

# eSkills Summit 2010 Final Programme

Cape Town, South Africa

26 - 28 July 2010

Hosted by



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Communications  
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# Introduction

Hosted by the Government of South Africa through the Department of Communications and the e-Skills Institute, the **Inaugural South African eSkills Summit 2010** will take place in the Cape Sun Hotel, Cape Town, 26 - 28 July 2010.

The South African Government recognises that e-Skills are fundamental to addressing societal challenges and better positioning itself within the Information Society & Knowledge Economy. At the recommendation of the Presidential International Advisory Council for the Information Society & Development (ISAD), the Department of Communications (DoC) established the Meraka e-Skills Institute as part of a four pronged approach to harness ICT to address the major socio-economic challenges South Africa faces, particularly in relation to Skilling Rural Communities, SMMEs and Youth. The objectives of the e-Skills Institute are aligned with the Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) 2009 - 2014, the Information Society and Development (ISAD) Plan developed by the Presidential National Commission on ISAD and the Industrial Policy Action Plan (2010/11 – 2012/13).

Within this context the e-Skills Institute, operating under the mandate of the DoC engaged The Information Society Institute (TISI), in cooperation with IIMC International Information Management Corporation Ltd, to organise the **Inaugural South African eSkills Summit 2010**.

**eSkills Summit 2010** provides a collaborative platform to facilitate engagement between senior representatives of National, Provincial and Local Government, Business, Education, Civil Society/Labour to:

- Raise national awareness of current practices and future requirements for e-Skills in South Africa
- Identify solutions to gaps in current institutional and programmatic structures concerning e-Skills development in South Africa and provide a framework for all African stakeholders to benefit from this knowledge sharing
- Develop a Collaborative Framework for a draft National e-Skills Plan of Action (NeSPA) for South Africa

## Focus and Stakeholders

**eSkills Summit 2010** will act as a focal point to establish a commonly owned vision of how to provide South Africa with the necessary skills to thrive as a member of the global Knowledge Economy, and contribute to achieving the goals of the South African Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), the Millennium Development Goals and WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) Plan of Action.

**eSkills Summit 2010** Key Stakeholders at a National, Regional and International level include: Government Organisations involved in eSkills Development; eSkills Policy Makers; Corporations and SMEs committed to e-Skills Development; Higher Education Institutions, Open & Distance Learning Institutions, Technical and Traditional Educational Providers; Researchers, Civil Society/Labour and NGOs focused on leveraging and evaluating eSkills.

## The Venue

**eSkills Summit 2010** takes place in the Cape Sun Hotel, Strand Street, Cape Town. Tel: +27-(0)21 488 5100

## The Programme

The **eSkills Summit 2010** will be formally opened by Hon. Dina Pule, Deputy Minister, Department of Communications, South Africa.

The **eSkills Summit 2010** Programme will focus around three key pillars identified as priorities for the e-Skills Institute:

- Definition of e-Skills: Conceptual Clarifications

- e-Skills Development Research & Evaluation

- South African MTSF Implementation for e-Skills Development

The **eSkills Summit 2010** Programme consists of Plenary Panel Sessions featuring senior representatives from Government, Business, Education & Civil Society/Labour, Scientific Papers, Case Studies, Technology Snippets and Workshop Sessions, and facilitated Working Groups contributing to the initial draft National e-Skills Plan of Action.

The Summit Programme is subject to change, and the **eSkills Summit 2010** Organising Committee reserves the right to alter the contents, venue and/or speakers. Please view the final Online Programme for the most up-to-date information.

## Community Building

Community Building and Networking are key features of the **eSkills Summit** Conference Series. Working Group sessions are designed to maximise knowledge sharing, consensus building and content creation by providing time for interactive discussions during the Summit Programme itself. Coffee and Lunch Breaks will facilitate informal one-on-one and small group discussions following Plenary Panels, Workshops or Working Group sessions.

The Delegate Showcase on the Summit Portal allows registered Participants, Panellists and Presenters to publish their own short profile and eSkills related interests to facilitate networking before, during and after the conference. Leverage this functionality to contact potential collaborators.

## Research Colloquium

The **eSkills Summit 2010** commences with the **Inaugural e-Skills ResNes Research Colloquium** on Monday morning. The ResNes Research Colloquium will be opened by Ms Mamodupi Mohlala, Director-General, Department of Communications (DoC) and Prof. Phinda Songca, Executive Dean, Walter Sisulu University, and Chair of the ResNes Working Group. The Research Colloquium will showcase research results from both academia and business. All Summit participants are invited to attend these parallel sessions on Monday morning, which will provide a useful context for the rest of the **eSkills Summit**.

## Path to the Summit

During the Path to the Summit, a number of Pre-Summit Forums and National Seminars were organised, with participation invited from all key Stakeholder Groups. Some events were organised in major urban centres, others in remote rural locations. The goal was to ensure a representative sample of all Key Stakeholder Groups were offered the opportunity to (a) Contribute to a comprehensive understanding of current e-Skills related activities taking place across South Africa, and (b) Identify potential gaps in solutions currently available at a national, provincial and local level, and how these must be addressed.

This was complemented by the establishment of three Pre-Summit Working Groups focused on (1) Learnerships, (2) Connected Education and (3) Successful ICT for Service Delivery, which reported on the current situation and identified gaps. They also provided recommendations for current and potential projects to be showcased during the Summit to bring issues and challenges to life and provide inspiration.

## Preparation for the Summit

The goal of the **eSkills Summit** is to facilitate engagement between senior representatives of National, Provincial and Local Government, Business, Education & Civil Society/Labour so as to agree a commonly owned approach to **e-Skilling the Nation**.

The Vision is to advance the Quality of Life of Our People through the use of ICTs & delivery of certified, quality assured & internationally benchmarked e-Skills Training, to support sustainable socio-economic growth and development, enhance the productivity of Government, Business, Education & Society in general, and enable sustainable employment opportunities for students, youth and the rural & urban disadvantaged in the emerging South African Information Society & global Knowledge Economy.

Our goal is to deliver an integrated framework supporting access to Foundation e-Skills training by all Our People as a Human/Legal Right by December 2014, to enable South Africa to compete and thrive in the global Knowledge Economy.

All registered Participants will receive a copy of the proposed draft framework that incorporates contributions from senior representatives of all Key

Stakeholder prior to the **eSkills Summit 2010**.

All **eSkills Summit** Participants are requested to carefully review the first integrated draft and populate their Profile in the Delegate Showcase in advance, and suggest talking points and specific sectors to be addressed during the Summit, particularly during the highly interactive Working Group Sessions.

Based on input received in advance, questions for Plenary Panellists and specific issues to be addressed by Summit Working Groups will be identified.

Facilitators and Rapporteurs will be assigned to each Working Group, and will be responsible for reporting the outputs of their groups back to the entire Summit.

## Hotel Accommodation

Special hotel room rates have been negotiated for delegates at Cape Sun Hotel, the Summit Venue.

Delegates can request the Booking Form from the Conference Secretariat. Completed Booking Forms should be returned directly to the Cape Sun Hotel.

## Security, Health and Safety

Please wear your name badge for all activities during **eSkills Summit 2010**, as it is your identification and allows access to the facilities offered. While the Summit sessions are restricted to registered participants, it is still necessary to take care of bags, personal computers and other personal belongings.

The Organising Committee cannot accept responsibility for any losses incurred or personal health and safety. Delegates should ensure they have personal health insurance and take due care when exploring Cape Town.

Any special needs or requirements should be notified to the Conference Secretariat in advance.

## Organisers

- **Miriam Cunningham**, IIMC Ltd, Ireland
- **Paul Cunningham**, IIMC Ltd, Ireland
- **Prof. Wallace Taylor**, The Information Society Institute (TiSi), South Africa
- **Mymoena Sharif**, The Information Society Institute (TiSi), South Africa



## Conference Secretariat

IIMC Ltd  
13 Docklands Innovation Park, 128 East Wall Road,  
Dublin 3, Ireland  
Tel: +353 (0) 1 8170607, Fax: +353 (0) 1 8170606  
e-mail: [secretariat@eSkills-Summit.org](mailto:secretariat@eSkills-Summit.org)

## Conference Portal & Delegate Showcase

[www.eSkills-Summit.org/2010](http://www.eSkills-Summit.org/2010)

## Plenary Session Speakers



Hon. Dina Pule  
Deputy Minister of  
Communications, South Africa



Dr Harold Wesso  
e-Skills Institute  
South Africa



Esam Abulkhirat  
African Union Commission



David Barnard  
SANGONeT  
South Africa



Effat El Shooky  
Ministry of Communications and  
Information Technology, Egypt



Jennie Glennie  
SAIDE  
South Africa



Boni Gantile  
Telkom SA Centre for Learning  
South Africa



Prof Alwyn Louw  
Vaal University of Technology,  
South Africa



Prof Merlyn Mehl  
Triple L Academy  
South Africa



Massimo Migliuolo  
CISCO



Mark Nolan  
EIDOS  
Australia



Prof Fredrick Otieno  
Durban University of Technology  
South Africa



Ramon Peñagaricano  
IT4ALL  
Spain



Prof Phinda Songca  
Walter Sisulu University  
South Africa



Prof. Rex van Olst  
University of Witwatersrand  
South Africa



Jenny van Niekerk  
ICDL  
South Africa



Deon van der Merwe  
UNISA  
South Africa

Plenary Speakers confirmed as at 26 July include:

- **Hon. Dina Pule**, Deputy Minister, Department of Communications
- **Dr Harold Wesso**, Acting CEO, e-Skills Institute
- **Luci Abrahams**, Director, LINK Centre, University of Witwatersrand
- **Esam M. Abulkhirat**, Department of Human Resources Science & Technology, African Union Commission
- **David Barnard**, CEO, SANGONeT
- **Peter Benjamin**, Director, Cell-Life
- **Prof Ramesh Bharuthram**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, University of the Western Cape
- **Dr Cheungmun Cho**, National Information Society Agency, Korea
- **Prof Robin Crewe**, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Pretoria
- **Effat El Shooky**, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt
- **Boni Gantile**, Executive, Learning and Development, Telkom SA Centre for Learning
- **Jennie Glennie**, Director, SAIDE & Board of Governors, Commonwealth of Learning
- **Prof Alwyn Louw**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Research, Vaal University of Technology
- **Prof Merlyn Mehl**, Executive Chairperson, Triple L Academy
- **Massimo Migliuolo**, Vice President, Emerging Markets, CISCO
- **Mansoor Mohamed**, Executive Director, Economic, Social Development & Tourism, City of Cape Town
- **Joe Mjwara**, Group Executive Strategic Relations, Business Connexion
- **Prof Bruce Muirhead**, Eidos Institute Ltd, Australia
- **Nqaba Nqandela**, Chief of Staff, Department of Higher Education and Training
- **Bhabhali Ka Maphikela (Babsy) Nhlapo**, National Skills Development Policy Coordinator, COSATU
- **Phumelele Nzimande**, Chief People Officer, SABC
- **Mark Nolan**, Chair, Eidos Institute Ltd, Australia
- **Prof Fredrick Otieno**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Technology, Innovation and Partnerships, Durban University of Technology
- **Ramon Peñagaricano**, Secretary General, IT4ALL Network, Spain
- **Adama Samassekou**, Président du CIPSH, Mali
- **Prof. Phinda Songca**, Executive Dean, Walter Sisulu University & Chair of ResNes Working Group
- **Deon van der Merwe**, Acting Executive Director ICT, UNISA
- **Prof Rex van Olst**, School of Electrical & Information Engineering, University of Witwatersrand
- **Jenny van Niekerk**, CEO, ICDL South Africa
- **Raul Zambrano**, Chief ICT Advisor, UNDP

## International Programme Committee

The **eSkills Summit 2010** International Programme Committee includes

- **Udo Averweg**, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
- **David Barnard**, SangoNet, South Africa
- **Prof Wallace Chigona**, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- **Prof Yong Bum Cho**, Konkuk University, Korea
- **Dr Susan Crichton**, University of Calgary, Canada
- **Prof Johannes Cronje**, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa
- **Miriam Cunningham**, IIMC Ltd, Ireland
- **Paul Cunningham**, IIMC Ltd, Ireland
- **Dr John Dada**, Fatsuam, Nigeria
- **Dr Tatiana Ershova**, Institute for the Information Society, Russia
- **Prof Greg Hearn**, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
- **Prof Marlien Hersleman**, CSIR, South Africa
- **Prof Derek Keats**, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- **Prof Hyun Joo Kim**, Myunggi College, Korea
- **Prof Nara Kulathuramaiyer**, IST Faculty UNIMAS, Malaysia
- **Dr Zoran Mitrovic**, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

- **Prof Bruce Muirhead**, Eidos Institute, Australia
- **Prof Nips Nepal**, Durban University of Technology, South Africa
- **Prof Shaun Pather**, CPUT, South Africa
- **Dr Klaus Stoll**, Chasquinet, Ecuador
- **Prof Wallace Taylor**, The Information Society Institute (TiSi), SA
- **Prof Darelle Van Gruenen**, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa
- **Dr Andy Williamson**, The Hansard Society, United Kingdom

## Steering Committee

The **eSkills Summit 2010** Steering Committee includes

- **Miriam Cunningham**, IIMC Ltd, Ireland
- **Paul Cunningham**, IIMC Ltd, Ireland
- **Prof Wallace Taylor**, The Information Society Institute (TiSi), South Africa
- **Dr Harold Wesso**, eSkills Institute, Department of Communications, South Africa
- **Mymoena Sharif**, The Information Society Institute (TiSi), South Africa
- **Prof Marcus Balintulo**, Walter Sisulu University, South Africa
- **Prof Robin Crewe**, University of Pretoria, South Africa
- **Prof Ramesh Bharuthram**, University of Western Cape, South Africa
- **Prof. Roy du Pre**, SATN, South Africa



# Monday, July 26, 2010

## 08:00 Registration

09:00 Plenary Session 1a: Research Colloquium Keynote Address

### Keynote Address

Dr Harold Wesso, Acting Director-General, Department of Communications

Prof. Phinda Songca, Executive Dean, Walter Sisulu University & Chair of ResNes Working Group

Prof. Bruce Muirhead, Eidos Institute Ltd, Australia

Adama Samassekou, Président du CIPSH, Mali

09:45 Session 2a: [Research Colloquium – Track A Paper Session 1](#)

Chair: [Prof. Wallace Chigona, University of Cape Town, South Africa](#)

**Computer Literacy: Insufficient for Digital Age Literacy Learners**  
Ronald Beyers, Young Engineers and Scientists of Africa, South Africa

**Applying Living Lab Methodology to enhance Skills in Innovation**  
Marlien Herselman, Meraka Institute, South Africa

**The Problems Experienced within the e-Skills Value Chain in South Africa**

Andre Calitz, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa

**EDUEGYPT: The Egyptian National Initiative for Human Capital Development**

Heba Saleh, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, Egypt

**The Seven Competencies for Highly Effective Entity Resource Planning (ERP) Professionals**

Brenda Scholtz, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa

09:45 Session 2b: [Research Colloquium – Track B Paper Session 1](#)

Chair: [Prof. Theo Andrew, Durban University of Technology, South Africa](#)

**A Study on the State of ICT at Higher Education Institutions**  
Edward Mbili & Ashraf Patel, SAFIPA-Meraka, South Africa

**e-Skills: Beyond the Haves and Have-nots**

Marco Pretorius, UNISA, South Africa

**Enhancing Social Cohesion through e-Literacy**

Zoran Mitrovic, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

**Positioning e-Skills within an Organisation: Policy Making Implications**

Zoran Mitrovic, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

## 11:15 Coffee Break & Networking

11:30 Session 3a: [Research Colloquium – Track A Paper Session 2](#)

Chair: [Cecille Marsh, Walter Sisulu University, South Africa](#)

**Redefining Success – The “C” Skills for Learning, Work and Life in Our Times**

Jane Richardson, Oracle Education Foundation, United Kingdom

**E-Learning Change Management and Communication Strategies within a HEI in a Developing Country: Institutional Organisational Cultural Change at the University of the Western Cape**

Okasute Akwega Kasuto, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

**Empowerment Through eSkills: Findings from a Project in Remote Aboriginal Communities Transferable to South Africa**

Marguerite Maher, Charles Darwin University, Australia

**Rolling-out Podcasting to the Masses: A Case Study of the University of the Western Cape**

Yoliswa Khumalo & Carolynne Kies, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

**E-Skills for Life-long Learning: Case study of Harare Polytechnic**  
Collence Takingenhamo Chisita, Harare Polytechnic, Zimbabwe

11:30 Session 3b: [Research Colloquium – Track B Paper Session 2](#)

Chair: [Prof Derek Keats, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa](#)

**Identifying the Building Blocks for FOSS Capacity Development**  
Paul Mungai & Abdul Fakier, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

**eLearning at a Higher Education Institution: Exponential Growth and Pain**

Tasneem Taliep & Norina Braaf, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

**E-Education and Information Society Development in the Northern Cape Province**

Alphonzo Viss, Northern Cape Province, South Africa

**The Impact of IT at Schools on E-Skills Development**

Melisa Koorse, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa

**Integrating ICTs into the Classroom: Assisting Teachers in Disadvantaged Primary Schools**

Andy Bytheway, CPUT, South Africa

## 13:00 Lunch & Networking

14:00 eSkills Summit Panel Session 4a: [Definition of e-Skills: Conceptual Clarifications](#)

Moderator: [Andrew Bartlett, Department of Higher Education and Training](#)

### Panelists include:

Nqaba Nqandela, Chief of Staff, Department of Higher Education and Training

David Barnard, CEO, SANGONeT

Dr Cheungmun Cho, National Information Society Agency, Korea

Ms Effat El Shooky, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Egypt

Joe Mjwara, Group Executive Strategic Relations, Business Connexion

Mansoor Mohamed, Executive Director, Economic, Social Development & Tourism, City of Cape Town

Jenny van Niekerk, CEO, ICDL South Africa

## 15:30 Coffee Break & Networking

15:45 Working Group 5a: [Definition of e-Skills: Conceptual Clarifications](#)

The participants will be divided into parallel Working Groups, each with a facilitator and rapporteur. Each Working Group will discuss issues related to the definition of eSkills and these contributions will be used to validate and further refine draft National eSkills Plan of Action.

17:15 Workshop 6a: [Stakeholder Case Studies](#)

Chair: [Nozopho Mashiyi, Presidential National Commission on Information Society](#)

**Lessons Learnt from Oracle Graduate Programme**

Sonja Balt, Oracle Corporation, South Africa

**Bridges to the Future Initiative South Africa**

Masennyha Phineas Dikotla, Molteno Institute for Language & Literacy, South Africa

**e-Rural Access Programme**

Refilwe Tshabalala, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, South Africa

**Major eSkills Projects in Korea**

Hyun Joo Kim, Myunggi College, Korea

**Developing ICT Human Capital - Successful Public-Private/Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships**

Mohamed Alfie Hamid, Cisco Systems, South Africa

**ICT Internship Model to Address Unemployment of Graduates**

Charlene Verzmoter, Microsoft, South Africa

**Entering Youth into ICT Careers - A Private Public Partnership that Works**

Wikus Van Der Merwe, Telkom, South Africa

**Cape Access Strategy**

Hilton Arendse, Department of the Premier, Provincial Government of the Western Cape

**The Importance of eSkills for Economic Promotion**

Thembinkosi Siganda, City of Cape Town, South Africa

**A Multi-stakeholder Partnership Model for eSkills at a Local and Provincial Level**

Nirvesh Sooful, IT4ALL, South Africa

19:00 Networking Reception - Launch of ResNes - Dr Harold Wesso



Tuesday,  
July 27, 2010

09:00 Plenary Session 7a: [Policy Perspectives for e-Skills](#)

**Welcome Address**

Dr Harold Wesso, Acting CEO, e-Skills Institute

**Keynote Address**

Hon. Dina Pule, Deputy Minister, Department of Communications

**AUC Perspective on eSkills**

Esam M. Abulkhirat, Senior ICT Policy Officer, Department of Human Resources Science & Technology, African Union Commission

**Technology to Enable 21st Century Education and to Create a Learning Society**

Massimo Migliuolo, Vice President, Emerging Markets, CISCO

**Connecting Business, Government, Education and Civil Society for Outcome Impact**

Mark Nolan, Chair, Eidos Institute Ltd, Australia

**10:15 Coffee Break & Networking**

10:45 Panel Session 8a: [eSkills Development Research & Evaluation](#)

Moderator: [Prof Ramesh Bharuthram, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, University of the Western Cape](#)

**Panellists include:**

Luci Abrahams, Director, LINK Centre, University of Witwatersrand

Prof Robin Crewe, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Pretoria

Boni Gantile, Executive, Learning and Development, Telkom SA Centre for Learning

Phumelele Nzimande, Chief People Officer, SABC

Mark Nolan, Chair, Eidos Institute Ltd, Australia

Prof Fredrick Otieno, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Technology, Innovation and Partnerships, Durban University of Technology

Deon van der Merwe, Acting Executive Director ICT, UNISA

Prof Rex van Olst, School of Electrical & Information Engineering, University of Witwatersrand

Raul Zambrano, Chief ICT Advisor, UNDP

**12:30 Lunch & Networking**

13:30 Working Group 9a: [eSkills Development Research & Evaluation](#)

The participants will be divided into parallel Working Groups, each with a facilitator and rapporteur. Each Working Group will discuss issues related to eSkills Development Research & Evaluation and these contributions will be used to validate and further refine draft National eSkills Plan of Action.

15:00 Plenary Session 10a: [Outputs from Working Groups on Definition of e-Skills](#)

Moderator: [Nozipho Mashiyi, Presidential National Commission](#)

The main outputs from the Working Groups on the Definition of eSkills will be presented to the Summit participants for discussion.

**16:00 Coffee Break & Networking**

16:30 Workshop 11a: [Cisco & UWC Workshop – An Integrated Approach to Skills Development](#)

Chairs: [Adrian Godfrey, CISCO, United Kingdom & Juliet Stoltenkamp, University of the Western Cape, South Africa](#)

This workshop will examine the importance of cross sector collaboration in developing an implementable framework for skills development that incorporates eSkills development.

The workshop also features 'Hands on' demonstration sessions that will focus on Innovation and Technology for teaching and learning, eSkills development and community based learning..

16:30 Workshop 11b: [Skills Surveys in the ICT Sector](#)

Chair: [Adrian Schofield, Joburg Centre for Software Engineering, South Africa](#)

**Skills Surveys in the ICT Sector**

Adrian Schofield, Joburg Centre for Software Engineering, South Africa

**Panellists include:**

Prof Barry Dwolatzky, Director, Joburg Centre for Software Engineering

Neville Nicholas, SSP Manager, ISETT SETA

Dr Harold Wesso, Acting CEO, eSkills Institute



Wednesday,  
July 28, 2010

DAY

09:00 Plenary Session 12a: [SA Medium Term Strategic Framework \(MTSF\) Implementation for eSkills Development](#)

Moderator: [Prof Alwyn Louw, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Research, Vaal University of Technology](#)

**Panellists include:**

Peter Benjamin, Director, Cell-Life

Jennie Glennie, Director, SAIDE & Board of Governors, Commonwealth of Learning

Prof Merlyn Mehl, Executive Chairperson, Triple L Academy

Massimo Migliuolo, Vice President, Emerging Markets, CISCO

Bhabhali Ka Maphikela Nhlapo, National Skills Development Policy Coordinator, COSATU

Ramon Peñagaricano, Secretary General, IT4ALL Network, Spain

**10:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

11:00 Working Group 13a: [SA Medium Term Strategic Framework \(MTSF\) Implementation for eSkills Development](#)

The participants will be divided into parallel Working Groups, each with a facilitator and rapporteur. Each Working Group will discuss issues related to MTSF Implementation for eSkills Development and these contributions will be used to validate and further refine draft National eSkills Plan of Action.

**12:30 Lunch & Networking**

13:30 Plenary Session 14a: [Outputs from Working Groups on eSkills Development Research & Evaluation](#)

Chair: [Nozipho Mashiyi, Presidential National Commission](#)

The main outputs from the Working Groups on eSkills Development, Research & Evaluation will be presented to the Summit participants for discussion.

14:30 Panel Session 15a: [Outputs from SA MTSF Implementation for e-Skills Development Working Groups](#)

Chair: [Prof Alwyn Louw, Vaal University of Technology](#)

The main outputs from the Working Groups on Medium Term Strategic Framework Implementation for eSkills Development will be presented to the Summit participants for discussion.

**15:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

16:00 Plenary Session 16a: [Framework for a Draft National eSkills Plan of Action](#)

Dr Harold Wesso, Acting CEO, eSkills Institute

Mameetse Mphahlele, Presidential National Commission

**Programme as at 26 July 2010. Please check Online Programme for latest information**

## Post-Summit Field Trip (29 - 30 July)

Limited places are available for a field trip (Gugulethu, Genadendal, Struisbaai e-Community centres) with accommodation & transport kindly hosted by Department of the Premier, Provincial Government of the Western Cape. Please contact [secretariat@eSkills-Summit.org](mailto:secretariat@eSkills-Summit.org) to be considered for a place.

## eSkills in the Context of the MTSF

It is necessary to consider e-Skills within the Strategic Framework that underpins the Medium Term Legislative Priorities (and funding priorities) of the South African Government.

In the Introduction [Section 8] of the **2009 – 2014 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF)**, it is noted that *“Critically, account has to be taken of the strategic focus of the framework as a whole: this relates in particular to the understanding that economic growth and development, including the creation of decent work on a large scale and investment in quality education and skills development, are at the centre of the government’s approach.”*

While the e-Skills Institute (eSI) has identified target response areas within the MTSF priorities, it is worth noting how pervasively embedded e-Skills is in MTSF.

One of the key objectives [Section 10] of the MTSF that relates to e-Skills is to *“Improve the nation’s health profile and skills base and ensure universal access to basic services”*. This must be considered in the context of the MTSF’s acknowledgement [Section 13] of national *“structural ills such as massive unemployment among the youth and unskilled workers”*, the proposition under the Scenario Planning Process [Section 14.2] of *“Nkalakatha which depicts a more cohesive society as a result of government articulating a compelling national vision and fostering partnerships, while playing a more central role in the economy, prioritising poverty reduction and skills enhancement”* and the likely negative impact on both GDP growth and borrowing capacity caused by the current global economic crisis.

The more closely aligned eSkills is with the MTSF’s objectives (which guide the government’s programme of activities in the 2009 - 2014 Electoral Mandate Period), the more likely that e-Skills will secure the investment of scarce human resources and financial capital required.

The MTSF suggests that government funding alone is not sufficient in light of the enormous social and economic challenges faced by South Africa, asking - and answering the key question [Section 13] *“Is there a possibility for a big push based on broad national consensus and focused on a few catalytic national initiatives, propelling the totality of national endeavours towards better social impact? Can the current severe environment serve as a basis for such consensus? Needless to say, the answer to these questions depends on the agency of various social actors. One thing though is clear: success in this*

## Conference & Exhibition

*regard will require a decisive state with even higher levels of legitimacy, and a more cohesive society, together prepared to pursue a common vision and to make the necessary adaptations and choices between priorities when the need arises.”*

The key Strategic Priority (4) within the MTSF aligned with the goal of drafting a National e-Skills Plan of Action [Section 28] is to *“strengthen the skills and human resource base.”*

One of the six critical activities envisaged in the MTSF as having the potential to *“drive faster economic recovery and lay the basis for movement to a higher growth trajectory, ensure protection of jobs and expansion of employment opportunities, and offer social protection”* is [Section 30.5] *“enhanced productivity across the public and private sectors underpinning by a massive skills development programme including, in the context of the economic crisis, training initiatives as an alternative to retrenchment.”* Section 31 recognises that *“investment in quality education for all young people and in skills development should form the bedrock of the government’s approach. Indeed, success in reducing poverty, in eliminating structural unemployment, in implementing a comprehensive social security system, in building social cohesion and in reducing crime will depend to a large extent on the progress made in growing the economy in an equitable manner, underpinned by a growing skills base.”* Section 32 continues *“Contained in this approach is a recognition of the enormous responsibility on all social partners to contribute to, firstly, the recovery and secondly, the step-change in the magnitude and content of economic growth”*.

Finally, Section 33 acknowledges that *“this requires a change in mindset and performance by the State, the private sector and all of civil society. Central to progress going forward is the building of an enduring partnership informed by the shared interests of all social partners and society at large. In other words, what is needed are complementary and mutually-reinforcing activities among all social actors, including the state, the corporate sector, workers, communities and householders.”* Education clearly also has a key role to play.

This is the challenge facing all of us as members of the key Stakeholder Groups (Government, Business, Education and Civil Society/Labour). We are being asked to work together, both before, during and after the forthcoming Inaugural South African **eSkills Summit** to formulate a commonly owned, comprehensive draft **National e-Skills Plan of Action**, which if appropriately executed, will result in social & economic transformation across South Africa.

During the current Planning Phase (which includes the **eSkills Summit 2010**), all key Stakeholder Groups need to share knowledge, insight, market statistics, gap and requirements analysis, taking it as a matter of faith and enlightened self-interest, that



each of the other key Stakeholder Groups (and even perceived competitors within the same Stakeholder Groups) will make a similar commitment.

During the Execution Phase, the contributions made and level of involvement by each Stakeholder Group may be different. For some Stakeholder Groups, the expectations and focus may be on co-investment, whether in cash or kind (e.g. knowledge sharing, human resources or delivery capacity). For other Stakeholder Groups, it may involve making short to medium term concessions to achieve longer term, sustainable objectives, providing “*market access through validation*” or “*credibility by association*”. In any case, to achieve systemic change requires a collaborative longer-term investment horizon.

Lead sectors identified in the MTSF [Section 36] include “*automobile, chemical, metal fabrication, tourism, clothing and textiles as well as forestry.*” The MTSF states that “*attention will also be paid to services, light manufacturing and construction, among others. Focus areas will also include agriculture; public services like health and education; private services such as the financial and other business services; food processing; plastics production; the wood value chain and targeted consumer products which might include, for example, consumer electronics.*” “*To ensure longer-run growth, government must refine and scale up implementation of its Industrial Action Plan to support broad-based industrialisation including more advanced manufacturing, as well as encouraging cleaner, lower-energy technologies and green jobs. The challenge is to identify knowledge-intensive activities that build on South Africa’s strengths as the basis for long-run prosperity.*”

Addressing e-Skills to strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of SMEs and co-operatives [Section 36.4] through partnering “*with the private sector to provide dedicated services and skills training to small, micro- and collective enterprises*” is also foreseen under MTSF. It is clear that the Education sector also has a lot to offer in this regard.

While the eSkills Institute (eSI) has the national mandate to lead in the e-Skills Domain, its strategy and goal is to build a national consensus in terms of priorities, with human and financial resources contributed by different stakeholders based on capacity. The Government’s contribution will be funded through the Medium Term Strategic Framework

(MTSF 2009 - 2014). However, the MTSF clearly expects all key stakeholders to contribute and work collaboratively.

The importance of e-Skills within MTSF and the collaborative responsibilities of all Key Stakeholder Groups in this regard cannot be underestimated.

These issues will be discussed during the Summit.

## Reference Documents

The documents below provide a context for the recommendations to be made by the **eSkills Summit 2010** participants in relation to the draft Framework for the National eSkills Plan of Action (NeSPA). These reference documents can be downloaded from the **eSkills Summit** portal

Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) 2009 - 2014, Minister in the Presidency: Planning, July 2009

Industrial Policy Action Plan (2010/11 – 2012/13), Economic Sectors and Employment Cluster, February 2010

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and Millennium Development Goals (MDG), United Nations, 2005

Information Society and Development (ISAD) Plan, The PNC on ISAD, November 2006

Framework for the National Skills Development Strategy 2011/12 – 2015/16, Department of Higher Education and Training, First Draft 29th April 2010

Human Resource Development (HRD) Strategy, Department of Labour, 2010 Version

State of the Nation Address 2010, Office of the President, February 2010

ICT Research, Development and Innovation Strategy, Department of Science and Technology, February 2007

Human Resource Planning (HRP) Strategic Framework, DPSA, 2009

Local Government Turn Around Strategy, COGTA, 2009

State of Local Government Report, COGTA, 2009

ISETT SETA Sector Skills Plan, 2009

End-User e-Skills Framework, European Committee for Standardisation, November 2009

Digital Literacy for Development, ECDL Foundation, 2008

2009 ITWeb-JCSE Skills Survey, Joburg Centre for Software Engineering, 2009

Accelerated Shared Growth Initiative South Africa (ASGISA), February 2006

Joint Initiative for Priority Skills Acquisition (JIPSA), April 2008