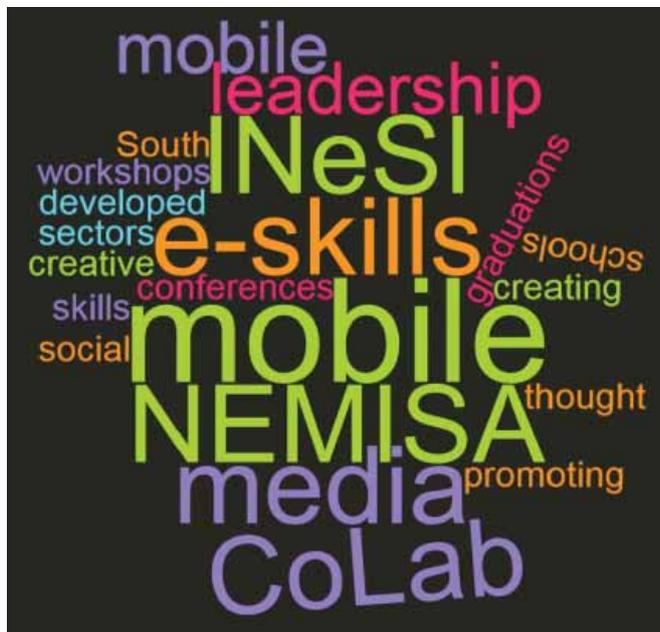


# Looking back on 2015 achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs



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## ICT and Agriculture: Realising the Development Dividend

Mini-conference – 18 February 2016

hosted by the ICT for Rural Development e-Skills CoLab, ECSECC, Walter Sisulu University Centre for Community Engagement and Internationalisation

Please reserve your place – there is only space for confirmed attendees. RSVP as soon as possible to [Ivdmerwe@wsu.ac.za](mailto:Ivdmerwe@wsu.ac.za).

**Who should attend?** Anyone with an interest in training, product development and research related to using technology for rural development, as well as those involved with agriculture.

### Share your views and inform provincial planning

After our successful launch seminar on 'ICT and Agriculture: Realising the Development Dividend' held in March 2015, it is time to take the process forward. The 2016 mini-conference will seek to explore local and regional practice more deeply.

**The 2016 mini-conference is about taking the conversation forward.** To grow the Eastern Cape agricultural sector, we need to grow value chains in high-value commodities, boost the agro-processing subsector, and improve research, planning, extension services and education. This means new partnerships and innovative approaches.

**The conference will highlight the pivotal role of ICT in these approaches.** This will be done through presenting concrete examples and engaging in panel discussions with existing practitioners, researchers and conference delegates.

### The core focus areas to be addressed

- To what extent can ICT help increase agricultural productivity through providing access to knowledge, information and technology?
- How can ICT be harnessed to bring rural women and youth into the agricultural sector?
- What is the potential contribution of ICT to capacitate small and emerging farmers?
- What ICT training is needed to bridge the digital divide in the agricultural sector and how can ICT be used to provide sector-related training?

Date	18 February 2016
Venue	East London Health Resource Centre, Cheltenham Rd, East London
Time	08h30 – 16h00

Speakers will include:

- Hon Prof Hlengiwe Mkhize, Deputy Minister, Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services
- Hon Mr Mlibo Qoboshiyane, MEC Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, Eastern Cape
- Dr Vuyo Mahlati, African Financial Group and National Planning Commission
- Mr Ayanda Madyibi, Provincial Chief Information Officer, Office of the Premier, Eastern Cape

**\*\* Book your place now \*\***



### The Fourth Industrial Revolution and employment

The Fourth Industrial Revolution involves machine learning, artificial intelligence and robotics, among other things, replacing routine-based work. It has extensive implications for developing countries, where the largest number of jobs will be at risk.

As discussed at the annual World Economic Forum (WEF) conference in Davos, Switzerland, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is upon us.

The annual WEF conference involves global leaders (in business, government and civil society) investigating current and future challenges and brainstorming solutions. The event took place from 20- 23 January 2016 under the theme 'Mastering the Fourth Industrial Revolution'.

### What is the Fourth Industrial Revolution?

Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of WEF, explains that we are "on the brink of a technological revolution that will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another" and that "the transformation will be unlike anything humankind has experienced before".

This comes from his article 'The Fourth Industrial Revolution: what it means, how to respond' ([www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/the-fourth-industrial-revolution-what-it-means-and-how-to-respond](http://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/01/the-fourth-industrial-revolution-what-it-means-and-how-to-respond)).

More and more people are connected by mobile devices. These have unprecedented processing power, storage capacity and allow access to knowledge.

Mr Schwab says to consider what happens when you multiply this "by emerging technology breakthroughs in fields such as artificial intelligence, robotics, the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicles, 3-D printing, nanotechnology, biotechnology, materials science, energy storage, and quantum computing."

This gives you an idea of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the changes it will bring.

### Why is the digital revolution considered the Fourth Industrial Revolution?

WEF's Executive Chairman sums it up as follows:

- The First Industrial Revolution used water and steam power to mechanise production.
- The Second used electric power to create mass production.
- The Third used electronics and information technology to automate production.
- Now a Fourth Industrial Revolution is building on the Third – the digital revolution – that started middle of last century. It is characterised by a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital and biological spheres.

### e-Skills are even more critical

Mr Schwab noted that "inequality represents the greatest societal concern associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution". In a world where the information society is becoming the norm for country growth, there is an increasing wealth gap between societies with intellectual capital and those that focus on labour.



### What is an information or knowledge society?

It describes a society based on creating, distributing and using information and knowledge. It is a society with an economy where the use of information and knowledge becomes one of the most significant economic and cultural activities.

In relation to technology, the "demand for highly skilled workers has increased while the demand for workers with less education and lower skills has decreased". e-Skilling and ensuring people follow lifelong learning becomes even more critical. 😊



NEMISA's head office will be moving to the following address at the end of March: South Building Waterview Corner, 2 Oppenheimer Ave, Bruma Lake Office Park, Bruma 2026.

## Contact NEMISA

The National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA) can be contacted at the following:

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- 21 Girton Road, Parktown, Johannesburg, 2193
- PO Box 545 Auckland Park, Johannesburg, 2006



## Synopsis

## Looking back on 2015 – achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

## NEMISA moving towards the Ikamva National e-Skills Institute (INeSI)

NEMISA began as a non-profit institution for teaching skills in TV, radio and broadcasting. With new priorities around the growth of digital technologies, NEMISA will need to adopt a new mandate.

NEMISA is in the process integrating with two other organisations: the e-Skills Institute (e-SI) and the Institute for Satellite and Software Applications (ISSA). It is becoming the Ikamva National e-Skills Institute (INeSI).

INeSI's name was formally launched on 21 February 2014. Its purpose is to develop e-skills (digital skills). This is so that South Africans can participate in society – where the influence of ICT is becoming more and more powerful. (ICT stands for information and communication technology.) To achieve this, INeSI will collaborate with stakeholders across government, business, education, civil society and within global development.

All stakeholders' efforts around e-skills need to be channelled into a combined approach that aligns with government's vision. INeSI brings an enabling framework for this:

- To coordinate, integrate and aggregate (combine) the many e-skills and e-readiness interventions that exist
- To identify gaps and overlaps and recommend collaborative solutions



**NEMISA's new CEO**  
 Dr Ndivhoniswani Aaron Tshidzumba was appointed as CEO in May 2015.

- To lead in developing impact assessments against National Development Plan goals
- To aggregate (combine) the development of South African e-skills capacity, from deep rural to urban areas, to build a more inclusive and innovative economy

### Digital skills are essential for South Africa's broadband policy

One of the four pillars of South Africa Connect (SA's broadband policy) is Digital Opportunity. It looks at opportunities that come out of broadband (fast always-on internet). It focuses on how to ensure people, organisations and businesses make use of the opportunities. Developing e-skills (digital skills) on every level is critical for this.

## The provincial e-skills CoLabs

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

- **Western Cape e-Skills CoLab:** e-Inclusion and Social Innovation, based at the University of the Western Cape
- **KwaZulu-Natal e-Skills CoLab:** e-Enablement for Effective Service Delivery, based at Durban University of Technology
- **Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab:** ICT for Rural Development, based at Walter Sisulu University
- **Gauteng e-Skills CoLab:** Creative New Media Industries, based at the National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA)
- **Limpopo CoLab:** Connected Health, based at the University of Limpopo
- **Southern Gauteng/Northern Cape CoLab:** e-Literacy and e-Business (knowledge economy and e-social astuteness), based at the Vaal University of Technology

There is a new CoLab based at North West University which focuses on e-Agro-tourism. Its coordinator is Dr Phil Mpho Chaka (PhD) CPRP.

## Conferences and thought leadership

- **'ICT and Agriculture: Realising the Development Dividend' mini-conference, 23 March 2015 in East London:** The focus was on discussing ways to use ICT and e-skills to increase performance in the EC agricultural sector. The Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab, the Walter Sisulu Centre for Community Engagement and ECSECC (Eastern Cape Socio Economic Consultative Council) jointly hosted the event for 60 delegates.
- **'The International Bilateral ICT Collaboration, Skills Transfer and Mentoring of Local SMMEs', 11-15 May 2015 in Durban:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab hosted the event at the Durban University of Technology (DUT). It involved the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Invo Tech, SmartXchange, KZN municipal managers, and SALGA.
- **Thought leadership seminar on 'Organisational agility in the face of digital disruption', 21 August 2015 in Cape Town:** Mr Brian Pinnock from Dimension Data presented to an audience of business and academics. It was hosted by the Western Cape e-Skills CoLab and the University of the Western Cape's Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

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### Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

- **DUT's Faculty of Arts and Design seminar, 16 October 2015 in Durban:** Dr Surendra (Colin) Thakur, Director of the KZN e-Skills CoLab, gave a talk on social innovation. Social innovation is about new ideas (such as products and services) that meet social needs ie they are for the good of society.
- **'Electoral democracy in Africa' colloquium, 29 October 2015 at UNISA in Gauteng:** Dr Thakur from the KZN e-Skills CoLab presented at the third annual colloquium of the WIPHOLD-Brigalia Bam Chair in Electoral Democracy in Africa. His topic was 'Digital Democracy: Is It on or off?'
- **Presenting on the e-skills agenda at the 11th Eastern Cape ICT Summit, 4-5 November 2015 in East London:** Ms Lorna van der Merwe, Coordinator at the Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab, and NEMISA CEO, Dr Tshidzumba, presented at a breakaway session titled 'Bringing Marginalised Communities into the Knowledge Economy'.
- **Thought leadership seminar on 'Why Africa business has to go mobile? Is mobility the key to Digital Transformation?', 13 November 2015 in Cape Town:** Mr Kristofer Kimbler from IBM MEA presented to an audience of business and academics. It was hosted by the Western Cape e-Skills CoLab and the University of the Western Cape's Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.
- **Moderating at the Aerotropolis Industrial Cluster Development and Investment Conference,**

*'ICT and Agriculture: Realising the Development Dividend' mini-conference*



*The 11th Eastern Cape ICT Summit*



**18 November 2015 in Ekurhuleni:** Dr Thakur from the KZN e-Skills CoLab moderated and participated in a breakaway session on ICT as a sector and its role in innovation and enterprise development.

- **e-Skills as part of DUT's Institutional Research Day, 26 November 2015 in Durban:** As part of the mini-conference opening speeches, Dr Thakur from the KZN e-Skills CoLab gave an address.

### Conference update

Dr Surendra Colin Thakur was the opening speaker at the Botswana 13th Fraud Prevention and Anti-corruption strategies and ethical conduct conference. The event was held from 11-13 November 2015 in Maun, Botswana. He spoke on 'Digital Democracy: Mediating Fraud, Ethics and Trust', as well as 'Online Netiquette and managing your digital footprint'.

### e-Skills training

#### Developing new media skills in the creative fields

Creative new media is seen as an important area for economic development in South Africa. There is the potential for entrepreneurship, creating new jobs and developing digital skills (skills around technology). This is especially important for tackling youth unemployment.

The creative industries include everything from craft, art and design to architecture, film and music. Creative new media means the new creative fields that have come about from technology.

- **Graphic Design Programme, June 2014 to June 2015 in KZN:** NEMISA and the KZN e-Skills CoLab partnered with the Moses Kotane Institute to create a

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#### Does everyone need e-skills?

When people think of digital skills (e-skills), they often think of high-level digital skills like programming. Digital skills play a much bigger role in terms of being employment ready with skills needed by the job market. Being able to use ICTs or digital technology has become a basic requirement in the job market.

An e-skill is more than knowing the basics of how to use a computer (computer literacy). It means being able to use technology to actually do something – to actively take part in the world and move ahead.

### Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

one-year programme for graphic design skills. There were 19 students enrolled with a 62% pass rate.

- **Radio Production Learnership Programme, February to November 2015 in KZN:** NEMISA partnered with MICT SETA and the National Community Radio Forum and the KZN e-Skills CoLab. This was to provide learnerships in radio production to 28 youth for the one-year MICT SETA qualification Certificate in Radio Production.
- **KZN Film Commission Skills Programme, from April to September 2015:** NEMISA ran the programme for 50 delegates. The initiative has various unit standards that can be used towards a formal qualification. The KZN Film Commission partnered with NEMISA and the KZN e-Skills CoLab.
- **Eastern Cape Skills programme in Film and TV Production, from 30 March to 24 July 2015:** NEMISA ran the skills programme for 50 learners. The skills programme is made up of unit standards that can be used towards a level 4 course in film and television production. Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC) sponsored and hosted the programme.
- **Gauteng Learnership in Film and Television Production Operations, from February 2015 to January 2016 in Johannesburg:** NEMISA ran a full learnership programme in Gauteng for 19 students. This is for the MICT SETA Skills Programme to gain the Further Education and Training (FET) Certificate: Film and Television Production Operations. The programme ran for 12 months and included internships at workplace providers. MICT SETA sponsored the programme.
- **Gauteng Television Recognition of Prior Learning workshop, from October to November 2015:** NEMISA ran the Gauteng Television Recognition of Prior Learning workshop. This was to upgrade certain Film and TV students to the FET Certificate in Film and Television Production Operations.
- **Eastern Cape Learnership 2016 in Film and Television Production Operations, from October 2015 to September 2016 in East London:** NEMISA is running the learnership programme for the FET Certificate in Film and Television Production Operations. There were 20 students. NEMISA partnered with Eastern Cape Information Technology Initiative (ECITI).

#### e-Literacy training for South Africa

NEMISA and the provincial CoLabs are preparing for a national e-literacy training rollout, with the Southern Gauteng/ Northern Cape e-Skills CoLab coordinating:

- **January to July 2015, in East London:** The Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab ran the pilot in partnership with the Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC). The result is that 18 facilitators have been trained.



#### What is e-literacy?

e-Literacy or digital literacy is the starting point for knowing how to use digital technology effectively. e-Literacy is more than knowing how to use a computer. It means being able to use technology in all areas of life and work.

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*KZN Graphic Design Programme*



*KZN Film Commission Skills Programme*



*Gauteng Learnership in Film and Television Production Operations,*



*Eastern Cape Learnership 2016 in Film and Television Production Operations*



Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

- **April to June 2015, in Limpopo:** The Limpopo e-Skills CoLab has been running e-literacy for health workers. Five courses were held and 230 healthcare workers have been trained.
- **August to December 2015, in Gauteng:** The Northern Cape/Southern Gauteng e-Skills CoLab conducted e-literacy training for 50 service workers at Vaal University of Technology. (VUT partnered in the project.) Beyond the standard e-literacy programme, there is a formal assessment. Learners who pass successfully will receive a VUT Short Learning Programme certificate.
- **Facilitator training and partnership development, from August to November 2015:** For a national rollout to be scalable, it is essential to have partnerships. Four facilitators were trained at the Nama eSkills Centre in Namaqualand. This was organised through the Southern Gauteng/ Northern Cape e-Skills CoLab.
- **Intel Easy Steps digital literacy programme, from June to July 2015 in Limpopo:** The Limpopo e-Skills CoLab partnered with VexoSpark to offer the Intel Easy Steps Programme to 184 young women. Further to that, 50 young women were trained at St Bede High School Laboratory, Limpopo.

**Social media training**

Social media is important for businesses and individuals as part of a successful communications strategy and developing a brand.

- **One-day social media boot camp, 25 February 2015 in East London:** It was organised by the Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab and done through the Makana Apps Factory, Rhodes University. This was in partnership with Eastern Cape Information Technology Initiative (ECITI). There were 22 delegates from SMMEs, local government and Walter Sisulu University journalism students.



**What is social media?**

Social media means the online communications channels that allow people to create communities, interact, collaborate and share content. These can be websites and internet/online applications.

- **One-day social media boot camp, 26 February 2015 in Grahamstown:** The same social media boot camp was run with students from the Rhodes University School of Journalism and Media Studies and community members from rural areas.
- **Netiquette seminar, 31 July 2015 in Durban:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab gave a seminar on Netiquette to third year and honours food nutritionist students at the Durban University of Technology.
- **Safe Internet for Parents, throughout 2015:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab has a seminar – Safe Internet for Parents – that it has been delivering on an ongoing basis.
- **Web 2.0 and Social Media at the GFIA Africa conference, from 1-2 December 2015 in Durban:** As part of the Global Forum for Innovations in Africa conference, there were Web 2.0 and Social Media Taster Sessions. These were organised by the KZN e-Skills CoLab, Durban University of Technology and international Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA).

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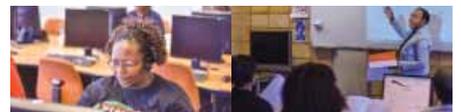
*Pilot e-literacy programme in East London*



*Pilot e-literacy programme in Limpopo*



*e-Literacy training for service workers at Vaal University of Technology*



*Facilitator training in Namaqualand*



*Intel Easy Steps digital literacy programme in Limpopo*



*Social media boot camp in East London*



*Netiquette seminar in Durban*



Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

## e-Skills training update **Eastern Cape CoLab runs social media workshops**

**What happened?** On the 30 November and 1 December 2015, two one-day social media workshops were hosted by the Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab. The CoLab is based at Walter Sisulu University (WSU). The initiative was facilitated by journalists Steve Kromberg and Michael Salzwedel who specialise in social media training and strategy.

**Who were the delegates?** There were 40 delegates from WSU: academics, staff from the Library and Information Systems division, and staff from the Centre for Learning and Teaching Development.

**Training focus?** Participants learned that, used wisely, social media can be a powerful tool for academics and librarians. Social media can be used to:

- Create holistic and multi-dimensional learning experiences for students
- Increase citations (citations are when an academic's work is referred to in another academic's work)
- Attract the media's attention to research
- Elicit and distribute conference invitations
- Find research funding

The facilitators also showed how to use specific platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter, and how to use free online tools.

**Participants' feedback:** Participants rated the course highly, with 100% saying they would recommend it to their colleagues. Participants also requested more training courses on social media.

### What did the delegates have to say?

- Relevant and useful for my career interactions with both colleagues and learners.
- Has much wider application than expected.
- I was not aware of all the useful aspects of the online tools.
- I had no idea how Twitter could be used for research...
- I am going to open up Facebook groups for my students. I will also use Google+ for my post grads.
- I want to use Google Forms before and after training sessions.
- Has opened my eyes.
- Very professionally done.



Participants in the social media workshops.

### e-Skills training across sectors

Digital skills (e-skills) are need as a part of everyday life, particularly in the workplace.

- **Leadership, Management and Development Programme, 17 March to 7 August 2015 in KZN:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab is part of a Leadership, Management and Development Programme, in partnership with the Durban University of Technology (DUT). The CoLab provides e-skills training on Web 2.0. The programme was given to 30 DUT Executive Management.
- **Teaching STEM to learners from rural areas, March to October 2015 in KZN:** STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and maths. The KZN e-Skills CoLab has an ongoing partnership with MMI Holdings Ltd to train grade 12 learners in Maths, English and Physical Science. In 2015, there are 31 grade 12 learners from iLembe. The KZN e-Skills CoLab uses this initiative to introduce technology to the learners.

### Mid-level training in e-skills (e-users)

Understanding and using technology will improve people's lives. ICT is part of every skill level, from a basic understanding of computers to using technology in the workplace to high-level programming.

- **Microsoft IT Training for DUT staff, during June and July 2015 in KZN:** Nine of DUT's administrative staff were trained on Microsoft Excel. Three drivers were trained on Google Mapping and Flight Tracking.

 to next page

### Leadership, Management and Development Programme



End User Computing course



### Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

The aim was to give staff a basic knowledge of how to use technology in the workplace. It was an initiative of the KZN e-Skills CoLab.

- **End User Computing, February 2015 to February 2016 in KZN:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab, in partnership with ETDP SETA (Education, Training and Development Sector Education and Training Authority), rolled out a one-year course in End User Computing to 100 learners. The participants are educators from the Department of Education, as well as disabled unemployed youth. The course gives learners a basic knowledge and understanding of computers, focusing on Microsoft packages.

### Higher level training in e-skills (e-practitioners)

There is a strong demand for high-level e-skills from business and industry. These e-practitioner skills are for people whose job it is to work with ICT, such as developing ICT solutions.

- **ETDP SETA National Certificate in Computer Science, 2014 to 2016 in KZN:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab developed a course for exploring the use of e-resources (computers and similar technologies) in schools. The course falls under the ICT Department in the Faculty of Accounting and Informatics at DUT. The two-year certificate training is being given to 50 educators.
- **Government training in public participation, August 2015 to August 2016 in KZN:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab runs a Higher Certificate in Public Administration (Public Participation) qualification. In 2015, the CoLab partnered with the Ethekwini Municipality to deliver the year-long course to various service departments. The qualification aligns middle management e-skills with a greater understanding about public participation. There are four groups, totalling 200 learners. The target audience is municipal employees, ward committee members and councillors.
- **e-Practitioner digital skills in software development, throughout the year in Cape Town:** The Post-Graduate Diploma in Information Technology (Software Development) programme is a yearly initiative and has been running since 2012. It is a partnership between CapaCiTi (the tech skills development placement division of the Cape Innovation and Technology Initiative), the Western Cape e-Skills CoLab and the Department of Information Systems at the University of the Western Cape. The aim is to re-skill unemployed or mis-employed graduates as software developers to be redeployed into the market. Sixteen graduates were chosen in 2015. Besides course work, there is also an internship at a software development company. The initiative yields an almost 100% success rate.
- **Accenture 'Skills to Succeed' for youth job creation, 11 May 2015 to January 2016 in KZN:** Accenture has partnered with the KZN e-Skills CoLab and DUT. The initiative focuses on advancing employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. The CoLab assisted with roll out for training 150 candidates in Java programming. Candidates are unemployed graduates seeking jobs in the IT industry.

### e-Skills training for schools

- **Introducing programming to school pupils, 13 to 17 July 2015:** the Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab participated in a pilot workshop to introduce programming to school pupils. This was in partnership with the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) Department of Computing

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*Government training in public participation*



*The Post-Graduate Diploma in Information Technology programme*



*Accenture 'Skills to Succeed' initiative*



### Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

Sciences, the NMMU Education Faculty and the Young Engineers and Scientists of Africa (YESA). The 16 pupils came from six high schools in Port Elizabeth. It was a five-day workshop and included a presentation on ICT-related careers. The aim is to stimulate interest and increase the pipeline of students who will study Computer Science (or equivalent) at tertiary level.

- **KZN learners introduced to computer science and coding, December 2015:** 10 schools received an introductory IT software course for grade 10 pupils. The course is called 'One Hour of Code' and was sponsored by the KZN e-Skills CoLab, the DUT IT department and Code. org.

### e-Skills developed through creating mobile apps

- **The Durban AgriHack Challenge, from 28 November to 3 December 2015:** This was a partnership between the international Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), DUT and the KZN e-Skills CoLab. This event promoted innovation and entrepreneurship in agriculture for youth with a keen interest in ICT. The aim was to create a mobile app or platform that addressed social innovation within agriculture.
- **MAD Challenge, April to August 2015 in Gauteng:** In partnership with the University of Pretoria, the Gauteng e-Skills CoLab ran the 2015 Mobile Application Development (MAD) Challenge. It introduced secondary school learners (grade 9 and 12) to mobile application development. 97 learners participated with 36 learners submitting 18 android apps.
- **2015 CodeJam, from 3 June to 9 October 2015:** The Western Cape e-Skills CoLab ran the 2015 CodeJam. The focus was on building skills in mobile app development, social innovation and developing local mobile apps for local needs.

### Graduations

- **18 July 2015 at the SABC, Johannesburg:** NEMISA graduation ceremony for 21 in TV Production, 17 in Broadcast Engineering, 23 in Graphic Design (in conjunction with Damelin), and 12 in 2D Animation.
- **24 July 2015, East London:** Certificates for 17 e-literacy facilitators who completed training.

### e-Skills training graduation update

**What happened?** On 10 December 2015 at a ceremony in East London, certificates were awarded to the 92 learners who successfully completed the pilot e-literacy course. The course was rolled out by the Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab in collaboration with ECDC (Eastern Cape Development Corporation).

**Who were the learners?** They came from a cross-section of sources, including:

- NGOs
- Buffalo City Metro SMME database
- the local Department of Labour database

Officials who were part of the proceedings:

- Dr Siswana, Dean of the Faculty of Science Engineering and

 to next page

*Introducing programming to school pupils*



*The Durban AgriHack Challenge*



### What is a mobile app?

A mobile application (mobile app) is a computer programme that runs on mobile devices such as smartphones and tablet computers.

*Johannesburg creative new media graduation ceremony*



### Eastern Cape e-literacy graduation

*Eastern Cape e-literacy graduation*



### Article continued: Achievements by NEMISA and its CoLabs

- Technology at Walter Sisulu University, opened the event.
- Mr Mzolisi Payi, Director of the Centre for Community Engagement and Internationalisation at Walter Sisulu University, assisted with the awarding of the certificates.
- Ms Siphokazi Mgudlwa, project manager from ECDC, closed the proceedings.

**Message from the CoLab Coordinator:** Lorna van der Merwe spoke of the aims and objectives of the e-skills project nationally. She also congratulated the course facilitators from the TVET sector who had completed their training before the public course began. "It was very exciting to see the high number of female graduates, as well as the number of older learners who graduated," says Ms van der Merwe.

**Graduate comments:** One of the older graduates, former teacher and principal Mr M Ntonga, thanked NEMISA and ECDC for "giving hope to the hopeless, skills to the unskilled and maybe jobs to the jobless". He praised the graduates for overcoming many obstacles to complete the course and urged them to treat the certificate as the first of many more to come. He used himself as an example that

*Eastern Cape e-literacy graduation ceremony*



one is never too old to learn new things and expressed his gratitude for having this opportunity.

**Future plans?** The CoLab hopes to replicate the implementation model for skills delivery throughout the province, especially in rural areas. This includes partner collaboration and community involvement.

### Promoting e-skills around the country

Last year NEMISA was involved in the following events to promote digital skills (e-skills) and the work done by NEMISA and its CoLabs:

- National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) Rural Expo, 26 to 27 March 2015 in Mthatha:** NEMISA and its Eastern Cape e-Skills CoLab took part in the exhibition and the CoLab presented on what e-skills can do for people. The focus was on career guidance for rural school children. Hundreds of youth were in attendance.
- The 4th Government CIO Summit, 30 March to 1 April 2015 in Gauteng:** The event is aimed at government IT officers. NEMISA exhibited and attended the proceedings.
- DTPS, Department of Trade and Industry and Department of Monitoring and Evaluation in the Presidency Youth Day celebration, 13 June 2015 in Nkandla, KZN:** NEMISA and its KZN e-Skills CoLab took part in the exhibition, promoting e-skills courses.



- DTPS Youth Month Commemoration event, 26 June 2015 in Harding, KZN:** The KZN e-Skills CoLab spoke on internet awareness. NEMISA and its KZN e-Skills CoLab were part of the exhibition promoting e-skills courses. The audience included grade 12 learners and community members.
- The 8th annual Skills Development Summit, 4-5 August 2015 in Gauteng:** NEMISA and the KZN CoLab, the Western Cape CoLab, the Eastern Cape CoLab and the Northern Cape/Southern Gauteng CoLab took part in the expo. Dr Surendra (Colin) Thakur, from the KZN CoLab, presented at a breakaway session.
- National Women's Day event, 9 August 2015 in Sasolburg, Free State:** NEMISA was part of the exhibition and showcased some of its e-skills interventions.
- 'Women in ICT' workshop, 30 August 2015 in the Vhembe District, Limpopo:** NEMISA took part in the exhibition. The audience included women and young women, employed and unemployed, as well as those still in school.
- DTPS Heritage Month event, 15 September 2015 in Sebokeng:** NEMISA supported the DTPS Deputy Minister with branding and attendance.
- Youth ICT Career Exhibition 13-14 November in the Jozini Local Municipality, KZN:** NEMISA took part in the exhibition.
- Radio:** Dr Thakur, Director of the KZN e-Skills CoLab, has given numerous radio interviews throughout the year. He has predominantly focused on electronic voting. 😊