

22 August 2005

## Awards for promoters of ICT

HP has received an Africa Economic Developer Award for promoting sustainable development in rural communities through the use of ICT. The company was presented with the award at the Africa Export Growth Opportunities conference held recently in Cape Town. HP was selected as one of only ten companies - out of 1 554 small and large organisations - for its contribution to realising the objectives of Nepad. HP was recognised specifically for its work in ICT-enabled development solutions being implemented in the Mogalakwena HP i-community, and as a consortium leader in the Nepad e-schools programme. The HP i-community has undertaken the training of over 4 000 residents of Mogalakwena in PC literacy; 60 people in business development programmes; the active promotion of 25 small businesses at the i-community's Business Resource Centre, a rural ICT learnership programme run in conjunction with ISETT Seta, the establishment of a fully-fledged call centre and contact management training programme; and the establishment of an Open Source software centre in conjunction with the CSIR.

