Project Title	Online Admissions Application System
Organisation	Department of Education, Gauteng Province
Innovation	For the first time in Gauteng Province, all parents of children going to school were enabled to apply for places for their children for three schools (first, second and third choice), either close to where they live or where they work, without having to take time off work, and without having to visit the school. The parent provides their own and their child's details online and the Application then interrogates a Geographic Information System (GIS) and identifies the appropriate schools. Parents can apply from the convenience of their own home and receive confirmation by SMS or check the status of the application on the online portal. A centralised database hosted at the State Information Technology Agency (SITA), enables the department for the first time, to immediately identify the most popular schools in areas of high demand for schooling, the cluster of applications per school, cluster, circuit, district or the total for the province. Demographic trends can also be identified, including the number of learners from other provinces and other countries. In addition, that department can now identify any schools which have spare capacity for placement of learners.
Impact	The Online Admissions Applications System has enabled the department to: • Implement the Admissions Regulations fairly and equitable, • Streamline the application process, • Readily identify schools experiencing admissions pressure and ensure timeous interventions to mitigate possible challenges. The system has enabled the department to make effective, efficient and valuable decisions to improve service delivery.