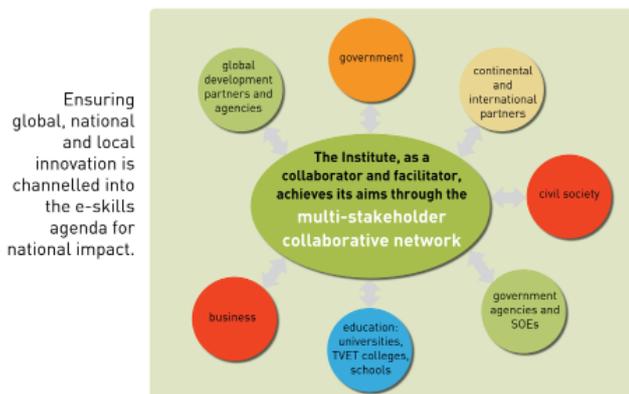
NEMISA is a globally-recognised collaborative model that allows stakeholders to sustainably meet South Africa's e-skilling objectives.

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](mailto: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**

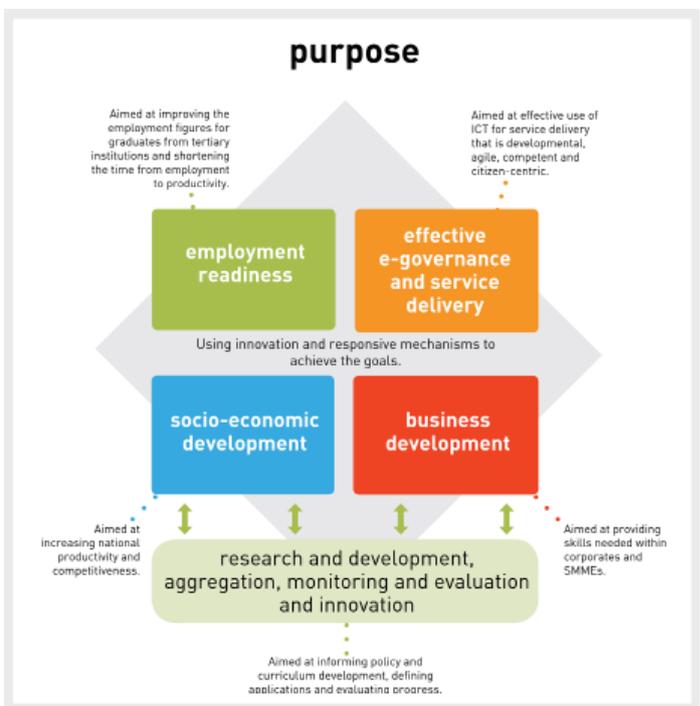
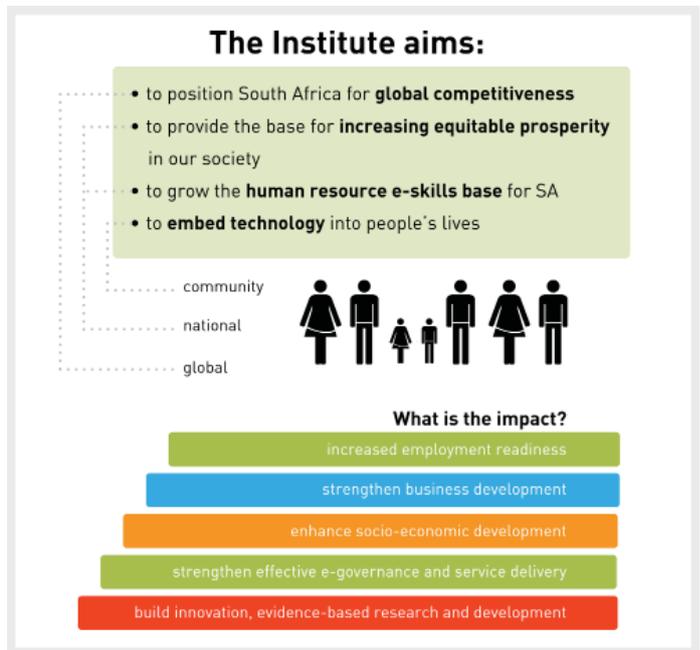
**Smart community knowledge production centre (smart centre):** These allow for interaction and coordination at a local community level. NEMISA's smart centre network is currently being developed across the country.

**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
<b>Pillar 1:</b> Unite around a common pillar to fight poverty and inequality
<b>Pillar 2:</b> Active citizenry
<b>Pillar 3:</b> Inclusive economy
<b>Pillar 4:</b> Build capabilities
<b>Pillar 5:</b> A capable developmental state
<b>Pillar 6:</b> 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"> <li>• Understanding people and situations</li> <li>• Building alignment and alliances</li> <li>• An acute understanding of strategic direction</li> <li>• Applying strategic behaviour</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• Social interactions</li> <li>• A level of awareness and understanding of diverse social situations</li> <li>• The various alternatives open to them for response</li> </ul> <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.