

DSI and HSRC DCES,
Pretoria,
24 February 2023

Dear Invited Guest,

The Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), in partnership with the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) Developmental, Capable and Ethical State (DCES) research division, is convening a joint one-day workshop with representatives from DSI, HSRC, CSIR and other key stakeholders as the basis for formulating a business plan relating to a work programme on the social aspects of ICTs and AI in South Africa. This would be the social research component of the Foundational Digital Capabilities Research (FDCR) programme.

The meeting needs to be held this financial year, given that the business plan that is to be drafted after the workshop must be presented to the DSI EXCO in Mid-March.

Given your expertise and area of work, we would like to invite you to attend and participate in this meeting, which will be held on the 3rd of March 2023 at the Catalyst Hotel in Sandton, Johannesburg (100 Pretoria Avenue, Wierda Valley, <https://newmarkhotels.com/accommodation/the-catalyst-hotel>)

The plan for the event is to discuss the impact of ICTs and AI on different sectors of society and identify priority themes to inform the business plan.

We are aware that the invitation comes at short notice but would be grateful if you could consider diarising and attending the event. A Microsoft Teams virtual link has been arranged for those who are unable to attend in person ([Click here to join the meeting](#); Meeting ID: 360 211 772 924; Passcode: sjiH9W).

Please RSVP to Deshanie Reddy dreddy@hsrc.ac.za and Dr Ben Roberts (broberts@hsrc.ac.za).

We look forward to hearing from you and hopefully seeing you at the workshop on 3rd March.

Best regards,



Mr Llanley Simpson
Director
Department of Science & Innovation (DSI)

Prof. Narnia Bohler-Muller
Divisional Executive: DCES
Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

HSRC Board: Dr Reginald Cassius Lubisi (Chairperson), Dr Kgomotso William Kasonkola, Dr Deenadayalen Konar, Prof. Ibbo Day Joseph Mandaza, Ms Shameme Manjoo, Dr Alex Mohubetswane Mashilo, Prof. Zerish Zethu Nkosi, Adv Faith Dikeledi Pansy Tlakula, Prof. Fiona Tregenna, Prof. Sarah Mosoetsa (CEO)

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