



TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND INNOVATION SYSTEM

with Dr Shawn Cunningham

We are bombarded daily with messages about technological disruption, including the advances in AI and automation that lie ahead for workplaces, workers and infrastructure. It is often hard to decipher the implications for our work, key industries, and society. At the same time, indicators of South Africa's innovation performance and longer-term technological capabilities show a concerning downward trend. But we don't need the statistics to tell us what we can see when we visit companies or workplaces. In almost every sector, a handful of companies are thriving by being innovative. In contrast, a large group of companies appear to lag technology and innovation trends. In many sector strategies and industry action plans, technology is treated generically. The result is that those who can, innovate; and those who can't, fall further behind.

This course will focus on the factors that shape our industries' ability to learn about new technology and the ecosystem that supports innovators. It will help participants to discern the noise from the signal and equip them to help industries or other stakeholders better observe, anticipate and strategically respond to technological change opportunities.

APPROACH

While we will discuss theory, the purpose will be to improve intervention design to catalyse innovation, technological upgrading and change in the industries or ecosystems where participants work. Participants will be able to apply the learning directly to their work areas. Prior knowledge and experience in managing innovation are not necessary for this workshop.



17 & 18 Feb 2026



R8,000 vat incl
(per delegate)



TIPS Office
234 Lange Street, Nieuw
Muckleneuk, PTA



AGENDA OUTLINE

DAY 1

Session 1: The relations between science, technology, innovation and technological change

Session 2: How physical and social technologies co-evolve and the different modes of learning

Exercise & feedback: How learning about technological possibilities takes place in different sectors

Session 3: Identifying and characterisation of different kinds of technological change in the economy

Session 4: South Africa's innovation performance Exercise & feedback: Tracking the innovation performance of sector, technology or project

DAY 2

Session 5: How industries learn, disseminate knowledge and build competencies

Session 6: Mapping the institutional systems that enable technological change and innovation

Exercise and feedback: How to diagnose and improve the innovation potential in a sector or region

Session 7: How to build distributed technological intelligence and technological competence in industries we support?

Session 8: How to apply this content in your work and resources going forward



COURSE FACILITATOR



Dr Shawn Cunningham is the project leader of the Technological Change and Innovation System Observatory implemented by TIPS.

He is a process consultant with Mesopartner, working in innovation and competitiveness improvement. He supports a range of institutions, leaders and advisors on topics such as making decisions under conditions of uncertainty or complexity, strengthening organisations or conducting learning processes through ongoing search, discovery and adjustment. He has conducted diagnoses and supported improvement processes in various industries and locations around the world

He is also a Professor of Practice with the DST/NRF/Newton Fund Trilateral Chair in Transformative Innovation, the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Sustainable Development hosted by the College of Business and Economics at the University of Johannesburg.

For more information on the TIPS Technological Change and Innovation System Observatory visit <https://www.tips.org.za/projects/technological-change-and-innovation-system-observatory>.

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