Empiras Global *Academy*

AFRIHACK CONNECT

2025

EVENT PROGRAMME

Friday 19 September

Corporate Day

Venue opens: 8:30am

Time	Activity
09:15 - 10:00	**Arrival, beverages**
10:00 – 10:05	Welcome and Agenda - **MC - Mr Craig Nondo: Lead Consultant, Empiras Global Academy**
10:05 - 10:10	Opening Remarks **- Ms Gugu Ntuli: Co-founder and CEO, Empiras Global Academy**
10:10 – 10:15	Opening Remarks - **Mr Quentin Pavitt: Ecosystem Manager, UVU Africa**
10:15 – 10:25	Key Note Speech - **Ms Rafeeqah Isaacs, Senior Manager: Regions (Cape Town), Telkom**
10:30 - 11:15	**Panel 1 - AI and Automation impact on Business and the Future of Work in SA** Moderator: Mr Chesarae Pillay - Head of Partnerships and Technology, CAPACITI
11:15- 12:00	**Panel 2 - Unlocking the Potential of Tech Startups in Growing SA's Economy** Moderator: Mr Dan Mabbyalas - Head of Programs, AfricArena/AfricArise
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch & Networking
13:00 - 13:30	**Panel 3 - Higher Education and AI: Creating Integrated Systems for Skills, Credentials, and Careers** Moderator: Ms Latha Kalpee: Managing Director, Higher Ed Partners
13:30 – 14:30	**Fireside Chat - Are Fast-Paced Innovations Affecting Relevant Skill Development?** Guest Speaker - Ms Busie Sekgonetso: Senior Human Capital Partner | Industrial Psychologist Moderator - Ms Lungile Ntuli: Co-founder and CTO, Empiras Global Academy
14:30 – 15:50	Ice Breaker: Fantasy Boardroom
15:50 – 16:00	Thank you/Closing Remarks **- Ms Lungile Ntuli: Co-founder and CTO, Empiras Global Academy**

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 September

Hackathon Days

Venue opens: 7:15am

Time	Activity
8:00 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome, MC Introduction, DJ Set
9:10 - 9:30	Challenge Briefing & Prize Reveal
9:30	**Hacking Begins**
13:00 – 14:00	**Lunch**
19:00 – 20:00	**Dinner**
22:00 – 4:00	Overnight Hacking (MC & DJ keep energy high)
4:00 – 7:00	Wash Break: Facility across the road
7:00 – 8:00	**Breakfast**
8:00 – 11:00	Final Hacking Sprint
11:00	**Hacking Ends**
11:00 – 12:30	Team Presentations to Judges (strict 5 min/team)
12:30 – 12:50	Judges Deliberate
12:50 – 13:00	**Winners Announced & Closing Remarks**

Notes

Corporate Day

Dress Code: Business Casual

Hackathon Day

· **Meals:** Three meals on Saturday (breakfast, lunch, dinner), and one meal on Sunday (breakfast)

· **Snacks & Refreshments:** Available 24/7

· **MC & DJ:** On-site throughout Saturday to maintain energy and engagement

· **Facilities:** Washing facilities available 4:00am–7:00am at the building across the road

· **Presentations:** Begin promptly at 11:00am Sunday; all teams must be ready

· **Judging:** Winners announced by 1:00pm

End of Programme