

# “10 STEPS TO BECOMING A SUCCESSFUL YOUNG LEADER AT WORK”

## Happy Youth Month!



As we continue to celebrate Youth Month, how far has the youth heeded President Nelson Mandela’s call when he said: “I have a wish to make. Be the scriptwriters of your destiny and feature yourselves as stars that showed the way towards a brighter future.”

Historically, June 16 and Youth Month are immortalised as the day and month when the massacre of protesting Soweto students sparked years of resistance to topple white minority rule.

During this month of youth power, it is often opportune to look at how, the FP&M SETA can demonstrate leadership and inspire the youth through skills development.

Here are 10 tips, based on insights from educational psychologist Dr Katharine Brooks and career advice authors Alexandra Levit, Al Coleman and Ryan Kohnen, aimed at helping young people prepare for leadership in the workplace.

- Seek the advice of others. There’s nothing wrong with embracing the leadership resources that are available to you.
- Prepare before you enter the workforce. Through volunteerism, you can gain early exposure to leadership roles and build up confidence in your ability to handle challenges in the workplace.
- Understand the culture of your workplace.

Use your eyes and ears to see how other staff members act. Understand how they communicate. What is their style? Pick this up, and adapt your own way of working.

- Be keen to learn. Just because you’re no longer in full-time education, doesn’t mean you should abandon your desire to learn. Most of all, don’t be afraid to ask for help if you need it.
- Identify areas where you can provide a different insight. Remember that you may have a different view of the world and a different field of knowledge to others. Don’t be afraid to share this.
- Put your hand up. Volunteer to work on extra projects and not only will you gain job-specific skills but also valuable leadership experience.
- Work hard. Don’t overlook one of the fundamentals – make sure you are doing your work to the best of your ability, even the seemingly most basic or mundane tasks. Don’t be the last to arrive and first to leave.
- Network. Get to know your colleagues, not only as co-workers, but as people.
- Don’t take all the credit for yourself. Great leaders always acknowledge the work of others.
- Find yourself a mentor. Build your relationships with your superiors. Take note of what they do, what makes them a great leader, and find an effective leader to work with on a project.

## A Message From The CEO

# Helping Our Youth Embrace The Digital Revolution



“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world,” Nelson Mandela said in one of his famous inspirational quotes of all time.

We are at the end of the 2020 Youth Month under the theme, “Youth Power: Growing South Africa together in the period of COVID-19”. As we celebrate the unique role played by our youth in the struggle for national liberation and the rebuilding of a new South Africa, President Mandela may well be extending this thought to the role of the youth in the fourth industrial revolution (4IR).

4IR offers our country a real opportunity to accelerate the economy and offers our young citizens a positive future.

The new skills and competencies promised by the fourth industrial revolution are not yet being created in public schools across the Rainbow Nation, where millions of learners don't have classrooms or access to electricity, let alone computers.

Therefore, there needs to be effective collaboration between government, non-governmental organisations, the telecom industry, general industry, skills development entities, investors and donor organisations. All of us need to play our part to realise this new digital world for all.

Governments, with the support of the other parties, should create clear enablement strategies which include both education for and application of digital technologies.

The Presidential Commission, appointed by the Honourable President Cyril Ramaphosa late in 2018, is developing SA's national strategy plan through a comprehensive action plan to deal with 4IR. This will be co-ordinated by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications Services, as the ICT sector's role underpins an enabling capacity for 4IR.

The Commission is tasked to determine and recommend strategies, policies and plans needed for SA to position itself as among the leading countries in 4IR development and its evolution.

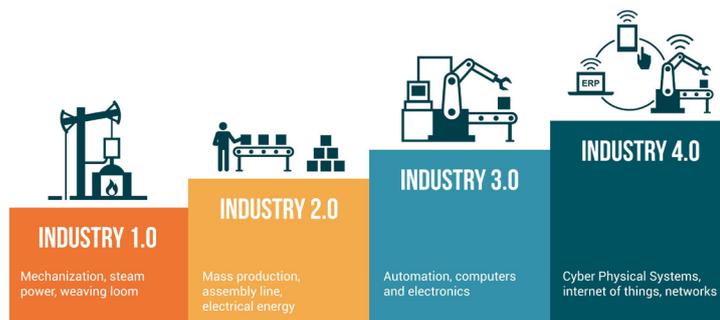
The current and future workforce, and society as a whole will have to adapt to a new industrial landscape, where people work alongside intelligent robots and smart machines.

For the FP&M SETA, the real promise of the fourth industrial revolution is to unlock a new future for our young people. We need to move quickly, though. We must do more to give our youthful workforce the skills they need to participate in the digital economy.

Felleng Yende (Social Worker),  
CEO, FP&M SETA

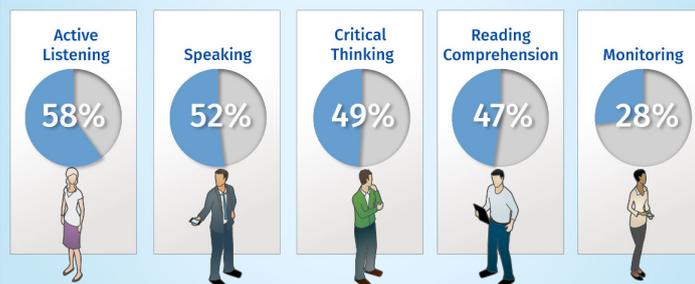
# What is 4IR?

telecommunications mobile technologies  
machine learning virtual reality  
biometrics 3D/4D printing drones  
big data blockchain  
sensors analytics cloud computing  
the internet of things  
augmented reality cryptocurrencies  
robotics cybersecurity digital twinning  
artificial intelligence



## Top 5 Skills for Tomorrow's Jobs

Projected percentage of job openings that rate these skills "very important" (2019-2022)



Source: Employment and Social Development Canada, RBC Economics Research



Science



Technology



Engineering



Math

## FP&M SETA contact details during lockdown

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