

# CONEXT

The Official Newsletter of the Digital Council Africa

November 2022 Edition



Conext Highlight Edition 2022

Digital  
Council

Issue #010



## WELCOME FROM JUANITA

Dear Colleagues,

**The DCA team just concluded the 2022 annual Conext Conference, the annual event where our members and partners come together.**

Many important conversations were had during this year's event, ideas and knowledge were shared, and solutions were created as we came together to learn from each other and discuss the issues facing our sector. This is the most important aspect of our work at the Digital Council – to act as an enabler to the sector and to help steer it forward.

This year many sector related issues were tackled and our focus was on fibre infrastructure deployment, tower infrastructure, as well as data and cloud matters to name a few. Robust conversations followed as concerns and solutions were discussed. As always, one of the most popular and sought after presentations is that of our annual research which we publish every year during the conference. We are very proud of this outstanding piece of work that we co-create with Digitalthings – our research partner. All DCA Members receive a copy of the report, if you have not received it please contact the office on [reesha@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:reesha@digitalcouncil.africa), who will send you a copy.

On another note, during the conference the DCA signed two MOU's highlighting its commitment to skills development and youth unemployment, intricately linked matters. We are very proud to partner with both the MICT SETA as well as Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator to bring our part in addressing these issues. Please watch out for the next Conext where we will provide more information on this journey and how you can get involved.

Finally, as I conclude I want to extend a special thank you to the sponsors that made this years' event possible: **Huawei, Corning, Microsoft, ICL, Tesmec Marais, Africa Datacentres, DFA, inq., Metrofibre, Software AG, Teraco and Vodacom**, and of course, my team that worked incredibly long hours to produce this gathering.

Well done, we have received a lot of positive feedback and I am very satisfied with the end result.

This will be our last Conext publication for 2022. As we approach the end of this year I want to thank all of you for your continued support for this organisation. We are pleased to say that we are making progress in our respective sectors and appreciate that you join us on this journey.

As always, your inputs are valuable and you are free to reach out for a cup of coffee or if not possible, a chat on the phone.

Stay safe!

*Juanita*

# CONTENT

## FROM THE OFFICE

What is Conext? | Social Media | Get featured in the next Conext  
Member Webinars | Welcome to our new Members | Member Benefits

4

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Conext Conference 2022 Thank you's and Highlights

6

Excerpt from the Africa Digital Infrastructure Market Analysis 2022 Report

18

The Fibre Council Global Alliance (FCGA) first in person meeting since 2019

20

Green Industrialization

21

2022 ICT Sector Gender Strategic Programme event

22

Connect 2 Connect (C2C) Summit

28

Estate Living Property Developers Forum

28

Tower Exchange 2022

29

Africa Tech Festival 2022

29

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Together, Fibre lighting up Africa's Future

9

Transforming digital Africa

13

In Conversation with Sia Mausi

24

## NEWS

Cell C Changes Journey: Introducing New Fixed LTE to Create  
New Opportunities

11

OADC wins Best Data Centre award at prestigious Global Carrier Awards 2022

26

## CONTACT US, POPI INFO & LOST & FOUND

31



# FROM THE OFFICE

---

## What is Conext?

**“CONEXT: a relationship in which a person or thing is linked or associated with someone or something else.”**

In a world that is becoming increasingly digital, it is important to ensure that ongoing engagement takes place. The Digital Council Africa strives to remain in contact with its members, and to provide its members with ongoing communication about its activities. Conext is the answer to staying engaged. Member engagement is encouraged through participation in events and working groups and through the distribution of the Conext Newsletter.

The DCA strives to offer members opportunities to network and collaborate and discuss best practice frameworks that is in the best interest of all, solving complex issues through dialogue and policy recommendations and we encourage dialogue between government and private sector from a platform that is independent and product agnostic. Conext belongs to the members of the Digital Council Africa. We welcome and encourage submissions from our members in the form of conversations related to the development of the digital economy as well as thought leadership articles you have written or would like to share, advertorials, adverts and any information that may be of interest to the ICT sector as a whole.

Contributions can be sent to Nadene Reignier at [nadene@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:nadene@digitalcouncil.africa)

---

## Social Media

Social media is a fast, effective way to reach our target audience and create awareness of not only the Digital Council and our work but also for our members and as a means to share relevant industry news and updates. We have close to 6000 followers across our 3 platforms and had an organic reach of over 3000 on LinkedIn over the last 3 weeks alone. We plan to keep increasing our social media reach and leveraging it to grow awareness of the work of the Council and its members.

### LET'S STAY CONEXTED. FOLLOW US ON



---

## Want to feature your company in the upcoming Conext?

This publication belongs to the members of the Digital Council Africa. We welcome and encourage submissions from our members in the form of conversations related to the development of the digital economy as well as thought leadership articles you have written or would like to share, advertorials, adverts and any information that may be of interest to the ICT sector as a whole.

Contributions can be sent to Nadene Reignier at [nadene@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:nadene@digitalcouncil.africa)

---

## Member Webinars

The Digital Council invites all members to participate in upcoming webinars, which will focus on key topics pertaining to the industry. These webinars will be held on an ad-hoc basis via the collaboration platform and will be communicated via the member mailing list. Please note that members may also request to host a webinar, provided that the content is relevant and informative. Please contact Reesha Iyer at [reesha@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:reesha@digitalcouncil.africa).



# Welcome

## A warm welcome to our new Members



**EOH**

EOH, one of Africa's largest technology services providers offers a wide range of solutions in IT-managed services, security, automation, cloud solutions, data and development capabilities, proprietary IT product resales, and IT consulting and implementation services. The Group is a market leader through its core ICT businesses which operates under the iOCO brand name. The business is systemic to both the public and private sector and is an integral technology partner for a number of South Africa's leading JSE-listed, blue-chip companies as well as key metros and government departments.

It's other business, NEXTEC collaborates with world-leading technology providers to design, implement and manage intelligent infrastructure and people solutions that make a positive and lasting impact, towards building smarter cities.

For more information visit <https://www.eoh.co.za/>



**Covalensedigital**

Covalensedigital enables **digital disruption** of businesses with our innovative digital products, platforms, & industry-specific solutions. We enable organizations to become digital-ready by helping them create & monetize next-gen digital ecosystems and enhance customer experience.

Driving '**digital first**', we transform traditional Service Providers with our SaaS & cloud-based products, & services. We have been disrupting the subscription economy with digital transformations, product suite deployments, cloud implementations, & business process automations.

For more information visit <https://covalensedigital.com/>

## Member Benefits

By joining the Digital Council Africa members have a competitive advantage because they become informed members of their industry as the council actively engages and represents its members at government level. Council members who lead busy professional lives can depend on the organisation to represent and brief them on important industry trends, new legislative rulings, and advances in technology. The main platform the Digital Council Africa (DCA) uses for this is through its annual conference. This event aims to attract C-level speakers and best of breed OEM's and distributors to keep industry informed and updated on the latest trends in technology and legislation. To find out more visit our [website](#).

# Thank You

We would like to extend our thanks to all our 2022 Sponsors, Exhibitors & Partners. Without you this event would not have been possible.

PLATINUM SPONSOR



# HUAWEI

GOLD SPONSOR

# CORNING

STREAM PARTNER



SILVER SPONSORS



OTHER SPONSORS



EXHIBITORS



PARTNERS





So many important, insightful and impactful conversations were had at our 2022 Conext Conference that it is difficult to choose which to highlight. Below are some of the discussions and events that were especially close to our hearts.

Recordings of all discussions can be found on our [YouTube Channel](#).

## Hard Talk: Inclusion in the Technology Sector



**Panelists from left to right:** Jorge Mendes, Chief Consumer Officer, Vodacom; Kholiwe Makhohliso, VP & Country Director, Software AG; Veronica Motloutsi, MD, Smart Digital; Juanita Clark, CEO, Digital Council Africa

An important and insightful conversation that included topics like gender empowerment, equity and equality in the work place, the gender pay gap and placing women in key strategic decision making positions. Making conscious decisions to place women in core roles and implementing programs to ensure constant progress is being made are critical to the advancement of inclusion in the sector. [Listen to a recording of this discussion here.](#)

## MICT SETA and DCA MOU Signing



**Left to right:** Gugu Sema, Senior Manager 4IR: MICT SETA; Matome Madibana, CEO: MICT SETA; Dr Andile Ngcaba, President: DCA; Juanita Clark, CEO: DCA

A constantly changing world requires adaptable skills to meet the needs of the hour. We are proud to be partnering with the MICT SETA to help address the skills deficit within the ICT Sector.

The need for highly specialised skills has driven today's workforce into developing and honing new skills. Optic fibre skills have been identified as one of the skills that is needed to aid in the fourth industrial revolution. The lack of skilled labour in the sector remains a big problem that is slowing down cable deployment in South Africa. To address this the Digital Council Africa in partnership with MICT SETA have embarked on a program to address the Optic fibre skills deficit within the ICT sector. The program is set to train twenty five women as optic fibre technicians.



## Harambee & DCA MOU Signing

The Digital Council Africa signed its first MOU with Harambee on 4 August 2021. This fruitful collaboration will keep growing as we continue to pursue our mutually held strategic goals with respect to driving digital acceleration and adoption, promoting inclusive growth and participation in the digital economy, and increased work opportunities by leveraging the joint capability as intermediary entities to partner with government and the ICT sector to unlock barriers and enable the implementation of catalytic projects.



**Left to right:** Deputy Minister Philly Mapulane, DCDT; Dr Andile Ngcaba, President: DCA; Evan Jones, Director Strategy: Harambee

We are excited to continue our work together and commit to working together to enable and facilitate inclusive growth, social transformation and demand-led learning and earning opportunities - at scale.

## State of the Digital Market in Africa

Bora Varliyagci, CEO of Digitalthings, presented the much anticipated "State of the Digital Market in Africa" Report. This research paper, which is annually published by the DCA for its members, is the culmination of many months of work and research and takes a closer look at the state of the African Digital Infrastructure Market as it currently stands. We are very proud of this outstanding piece of work that we co-create with Digitalthings – our research partner.

We believe that to ensure resilience and growth in the wake of the pandemic is the key not only to national economic recovery, but also future prosperity of the Republic of South Africa. As part of this recovery and job creation, the collaboration of the full range of stakeholders in the ICT and Telecoms sector and also outside of the sector becomes critical to debate and promote the adoption of innovation frameworks through government implementable policies that will spur innovation and competitiveness. Such policies will help leverage the adoption of digital services to enable rapid growth in key economic sectors.

Read an excerpt from our research report on [page 16](#).



**Above:** Bora Varliyagci,  
CEO: Digitalthings

## Together, Fibre lighting up Africa's Future



**Huawei is a leading global provider of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and smart devices. We are committed to bringing digital to every person, home, and organization for a fully connected, intelligent world.**

Through open collaboration with ecosystem partners, we create lasting value for our customers, enrich home life, and inspire innovation in organizations of all shapes and sizes. Currently, Huawei has more than 195,000 employees. Huawei now ranks 2nd in the 2021 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard. We operate in more than 170 countries and regions, serving more than 3 billion people worldwide. In 2022, we were ranked 96th in the Fortune Global 500.

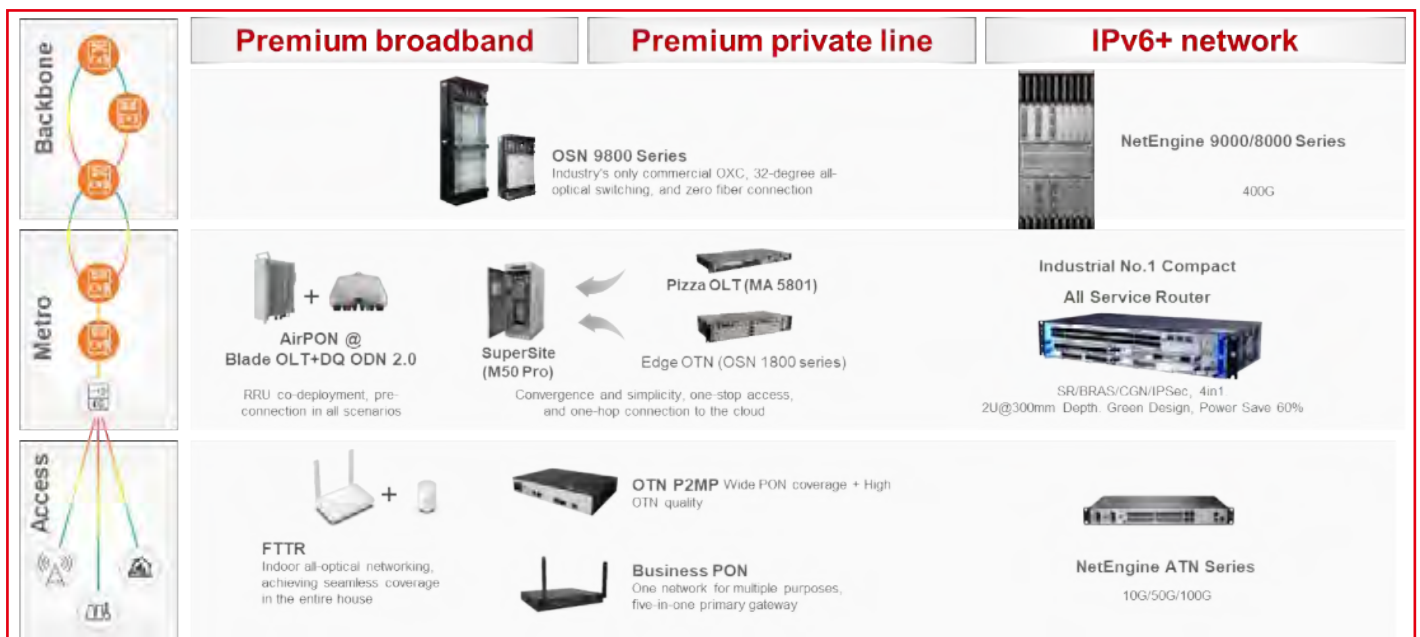
Fixed-Mobile-Convergence (FMC) is a recognized global trend. In order to transform from a mobile operator into a full-service operator you require FTTH network deployment. The Huawei AirPON solution have the ability to reuse mobile backhaul resources and support fast FTTx network deployment. It is a quick win solution for mobile carriers to enter the home broadband market. The Huawei AirPON solution comprise of Blade OLT,

DQ ODN, eAI ONT and iMaster NCE (see picture below). It helps mobile operators develop high-quality gigabit fibre broadband services, shortens the TTM of fibre deployment by 70% and reduces ROI period from 6 years to 3 years.

In the access domain, Huawei provides high-bandwidth, intelligent, and simplified all-optical access solutions. These solutions will enable the smooth evolution to 10G PON or 50G PON, and meet customer needs for wide Gigabit coverage, 8K and VR videos, and enterprise private lines.

**Huawei is committed to providing carrier and enterprise customers with high-performance transmission solutions featuring high availability, large bandwidth, and intelligence.** Huawei's leading 200G WDM solutions have served more than 100 operators around the world. All-optical switching OXC device is still the only product that is ready for commercial use in the industry. Huawei is a leader with IPv6+ solutions and provides intelligent IP converged transport for operators worldwide.

## Fibre to everywhere is leading us toward the full-fibre era!



# Evolv™ Solution

## Up to 4x Smaller



**50% faster deployment**  
time than other  
hardened terminals

**CORNING**

[www.corning.com/emea/evolv](http://www.corning.com/emea/evolv)



## Cell C Changes Journey: Introducing New Fixed LTE to Create New Opportunities

Cell C as part of its journey of change has introduced its new Fixed LTE product to create new opportunities for business partners. The telco that is transitioning into a techo and digital lifestyle company, has a dynamic and flexible commercial model that enables business partners to sign up for Fixed LTE at minimum risk.

The benefits Cell C’s Fixed LTE make it an attractive product and some of the benefits include:

- The exclusion of out of bundle rates and differentiated day, night rates together with volume-based wholesale rates.
- A partner migration plan that allows the partner to benefit from discounted for commitments after establishing a base.

Cell C’s Fixed LTE product is available to Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and resellers who address the consumer, the Small Medium Enterprise (SME) and enterprise markets. SMEs are a key component in the development of the South African economy and addressing unemployment in the country therefore, they need to be empowered with the necessary resources and digital solutions to support the growth of the their businesses.

The journey of change for Cell C includes the completion of its network migration, the objective of the Network Strategy was to ensure Cell C customers have access to stable connectivity at affordable rates. Connectivity and affordability are a key component in bridging the digital divide and ensuring South Africans have access to the digital world and are afforded an opportunity to participate in the digital economy. The network transition, access to spectrum as well as the recapitalisation will enable Cell C to innovate relevant digital solutions for its customers and business partners.

The transition into a digital lifestyle company enables Cell C to offer its business partners new revenue streams by bundling traditional telco products with value added services, digital services and IoT products – in many cases using white labeled applications and web interfaces.

Having access to a larger bouquet of services created new revenue streams and helps service a customer base by offering more value, which includes, but not limited to:

Zero Touch Value Added Services	Digital & Hosted	IoT	Sample IoT products	Telco Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-RICA</li> <li>• E-Voucher</li> <li>• Business Portal</li> <li>• Airtime Vouchers</li> <li>• Competition platforms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifestyle content</li> <li>• Financial Services</li> <li>• E-Commerce</li> <li>• Business Applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bespoke white label application</li> <li>• Off the shelf</li> <li>• B2B and B2B2C</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asset tracking</li> <li>• Fleet analytics</li> <li>• Water level detections</li> <li>• Biomatrix and Temp screening</li> <li>• Smart geyser controller</li> <li>• Smart call button</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulk Data APN Solutions</li> <li>• Reverse Bill URL</li> <li>• Fixed LTE</li> <li>• Fixed Voice Services</li> </ul>

Cell C is going full steam ahead with its change journey that has customer-centricity and innovation at its core. For more information of Cell C’s Fixed LTE product, please contact Deena Rajah, Business Development Manager: Wholesale Business at Cell C on 084777 0017 or [drajah@cellc.co.za](mailto:drajah@cellc.co.za).



SPECIALISED TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

SOLE ACCREDITED DISTRIBUTOR FOR SOUTHERN AFRICAN MARKET

[www.iclogistix.co.za](http://www.iclogistix.co.za)

- Specialised Technology
- Top Quality Brands
- Local Aftersales Support
- Sole Distributor
- Manufacturer Backed Warranty
- Splicing, Testing, Certifying, Specialised Tools, etc.

## SPLICERS



90S+



41S+

## OTDRs



FS300



Basic Kit

FS200

Optional Items



Scan Me

PO Box 887, Randpark Ridge, 2156. 345 Main Ave, Ferndale, Randburg, 2194, South Africa  
 SALES: Tel +2711 523 2305/2384 Cell +2784 602 0066 Email [iclsales@icl.co.za](mailto:iclsales@icl.co.za)  
 LABORATORY: Tel +2711 521 2380 Cell +2778 813 1656 Email [lab@icl.co.za](mailto:lab@icl.co.za)  
 RECEPTION: Tel +2711 521 2370 Fax +2786 631 9265 Email [icladmin@icl.co.za](mailto:icladmin@icl.co.za)  
 Web [www.icl.co.za](http://www.icl.co.za)

FOUNDING



MEMBER



AFL HYPERSCALE



## Transforming digital Africa

By Dr Ayotunde Coker,  
CEO of Open Access Data Centres

Accessibility to digital technologies can dramatically improve how people live, work, play and communicate, particularly throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. Enhanced digitisation delivers improved access to life-enhancing services for individuals and communities, and business-advancing tools to enterprises: valuable benefits which they would otherwise be unable to access due to a lack of infrastructure, skills and funding.

### Increasing demand for next generation connectivity

Demand for next-generation connectivity in the region will continue to grow dramatically, given the increasing digital adoption by businesses and the continent's youthful demographics (Africa has the highest percentage of people under the age of 18 in the world).

According to world mobile industry organisation the *GSMA*, by 2025 there will be commercial 5G services in at least seven African markets, including Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, with an estimated combined total of 28 million 5G connections. These services will be delivered at the 'edge', closer to the point of consumption, with reduced latency.

With digital adoption by businesses growing and the *GSMA* reporting almost 50% of the population subscribing to mobile services, the arrival of new hyperscale subsea systems - including Google's Equiano and the Meta-led 2Africa - is a vital enabler to further digitisation and the implementation of an upgraded digital backbone that will support ongoing cloud operator and content provider buildouts into Africa.

Despite this, Africa remains a long way from having a "modern and robust digital infrastructure that is inclusive and reaches all people" – a vision outlined in Digital Council Africa's 2021 annual report. This report noted that despite some countries having a fixed fibre broadband household penetration of more than 45%, the overall penetration figure remained flat at less than 3% and mobile internet subscriptions grew to just 30% across Sub-Saharan Africa.

### Traditional DC deployment model outdated

Africa's traditional data centre (DC) deployment model centralises data storage and processing at large, remote facilities to achieve economies of scale. This creates islands of strong connectivity serving the largest urban areas, but network deployment to smaller cities and communities is limited by capital investment constraints and unpredictable returns. However, as data volumes grow, processing demands rise and low-latency requirements increase, this architecture must change to one that fully supports localised delivery, storage and processing of data and content.

In business, the digital transformation taking place across Africa includes content delivery to the office, the home, the car and everywhere in between. This requires the decentralisation of "the cloud".

The social media boom makes content generation and consumption increasingly edge-to-edge, not "core-out". As opposed to a traditional broadcasting model of content distribution, where production is coordinated centrally and content is then distributed to multiple subscribers (a "core-out" model), social media encourages huge numbers of consumers to develop ever-increasing amounts of their own content for sharing with large numbers of other consumers around the world, making content generation/consumption increasingly "edge-to-edge".

Content streaming, gaming and a growing number of new, life-enhancing services require service providers to deliver the performance and reliability demanded by users – with no room for latency or downtime. Put simply, the requirement is for more data, to more places, with more reliably and greater speed.

## Bringing a unique core-to-edge proposition to Africa

Established in 2018 as part of the WIOCC Group, transformational carrier neutral data centre (DC) operator, Open Access Data Centres (OADC), is changing this situation for the better. As well as building carrier neutral DCs in multiple countries, OADC is deploying facilities throughout a country and right-sizing each DC according to local demand - from hyperscale, through "midi" to edge.

- OADC's flagship facility is a carrier neutral, Tier III-rated, core hyperscale DC in Lagos, on the largest single data centre campus in West Africa. Designed to deliver tens of Megawatts of critical power load, it hosts the landing point of Google's Equiano Cable, will be ready for service by the end of October 2022 and planned to grow to over 15MW of power. Elsewhere, the capacity of OADC Durban is hundreds of racks and a few Megawatts. In key metropolitan areas.
- "Midi" DCs in the 100 to 400-rack range, which can be scaled to 800+ racks as demand grows, are undergoing fit-out.
- At the network edge, smaller facilities ("Edge DCs", of up to 50 racks/150 kilowatts of critical power) are rapidly coming onstream.

Since securing \$200m of funding in November 2021, OADC has moved at pace and now has 30 carrier neutral DCs operational in South Africa, with more under construction there and in Nigeria.

### OADC's unique core-to-edge architecture supports:

- broadband, mobile operators and ISPs in cost-effectively extending network reach
- the cloud community in migrating content closer to the network edge
- the enterprise market in disaster recovery and processing of large data sets close to their point of origin and consumption

- the deployment of new revenue-generating, latency-sensitive applications
- the cost-optimisation of network connections
- the establishment of local interconnect points and interconnect ecosystems, disaggregating peering away from the large core DCs.

OADC's carrier neutral edge facilities are secure and power-assured, offering clients an excellent option for off-site data storage, processing and disaster recovery. Edge facilities aggregate the security, power and connectivity requirements of individual companies to edge locations providing capital and operating cost efficiencies.

## Leveraging the benefits of 5G across Africa

As well as the carrier neutral OADC Durban facility, which is designed to scale to 5 Megawatts as demand grows, and the recently live carrier neutral OADC Isando facility in Johannesburg, the 30plus carrier neutral OADC EDGE DCs live in South Africa deliver content to the edge at precisely the point of use. Two further carrier neutral mid-range DCs will come on-stream in Cape Town by year end, with another at a key location in Johannesburg. This architecture is a critical element in the infrastructure needed to expedite delivery - and leverage the benefits - of 5G as it emerges across Africa.

As we continue to extend rollout of carrier neutral edge DCs across South Africa, we will deliver the same architecture into Nigeria and, subsequently, into smaller countries across sub-Saharan Africa - particularly at the "midi" and "edge" scale.

We are also implementing innovative field support structures across our field teams and adopting Internet of Things (IoT) and AI techniques to optimise our operational support functions.

## A vibrant, carrier-neutral ecosystem

Because OADC is part of the WIOCC Group and a sister company of carriers' carrier WIOCC, the resulting converged open digital infrastructure means OADC clients can have interconnectivity across Africa - by taking advantage of WIOCC's established pan-African open hyperscale network infrastructure.

Being carrier-neutral means that we are also ensuring a vibrant ecosystem of other carriers in all consumption points and DC delivery points, interconnected and optimised across all available technologies.

Uniquely, OADC is hosting landing stations for both major new subsea cables being deployed into Africa. The Meta-led 2Africa cable will be hosted in OADC Durban in South Africa and at Mogadishu, Somalia. In June 2022, Google's Equiano cable landed directly into OADC Lagos in Nigeria. This cable, which also lands north of Cape Town in South Africa, is being extended from there into a new OADC facility in Rondebosch, Cape Town.

**Africa is clearly ready for this level of high-quality carrier-neutral converged infrastructure.**

**Access to a readily-available, open-access infrastructure delivering high levels of connectivity and underpinning local interconnect ecosystems is critical to ensuring successful deployment and adoption of 5G, IoT and other advances that will deliver growth to the region throughout the 2020s.**

### About the author:

Nigerian-born Dr Ayotunde Coker is CEO of transformational carrier-neutral data centre operator Open Access Data Centres (OADC), where he spearheads its pan-African carrier-neutral data centre deployment programme. He is also the current President of the prestigious Africa Data Centres Association.



MetroFibre Network is a carrier class ethernet (CE 3.0) infrastructure company, providing highly-managed fibre optic connectivity solutions to homes and businesses across South Africa.

087 151 4000 | [info@metrofibre.co.za](mailto:info@metrofibre.co.za) | [www.metrofibre.co.za](http://www.metrofibre.co.za)



## Africa DataCentres

Lasting Connections Are Built On Trust

**Trust a data centre that  
shares your ambition.**

Effortlessly expand your business into Africa with a data centre that has a growing pan-African footprint.



Excerpt from the  
**AFRICA DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
MARKET ANALYSIS**  
2022 REPORT

**Bora Varliyagci, CEO of Digitalthings, presented the much anticipated “State of the Digital Market in Africa” Research Report at our annual Conext Conference. This research paper, which is annually published by the DCA for its members, is the culmination of many months of work and research and takes a closer look at the state of the African Digital Infrastructure Market as it currently stands.**

**Below is an excerpt from the report which was produced exclusively for Digital Council Africa members by its research partner, Digitalthings.**

Inequality in accessing the internet and communication technology is known as the digital divide, affecting 52 percent of women and 42 percent of men worldwide. This gap is even wider in Africa considering that only c.40 percent of Africans have internet access, compared to c.89 percent of Europeans and c.94 percent of Americans. There is a direct correlation between the digital divide and income inequality, with a compound impact of disadvantages on the most under-resourced communities. These residents perpetually struggle to get online and lag their connected counterparts in earning power, lifelong learning, healthcare access and political clout. It is important to analyse the underlying factors of the digital divide and distinguish between access to the internet and digital literacy.

The digital divide was initially attributed to underdevelopment on the supply side shortcomings in Africa and was perceived as temporary which would disappear with the gradual expansion of the broadband network footprint. Instead, the divide persists today despite a significant increase in broadband service available on the

continent. Digitisation requiring significant investments and infrastructure for the less developed regions and rural areas have been narrowing and only 19 percent of the Sub-Saharan African population remains uncovered by a broadband service in 2022. Usage divide, due to the unaffordability of end-user devices and lack of digital skills remains a stubborn barrier to bridging the digital divide as 45 percent of the Sub-Saharan African population do not make use of the internet despite having access to an internet service. Therefore, it appears that demand-side challenges hold back digital inclusion on the continent and require policy attention and wider stakeholder collaboration.

Digitisation efforts on the continent continues to attract investment in selected segments and geographies. Growing dominance of content providers on international traffic drives investments in their own systems to reduce reliance on other carriers. Google Equiano has already arrived in South Africa after landing in Togo, Nigeria and Namibia. Furthermore, the Facebook led consortium 2Africa cable system completed its first landing in Milan

and is on its way to the African shores. These new cable systems have a significant impact on some older cable systems which may be forced to retire ahead of their minimum design lives of 25 years, as their economic life might be much shorter.

As the continent’s bandwidth requirements continue to grow, significant progress has been made on the expansion of terrestrial connectivity networks by the infrastructure operators, governments and communication service providers alike. Two pan-African infrastructure operators now have a fibre footprint exceeding 100 thousand kilometers. However, drastically more investment at a faster pace is still required to bridge the digital infrastructure deficit on the continent. Most terrestrial fibre projects remain relatively small to bridge the infrastructure deficit that will require tens of thousands of kilometers of fibre network deployment annually.

*\*Please note that the full report is exclusively available to Digital Council Africa members.*

# The expression of technology is **nothing without humanity**



Further together  
 **vodacom**



 **DIGITAL REALTY.**

**icolo.io**  
A DIGITAL REALTY COMPANY

**MEDALLION**  
A Digital Realty and Pembani Remgro JV

**TERACO**  
A DIGITAL REALTY COMPANY

The world connects here.

[www.teraco.co.za](http://www.teraco.co.za)

## SOUTH AFRICA'S DRAFT NETWORK DEPLOYMENT BY- LAWS



**When finalised and adopted by municipalities, the by-laws will govern access to municipal land and infrastructure for deploying fibre networks or erecting towers.**

**The draft by-laws are meant to “facilitate the rapid deployment of electronic communications infrastructure and ensure uniformity” in planning across municipalities.**

They cover activities such as:

- Trenching and micro-trenching and related work in a road reserve;
- The siting and erection of poles and stringing of fibre-optic cable in a road reserve or within a municipal area;
- The erection of base stations, towers or masts, including micro-cell deployments on street “furniture” (lamp poles, for example); and
- Maintenance and operational activities related to already deployed electronic communications facilities.

South Africa is in a race against time to extend access to quality, affordable electronic communications to all parts of the country, but there are several challenges to building fit-for-purpose electronic communications networks.

The draft standard by-laws aim to address one of these challenges by standardising applications for permission to deploy networks on municipal land and the relationship between local government and the owners of these networks. The intention is to have a system that facilitates investment in fibre networks and access to lower-cost broadband.

When finalised and adopted by municipalities, the by-laws will govern access to municipal land and infrastructure for the purpose of deploying fibre networks or erecting towers.

Dr Andile Ngcaba, Digital Council Africa (DCA) president and chairman of Convergence Partners and inq. summed it up aptly: ‘South Africa has 257 municipalities. To get wayleaves in the past, you had to approach each municipality.’ Each municipality would have a different system, he noted. ‘With this standard model, we will use one system, one standard and one approach. And this is really a breakthrough for the industry, speed to market and the ability to grow.’

### To find out more:

- Find the final DCA submission in response to the Standard Draft By-laws for the Deployment of Electronic Communications and Facilities, published in Government Gazette No. 46920 on 16th September 2022 [here](#).
- Find the final submission in response to the Standard Draft By-laws for the Deployment of Electronic Communications and Facilities, published in Government Gazette No. 46920 on 16th September 2022 [here](#).
- The Minister of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has published the draft standard by-laws for the deployment of electronic communications and facilities for public comment. What is the purpose and how will it contribute to increasing the speed of deploying network infrastructure where it is most needed? Read the full article [here](#).



# m4a

OUR PRODUCTS BUILD NETWORKS

## m4a (Pty) Ltd is an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) of Composite Utilities Network Infrastructure

We are a proudly South African manufacturing company that supplies composite utilities network infrastructure products to the global market. Through our own in-house design and manufacturing capability, we are able to control the whole value chain, offering innovative products manufactured to the highest ISO quality standards.

Our locally manufactured products are enhanced with world class local and imported supplementary products that enable us to offer a complete end-to-end composite utilities network infrastructure product range that meets the markets demands.

Our product lines include axSCHAMBERS™, fibreFLEX™ chambers, fibreDUCT™, corruDUCT™, optiDUCT™, cnktCLOSURES™ and fibreCABLE™.

**We innovate, build and deliver.**



Everite Factory Premises, Heidelberg Road (R550), Klipriver, South Africa

Tel: +27 11 903 7023 | Email: info@m4a.co.za

[www.m4a.co.za](http://www.m4a.co.za)

AXSCHAMBERS™

FIBREDUCT™

CNKT CLOSURES™

FIBRE CABLE™

RAMAC™

ISO 9001:2015  
Certified

SABS  
APPROVED

SATAS

# WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

## THE FIBRE COUNCIL GLOBAL ALLIANCE (FCGA) FIRST IN PERSON MEETING SINCE 2019



### Left to right:

**Mr Vincent Garnier**, Director General FTTH Council Europe;  
**Ms Kholoud Al Dorgham**, Director General Fibre Connect Council MENA;  
**Mr Gary Boltman**, President and CEO Fiber Broadband Association;  
**Ms Juanita Clark**, CEO Digital Council Africa;  
**Mr Rusafi Alam**, Director General FTTH Council Asia Pacific;  
**Mr Nelson Saito**, Fiber Broadband Association LATAM



The Fibre Council Global Alliance (FCGA) met in person for the first time since 2019. The Africa chapter hosted the FCGA 2022 meeting.

The FCGA is the platform for co-operation of the six regional FTTH Councils active in North America, Latin America, Middle East, North Africa, Africa, Europe and Asia-Pacific. **All FTTH Councils share a common goal: the acceleration of fiber to the home adoption.** They all act as powerful and independent organisations in their respective geographies. This regional focus gives the FTTH Councils a special strength to adapt their activities to the particular market situation in their area.

The FCGA ensures that those regional efforts are combined with the power of global cooperation. Within the FCGA, the FTTH Councils exchange studies, information and latest market developments.

Juanita Clark served as President of the FCGA for 2020 and 2021 and handed the Presidency over to Gary Bolton from the USA. The next meeting will be hosted by the FTTH Council Europe.

## THE SIX GLOBAL FTTH COUNCILS

**Digital Council Africa** - Established in 2010 under the banner of the FTTH Council Africa, the Digital Council Africa is an independent, not for profit organisation that seeks dialogue with all stakeholders to discuss how to maximise the societal benefits of digital and data-driven technologies to increase equality and inclusivity, wellbeing and digital adoption.

**Fibre Broadband Association** - Established in 2001, and the only all-fiber trade association in the Americas, the Fiber Broadband Association provides advocacy, education and resources to companies, organizations and communities who want to deploy the best networks through fiber to the home.

**Fibre Broadband Association LATAM** - The LATAM Chapter is the representation of the Fiber Broadband Association in the Latin America region. The Latin America Chapter is comprised of a diverse group of telecom service providers, high-tech manufacturers and other enterprises from across Latin America.

**FTTH Council APAC** - The FTTH Council Asia-Pacific is a non-profit organization established in 2005. The organization is building on the success of its sister organizations in the US and Europe to educate the industry and the general public on the opportunities and benefits of FTTH solutions.

**FiberConnect Council MENA** - The FTTH Council Middle East and North Africa is an industry organization with a mission to accelerate FTTH adoption by all broadband stakeholders through information and promotion, in order to accelerate the availability of fiber-based, ultra-high-speed access networks to consumers and businesses.

**FTTH Council Europe** - Created in 2004 by five founding members: Alcatel-Lucent, Cisco, Corning, Emtele and OFS, the FTTH Council Europe now has more than 160 members and a contracted team working to promote the benefits of fibre access across the continent.

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



**GREENING INDUSTRIALIZATION**  
in Southern Africa through digitalization,  
infrastructure development and regional integration:  
Leveraging AfCFTA implementation

**REGISTER TODAY!**

**ICSOE 2022**

26 - 27 Oct, 2022

Hybrid

[www.uneca.org](http://www.uneca.org)

[Click here to register](#)

United Nations  
Economic Commission for Africa

The poster features a background image of an industrial facility. It includes a calendar icon for the dates, a location pin icon for 'Hybrid', and a globe icon for the website. A 'Click here to register' button is also present. The logos of Mozambique and the UN ECA are at the bottom.

Juanita was invited by the United Nations Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICSOE) to participate in a discussion on infrastructure development for Southern Africa. The event took place on 26th and 27th October 2022 in Maputo, Mozambique, and a hybrid option was available. She spoke about how digital infrastructure is the basic foundation that enables industrialisation, and how the AfCFTA can reduce tariffs among members if policy areas and regulatory measures such as standards and technical barriers to trade is addressed.

# Global GE Orchestration Provider

Easily and quickly operate unified  
applications and network services

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



The Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Ms Khumbudzo Ntshavheni hosted the 2022 ICT Sector Gender Strategic Programme event on 18 August 2022 in Pretoria. The event was hosted under the national theme for the month: "Women's Socio-Economic Rights, Empowerment and Resilience".

Juanita was invited to attend the event and participate as a panel member. The focus of the panel discussion was on growth, development and transformation in the sector as a whole to address the socio-economic empowerment and advancement of women.

A recording of the event can be viewed [here](#).

### INVITATION

The DCDT will be hosting the 2022 ICT Sector Gender Strategic Programme Event. The event will be hosted under the national theme for Women's Month:

**"Women's Socio-Economic Rights, Empowerment and Resilience".**

This invitation is extended to you and two female representatives of your organisation, to join the Minister and other industry leaders at this milestone event.

For RSVP, please send the names, and contact details to Ms Mpho Matiwane  
Email: [mmatiwane@dcdt.gov.za](mailto:mmatiwane@dcdt.gov.za)

**#WomensMonth2022 #WomensEmpowermentAgenda**



**17 AUGUST**

**11:00 - 15:00**

**Sheraton Hotel**

643 Corner Stanza Bopape, Wessels St, Arcadia, Pretoria





# A Solution for every CONNECTION ISSUE...



Call 086 11 22 832



### Wifi out of range?

Seamless  
total-home  
Wi-fi coverage



### Power outage?

Network devices,  
internet & voice remain on  
during power outages



### No smart TV?

Convert a  
regular TV to  
a Smart TV

Send us an email [marketing@atec.co.za](mailto:marketing@atec.co.za) or visit [www.atec.co.za](http://www.atec.co.za)



## Sia Mausi

Founder & Director, Media Maus Digital Marketing & Content Production Agency

Born in King Williams Town and raised in East London, where she completed high school. Sia went straight into the job market after completing matric. She worked for two years while figuring out her plans for the future. In 2016 she went to study Journalism and Media Studies and Anthropology at Rhodes University. But, due to unfortunate circumstances, had to return home to East London in 2018 and could not complete her studies. In January 2020 she saw an ad about an incubation program that was about to open and that is how her journey with the Film Hub began.

At the time she had no plans of starting a business but was hoping to participate in skills training to improve her chances of finding a good job. Sia had no ambitions of being an entrepreneur. But when Covid hit, she had to change my way of thinking and find of a way to make money while in lock down.

She had always enjoyed social media and content production, so she knew where to go. Media Maus, a 100% youth and black owned digital marketing and content production agency was born and has been running successfully since 2020.

Offering social media management services, content production and various company corporate identity services. Media Maus mainly targets small businesses helping them to create their brand. A lot of the local businesses she encountered tended to fail due to the lack of online presence and Sia wanted to change this. During lock down many businesses owners had to adjust to the new systems that meant having to do most of their day-to-day business online. Having social media accounts and a functioning website became a necessity in order to keep businesses running and assure customers that services and products were still within their reach. This is where Sia saw a gap and created the agency to help put businesses back on the map using social media platforms, providing them with awareness content, ads and so forth. Even after the lock down restrictions eased up, She continued to offer her services and hasn't looked back.

**Q: What has the Cortex Hub meant to you and how have they assisted you and your business on your journey?**

The Cortex/Film Hub has been a great experience and I have learned a lot through being one of the incubated entrepreneurs. Whether through the various skills training workshops that are organised, screenings of webinars or the general day to day interactions I have with like-minded individuals in the space. Having a space where you can run your business is like having a 'home' for your business.

**Q: We met at the DCA Conference last month, where you were representing the Cortex Hub. Had you done this before or was this your first time? Did you enjoy the experience? What did you take away from your experience at the event?**

This was my first time attending a conference as well as my first time visiting Cape Town. I had attended the AI expo for the first time a week before as well but this one was a bit different. A lot of the companies that were in attendance were optic fibre companies, solar energy companies and government delegates; at first one might have assumed that they were out of place even though another incubation hub was present (Harambee).



I attended a few talks when I could, and I learned quite a bit about the digital divide. I had been aware that South Africa and Africa at large had a connectivity problem and that many individuals still had no access to the internet. It was great seeing that there were companies and organisations who are actively trying to solve this problem. South Africa still has a long way to go in solving the connectivity issues and the digital divide, but it is doable.

With my business relying 100% on the internet, it was great receiving that reassurance that there are many opportunities that await. I can say that I thoroughly enjoyed the experience although it gave me a lot to think about. Being in a room with individuals who seem to have made it in their respective industries can be quite intimidating, especially when not a lot look like you (in age). Thus, it was a motivating experience and I hope that I can have a better story to tell after my second Conext Conference.

**Q: If you could offer some advice/words of wisdom to a fellow young entrepreneur what would it be?**

Whenever I hear this question, it is always difficult for me to answer but I will try and give a response of what I wish I had been told.

I think the most important thing would be to keep learning. The world is changing every day and one cannot be complacent. Never stop upskilling yourself, even when you think you are an expert. There is always something to learn.

Avoid spending too much time planning and not doing. Sometimes planning is a way of procrastination. We manage to convince ourselves to not execute because we are not prepared or end up not executing at all, convinced that we cannot be prepared at all. You have more to gain by just doing things than being scared to fail by trying.

One must always try and block out any distractions. A lot of entrepreneurs are doing important work and it is important for us to all play our part in creating better communities. Distractions come in a lot of forms and one needs to be able to identify what they are and how to beat those distractions.

Giving up is not a choice. Always try to approach the problem with different executions and different methods, but do not give up.

For more information contact Sia on 083 514 1901 or [info@mediamaus.co.za](mailto:info@mediamaus.co.za)

### **ABOUT THE CORTEX HUB:**

The Cortex Hub offers free incubation and acceleration support to startup businesses building socially impactful solutions. The Hub's ecosystem boasts of various Technology specialization labs where skills are honed, these range from an Optic Fiber Lab, Bare Metal as a Service Lab (BaaS), Automotive Ethernet Lab, Robotics & Coding Lab, and through our network of partnerships we also have seen the setup of a Film Hub with the National Film & Video Foundation, as well as the newly launched Arm (E3)NGAGE Ecosystem Lab with Arm Limited.

The Cortex Hub Labs are physical spaces where we aim to achieve the goal of preparing the Youth of Eastern Cape to be relevant in the 4IR by acquiring the skills needed for future work as well as providing a demonstration platform for them to come in and build their ideas.

As a youth focused Business Incubator and Accelerator space providing free support to startups in the Eastern Cape region, The Cortex Hub is an exemplar for excellence in Tech education and research for the development of high calibre solutions and generation of businesses that find opportunities to innovate for Eastern Cape's social and economic development in the African continent.

## OADC wins Best Data Centre award at prestigious Global Carrier Awards 2022



Collecting the Best Data Centre / Edge Service Innovation Award at the Global Carrier Awards 2022.

**Left to right:**

**Alan Burkitt-Gray**, Capacity magazine editor-at-large;  
**Nikki Popoola**, WIOCC Sales Director - West Africa;  
**Dr Ayotunde Coker**, CEO of Open Access Data Centres; presenter of the award  
**Carl Roberts**, Partner at Hadaara Consulting

Transformational data centre (DC) service provider Open Access Data Centres (OADC) won the *Best Data Centre / Edge Service Innovation* award at the prestigious Global Carrier Awards 2022 for its unique and innovative OADC EDGE offering which is underpinning Africa's digital transformation.

OADC EDGE combines unmatched, pan-African digital infrastructure – a network of inter-connected, open access, core and edge data centres – in a revolutionary core-to-edge architecture which is extending data storage, processing and content delivery to point of consumption at the network edge, supporting improved application performance and enabling critical data to be processed locally.

OADC CEO Dr Ayotunde Coker commented: "For a company which secured its initial funding less than a year ago - in November 2021 - to win such an award is testament to the

*impact our innovative OADC EDGE offering is having in transforming the data centre market in Africa. No other data centre service provider offers a similar value proposition on the continent."*

OADC EDGE's proposition is unique, truly transformational and combines unmatched, pan-African digital infrastructure – a network of interconnected, carrier-neutral, core, "midi" and edge DCs – within a revolutionary core-to-edge architecture that extends data storage, processing and content delivery to the network edge.

Dr Coker continued: "As part of WIOCC Group and a sister company of carriers' carrier WIOCC, our **converged open digital infrastructure** enables OADC clients to quickly and easily connect across Africa - either via WIOCC's established pan-African open hyperscale network infrastructure or using other operators' networks."

OADC's unique core-to-edge architecture supports:

- Broadband operators, ISPs, "eyeball networks" and MNOs; cost-effectively extending network reach
- the cloud community; migrating content closer to the network edge
- the enterprise market, implementing disaster recovery to third-party sites; processing large data sets close to their point of consumption and rolling out new applications for market differentiation
- consumers; benefiting from expedited deployment of life-enhancing social, educational, well-being and entertainment services



OADC's Best Data Centre / Edge Service Innovation Award, won at Global Carrier Awards 20

OADC EDGE started deployment in South Africa and in 2023 will undertake further rollout there and in Nigeria; extending further into West Africa including the DRC, where OADC Kinshasa will go live in Q1 2023.

**About Open Access Data Centres** – <http://www.openaccessdc.net>

Open Access Data Centres (OADC), a WIOCC Group Company - has been established to transform the provision of data centre services for Africa. The company is implementing a world-class, carrier-neutral, pan-African data centre footprint that will deliver an unparalleled client experience, offering expert assistance and support, partnership in tailoring bespoke solutions and leading-edge information systems to support client business decision-making.

OADC is deploying its open-access, Tier III hyperscale data centres at major cable landing locations and in key business hubs throughout Africa.

OADC EDGE data centres are being deployed into smaller locations, serving the ongoing need to support service providers in extending network reach, and the rapidly growing requirement for content storage, processing and delivery at the network edge.

OADC is an environmentally responsible company and as such is pursuing a wide range of environmental and sustainability management accreditations.



Test Equipment and Installation Tools for your Telecommunication Network



Thank you for visiting us at the Conext Conference!  
Do not hesitate to reach out with any Telecom Network test requirements.



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

---



Juanita was a speaker at the Connect to Connect (C2C) Summit in Dar es Salaam on the 7th-8th September this year. The Summit was hosted in partnership with the Ministry of Information, Communications & Information Technology.

Previous C2C Summits have played a key role in supporting the acceleration of ICT connectivity across Africa. The summit provides countries and service providers with direct access to their peers, investors and potential partners for face to face engagement, collaboration and negotiation.

This year's summit took the agenda a step further, presenting roadmaps and best practices for local, national, regional and continental connectivity. It included panel discussions, fireside chat interviews and keynote presentations, allowing peer-to-peer learning, assessment of the latest technologies and providing plenty of opportunities for face to face engagement with peers and useful solution partners.

For more information about the Summit click [here](#).

---

## ESTATE LIVING **PROPERTY DEVELOPERS FORUM**

Juanita was a speaker at Estate Living Property Developers Forum on the 24th of August at The Protea and Ice in Cape Town. She spoke about the proliferation of broadband infrastructure and how that will impact on property owners.

The event offered property developers an opportunity to come together to network and engage in a number of interesting and relevant information sessions. The theme of this year's event was 'KZN Built Environments: Growth and Investment that effects change TODAY'.

The agenda included presentations on Renewable Energy, presented by vice chair Joanne Dean SARC, Fibre Infrastructure presented by Juanita Clark, CEO of the Digital Council Africa, Vivian Reddy Chairman of Edison Corporation, Joël Couve de Murville of Beau Plan Mauritius and Daniel Kruger Resolutionsa, Lekha Allopi Project Executive eThekweni Municipality and Claire Norton of eThekweni Municipality.

## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

---



Tower Xchange

# Meetup Africa

The meeting place for the African tower industry

CELEBRATING **10** years of Tower Xchange

11 - 12 October 2022  
Johannesburg, South Africa

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Juanita was a speaker at Tower Exchange 2022 that took place at the Sandton Convention Centre.

In the last three years since we last all convened in South Africa the African telecom tower industry has seen significant changes. The four big African publicly listed towercos now control 37% of Africa's 176,751 towers. Three new major private towercos have been formed to challenge the established order. The once nascent rural specialist towerco market are now building 1,000s of towers between them. And Mobile operators like Axian Telecom and Vodacom are looking to launch their own towercos.

Find out more about the event [here](#).



Including Anchor Events

**AFRICA TECH FESTIVAL**

Africa Com | Africa Tech

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

7-11 Nov 2022 | Cape Town

**I'M SPEAKING!  
JOIN ME WITH A  
FREE PASS**

**BACK IN CAPE TOWN!**



Juanita Clark  
DIGITAL COUNCIL AFRICA  
Chief Executive Officer

[www.africatechfestival.com](http://www.africatechfestival.com)

Juanita is a speaker at the upcoming Africa Tech Festival 2022, the home of AfricaCom and AfricaTech. Finally, back in Cape Town on 7-11 November at the CTICC. She will be participating in 2 panel discussions covering the topics: **Affordable Internet Access for All: Empowering Africa's Connectivity Champions to Bridge the Digital Divide** as well as **Connectivity in Focus: 4G, 5G, and Africa's Network Migration**.

If you would like to join her there, register for one of the free tickets available [here](#).



IDEAL SOLUTION TO DEPLOY  
YOUR FIBER OPTIC NETWORKS  
IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS



**CITYCLEANFAST**



[www.samarais.com](http://www.samarais.com)  
[www.tesmec.com](http://www.tesmec.com)

Contact: [davidc@maraistrenching.co.za](mailto:davidc@maraistrenching.co.za)



LATEST COMPACT INNOVATION OF PLUMETTAZI!  
ELECTRIC, DIGITAL, SMART AND CONNECTED -  
LET THE NEXT GENERATION MACHINES **DO THE  
WORK FOR YOU.**

**PLUMETT OPTIJET™**

ALL THE KNOW-HOW OF PLUMETTAZI CONDENSED  
IN THE MOST RECENT TECHNOLOGIES

Its automatic crash test of the pushing force and radial force  
on the cable, ensures the best performance for laying the cable  
while protecting it. And thanks to its speed of 100 m/min, the  
OptiJet™ is very efficient in optimising working time.

[www.plumettazi.com](http://www.plumettazi.com)

DFA fibre network solutions are diverse, reliable and easily accessible in  
metros, network, with an industry leading uptime of 99,98%.

Partner with the best fibre infrastructure company in SA.



# CONTACT US



## Juanita Clark

CEO

[juanita@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:juanita@digitalcouncil.africa)



## Reesha Iyer

Member Services

[reesha@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:reesha@digitalcouncil.africa)



## Sipho Makhalema

Marketing and Events Manager

[sipho@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:sipho@digitalcouncil.africa)



## Nadene Reignier

Stakeholder Communications

[nadene@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:nadene@digitalcouncil.africa)

## POPI ACT INFO

The Digital Council Africa respects your right to privacy and we aim to ensure that we comply with the POPI Act (Act 4 of 2013), which regulates the manner in which we collect, process, store, share and destroy any personal information which you have provided to us. Your personal information is strictly confidential and we will notify you immediately should we become aware of any unauthorised use, disclosure or processing of your personal information. Kindly note that you may choose to opt out at any time from all marketing and other communications by contacting Reesha Iyer at [reesha@digital-council.africa](mailto:reesha@digital-council.africa).

## LOST AND FOUND

The Digital Council Africa has an [Equipment Monitoring page](#) on its website. The aim is to curb theft of equipment.

To view a list of stolen equipment, you can access the list [here](#).

We encourage members to regularly send through the serial numbers of stolen equipment, and inform us when equipment is recovered to ensure that the information remains up to date and accurate.

Information can be sent to Reesha Iyer at [reesha@digitalcouncil.africa](mailto:reesha@digitalcouncil.africa)

In addition, it remains the responsibility of the industry to regularly do spot checks against the serial numbers of contractor equipment to ensure that stolen equipment is identified and that culprits are eradicated from the industry. Companies wishing to purchase second hand equipment should compare the equipment serial numbers against those listed on the website.



## THE CHALLENGE

South Africa faces a crisis of youth unemployment. Of the 1.2 million young people who enter the labour market each year, approximately two thirds remain outside of employment, education or training

## HOW SA YOUTH ALIGNS WITH THE NATIONAL YOUTH STRATEGY



PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INTERVENTION

- A strategic national vision and plan announced by President Ramaphosa in his 2020 SONA
- Sets out priority initiatives to address the youth unemployment challenge



NATIONAL PATHWAY MANAGEMENT NETWORK (NPMN)

- The NPMN is one of the initiatives under the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI)
- It is a network of partners across government, business and civil society that work together to:
  - Create, stimulate and aggregate income earning and learning opportunities for young work-seekers
  - Match and connect young people to these opportunities
  - Drive systems change to support inclusive hiring

## SA Youth: The enabling platform

Creating opportunities for youth, at scale

Inclusive access to the economy

**RECRUIT**



partners.sayouth.org.za

**PARTNER ACCESS POINT**



**APPLY**









sayouth.mobi

**WORK-SEEKER ACCESS POINT**

- PARTNERS REGISTERED ON THE PLATFORM CAN:**
- List their opportunities for youth - jobs, learnerships, apprenticeships, internships, volunteering, entrepreneurial programmes, social programmes
  - Source suitable talent from a large database of entry level work-seekers

- YOUNG WORK-SEEKERS CAN:**
- Access learning and earning opportunities at no cost
  - Receive support via multiple channels – the web, WhatsApp, e-mail, toll free hotline, Facebook, Messenger

## BENEFITS

 <p>Access 2 million + engaged youth nationally (60% female) for entry-level roles</p>	 <p>Easy to use online platform - reduces admin and streamlines your recruitment process</p>	 <p>Matches work-seekers to your vacancies based on geography, education and your customised requirements</p>	 <p>List unlimited vacancies, pull reports, track applications</p>	 <p>A team of people ready to support you to register and load your vacancies</p>	 <p>No cost to access the platform – only require your commitment to provide feedback on who you have hired within 20 days</p>
---	---	--	---	--	---

Join the growing SA Youth network for your entry-level recruitment needs!  
Contact us on [info@sayouth.org.za](mailto:info@sayouth.org.za) | Register on [partners.sayouth.org.za](http://partners.sayouth.org.za)

