

EDULUTION ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Strengthening foundational
numeracy in public education



Better learning.

Stronger futures.

Lasting impact.

Ecosystem Integration and Scale Funding

In 2025, Edulution shifted from a broad growth strategy to a deeper focus on adoption, integration, and long-term sustainability within our partner districts and provinces. Rather than expanding as Edulution alone, we concentrated on strengthening the ecosystems where we already work and building the relationships needed for lasting impact.



In Zambia, our 19 peri-urban and rural centres are now concentrated in **Lusaka Province**, while **Southern Province** has been identified as the next region for **expansion**. In South Africa, our 19 centres in Mpumalanga were joined by an exciting new partnership with the [Gauteng Department of Education](#), laying the groundwork for the launch of 10 new centres in 2026. We also saw strong results from the [Pestalozzi Skills Hub](#) pilot, which enabled 200 graduated out-of-school youth aged 18–30 to attain the numeracy and literacy levels required to access **vocational training pathways**, leading to employment, self-employment, and further study opportunities.

Working within a smaller number of districts has allowed us to build much closer relationships with government partners. This has led to **greater collaboration**, stronger **public-sector ownership**, and more meaningful co-creation of the programme. The **Gauteng partnership** is a particularly important example: we operate from the same building as the District education authority and share accountability for delivery, monitoring, and programme effectiveness.

Alongside our ongoing engagement with [Zambian Ministries of Education](#), 2025 also brought increased collaboration with the [Treasury](#), the [Ministries of Science and Technology](#), and **Youth and Labour**. Together, we are exploring ways to improve access to **affordable hardware** and strengthen the **Learning Assistant model** that sits at the heart of Edulution's work.

Edulution has always been more than an EdTech programme. At its core, it is a **human development platform** that combines technology with an enabling environment created by our Learning Assistants. Historically, our focus has been primarily on learner outcomes for primary school learners and out-of-school youth. However, as **government adoption increases**, we see Learning Assistants playing an important role in building educator confidence and supporting teachers to **integrate EdTech into everyday classroom practice**. Significant time was invested this year in developing training materials and blended learning approaches that will be rolled out fully in 2026.

CONTENTS

Ecosystem Integration	2
The Edulution Model	4
System Change Partnerships	5
RCT & Research	6
Skills Hub	7
Technology	8
Human Development	9
Zambia	10
South Africa	11
Outcomes & Impact	12
Learner's Success Stories	13
Finance	14
Stakeholders	15
Gratitude	16



We are also pleased that the integration of [Ei Edutech's Mindspark](#) platform has now been successfully completed. This brings true **personalised adaptive learning capability** into our platform with evidence-backed hope of accelerated learning gains. Edulution Learning Assistants played a major role in contextualising the platform for African learning environments, particularly the **offline functionality** that is so critical in reducing the digital divide. At the same time, we continue to refine and strengthen our delivery model through partnerships with research and innovation organisations including [Injini Mastercard Foundation](#) and [Innovations for Poverty Action](#).

The work undertaken this year has attracted growing interest from **global impact funders**. We are delighted to have secured funding from [DRK Foundation](#) and to welcome **Kanini Mutooni** to our Board of Directors. We are equally grateful for the continued and increased support from long-standing partners including the [Happel Foundation](#), [Temo Capital](#), the [Impact-Linked Finance Fund](#), [Mastercard Foundation/Injini](#), and the [Get It Done Foundation](#).

None of the achievements of 2025 would have been possible without the extraordinary commitment of the Edulution team, especially our Learning Assistants, who continue to create transformative learning environments for children and young people every day. **I would like to sincerely thank each and every one of them for their dedication, resilience, and belief in our mission.**

Alone We Cannot, Together We Can.

Richard Akwei, Edulution CEO

EDULUTION
Closing the gaps in foundational learning



The Edulution Model

Edulution is a blended learning **non-profit** organisation strengthening foundational numeracy and literacy in underserved African communities through a combination of adaptive technology, human support, and data-driven instruction.

Working in partnership with schools and governments in South Africa and Zambia, Edulution combines **curriculum-aligned** digital content, **AI-enabled** learning platforms such as **Mindspark**, trained local youth coaches, and **real-time** analytics to help learners progress at their **own pace** while remaining aligned to the curriculum.

The model addresses overcrowded classrooms and wide learning gaps by enabling **differentiated learning, instant feedback, and targeted teacher support**. Edulution's programmes operate effectively in low-resource settings through **offline-capable** devices and **community-based** implementation. Beyond improving learning outcomes, the model also creates employment and leadership opportunities for young people as digital learning assistants.

Since its founding in 2015, Edulution has demonstrated measurable improvements in learner performance while advancing **scalable, equitable access to quality education**.

Teachers
+
Youth Coaches
+
Training



Tech Platform
+
Personalised Adaptive Learning



+

=

Educated Learners
+
Empowered Educators
+
Transformed System



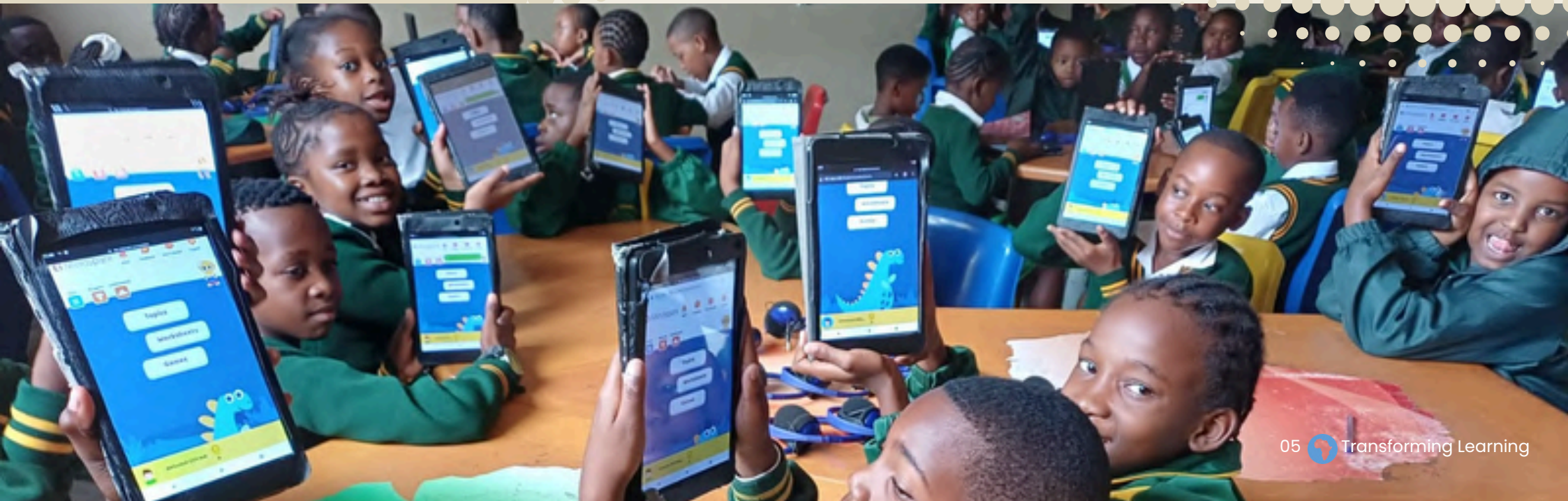
Partnerships and Systems Change

EduLution's mission is to embed **teacher-centred blended learning** into public schools, positioning adaptive learning technology as a driver of **systemic transformation** rather than a parallel intervention.

In 2025, we strengthened partnerships with government, platform providers, and the wider NGO ecosystem. Collaboration with the [Department of Basic Education \(DBE\)](#) to conduct a randomised control trial is generating the evidence needed for the public sector to make informed decisions on **adopting and scaling** educational technology solutions. At the same time, a pilot with the [Gauteng Department of Education \(GDE\)](#) has ensured that school selection, onboarding, and teacher training are embedded within provincial structures. This **co-creation approach** not only enhances sustainability but also builds **public sector ownership**, reinforcing EduLution's role as a system integrator that supports governments in embedding blended learning into the fabric of public education.

Our partnership with [Ei Mindspark](#) provides the adaptive platform that diagnoses learner needs, **personalises instruction**, and equips teachers with **real-time data**, enabling Teaching-at-the-Right-Level within the school timetable. Alongside this, implementing partners such as [Penreach](#) and accredited training institutes such as the [Matthew Goniwe Teacher Training Institute](#) and the [University of Mpumalanga](#) will prepare teachers en masse for blended learning pedagogy.

By evolving from direct implementer to **system integrator**, EduLution will play a strategic advisory role — offering quality assurance, analytics, and best-practice guidance. This pathway **reduces costs, strengthens teacher capacity, and embeds blended learning into public systems**. Together with government, platform partners, and NGOs, EduLution is shaping a scalable, affordable model for systemic change, ensuring **sustainability and public sector adoption by 2030**.



Randomised Controlled Trial and Research

In 2025, Edulution **advanced its research agenda** to strengthen both impact and efficiency. Early research into facilitation behaviours was launched to support future A/B testing of the teaching and coaching practices most likely to drive success in our model, and to identify cost elements that may be reduced without weakening learning outcomes.

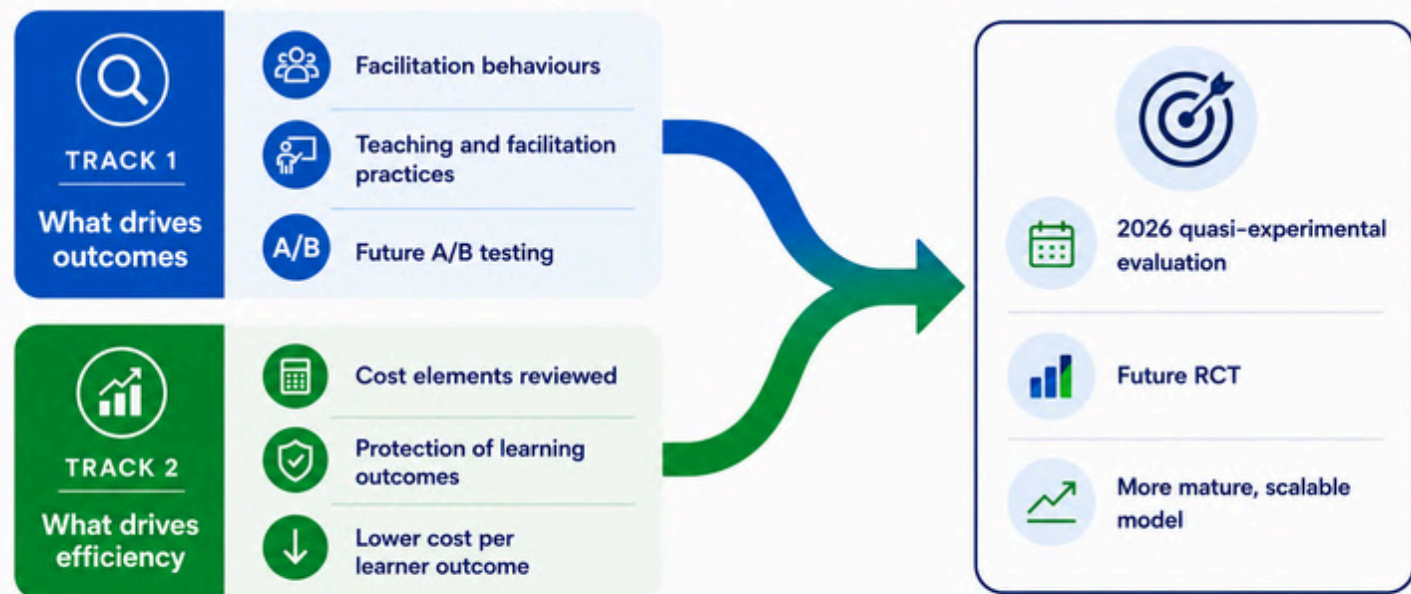
While an RCT had initially been discussed for 2026, this gave way to a robust **quasi-experimental evaluation** now underway in Zambia, designed with **academic input** to generate credible findings on the implementation model. This will inform a **future RCT from 2027**, once the teacher enablement and delivery model is more mature and costs per learner outcome are moving toward scalable levels.



RESEARCH

Two-track research. Stronger evidence. Greater impact.

Two strands of inquiry. One shared goal.



Building the evidence base to scale what works—and do it better.

Skills Hub

In 2025, the [Pestalozzi Skills Hub](#) expanded its **Accelerated Learning Programme**, combining **foundational numeracy and literacy** support with **vocational pathways for out-of-school youth**. Strong community outreach generated significant interest, with more than **250 candidates** assessed through testing, interviews, and group activities. **64 trainees** were selected into Cohort 2, while Cohort 1 transitioned into vocational training streams including agriculture, hospitality, photography, fashion, and construction. Of Cohort 1 participants, **84% progressed into vocational institutions**, with others returning to **formal schooling** or **securing work opportunities**. The programme also strengthened trainees' confidence, communication, teamwork, and workplace readiness, preparing them for sustainable livelihoods and further learning.

Francis Mulenga: Adversity to Advancement

When Francis Mulenga joined the [Pestalozzi Skills Hub](#) in 2025, he had been out of school since Grade 8 and had lost many of his foundational literacy and numeracy skills. Struggling with hardship and alcohol abuse, he faced an **uncertain future** — but also showed a remarkable determination to change his life.

Through Edulution's **Accelerated Learning Programme**, Francis rebuilt his Mathematics and English foundations while also developing teamwork, communication, and workplace readiness skills.

Today, Francis is completing **vocational training** in bricklaying and plastering through [Build It International](#). He has moved from unstable piece work toward a **sustainable career path** and now hopes to become an entrepreneur able to support his family and build a better future.

"I used to hate Maths, but now I see it's everywhere in construction. Working with others taught me patience and how to communicate better." – Francis Mulenga



Technology: Built for Unreachable Classrooms

EduLution's bespoke tech capability is built to deliver high-quality learning in any environment, ensuring that a lack of infrastructure and resources never limits a child's potential.

Foundational Hardware

The physical infrastructure required to 'host' the learning solution in the most challenging environments.

Core Personalised Adaptive Learning (PAL) Solution

The best-of-breed solution for customised learner journeys, using AI to tailor each experience to the Learner's specific needs.

Supporting Systems

The tech acts as the silent enabler of the people delivering the programme.

The Key Goal

EduLution technology is low cost, user-friendly and intuitive, scalable, and sustainable.

Foundational hardware	Outcomes
Tech infrastructure that is strategically sourced, configured, optimised, tested, supported (Freshdesk help desk), maintained and managed (Odoo inventory management)	- Reliable operations, including offline in remote areas - Low unit operating costs - Scalable operations
Remote monitoring of infrastructure and systems to detect anomalies and identify patterns (to start in 2026)	- Enhanced predictability - Improving efficiency / increased savings
Personalised adaptive learning solution	Outcomes
Best of breed third party learning management platform (Mindspark), enabling learning at learners' own pace, ensuring mastery at each level, and achieving alignment with the curriculum	- Effective learning, even with large classes - A proven scalable solution
Industrialised onboarding process with standard workflows and status dashboards	- Increased efficiency of operations - Reduced time required and costs - A scalable approach
Supporting systems	Outcomes
Simple yet powerful and intuitive, customised, graphical reporting dashboards (Qlik) underpinned by an exhaustive and robust database (internally developed)	- Pointed guidance and progress reports available to LA s and learners - Key insights that can be broadly leveraged - Informed programme decision making and accurate performance measurement
A user-friendly Learning Assistant app (internally developed) and related tools (e.g. Truein biometric and geo-fenced time and attendance) to simplify the lives of LAs and management	- Effective management of people and resources, incl. performance measurement - Improved scalability - Freeing of LAs from administrative tasks to focus on learners
A custom Learning Management System (to configure existing solution) for LAs and teachers (to start in 2026)	- Increased efficiency and effectiveness of the asynchronous component of training - Easy future access to training content and other reference materials
A user-friendly teacher app (to be internally developed) to serve as an end-to-end reference guide and enabling tool for blended learning (to start in 2027)	- Simplification of the lives of teachers on the EduLution blended learning programme - Standardisation and encapsulation of emerging best practices to enhance the effectiveness of teachers

Human Development



At its core, Edulution is an organisation committed to human development. Through strengthening maths and ICT skills, we empower learners to build brighter futures for themselves and their communities.



By recruiting and training learning assistants from local communities, we develop talent, leadership, and local capacity where it is needed most.



Over the past year, we have also expanded our focus to teacher development, providing training in advanced classroom management, blended learning methodologies, and the effective use of edtech platforms and data dashboards to enhance teaching practice.



Connecting all of this is a strong organisational culture — one that unites our team around a shared purpose and a deeply inspiring mission: improving children's learning outcomes and unlocking opportunity through education.

Zambia

EduLution Zambia strengthened its **stakeholder engagement** and **institutional partnerships** during the year, enhancing the credibility, sustainability and scalability of its work. A major milestone was the implementation of a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the **Ministry of Education** through the **Directorate of Open and Distance Education (DODE)**, establishing a framework for curriculum alignment, teacher capacitation, learner progress tracking, school selection and programme support.

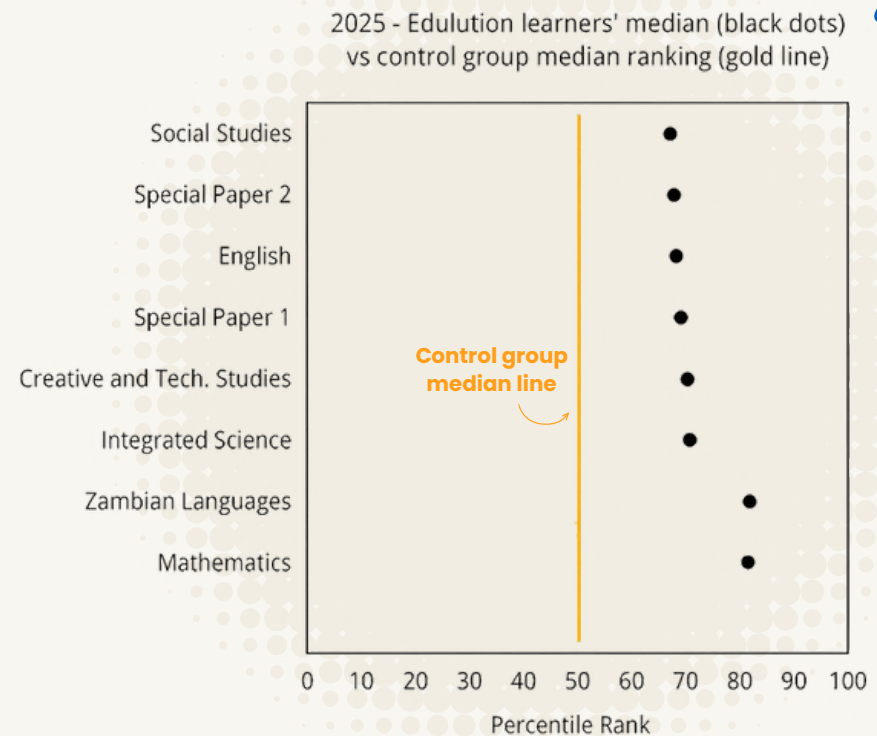
EduLution also raised its national profile through the inaugural **AI and EdTech Indaba**, attended by more than **300 participants** and officiated by the **Ministers of Education** and of **Technology and Science**. The event catalysed dialogue on digital learning, innovation and policy, while opening **new pathways for collaboration with government, development partners and the private sector**.

High-level engagements with ministries, State House representatives, parliamentary committees, district education officials and other government stakeholders strengthened buy-in, increased visibility of EduLution's impact and advanced discussions on partnership and expansion opportunities.

Collaboration with organisations including **UNICEF, UNESCO, VVOB, PEAS, MWABU, Prospect Resources, ABSA, ZAMTEL and BongoHive**, created new opportunities for resource mobilisation, shared learning and future programme growth.

EduLution learners sprint ahead on National exams

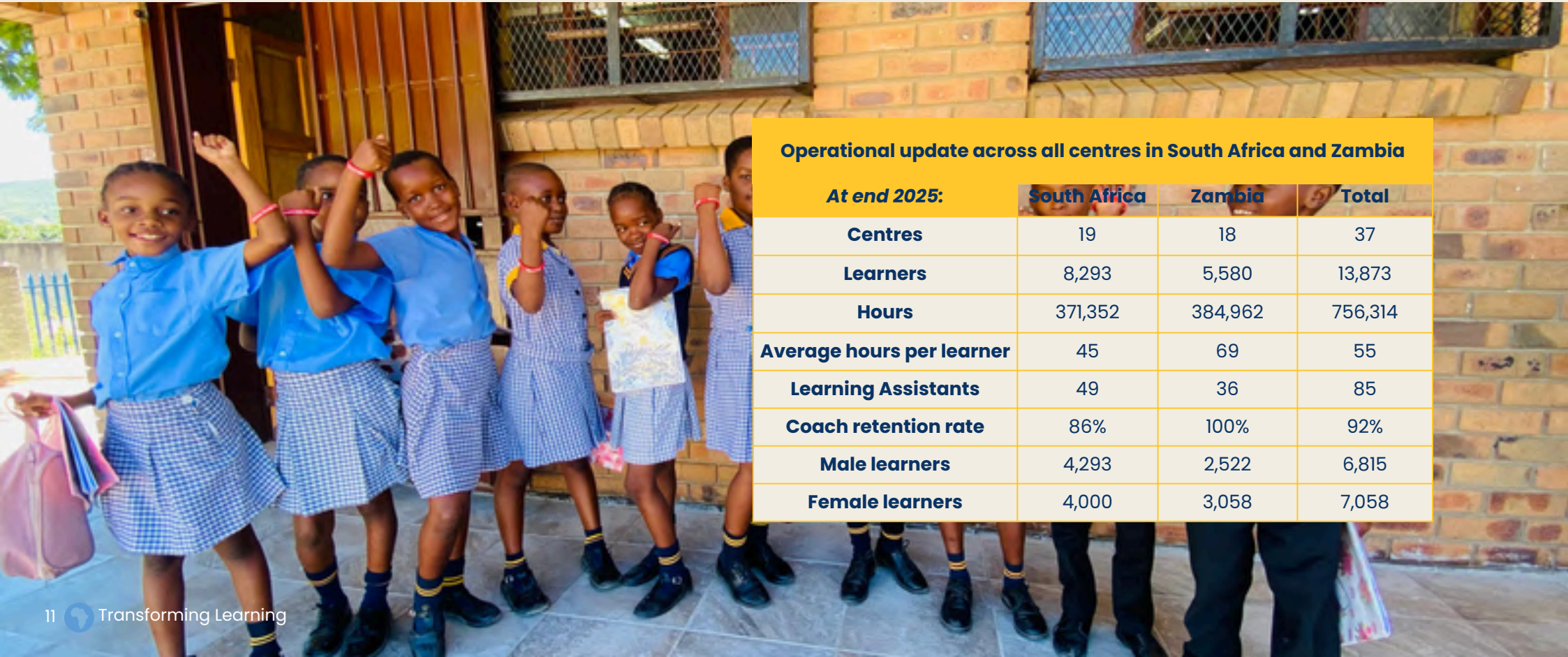
Imagine a 100m sprint, where each subject represents a lane. In the 2025 race, the average EduLution learner (black dot) in Mathematics is at the 82m mark, while the average learner is at 50m (gold line). **The black dots show how far ahead EduLution learners are in each subject, consistently outpacing their peers across all Grade 7 subjects:**



South Africa

In 2025 Edulution, with implementation partner Penreach, advanced its mission to embed teacher-centred blended learning in public schools by **migrating all 19 centres in Mpumalanga to *Ei Mindspark's* AI-powered adaptive learning platform**. This enabled **personalised instruction** for **8,200 learners**, provided teachers with **real-time curriculum-aligned data**, and drove measurable improvements: Grade 4–6 learners recovered an average of **one year of learning in just six months**, and Tsembaletfu Primary surpassed **60% in mathematics** for the first time.

While challenges around **cost reduction** and **teacher training** remain, progress is evident — **70 teachers** participated in **blended learning workshops** supported by Learning Assistants and provincial partners. The Gauteng launch into 10 schools, expanding reach to over **12,000 learners and 110 teachers**, demonstrated best practice in pre-launch government engagement, with school selection, onboarding, and training integrated into provincial structures. This **co-creation model** strengthens sustainability and positions Edulution as a catalyst for systemic transformation, **ensuring affordability and public sector ownership by 2030**.



Operational update across all centres in South Africa and Zambia

At end 2025:	South Africa	Zambia	Total
Centres	19	18	37
Learners	8,293	5,580	13,873
Hours	371,352	384,962	756,314
Average hours per learner	45	69	55
Learning Assistants	49	36	85
Coach retention rate	86%	100%	92%
Male learners	4,293	2,522	6,815
Female learners	4,000	3,058	7,058

Outcomes and Impact

While maintaining reach at nearly **14,000 learners** at **37 schools** through 2025, over **750,000 learner hours** were delivered. At the same time, Edulution prioritised investment in key impact levers, including the **rollout of *Mindspark***, a personalised adaptive learning platform, to strengthen learning efficacy. Development of **teacher training materials** and a teacher enablement approach is now supporting fuller teacher inclusion in 2026, another key strategic objective. Together, these investments create conditions for **improved cost per learner outcomes**, stronger blended learning, expansion into additional subjects, and a clearer pathway to **long-term scale**.

Learning efficacy dividends from the adaptive learning are being seen already with a **0.58 SD pre-post gain** observed during 2025. Additionally, the 2025 Zambia Grade 7 national exam results saw **the average Edulution learner placed 32 percentile ranks ahead of peers in Mathematics – a record year in Edulution’s history**.

The beginning of 2026 has seen **active learner enrolment reach 20,000**, including expansion into a new province.



Learner's Success Stories

UNLOCKING CONFIDENCE: FREDRICK'S TRANSFORMATION

Before joining Edulution, Fredrick sat quietly in the back of his mathematics class. Paralysed by the fear of making mistakes, he avoided raising his hand while his academic performance slipped below average.

Then came Edulution. As mathematical concepts began to click, Fredrick's hesitation vanished. He transformed from a silent observer into an **active classroom leader**, catching the attention of his parents and teachers. No longer defined by a fear of failure, he credits Edulution with unlocking his true potential.



THE MAKING OF A YOUNG MATHEMATICIAN: ELIZABETH'S JOURNEY

Thirteen-year-old Elizabeth always had a strong work ethic, but mathematics felt like a roadblock. Complex topics like fractions, ratios, and data handling chipped away at her confidence, keeping her quiet during lessons. **That narrative completely changed when she joined Edulution.** Through determination and targeted support, Elizabeth didn't just bridge her learning gaps; she soared past them. Today, she is one of the top-performing learners in her class. *"I am now able to help my peers with maths, and I enjoy solving problems and challenging myself to learn more."* – Elizabeth



SHATTERING HER OWN CEILINGS: MARIET'S STORY

When Mariet started her Edulution journey as a Grade 5 student, she was a quiet girl trapped behind a self-imposed barrier: she believed her math scores would never cross the 50% mark. Two years later, Mariet has completely rewritten her future. Now a fiercely determined Grade 7 student, her scores have skyrocketed to an **incredible 70%-90%**. She faces her final primary school exams with absolute conviction. *"Edulution helped me improve my numeracy scores in class and pass my Grade 7 exams."* – Mariet



Finance

In 2025, we invested in model development addressing the key cost pillars that will determine scalability and adoption. Phased strategies were deepened to **reduce facilitation, hardware, software, and training costs**, while **protecting investment** in the elements that most efficiently improve or maintain learning outcomes. This supports the pathway to a more **affordable, adoptable, and scalable model**.

Reduce cost, protect outcomes

Smart efficiency. Strong impact. Sustainable future.

Efficiency focus



Lower delivery cost



More adoptable model



Clearer scale pathway



Protected priority



Maintain learning outcomes



Retain high-impact inputs



Preserve quality



Disciplined on cost. Uncompromising on impact. **We will do both.**



Stakeholders

We are immensely grateful and excited to work with credible and experienced organisations who share our vision of ***Transforming How Africa Learns***.

Funders	Country
DRK	US
Temo Capital	SA
Get It Done Foundation	SA
Michael & Susan Dell Foundation	US
GIFT Foundation	CH
Tomlinson Family	CH
Vitol Foundation	GB
Happel Foundation	CH
Project Luangwa	ZM
Pestalozzi World	CH
Propel Education	IR

Injini Mastercard Foundation	SA
DG Murray Trust	SA
Impact Linked Finance Fund	SA
Mc2h	CH
UBS Optimus Fund	CH
Happel Foundation	CH
Pestalozzi World	CH

Public Sector Funders	Country
Jobs Fund	SA
Unemployment Insurance Fund	SA

Public Sector Partnerships	Country
Department of Basic Education	SA
Ministry of Science & Technology	ZM
Ministry of General Education	ZM

Collaboration Partners	Country
Penreach NPC	SA
Ei Mindspark	IN

Research Partners	Country
IPA	USA
Injini	SA





Gratitude

As we close another year, we extend our deepest gratitude to the many people and partners who make Edulution's work possible. To our **learners and young people**, thank you for your courage, curiosity, and determination to keep learning despite significant challenges.

We are especially grateful to the **teachers, school leaders, and education officials** who have welcomed Edulution into their schools and districts, collaborated with us in shaping and improving the programme, and shared in the commitment to improving outcomes for children and youth. Your **partnership, openness, and leadership** are helping to build stronger and more inclusive learning systems.

To our **Learning Assistants, staff, funders, researchers, implementation partners, and Board members**: thank you for your energy, professionalism, and belief in what is possible. Together, we are building pathways to learning, dignity, opportunity, and hope for the next generation.

Alone I Cannot, Together We Can.

With deep gratitude,

EDULUTION



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[Edulution Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/EdulutionFacebook)



[Edulution Linked In](https://www.linkedin.com/company/edulution)

Edulution Holdings SA - Switzerland - Company Registration Number: CHE-198-650-699 - Established 2015
Edulution Zambia Ltd - Zambia - Company Registration Number: 130157 - Established 2015
Edulution Learning Namibia (Pty) Ltd - Namibia - Company Registration Number: 2016/16873 - Established 2016
Edulution Learning South Africa NPC - South Africa - Registration Number: 2020/1674027/08 - Established 2020