





REPORT

ON THE NATIONAL

MEGA HACKATHON 2025

"RE-IMAGINING PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY"

15 OCTOBER 2025 WINDHOEK COUNTRY CLUB RESORT



































Contents

Sun	nmary of the Prime Minister's speech	2
Sun	nmary of the Governor's Speech	3
Fore	eword	4
Ack	nowledgements	5
Acr	onyms and Abbreviations	6
1.	Executive Summary	7
2.	Introduction and Background	8
3.	Objectives of the Hackathon	9
4.	Event Overview	. 10
5.	Official Opening	. 11
5.1	Official Opening	. 12
5.2	Programme Summary	. 13
5.3	Hackathon Process and Implementation	. 14
5.4	Publicity and Marketing	. 15
5.5	Highlights of Key Sessions	. 16
6.	Awards and Recognitions	. 17
7.	Outcomes and Impact	. 18
8.	Post-Hackathon Plan	. 19
9.	Recommendations	. 20
10.	Conclusion	. 21
Not	es	. 26
Not	es	27

EDITORIAL TEAM

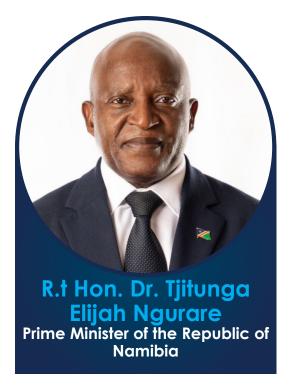
Editor: Asteria Ndjendja **Rapporteurs:** Johanna Shihepo

Saara Imbili

Sub Editor: Johanna Nashipili

Photographer: Emmency Nuukala

Graphic Designer: Luiz N. Ndara



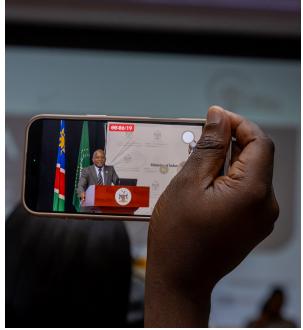
Summary of the Prime Minister's speech

The Prime Minister commended the innovation, energy and patriotism of Namibia's youth, noting their pivotal role in shaping the country's digital future. He explained that the Hackathon, held in place of the traditional ICT Summit, represented a practical step towards implementing the National Digital Strategy launched on 5 August 2025. This shift, he said, reflected a results-driven approach that moves from ideas to tangible action. He outlined the key focus areas of the proposed solutions, which included Public Service Delivery, aimed at enhancing accessibility, efficiency and transparency of government services; Education System Reform, focused on developing digital tools to improve learning outcomes in collaboration with the Ministry of Education; and Citizen Engagement, designed to create responsive

and people-centred services through digital platforms.

The Premier described the youth as today's innovators and leaders with the potential to transform education, healthcare, governance and economic participation through technology. He stressed the need for continued investment in digital skills, innovation platforms and collaboration between government, the private sector and young innovators. He further praised the Hackathon as a visionary initiative led by Hon. Theofelus and expressed appreciation to the sponsors and partners for their confidence in Namibia's potential. In conclusion, the Prime Minister Ngurare challenged participants to think boldly, collaborate generously, and develop solutions that will transform Namibia into a smart, inclusive and innovation-driven nation.





Hon. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma Governor of the Khomas Region

Summary of the Governor's Speech

The Governor of the Khomas Region extended a warm welcome to participants of the National Mega Hackathon 2025, hosted in his region, Khomas, Namibia's capital of innovation under the theme "Re-imagining Public Service Delivery."He noted that the event brought together developers, innovators, entrepreneurs and experts to co-create digital solutions for a smarter and more efficient government.

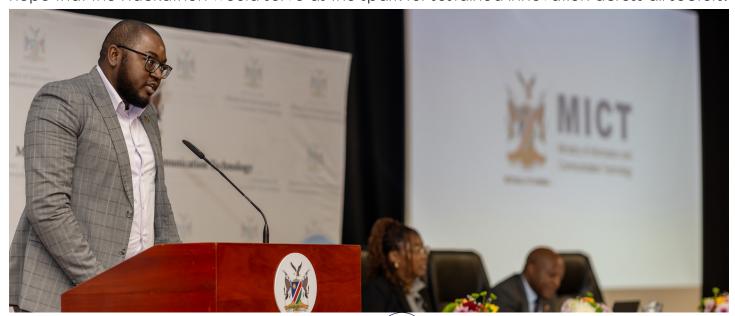
He stated that the Khomas Region, as Namibia's administrative and innovation hub, was proud to host the inaugural Hackathon, reaffirming its leadership in digital transformation. The Governor commended the Ministry of ICT, under the leadership of Hon. Emma Theofelus, for its continued efforts in promoting youth-driven innovation.

Referring to a recent statement by President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, the Governor highlighted Namibia's commitment to economic diversification, universal connectivity and youth empowerment as key enablers of a knowledge-based

economy by 2030.

He emphasised that the Hackathon was more than a competition, describing it as a national movement aimed at empowering youth, enhancing citizen engagement and reimagining how government services are delivered. He further expressed gratitude to sponsors and stakeholders for their support of this impactful initiative.

In closing, the Governor encouraged young innovators from across the country to think boldly and propose solutions grounded in the lived realities of Namibians. He concluded by expressing hope that the Hackathon would serve as the spark for sustained innovation across all sectors.





Foreword

The official opening of the National Mega Hackathon marks a pivotal moment in Namibia's digital transformation journey, from policy formulation to practical implementation. Gratitude is extended to the Hon. Prime Minister, Ministers, Governors, and leaders from Offices, Ministries, and Agencies (OMAs), as well as partner institutions, for their presence and support.

The Hackathon is a first step towards implementing the National Digital Strategy (NDS), approved by Cabinet and launched on 5 August 2025. Rather than hosting the annual ICT Summit, the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) opted to channel resources to this Hackathon to develop tangible digital solutions that bridge the digital divide and enhance access to public services.

The event is a result of significant collaboration, strategic planning and shared belief in Namibia's potential, particularly the energy and innovation of its youth. I would like to extend my appreciation to all sponsors and technical partners for their generous support.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all innovators who participated in the Hackathon and reached this stage. You have demonstrated that Namibia has the talent and capacity to develop solutions to its own challenges. Let us continue working together to support the advancement of Namibia's digital future.





Acknowledgements

This Inaugural Mega Hackathon marks the beginning of a transformative journey towards "Re-imagining Public Service Delivery." Sincere gratitude is extended to all who contributed to making this event a success:

Right Honourable Prime Minister: Thank you for gracing the event and for the inspiring statement.

Hon. Governor: Thank you for welcoming all participants to your region.

Hon. Minister: Thank you for your exceptional leadership. Sponsors: Thank you for your generous support and belief in innovation.

Innovators: Your creativity and dedication have been truly inspiring.

Judges and Mentors: Your guidance has been invaluable in shaping and empowering our innovators.

Industry Leaders: We deeply appreciate your leadership, support and hospitality; and Organising Committee & Director of Proceedings: Thank you for your commitment, dedication and professionalism.

Lastly, I would like to encourage our innovators to continue pushing boundaries and developing solutions that advance Namibia's digital transformation. Congratulations to all winners and participants. We look forward to your continued successes!



Acronyms and Abbreviations

AWS Amazon Web Services

ICT Information and Communication Technology

MICT Ministry of Information and Communication Technology

MVPs Minimum Viable Products

NCRST National Commission on Research, Science and Technology

NDS National Digital Strategy

NIED National Institute for Educational Development

NIPDB Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board









1. Executive Summary

This report provides a concise overview of the National Mega Hackathon 2025, outlining its purpose, objectives and key achievements. The event aimed to accelerate the development and adoption of user-driven digital government services by engaging youth and innovators in solving real-world challenges. It served as a vital platform for fostering collaboration and enhancing Namibia's digital innovation capacity.

The Hackathon attracted significant interest, with 524 applications received, leading to 70 shortlisted teams and subsequently nine (9) teams comprising 44 participants as finalists. Major highlights include the development of innovative prototypes and the establishment of new partnerships between government, academia and the private sector. The outcomes and recommendations underscore the event's contribution to Namibia's digital transformation agenda and outline a roadmap for sustaining innovation going forward.



2. Introduction and Background

The National Mega Hackathon 2025 was organised within the broader context of Namibia's National Digital Strategy (NDS) 2025–2028, reflecting a strong national commitment to digital transformation. The initiative was designed to advance Namibia's digital agenda by leveraging local talents and innovative solutions. It serves as a cornerstone event in aligning the country's digital aspirations with its national development goals.

The rationale behind hosting the Hackathon stemmed from the need to drive digital innovation and enhance public service delivery through technology. By providing a platform for collaboration, the event sought to catalyse the development of impactful digital solutions that address real societal needs. This approach aligns seamlessly with Namibia's vision for a digitally empowered and inclusive future.



3. Objectives of the Hackathon

The Hackathon was structured to achieve the following key objectives in advancing Namibia's digital landscape:

- I. To accelerate the development and adoption of user-driven digital government services to foster a more efficient and responsive public sector.
- II. To engage youth and innovators in solving real-world challenges, tapping into Namibia's diverse talent base.
- III. To facilitate the development of prototypes and Minimum Viable Products (MVPs) tailored to address specific sectoral needs.
- IV. To promote collaboration among government entities, academia and the private sector to build a robust and sustainable ecosystem for innovation.
- V. To enhance interoperability and strengthen digital innovation capacity for long-term sustainable growth.

VI. To groom and adopt the resulting prototypes for operationalisation within the government and industry framework.







4. Event Overview

The National Mega Hackathon 2025, themed "Re-Imagining Public Service Delivery", took place on 15 October 2025 at the Windhoek Country Club Resort. The event was held in a hybrid format, accommodating both physical and virtual participation, with 198 attendees in person, including the Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information, Communication, Technology and Innovation, industry players and innovators. MICT provided overall leadership and strategic direction for the Hackathon's successful execution.

Technical partners played an instrumental role by offering mentorship, coaching and technological support, which greatly contributed to the event's success. The Hackathon attracted significant interest, with 524 applications received, from which 70 candidates were shortlisted and 44 finalists, grouped into nine (9) teams, showcased their innovative digital solutions. Key stakeholders further supported the Hackathon's objectives through both monetary and in-kind sponsorships.





5. Official Opening

The day's activities at the Hackathon were structured to maximise engagement and showcase innovation. Proceedings commenced with registration and the opening ceremony, providing a formal start to the event. This was followed by a high-level panel discussion featuring experts who explored key themes in digital transformation and public service delivery.

Subsequently, nine Innovators within their respective groups pitched and demonstrated their prototypes to judges and attendees, followed by interactive question-and-answer sessions. The event concluded with an awards presentation and a closing remark, recognising outstanding contributions and celebrating the success of the Hackathon.



5.1 Official Opening

at the forefront of Namibia's digital transformation journey."

The official opening ceremony set the atmosphere and tone of excitement and collaboration. Honourable Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, Governor of the Khomas Region, delivered the opening remarks, warmly welcoming participants and dignitaries to the event. He highlighted the Khomas Region's role as "Namibia's capital of innovation and opportunities," noting that "it is in Khomas where most ideas are born, tested, and scaled into solutions that touch lives across the country." He added that hosting this inaugural Mega Hackathon in his region "reaffirms the Ministerial commitment to being

The keynote address was delivered by the Right Honourable Dr. Tjitunga Elijah Ngurare, Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia, who emphasised the urgent need for digital transformation and commended the youth for their pivotal role in shaping the nation's future.

The official programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Honourable Emma Theofelus, Minister of ICT, who acknowledged the collective effort and shared vision that brought the Hackathon to realisation. She reiterated the government's commitment to the aspiration of "a digitally empowered Namibia," while expressing gratitude to the organisers, partners and participants. The key messages and themes from the opening ceremony underscored the government's commitment to digital transformation, youth empowerment and the collaborative effort required to achieve national development goals.







5.2 Programme Summary

The day's activities at the Hackathon were structured to maximise engagement and showcase innovation. Proceedings commenced with registration and the opening ceremony, providing a formal start to the event. This was followed by a high-level panel discussion featuring experts who explored key themes in digital transformation and public service delivery.

Subsequently, nine Innovators within their respective groups pitched and demonstrated their prototypes to judges and attendees, followed by interactive question-and-answer sessions. The event concluded with an awards presentation and a closing remark, recognising outstanding contributions and celebrating the success of the Hackathon.





5.3 Hackathon Process and Implementation

The implementation of the Hackathon began with a national call for participation, inviting innovators from across Namibia. This was followed by a rigorous evaluation and selection process aimed at identifying the most promising and impactful concept ideations. From the initial 524 applications received, 16 teams comprising 70 candidates were shortlisted and ultimately, through a subsequent round of assessments, 9 teams consisting of 44 finalists advanced to the final stage of the competition.

Participants were tasked with developing innovative solutions to key public sector challenges, such as Mental Health, Inventory Management and Online Job Application systems.

The Problem statements and thematic areas were carefully crafted to address critical operational gaps in public service delivery. Over a period of six (6) days, teams received extensive mentorship and incubation support, ensuring that the teams received guidance and resources throughout the development process. A transparent judging and evaluation system was implemented to ensure fairness and credibility, while digital tools and collaborative platforms were utilised to facilitate effective solution development and teamwork.

The Innovation Pitching session was the centrepiece of the event, featuring 9 teams presenting their projects and explaining their relevance to public service delivery. The innovators demonstrated creativity, technical skills and strong societal impact in their solutions. The mentorship sessions provided valuable guidance and capacity-building opportunities, enabling teams to refine their concepts, while the Prototype demonstrations highlighted practical applications with potential for real-world implementation and impact on service delivery.



5.4 Publicity and Marketing

The Hackathon was supported by a publicity and marketing strategy to ensure broad awareness and engagement. The publicity began with an announcement poster shared on social media, accompanied by tone-setting engagements with Hon. Theofelus at the Government Information Centre, to generate interest and excitement.

In addition, three full-page adverts were placed in the New Era newspaper to reach a wider audience. During the event, a range of graphics and visual materials were created to enhance the live experience, which was streamed on MICT social media platforms to reach both virtual and in-person audiences.

Key speeches and statements were shared throughout the event and interviews were conducted on NBC National Radio as well as twice on the Daily Round Up NBC TV show, both before and after the Hackathon, to highlight its objectives, progress and outcomes.

This comprehensive publicity approach ensured visibility, enhanced stakeholder engagement and promoted the Hackathon as a flagship initiative advancing Namibia's digital transformation agenda.







5.5 Highlights of Key Sessions

Several key sessions enriched the National Mega Hackathon 2025.

Among these, the high-level panel discussion formed one of the most insightful segments, centred on the theme "Cultivating a Digital-First Culture – Engaging Youth and Innovators for National Digital Strategy Implementation."

The discussion was guided by strategic questions designed to link national digital transformation goals with youth engagement, innovation capacity and practical implementation mechanisms. The panel discussion was moderated by Ms. Fhulufhelo Ramphaga, Computer Science Student at the University of Namibia, with panel members including Mr. Michael Immanuel (NIED), Ms. Julia Muetudhana (NIPDB) and Dr. Simeon Hamukoshi (NCRST). The panel collectively emphasised that achieving Namibia's digital transformation requires a strong educational foundation, youth empowerment and sustained multi-sector collaboration.

The Panel members emphasised the need to integrate ICT and emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and robotics, into the school curriculum, promote digital literacy through teacher training and establish youth-friendly policies that support innovation beyond events like the Hackathon. The discussion highlighted the importance of research, partnerships and continuous mentorship to help young innovators transition from ideas to implementation. It also called for accountability, dedicated funding mechanisms and an enabling environment that ensures the effective execution of the National Digital Strategy 2025–2028.



6. Awards and Recognitions

The Awards and Recognitions ceremony celebrated the innovative spirit and hard work of all participants. Winning teams were announced, with summaries of their groundbreaking solutions showcasing their potential to transform public service delivery.

Beyond recognition, winners received prizes, internship placements and mentorship opportunities to support continued development. Special acknowledgements were also extended to sponsors, judges, mentors and outstanding participants, whose contributions were vital to the success of the Hackathon. These recognitions underscored the collaborative nature of the event and celebrated the collective achievement of all involved.

The top four winners of the Hackathon challenge were Edu Namibia (Grand prize winner), Kiamso (First), Accelerate Technologies (Second) and Logitech Minds (Third). Digital Horizon and Digital Ledger secured fourth and Fifth Places, respectively. These teams stood out among the nine finalist teams, earning the highest overall evaluations from the panel of six judges. Their projects, ranging from mental health solutions to inventory systems and online job platforms, demonstrated innovation, societal impact and strong execution, securing their positions as the leading entries in the competition.





7. Outcomes and Impact

The Hackathon delivered significant outcomes, including the development of innovative digital solutions aimed at enhancing public service delivery. These prototypes demonstrated practical and scalable applications capable of addressing critical national challenges.

Notable achievements included broad youth participation, strengthened collaboration between government and the ICT industry and a reinforcement of a national innovation ecosystem. The event directly supported the objectives of the National Digital Strategy, furthering Namibia's digital transformation agenda. Furthermore, it provided valuable lessons for continuous improvement in digital initiatives and policy alignment, laying a sustainable foundation for future innovation.





8. Post-Hackathon Plan

The impact of the Hackathon extends beyond the event itself through a structured Post-Hackathon Plan. The next phase focuses on refining prototypes for deployment and real-world application.

A mentorship and incubation programme, running from November 2025 to October 2026, will provide ongoing support to the winning teams. Progress will be monitored through regular evaluations to ensure effective implementation and tangible outcomes.

Follow-up engagements will maintain participant involvement and strengthen collaboration, thereby nurturing a long-term culture of innovation in Namibia.





9. Recommendations

Based on the insights and successes of the National Mega Hackathon 2025, the following recommendations are proposed to further advance Namibia's digital transformation: Strengthen collaboration between government and private sector: to establish formal frameworks and incentives to encourage sustained partnerships in digital innovation and project implementation.

Continue hosting the Mega Hackathon as an annual innovation initiative: to institutionalise the Hackathon as a flagship event to consistently engage new talent, generate innovative solutions and drive public service modernisation.

Invest in digital infrastructure and AI readiness: Prioritise the development of robust digital infrastructure and build capacities in artificial intelligence to support advanced technological solutions.

Establish funding and incubation mechanisms for innovation projects: Create dedicated funds and support structures to nurture promising prototypes into viable products and scale-ups. Foster continuous digital skills development and capacity building: Implement ongoing training programmes and educational initiatives to equip citizens with the necessary digital competencies required for a rapidly evolving technological landscape.





10. Conclusion

The National Mega Hackathon 2025 marks a pivotal moment in Namibia's journey toward a digitally empowered future, demonstrating remarkable success in uniting talent, vision and technology. The event unequivocally demonstrated that "code meets purpose" and "innovation goes mega," transforming bright ideas into powerful digital solutions for public service delivery. The event's significance extends beyond competition, establishing a national movement that harnesses the creativity and boundless potential of Namibia's youth to tackle real-world challenges. As Governor Nujoma eloquently stated, this Mega Hackathon is "a national movement, a call to action for young Namibians to reimagine government service delivery, improve citizen engagement and build smarter, faster and more transparent systems."

Hon. Emma Theofelus, Minister of ICT, further highlighted this vision, reflecting on the journey from "policy formulation to practical implementation." She emphasised that the Ministry "decided to redirect its 2025 resources towards practical implementation through the National Mega Hackathon, rather than hosting the annual ICT Summit." This strategic shift exemplifies a commitment to action-oriented initiatives, translating the National Digital Strategy into a tangible reality. By nurturing solutions generated during the Hackathon and fostering continuous collaboration, MICT aims to build trust, strengthen democracy and secure a prosperous digital future for all Namibians, transforming the nation, one innovative solution at a time.





15. Annexes

15.1 Annexe 1: Hackathon Winners and Prizes

Grand Prize (Winners): Edu Namibia			
Joshua Madzimure (Team Leader)			
Simataa Mwiya			
May-Lee Mulundu			
Denzel V. Tjiurutue			
Tjatjitua Tjiyahura			

Prizes: N\$100,000.00

Internship Placement at Huawei Telecommunication Technologies Namibia and Green Enterprise Solutions
\$10.000.00 in AWS Activate Credits

First Place: Kiamso	
Orilio Naobeb (Team Leader)	
Kristofina Shipalanga	
Avril Mutatabikwa	
Milu Simau	
Israel Shingenge	
Simeon Makili	
D.:!	

Prizes: N\$30,000.00

Internship placement at Green Enterprise Solutions \$5,000.00 in AWS Activate Credits

Second Place: Accelerate Technologies

Montenique Bekker (Team Leader)

Shalumbu Shikongo

Shikongo Shikongo

Shitaleni Shalumbu

Manuel Pereira

Prizes:

N\$20,000.00

Internship placement at Green Enterprise Solutions \$5,000.00 in AWS Activate Credits

Third Place: LogiTech Minds Selma Velikoshi Immanuel Hamulungu (Team Leader) Phellep Shapopi Martha Taamba-Ayihe Shuuya Speakerperson Nelumbu Prizes: N\$10,000.00

Internship placement at Salt Essential IT

Fourth Place: Digital Horizons
Hilma M. Uupindi (Team Leader)
Ismael N. Mudjanima
Max N. M. J. Haikali
Prizes:
Internship placement at Salt Essential IT

15.2 Annexe 2: Financial Summary and Sponsorship Contributions

Monetary				
Paratus Telecommunication	N\$5,000.00			
PowerCom	N\$50,000.00			
Letshego Bank Namibia	N\$40,000.00 and Internship			
Onix Business Solutions	N\$100,000.00			
CRAN	N\$20,000.00			
Syntex Information Technology	N\$50,000.00			
Efraim Paulus and Family	N\$2,500.00			
Huawei Telecommunication				
Technologies Namibia	N\$120,000.00			
Sanlam Alliance	N\$10,000.00			
	In kind			
	1. Mentorship, support and training hours on behalf of the			
	software development team during the National Mega			
Cara an Embarraria a Caladia na	Hackathon 2025			
Green Enterprise Solutions	2. plus internship positions to the top 3 candidates in addi-			
(Pty)Ltd	tion to cybersecurity support and mentorship			
Huawei	Internship to two best students			
Master Power Namibia	Offering Uninterruptible Power Supply 's and generator on			
New Era Publication	the day of the event			
New Era Publication	N\$200,000.00 Worth of advertising space on their platforms Startups to access AWS Activate Credits as follows:			
	1st Place – \$10,000.00 in AWS Activate Credits			
	2 nd Place – \$5,000.00 in AWS Activate Credits			
Silicon Overdrive	3rd Place – \$5,000.00 in AWS Activate Credits			
Silicon Overdrive	1. Server Platform to host the Hackathon			
	Cybersecurity Training			
	3. Planning and Preparing for the design and Development			
	4. Internships placements to participants 4, 5 and 6 each for			
Salt Essential IT	three months			
MicroSoft	CoPilot license sponsorship			
Telecom Namibia	Fixed internet			

The End!







A MEGA THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS







































AND OUR TECHNICAL PARTNERS





















Notes			

Notes			

REPORT

ON THE NATIONAL

MEGA HACKATHON 2025

"RE-IMAGINING PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY"

15 OCTOBER 2025 **WINDHOEK COUNTRY CLUB RESORT**



SPONSORS



































TECHNICAL PARTNERS

















