



That's a rap 2010 flew by, and although it went quickly we're sure you're all in need of the December holiday as much as we are.

It was a busy year with lots of activities, but there are some **highlights** we'd like to touch on:

- **CTCIP Application:** After a year of re-submitting applications, collecting documents from participating firms, and numerous communications with the IDC the KZN CTC is pleased and proud to announce that the application has been approved and will be formally launched in early 2011.
- **Membership** has grown this year with 5 new members which brings our membership up to 33 members, including one of the leading SA retailers, Edcon, who remain as an active member and key funder.
- **International data:** Data sets from Hungary, Lesotho, Tanzania and Mauritius have been added into our database this year. We have undertaken competitor country reviews and Lesotho and Mauritius remain a focus for 2011, along with Turkey. A visit to Turkey this year revealed that looking further into their processes, government support structures and systems would be very beneficial, as they appear to be developing their competitiveness capability extremely rapidly.

Did you know... we are on **Skype** and **LinkedIn**. We will also **sms** you reminders and or invitations if you would prefer. Contact Tamlyn for more information.

Thank you to all our Cluster members for their participation and support through 2010. Special thanks must be given once again to our Northern KZN members who support and attend workshops in the eThekweni area without fail, as well as participate in all the surveys and questionnaires—your consistent support is greatly appreciated.

Thanks also to our funders —**eThekweni Municipality, the DEDT and EDCON**. They have not only funded 57% of the cluster budget, but support us through attending meetings and keeping up to date with what the Cluster delivers.

To all parties involved, thank you for a great and busy 2010, we look forward to new ventures and exciting horizons in 2011.

FYI:

The KZN CTC will be closing over the festive season from **23rd December to the 2nd January**. We will be back and raring to go on 3rd January 2011.

Just a reminder that our **AGM** has moved and will take place at the beginning of each year rather than before shut down. A date will be sent out in **early 2011**, but keep in mind it will more than likely take place in March 2011.

Tip: at the beginning of the year put your **annual benchmark** into your diaries—this will assist you in planning for it rather than it being a mad rush. If you would like to know what month your benchmark should take place, please contact Tamlyn.



We wish you all a happy and safe festive season and look forward to working with you again in 2011.

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For non-members receiving this, who would like to meet with a facilitator or would like more information about joining the Cluster, please contact Tamlyn on the details above.

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