

TownshipTech competition: All the winners!

The winners of the TownshipTech hackathon and pitch competition are Team Tech Khaltsha, Team Basket, and Team Cyberspace. The contest was hosted by the Cape Innovation & Technology Initiative and was in partnership with the Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism (Dedat).



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At the hackathon, about 40 creatives convened, collaborated and ideated and after a fierce round of competition, six finalists made up of technologists, entrepreneurs or innovators were named and competed in a final pitch competition yesterday, 11 March, at the Woodstock Bandwidth Barn.

The exciting battle took place as a hybrid event and was live-streamed from the Woodstock Bandwidth Barn on the Khayelitsha Bandwidth Barn Facebook page.

After a tough and very close deliberation between the judges, including Ian Merrington from the Cape Innovation and Technology Initiative (CiTi), Bianca Mpahlaza from Dedat, Faith Kolala from the City of Cape Town, Charmaine Lambert from Absa and Ndithini Tyhido from the Khayelitsha Development Forum, the winners were announced.



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Team Tech Khaltsha, coached by Carrie Leaver from the Allan Gray Makers Programme, won R5000 and a 10-month entrepreneurial programme for the Safety and Security theme.

Team Basket, coached by Lara Rosmarin from CiTi, won R5000 and a 10-month Entrepreneurial Programme for the Reach of Services & Support theme.

For our Increased Connectivity theme, Team Cyberspace, coached by Tyrone Adams from Skywalk Innovations, won R5000 and a 10-month Entrepreneurial Programme.

Team Tech Khaltsha walked away with a further R5000 for winning the Pitch of the Day. They also won three months of co-workspace and video production of their business or product to help them launch in the market.

The Township Tech Pitch competition is a component of the TownshipTech project being run by the Cape Innovation & Technology Initiative for Dedat.



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Dedat's technology ecosystem project is promoting the uptake of technology in the safety, screen, financial, township and 4IR-technology sectors in the Western Cape.

"The Tech Township Hackathon is a fantastic initiative that shines a light on the incredible entrepreneurial ingenuity that is thriving in township communities all across our country," says Andrew Davies, digital partnerships ecosystem Lead at Absa Group.

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