



**Ministry of Information Communication Technology,
Postal & Courier Services**

3rd Digital Economy Conference 2026 Program

Conference Theme:

“Accelerating Zimbabwe’s Digital Economy: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for Action Towards Vision 2030”

DAY 1 (21 April 2026): PRE-CONFERENCE HYBRID SEMINAR

(ZOOM or Microsoft Teams Platform)

Purpose:

To generate **structured, sector-specific inputs** that directly feed into Day 2 discussions, ensuring the main conference is **evidence-based and action-driven**.

08:30 – 09:00 | Virtual Registration and System Check

- Delegate onboarding (Zoom or Microsoft Teams Platform)
- Technical checks and support
- Overview of breakout process

09:00 – 09:30 | Opening and Context Setting

- Welcome Remarks – Dr. B. Chirume, Permanent Secretary Ministry of ICTPCS
- Overview of Digital Economy & AI Strategy
- Framing of expected outputs:
 - Sector challenges
 - AI opportunities
 - Policy recommendations

09:30 – 11:00 | Breakout Session Round 1

Sector Challenges & Opportunities

Breakout Rooms (Running In Parallel):

- Economic Enablers - Finance, Mining & Energy
- Agriculture, Transport & Logistics
- Health & Education

Facilitated by assigned moderators

Focus:

- Key sector pain points
- Operational inefficiencies
- Digital readiness gaps
- Policy and regulatory constraints

Output (per group):

- Top 5 challenges
 - Priority intervention areas
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11:00 – 11:15 | Break**11:15 – 12:45 | Breakout Session Round 2***Solutions, AI Use Cases & Commitments***Focus:**

- Practical ICT and AI solutions
- Required infrastructure and investments
- Public-private collaboration models
- Immediate vs long-term actions

Output:

- Sector solution roadmap
 - Draft commitments
 - Inputs into Action Matrix
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12:45 – 13:30 | Virtual Plenary (All Participants)

- Rapporteurs present findings
 - Cross-sector synthesis
 - Alignment of key issues for Day 2 panels
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Day 1 Deliverables (Programme Committee Output)

- Consolidated **Sector Insights Report**
 - Draft **panel discussion inputs and questions**
 - Pre-aligned **ICT solution responses**
 - Foundation for **Action Matrix**
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DAY 2 (24 April 2026): MAIN CONFERENCE

(PHYSICAL & LIVE STREAM)

PROPOSED MCs

- Arthur Maimba
- Ruvheneko Parirenyatwa

08:00 – 08:30 | Registration & Networking

- Physical and virtual delegate check-in
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08:30 – 09:30 | Industry Leaders Dialogue

Sector Challenges & Opportunities

Derived directly from Day 1 breakout insights

Focus:

- Real sector pain points
- Investment and infrastructure gaps
- Digital adoption barriers
- Industry expectations

Outcome:

- Validated sector challenges
 - Refined opportunity areas
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09:30 – 10:30 | ICT Sector Leaders Dialogue – Panel 1

Solutions & Implementation

Panelists: ICT Sector Leaders

Grounded in Day 1 outputs

Focus:

- Policy alignment across sectors
- Removing regulatory bottlenecks
- Infrastructure and investment priorities
- Strengthening inter-ministerial coordination
- Public-private collaboration

Program Committee Role:

- Pre-developed panel questions
- Aligned talking points
- Moderator briefing

Outcome:

- Agreed government priorities
 - Policy action points
 - Input toward Cabinet Paper
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10:30 – 11:30 | Official Opening Ceremony

- National Anthem
- Opening Prayer
- Welcome Remarks – **Honourable Minister of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Bulawayo Metropolitan Province**
- Intro Video – **Ministry of ICTPCS Media Team**
- Reflections on Progress Since DEC 2024 & 2025 and Day 1 Recap – **Chief Director MICTPCS**
- Remarks and Introduction of the Hon Minister, MICTPCS – **Permanent Secretary, Ministry of ICT, Postal and Courier Services**
- Remarks and Introduction of Guest of Honour – **Hon. Minister of ICTPCS, Hon. T. A. Mavetera**
- Keynote Address – **Guest of Honour (TBA)**

Focus:

AI Driven Digital Economy as an Enabler of Zimbabwe’s Upper Middle-Income Society Vision (National priorities for digital transformation, Role of Artificial Intelligence as an Enabler, Strategic Direction toward Vision 2030)

11:30 – 11:45 | Health Break

11:45 – 12:45 | ICT Sector Leaders Dialogue – Panel 2

Solutions & Implementation

Panelists: ICT Sector Leaders

Grounded in Day 1 outputs

Focus:

- Policy alignment across sectors
 - Removing regulatory bottlenecks
 - Infrastructure and investment priorities
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- Strengthening inter-ministerial coordination
- Public-private collaboration

Program Committee Role:

- Pre-developed panel questions
- Aligned talking points
- Moderator briefing

Outcome:

- Agreed government priorities
 - Policy action points
 - Input toward Cabinet Paper
-

12:45 – 13:00 | Presentation of Sector Commitments

- Rapporteurs present consolidated outputs
- Integration of:
 - Day 1 breakout insights
 - Day 2 panel outcomes
- Guided plenary Q&A (physical + virtual participants)

Outcome:

- Confirmed sector commitments
 - Prioritized actions
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13:00 – 13:15 | Sector Regulatory Imperatives in the World of AI

Balancing Regulation and Innovation in the Fast Paced World of AI

Presenter: POTRAZ Director General

Focus:

- Key regulation imperatives
- The role of the regulator in a fast paced innovation environment
- Future outlook

13:15 – 13:30 | High-Level Policy Overview

From Policy to Implementation: Driving a Whole-of-Government Digital Economy

Presenter: Permanent Secretary, MICTPCS

Focus:

- Direct response to sector challenges
- Scalable ICT and AI solutions
- Infrastructure readiness
- Deployment pathways

Program Committee Alignment:

- ICT topics pre-aligned
- Moderators fully briefed
- Solutions linked to Day 1 outputs

Outcome:

- Practical, implementable solutions
- Partnership opportunities

13:30 – 13:45 | Adoption of Resolutions & Closing

- Adoption of **Digital Economy Conference 2026 Action Matrix**
- Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks – Deputy Minister of ICTPCS **Hon. Dingumuzi Phuti**

13:45 – 14:45 | Food and refreshments

COCKTAIL PROGRAMME

18:30 - 18:45 | Arrival and Welcome Drinks

Delegates arrive and are received with welcome drinks.

18:45 - 19:00 | Welcome Address

Brief welcome from the Ministry of ICTPCS host, acknowledging the outcomes of the day and extending gratitude to all speakers, panelists, sponsors, and delegates.

19:00 - 19:10 | Toast

A short toast by a senior official from the Ministry of ICTPCS, celebrating the adoption of the Digital Economy Conference 2026 Action Matrix and the collective commitment to Vision 2030.

19:10 - 21:00 | Open Networking

Delegates, speakers, and industry leaders mingle freely. Light canapes and cocktails served throughout.

21:00 | Close

Formal program ends. Continued informal networking at the venue for those who wish to remain.