

Skills Taking Shape on the Ground: Your TVET Quarterly Update



South Africa's economy continues to evolve in ways that place increasing importance on practical, technical skills. As industries adapt to new technologies, infrastructure demands and the growing momentum of the energy transition, the role of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges has become even more critical.

This growing recognition of the sector's importance was also reflected in President Cyril Ramaphosa's recent State of the Nation Address (SONA), where strengthening the TVET system was highlighted as a key priority in building a capable workforce and expanding pathways into employment.

TVET colleges across the country are responding by strengthening practical training and aligning programmes more closely with industry needs, ensuring that learners are better prepared for the realities of the labour market.

Spotlight on TVET College Initiatives



West Coast TVET College recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Atlantis Special Economic Zone Company.

The agreement reflects a shared commitment to strengthening the alignment between skills development, industry needs and long-term investment growth within Atlantis and the broader ecosystem.

Three TVET colleges, the **College of Cape Town**, **Port Elizabeth TVET College** and **Tshwane South TVET College**, have been selected to participate in a new three-year pilot focused on e-mobility skills development.

The initiative, implemented through a partnership between the Retail Motor Industry Organisation (RMI) and the German Chamber of Crafts Erfurt (HWK), will support these institutions to strengthen their training programmes in line with emerging industry needs.





The WorldSkills South Africa 2026 National Competition recently concluded, spotlighting the country's vocational sector.

More than 200 talented learners from various TVET colleges competed alongside university peers, showcasing mastery across 27 distinct trades, with top-performing students now positioned to represent South Africa on the global stage at the WorldSkills International Competition in Shanghai this September.

At **False Bay TVET College**, hospitality graduate Nwabisa Matinise secured a professional placement in the United States after completing her Hospitality and Catering Services studies, while Solar Photovoltaic Service Technician students from the College's Westlake Campus are currently proudly completing their work-based module, continuing their journey towards industry readiness and meaningful employment.



Lephalale TVET College, our member company **Exxaro Resources** and the Mining Qualifications Authority (MQA) have signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding to better align training with the evolving needs of the mining sector.

The partnership aims to strengthen skills development, enhance education outcomes and support the development of a future-ready workforce.

Building Stronger Links Between Industry and TVETs



In partnership with **Ekurhuleni West TVET College**, we recently hosted representatives from the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH** and the **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)** at the newly constructed Domestic Appliance Repairer Workshop. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase the **National Business Initiative's (NBI) Installation, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) Initiative**, highlighting its role in strengthening practical, demand-led skills development

Furthermore, the delegation visited **Defy Training Academy** in Midrand, a key industry partner in the Initiative, where they engaged with Defy and IRM learners, reinforcing the role of industry collaboration in connecting training to employment. The visit forms part of the ongoing partnership between the NBI, GIZ, SECO and TVET colleges in implementing the **Career Path Development for Employment Programme (CPD4E)**.

In line with this work, the NBI, with support from Danish Industry (DI), facilitated a visit by an international Green Group delegation to **False Bay TVET College's** Westlake Campus as part of a study tour to South Africa.

The delegation, which included representatives from Colombia, Denmark, India and Vietnam, visited the campus to explore the College's work in e-waste recycling, renewable energy initiatives and green skills development.



The engagement created a valuable opportunity for knowledge exchange, strengthened global partnerships, and highlighted the important role TVET institutions play in preparing students for the green economy and a sustainable future.
