



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

ICTIIR 2026

29–30 OCTOBER 2026

East London International Convention Centre

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Connecting technology, innovation and interdisciplinary research for transformative impact.

Morning Programme

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
08:00–08:45	Arrival and Registration Admin Team
08:45–09:00	Opening & Welcome Conference Chair: Dr Vusumzi Funda
09:00–09:05	Introduction of the Keynote Speaker Dr Thompo Tshivhase
09:05–09:40	Keynote Address Dr Vusi Maseko
09:40–10:00	Questions, Comments & Discussion Dr Thompo Tshivhase
10:00–10:30	TEA BREAK

Parallel Research Presentations • Room 1

Chair: Dr Oluwatosin Bamigboye

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
10:30–10:50	Digital Transformation, Governance, and Declining Voter Participation: A Comparative Study of eThekwin, Msunduzi and uMhlathuze Municipalities. Lindelwa Cele; Omololu Fagbadebo — Durban University of Technology, South Africa
10:50–11:10	Comparative E-Governance Maturity in South Asia: A Bangladesh-India Focused Study on Citizen Participation and Proposing a Maturity Participation Nexus Framework Sujan Sarker — University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
11:10–11:30	Assessing the impact of generative artificial intelligence tools on higher education student academic productivity Richard Akinkunmi; Joshua Ebere Chukwuere; Thabang Edwin Maruping — North-West University, South Africa
11:30–11:50	Rural-Urban Migration Demographics in South Africa: Patterns, Determinants and Developmental Implications Buyani Nkabinde; Thandile Ncwana; Lawrence Mphele Lekhany — Durban University of Technology, South Africa

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
11:50–12:10	The Politics of Labour Market Institutions and Economic Performance Bimbo Ogunbanjo — Lagos State University School of Basic and Advanced Studies, Nigeria
12:10–12:30	Key Challenges Hindering the Implementation of Technology Education in South African Basic Education Schools: Evidence from the Free State Province Andile Yeko — Central University of Technology, South Africa
12:30–12:50	Towards an Artificial Intelligence Literacy Model to Support Academic Integrity among University Students in South Africa Lihle Tobotshane — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
12:50–13:50	LUNCH

Presentation format: 15 minutes presentation + 5 minutes for questions, comments and discussion.

Afternoon Research Presentations • Room 1

Chair: Dr Ganizani Mainoti

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
13:50–14:10	Generative AI for Personalized Learning: Opportunities, Challenges, and Ethical Implications Emmanuel Abiodun; Kamaldeen Ayodele Raji; Mulikat Akanbi; Fatimoh Abidemi Taofeeq-Ibraheem — Nigeria
14:10–14:30	Semiotic resources in classroom translanguaging literature and their implications for conceptual frameworks in African contexts Nkazimlo Ngcunga; Lynn Mafofo — University of the Western Cape, South Africa
14:30–14:50	Intersectional Experiences of Black Female PhD Candidates Lecturing in Open Distance and e-Learning (ODEL) Institutions of Higher Learning in South Africa Tandiwe Mdlungu — University of South Africa, South Africa
14:50–15:10	Political Institutions and Economic Development: Apprehending, Comprehending and Rationalizing the Linkage Damilola K. Olajide; Bimbo Ogunbanjo; Adebayo Mathew Ogunleye — Nigeria
15:10–15:30	Digital financial inclusion and rural development in Zimbabwe: A systematic review approach Clainos Chidoko; Taruona Douglas; Chomunorwa Rusakaniko — Zimbabwe
15:30–15:50	Application of Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) in Precision Farming: Review of Techniques and Publication Trends Alfred Kgopa; Nkosikhona Msweli — University of South Africa, South Africa
15:50–16:10	Heat Sees Health: Comparing RGB and Infrared Images for Chick Health Classification Using MobileNetV3 Tinashe Crispen Garidzira; Oluwatobi John Aduradola — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
16:10–16:30	Workshop Prof Ishmael Festus Jaja — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
16:30–16:35	Announcements
16:35	END OF DAY 1

Presentation format: 15 minutes presentation + 5 minutes for questions, comments and discussion.

Morning Programme

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
08:00–08:45	Arrival and Registration Admin Team
08:45–09:00	Opening & Welcome Conference Chair: Dr Vusumzi Funda
09:00–09:05	Introduction of the Keynote Speaker Dr Mbalenhle Nxumalo
09:05–09:40	Keynote Address Prof. Emuoyibofarhe O. Justice (FNCS, MCPN, MIEEE)
09:40–10:00	Questions, Comments & Discussion Dr Mbalenhle Nxumalo
10:00–10:30	TEA BREAK

Research Presentations • Room 1

Chair: Dr Masithembe Kafile

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
10:30–10:50	The Public Perception on the Management of Disaster Relief Assistance in O.R. Tambo District Municipality Mphumzi Dabula; Omololu Fagbadebo — Durban University of Technology, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
10:50–11:10	Harnessing Mobile Learning for Digital Transformation in Higher Education in Bulawayo Province, Zimbabwe Andrew Mangena — National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe
11:10–11:30	Conditional Affordances: Comparing Telematics and Radio Technology for Mathematics Teaching in Resource-Constrained Rural Schools Dare Ebenezer Fatumo — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
11:30–11:50	Project Governance through Monitoring and Evaluation in the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) Irasha Singh; M. Subban — University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
11:50–12:10	The Influence of Business Networks on Competence Development for the Sustainability of Female-Owned Freight SMEs in Eastern Cape, South Africa Echere Angela Chinyere; Masithembe Kafile — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
12:10–12:30	An AI-enabled Adaptive Learning Framework for Personalised Education in South African Universities Mfundiso Nongqwenga; Vusumzi Funda — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
12:30–12:50	Digital Technologies for Public Participation in Local Governance: Evidence from a Local Municipality in Alfred Nzo District, Eastern Cape Yonela Nonkonela — Walter Sisulu University, South Africa
12:50–13:10	Determinants of AI-Powered Automation Adoption in South African SMMEs: A Study in the Eastern Cape Province Asemahle Kweya — University of Fort Hare, South Africa
13:10–14:10	LUNCH

Presentation format: 15 minutes presentation + 5 minutes for questions, comments and discussion.

Afternoon Programme

Chair: Dr Masithembe Kafile

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM
14:10–14:30	Educator Stewardship and Ethical Learner Empowerment, Bridging Global AI Norms with Local Educational Realities Dr Karen-Ann Walstra — Western Cape Ambassador for the South African AI Association
14:30–14:50	Inhabiting the Liminal Screen: Emotional Labour, Infrastructural Precarity, and the Quest for Belonging in Fully Virtual Postgraduate Education Fortunate Zambezi — Bindura University of Science Education, Zimbabwe
14:50–15:00	Closing Remarks Conference Chair: Dr Vusumzi Funda

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Thank you to all keynote speakers, presenters, chairs, delegates and the organising team for contributing to ICTIIR 2026.