

# NUST and MTC partners for education technology development

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NUST and MTC officials handing over equipment to the People's Primary School.  
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Mobile Telecommunications Limited (MTC), in collaboration with the Namibia University of Science of Technology (NUST), recently handed over computer and audio-visual equipment to the People's Primary School (PPS) in Katutura, Windhoek.

The donation is aimed at creating better learning experiences through emerging technologies, especially in a time like this when technology should be integrated with education.

The partnership dates back to 2009 when MTC first funded the NUST Faculty of Computing and Informatics. This partnership is now renewed with financial and in-kind contributions, as well as internships, tech events and joint projects such as big data and cloud computing projects.

Heike Winschiers-Theophilus, who is a professor of computer science, expressed his gratitude towards MTC.

“The equipment is crucial in our efforts to create better learning experiences through emerging technologies. And now more than ever, the educational sector needs technology innovations,” he said.

He said PPS learners and NUST design students, in collaboration with teachers, artists, and other experts from overseas, have been innovating educational technologies in weekly ideation, design and prototyping sessions.

Technologies such as augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), mobile applications and remote learning tools have shown promising results in enhancing learning experiences.

All these technologies have been designed within the context of an interactive tech library, which the PPS learners conceptualised and for which a full architectural plan exists.

“The library concept consists of thematic areas, such as a hotel, a beach, the ocean with a spring boat, and a Kishikishi reading corner, among others,” he said.

Adolf Ndafenongo, the manager of special projects at MTC, said the equipment will help connect PPS with other schools internationally to stimulate a different learning experience.

“Today, people live in a global village, thanks to the technology that made it possible. As MTC we have a dream to do the same to the education sector. We started off the fulfilment of this dream by engaging NUST in what we can call industry-academic collaboration to boost innovation,” Ndafenongo said.