



SOCIAL INNOVATION HUB

Our services and how to use them

INFORMATION



AVAILABLE TO
COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY
PARTNERS





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SEE STORIES ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and TikTok
@ruegagement

Digital Stories Channel
bit.ly/sihdigitalstories



COHESION THROUGH DIGITAL SOCIAL INNOVATION

We're excited to have you explore our space, which we hope will inspire creativity, collaboration and growth in the world of social change. Whether you're working on a new project, developing your digital skills, or telling powerful stories of change, we'd love to hear more about what you need to innovate!

Here's what we do

Storytelling

- Use digital storytelling to showcase social innovation
- Do Photovoice, a participatory method used to share stories and bring about change

Capacity Building

- Start from the very beginning of learning to use a computer
- Refine your digital skills and learn new tools to improve efficiency
- Learn about social innovation and developing projects to address them
- Learn the basics of digital media and how to use it for marketing

“When it comes to changing the values, mindsets, rules, and goals of a system, story is foundational.”

Stanford Social Innovation Review



Workspace

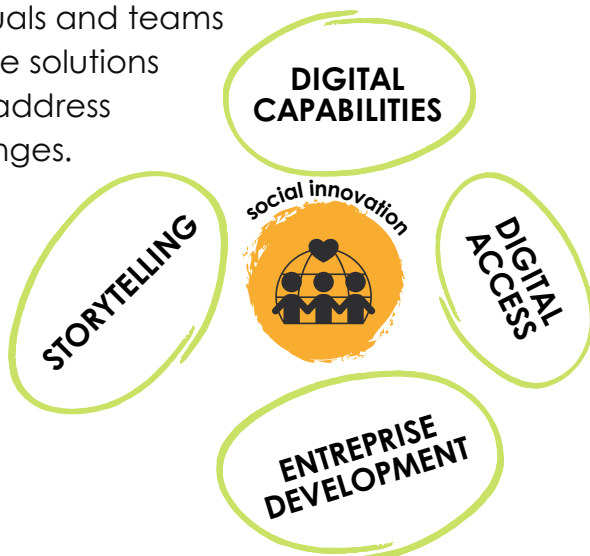
- Access computers with internet and software for your projects
- Access affordable printing and copying services
- Get one-on-one support for computer and media projects
- Book a versatile meeting venue for up to 10 people and a spacious training venue for your team's learning needs.

Equipment

- Lease laptops, tablets and storytelling equipment
- Short term leases
- Arrange a mobile computer lab for a project

Pathway to innovation

Our workspace nurtures social innovation by providing access to digital tools, resources, and training that empowers individuals and teams to develop creative solutions and projects that address community challenges.



① STORYTELLING

Storytelling based on lived experience and indigenous knowledge plays a crucial role in social innovation by centering authentic, culturally rooted perspectives that offer deep insights into community challenges and solutions.

DIGITAL STORYTELLING

Digital storytelling can help narratives reach audiences who want to hear them. By combining personal stories with digital media, communities can share their unique challenges and solutions in ways that are visually compelling and easily accessible.

We have the following Digital Storytelling Courses

- Digital Storytelling for Social Innovation (level 1)
- Digital Storytelling Train the Trainer (level 2)
- Digital Storytelling for Engaged Scholarship (level 3)

PHOTOVOICE

Photovoice is a participatory research method that uses photography to capture and express individuals' experiences, perspectives, and insights on social issues.



2 CAPACITY BUILDING

Skills and training is a crucial process for facilitating social change. Digital and enterprise capacities are valuable skills in development and innovation, so the SIH facilitates training programmes that include basic digital skills as well as skills that can help sustain projects.

COMPUTER SKILLS TRAINING

If you have never used a PC alone, in a long time or without fear, this course is designed to show participants the basics - from using a mouse to accessing the internet.

We also offer a Train the Trainer Short Course for facilitators.

DIGITAL SKILLS FOR PROFESSIONALS

If you know how to use computers to do everyday tasks, this course will help you learn new platforms, features and tricks for doing tasks more efficiently. The course covers basic troubleshooting, PC accessories, productivity suites, using generative AI and related modules.



COMMUNITY ASSETS FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION

CASI is designed to encourage using community assets to develop financially sustainable projects aimed at facilitating development and social change. The course addresses relational wellbeing, as well as technical concepts like social innovation, complex problems, project development, and business-related administration.

It also includes these mini-courses on:

- Enterprise Development
- Digital Marketing

WORKSHOPS

We also run 2-hour workshops on various related skills, for example AI, Canva, WeVideo, etc.

Contact us to suggest a useful workshop topic.



3 WORKSPACE

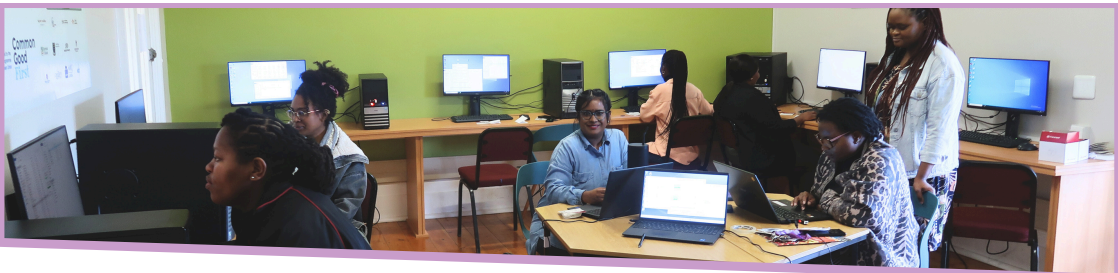
The workspace is a venue equipped with PCs, internet access and accessories. The Lab Manager is around to help and provide advice and guidance on your project.

The Social Innovation Hub Workspace is available from 8:30 to 4:00 Mondays to Fridays. It is closed on public holidays. Outside of booked times, you can walk in to access PCs and the internet.

The Workspace is only available for short term bookings. This also includes meetings, workshops, training or discussions. We cannot book the Workspace for ongoing programmes.

Visitors are required to sign in before using the internet and first time visitors must provide ID. Signing in acknowledges acceptance of the Rhodes University AUP.

View Booked Times here: bit.ly/sihworkspace



DIGITAL RESOURCE LIBRARY

The Social Innovation Hub has basic electronic equipment and training available for partners to use to innovate and bring about positive change in our society.

By making equipment available, we want to help community partners and local organisations to run projects and events. Equipment can be leased for no longer than five days.

We cannot sustain the programmes of any organisation. The user who has leased equipment from the Digital Resource Library will be held accountable to the terms of the agreement.

** 'Equipment' here means any item leased from SIH*

Request Form

Submit the Request Form at least **TWO working days** before required date. We will respond to arrange a collection time if the equipment is available.

Accurate contact information must be provided.

Equipment collections and returns

You must arrange to collect the equipment and cannot arrive unscheduled. An ID copy must be provided.

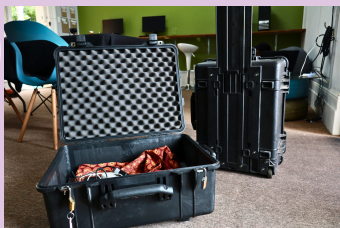
Equipment must be returned by the date stipulated and no later. Equipment must be left with the Hub and not at Reception.

MOBILE LABS

Ensuring city-wide access to digital equipment and internet is a priority for the Hub and this involves a mobile lab which can be set up temporarily at any location. Mobile hubs are temporary or pop-up computer labs or digital hubs that can be set up at a site in the city.

Organisations can arrange a mobile hub to run training programmes or workshops with their groups. Organisations can also request a training programme to be run by the Social Innovation Hub.

Request Equipment and Mobile Labs here: bit.ly/sih-lease



PLEASE NOTE



PLEASE NOTE

Security and damage

If equipment is: *returned late; returned damaged; or returned with missing parts on one occasion*, we will no longer be able to approve requests for equipment.

In the worst-case scenario of damage, users must inform the Social Innovation Hub as soon as possible. Do not attempt to repair the device or have it repaired.

In the case of theft, a case must be opened with the South African Police Service and the case number brought to the Hub.

Responsibility for leased equipment

The user named on our records will be held accountable for the equipment leased.

Data

Data will be cleared from devices upon return. Users accept risk to any personal devices connected to a Social Innovation Hub asset.

Personal Information

We have to collect personal information to lease equipment. This information will only be processed and stored for records.

Lease Duration

We will not continuously lease the same equipment to the same partner. Lease duration is five days.



ABOUT THE SOCIAL INNOVATION HUB

Social Innovations have been posed as a means of addressing the systemic inequalities that lead to social challenges. Technology and enterprise play a big role in innovativeness. Nurturing these spaces can help improve the capacity for social innovativeness in communities.

As a form of Community Engagement, Rhodes University is driving social innovation through its SI Hub.

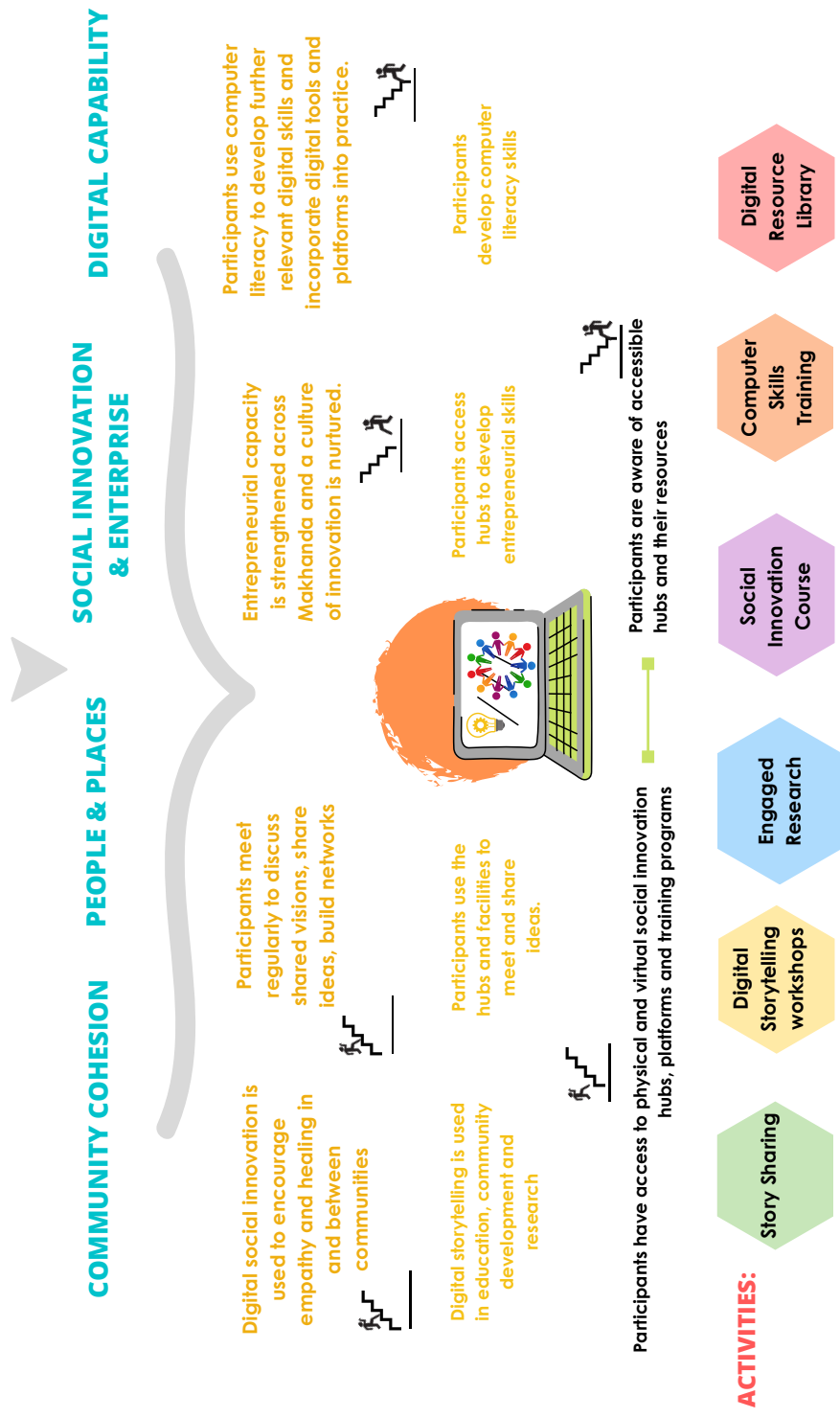
Social Innovations are understood as:

Novel, contextualised and creative solutions to social challenges, such as poverty and unemployment, that go beyond conventional and traditional solutions, to enact systemic change while being driven by its community resources and assets.

The SI Hub aims to help projects reach their full potential. By providing relevant tools and capacities, we hope to nurture the Social Innovation Ecosystem in Makhandla.



ENHANCED SOCIAL AND DIGITAL INNOVATION



Ask Change Experience Try
Innovate Become Heal Learn
Make Connections



Let's Grow Together

RUCE | community
engagement

