ICT Initiatives & Research Capacity in Namibia

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- Introduction
- Overview of current ICT initiatives
- ICT Research capacity

- Namibia aims to transform itself into a knowledge based , highly competitive , industrialized econ-friendly nation with sustainable economic growth and high quality of life by 2030

- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has been recognized a critical sector for Namibia in its attempts to achieving this national objective

- It envisages that by embracing the development of ICT, Namibians will benefit through:

  - Access and availability of information that assist them in their daily lives

  - Increased competitiveness of business and commerce in the global market place

  - Establishment of an environment conducive to the development of Namibian-based ICT providers that are competitive internationally, and create opportunities for employment and economic diversification

- The government recognizes that long term growth can only be achieved through a demand driven approach based on education and training , and supported by an enabling environment conducive to the development and growth of the local industry
- A Ministry of Information , Communication Technologies has been created to coordinate and to put in place the instruments necessary for the growth of the sector
- A new overarching ICT policy (2009)

- Namibia is currently implementing a number of ICT-related initiatives in the area of Education and e-government

- <u>Namibia's information and communication Technologies (ICTs) in Education initiatives , Tech/Na</u>

  – Part of a sector approach

  – Education and training sector improvement programme (ETSIP)

  – Comprehensive strategy for the integration of ICTs across the entire education sector

  – Main goals are :

    - To equip – educational institutions with hardware , software , connectivity , curriculum , content and technical support

    - Educate administrators , staff , teachers and learners in ICT literacy and ICT integration across the entire curriculum

    - Empower whole communities in bridging the digital divide and meeting the goals of Vision 2030

- <u>E-governance initiative</u>
  - The Namibian government is implementing a number of projects under its e-governance programme. These projects are implemented through the office of the Prime Minister and their coverage spread across the entire public service and are funded by the Namibian government with local and international support
  - Improve infrastructure and skills across the public service

- ## Namibia have two main public institutions of HE
  - The University of Namibia (UNAM)
  - Polytechnic of Namibia
    - They offer broad range of training in ICT & undertake ICT Research

I thank you