

# I-SET and Chance 2 Advance bring robotics to Diepsloot



The I-SET team in Diepsloot

About thirty students accepted the invitation to attend the I-SET Robotics coach and mentor training as part of the Unisa Chance 2 Advance Programme in Diepsloot on 19 July 2012. This robotics event was like no other FLL challenge ever! To view all the photographs of this event, visit <https://www.facebook.com/isetlego>.

The programme was divided into four sessions, namely introductions, basic robotic building skills using the Lego MindStorms kit, basic programming skills using the NXT visual programming language, and then a challenge from the 2011 Food Factor challenge.

Neither the cold winter morning nor the required paradigm shifts had any effect on the enthusiasm of these students. They embraced the goal to build and program a robot by the end of the day; no effort was spared.

The day started quiet and peacefully. The introduction to robotics building including wheels, axles, beams and gears, was insightful. However, the actual building of the robot was challenging and team work was vital during this activity. After lunch, the introduction to programming basics (including the move, stop and repeat instructions) required a significant paradigm shift into the world of programming.

The explanation of the robotics challenge to the three teams, each with an allocated I-SET mentor, was not a quiet event! After extra time, and a little more time, all three teams managed to complete at least a part of the challenge. Some teams entered the challenge with a tad more noise – to see the action videos, visit <http://www.youtube.com/isetcommunity>.

The I-SET team is sincerely grateful to the Chance 2 Advance team for this opportunity, as well as for all the organising that happened, both before and on the day. We can do this again!