

DIGITAL INCLUSION SUMMIT

SOUTH AFRICA

FROM AWARENESS TO ACCESS TO ADOPTION

Building an Inclusive Digital Future for South Africa



AWARENESS

Understanding opportunities and risks



ACCESS

Getting connected, onboarded and equipped



ADOPTION

Using technology to create value and participate



A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM

Uniting government, industry, civil society, youth, and development partners to accelerate inclusive digital participation across South Africa.

WHY IT MATTERS

Digital transformation is reshaping our economy, services, education and communities.

Without intentional action, millions of South Africans risk being left behind.

This summit turns dialogue into action.

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: FOUR DIMENSIONS



ACCESS DIVIDE

Infrastructure, connectivity, devices, affordability and onboarding.



PRODUCTIVE CAPABILITY DIVIDE

Digital literacy, skills, confidence, support and AI readiness.



VALUE DIVIDE

Converting access and skills into jobs, income, enterprise and real economic value.



CULTURAL DIVIDE

Representation, relevance, language, inclusion and culturally responsive digital systems.

KEY THEMES

- ✓ Digital infrastructure & connectivity
- ✓ Digital public infrastructure & services
- ✓ AI and the future of work
- ✓ Youth opportunity & digital skills
- ✓ Digital entrepreneurship & platforms
- ✓ E-commerce & digital livelihoods
- ✓ Online safety & responsible participation
- ✓ Inclusion, accessibility & digital rights
- ✓ Innovation for social impact

SUMMIT STRUCTURE

1 CONTEXT & FRAMING



Setting the scene: Why digital inclusion is foundational for inclusive economic and social development.

2 UNPACKING THE DIVIDE



Deep-dive into the four dimensions of digital poverty—challenges, data, insights and opportunities.

3 ACTION STREAMS



Parallel theme streams exploring solutions, innovations and practical responses to each dimension.

4 INTEGRATION & COMMITMENT



Collaborative dialogue to identify priorities, partnerships and coordinated actions.

5 DIGITAL INCLUSION PLEDGE



Stakeholders sign a collective pledge to advance digital inclusion through shared commitment and collaboration.

WHO ATTENDS?

- Government & public sector
- Development finance institutions
- Technology & telecom companies
- Civil society & community organisations
- Education & training institutions
- Financial sector & investors
- Researchers, innovators & entrepreneurs
- Youth leaders & community representatives

FEATURED INITIATIVE

YOUTHFORCE COMMUNITY DIGITAL ENABLER (CDE) MODEL

A youth-led, community-based model that drives last-mile digital inclusion and economic participation.



Digital onboarding & support



Access to opportunities & services



Digital enterprise & micro-franchising



Platform economy participation



Youth jobs, skills & local impact

Empowering young people as community digital enablers who bridge the gap between systems and citizens.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- ✓ Stronger national dialogue on digital inclusion
- ✓ Greater alignment and shared understanding
- ✓ Elevated practical solutions and innovations
- ✓ New partnerships and collaborative initiatives
- ✓ Stronger youth participation in the digital economy
- ✓ Momentum for inclusive digital transformation
- ✓ A collective commitment to leave no one behind

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

BE MORE THAN A SPONSOR – BE A PARTNER IN CHANGE



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Shape the agenda and influence outcomes



THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Speak, share insights and lead key sessions



KNOWLEDGE SHOWCASE

Present reports, research and solutions



YOUTH & SKILLS ACTIVATION

Support capacity building and youth engagement



BRAND VISIBILITY

Position your brand as a champion of inclusion



ECOSYSTEM MOBILISATION

Help convene and bring stakeholders together



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Sponsorship to enable inclusion, access and participation



IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Platforms, training, technology, data, or expertise

VALUE TO PARTNERS

- ✓ Demonstrate leadership in inclusive digital development
- ✓ Advance ESG, CSI and transformation goals
- ✓ Connect with key decision-makers and ecosystems
- ✓ Amplify impact through visibility and knowledge leadership
- ✓ Drive innovation for social and economic inclusion
- ✓ Be part of a national movement for a digital future that works for all



TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD
A DIGITAL FUTURE THAT INCLUDES EVERYONE.

2026
(Date TBC)

Johannesburg
South Africa

Hybrid
(In-person & Online)

LET'S CONNECT

Partner with us to shape a more inclusive, equitable and innovative digital future.

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