

SmartCape – Cape Town's Municipal Library Digital Access and Skills Programme

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · South Africa

Quality score: 96/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

Cape Town's SmartCape grew from 5 computers in 6 libraries in 2002 to 670 terminals across 104 branches with 500,000+ registered users, each receiving 45 min of free daily internet and digital-skills training — Africa's first municipal library internet programme.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	4/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-06-21

[City of Cape Town](#) — accessed 2026-06-21

[City of Cape Town – What is SmartCape?](#) — accessed 2026-06-21

[WeGO global projects catalogue – SmartCape](#) — accessed 2026-06-21

[CLIR/ERIC research report \(2004\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-21

[Brand South Africa – Cape Town libraries go online](#) — accessed 2026-06-21

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