



Date: 07 & 08 MAY 2026
Time: 08:00 – 17:00
Venue: East London IDZ Conference Centre

Day 1 Programme

07 MAY 2026

Time	Item	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Tea & Registration	All
09:00 – 09:15	PROGRAMME ANCHOR/ MODERATOR: Welcoming remarks	DEDEAT HOD: Ms Mickey Mama
09:15 – 09:30	Official welcome	BCMM Executive Mayor: Hon Princess Faku
SESSION 1: ELIDZ DIGITAL ECONOMY SECTOR IS NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS Facilitator: Head of Department (HOD) Ms Mickey Mama Theme: Building Globally Tradeable Digital Services from the Eastern Cape		
09:30 – 09:45	<i>“Eastern Cape Data Centre Reconfiguration Process and Commitment with ELIDZ & Public Sector Digital Services Delivery Enablement”</i>	SITA Head of Infrastructure: Mr Musa Kumalo
09:45 – 10:00	<i>“From Industrial Zone to Smart Digital Platform: ELIDZ’s Shift to Zone 4.0”</i>	ELIDZ CEO: Mr Tembela Zweni
10:00 – 10:15	<i>“The Digital Economy as a New Engine of Provincial Growth”</i>	MEC – Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism: Hon Nonkqubela Pieters
10:15 – 10:45	Keynote Address – <i>“Powering Provincial Growth Through Digital Infrastructure and Services”</i>	Eastern Cape Premier: Hon Oscar Mabuyane
10:45 – 12:00 - PROJECT UNVEILING: Data Centre and BPO Sod Turning		

DIGITAL ECONOMY SUMMIT 2026

Powering the Eastern Cape's Digital Future



SESSION 2 – BPO, DIGITAL SERVICES & INCLUSIVE EMPLOYMENT

Facilitator: ELIDZ Chief Operations Officer (COO) Ms Ayanda Ramncwana

Theme: From Digital Infrastructure to Globally Tradeable Digital Services

DISCUSSION PANEL:

“Scaling Digital Services, Jobs and Inclusion from ELIDZ”

12:00 – 13:00	South Africa’s global BPO and Digital Services Opportunity	BPESA CEO: Mr Reshni Singh
	Building an ecosystem for BPO and Digital Services to scale	ELIDZ Sector Manager: Sustainable Energy and Digital Economy: Dr Chris Ettmayr
	What investors look for in globally competitive digital services locations	Merchats: Dr Sydwell Shikweni Outworx: Mr Chumani Maqina
	Skills that unlock growth—building job-ready talent for BPO and Digital Services	iOCO: Mr Hein Weyers – Cluster Executive
	From skills to employment to entrepreneurship—one pathway through the digital economy	Mbono Managing Director: Ms Nalinda Ajanaku

13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH

SESSION 3 – ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION & INDUSTRIAL DIGITALISATION

Facilitator: Mr Motse Mfuleni

Theme: Building Africa’s Industrial Digital Backbone

DISCUSSION PANEL:

“Scaling Entrepreneurs on Africa’s Industrial Digital Backbone”

14:00 – 15:00	Creating an entrepreneur-led innovation and enterprise growth ecosystem	Head of ELIDZ STP: Ms Ludwe Macingwane
	Building a digital business supported by the ELIDZ digital ecosystem	Founder Appimate: Mr Luthando Maqondo
	Connecting Local Enterprises to Global Digital Value Chains – The reseller model	Business Development Executive: ICT Choice Mr Jabu Majiza
	Building the Foundation for Digital Enterprise and Innovation	Infrastructure Specialist Digital Council: Ms Juanita Clark
15:00 – 15:30	Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks	ELIDZ Board Acting Chairperson: Dr Zandi Dweba



Day 2 Programme

08 MAY 2026

Program Anchor: Mr Mzuyanda Nontshinga			
Provincial ICT Focus			
THEME: Public Sector Showcase \ Thought Leadership			
SUB THEME: Sovereign and Services Delivery Focus			
SESSION PURPOSE: This session demonstrates how government entities are able to localise and improve ICT service delivery			
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival, Tea & Registration		ALL
09:00 – 09:15	PROGRAMME ANCHOR/ MODERATOR: Welcoming remarks		ELIDZ - ICT Manager: Mr Mzuyanda Nontshinga
	Speaker	Topic	Strategic Role
09:45 – 10:15	OTP CIO: Nation Madikiza	Government & Policy Leadership Developments	Provide feedback on key developments for government stakeholders
10:15 – 10:45	ECDC: Baphelele Mhlaba	Eastern Cape’s ICT Economy Strategy Overview	Provide an overview for ICT investment over the next 5 years.
10:45 – 11:15	ELIDZ: Sipho Masinga	ELIDZ’s ICT Role within the Province and Services Overview	Provide an overview of the ELIDZ’s ICT role and services \ value proposition.
TEA BREAK			
11:30 – 12:00	Fortinet: Warren Cusens	Sovereign SASE Gateway in the Eastern Cape	An investment opportunity for a second SASE gateway within South Africa.
LUNCH BREAK			
12:00	New Data Centre Tours: Wesley Appel & Sipho Masinga	Data Centre Tours	Showcase the data centre build project.