

Integrating ICT into Rural South African Schools: Possible Solutions for Challenges

Dennis Yao Dzansi¹ and Kofi Amedzo²

*¹Department of Business Support Studies, Faculty of Management Sciences,
Central University of Technology, Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa*
*²Systems and Knowledge Manager, Sigodi Marah Martin Management Support,
Johannesburg, South Africa*
E-mail: ¹<ddzansi@cut.ac.za>, ²<kofiamedzo@gmail.com>

KEYWORDS Social Justice Theory. Digital Divide. International Competitiveness. Enhanced Employability. Information Age

ABSTRACT The influence of ICT in schools cannot be overemphasized as its utility is changing the way students learn, teachers teach, and support staff work. ICT adoption in South African schools has therefore gained momentum. Whilst ICT is fully integrated into many if not all schools in urban areas in South Africa, regrettably the same cannot be said about rural schools. This has created a 'digital divide' between rural and urban schools. Theoretically, this paper is informed by *social justice theory*. Methodologically, the extant literature relied upon to make the case for ICT in South Africa's rural schools. The same approach is used to identify key challenges militating against smooth introduction of ICT into South African schools. Thereafter, suggestions for overcoming identified challenges are provided. The aim is to help bridge the apparent digital divide between rural and urban schools in South Africa.