

## MKRI Participated in eThekweni Business Fair – Techno Zone at Bridge City, KwaMashu



The Moses Kotane Research Institute (MKRI) recently participated in the Business Fair – Techno Zone, a vibrant three-day event hosted by the eThekweni Municipality's Business Support Unit at Bridge City in KwaMashu. The event took place from Friday, 4 April to Sunday, 6 April 2025.

MKRI was invited to collaborate with the Municipality and used the opportunity to exhibit its services and offerings to a wide audience, including local businesses, organisations, and entrepreneurs—both small and large. Throughout the event, MKRI showcased its contributions in the fields of research, education, innovation, and community development, drawing attention to its role in supporting sustainable economic growth and knowledge empowerment in the province.

The Techno Zone provided a unique platform for participants to present advancements in Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and Educational Programs. MKRI's presence emphasised its commitment to engaging with emerging technologies and supporting initiatives that promote inclusive development.

By participating in this initiative, MKRI strengthened its connections with key stakeholders and reaffirmed its role as a driver of innovation and transformation within KwaZulu-Natal.

## SALGA Tech Mini Games Competition Hackathon Drives Innovation for Local Government Solutions



The South African Local Government Association (SALGA), in collaboration with the Moses Kotane Research Institute, hosted the SALGA Tech Mini Games Competition Hackathon in KwaZulu-Natal. The event aimed to empower young innovators with digital skills to tackle local government challenges and improve service delivery.

Participants from various municipalities, including Nquthu, Ugu District, Ulundi, Umsunduzi, KwaDukuza, and Dannhauser, competed in categories like App Development, Game Development, Website Development, Coding & Robotics, and 3D Printing.

The teams developed innovative tech solutions, with standout projects such as data management platform for schools to manage enrollment and events more effectively.

Winners of the hackathon were:

- 1st Place: Ugu Municipality
- 2nd Place: Msunduzi Municipality
- 3rd Place: Dannhauser Municipality

The event demonstrated the power of technology in driving sustainable development and digital transformation in local governance, inspiring a new generation of tech-driven problem-solvers across KwaZulu-Natal.

## MKRI Moves to New Centralized Office in Durban CBD



The Moses Kotane Research Institute (MKRI) has officially begun relocating its operations to a newly secured office in the heart of the Durban Central Business District. This move comes as part of the Institute's efforts to streamline operations and improve accessibility for both staff and stakeholders.

Previously operating from two separate locations approximately 40 kilometers apart, MKRI faced numerous logistical challenges, including limited workspaces and poor accessibility for public transport users. The relocation is expected to enhance operational efficiency and provide a more conducive working environment.

The new MKRI Campus is located at 190 K.E. Masinga Road, Durban, 4001, directly opposite McDonald's and behind Avis Car Rentals. The move is scheduled for completion by 30 April 2025, and from 1 May 2025, all staff are expected to report to the new offices full-time. Executive Manager for Corporate Services, Adv. T. Mapipa, extended gratitude to staff for their patience and cooperation during this transition.

This relocation marks a significant milestone in MKRI's mission to better serve its community and stakeholders.

## Ahead of G20 Summit, SA pushes for an innovation fund



South Africa has called for the establishment of an innovation fund or facility to support digital entrepreneurship in underserved regions.

Mr. Solly Malatsi, South Africa's minister of communications and digital technologies, made the plea as he welcomed the G20 Digital Economy Working Group and the Task Force on AI, Data Governance, and Innovation in Eastern Cape, South Africa.

This comes as South Africa has become the first African nation to hold the G20 Presidency.

The G20 Johannesburg Summit will be held from 22 to 23 November 2025.

Read more: <https://itweb.africa/content/VgZey7JIXNyqdiX9>



April is **Alcohol Awareness Month**, a time to reflect on how alcohol misuse impacts not just individuals, but families, workplaces, and communities. Excessive drinking can lead to serious health issues like liver disease, mental health problems, and addiction. It also affects relationships, causes financial strain, and contributes to accidents and violence.

The effects are far-reaching — but so is the support available.

If you or someone you know is struggling with alcohol use, help is available:

- **SADAG** – 0800 456 789
- **Alcoholics Anonymous SA** – [www.aasouthafrica.org.za](http://www.aasouthafrica.org.za)
- **SANCA** – [www.sancanational.info](http://www.sancanational.info)
- **Lifeline SA** – 0861 322 322

Let's use this month to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and support recovery — because a healthier community starts with informed, compassionate conversations.



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