SATNAC 2026

AI as the Last Mile: *Building the Sustainable Digital Enterprise*

DAY ONE | MONDAY 12 OCTOBER 2026

08:00 ***Refreshments & Industry Exhibition***

08:30 **Delegates Seated**

09:00 **Welcoming by Conference Programme Director**
Azania Mosaka, *Broadcaster & Journalist*

09:10 **Opening of Conference by SATNAC Chairperson**
Dr. Mmaki Jantjies, *Group Executive: Innovation & Transformation, TELKOM SA*

09:30 **Welcome Address**
Prof Bismark Tyobeka, *Vice-Chancellor & Principal, NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY*

10:00 **Opening Address**
Serame Taukobong, *Group Chief Executive Officer, TELKOM SA*

10:30 ***Refreshments & Industry Exhibition***
High-Level Delegation Exhibition & Showcases Walkthrough

11:00 **Futurist Address**
Dr. Adriana Marais, *Technologist & Theoretical Physicist*

11:30 ***"Connecting Intelligence"***
Toni Pellegrino, *Managing Director, NOKIA SOUTH AFRICA & Head: Sub-Saharan Africa, NOKIA*

12:00 ***"Remaining Human in the AI ERA"***
Charlene Abrey, *Technology Development & Innovation, OPENSERVE*

12:30 ***Lunch / Networking / Industry Exhibition***

13:30 **Panel Discussion |** ***"AI for Digital Sustainability Responsible, Inclusive and African-Led Enterprise Transformation"***
Moderator: Sello Mmakau, *Group Chief Digital Officer, TELKOM SA*
Panelists: Carol Mofulatsi, *Head, Digital Strategy & Experience Design, MOMENTUM*
Verushca Hunter, *Chief Technology Officer, BCX*
Vukosi Sambo, *Group Chief Information Officer, PHA & MARARA HOLDINGS*

14:15 **Fireside Chat |** ***"Evolving the Operator: Integrating SMME-Driven AI into the Telecommunications Value Chain"***
Moderator: ***Kagiso Modise,*** *Executive: Product House, OPENSERVE*
Panelists: Thami Hoza, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer, KASI MONEY*
Xolani Zuma, *Founder & Chief Executive Officer, ADVANNOTECH (PTY) LTD*

14:45 **SATNAC Sponsors' Award Ceremony presented by Conference Chairperson**
Dr. Mmaki Jantjies, *Group Executive: Innovation & Transformation, TELKOM SA*

15h45 **Centre of Excellence (CoE) Showcases**
University of Johannesburg / University of Limpopo / University of Cape Town / University of KwaZulu Natal & North-West University

15:55 **Closing of Conference Day One by Programme Director**
Azania Mosaka, *Broadcaster & Journalist*

16:00 ***Refreshments / Industry Exhibition & Poster Presentations***
Sponsors' Industry Exhibition
Students Research Poster Presentations

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AI as the Last Mile: *Building the Sustainable Digital Enterprise*

DAY TWO | TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2026

08:00 Refreshments & Industry Exhibition

08:30 Delegates Seated

09:00 Welcoming by Conference Programme Director
Azania Mosaka, *Broadcaster & Journalist*

09:10 *"ACT for All Intelligence: Creating New Value for Industry"*
Deslin Pillay, *Executive Solution Manager, HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES AFRICA*

09:40 *"The AI-Human Paradox: Cultivating Authentic Connection in an Automated World"*
Dr. Patrick Sekgoka, *Executive: Data Science & CVM, TELKOM CONSUMER & SMALL BUSINESS*

10:10 Refreshments & Industry Exhibition

10:40 Panel Discussion | *"Responsible AI at Scale: Engineering Local Research and Inclusive Skills for African Enterprise"*
Moderator: Prof. Joyce Mwangama, *Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN*
Panellists: Prejlin Naidoo, *Partner, Consumer, Telco & Tech, OLIVER WYMAN*
Judy Vilakazi, *Head, TELKOM FOUNDATION*
Prof Albert Helberg, *Professor, Engineering, NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY*

11:10 SATNAC Industry Solutions Challenge Winners Announcements
Azania Mosaka, *Broadcaster & Journalist*

11:30 Best Student Papers Awards Announcements by SATNAC Technical Programme Chair
Dr. Prosper Zanu Sotenga, *Senior Lecturer: Department of Electrical Engineering, TSHWANE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY*

11:50 Closing of Conference Day Two by Conference Chairperson
Dr. Mmaki Jantjies, *Group Executive: Innovation & Transformation, TELKOM SA*

12:00 Lunch & Networking

13:00 Students Breakaway Sessions | Full Paper Research Presentations

15:00 Refreshments & Industry Exhibition

15:30 Students Breakaway Sessions | Full Paper Research Presentations

18:00 End of Students Breakaway Sessions