

# Africa's ICT experts to converge in Zimbabwe

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The growth of ICT in Africa and how companies operating in the continent can utilize technology to enhance operations will come under spotlight when ICT experts meet for a five day e-Tech Africa Expo to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe from 1-5 October 2012.



The expo, spearheaded by Zimbabwe's Ministry of Information Technology, will be held under the theme "Exploiting the Potential of ICTs for sustainable, Socio and Economic Transformation".

Zimbabwe's ICT minister, Nelson Chamisa said the main thrust of the expo will be to provide a platform for networking, exchange of views and experiences towards the growth of ICT's in Africa.

"It will cover a broad range of companies and services that are seeking to use ICTs to enhance their production. ICT is the future of Africa," he said.

## Objectives

Chamisa said some of the objectives of the expo will be to build a knowledgeable and information appreciating society in the continent. Other objectives, he noted would include, to boost research and development in ICT's, to promote ICT's in Health, Agriculture, Tourism and Entertainment.

He said the expo would also seek to address the need for government and companies to continue working towards bridging the digital divide.

Although the use of ICTs has been spreading across the continent, it has mainly been confined to urban areas as most rural areas lack enough infrastructure to support ICT services.

The expo, will also touch on the need to introduce e-learning as a tool for development in Africa. Zimbabwe officially launched e-learning in schools earlier this year and the government seeks to include more schools under the programme.

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