

Dedicated to the memory of Madiba 1918 – 2013



Pocket Guide to South Africa 2013/14

Eleventh edition

Compiled, edited and published by:

Government Communications (GCIS)

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Telephone: 012 473 0349

Website: www.gcis.gov.za

ISBN: 978-0-621-42383-9

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Images supplied by: GCIS; SA Tourism; MediaClub South Africa; Gautrain; Transnet; South African Police Service; SA Tourism.

Cover design: Rachel Sekhu.

Design and layout: Ntombenkosi Malgas.

Printed and bound in the Republic of South Africa by CTP

Compiled, edited and published by the GCIS.

The editorial staff has taken all reasonable care to ensure correctness of facts and statistics. However, any person requiring confirmation of any data in the *Pocket Guide to South Africa*, or more detailed and specific information, should consult the relevant department/institution. The information is also available on *Government Online* (www.gov.za)

Unless otherwise specified, information contained in this *Pocket Guide to South Africa* was the latest available as at August 2014.

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It is an honour for me, as President of the Republic of South Africa, to present the *Pocket Guide to South Africa 2013/14*.

The *Pocket Guide to South Africa* is not just as a reference work but as a record of the strides South Africa has made in the political term from 2009 to 2014.

This *Pocket Guide to South Africa* documents the tremendous change and progress South Africa has experienced in the past five years as government and the nation that focused our attention on the priorities of employment; the fight against crime and corruption; health, education as well as rural development and land reform. These priorities were spelt out in 2009 as we commenced a political term that also culminated in the celebration of 20 Years of Freedom, and the fifth general election in a democratic South Africa in 2014.

South Africa is a developing democracy and developing economy that faces many challenges, but our resolve to meet these challenges is reinforced by the progress we have already made. From making sure that just about all children of school-going age are at school, to widening access to antiretroviral treatment for HIV, to providing water, electricity and housing to South Africans, we have reason to be proud.

We can be proud too of the progress made in making it easier for South Africans to start up businesses or for foreign investors to develop a footprint here, and of the role we are playing to create and maintain a better Africa and a better world. This *Pocket Guide to South Africa* documents how, working together, we have ensured that South Africa is a much better place in which to live, work and invest today than it was before 1994, when the liberation struggle ended the dark era of apartheid.

Today, South Africans and the world share not just in what we have created since 1994 or under this administration since 2009, but people at home and abroad share the hope that our future will be even better in the years to come.

We have a great deal to do to reverse the legacy of apartheid and to ensure that we take radical steps to place the economy in the hands of the millions of South Africans who were excluded from economic participation under apartheid.

Building a better future will be inspired by the change we have already effected.

I trust this *Pocket Guide to South Africa* will simultaneously be a source of information and inspiration; inspiration that will move users of this publication to become active in building an even better South Africa.

Let's all work together to move South Africa forward.



Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa
June 2014



South Africa at a glance

Land surface area

1 219 602 km²

Key economic sectors

Mining services and transport, energy, manufacturing, tourism and agriculture.

Population

Total	52 982 000
Male	25 823 300 (49%)
Female	27 158 700 (51%)

Official languages

English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, isiNdebele, Afrikaans, Siswati, Sesotho sa Leboa, Sesotho, Setswana, Tshivenda and Xitsonga.

Currency

Rand (ZAR) – 100 cents equals one rand.

Time

GMT +2 hours

Government

Constitutional multiparty democracy, three spheres (local, provincial and national).

Capitals

Pretoria (administrative); Cape Town (legislative); Bloemfontein (judicial). The Constitutional Court is located in Johannesburg.

Provinces

Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape.

Transportation

Excellent roads, rail and air facilities (both domestic and international). Public transport in major cities include the Gautrain between Johannesburg and Pretoria and the Bus Rapid Transport System in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Telecommunications

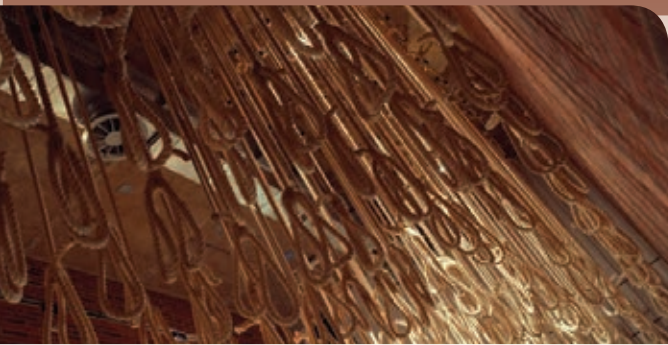
World-class infrastructure. Internet access is widely available. There are four mobile (cellular) networks.

Health

Top-quality healthcare is available throughout the country, although only basic in rural areas. Inoculations are only required for those travelling from yellow-fever areas. Malaria precautions are necessary in some areas.

Sources: *Mid-year Population Estimates, 2013 and (Census 2011 Stats SA)*.

For more information, visit www.southafrica.info and www.gov.za



History

Modern humans have lived at the southern tip of Africa for more than 100 000 years and their ancestors for some 3,3 million years.

Some 2 000 years ago, the Khoekhoen (the Hottentots of early European terminology) were pastoralists who had settled mostly along the coast, while the San (the Bushmen) were hunter-gatherers spread across the region. At this time, Bantu-speaking agropastoralists began arriving in southern Africa, spreading from the eastern lowlands to the Highveld.

At several archaeological sites there is evidence of sophisticated political and material cultures.

European contact

The first European settlement in southern Africa was established by the Dutch East India Company in Table Bay (Cape Town) in 1652. Created to supply passing ships with fresh produce, the colony grew rapidly as Dutch farmers settled to grow crops. Shortly after the establishment of the colony, slaves were imported from East Africa, Madagascar and the East Indies.

The first British Settlers, known as the 1820 Settlers, arrived in Algoa Bay (now Nelson Mandela Bay) on board 21 ships, the first being the Chapman. They numbered about 4 500 and included artisans, tradesmen, religious leaders, merchants, teachers, bookbinders, blacksmiths, discharged sailors and soldiers, professional men and farmers.

Conflict

From the 1770s, colonists came into contact and inevitable conflict with Bantu-speaking chiefdoms some 800 km east of Cape Town. A century of intermittent warfare ensued during which the colonists gained ascendancy over the isiXhosa-speaking chiefdoms.

In 1795, the British occupied the Cape as a strategic base against the French, controlling the sea route to the East.

In the 1820s, the celebrated Zulu leader, Shaka, established sway over a vast area of south-east Africa. As splinter Zulu groups conquered and absorbed communities in their path, the region experienced a fundamental disruption. Substantial states, such as Moshoeshoe's Lesotho and other Sotho-Tswana chiefdoms were established.

This temporary disruption of life on the Highveld served to facilitate the expansion northwards of the original Dutch settlers' descendants, the Boer Voortrekkers, from the 1830s.

Occupation

In 1806, Britain reoccupied the Cape. As the colony prospered, the political rights of the various races were guaranteed, with slavery being abolished in 1838.

Throughout the 1800s, the boundaries of European influence spread eastwards. From the port of Durban, Natal settlers pushed northwards, further and further into the land of the Zulu. From the mid-1800s, the Voortrekkers coalesced in two land-locked white-ruled republics, the South African Republic (Transvaal) and the Orange Free State.

The mineral revolution

South Africa's diamond mining industry dates back to 1867, when diamonds were discovered near Kimberley in what is today known as the Northern Cape. The Kimberley diamond fields, and later discoveries in Gauteng, the Free State, and along the Atlantic coast, emerged as major sources of gem-quality diamonds, securing South Africa's position as the world's leading producer in the mid-twentieth century.

Gold

The discovery of the Witwatersrand goldfields in 1886 was a turning point in South Africa's history. The demand for franchise rights for English-speaking immigrants working on the new goldfields was the pretext Britain used to go to war with the Transvaal and Orange Free State in 1899.

The Anglo-Boer/South African War was the bloodiest, longest and most expensive war Britain engaged in between 1815 and 1915. It cost more than 200 million pounds and more than 22 000 men were lost to Britain. The Boers lost over 34 000 people and more than 15 000 black South Africans were killed.

Union and opposition

In 1910, the Union of South Africa was created out of the Cape, Natal, Transvaal and Free State. It was to be essentially a white union. Black opposition was inevitable, and the African National Congress (ANC) was founded in 1912 to protest the exclusion of black people from power. In 1921, the South African Communist Party was established at a time of heightened militancy. More discriminatory legislation was enacted. Meanwhile, Afrikaner nationalism, fuelled by job losses arising from a worldwide recession, was on the march.

The rise of apartheid

In 1948, the pro-Afrikaner National Party (NP) came to power with the ideology of apartheid, an even more rigorous and authoritarian approach than the previous segregationist policies. While white South Africa was cementing its power, black opposition politics were evolving. In 1943, a younger, more determined political grouping came to the fore with the launch of the ANC Youth League, a development, which was to foster the leadership of people such as Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu.

Repression

In 1961, the NP Government under Prime Minister HF Verwoerd declared South Africa a republic after winning a whites-only referendum. A new concern with racial purity was apparent in various legislation and residential segregation was enforced.

Separate development

At a time when much of Africa was on the verge of independence, the South African Government was devising its policy of separate development, dividing the African population into artificial ethnic “nations,” each with its own “homeland” and the prospect of “independence.” Forced removals from “white” areas affected some 3,5 million people, and vast rural slums were created in the homelands.

In 1949, the ANC adopted its Programme of Action, expressing the renewed militancy of the 1940s. The programme embodied a rejection of white domination and a call for action in the form of protests, strikes and demonstrations.

Defiance

The Defiance Campaign of the early 1950s carried mass mobilisation to new heights under the banner of non-violent resistance to the pass laws. In 1955, the Freedom Charter was drawn up at the Congress of the People in Soweto. The charter enunciated the principles of the struggle, binding the movement to a culture of human rights and non-racialism.

Soon the mass-based organisations, including the ANC and the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC), were banned. Matters came to a head at Sharpeville in March 1960 when 69 PAC anti-pass demonstrators were killed. A state of emergency was imposed, and detention without trial was introduced.

Struggle days

Leaders of the black political organisations at this time either went into exile or were arrested. In this climate, the ANC and PAC abandoned their long-standing commitment to non-violent resistance and turned to armed struggle.

Top leaders still inside the country, including members of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), were arrested in 1963.

At the Rivonia Trial, eight ANC leaders, including Nelson Mandela, convicted of sabotage (instead of treason, the original charge), were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The resurgence of resistance politics in the early 1970s was dramatic. June 1976 marked the beginning of a sustained anti-apartheid revolt. School pupils in Soweto rose up against apartheid education, followed by youth uprisings throughout the country.

Strong, legal vehicles for the democratic forces tested the State, whose response until then had been invariably heavy-handed repression.

Reform

Shaken by the scale of protest and opposition, the government embarked on a series of limited reforms in the early 1980s.

In 1983, the Constitution was reformed to allow the coloured and Indian minorities limited participation in separate and subordinate houses of parliament.

In 1986, the pass laws were scrapped. The international community strengthened its support for the anti-apartheid cause.

Mass resistance increasingly challenged the apartheid State, which resorted to intensified repression accompanied by eventual recognition that apartheid could not be sustained.

Apartheid's last days

Afrikaner élite openly started to pronounce in favour of a more inclusive society, with a number of businesspeople, students and academic leaders meeting publicly and privately with the ANC in exile.

Petty apartheid laws and symbols were openly challenged and eventually removed.

Together with a sliding economy, increasing internal dissent and international pressure, these developments inevitably led to historic changes and the fall of apartheid.

Democracy at last

South Africa held its first democratic election in April 1994 under an interim Constitution. The ANC emerged with a 62% majority. South Africa was divided into nine new provinces to replace the four existing provinces and 10 black homelands. In terms of the interim Constitution, the NP and Inkatha Freedom Party participated in a government of national unity under President Mandela, South Africa's first democratically elected president.

The second democratic election, in 1999, saw the ANC increasing its majority to a point just short of two-thirds of the total vote.

In the April 2004 election, the ANC won the national vote with 69,68% and the celebration of 10 Years of Freedom attended by heads of state and government delegations from across the world.

In 2008, Kgalema Motlanthe became President following the recalling of President Thabo Mbeki. On 22 April 2009, South Africa held national and provincial elections with about 76% of registered voters casting their votes. Jacob Zuma was inaugurated as President of South Africa on 9 May 2009.

The following year, a significant milestone for South Africa was the hosting of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.

Municipal elections were held on 18 May 2011, electing new councils for all municipalities in the country.

October 2011, saw Statistics South Africa conducting a comprehensive national Census. The census, which analysed the country's demographics, population distribution and access to services, average household size, income, migration, and mortality, was the third national population and housing count in post-apartheid South Africa. The exercise saw 156 000 field staff employed to count more than 14,6 million households.

South Africa has continued to build on its international profile. On 1 January 2011, the country started its second term as a non-permanent member of the United Nations (UN) Security Council between 2011 and 2012, serving alongside the five permanent members, China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as elected members Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Colombia, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria and Portugal.

In 2011, as part of government's commitment to secure a better quality of life for all, the National Planning Commission in The Presidency finalised the draft *National Development Plan: Vision for 2030*. The plan is a step towards charting a new path for South Africa.

On 8 January 2012, Africa's oldest liberation movement, the ANC, celebrated 100 years of existence. This was a historic achievement, not only for the movement, but also for South Africa and the continent.

In May 2012, the Square Array Kilometre (SKA) Organisation announced that the SKA Project would be shared between South Africa and Australia, with a majority share coming to South Africa. The full dish array and the dense aperture array will be built in Africa.

In November 2012, South Africa was elected by the members of the UN General Assembly to the UN's 47-member Economic and Social Council.

In December 2012, President Zuma was re-elected as the president of the ANC during the ruling party's congress in Mangaung, Free State with Cyril Ramaphosa elected as the party's deputy president.

During 2012, South African sports stars excelled in various sporting codes. The country produced three Olympic champions and eight Paralympic golds.

The mining sector, which is historically the backbone of South Africa's economy, faced labour unrest during 2012, culminating in wildcat strikes at Marikana where 44 people were killed. This led to a meeting of government, business leaders, labour unions and other stakeholders in October 2012 to work together to strengthen bargaining, address the housing problems and living conditions in mining towns and identify measures to reduce inequality, create better standards of living and above all, create and sustain open channels of communication.

Widespread strikes by farm workers, especially in the Western Cape, which started in November 2012, led to the announcement of a new minimum wage of R105 per day for farm workers for the next three years, starting from 1 March 2013.

In January 2013, Amina Cachalia, a staunch anti-apartheid activist, passed away at the age of 82. Cachalia participated in the 1952 Defiance Campaign and the 1956 Women's March against the apartheid pass laws.

Another struggle veteran, Phyllis Naidoo, died in February 2013 at the age of 85. Naidoo, who was also a well-known as an author, wrote seven books, including the *Footsteps* series and *Le rona re batho: an account of the 1982 Maseru Massacre*.

In July 2013, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, was appointed executive director of the UN Women Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, and Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, was appointed director in the UN Development Programme's Bureau for Development Policy.

On 5 December 2013, South Africa's first democratically elected President and anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela died at the age of 95. Mr Mandela led South Africa's transition from white-minority rule in the 1990s, after 27 years in prison for his political activities.

He had been receiving intensive medical care at home for a lung infection after spending three months in hospital. His body lay in state at the Union Buildings from 11 to 13 December. He was buried in his home town of Qunu in the Eastern Cape on 15 December 2013.





South Africa's People

People

It was Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu who coined the well-known phrase “the Rainbow Nation” to describe the melting pot of people and cultures living together in South Africa.

According to the *Mid-Year Population Estimates 2013* from Statistics South Africa, the country's population stood at 52 982 000 in 2013, of which 27 158 700 were female and 25 823 300 were male.

About 29,2% of the population is aged younger than 15 years and approximately 7,8% (4,15 million) is 60 years or older.

Gauteng comprises the largest share of the South African population. Approximately 12,7 million people (24%) live in this province. KwaZulu-Natal has the second largest population, with 10,5 million people (19,7%) living there. With a population of approximately 1,16 million people (2,2%), Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population.

The black African population group are in the majority (42,28 million) and constitute almost 80% of the total South African population. The white population is estimated at 4,60 million, the coloured population at 4,77 million and the Indian/Asian population at 1,33 million.

The South African population consists of the Nguni comprising the Zulu, Xhosa, Ndebele and Swazi people; Sotho-Tswana consisting of the Southern, Northern and Western Sotho (Tswana people); Tsonga and Venda; people from mixed origin generally referred to as coloureds; people from European origin (Afrikaans- and English-speaking); Indian/Asian; and those who have immigrated to South Africa from the rest of Africa, Europe and Asia and who maintain a strong cultural identity. A few members of the Khoi and the San are also part of South Africa's population.

Languages

South Africa is a multilingual country with 11 official languages, each of which is guaranteed equal status. Most South Africans are multilingual and able to speak at least two of the official languages. English is most widely used for official and commercial communication. IsiZulu is the most common home language spoken by 22,7% of the population, followed by isiXhosa at 16%, Afrikaans at 13,5%, and English at 9,6%, Sesotho sa Leboa (Sepedi) 9,1%, Setswana at 8%, Sesotho at 7,6%, and Xitsonga at 4,5%. Siswati is spoken by 2,5% of the population, Tshivenda by 2,4% and isiNdebele by 2,1%.

Government passed the Use of Official Languages Act in 2012, as part of promoting social cohesion.



Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

The key priorities of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) are to alleviate poverty, create employment and improve food security. Added to this, the department focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of the country's natural resources in the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors. The department's overall responsibilities include production and resource management, agricultural support services, trade and economic development, food safety and biosecurity, forestry and marine aquaculture.

Economic contribution

The gross value of agricultural production for 2013 was R171 258 million. The gross income of producers (the value of sales and production for other uses, and the value of changes in inventories) for the year amounted to R167 394 million. The increase can be ascribed mainly to farmers receiving better prices for products in general, but in particular prices of field crops, which improved by 23%; and those of animal products, which were 8,7% higher.

Field crops and horticulture

Gross income from field crops increased by 24,4%, to R44 804 million.

- South Africa is the main maize producer in the Southern African Development Community region. Maize is produced mainly in North West, the Free State and Mpumalanga. Some 11,5 Mt of maize were commercially produced on 2,8 million ha of land. Income from maize at R23 813 million was R7 143 million or 42,9% more than in the previous 12 months.
- Wheat is produced mainly in the winter rainfall areas of the Western Cape and the eastern parts of the Free State. Some 1,9 Mt were produced on 511 200 ha of land.
- Malting barley is produced mainly on the southern coastal plains of the Western Cape on 84 940 ha and production totalled 298 000 t.
- Sorghum is cultivated mostly in the drier parts of the summer rainfall areas such as Mpumalanga, the Free State, Limpopo and North West. An estimated 62 620 ha were planted, with production totalling 154 494 t.
- About 430 000 ha are under sugar cane production with 68% grown within 30 km of the coast and 16% in the high rainfall areas of KwaZulu-Natal. The remainder is grown in the northern irrigated areas that comprise Pongola and the Mpumalanga lowveld. The industry produces an estimated average of 19,9 Mt of sugarcane (2,2 Mt of sugar) per season. About 60% of this sugar is marketed in the Southern African Customs Union.
- Honeybush production is unique to South Africa. It is part of the fynbos that grows wild in the Cederberg area of the

Western Cape and is not produced anywhere else in the world. Some 230 ha of honeybush tea are under cultivation.

Other crops

Other crops grown in South Africa include:

- Deciduous fruit: grown mainly in the Western Cape and in the Langkloof Valley of the Eastern Cape. Smaller production areas are found along the Orange River and in the Free State, Mpumalanga and Gauteng. South Africa produced 1 694 452 t of deciduous fruit.
- Citrus production is largely limited to irrigation areas and occurs in Limpopo (23 753 ha), Eastern Cape (13 951 ha), Western Cape (8 970 ha), Mpumalanga (9 111 ha), KwaZulu-Natal (3 284 ha) and Northern Cape (1 418 ha).
- Pineapples are grown mainly in the Eastern Cape and northern KwaZulu-Natal. Other subtropical crops such as avocados, mangoes, bananas, litchis, guavas, papayas, granadillas and macadamia and pecan nuts are produced mainly in Mpumalanga and Limpopo, as well as the subtropical coastal areas of KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape.
- South Africa's wine industry saw the biggest grape crop ever produced after a bumper 2013 harvest season. High-quality wines were anticipated for the 2013 vintage. According to the South African Wine Industry Information and Systems, the 2013 wine grape crop reached about 1,5 million tons – 5,6% higher than the 2012 crop. The 2013 wine harvest – including juice and concentrate for non-alcoholic purposes, wine for brandy and distilling wine – amounted to 1 152 Mℓ, calculated at an average recovery of 773 litres per ton of grapes.

Game ranching

South Africa's unique wildlife ranching sector is widely recognised as one of the world leaders in the use of wildlife for farming/ranching purposes.

The sector has shown extraordinary growth over the years, with the number of game farms operating in the country

At the World Economic Forum meeting held in September 2013 in Cape Town, African Heads of State and Government agreed that agricultural investment would uplift smallholder farmers out of poverty, empower women and transform Africa. Several African countries have called on the continent's private sector to aid in enhancing Africa's agricultural development programme.

The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme, an African Union and New Partnership for Africa's Development initiative, aims to drive agricultural development in Africa. The programme aims to increase public financing in agriculture by 10% and raise agricultural productivity by 6%. The Grow Africa partnership countries have made agricultural transformation a priority.

increasing from 3 500 in 1992 to approximately 10 000. Most game farms are in Limpopo, followed by the Northern and Eastern Cape, respectively. In 2013, the DAFF finalised a game farming policy.

Livestock

Agriculture forms a critical part of South Africa's socio-economic and socio-political stability. Animal production contributes approximately 48% to the country's agricultural output in terms of value. The industry employs about 500 000 people.

South Africa has approximately 8 000 commercial sheep farms and about 5 800 communal farmers. Most of the estimated 24,4 million sheep in South Africa are in the Eastern Cape, followed by the Northern Cape, Free State, Western Cape and Mpumalanga.

The South African dairy industry is important to the job market, with approximately 2 700 milk producers employing 60 000 farm workers and providing 40 000 people with indirect jobs within the value chain such as milk processing.

Commercial farmers own 59% of the 14 million cattle available in South Africa. There are 27 popular breeds in South Africa including the Brahman, indigenous Afrikaner and Nguni, Tuli, Boron, Bonsmara, Drakensberger, Simbra, Beefmaster, Angus and Braford.

Support to smallholder farmers

Support to smallholder producers is being synchronised through the department's coordinated Programme Management Unit, which comprises all DAFF technical support units.

The Jobs Fund received R9 billion over a three-year period. The fund is targeted at established companies with a good track record, which plan to expand existing programmes or pilot innovative approaches to employment creation, with a special focus on opportunities for young people.

Akwandze Agricultural Finance Ltd, through funding provided by the Jobs Fund, is addressing this need by ensuring these farmers get adequate, cost-effective and appropriate financing with favourable terms. Akwandze is also providing a package of associated farmer support initiatives such as on-site service back-up, training and capacity building.

Climate change response

The agriculture sector in South Africa faces considerable impact from climate change, which affects the livelihoods of most people, especially those who are vulnerable to food insecurity.

South Africa responds to international obligations regarding climate mainly through the Department of Environmental Affairs, but the DAFF, as well as other departments such as

those of mineral resources, energy, science and technology, and water affairs are also involved.

The increasing risk of disaster is reduced by strengthening early warning systems and disseminating early warnings, as well as raising awareness through campaigns.

The DAFF has therefore developed and implemented an Early Warning System that disseminates extreme weather warnings to farming communities.

Climate variability has induced drought interspersed with flooding, resulting in lower-than-average agricultural production yields.

The DAFF has completed two policy documents: the Agricultural Disaster Risk-Management Plan and the Agricultural Drought-Management Plan. An amount of more than R990 million has been made available through the Medium Term Expenditure Framework period until 2014/15 as part of the flood-assistance scheme.

Forestry

The DAFF is the custodian of South Africa's forest resources, which cover over 40 million ha of the country's land surface area. An amount of R1,2 billion from the department's budget has been allocated to forestry and natural resources management.

The forestry sector employs around 165 900 workers and provides about 62 700 direct jobs and 30 000 indirect jobs. Forestry provides livelihood support to 652 000 people of the country's rural population.

The pulp and paper industry provides approximately 13 200 direct and 11 000 indirect employment opportunities. Some 20 000 workers are employed in sawmilling, 6 000 in the timber board and 2 200 in the mining timber industries, while a further 11 000 workers are employed in miscellaneous jobs in forestry.

In terms of land use, the afforested area is about 1,27 million ha – about 1% of the total South African land area of 122,3 million ha. The forest sector (forestry and forest products) contributes about 1% to the gross domestic product.

The department develops human resources through forestry-sector skills development initiatives and promotes employment through commercial forestry activities such as forestation and downstream activities. The integration of forestry programmes into provincial and municipal development plans will assist the "Plant a Million Trees" campaign.

The department is pursuing a target of 10 000 ha of nett new afforestation a year.

The focus will remain on encouraging cooperatives, simplifying and streamlining the regulatory environment, training and extension, supporting the implementation of rural credit and offering incentives for new entrants.

Afforestation is taking place in rural areas where there are few other viable opportunities for job creation and economic activity. The development of these additional raw material resources will attract greater processing capacity in the form of sawmills, board mills, chipping plants and treatment plants, which will lead to broad economic growth. An additional R500 million a year could be generated from such plantations.

The forestry programme also includes greening and tree-planting projects. The programme prioritises work on fire-fighting programmes such as the Working on Fire Programme and encourages the establishment of fire-protection associations.

Woodlands

The woodlands, also known as savannas, constitute a forest resource of major importance in South Africa. It is the most accessible forest resource for poor communities and contributes in the region of R2 000 to R5 000 to poor households annually. While natural forests cover less than one million ha of land in total, and plantation forestry covers less than 1,3 million ha and the woodlands collectively cover about 29 million ha to 46 million ha.

The cover includes extensive areas in the low-lying, drier areas of Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga. Rich biodiversity is found in savanna woodland comprising 5 900 plants, 540 bird species and 175 mammals. These include iconic species such as the Big Five group of mammals that are important to the tourism industry.

Several protected tree species of the savanna, such as camel thorn and leadwood, contribute substantially to the lucrative braai wood market, and guidelines have been set for licensing processes to assist with the control of their use.

Kathu Forest in the Northern Cape is the first woodland area to be declared protected woodland under the National Forests Act of 1998.

The woodlands are a valuable source of fuel, building material, craft timber and a variety of non-timber products. These include fruit, fodder, medicinal compounds, honey, meat and mushrooms. They form the backbone of the livelihoods of millions of people. The annual marula-fruit (*Sclerocarya birrea*) harvest, for example, is worth some R1,1 billion a year to rural communities.

Fisheries

South Africa is among the global fishing nations who have identified the challenges within their fishing industries. With 22 commercial fisheries sectors and new fisheries being explored and experimented with, South Africa has two fishery sector components.

Wild capture fisheries include three distinct components (commercial, recreational and subsistence fisheries), each of

which requires specific research and management interventions. The aquaculture (fish farming) sector is considered underdeveloped and as a result has been prioritised due to declining wild stocks.

The main challenge in fisheries is to create a balance between maximising the social and economic potential of the fisheries industry while protecting the integrity and quality of the country's marine and coastal ecosystems and addressing transformation in the sector.

In line with international trends, the department recognises fisheries as an economic activity rather than a purely environmental or biodiversity matter. Government has expanded the mandate for fisheries management through the inclusion of fresh water and inland fisheries, as well as aquaculture, to the department's existing responsibilities.

Aquaculture

Aquaculture incorporates the breeding, trading or rearing of aquatic organisms in a controlled or selected aquatic environment for recreational, commercial or subsistence purposes.

In March 2013, government launched the R800-million Agriculture Development Enhancement Programme, which offers cost-sharing grants of R40 million per company. The aim is to create more jobs in the sector. The grants are available for machinery, equipment, infrastructure, commercial vehicles and work boats in pursuit of boosting competition in the industry.

Abalone fishing is severely restricted in South African waters, but poaching is rife as it is a lucrative trade. A big cause for the decline in abalone numbers is rampant poaching over the years. The species is highly coveted and fetches high prices, especially in the Far East.

In May 2013, Cabinet approved the National Aquaculture Policy Framework. The policy provides a unified framework for the establishment and development of an industry that contributes towards sustainable job creation and increased investment.

Marine and freshwater aquaculture presents a good opportunity to diversify fish production to satisfy local demand, contribute to food security, job creation, economic development and rural development, and export opportunities.

In December 2013, South Africa hosted the Third Global Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change.





Arts and culture

The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) continues to make significant strides in positioning the cultural and creative industries as one of the main drivers of economic growth and job creation in South Africa.

The success of the arts and culture sector also relies on effective governance, infrastructure and skills development, partnerships, research, sharing of information, and enterprise development. The department is committed to supporting a number of emergent shifts in the arts, culture and heritage sector over the next five years. These shifts have the potential to increase the growth and development of the sector significantly. They include addressing a number of inadequacies in the policy and regulatory environment to strengthen governance in the sector, increase investment, and improve information and statistics for more effective planning and decision making.

To this end, the department is strengthening cooperation with a range of public and private sector institutions and stakeholders. The development and implementation of the Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy is an example of how to mobilise the resources of all stakeholders in the sector.

Heritage projects

The //hapo museum at the historic Freedom Park was officially unveiled in April 2013. The museum, which is situated at the top of Salvokop in Pretoria, will also serve as a monument to the legacy of South Africa's first democratically elected President Nelson Mandela.

Visitors to //hapo will learn more about the struggle for freedom from the Pan African Archives, which are archives of research material in audio, visual and text formats.

//hapo hosts an interactive exhibition space, presenting the history of southern Africa over the past 3,6 billion years in the old-age custom of narrative and visual form, extended by the

National Coat of Arms

South Africa's coat of arms was adopted in 2000.

Symbolism

Rising sun: a life-giving force

Protea: beauty and the flowering of the nation

Ears of wheat: fertility of the land

Elephant tusks: wisdom, steadfastness and strength

Knobkierie and spear: defence of peace

Drum: love of culture



The motto, **!Ke e:xarra//ke**, written in the Khoisan language of the !Xam people, means "diverse people unite".

Vhuawela garden and walkway, which create space for quiet and peaceful meditation and reflection.

//hapo is a Khoi word which means “a dream.” The museum will help the country define the history, in holistic terms, of starting from the early wars of dispossession such as Khoikhoi-Dutch war in the 1500s; the arrival of Jan van Riebeeck in the Cape in 1652; the Third War of Dispossession between the Khoisan and colonial authorities in the 1800s; the South African War/Anglo-Boer War, and the anti-apartheid struggle – all of which form part of the freedom history and define the freedom South Africans enjoy today.

The museum is a product of South Africans from all walks of life and is in every shape and form a community’s dream.



The year 2013 marked the 100th anniversary of the Union Buildings in Pretoria. Situated on Meintjieskop overlooking the city, the Union Buildings were originally built to house the entire Public Service of the Union of South Africa. It now not only houses the offices of the President, and is the site of presidential inaugurations, but is also a major tourist attraction.

Designed by Sir Herbert Baker in 1908, building began in 1909 and was completed by 1913. At the time, it was the largest building in the country and possibly the largest construction work undertaken in the Southern Hemisphere. It took about 1 265 artisans, workmen and labourers almost three years to build, using 14 million bricks for the interior office walls, half a million cubic feet of freestone, 74 000 cubic yards of concrete, 40 000 bags of cement and 20 000 cubic feet of granite.

In December 2013, in celebration of the centenary of the most iconic building in Pretoria, a bronze statue of former President Nelson Mandela was unveiled at the Union Buildings as a token of appreciation for his valuable contribution to a free, democratic and non-racial South Africa.

Arts and culture organisations

The following organisations play an active role in preserving and promoting South Africa's arts and culture:

- National Heritage Council
- South African Heritage Resources Agency
- South African Geographical Names Council
- National Arts Council of South Africa
- Arts institutions such as the State Theatre in Pretoria, Playhouse Company in Durban, Artscape in Cape Town, Market Theatre in Johannesburg, Performing Arts Centre of the Free State in Bloemfontein and the Windybrow Theatre in Johannesburg
- Business and Arts South Africa
- Arts and Culture Trust.

Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy

As part of the national target of creating five million jobs within the next 10 years, the DAC's Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy is expected to create more than 150 000 work opportunities between 2012 and 2017.

The strategy involves a number of arts and culture job-creation programmes. These include the Public Art Programme, where youth will receive art classes after which the department will employ them in their respective communities to beautify the environment through art. About 3 000 full-time art facilitators will be deployed in schools throughout the country to facilitate the initiative. Along with the establishment of an Art Bank, this is expected to create 10 000 new work opportunities over the next three years.

Public Art Programme

The Public Art Programme, which will focus on beautification and storytelling through art in communities and showcasing artistic talent, is one of three projects aimed at stimulating demand in the sector. The programme was projected to create 5 000 work opportunities between 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The heritage legacy projects include the liberation heritage route and a marine heritage project. The latter is a recreational underwater museum in Kosi Bay in KwaZulu-Natal, which interprets aspects of the history of slavery, indentured labour and the South African Native Labour Corps. It has the potential to create 1 517 work opportunities with annual growth of between 200 and 968 work opportunities between 2013 and 2015.

Investing in Culture Programme

The Investing in Culture Programme promotes job creation, skills development and economic empowerment, supporting business start-ups and poverty-alleviation projects.

Funds are transferred to participants in the programme's projects and are disbursed on the basis of annual business plans and service-level agreements between the department and the individual or group contractors.

Cultural tourism

Cultural festivals, African-cuisine projects, cultural villages, heritage routes and storytelling are areas that benefit from South Africa's booming tourism industry. Many cultural villages have been established throughout South Africa to reflect the different cultures and traditions of the country's people.

Arts festivals

Annual arts festivals are growing in popularity and attendance numbers. These include:

- Aardklop, held annually in Potchefstroom, North West, is inherently Afrikaans, but universal in character.
- Arts Alive International Festival is held in the Johannesburg inner city, with over 600 artists performing during the four-day festival at various venues in Newtown.
- Cape Town International Jazz Festival is a two-day festival featuring some 40 international and African acts performing on five stages and attracting more than 15 000 people. It also features photographic and art exhibitions.
- FNB Dance Umbrella is a festival of contemporary choreography and dance presenting work ranging from community-based dance troupes to international companies.
- Ficksburg Cherry Festival attracts about 20 000 visitors every year to this small eastern Free State town.
- Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, is held annually in Oudtshoorn and presentations include drama, cabaret, and contemporary and classical music. Measured against 2012 attendance figures, it is presently the most popular festival of its kind.
- Innibos Kunstefees, held annually in June in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga, featuring mainly Afrikaans performers and attracting some 100 000 visitors.
- Mangaung African Cultural Festival in Bloemfontein is gaining status as one of the biggest cultural tourism events in southern Africa. This 10-day festival showcases the cream of African and international talent and attracts up to 140 000 people.
- National Arts Festival, held annually in July in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape, is one of the largest and most diverse arts gatherings in Africa.
- Oppikoppi Easter Festival and Oppikoppi Bushveld Bash near Northam in North West, offers live performances from rock, alternative and blues bands both local and from abroad.

- Splashy Fen Music Festival near Underberg in KwaZulu-Natal offers a variety of mainstream and alternative rock and pop music.
- Standard Bank Joy of Jazz is Johannesburg's biggest annual jazz festival, with more than 200 local and international artists performing at different venues across the city.
- Up the Creek is a popular music festival on the banks of the Breede River near Swellendam in the Western Cape.

Other festivals that attract visitors at both national and international level are: North West's Cultural Calabash; the One City Festival in Taung, North West; the Awesome Africa Music Festival in Durban; the Spier Summer Festival at Spier Estate in the Western Cape; the Windybrow Theatre Festival in Johannesburg; and the annual Witness Hilton Arts Festival.

Theatre

The theatre scene in South Africa is vibrant, with many active spaces across the country offering everything from indigenous drama, music, dance, cabaret and satire, to West End and Broadway hits, classical music, opera and ballet.

The New Plays Writing Programme at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), Johannesburg is a partnership between the DAC, the university, the British Council and Sustained Theatre.

The objective of the programme is to equip a new generation of South African writers with skills that will enable them to develop dramatic work that resonates with the challenges of the world around them. The programme comprises a series of playwriting workshops, the development of new plays and the production of selected work, both locally and internationally.

Music

Music is one of the key cultural industries identified in the Cultural Industrial Growth Strategy Report, and government has committed itself to harnessing its potential.

In addition to its cultural value, music plays an important economic role in the country, generating significant copyright revenue.

In this industry, the department has solid foundations to build on. These include the annual South African Music Week, the in-school education programme run in conjunction with the Department of Basic Education, and the Moshito Music Conference and Exhibition.

The Taking South African Music to the World Programme is aimed at improving export opportunities for South African music.

While local music styles such as South African jazz have influenced African and world music for decades, gospel and kwaito are the most popular and most recorded styles.

Kwaito combines elements of rap, reggae, hip-hop and other styles into a distinctly South African sound. Kwaai Jazz is gaining popularity.

The Breathe Sunshine African Music Conference was launched in April 2013. Debates there raised a question that is important for any industry: work better within old paradigms — or work differently?

According to the *Fourth South African edition of PwC's South African entertainment and media outlook: 2013 – 2017*, published in September, digital music sales will account for just 14% of South African recorded music retail sales by 2017.

South African Music Awards (Samas)

The 19th MTN Samas were held in May 2013 at Sun City:

- Album of the Year: Khuli Chana – *Lost in Time*
- MTN Record of the Year: Sfiso Ncwane – *Kulungile Baba*
- Male Artist of the Year: Khuli Chana – *Lost in Time*
- Female Artist of the Year: Kelly Khumalo – *The Past, The Present, The Future*
- Duo/Group of the Year: Freshlyground – *Take Me to the Dance*
- Newcomer of the Year: Toya Delazy – *Due Drop Deluxe*
- Lifetime Achievement Awards: Johannes Kerkorrel; Sizwe Zako; Dr Thomas Chauke.

Orchestras

The National Arts Council is responsible for funding the KwaZulu-Natal, Cape and Gauteng orchestras as well as the Cape Town Jazz Orchestra.

Dance

The FNB Dance Umbrella 2013 in partnership with Dance Forum and the Johannesburg Arts Alive International Festival, ran from 31 August to 4 September.

Dance Umbrella 2013, included five international companies, 15 new works from South African choreographers along with the Stepping Stones programme, which featured 30 choreographers. The Cape Town City Ballet, started in 1934 as the University of Cape Town Ballet Company, is the oldest ballet company in the country.

The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory, a priceless historical collection of resources chronicling the life of South Africa's greatest statesman, was launched in November 2013. The date of the launch of the Centre of Memory marked the 20th anniversary of the adoption of South Africa's Interim Constitution on 18 November 1993, when the groundwork for a non-racial and fully democratic South Africa was laid for the first time.

South African Mzansi Ballet's (SAMB) Celebration 5 at the Joburg Theatre in September 2013 showcased a major cultural collaboration between South Africa and Colombia when the Cartagena-based dance company El Colegio del Cuerpo combined forces with SAMB for three performances at the Joburg Theatre and two in Cape Town.

Visual arts

In October 2013, Irma Stern's painting, *The Malay Bride* was sold in London for almost R20 million.

Rock art

There are many traces of ancient cultures that existed in southern Africa in the distant past. Experts estimate that there are 250 000 rock-art sites south of the Zambezi.

The San people left a priceless and unique collection of Stone Age paintings and engravings in the region, which also represents the largest collection of its kind in the world.

Photography

Famous South African photographers include Kevin Carter, Ernest Cole, David Goldblatt, Bob Gosani, Alf Kumalo, Peter Magubane, Jürgen Schadeberg, Austin Stevens and Jodi Bieber.

Many universities of technology in South Africa offer diploma and degree courses in photography, including the universities of technology of Tshwane, Cape Peninsula and Durban, the Central University of Technology, Free State and the Vaal University of Technology in Vanderbijlpark.

Architecture

South Africa has a rich architectural heritage reflecting contributions from all the cultural groups in the country. Through the centuries, a unique trend has developed in South Africa's architectural style, which has been referred to as an innovative marriage of traditions. A prime example of local excellence and innovation is the Mapungubwe Interpretation Centre in the Mapungubwe National Park, Limpopo.

In May 2013, the Department of Arts and Culture handed over a R13-million cheque for the development of the Ray Alexander Simons Memory Centre in Gugulethu, which will make visitors aware of the role that the residents of Gugulethu played in the struggle for democracy in South Africa. The centre will offer jazz development programmes and create an awareness of tourism among workers. Young workers will be urged to continue with their education. The vision also includes plans for a hotel that will encourage tourists to stay overnight in Gugulethu, as well as a desire to turn flats used by migrants into permanent homes for the present occupants.

Designed by Peter Rich Architects of Johannesburg, the building was awarded the World Building of the Year Award 2009 at the World Architecture Festival in Barcelona, as well as the David Alsop Sustainability Award.

Crafts

A high level of skill is brought to the production of work that has long been a part of African society, and has now found new commercial outlets. South African bead work, once the insignia of tribal royalty alone, has today found a huge range of applications, from the creation of coverings for everything from bottles to matchboxes – and the reproduction of the red AIDS ribbon in the form of small Zulu bead works known as Zulu love letters. There's a lot of new work in traditional media, with artists constantly developing the African crafts repertoire.

There are several important collections of African art in South Africa, such as the Standard Bank collection at the Gertrude Posel Gallery at Wits University in Johannesburg, or the Durban Art Gallery, housing works of historical and anthropological significance.

There can be few other places in the world where one can see this variety of African arts and crafts, whether they be masks made in one of the continent's many styles, or carved chairs, or embroidered or appliqué cloths.

South Africa's National Anthem

The national anthem is a combined version of *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* (*God bless Africa*) and *The Call of South Africa* (*Die Stem*).

Nkosi sikelel' i Afrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke,
O se boloke setjhaba
sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika –
South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee.

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

South African folk art is also making inroads into Western-style “high art.”

Literature

The DAC, in collaboration with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA), is reprinting some out-of-print books that are considered classics in indigenous African languages.

The DAC is continuing with the Indigenous Languages Publishing Programme, a partnership with the South African Book Development Council (SABDC), to produce new material in the nine previously marginalised indigenous languages.

The programme offers publishing opportunities to emerging writers and support to independent small publishers.

National Book Week was celebrated from 2 to 7 September 2013. The initiative aimed to promote literacy and celebrate reading. It is the result of a partnership between the SABDC, the DAC and the Department of Correctional Services. The theme for 2013 was: “The Book of Our Lives.” The main events were held at the Red Location Museum in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, with regional events held in the other provinces.

South African Literary Awards

The 2013 recipients of the South African Literary Awards were:

- *For the Mercy of Water* by Karen Jayes, which also won the 2013 *Sunday Times* Fiction Prize, was awarded the prestigious K Sello Duiker Memorial Literary Award.
- Afrikaans writer PG du Plessis was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his entire oeuvre.
- First-time published author award: *Khalif's Journey* by Ashraf Kagee.
- Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award: *Haai Karoo* deur Etienne van Heerden.
- Literary Translators Award: *Mangolo a nnake* (Letter to My Sister) by Nhlanhla Maake.
- Poetry Award: *Om die gedagte van geel* by Petra Muller.
- Creative Non-Fiction Award: *Transformations* by Imraan Coovadia.

Film

The first ever newsreel was shot in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer/South African War. The weekly newsreel ran for

On 16 December 2013, President Jacob Zuma unveiled the R8-million statue of former President Nelson Mandela at the Union Buildings. The nine-metre bronze statue depicts Madiba with his signature smile, with an open arm pose and one leg slightly extended back. The unveiling of the statue was part of the countdown to 20 years of democracy and part of the Union Buildings' centenary, which also took place in December.

more than 60 years. Film production began in 1916 when IW Schlesinger set up Killarney Studios in Johannesburg, and the studio produced 42 movies between 1916 and 1922.

When access to international markets became limited in the 1920s, the so-called 30-year lull began, and it was only in the 1950s that the market picked up again, when Afrikaans film makers developed an interest in the industry.

In the 1980s, South Africa gave foreign companies the opportunity to film movies in the country by giving them tax breaks. The South African film industry contributes R3,5 billion annually to the country's gross domestic product, while providing employment for more than 25 000 people.

In October 2013, the locally produced film, *Felix*, won a cash prize of €7 500 (R100 000) for Best Children's film at the 36th Lucas International Children's Film Festival in Germany.

Felix also won the Audience Award at the Durban International Film Festival and was screened at the Hamburg Film Festival, British Film Industry's London Film Festival and the Vancouver International Film Festival.

Florence Masebe won the award for best actress in a lead role for the film *Elelwani* during the 2013 African Movie Academy Awards. The film also won the best production design award, while a number of other South African productions were nominated and received awards at the event.

The film *Layla Fourie* received a jury special mention award at the Berlinale International Film Festival, while local comedy *Fanie Fourie's Lobola* won the audience choice award for best comedy at the 19th Sedona International Film Festival in Arizona, USA, in March. The film won the audience award at the Seattle International Film Festival in June 2013.

In the same month, South African film *Otelo Burning* added to a long list of accolades, picking up a hat-trick of awards – for best film, best dramatic feature and best surf film – at Australia's Byron Bay International Film Festival.

At the NFVF Film Indaba, held in November 2013, the NFVF pledged to put R1,5 million towards a nine-province documentary proposal by filmmakers with disabilities.

The locally produced film, *Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom* emerged as the highest grossing film in South Africa in its opening weekend in December 2013, earning over R4 million. The film also opened in the United States in November 2013, with exclusive engagements in New York and Los Angeles.

It earned the highest in its opening weekend there, with an average of US\$25,076 per screen.

The three largest film distributors in South Africa are Ster-Kinekor, United International Pictures and Nu-Metro. Ster-Kinekor has a specialised art circuit called Cinema Nouveau with theatres in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria.

Film festivals include the Durban International Film Festival; the North West Film Festival; the Three Continents Film Festival (specialising in African, South American and Asian films); the Soweto Film Festival; and the Encounters Documentary Festival, which alternates between Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Museums

More than 300 of the approximately 1 000 museums in Africa are in South Africa. The DAC subsidises most museums, which are otherwise autonomous.

The department pays an annual subsidy to 13 national museums, ensuring the preservation of artefacts and collections that are important to all South Africans.

National Library of South Africa

The NLSA is a custodian and provider of the nation's key knowledge resources. It is mandated by the NLSA Act of 1998 to collect and preserve intellectual documentary heritage material and to make it accessible worldwide. It ensures that knowledge and information are not lost to posterity and are available for future research.

The South African Library for the Blind is a statutory organisation located in Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape. Its purpose is to provide, free of charge as a national LIS to serve blind and print-handicapped readers in South Africa.

Blind SA is an organisation of the blind, governed by the blind, and is located in Johannesburg. One of its primary objectives is to provide services for blind and partially sighted individuals to uplift and empower them by publishing books, magazines and other documents in Braille.

Since the 1990s, the Msunduzi Museum in Pietermaritzburg, an agency of the National Department of Arts and Culture, has been transformed from a historically single-themed museum to one that depicts the heritage of different cultural groups of KwaZulu-Natal.

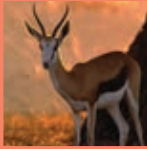
The museum was created in 1912 as a tribute to the Voortrekkers. Voortrekker history is the main focus in the Voortrekker Complex, i.e. the Church of the Vow, the Andries Pretorius House, the EG Jansen extension, the Voortrekker Memorial Church and the Church Hall.

The Museum also boasts a replica Hindu Shiva temple and a herb garden.

A display on the South African/Anglo-Boer War can be seen at the Voortrekker House, 333 Boom Street, Pietermaritzburg.

National symbols

South Africa's national symbols are:



National animal:
Springbok



National bird:
Blue Crane



National fish:
Galjoen



National flower:
King Protea



National tree:
Real Yellowwood

National Orders

South Africa's National Orders are:



The Order of
the Baobab



The Order of
Mapungubwe



The Order of the
Companions of OR Tambo



The Order of
Luthuli



The Order of Mendi
for Bravery



The Order of
Ikhamanga





Communications

The Department of Communications (DoC) was fully focused on consolidating the transformation of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector while extending ICT services to all South Africans.

In May 2013, the combined new institution which brings together the Institute for Satellite and Software applications, the former eSkills Institute and National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (Nemisa) as one body was launched.

The National ICT Forum was to be launched in early 2014. It is estimated that the ICT industry in South Africa contributes about 7% to the national gross domestic product. The DoC prioritised three flagship programmes that are at the core of building a digital information and knowledge society. This includes the acceleration of building a modern digital infrastructure, as well as the policy reforms that position the country for an advanced knowledge economy by 2030.

These programmes are:

- developing a national integrated ICT policy
- rolling out a national broadband network
- implementing the digital broadcasting migration policy.

The mobile revolution has brought many benefits of the modern ICT industry to billions of people. The next crucial step is to replicate the mobile miracle for broadband by ensuring access to cheaper, faster, better quality broadband.

Role players

The public entities and state-owned enterprises that report to the Minister of Communications are: the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (Icasa), the South African Post Office (Sapo), Sentech, the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), the National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (Nemisa), the Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa (Usaasa), and the .za Domain Name Authority (.zaDNA).

South African Post Office

Post offices have become important service-delivery centres offering South Africans a convenient place to accept and deliver cash-on-delivery items, which is a very important service in rural communities where some people shop from catalogues.

More than a million South Africans walk through the doors of post offices near where they live to access their social grants.

Post offices also offer services that include enabling South Africans to renew their vehicle registration and pay their municipal accounts and television licences. In the last financial year, the Sapo was responsible for allocating 1,2 million addresses, mainly to those in rural areas.

The Sapo licensed a digital mail offering, RiposteTrEx, from Escher Group in December 2013. Through the platform, the Sapo will be able to provide e-registered mail services to the country's more than 51 million citizens, delivered directly to digital devices.

Mail Business has 26 mail sorting centres for domestic mail and parcels, and three for international mail and parcels. Mail is transported to and from these sorting centres domestically to 7 188 delivery offices. Specialised Sapo products include:

- Securemail
- Speed Services Couriers
- Parcelplus
- insurance and cash-on-delivery
- Postbank
- a courier freight group made up of XPS and PX
- Docex.

Philatelic Services

The Philatelic Services of the Sapo is responsible for producing South Africa's postage stamps and other stamp-related products. Over the years, many of them have become valuable collector's items.

PostBank

The Postbank Limited Act of 2010 allows Sapo, through the Postbank, to prioritise the banking needs of the unbanked majority, thus facilitating their inclusion into the economic mainstream and expanding the existing range of banking services, including:

- improving access to affordable services, including loans, especially in rural and lower-income communities
- promoting a culture of saving.

South African Broadcasting Corporation

Over the past four years, the SABC has installed 104 low power transmitters reaching 1,5 million more people. Of these transmitters, 18 were rolled out in the 2012/13 financial year.

By May 2013, the SABC had reached 94% of South Africans.

In October 2013, government joined the country's media industry in commemorating Media Freedom Day, which resulted in legislative guarantees of press freedom and editorial independence. The media industry has played a crucial role in transforming South Africa into a democratic state, and is currently at the forefront in shaping the public discourse.

Telkom

Telkom is Africa's largest integrated communications company, providing integrated communications solutions to nine different countries across Africa. The organisational structure comprises three major business units: Telkom South Africa, Telkom International and Telkom Data Centre Operations. However, its core market is South Africa, contributing 98,9% in revenue.

PostNet

PostNet is South Africa's largest privately owned counter network in the document and parcel industry; trading across more than 250 owner-managed retail stores; serving in excess of 55 000 customers per day, countrywide; and offering five product types: courier, copy and print, digital, stationery and mailboxes.

Sentech

The spending focus over the medium term was on investing in capital assets to expand the network to new sites in areas that were previously not covered and preparing for the launch of the commercial digital terrestrial television. Sentech was allocated additional funding of R277 million in 2013/14 to expedite the roll-out of the digital terrestrial television project, of which R171 million was spent on digitisation and R106 million on dual illumination.

National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa

Nemisa has trained further education and training lecturers in multimedia in partnership with the Department of Higher Education and Training.

By October 2013, Nemisa had produced 13 documentaries, each 48 minutes long, as part of the National Digital Repository Project in partnership with the DoC. Nemisa alumni constituted 60% of the crew thus contributing to industry development and job creation.

During 2013, Nemisa trained 123 community radio station personnel from 49 community radio stations in scriptwriting, audio editing and programme production. This project was in partnership with the DoC.

Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa

Usaasa's sole mandate is to promote universal service and access to electronic communications services, electronic

communications network services and broadcasting services. The agency is responsible for managing the Universal Service and Access Fund.

The fund expects to deploy 600 cyberlabs to under-serviced areas by 2014/15.

In 2013, Usaasa was back on its feet following a series of governance challenges that led to the appointment of a new board. In the 2012/13 financial year, Usaasa connected 55 ICT centres and revamped another 80 centres.

Independent Communications Authority of South Africa

Icasa is the regulator for the South African communications, broadcasting and postal services sector. In June 2013, Icasa released details of its Cost to Communicate Programme, which seeks to review regulations that affect the cost of communications in South Africa, such as the call termination regulations and the local loop unbundling framework.

The goals of the programme are to:

- stimulate public debate about the cost to communicate in South Africa
- establish regulatory needs to address concerns regarding the cost to communicate in South Africa
- stimulate and enhance competition in the telecommunications sector

The programme started on 14 June 2013 with a request for information, and was followed by a series of consultations, which led to the release of draft regulations for public comment in December 2013. Icacasa is expected to publish the final regulations by April 2014.

South African Accreditation Authority

The South African Accreditation Authority is responsible for the accreditation of authentication and certification products and services used in support of electronic signatures. It is also concerned with monitoring the activities of authentication and certification service providers whose products or services have been accredited.

Presidential National Commission (PNC) on Information Society and Development (ISAD)

The PNC on ISAD advises the President on matters related to the development of an inclusive information society; the coordinated development of an inclusive information society; and the achievement of the country's information society vision. The commission comprises leaders in government, industry and civil society.

A corresponding body is the Presidential International Advisory Council on ISAD.

Programmes and initiatives

Broadband Infrastructure Development

Given the strategic importance of broadband, the department, together with the ICT industry, has committed to delivering 100% broadband penetration and creating a million jobs by 2020. The Broadband Strategy and Implementation Plan, outlining fibre connectivity across the country to district level, was finalised by late 2013.

Broadband Infraco

To enhance South Africa's international connectivity and the speed of broadband, Broadband Infraco has co-invested with the private sector in the deployment of the West African Cable System (WACS).

The WACS is the fifth submarine cable system linking South Africa to the world. Broadband Infraco's investment in the WACS entitled it to 11,4% of the system's total capacity, which would help South Africa meet its target of providing broadband connectivity to all who need it by 2020.

The cable system also has 15 established terminal stations en route, and will reduce the cost to connect Africa's west coast with the high-speed global telecommunications network for years to come.

Sentech and Broadband Infraco have also commenced with the broadband plan for the KwaZulu-Natal province pilot project. Site surveys in three districts are complete.

Broadcasting Digital Migration

The digital broadcasting network reaches more than 80% of the population.

The DoC has finalised the subsidy plan for poor households supported by the qualifying criteria and is ready to implement the Set-Top Box (STB) Manufacturing Strategy, which requires 30% local content as part of the plan to develop the electronic industry. Icasa has finalised the broadcasting regulations.

The department decided to review the policy on the STB control system as one way of fast-tracking the roll-out of Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) to make this system non-mandatory. In addition to the DTT transmission network roll-out target of 84% population coverage via terrestrial transmitters by December 2013, Sentech will also launch a Direct-to-Home satellite broadcasting service.

This service will provide TV and radio coverage to the Square Kilometre Array and all other areas where there is no DTT signal.

Rural Development Strategy

ICTs play a significant role in speeding up the integration of services for the development of rural areas and ensuring that rural communities, including those in remote areas, are not left out of the knowledge economy. The main goal of the department's Rural Development Strategy is therefore to address the vacuum in rural ICT and empower rural communities by promoting sustainable job creation and eradicating poverty in rural areas.

Applications, such as mobile money, do not seem to attract a wide audience among poorer people.

There are some clear distinctions between urban and rural mobile phone owners in the low-income groups. In urban areas, users are knowledgeable about available applications and use social media and instant messaging to communicate with friends, watch videos and mix music.

Rural participants, however, are more sceptical about the value of mobile applications. Those mobile owners who don't use the internet are unaware of the applications available. They rely on traditional media such as newspapers, TV and radio for information, and on voice and SMS text services to communicate.

Job creation

In June 2013, Microsoft launched a campaign aimed at helping 3 000 graduates find information technology (IT) jobs in South Africa.

The software giant will partner with the South African Government's job creation fund to train the youths and place them in permanent employment. The company will act as a link between universities and IT companies that it will approach to determine needed skills. For the 3 000 jobs it is targeting, Microsoft is investing R146 million (US\$14,6 million) as part of its US\$75 million pan-African initiative.

Communication platforms

Radio

The SABC's national radio network comprises 18 radio stations. Fifteen of these are dedicated specifically to public-service broadcasting and include 11 full-spectrum stations,

.za Domain Name Authority (ZADNA) celebrated 10 years since it was established in 2003. A legal framework to support the establishment of the ZA Central Registry – which is intended to uplift the operational standards in .ZA – is being finalised.

The ZA Central Registry, through ZADNA's guidance and the African Union Commission, has made significant progress in its application for the right to establish and operate a .Africa internet namespace for the benefit of Africa.

one in each of the official languages of South Africa; a cultural service for the Indian community broadcasting in English; a regional community station broadcasting in isiXhosa and English; and a community station broadcasting in the !Xu and Khwe languages of the Khoisan of the Northern Cape. The SABC has three stations in its commercial portfolio. These are 5FM, Metro FM and Good Hope FM.

Channel Africa broadcasts live on three platforms: short-wave, satellite and the internet. Its broadcasts are in Chinyanja, Silozi, Kiswahili, English, French and Portuguese.

SABC Radio has more than 26 million listeners weekly in South Africa.

Commercial radio stations

Commercial radio stations in South Africa include:

- Algoa FM
- Classic FM
- Kaya FM
- YFM
- 94.7 Highveld Stereo
- 702 Talk Radio
- Metro FM
- 5FM
- Good Hope FM
- Jacaranda 94.2
- OFM
- East Coast Radio
- 567 Cape Talk
- Radio 2000
- Power FM
- Radio KFM.

Stations such as Jacaranda 94.2, Highveld Stereo, Radio Oranje, Radio Algoa and East Coast Radio were initially SABC stations, but were sold to private owners to diversify radio ownership in South Africa as part of the transformation of the public broadcaster. Many of South Africa's radio stations are available online.

Television

The SABC's television network comprises three free-to-air television channels. SABC TV has a weekly audience of 30,248 million (86,6% of adults watch SABC television in South Africa). South African television is broadcast in all 11 official languages and also in Sign Language. The SABC also broadcasts a 24-hour news channel on DSTv.

Community television

Soweto TV was the first community television station to obtain a seven-year broadcasting licence from Icasa.

There are five stations operational in Soweto, Cape Town, Tshwane, Empangeni and Nelson Mandela Bay. The issuing of new community television licences is on hold until the migration from analogue to digital broadcasting is complete.

Free-to-air television

e.tv is South Africa's first private free-to-air television channel, launched in 1998. It is the largest English-medium channel in the country and the second largest overall. e.tv also has a pan-African presence through e.tv Africa, which is distributed on the DStv Africa bouquet and by local affiliates in African countries.

In October 2013, e.tv launched its multichannel offering on the direct-to-home satellite platform, OpenView HD. The new channels include a pan-African channel (eAfrica+), a movie channel (eMovies+), a local content channel (eKasi+) and a children's channel (eToonz+).

Satellite broadcasting

e.sat tv supplies television, mobile and online news to various channels in South Africa, across Africa and in the United Kingdom under the brand name eNews Channel Africa (eNCA). Growing out of the success of eNews Prime Time, eNCA is South Africa's first and most watched independent 24-hour television news channel on the DStv Platform (Channel 403).

The 24-hour news service is broadcast live in the UK to over 10,5 million subscribers on the SKY digital satellite platform. In addition, eNCA provides live news bulletins to nearly three million South African viewers each night on e.tv (in English, isiZulu and Sesotho) and to 200 000 Afrikaans viewers on kykNET.

Internet

In June 2013, Akamai Technologies released its *Fourth Quarter, 2012 State of the Internet Report*, showing that South Africa has achieved good improvements in terms of average Internet access speeds.

Based on data gathered from the Akamai Intelligent Platform, the report provides insight into key global statistics including connection speeds, attack traffic, and network connectivity and availability.

According to a new report by global management consulting firm, McKinsey & Company titled: *Lions go digital: The Internet's transformative potential in Africa*, South Africa's iGDP – which measures the Internet's contribution to overall GDP – is at 1,4%, putting it fourth in Africa. Private consumption of internet-related services and equipment, including smartphones, accounts for two-thirds of this total.

Public expenditure on the internet, including digitisation of education and health services, contributes only US\$2 billion.

e-Commerce will open up a new shopping experience for Africa's growing middle class. Out of the 46 countries, South Africa is ranked as the 12th most affordable country for Internet access – third in Africa.

Broadband access

In November 2013, the DoC introduced the revised broadband policy, which deals with the complete value chain of broadband roll-out, including attracting related investment in broadband infrastructure; enterprise development; local end-user equipment manufacturing; research and development; and reducing the cost of broadband roll-out through the creation of a single point of entry for regulatory approvals.

The department was expected to finalise, by March 2014, the long-awaited spectrum policy, which would enable Icasa to license the much sought-after 2.6 GHz and 800 MHz band spectrum, which would, in turn, increase network capacity, improve coverage and promote competition.

Social media

The Top Social Media Sites in South Africa (by number of users) in 2013 included:

- Facebook: 9,6 million users – ranked third Mxit: 7,4 million users – mobi site not ranked Twitter: 5,5 million users – ranked 13th YouTube: 4,7 million users – ranked fourth LinkedIn: 2,7 million users – ranked fifth Pinterest: 930 000 users - ranked 14th
- Google Plus: 460 000 users – Google.co.za is ranked 1st, Google+ is not featured.

Cybercrime and cybersecurity

Cybercrime has become an inevitable reality that confronts all online communities across the world.

Identity fraud, stalking, online child pornography and terrorism have become daily occurrences that threaten communities' ability to enjoy the benefits of new technologies.

Expanding access to the internet, must be accompanied by strong measures to ensure basic trust and security to the public as the users.

This requires collaboration between departments, civil society and business to build institutional mechanisms to investigate cybercrimes and anticipate threats.

Mobile communications

South Africa has one of the largest telecommunications markets on the continent: it has five mobile operators, namely

CellC, MTN, Vodacom, Telkom Mobile and virtual network operator Virgin Mobile.

Mobile phones are the dominant technology for voice and data communication among base of pyramid (BoP) users and for informal businesses.

People in this group access the internet mostly via their mobile phones and smart phones have taken over functions that used to be done with a computer.

Users are also finding innovative ways to bypass expensive cellphone networks' SMS rates using Facebook Zero or other instant message services such as WhatsApp.

Although half of the 50 million people in South Africa live below the poverty line, more than 75% among those in low-income groups who are 15 years or older own a mobile phone. Of low-income groups who own mobile phones in South Africa, 98,5% have a prepaid SIM card, but there is a small percentage (1,5%) of BoP mobile owners who have post-paid contracts.

The lowering of the Mobile Termination Rates from R1,25 a minute in 2010 to R0,40 from March 2013 represents a significant milestone in reducing the cost to communicate.

The media

South Africa is fortunate in having a vibrant and independent media.

Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA)

The MDDA is a statutory development agency for promoting and ensuring media development and diversity. The agency functions independently from and at arm's length of its funders, and political-party and commercial interests. This arrangement enables government, the media industry and donors to work together to address the legacy of imbalances in media access.

Print Newspapers

According to the *Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) 2013 Second Quarter Report*, total newspapers declined slightly compared to the previous quarter.

The weekday daily newspapers declined by 0,7% in 2013; Sunday circulation was down by 1,4%.

Motorsport World and *Auto Week* showed the largest growth in weekly newspapers.

Of the weekend newspapers, *Isolezwe ngoMgqibelo* showed the largest growth. Local newspapers, *Stellalander*,

Klerksdorp Rekord, *Polokwane Observer* and the *Hermanus Times* showed the largest growth of all local newspapers.

Of the free newspapers, *Alex Pioneer*, *Threewaterkloof Gazette*, *Zululand Eyethu* and the *Precinct Community News* were the titles that showed the largest growth.

Magazines

The ABC 2013 Second Quarter Report showed that overall consumer-magazine circulation declined by 13%. *Kuier Combo* (Annual), *The Expatriate SA* (Annual), *SA Career Focus* (six monthly) and *HQ Pony*, showed the largest growth.

Online media

The August 2013 Digital Media and Marketing Association/Effective Measure website statistics revealed that South Africa produced 23 183 796 unique browsers registering 633 589 222 page views.

Unique browsers from mobile devices accessed 11 559 199 sites registering 250 566 538 page views.

Media organisations and role players

Print Media South Africa (PMSA) administers individual bodies, namely the Newspaper Association of South Africa, the Magazine Publishers' Association of South Africa and the Association of Independent Publishers (AIP). Allied to the PMSA, but not a constituent member, is the ABC, responsible for auditing and verifying print-media circulation figures.

The AIP represents the interests of more than 250 independent publishers in southern Africa.

The South African National Editors' Forum (Sanef) was formed at a meeting of the Black Editors' Forum, the Conference of Editors and senior journalism educators and trainers.

The Forum of Black Journalists addresses issues that directly affect its members.

Members of the public who have complaints or concerns about reports in newspapers and magazines can submit their grievances to the Office of the Press Ombudsman.

The Freedom of Expression Institute protects and fosters the rights to freedom of expression and access to information, and to oppose censorship.

Another body that protects freedom of speech is the Freedom of Commercial Speech Trust.

The Forum of Community Journalists is an independent body that represents, promotes and serves the interests of all community-newspaper journalists in southern Africa.

The Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa is an independent self-regulatory body that serves as a voluntary watchdog, to adjudicate complaints from the public about

programmes flighted by members who subscribe to its code of conduct.

The Broadcasting Monitoring Complaints Committee was established under sections 21 and 22 of the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act of 1993.

The National Community Radio Forum lobbies for the airwaves in South Africa to be diversified, and for a dynamic broadcasting environment through the establishment of community radio stations.

Other press organisations operating in the country are the Foreign Correspondents' Association of South Africa, the Printing Industries Federation of South Africa, the South African Typographical Union, the Specialist Press Association, the South African Guild of Motoring Journalists, Professional Photographers of South Africa, the Media Institute of Southern Africa, the Publishers' Association of South Africa and press clubs in major centres.

News agencies

The national news agency, the South African Press Association, is a cooperative, non-profit organisation. The main foreign news agencies operating in South Africa are:

- Reuters
- Agence France-Presse
- Associated Press
- Deutsche Presse Agentur
- United Press International.

Journalism awards

South Africa's most important awards include the:

- Mondi Shanduka Newspaper Awards
- Sappi Magazine Publishers Association of South Africa PICA Awards
- Sanlam Community Press Awards
- Vodacom Awards for Journalism Across All Mediums
- South African Breweries Journalism Awards
- Sanlam's Financial Journalist of the Year Award
- CNN MultiChoice Africa Awards
- Discovery Health Journalism Awards
- Sanef's Nat Nakasa Award for media integrity.

South Africans, Msindisi Fengu and Yandisa Monakali from *The Daily Dispatch*, were named overall winners of the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Awards 2013.

Media awards

In October 2013, the MDDA and Sanlam, co-sponsors and organisers of the MDDA-Sanlam Local Media Awards, announced that they would invest more in the awards by introducing new categories for the competition.

The 2013 awards, which would be presented in May 2014, cover the period from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013.

Advertising

South Africa has a vibrant and dynamic advertising industry. Local advertising agencies are often recognised internationally for their excellence.

In May 2013, the Advertising Standards Authority of South Africa applied to be recognised as an ombud for the industry. This would make it a recognised statutory body in terms of the Consumer Protection Act of 2008.

Advertising awards

The Loerie Awards are the best-known South African awards recognising distinction in advertising. In September 2013, a total of 238 birds were awarded, four of which were Grands Prix – to Drafftcb Cape Town, Ogilvy & Mather Cape Town, and FoxP2 respectively.





Economy and Finance

In its 2013/14 *Global Competitiveness Report*, the World Economic Forum ranked South Africa second in the world for the accountability of its private institutions, and third for its financial market development. Its securities exchange is ranked among the top 20 in the world in terms of size.

In its February 2013 report, *Emerging Markets Opportunity Index: High Growth Economies*, independent consulting and accounting firm Grant Thornton said South Africa is the leading emerging economy on the African continent in terms of potential investment destination.

Economic Development Department

The Economic Development Department (EDD) focuses on creating conditions for greater job creation, stronger long-term growth and countercyclical economic interventions to address the global environment.

In September 2012, Cabinet adopted the National Development Plan, a policy blueprint for eliminating poverty and reducing inequality in South Africa by 2030. Other key policy instruments that drive government's agenda include the New Growth Path (NGP), which sets the trajectory of economic development, the National Infrastructure Plan, which guides the roll-out of infrastructure to improve people's lives and enable economic growth, and the Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP), which focuses on promoting investment and competitiveness in leading sectors and industries.

The department made significant progress with the roll-out of the National Infrastructure Plan, with construction activities taking place in all nine provinces.

The department improved the level of industrial funding that the Industrial Development Corporation is making available to support local factories, farms and mines.

In May 2013, Statistics South Africa released its *Quarterly Labour Force Survey*, which showed on aggregate that 44 000 new jobs were created in South Africa in the first three months of 2013, and 199 000 over the 12 months ending in March 2013.

In May 2013, the EDD issued a trade policy directive in terms of section 5 of the International Trade Administration Act of 2002 to limit the export of scrap metal so that this resource is used in South African foundries and steel factories, saving energy, creating local jobs and promoting infrastructure development.

State-owned enterprises (SOEs)

In May 2013, the report by the Presidential Review Committee on SOEs recommended that all commercial State-owned companies (SOCs) be consolidated under a central executive authority, or department, over the coming five years.



Proudly South African is a buy local campaign. Government, organised business, organised labour and community organisations partnered in this campaign to boost job creation by promoting South African companies and locally made products.

Likewise, those enterprises deemed to be development finance institutions should fall under a similar, but separate executive authority.

The Department of Public Enterprises has shareholder responsibilities for several large SOEs, including Eskom, Transnet and South African Airways. However, a number of other commercial entities still fall under line departments, such as Sentech, the South African Post Office and the Central Energy Fund.

Department of Trade and Industry (the dti)

The dti continues to contribute towards government's priorities and outcomes through the implementation of the IPAP2. Its successful implementation in various sectors in South Africa over the past few years has started to bear fruit with a number of key foreign investors in various sectors starting to choose South Africa as their preferred investment destination.

Due to thinner export markets and other adverse conditions arising from the economic slowdown, the Manufacturing Competitiveness Enhancement Programme would take the form of: production support mechanisms; loans; equity injection; working capital support; restructuring assistance; support for the acquisition of fixed assets; and/or investment initiatives to enable firms to accomplish improved sales, job preservation and expansion; provide income support to employees, lay-offs support, and similar measures.

To strengthen industrialisation as well as the geographic spread of economic opportunities, the department will implement the special economic zones programme.

The NGP and the IPAP2 provide a framework for undertaking these tasks. They require coordination across all departments, many of which are not primarily concerned with the economy, as well as SOEs, municipalities and provinces.

In August 2012, a work compact on youth unemployment was agreed on by members of Business Leadership South Africa, Business Unity South Africa, the Black Business Council, representatives of women and disabled peoples' organisations, and youth representatives drawn from unions and the South African Youth Council.

Green economy

South Africa is committed to pursuing and exploring opportunities in its transition to an inclusive, low-carbon, resource-efficient green economy. *The South African Green Economy Modelling Study*, published in August 2013, showed that investing in a low-carbon, resource-efficient green economy was fundamental for South Africa's sustained economic growth and well-being.

The department worked with industry to manufacture solar water heaters in South Africa. In January 2013, the South African Bureau of Standards approved a new factory in Alrode with a capacity to produce 8 000 units a month.

Taxation

South Africa has a residence-based tax system, which means residents are – subject to certain exclusions – taxed on their worldwide income, irrespective of where their income was earned.

Non-residents are, however, taxed on their income from a South African source, but subject to the provisions of international agreements for the avoidance of double tax.

In broad terms, tax is levied on taxable income, which is calculated as gross income excluding certain income of a capital nature less exemptions and permissible deductions.

Exchange control

The South African Reserve Bank is the custodian of the country's official gold and foreign-exchange reserves.

The bank is responsible, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, for the day-to-day administration of exchange controls in South Africa.

Other financial institutions

Financial institutions in South Africa include:

- The Cooperative Banks for Development Agency: Its objectives are to provide for the registration of deposit-taking financial service cooperatives, savings and credit cooperatives, community banks and village banks, and their regulation and supervision.

In November 2013, over 200 high-level representatives of government, business, labour, civil society and academia gathered in Midrand for the inaugural Competitiveness Forum hosted by Brand South Africa. They discussed how the nation's competitiveness could contribute to the implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP, also called Vision 2030, is a policy blueprint for eliminating poverty and reducing inequality in South Africa by 2030. It identifies the key constraints to faster growth and presents a roadmap to a more inclusive economy that will address the country's socio-economic imbalances.

- The Development Bank of Southern Africa's main role is to promote economic development and growth, human-resource development and institutional capacity-building.
- Collective investment schemes are investment structures whereby individual investor funds are pooled with those of other investors.
- To encourage South Africans to save more, employer contributions to retirement funds will become a fringe benefit in the hands of employees for tax purposes from April 2015. Individuals will be able to receive a tax deduction on employer and employee contributions to a pension fund, provident fund or retirement annuity fund up to 27,5% of the greater of remuneration and taxable income.
- Retail bonds can be purchased from National Treasury, the South African Post Office and Pick n Pay stores country-wide. Since the introduction of RSA fixed-rate retail savings bonds in May 2004 and inflation-linked retail bonds in April 2007, the cumulative amount issued reached R21,2 billion at the end of August 2013.
- Increased global demand for emerging markets' higher-yielding debt has led to rising international interest in South African government bonds. Non-residents' purchases of domestic bonds increased from a net of R42 billion in 2011 to a net annual high of R89 billion in 2012, which contributed to the noticeable decline in bond yields.
- By December 2013, three new domestic bonds had been issued – the two new fixed-income bonds, R2030 (8,00%; 2030) and R2037 (8,5%; 2037), and one new inflation-linked bond, R2046 (2,5%; 2046). They were well received by market participants with their trading values contributing to the improved market turnover. The new issues were in line with announcements in the *Budget Review 2013* and two more new fixed-income bonds were expected to be issued in the remainder of 2013/14.

Banking industry

As at the end of December 2012, 34 banking institutions – 10 locally controlled, six foreign-controlled, 14 registered branches, three mutual banks and one cooperative bank – were reporting data to the Bank Supervision Department of the Reserve Bank. There were also 41 authorised representative offices of international banks in South Africa. The banking industry is characterised by a high degree of concentration, with five banks, namely Capitec, Absa Bank Ltd, Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd, FirstRand Bank Ltd and Nedbank Ltd, dominating the sector.

In November 2013, the South African Reserve Bank introduced a new security feature in the form of little dots on the front and back of all Mandela banknotes.

Johannesburg Stock Exchange Limited (JSE Ltd)

The JSE Ltd is privately owned and funded, and governed by a board of directors. Its activities are licensed and regulated by two Acts of Parliament, namely the Stock Exchanges Control Act of 1985, which governs the equities markets, and the Financial Markets Control Act of 1989, which governs the derivatives markets.

In keeping with international practice, the JSE Ltd regulates its members and ensures that markets operate in a transparent way, ensuring investor protection.

The JSE Ltd's roles include regulating applications for listing and ensuring that listed companies continue to meet their obligations.

The JSE Ltd has been bold in restructuring in view of increasingly tough global competition, adopting new technologies and outsourcing aspects of its business. The introduction of the electronic settlement system called Share Transactions Totally Electronic (Strate) replaced the previous manual settlement method. Strate Ltd is the licensed Central Securities Depository for the electronic settlement of financial instruments in South Africa.

Its trading and information systems were replaced with the London Stock Exchange's (LSE) Sequence and the London Market Information Link or LMIL systems, branded JSE SETS and InfoWiz, respectively. The JSE Ltd has also aligned its equities trading model with that of Europe, and reclassified its instruments in line with the Financial Times of London Stock Exchange Global Classification System. The LSE can now disseminate trade information about instruments listed on the JSE Ltd to more than 104 000 trading terminals around the world, raising the profile of the JSE Ltd among the international investor community.

International cooperation

In September 2013, German company Oiltanking GmbH entered into a joint venture with a number of local companies to build a commercial crude oil storage and blending terminal at the port of Saldanha on South Africa's west coast.

The terminal will cost R2 billion to build, and will comprise 12 giant concrete tanks each capable of holding 1,1 million barrels of crude, which translates to a total capacity of 13,2 million barrels. The new terminal will be built as a state-of-the-art facility in accordance with the highest technical, operational and environmental standards, with a jetty designed to handle vessels up to very large crude carrier size. The port of Saldanha is an excellent location for a crude oil hub, as it is close to strategic tanker routes between key oil-producing regions to major oil-consuming markets.



Education

Education plays an important role in equalising individuals' life chances, promoting economic mobility, advancing economic growth, creating employment, eradicating poverty and reducing inequality.

Basic education

The aim of the Department of Basic Education (DBE) is to develop, maintain and support a South African school education system for the 21st century in which all citizens have access to lifelong learning, as well as education and training, which will, in turn, contribute towards improving the quality of life and building a peaceful, prosperous and democratic South Africa.

Despite challenges, there has been a steady progress in education, with government systematically addressing the shortcomings that have hampered progress in the past. With less time left before the 2015 target, the DBE is set to fulfil the millennium development goals for expanding access to education.

In 2013, there were about 11,9 million learners in more than 24 000 public schools, with 391 708 educators. The independent schools have 513 694 000 learners, taught by 33 187 educators in 1 583 schools.

Grade R enrolment had more than doubled, from 300 000 in 2003 to 705 000 in 2011, which means it was well on track to meet government's target of having 100% coverage for Grade R by 2014. It is also encouraging that more learners are completing grades 9 and 12, and that the percentage of Grade 12 learners who qualify for Bachelor degree studies has increased.

During the 2013 examinations, the overall matric pass rate improved to 78,2%, with 439 779 learners out of 562 112 passing, while the physical science pass rate improved to 67,4%. In 2013, 142 666 learners passed maths taking the pass rate for this subject to 59,1%, compared with 54% in 2012.

Action Plan 2014: Towards the realisation of Schooling 2025

The Action Plan to 2014, forms part of a larger vision called Schooling 2025. This Action Plan explains the 27 national goals that lie at the heart of the plan of which 13 are output goals dealing with better school results and better enrolment of learners in schools. The remaining 14 goals deal with things that must happen for the output goals to be realised.

The future of basic education is informed by the Action Plan to 2014: Towards the Realisation of Schooling 2025.

In May 2013, the Department of Basic Education announced that all schools will from 2014 offer an African language to all learners from grades R to nine.

It is perceived that African languages do not enjoy the same development and utility as English and Afrikaans. The department will therefore ensure that all African languages are equally developed and used by learners in the best interest of their learning and performance in their 13 years of schooling.

Medium- to long-term interventions focus on:

- improving the quality of teaching and learning with an emphasis on strengthening numeracy and literacy
- undertaking regular assessments to track progress
- improving early childhood development (ECD)
- ensuring a credible outcomes-focused planning and accountability system.

Curriculum and Policy Statement (CAPS)

CAPS is a single, comprehensive, and concise policy document, which will replace the current Subject and Learning Area Statements, Learning Programme Guidelines and Subject Assessment Guidelines for all the subjects listed in the National Curriculum Statement (NCS) grades R to 12.

CAPS is part of the NCS grades R to 12 and represents a policy statement for learning and teaching in South African schools.

In 2013/14, the department increased its focus on technical secondary schools. To improve facilities and equipment R220,9 million was allocated for the recapitalisation of these schools. This will assist in addressing skills shortages and joblessness.

Role players

Provincial departments of education

The national department shares a concurrent role with the provincial departments for basic schooling and ECD, but it is the responsibility of each provincial department to finance and manage its schools directly.

District offices are the provincial departments' main interface with schools.

Council of education ministers (CEM)

The CEM, consisting of the Minister of Basic Education, the Minister of Higher Education and Training and the nine provincial members of the executive councils for education, meets regularly to discuss the promotion of national education policy, share information and views on all aspects of education in South Africa, and coordinate action on matters of mutual interest.

At a CEM meeting in August 2013 it was decided that all provinces should strive to have a chair and a desk for every child.

Heads of Education Departments Committee (Hedcom)

Hedcom consists of the Director-General (DG) of the DBE, the deputy DGs of the department and the heads of provincial departments of education.

Umalusi

Umalusi is responsible for the development and management of a sub-framework of qualifications for general and further education and training and for the attendant quality assurance hence its name, which means “herder” or “shepherd.” In Nguni culture, this is the person who is the guardian of the family’s wealth.

National Education Evaluation and Development Unit (Needu)

Needu ensures effective evaluation of all teachers based on the extent to which learner performance improves. In May 2013, the department received the unit’s first national report for 2012 on the state of literacy teaching and learning in the Foundation Phase.

This independent evaluation provided evidence to support proposals on the need to remedy shortcomings in educational practice, eliminate barriers to quality education and develop the knowledge and professional capacity of educators.

The department will engage Needu’s recommendations. For 2013/14, Needu was allocated R13,4 million.

Education Labour Relations Council (ELRC)

The ELRC serves the public education sector nationally.

The main purpose of the council is to maintain labour peace within public education through processes of dispute prevention and resolution.

Programmes and projects Learning and teaching support material

The department increased learner access to workbooks and coverage to improve literacy, numeracy and, reading.

Close to 24 million copies of Workbook 1 were delivered to 23 115 schools by November 2012, for use in 2013.

By 2013, around 114 million full-colour national workbooks, which the Australian Council for Educational Research has confirmed are of a high standard, had been distributed to schools.

In January 2013, the National Youth Development Agency gave R450 000 towards the My Future, My Career Project, which provides secondary school learners with career education screenings in cinema complexes.

Educational portal

The portal is a free service to registered users, who must go through a once-off, no-cost registration process.

The www.thutong.doe.gov.za offers a range of curriculum and learner-support material, professional development programmes for educators, and administration and management resources for schools.

Thutong – meaning “a place of learning” in Setswana – features a searchable database of web-based curriculum resources for various education sectors, grades and subjects.

Improving access to free and quality basic education

School fees are set at annual public meetings of school governing bodies, where parents vote on the amount to be paid.

Parents who cannot afford to pay, or who can only afford a smaller amount, are granted an exemption or reduction in fees. The threshold target allocation for no-fee schools for operational expenditure has increased to R880 per learner. The national per learner target amount for Quintile 1 schools is R960.

Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Development Initiative (Asidi)

The Asidi project has become part of the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Commission, which is aimed at rolling out infrastructure delivery in the country. The Minister of Basic Education launched the One-school-a-week campaign in July 2013 at the handover ceremony of Mandela Park Primary School in Mthatha, which coincided with the celebration of the late former President Nelson Mandela’s 95th birthday.

The R8,2 billion public-private programme aims to eradicate the 496 mud schools in the country, provide water and sanitation to 1 257 schools and electricity to 878 schools by March 2016.

Learner health

Key among the department’s successes is the Integrated School Health Programme that will offer, over time, a comprehensive and integrated package of health services to all learners. In 2013/14, the department aimed to provide health services to 750 000 learners in grades 1, 4, 8 and 10 as well as learners repeating grades in Quintile 1 and 2 primary and secondary schools. Services would also be extended to special schools.

In 2013, the department developed the National Strategy for the Prevention and Management of Alcohol and Drug Use among Learners in Schools.

Higher education and training

Education at all levels remains a top priority of government. The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) is responsible for post-school education and training in universities, colleges and adult education centres. The department has been building a single, coherent, differentiated and articulated post-school education and training system. This will contribute to overcoming the structural challenges facing society by expanding access to education and training opportunities and increasing equity, as well as achieving high levels of excellence and innovation.

South Africa's higher education landscape comprises the following institutions:

- Cape Peninsula University of Technology
- Central University of Technology, Free State
- Durban Institute of Technology
- Mangosuthu University of Technology
- National Institute for Higher Education, Northern Cape
- National Institute for Higher Education, Mpumalanga
- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
- North West University
- Rhodes University
- Sol Plaatje University, Eastern Cape
- Tshwane University of Technology
- University of Cape Town
- University of Fort Hare
- University of the Free State
- University of Johannesburg
- University of KwaZulu-Natal
- University of Limpopo
- University of Mpumalanga
- University of Pretoria
- University of South Africa
- University of Stellenbosch
- University of Venda
- University of the Western Cape
- University of the Witwatersrand
- University of Zululand
- Vaal University of Technology
- Walter Sisulu University.

National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS)

The DHET is responsible for ensuring the development of a skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path.

As part of an initiative to reduce the vacancy rate of about 45 000 jobs in the maritime industry, 12 Further Education and Training (FET) colleges across the country started offering courses in 2013 aimed at equipping young people for careers in the industry.

The FET colleges will meet at least 80% of the industry's skills demands, producing artisans such as riggers, welders and boilermakers.

Further Education and Training

Over the 2013 Medium Term Expenditure Framework period, R17,4 billion was allocated to ensure that FET college enrolments continue on this trajectory. This includes investment in FET college infrastructure to turn college campuses into learning, information and communications technology, sports, entertainment and business incubation centres.

During 2013/14, the department ensured that each college had structures that enable a learning institution to function optimally.

At the beginning of 2013, a notice was published in the *Government Gazette*, which effectively transferred authority over FET college management staff from the provincial departments of education to the DHET with effect from 1 April 2013.

Role players

South African Qualifications Authority (Saq)

Saq is a statutory body originally set up in terms of the Saqa Act of 1995. The organisation, which is well-recognised nationally and internationally, focuses on upholding the principles of the National Qualifications Framework, including ensuring access, quality, redress and development for all learners through an integrated national framework of learning achievements.

Quality Council for Trades and Occupations

The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations addresses the quality of training in and for the workplace, and ensures that such training and knowledge is accredited and certified, including proper recognition of prior learning.

The National Artisan Moderation Body is responsible for coordinating artisan development in South Africa. Plans are in place to establish offices in the engineering campuses of public FET colleges.

Higher Education South Africa (Hesa)

Hesa is the voice of South Africa's university leadership as it represents vice-chancellors of public universities. Hesa provides services to member universities in five main areas, namely:

- strategic research
- policy advocacy and stakeholder engagement
- sector support, including providing university leaders and their institutions with a supportive network and opportunities for collective action
- special programmes to strengthen institutions' capacity
- value-adding services, including scholarships and international programmes.

Human Resource Development Council of South Africa (HRDCSA)

The HRDCSA is a national, multitiered and multi-stakeholder advisory body. HRDCSA held its first meeting of its second term in Pretoria, September 2013. New council members were also introduced at the meeting. The DHET presented recommendations from the Economic Development Department, the HRDCSA Technical Task Team on the Alignment of the Human Resource Development Strategy to the New Growth Path as well as skills planning.

Sector education and training authorities (Setas)

Setas help to implement the National Skills Development Strategy and to increase the skills of people in particular sectors. New Seta grant regulations came into operation in April 2013 and require Setas to focus funding on structured workplace learning and experience, and promoting partnerships between education and training institutions and employers. This will help institutionalise this work within the post-school education and training system.

National Skills Authority (NSA)

The NSA is an advisory body to give guidance to the Minister of Higher Education and Training on:

- policy, strategy, implementation and NSA allocations
- liaising with Setas about policy, strategy and sector-skills plans
- implementing the NSDS
- reviewing the accounts and balance sheet of NSA annually
- receiving and using information from the Skills Development Planning Unit.

In 2013, the Department of Higher Education and Training established a National Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences. This initiative was to ensure that the humanities and social sciences were not neglected as focus was on developing the economy and providing it with the scientific, industrial and commercial skills.

National Skills Fund (NSF)

In 2013, for the first time in its history, the NSF reached a stage where its annual disbursements were on par with annual income. In addition, all of the fund's R7 billion historic reserves were earmarked for specific skills-development projects of national priority.

Most of the expenditure was for improving infrastructure and programmes for expanding capacity and improving quality in the production of skills in engineering, medical and veterinary sciences, renewable energy, various trades and rural development.

National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

NSFAS is the department's primary tool for ensuring that poor students have access to post-school education. Since 1991, NSFAS has assisted 1,4 million students and many NSFAS alumni play important roles in the country's economy and society.

The board and staff of NSFAS continue to implement the recommendations of the Ministerial Review Committee Report of 2010 and have made significant progress in the turnaround process to enable the entity to deliver on its mandate.

The department's allocation to NSFAS for 2013/14 amounted to R5,769 billion. This included R3,693 billion for loans and bursaries to universities, and R1,988 billion for bursaries for FET colleges.

Libraries in the higher education sector

The higher education libraries hold the bulk of South Africa's scientific and scholarly information resources and fulfil more than half of all interlibrary loan requests.

Pressure on higher education libraries includes redistribution of educational resources and rising prices. These libraries have responded by forming consortia, looking at access and exploring digital resources.





Energy and Water

Energy

The Department of Energy (DoE) has updated the country's plan for electricity – the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP2010). It is a 20-year projection of electricity supply and demand – about 42% of electricity generated in South Africa has to come from renewable resources.

The department has implemented certain parts of the IRP such as the introduction of the Independent Power Producers of which 2 600 MW in terms of bids in the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Programme (REIPPP) had been concluded by September 2013. The department concluded Window 3 of REIPPP in 2013/14. It will also focus on the small scale (less than 5 MW) distributed generation programme, which bodes well for rural development.

National Energy Efficiency Strategy

The National Development Plan (NDP) envisages that by 2030 South Africa will have an adequate supply of electricity and liquid fuels to ensure that economic activity and welfare are not disrupted, and that at least 95% of the population will have access to grid or off-grid electricity.

The plan proposes that gas and other renewable resources like wind, solar and hydro-electricity will be viable alternatives to coal and will supply at least 20 000 MW of the additional 29 000 MW of electricity needed by 2030.

Other recommendations in the plan include diversifying power sources and ownership in the electricity sector, supporting cleaner coal technologies, and investing in human and physical capital in the 12 largest electricity distributors.

Eskom concluded 11 power buy-back deals with ferrochrome and alloys producers for the period 1 December 2012 to 31 March 2013. The buy-backs were funded through an existing allocation for demand management programmes and were expected to have no impact on the tariff.

National Strategic Fuels Stock Policy

The Energy Security Master Plan for Liquid Fuel sets out the framework for the storage of fuel stock by government and the industry. It aims to ensure uninterrupted supply of petroleum products throughout South Africa by providing adequate strategic stocks and infrastructure such as storage facilities and pipeline capacity. Strategic stocks are to be used during declared emergencies. The Minister of Energy will have the power to decide when a shortage of fuel and oil is at such a level to warrant an emergency.

Environmentalists have named Cape Town as the capital city as part of the global push to wean civilisation from fossil fuels.

The Earth Hour Challenge, part of the annual Earth Hour symbolic gesture to raise awareness of the impact of fossil fuel on the environment, is a partnership between the World Wide Fund (WWF) for Nature and the Local Governments for Sustainability. Earth Hour 2014 will be celebrated on 29 March and the WWF and other organisations have asked the public to switch off electricity consuming devices for an hour.

National Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) Strategy

LPG is commonly used in mines to power smelting furnaces that are processing materials, such as platinum and vanadium, as well as domestically for cooking. The LPG Strategy that was submitted to Cabinet in 2011/12, mainly aims for access to safe, cleaner, efficient, portable, environmentally friendly and affordable thermal fuel for all households, and to switch low-income households away from the use of coal, paraffin and biomass to LPG.

Role players

Sasol

Sasol is an international integrated energy and chemical company that leverages the talent and expertise of more than 34 000 people working in 37 countries. The company develops and commercialises technologies, and builds and operates world-scale facilities to produce a range of product streams, including liquid fuels, high-value chemicals and low-carbon electricity.

Sasol continues to advance its upstream oil and gas activities in West and Southern Africa, the Asia Pacific region and Canada. In South Africa, Sasol refines imported crude oil and retail liquid fuels through its network of some 400 service stations and supply gas to industrial customers. It also supplies fuels to other licensed wholesalers in the region.

Eskom

Eskom generates, transmits and distributes electricity to industrial, mining, commercial, agricultural and residential customers and redistributors. In September 2013, President Jacob Zuma officially reopened Eskom's Grootvlei Power Station in Balfour, Mpumalanga, which will contribute towards meeting the country's energy demand requirements by providing maintenance space for other power stations.

National Nuclear Energy Executive Coordination Committee (NNEECC)

The DoE undertook study tours to a number of key nuclear-energy jurisdictions ahead of a final nuclear decision, which government was intent on making before the end of 2013/14.

South Africa has opted for a phased decision-making approach under the direction of the NNEECC.

Southern African Power Pool (SAPP)

The SAPP was created with the primary aim to provide reliable and economical electricity supply to the consumers of each of the SAPP members, consistent with the reasonable use of natural resources and the effect on the environment.

The SAPP allows the free trading of electricity between Southern African Development Community member countries, providing South Africa with access to the vast hydro-power potential in the countries to the north, notably the significant potential in the Congo River (Inga Falls).

Others role players

- iGas is the official state agency for the development of the hydrocarbon gas industry in southern Africa.
- PetroSA is a government-owned oil and gas company
- The Petroleum Agency of South Africa promotes the exploration and exploitation of natural oil and gas, both onshore and offshore
- Petronet owns, operates, manages and maintains a network of 3 000 km of high-pressure petroleum and gas pipelines, on behalf of the Government.
- National Energy Regulator of South Africa
- National Nuclear Regulator
- Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa
- South African National Energy Development Institute
- Central Energy Fund Integrated energy centres

Energy resources

South Africa has very limited oil reserves. About 60% of its crude oil requirements are met by imports from the Middle East and Africa. The country produces about 5% of its fuel needs from gas, about 35% from coal and about 50% from local crude oil refineries. About 10% is imported from refineries elsewhere in the world.

South Africa has a sizeable capital stock and management capacity to produce fuel from gas. The DoE's Hydrocarbons and Energy Planning Branch is responsible for coal, gas,

liquid fuels, energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy planning, including the energy database.

The *White Paper on the Promotion of Renewable Energy and Clean Energy Development* (2002) commits South Africa to producing 5% of the country's energy supply from renewable energy sources by 2013.

Alternative gas resources

In March 2014, government gave the go-ahead for shale gas exploration in the southern Karoo and elsewhere.

Renewable and alternative fuels

The *White Paper on Renewable Energy* (2003) has set a target of 10 000 GWh of energy to be produced from renewable energy sources (mainly from biomass, wind, solar and small-scale hydro) by 2013.

Biofuel

South Africa set the beginning of October 2015 as the date from which fuel producers would have to blend diesel and petrol with biofuels. Fuel producers would be required to blend a minimum of 5% biodiesel in diesel and between 2% and 10% of bio-ethanol in petrol.

Biofuels are expected to reduce the country's reliance on imported fuel. The biofuels industry in South Africa, the continent's biggest agricultural producer, has been held back by an inadequate regulatory regime and concerns that biofuels would hurt food security and affect food prices.

Canola, sunflower and soya are feedstock for biodiesel, while sugarcane and sugar beet are feedstock for ethanol.

Maize, South Africa's staple food, will not be used in the production of biofuels to ensure food security and control high prices.

Hydro power

The Bramhoek and Bedford dams have both been completed and the R23-billion Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme were implemented during 2013/14. By the end of 2013, 2 400 MW of capacity had been awarded to renewable projects.

Solar power

The launch of the solar energy farm, the first renewable energy project in North West took place in May 2013. Located at Buffelspoort, RustMo1 Solar Farm is a 7 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation facility. The project will supply

power to the Eskom grid. The farm will produce 244 643 MWh of energy over the 20-year contract period.

Commercial operations at the farm started in November 2013. The development of the farm was awarded to Momen-tous Energy, a South African black-owned development company.

By the start of 2014, other solar PV projects ranging from five to 340 MW earmarked for Brits; Christiana; Taung; Rustenburg; Vryburg; Mahikeng; Tswaing and Orkney were at various stages of the bidding and planning process for implementation.

Spanish company Abengoa, in partnership with the state-owned Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and community trusts in Upington and Pofadder, is building Khi Solar One, a 50 MW solar tower plant near Upington, and KaXu Solar One, a 100 MW parabolic trough solar plant near Pofadder.

According to the Southern Africa Solar Thermal and Electricity Association, the two power stations will leverage investment of over R10 billion, and together will generate almost 500 GWh clean solar electricity a year.

According to Abengoa, the two plants will reduce South Africa's carbon-dioxide emissions by about 498 000 tons a year, while creating between 1 400 and 2 000 construction jobs and about 70 permanent operation jobs, as well as numerous indirect jobs to fulfil the needs required by the plant and its construction.

Wind power

In November 2013, construction of the wind turbine manufacturing facility was well on its way to being completed at the Coega IDZ. The Wind Tower Factory Project, which was more than 60% complete by the start of 2014, is a joint initiative between the DCD Group, the IDC and the Coega Development Corporation.

Hybrid systems

There are two pilot hybrid systems in the Eastern Cape at the Hluleka nature reserve on the Wild Coast and at the neighbouring Lucingweni community.

Nuclear

The nuclear sector in South Africa is mainly governed by the Nuclear Energy Act of 1999, and the National Nuclear Regulator Act of 1999. The DoE administers these Acts.

South Africans achieved a massive 629 MW average reduction on their electricity usage during Earth Hour in March 2013. The campaign encourages individuals and businesses to lead energy-smart lifestyles, to save power, save the planet and save money.

In March 2014, the Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa signed a skills development and training agreement with two Chinese state nuclear energy corporations, the China General Nuclear Power Corporation and the State Nuclear Power Technology Corporation.

The agreement will create opportunities for young South Africans to further their studies in nuclear energy and other specialised areas of energy at Chinese universities, with funding of up to 95% from Chinese institutions.

Programmes and projects

Wind resource map

The DoE launched the country's first Large Scale High Resolution (250 m) Wind Resource Map in July 2013.

It is expected that the map is going to be a useful instrument in government's planning for the efficient use of the country's wind resources.

The data is based on the Verified Numerical Wind Atlas for South Africa (WASA), which was launched in March 2012.

The purpose of the WASA is to improve knowledge and the quality of resource assessment methods and tools, to make available this knowledge and tools free of charge for planning and development of wind farms and off-grid electrification, and to build capacity of local institutions to do wind resource measurements.

Integrated resources plan (IRP)

At the Africa Energy Indaba in February 2013, the Minister of Energy said South Africa intended to introduce nuclear power to lower carbon emissions.

The IRP 2010 to 2030 envisages 9 600 MW additional nuclear capacity by 2030. The IRP is a 20-year projection on electricity supply and demand.

South Africa is a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency and had signed up for stress tests to ascertain whether its reactors were vulnerable to natural causes like tsunamis.

As a member of the agency, the country had to meet several milestones.

In September 2013, the DoE launched the public-consultation phase for the formulation of an Integrated Energy Plan for South Africa, which it says should be published during the course of 2014.

In July 2013, Cabinet endorsed a draft Integrated Energy Planning Report, which provides the basis for the current set of consultations.

Renewable Energy Independent Power Producers Procurement Bidding Programme

By 2014, under the REIPPP the department was about to enter Window 3 having already selected bidders for a total of 2 614 MW to be added to the country's power grid by 2016.

By March 2013, the department had installed 335 000 solar water systems out of a target of one million by the end of 2014.

By May 2013, South Africa had signed agreements with preferred bidders in Window 2 of the REIPPP that would contribute to the country's energy mix and job creation.

According to the IRP2010, projection on electricity supply and demand, about 42% of electricity generated in South Africa has to come from renewable resources.

The creation of job opportunities, local content and community development are the essential ingredients of the programme.

Integrated National Electrification Programme (Inep)

A total of 181 004 connections had been made during 2013/14, which was ahead of Inep's target of 180 000. There were still 3,3 million households without electricity, with 75% of these in the Eskom supply area, and 25% in municipal supply areas.

The total number of planned connections for 2013/14 was 276 703.

The department received an increase of R400 million in its funding allocation, which accounted for the higher number of connections projected. The total allocation for 2013/14 was R3,547 billion.

The United Nations declared 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation.

The objective was to raise awareness, both of the potential for increased cooperation and the challenges facing water management in light of the increase in demand for water access, allocation and services.

According to *The General Household Survey 2012 Report*, 90,8% of South African households had access to piped water while the percentage of households with no toilets or bucket toilets decreased from 12,3% in 2002 to 5,3% in 2012.

Working for Energy Programme

The Working for Energy Programme is a social programme mainly intended to provide energy services derived from renewable resources to rural and urban low income houses in a manner that facilitates job creation, skills development, community-based enterprise development and the emancipation of youth, women and people with disabilities thereby creating sustainable livelihoods. It is an integral part of the Expanded Public Works Programme.

Water affairs

South Africa is the 30th driest country worldwide. Water is a critical element to sustainable socio-economic development and the eradication of poverty and should be at the core of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and eradicating poverty.

Water has a critical function in the South African economy where it contributes 60% towards agriculture and irrigation.

Policies and strategies

National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS)

In July 2013, the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs released the NWRS2, which sets out the vision and strategic actions for effective water management.

Water for Growth and Development (WfGD)

The WfGD Framework points to the relationship between the availability of water and the many forms of economic activity that depend on the available supply of water of specific levels of quality. The department's position is that the country's economic growth target cannot be achieved at the expense of the ecological sustainability of water resources or meeting people's human needs.

Raw Water Pricing Strategy

The strategy will enable the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) to have sound water-pricing policies, cost-reflective tariffs for the entire water value chain in South Africa and a good funding framework for infrastructure.

The 2013 review of the Raw Water Pricing Strategy addressed the issue of water scarcity and how best to use water pricing as a tool for driving more efficient water-use without having a negative impact on small-scale or under-resourced water users.

Reuse Strategy

The DWA has developed a water reuse strategy to encourage informed decisions relating to water reuse. Reuse could be significantly increased with reuse of return flows in coastal cities, where it would otherwise drain into the sea. In coastal cities, water reuse and desalination compete as two options for water conservation.

Reuse is becoming increasingly acceptable and feasible owing to increasing shortages, improved purification technology and decreasing treatment costs. For example, membrane technologies, also used for desalination of seawater, have become more affordable and have improved. The reuse of treated waste water will have to be managed carefully to ensure public health safety.

Dams and water schemes

The country has more than 500 government-owned dams spread across all nine provinces. They range in storage capacity from a volume of 5 500 million m³ of water down to 0,2 million m³ of water.

South Africa uses about 10 200 million m³ of water a year from its major dams. The majority of water consumption can be attributed to drinking, irrigation, electricity, mining processes and industrial processes.

Government has implemented key projects to augment South Africa's water resources.

- The Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority has procured funding to implement the Mokolo and Crocodile River West Water Augmentation Project's first two phases with a cost of about R2 billion, to deliver water to Eskom's new Medupi power station and other industries in the area, as well as domestic water to the Lephalale Local Municipality. The first water delivery is expected in 2014.
- In July 2013, the Bloemendal bulk water project, which helped address issues of water-borne diseases and water shortages in Delmas, in the Victor Khanye Local Municipality. The bulk water project is part of the government's drive to bring services to the people of the country. The project is designed to supply 25 Ml/d (potable water) and is sufficient to meet water demand in the service area up to 2026.

In October 2013, the winners of the 2013 Water Sector Awards on Water Conservation and Water Demand Management were awarded in recognition and acknowledgement of their initiatives in water conservation and water demand management per category:

- Agriculture: Lower Olifants River Water Users Association, Western Cape; Water Research Commission, Gauteng.
- Business: Sun City Resort, North West; Garden Court Hatfield, Gauteng.
- Industry, Mining and Power Generation: Richards Bay Minerals, KwaZulu Natal; Eskom, Gauteng; Optimum Coal Mine, Mpumalanga.
- Domestic or Local Government Local Municipalities: Emfuleni (Sasol and GIZ), Gauteng; Drakenstein, Western Cape; New Castle, KwaZulu-Natal.
- Metropolitan and District municipalities: City of Cape Town, Western Cape; Johannesburg Water, Gauteng; City of Tshwane, Gauteng.

The new project incorporates a 10 Mℓ reservoir located at midpoint of the new pipeline and is designed to improve system operation as well.

- In November 2013, President Zuma launched the Spring Grove Dam, in Mooi River, KwaZulu-Natal. Spring Grove Dam (or Mooi Mngeni Water Scheme) supplies water to the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality and the uMgungundlovu District, Msunduzi Local, Ugu Local, Sisonke and iLembe local municipalities. It created 960 jobs when it was constructed. The R1 billion dam is part of government's infrastructure development plan that is also designed to create jobs, improve the quality of life and boost the economy.
- De Hoop Dam, officially opened in March 2014, will deliver water for domestic and agricultural use in the Greater Sekhukhune, Waterberg and Capricorn district municipalities. This will deliver water to three million Limpopo residents.

Various strategic projects of the DWA during 2013/14 included:

- The Bulk Water Schemes in the Xhariep District, namely Phase 2 of the Jagersfontein/Fauresmith and Rouxville/Smithfield/Zastron projects. Regional Bulk Water Schemes in the Masilonyana and Tokologo local municipalities in the Lejweleputswa district and the Moqhaka Local Municipality in the Fezile Dabi district.

- Regional Bulk Water Schemes in the Setsoto, Dihlabeng and Phumelela local municipalities, the Sterkfontein Dam Scheme and the Nketoana Regional Water Scheme Augmentation in the Thabo Mofutsanyana district.
- Significant progress with the refurbishment of water and wastewater treatment works during 2012, including those at Bethlehem and Saulspoort, Ficksburg, Vredefort, Heilbron, the Matjhabeng and Moqhaka local municipalities.

Programmes and initiatives

Water-related programmes and initiatives include:

- Integrated Water Resources Management
- National Water Resources Infrastructure Programme
- Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant Programme
- Strategic integrated projects
- Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme
- Support for resource-poor farmers
- Rainwater harvesting
- River Health Programme and interventions
- Water Allocation Reform Accelerated Community Infrastructure Programme
- Women in Water
- Water Conservation and Demand Management
- Enhanced Local Government Support Approach
- Freshwater Programme
- Monitoring programmes
- National Aquatic Ecosystem Health Monitoring Programme
- National Chemical Monitoring Programme
- National Toxicity Monitoring Programme
- Education and awareness
- Youth development and National Water Week.





Environment

The South African Government remains committed to contributing to finding solutions to the problem of global warming, as its effects will be felt particularly by the developing countries. South Africa participated in the World Wide Fund Living Plan Conference, which took place in Johannesburg in November 2013. Government's focus on the green economy was the basis for a lot of policy positioning in the country's economic cluster.

Although it has a land surface area of 1,2 million km² – representing just 2% of the Earth's total land surface – South Africa contains almost 10% of the world's total known bird, fish and plant species, and more than 6% of the world's mammal and reptile species.

At regional level, the provincial conservation agencies are major role players, and independent statutory organisations such as South African National Parks (SANParks) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (Sanbi) are valuable partners in the country's conservation efforts.

Government is committed to protect the country's rich biodiversity heritage for the benefit of all, and to create a prosperous and equitable society that live in harmony with its natural resources and is signatory to the following biodiversity-related multilateral agreements:

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- Ramsar Convention
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
- Convention to Combat Desertification
- Convention on Migratory Species
- Nagoya Protocol.

Important dates:

World Wetlands Day: 2 February

National Water Week: 19 to 25 March

Earth Day: 20 March

World Water Day: 22 March

World Meteorological Day: 23 March

World Environment Day: 5 June

World Oceans Day: 8 June

World Desertification Day: 17 June

National Arbour Week: 1 to 7 September

International Day for the Protection of the Ozone Layer: 16 September

World Tourism Day: 27 September

World Habitat Day: 4 October

National Marine Day: 20 October

Projects, programmes and initiatives

South Africa's Green Economy Modelling Report

Focusing on four of the nine focus areas of a green economy (natural resource management, agriculture, transport and energy), the report explores the question of whether equal or higher growth could be attained with a more sustainable, equitable and resilient economy. As a developing country, South Africa is an emerging market with an abundant supply of natural resources, ranking as the third most mega-diverse country in the world. As such, there is a need to balance economic and other development goals with those of environmental preservation. *The Green Economy Modelling Report* was launched in 2013.

In partnership with the United Nations (UN) Environment Programme (UNEP) and with support from the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) embarked on developing a green economy model for South Africa.

South African Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)

According to the CDP Report of November 2013, leading South African corporates performed well ahead of the global norm in reporting their carbon emissions, with 83 of the companies making up the JSE 100 participating in the seventh edition of the CDP – the second-highest response rate after Europe, where 90% of companies responded.

Fears are increasing over future climate change impacts with more extreme weather events. There is also growing corporate awareness of the need to assess physical risks posed by climate change and to build resilience. For investors, the risk of stranded assets has been brought to the fore by the work of Carbon Tracker. They calculate around 80% of coal, oil and gas reserves are unburnable, if governments are to meet global commitments to keep the temperature rise below 2°C. This has serious implications for institutional investors' portfolios and valuations of companies with fossil fuel reserves. The performance is higher than the 81% of the Global 500 sample and well ahead of their BRICS-bloc counterparts, with 56% of the Brazil 80, 19% of the China 100, 27% of the India 200 and 18% of the Russia 50 responding.

Role players

South African National Biodiversity Institute

Sanbi is South Africa's official body for facilitating access to the Adaptation Fund, set up to help developing countries cope with climate change.

In June 2013, South Africa launched a R300-million training, mentoring and workplace-based learning project aimed at building a pool of young, capable professionals for the country's biodiversity and natural resource management sector.

Its biome programmes, which focus on South Africa's biodiversity hotspots, ensure that the country's most important biodiversity regions such as the grasslands, wetlands and succulent Karoo, are protected in a sustainable and beneficial way.

Sanbi is increasingly embracing biodiversity in its broadest sense through the inclusion of the country's fauna as part of its taxonomic research mandate.

It is coordinating a catalogue of all South Africa's species (at least 100 000), including animals, through the South African Tree of Life Project.

iSimangaliso Wetland Park

The Lake St Lucia System is the most important estuary and a key nursery for fish on the southeast African coast.

The iSimangaliso Wetland Park covers 332 000 ha and comprises 9% of South Africa's coastline. It includes five ecosystems (marine, coastal dunes, lake systems, wetlands and woodlands). The species lists for the park are the longest in the region.

Of the species listed in the park, 56 are endemic to KwaZulu-Natal, 108 to South Africa and 467 are listed as threatened and endangered in South Africa. The park also has four Ramsar sites.

Areas of conservation **Protected areas**

By mid-2013, South Africa had 528 protected areas, of which 20 were marine, totalling 7,5 million ha or 6,2% of the country's land area.

South Africa aims to expand the conservation areas under formal protection to the international standard of 10% of the total area of the country.

Scientific reserves

Scientific reserves are sensitive and undisturbed areas managed for research, monitoring and the maintenance of genetic sources. Access is limited to researchers and staff, such as Marion Island and the Prince Edward Islands near Antarctica.

Wilderness areas

These areas are extensive, uninhabited and underdeveloped, and access is strictly controlled with no vehicles allowed. The highest management priority is the maintenance of the intrinsic wilderness character.

Wilderness areas include the Cederberg Wilderness Area and Dassen Island in the Western Cape, and the Baviaanskloof Wilderness Area in the Eastern Cape.

Biomes

There are eight major terrestrial biomes, or habitat types, in South Africa. These biomes are divided into 70 veld types. The biomes are the Savanna, Nama-Karoo, Succulent Karoo, Grassland, Fynbos, Forest, Thicket and Desert. The Fynbos Biome is one of only six floral kingdoms worldwide.

South African National Parks

SANParks' primary mandate is to oversee the conservation of South Africa's biodiversity, landscapes and associated heritage assets through a system of national parks.

The national parks are:

- Addo Elephant National Park
- Agulhas National Park
- Ai-Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Park
- Augrabies Falls National Park
- Bontebok National Park
- Camdeboo National Park
- Garden Route (Tsitsikamma, Knysna and Wilderness) National Park
- Golden Gate Highlands National Park
- Karoo National Park
- Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park
- Kruger National Park
- Mapungubwe National Park
- Marakele National Park
- Mokala National Park
- Mountain Zebra National Park
- Namaqua National Park
- Table Mountain National Park (which incorporates the Cape of Good Hope, Table Mountain and Silvermine nature reserves)
- Tankwa Karoo National Park
- West Coast National Park.

SANParks is the leading conservation authority in all national parks around South Africa and responsible for 3 751 113 ha

of protected land in 20 national parks. A transfrontier conservation area (TFCA) is a cross-border region. The conservation status of the areas within a TFCA ranges from national parks, private game reserves and communal natural-resource management areas to hunting-concession areas. TFCAs allow tourists easy movement across international boundaries into adjoining conservation areas.

The seven TFCAs are as follows:

- Ai-Ais/Richtersveld
- Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park
- Kavango-Zambezi
- Greater Mapungubwe
- Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park
- Lubombo Transfrontier Conservation and Resource Area
- Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Conservation and Development Area

A biosphere designation is given by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) to special landscapes where people are collaborating to ensure their environmental integrity as the basis for their economic development.

Biosphere reserves are nominated by their governments for inclusion in the Man and the Biosphere Programme.

South Africa's biosphere reserves include:

- Vhembe, situated in the north-east of Limpopo, which includes the northern part of the Kruger National Park; the Makuleke Wetland, which is protected under the Ramsar Convention; the Soutpansberg and Blouberg biodiversity hot spots; and the Makgabeng Plateau.
- The 100 000-ha Kogelberg Reserve on the country's southern coast is in the middle of the Cape Floral Region and home to 1 880 different plant species, 77 of which are found only in this region.
- The Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve starts in Cape Town in the southern suburb of Diep River and stretches up the west coast as far as the Berg River, encompassing parts of the Cape Floral Region. The reserve includes the Ramsar-protected Langebaan Lagoon as well as Dassen Island, which is home to several protected bird species.
- The Cape Winelands Biosphere Reserve includes a part of the Cape Floral Region, as well as the wine-growing region.
- The 400 000 ha Biosphere Reserve, in the Waterberg in Limpopo is an important catchment area for the Limpopo Basin, with four large rivers originating within its borders – the Lephale, Mokolo, Matlabas and Magalakwena rivers.

- The Kruger-to-Canyons Biosphere Reserve stretches from the Kruger National Park to the Blyde River Canyon. It is an important conservation area as it covers three biomes.
- The Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve is also recognised by the Unesco in terms of the Man and Biosphere Programme.

The other biosphere reserves in South Africa are:

- Kogelberg Reserve
- Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve
- Cape Winelands Biosphere Reserve
- Waterberg Biosphere Reserve
- Kruger-to-Canyons Biosphere Reserve.

By December 2013, more than 850 young environmental monitors had been appointed to work in protected areas across the country.

World Heritage Sites

South Africa has seven World Heritage Sites proclaimed by Unesco, namely:

- Robben Island
- iSimangaliso Wetlands Park
- the hominid sites at Swartkrans, Sterkfontein and Kromdraai (known as the Cradle of Humankind)
- Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg Park (a natural and cultural site)
- Mapungubwe Heritage Site
- Cape Floral Kingdom
- Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape
- Vredefort Dome.

Wetlands

By 2012, about 115 000 wetlands, covering over four million hectares, comprising close to 4% of the country's total surface area, had been mapped in South Africa. They are part of the natural infrastructure for gathering, managing and delivering water for human use.

Wetlands support a range of specialised plant, insect and mammal life and also supply food, grazing, building and craft material to people. They are able to improve water quality, reduce flood impacts, control erosion and sustain river flows.

South Africa's Ramsar sites include:

- Barberspan
- Blesbokspruit Nylsvley Nature Reserve
- De Hoop Vlei
- De Mond (Heuningnes Estuary)
- Kosi Bay

- Langebaan
- Makuleke Wetlands
- Ndumo Game Reserve
- Ntsikeni Nature Reserve
- Nylsvley Nature Reserve
- Orange River Mouth Wetland
- Prince Edward Islands in Antarctica
- Seekoeivlei
- St Lucia
- the turtle beaches and coral reefs of Tongaland
- Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg Park
- Verlorenvlei Nature Reserve
- Wilderness Lakes.

Marine protected areas (MPAs)

Government shares joint responsibility for South Africa's MPAs with SANParks and Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife.

South Africa's MPAs include the:

- Aliwal Shoal, KwaZulu-Natal
- Betty's Bay, Western Cape
- Bird Island, Eastern Cape
- De Hoop, Western Cape
- Dwesa-Cwebe, Eastern Cape
- False Bay, Western Cape
- Goukamma, Western Cape
- Hluleka, Eastern Cape
- iSimangaliso, KwaZulu-Natal
- Langebaan Lagoon, Sixteen Mile Beach, Malgas Island, Marcus Island, Jutten Island, Western Cape
- Pondoland, Eastern Cape.
- Robberg, Western Cape
- Sardinia Bay, Eastern Cape
- Stilbaai, Western Cape
- Table Mountain, Western Cape
- Trafalgar, KwaZulu-Natal
- Tsitsikamma, Western Cape.

In April 2013, WWF South Africa presented the DEA with a Gift to the Earth Award. The department received this accolade following the formal gazetting of the declaration of the Prince Edward Islands MPA – South Africa's first offshore MPA.

The Prince Edward Islands form an important global biodiversity hotspot, which was subject to rampant poaching during the late 1990s.

Protection of this island group significantly contributes to the conservation of global biodiversity and the fragile southern oceans, in particular.

Zoological gardens

Established in 1899 and given national status in 1916, the National Zoological Gardens (NZG) of South Africa in Pretoria is the largest zoo in the country and the only one with national status.

The 85-ha zoo in Pretoria houses 3 117 specimens of 209 mammal species, 1 358 specimens of 202 bird species, 3 871 specimens of 190 fish species, 388 specimens of four invertebrate species, 309 specimens of 93 reptile species, and 44 specimens of seven amphibian species.

The Johannesburg Zoological Gardens' core business is the accommodation, enrichment, husbandry and medical care of wild animals. The Endangered Wildlife Trust is a major partner.

Mitchell Park in Durban is the country's second oldest zoo after the Pretoria zoo. There are about 30 projects on the cards for the zoo, including cheetah and chimpanzee enclosures.

Breeding centres

There are a number of game-breeding centres in South Africa. The NZG of South Africa is responsible for the management of the Lichtenburg Biodiversity Conservation Centre, which covers an area of some 6 000 ha, and the Mokopane Biodiversity Conservation Centre, covering 1 333 ha.

The Lichtenburg Biodiversity Conservation Centre houses, among other animals, Père David's deer, which is extinct in the wild, pygmy hippopotamus, white rhino, the endangered addax, and scimitar-horned and Arabian oryx.

The Mokopane Biodiversity Conservation Centre is home to an abundance of exotic and indigenous fauna such as lemur, the rare tsessebe, roan antelope and black rhino.

The De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Centre, situated near Pretoria, is best known for its highly successful captive-breeding programme that contributed to the cheetah being removed from the endangered list in the *South African Red Data Book – Terrestrial Mammals* in 1986. The De Wildt Vulture Unit is a rehabilitation and holding facility for injured, poisoned and disabled vultures.

The Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre in Limpopo was initially established as a breeding programme for the then endangered cheetah. It caters for, among other animals, five species of vulture: Cape griffins as well as white-backed, hooded, whiteheaded and lappet-faced vultures. The centre is also known for its wild-dog breeding programme.

The Hoedspruit Research and Breeding Programme includes the rare black-footed cat, vulnerable African wild cat, ground hornbills (in cooperation with the NZG in Pretoria), bald ibis and the endangered blue crane.

Elephant, white rhino, buffalo, caracal, sable antelope, bushbuck and tsessebe have also been cared for and rehabilitated there.

Aquariums and oceanariums

There are aquariums in Pretoria, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, Durban and East London.

The Aquarium and Reptile Park of the NZG in Pretoria is the largest inland aquarium in Africa.

The Port Elizabeth Oceanarium's exhibits include an underwater observation area, a dolphin research centre, various smaller tanks containing 40 different species of bony fish and two larger tanks that display sharks and stingrays.

East London aquarium was 82 years old in 2013, making it South Africa's oldest aquarium.

At the Two Oceans Aquarium situated at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, more than 3 000 specimens represent some 300 species of fish, invertebrates, mammals, birds and plants supported by the waters along the Cape coast.

The aquarium at uShaka Marine World in Durban incorporates both fresh and sea-water species.

Snake and reptile parks

The Port Elizabeth Snake Park at Bayworld has a wide variety of South African and foreign reptiles.

The Aquarium and Reptile Park at the NZG in Pretoria houses 80 reptile species from all over the world.

The Hartbeespoort Dam Snake and Animal Park near Pretoria features one of the finest reptile collections in southern Africa.

The Pure Venom Reptile Farm is one of the largest of South Africa's reptile parks. It is situated inland from Shelly Beach, on KwaZulu-Natal's South Coast.

The Croc River Enviro Park in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga is the largest facility of its type in Africa.

Khamai Reptile Centre's primary aim are conservation, breeding of endangered reptiles and education. Located outside Hoedspruit, it offers a close-up look at many local as well as exotic snakes, crocodiles and lizards.

Protecting environmental resources

Private sector involvement

In South Africa, numerous private bodies are involved in conservation activities.

More than 400 organisations concentrate on conservation, wildlife and the general environment, while more than 30 botanical and horticultural organisations concentrate on the conservation of the country's fauna and flora. These include the:

- BirdLife South Africa
- Botanical Society of South Africa
- Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife
- Conservation International
- Delta Environmental Centre
- Dolphin Action Protection Group
- EcoLink
- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
- Green Trust
- Keep South Africa Beautiful
- KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board
- National Conservancy Association of South Africa
- Peace Parks Foundation
- Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds
- Trees and Food for Africa
- Wildlife and Conservation Society of South Africa
- World Wildlife Fund of South Africa.

Protecting the coastline

To counter illegal activities along the coastline, as well as the country's 1 155 000-km² Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the department appointed more than 80 fishery control officers and 100 honorary fishery control officers.

The department took delivery of four environmental-protection vessels as part of measures to protect marine and coastal resources, namely the Lillian Ngoyi, Ruth First, Victoria Mxenge and Sarah Baartman.

The vessels patrol up to the 200 nautical-mile limit from the shore and the most remote reaches of the EEZ as well as around the Prince Edward Islands.

The vessels also conduct multilateral patrols in the Southern African Development Community coastal states.

Recycling

The National Recycling Forum is a non-profit organisation created to promote the recovery and recycling of recyclable materials in South Africa.

Collect-a-can, one of the oldest recycling initiatives in South Africa, has been instrumental in creating a culture of recycling in South Africa. It has obtained local and international acclaim for its contribution towards protecting the environment, as well as its significant contribution to job creation and poverty alleviation. Collect-a-Can has introduced millions of school children to the idea of caring for the environment through its schools competition.

Rhino poaching

South Africa protects about 93% of the remaining white rhino population in Africa and nearly 83% of the continent's combined population of black and white rhinos.

In 2013, 1 004 rhino were poached in South Africa. To fight this escalation, the National Biodiversity Investigators' Forum was established to improve multi-departmental cooperation and information sharing with law-enforcement institutions.





Government

South Africa is a constitutional democracy with a three-tier system of government and an independent judiciary. The national, provincial and local levels of government all have legislative and executive authority in their own spheres, and are defined in the Constitution as "distinctive, interdependent and interrelated."

The Constitution

The Constitution is the supreme law of the land. No other law or government action can supersede the provisions of the Constitution. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 was approved by the Constitutional Court on 4 December 1996 and took effect on 4 February 1997.

Government

Government consists of national, provincial and local spheres. The powers of the legislature, executive and courts are separate.

Parliament

Parliament consists of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces (NCOP). Parliamentary sittings are open to the public. Several measures have been implemented to make Parliament more accessible and accountable.

National Assembly

The National Assembly consists of no fewer than 350 and no more than 400 members, elected through a system of proportional representation for a five-year term. It elects the President and scrutinises the executive.

National Council of Provinces

The NCOP consists of 54 permanent members and 36 special delegates. The purpose of the NCOP is to represent the interests of the provinces in the national sphere of government.

Government clusters

Clusters were established to foster an integrated approach to governance that is aimed at improving government planning, decision making and service delivery. The main objective is to ensure proper coordination of all government programmes at national and provincial levels.

The seven clusters are:

- Infrastructure Development
- Economic Sectors and Employment
- Governance and Administration

The Presidency, May 2014

President: Jacob Zuma

Deputy President: Cyril Ramaphosa

- Human Development
- Social Protection and Community Development
- International Cooperation, Trade and Security
- Justice, Crime Prevention and Security.

Izimbizo

The National Imbizo Focus Week ran from 10 to 17 June 2013 and saw ministers and deputy ministers, premiers, MECs, mayors and councillors meeting with communities to discuss the struggle against substance abuse. The intention was to scale up the national action plan against substance abuse. The izimbizo form part of the interventions aimed at entrenching South Africa's democratic, developmental state through participatory democracy.

The second National Imbizo Focus Week took place from 7 to 13 October 2013. It provided a platform for national, provincial and local government executives and the public to interact face-to-face.

Monitoring and evaluation

According to the Management Performance Assessment Tool (MPAT) released in September 2013, 80% of government departments do not comply with service delivery requirements.

The report, which measured the state of management practices in the public service over the 2012/13 financial year, included an assessment of all 156 national and provincial government departments.

The MPAT measures departments against 29 management standards, awarding level one (red), level two (orange), level three (yellow), or level four (green) scores.

The Presidency

The Presidency is the executive manager of government. It is situated in the Union Buildings, Pretoria, and has a subsidiary office in Tuynhuys, Cape Town.

In June 2013, the Department of Home Affairs reconfirmed its intention to ensure that applications for asylum in South Africa are adjudicated more efficiently while providing effective and humane administrative assistance to genuine refugees.

There are two ministers in The Presidency, one responsible for the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the other for Performance Monitoring and Evaluation. The National Development Plan (NDP) offers a long-term socio-economic development road map. The NDP: Vision for 2030 focuses on the following strategic areas of development:

- creating jobs
- expanding infrastructure
- sustainable use of resources
- transforming urban and rural spaces
- improving education and training
- providing quality healthcare
- building a capable state
- fighting crime and corruption
- uniting the nation.

The Deputy President

The President appoints the Deputy President from among the members of the National Assembly.

Cabinet

Cabinet consists of the President, as head of the Cabinet, the Deputy President and ministers. The President appoints the Deputy President and ministers, assigns their powers and functions and may dismiss them. No more than two ministers may be appointed from outside the National Assembly.

Provincial government

Each of the nine provinces has its own legislature of 30 to 80 members. They elect the premiers who head the executive councils.

Premiers, as at May 2014	
Province	Premier
Eastern Cape	Phumulo Masualle
Free State	Sekgobelo Elias Magashule
Gauteng	David Makhura
KwaZulu-Natal	Edward Senzo Mchunu
Limpopo	Stanley Mathabatha
Mpumalanga	David Mabuza
Northern Cape	Sylvia Lucas
North West	Supra Mahumapelo
Western Cape	Helen Zille

To encourage parents to register their babies within 30 days of delivery, 344 hospitals, clinics and healthcare facilities were connected to the Department of Home Affairs in 2013. Officials visited 88 hospitals and other healthcare centres for collection of registration forms.

Traditional leadership

In September 2013, Cabinet approved the publication of the Traditional Affairs Bill that will pave the way for the Khoi-San people to be recognised. The Bill makes statutory provisions for the recognition of the Khoisan and also addresses limitations of existing legislation relating to traditional leadership and governance.

The Bill will contribute to the NDP's key target relating to broadening social cohesion and unity while addressing the inequalities of the past.

Local government

In accordance with the Constitution and the Organised Local Government Act of 1997, which formally recognises organised local-government associations, organised local government may designate up to 10 part-time representatives to represent municipalities and participate in proceedings of the NCOP.

Municipalities

There are 278 municipalities in South Africa, comprising eight metropolitan, 44 district and 226 local municipalities. Municipalities govern on a four-year term basis and run local affairs subject to national and provincial legislation. They are focused on growing local economies and providing infrastructure and services.

South Africa has eight metropolitan municipalities:

- Buffalo City (East London)
- City of Cape Town
- Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (East Rand)
- City of eThekweni (Durban)
- City of Johannesburg
- Mangaung Municipality (Bloemfontein)
- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality (Port Elizabeth)
- City of Tshwane (Pretoria).

Local Government Turnaround Strategy (LGTAS)

The LGTAS was introduced as a government programme of action and a blueprint for better service delivery aimed

at responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government. Five focus areas, aimed at fast-tracking implementation of the strategy were identified. These are:

- service delivery
- governance
- financial management
- infrastructure development
- fighting corruption.

Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG)

The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs is responsible for managing and transferring the MIG. The grant is intended for eradicating municipal infrastructure backlogs in poor communities to ensure the provision of basic services such as water, sanitation, roads and community lighting.

Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (Misa)

At the end of March 2013, Misa deployed 68 technical consultants and 24 service providers that support 100 priority municipalities. During 2012/13, Misa technical consultants accelerated 862 infrastructure projects amounting to R12,7 billion. A total of 36 005 jobs were created through Misa.

Government Communication and Information System (GCIS)

The Chief Executive Officer of the GCIS is also the official spokesperson for Cabinet. The GCIS is responsible for informing all South Africans about government's work and how they can participate in governance and consolidating the country's democracy.

The GCIS is responsible for maintaining government's website (www.gov.za), which includes both an information portal for general information about government and a services portal that is a source of information about all the services offered by national government.

In 2013, the department expanded citizens' access to information and services, including the use of integrated mobile units where key service departments sign up people for services and provide information. The partnership with the Phelophepa health train of Transnet alone visited 24 train stations in four provinces and served around 380 000 beneficiaries. The GCIS continues to support the financial viability of a diverse community media sector, by placing over

R37 million in advertising in the community press, radio and television.

The GCIS publishes the *South Africa Yearbook*, the *Pocket Guide to South Africa*, *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper and *Public Sector Manager* magazine. It is also responsible for the South African Government News Agency, *SAnews.gov.za*.

The Public Service

The Public Service Charter was launched in August 2013. It is a commitment between the State as the employer and labour, which seeks to professionalise and encourage excellence in the Public Service and improve service delivery.

The anti-corruption bureau to fast-track disciplinary cases in the public sector would form part of amendments to the Public Service Act of 1999. The amendments also include banning all public servants from doing business with government.

Cabinet ministers and deputy ministers, as at May 2014

Portfolio	Minister	Deputy Minister
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Senzeni Zokwana	Bheki Cele
Arts and Culture	Nathi Mthethwa	Rejoice Mabudafhasi
Basic Education	Angie Motshekga	Enver Surty
Communications	Faith Muthambi	Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams
Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Pravin Gordhan	Obed Bapela Andries Nel
Defence and Military Veterans	Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula	Kebby Maphatsoe
Economic Development	Ebrahim Patel	Madala Masuku
Energy	Tina Joemat-Pettersson	Thembi Majola
Environmental Affairs	Edna Molewa	Barbara Thompson
Finance	Nhlanhla Nene	Mcebisi Jonas
Health	Aaron Motsoaledi	Joe Phaahla
Higher Education and Training	Blade Nzimande	Mduduzi Manana
Home Affairs	Malusi Gigaba	Fatima Chohan

Cabinet ministers and deputy ministers, as at May 2014

Portfolio	Minister	Deputy Minister
Human Settlements	Lindiwe Sisulu	Zoliswa Kota-Fredericks
International Relations and Cooperation	Maite Nkoana-Mashabane	Nomaindia Mfeketo Luwellyn Landers
Justice and Correctional Services	Michael Masutha	Thabang Makwetla John Jeffery
Labour	Mildred Oliphant	Patekile Holomisa
Mineral Resources	Ngoako Ramatlhodi	Godfrey Oliphant
Police	Nkosinathi Nhleko	Makhotso Sotyu
Public Enterprises	Lynne Brown	Gratitude Magwanishe
Public Service and Administration	Collins Chabane	Ayanda Dlodlo
Public Works	Thembelani Nxesi	Jeremy Cronin
Rural Development and Land Reform	Gugile Nkwinti	Candith Mashego-Dlamini Mcebisi Skwatsha
Science and Technology	Naledi Pandor	Zanele kaMagwaza-Msibi
Small Business Development	Lindiwe Zulu	Elizabeth Thabethe
Social Development	Bathabile Dlamini	Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu
Sport and Recreation	Fikile Mbalula	Gert Oosthuizen
State Security	David Mahlobo	Ellen Molekane
Telecommunications and Postal Services	Siyabonga Cwele	Hlengiwe Mkhize
The Presidency: Performance Monitoring and Evaluation	Jeff Radebe	Buti Manamela
The Presidency: Women	Susan Shabangu	–
Tourism	Derek Hanekom	Thokozile Xasa
Trade and Industry	Rob Davies	Mzwandile Masina
Transport	Dipuo Peters	Sindisiwe Chikunga
Water and Sanitation	Nomvula Mokonyane	Pamela Tshwete

Cabinet and provinces have adopted a manual on procedures in recruiting, retaining and dealing with those officials that resign. By 2014, an agreement was already in place with the National Prosecuting Authority to ensure that whistleblowers are protected.

Community development workers (CDWs)

During 2013, CDWs were able to link early childhood development centres with programmes of the Department of Social Development. In the area of HIV and AIDS, CDWs disseminated user-friendly information on these conditions and mobilised communities to actively participate in HIV and AIDS-related awareness programmes, including World AIDS Day.

Public Service Commission

The Government Leadership Summit held in Pretoria, in April 2013 resolved that a productive civil service would help to tackle the socio-economic challenges facing the country. An effective public service had to develop a deeper understanding of the constitutional imperatives and government mandate of providing a better life for the country's citizens. This would make it easier for government to develop the necessary skills in its human capital to deal with the challenges faced by South Africans across the board.

National School of Government (NSG)

By October 2013, the Department of Public Service and Administration transformed the Public Administration Leadership and Management Academy into the NSG. The NSG is intended to educate, train, professionalise and develop a highly capable, skilled and committed public service cadre, with a sense of national duty and a common culture and ethos. It will nurture a culture of professionalism and innovative thinking and serve as a catalyst for reform and modernisation in pursuit of a performance-oriented public service.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

By May 2013, South Africa was well on track with the creation of an Assets Register intended to accurately reflect for the first time the State's assets.

To establish an Immovable Assets Register, the records of 180 000 land parcels, which ascribed custodianship to a responsible department or level of government, were investigated. A physical verification process started in July 2013 and

an Immovable Assets Register was expected to be completed by 31 March 2015.

Still waiting to be completed was the allocation of custodianship of 4 500 land parcels, while about 24 000 land parcels also had to be vested. This process would be rounded off by March 2016.

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)

The EPWP remains an effective part of government's response to the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality. Through the EPWP, projects such as building low-cost bridges over rivers, were making a real difference to people's lives. The projects carried out by the EPWP sought to improve the quality of life of poor communities in particular.

The initial target in the second phase of the EPWP from 2009 to 2014 was to create 4,5 million work opportunities. This target had been increased to nearly five million new work opportunities, with a special emphasis on unemployed youth and women. Some 8 000 youth were recruited for artisan training to be employed by the national and provincial branches of the DPW.

Department of Home Affairs (DHA)

The DHA is the custodian of the identity of all South African citizens, critical to which is issuing birth, marriage and death certificates; identity documents and passports; as well as citizenship; naturalisation and permanent residency certificates.

The department is also responsible for the effective, secure and humane management of immigration.

Statutory bodies falling under the department are the:

- Immigration Advisory Board
- Standing Committee for Refugee Affairs
- Refugee Appeal Board.

Government Printing Works (GPW)

The GPW, a division of the DHA, is a South African security printing specialist that deals with the printing of passports, visas, birth certificates, smart-card identification documents and examination materials, as well as government stationery and publications, such as tender bulletins and government gazettes.



Health

South Africa is making progress in improving the health status of the nation. Free primary healthcare for children and pregnant mothers has had a significant, positive impact in terms of immunisation and child nutrition.

South Africa has one of the largest antiretroviral (ARV) programmes, with more than two million people on treatment. As a result, data from the Rapid Mortality Surveillance system shows that South Africa's life expectancy has increased to 60 years, exceeding the 2014 targets. Infant and child mortality rates are also decreasing.

Inequality and the quality of healthcare remain an area of concern. This applies also to the number of mothers who die due to direct and indirect factors related to pregnancy.

In addition, the Department of Health (DoH) will lay increased emphasis on the four key focus areas expected from the health sector, namely increasing life expectancy, combating HIV and AIDS, decreasing the burden of diseases from tuberculosis (TB), and improving health-system effectiveness.

These focal areas are consistent with the health-related millennium development goals (MDGs), which the United Nations (UN) expects nations of the world to attain by 2015.

Funding

Consolidated spending on health and social protection was R268 billion in 2013/14. More than R800 million was allocated for the scale-up of the provision of ARV treatment.

However, an additional budget allocation of R100 million in 2014/15 and R384 million in 2015 will be necessary to partly address the announced decrease in funding over the medium term from the United States of America (USA) President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Pepfar).

Pepfar has contributed roughly R4 billion a year towards the South African national HIV and AIDS and TB response.

As a result of the phasing in of the National Health Insurance (NHI), spending on health infrastructure increased from R3,3 billion in 2009/10 to R5,4 billion in 2012/13, and is expected to grow to R6,5 billion over the next three years. The allocation to the provinces for the existing NHI grant is R48 million, R70 million and R74 million over the next three years.

In October 2013, South Africa received R3 billion from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

Integrated School Health Programme (ISHP)

In June 2013, the sixth South African AIDS Conference was held in Durban. It was said that sexual and reproductive health services needed to be part of South Africa's ISHP.

The DoH, in collaboration with the Department of Basic Education, revised the National School Health Policy. The policy is aligned to the Negotiated Service Delivery Agreement, 2010 – 2014, the government's programme of action for the promotion of a long and healthy life for all South Africans, as well as the MDGs. The ISHP's goal is to contribute to improving the general health of schoolgoing children and the environmental conditions in schools, and address health barriers to learning.

Managing communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

The DoH formally launched its strategic plan for the prevention and control of NCDs in May 2013.

In March 2013, South Africa hosted a multi-stakeholder dialogue on addressing risk factors for NCDs in Africa.

The National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS), the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, and the DoH, commemorated World Hepatitis Day on 29 July 2013. Hepatitis B is widespread in sub-Saharan Africa and South Africa. Blood safety in South Africa has effectively reduced hepatitis B and hepatitis C transmission.

HIV, AIDS and TB

In April 2013, about 180 000 HIV-positive patients started on the fixed-dose combination (FDC) ARVs. The FDC – containing emtricitabine, efavirenz and tenofovir – is a multiple ARV drug in a single pill, which helps reduce pill burden. The FDC ARVs were expected to improve compliance by reducing the risk of patients defaulting from treatment.

The FDC ARVs are given to newly diagnosed HIV-positive persons, HIV-positive pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers. By April 2013, 1,7 million patients were on ARV treatment and the department hoped to expand this to 2,5 million by the end of 2014. The target for 2013/14 was to initiate 550 000 new people on treatment.

In June 2013, during his State visit to South Africa, US President Barack Obama discussed the Pepfar report with President Jacob Zuma. According to the report, 1 651 800

HIV-positive individuals were on ARV treatment; 7 055 000 individuals received HIV counselling and testing (HCT); 924 300 pregnant women received HCT with 253 000 HIV-positive pregnant women receiving ARV medication to prevent mother-to-child transmission. Members of Parliament had the opportunity to undergo HIV tests in Parliament in October 2013.

During 2014, government planned to medically circumcise one million men through its Medical Male Circumcision campaign launched in December 2013.

Improving health infrastructure

Government prioritised the upgrading of health infrastructure by focusing on refurbishing nursing colleges, and building or refurbishing public hospitals and other health facilities. During 2013, specific attention was paid to four central hospitals in Gauteng – Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic, Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic, Dr George Mukhari and Steve Biko Pretoria Academic.

In February 2013, a project to refurbish 13 nurses and doctors' residences to an acceptable state commenced. The project included residences in Lebone Nursing and EMS College, and the SG Lourens, Ann Lansky, Chris Hani, Coronation and Ga-Rankuwa Nursing colleges. Hospitals include Natalspruit, Tembisa, Sebokeng, Helen Joseph and Charlotte Maxeke.

National Health Insurance

The NHI scheme shows government's commitment to the country's health infrastructure, which remains a priority. Healthcare faced significant problems, including rising costs and poor access to generic medication, an overemphasis on cure instead of prevention, and insufficient regulatory control. These factors threatened sub-Saharan Africa's ability to achieve the UN's health-related MDGs by 2015. Universal health coverage aimed to provide every citizen with access to affordable healthcare, irrespective of a person's socio-economic conditions.

South Africa's NHI was expected to take 14 years before it was fully implemented because it faced problems including infrastructure, staffing and water supply. NHI pilot programmes were rolled out in some of South Africa's major cities in 2013. The spending focus over the next few years will be on overseeing the 10 NHI pilot projects and conducting

health economics research focusing on the roll-out of the plan and alternative healthcare financing mechanisms.

Health teams

By December 2013, more than 216 191 medical practitioners were registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). These include doctors working for the State, those in private practice and specialists. The majority of doctors practise in the private sector. There were 5 667 dentists, 2 886 dental assistants, 1 053 oral hygienists and 569 dental therapists registered with the HPCSA.

There were 25 876 professional pharmacists registered with the South African Pharmacy Council. There were 260 698 registered nurses. This figure includes registered, enrolled and auxiliary nurses, but excludes students and pupils.

There were 4 200 public health facilities in South Africa. People per clinic are 13 718, exceeding World Health Organization guidelines of 10 000 per clinic. Since 1994, more than 1 600 clinics have been built or upgraded.

Provincial hospitals

Provincial hospitals offer treatment to patients with or without medical-aid cover. Patients are classified as hospital patients if they can't afford to pay for the treatment. Their treatment is then partly or entirely financed by the particular provincial government or the health authorities of the administration concerned.

National Health Laboratory Service

The NHLS trains pathologists, medical scientists, occupational health practitioners, technologists and technicians in pathology disciplines, including: anatomical pathology, haematology, microbiology, infectious diseases, immunology, human genetics, chemical pathology, epidemiology, occupational and environmental health, occupational medicine, tropical diseases, molecular biology, medical entomology and human nutrition.

Medical schemes

By March 2014, there were about 88 medical schemes in South Africa, with around 8 469 784 beneficiaries. These schemes have a total annual contribution flow of about R84,9 billion. Tariffs for admission to private and provincial hospitals differ. Cost differences also exist between various provincial hospitals, depending on the facilities offered.





Human Settlements

The Department of Human Settlements' (DHS) service-delivery priorities include upgrading well-located informal settlements, and providing proper services and land tenure to 500 000 households by 2014.

The department also plans to increase the rate of affordable rental housing delivery to at least 20 000 units per year. It also aims to set aside 6 250 ha of well-located public land for low-income and affordable housing, accommodating approximately 400 000 units by 2014.

The mixed housing model, which includes different housing typologies for different income groups, is yielding fruits. Examples include Cosmo City, Fleurhof and Olievenhoutbosch in Gauteng.

By May 2013, government had, for the first time since 1994, passed the three million mark in providing houses and housing opportunities in South Africa.

Most beneficiaries were from the poorest groups in South Africa. The main focus of housing delivery efforts remains the provision of quality housing to the poorest of the poor, many of whom are in and around informal settlements.

Human Settlements Vision 2030

Housing the poor was an ingredient of the department's three-part response to the State's Vision 2030 Strategy. "Gap housing" is a term that describes the shortfall, or gap in the market between residential units supplied by the State and houses delivered by the private sector. The gap housing market comprises people who typically earn between R3 500 and R15 000 per month, which is too little to enable them to participate in the private property market, yet too much to qualify for state assistance.

Gap housing is a policy that addresses the housing aspirations of people such as nurses, fire fighters, teachers and members of the armed forces, who earned between R3 000 and R15 000 per month and, therefore, did not qualify for RDP houses and did not earn enough to obtain home loans.

Nationally the houses were financially assisted by the National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC) through an intervention called Finance Linked Individual Subsidy Programme, which gives all qualifying beneficiaries the certainty of being granted loans, bonds or mortgages by banks and other financial institutions. Those in the middle- to high-income groups could apply for housing bonds.

The challenges ahead include removing racial connotations from living spaces, which more than anything else reflects the real evil of apartheid social engineering. Undoing this policy will require time and major resources.

As part of its strategy in this regard, the department is obliging banks to give loans to blacks who want to buy properties in previously exclusively white areas. It has also been buying up high-rise buildings in inner cities, and refurbishing and transforming them from office space to rented family units. This form of social housing has become popular with young couples, students and single mothers.

Areas close to townships, known as “No-Man’s Land” and were used as buffer zones to separate black townships from white areas, are being eradicated. The land is being used for housing with occupants being moved closer to cities.

New non-racial towns and cities are being developed to fulfil the principle of a united people in non-racial residential areas. Lephalale in Limpopo, which will be known as Joe Slovo City, is an example of this policy.

Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP)

In 2013, South Africa had almost 2 700 informal settlements compared to 300 in 1994.

Despite the steady increase in subsidies, factors such as escalating building costs, inflation and rising land prices have slowed down the delivery of houses.

The National Upgrading Summit took place in Khayelitsha in July 2013. Since then government has changed its approach to providing communities with housing to allow for more flexibility, more creativity and more humanity. Government became more creative in its response to upgrading informal settlements and more flexible regarding the efforts of the poor to plan, build and maintain the communities in which they live.

The IRDP provides for the acquisition of land; servicing of stands for a variety of land uses, including commercial and recreational purposes, schools and clinics; as well as residential stands for low-, middle- and high-income groups. The land-use and income group mix is based on local planning and needs assessment.

Housing institutions

The department’s support institutions play an important role in enhancing the norms and standards of housing, as well as making housing more accessible to all South Africans.

The institutions are: the National Home-Builders Registration Council, NHFC, National Urban Reconstruction and Housing Agency, Rural Housing Loan Fund, the Housing Development Agency and the Social Housing Regulatory Authority.

Subsidies

A housing subsidy is a grant by government to qualifying beneficiaries for housing purposes. One of the DHS areas of responsibility in the delivery of human settlements relates to the bottom-most end of the market, where it provides housing subsidies to the poor. This is where the bulk of the housing backlog exists, affecting mainly those who earn below R3 500 a month.

International relations

The South African Government is party to the United Nations (UN) milleninum development goals, which provide for the significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. In addition to these conventions, South Africa adheres to the following declarations under the UN Habitat programme: the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements (1976), the Istanbul Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements (1996) and the Habitat Agenda (1996), the focus of which is to address the plight of persons without adequate housing.



International Relations and Cooperation

In 2014 and beyond, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) will lead a coordinated campaign, through the footprint it has established, to diversify and consolidate South Africa's international relations. The department is committed to promoting South Africa's national interests and values, the African Renaissance and the creation of a better world for all.

By prioritising Africa and promoting its renewal, development and reconstruction, South Africa is contributing to building a better Africa, which is the central foreign policy goal of the South African Government. South Africa values the support its partners and allies around the world have given it in the past 20 Years of Freedom and democracy.

The country has come a long way with its partners the world over. Within a period of 20 years, South Africa went from being a pariah State to a great nation with a visionary foreign policy that promotes relations with other countries.

African Union (AU)

The AU, which now has 54 member states, brought together the continent of Africa to collectively address its challenges, such as armed conflict, social upheaval, climate change, and poverty. It seeks to promote an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa that is people-centred and represents a dynamic force on the world stage.

Africa Day reflected the key lessons of the past 50 years and acknowledged the contributions of founders of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and Pan Africanism in all countries, regions and the African diaspora.

Fifty years after the formation of the OAU, Africa is on the rise. At the same time, the continent is aware of the challenges it faces, and of the need to use this opportunity to rejuvenate its mission, through Pan Africanism and the African renaissance. In February 2013, AU Commission chairperson, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, met in Brussels, Belgium, with Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Union (EU) to discuss the strategic review of the AU-EU partnership.

New Partnership for Africa's Development (Nepad)

South Africa, as one of the initiating countries, played a key role in the establishment of Nepad and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), and hosts the Nepad Agency and APRM Secretariat in Midrand, Gauteng. The peer review process is aimed at addressing corruption,

poor governance and inefficient delivery of public goods and services to the citizens of African countries. It encourages the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated regional and continental economic integration through the sharing of experiences and best practices, and is important to the sustainability of Nepad.

Nepad remains the main programme of reference for intra-African socio-economic and developmental relations and Africa's partnerships with international partners such as the EU-AU Strategic Partnership, Forum for Africa-China Partnership, the Group of Seven Most Industrialised Nations plus Russia (G8), the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Through Nepad, Africa has expanded its development priorities. Development and funding in agriculture, information and communications technology, science and technology, infrastructure and education has improved the quality of life for millions of Africans.

South Africa and the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

The SADC developed from the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, which was established in 1980. It adopted its current name during a summit meeting in Windhoek, Namibia in August 1992. The initial member states are Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. South Africa became a member after 1994.

The Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) Agreement is part of the SADC's ongoing efforts to create strong relations within Southern Africa through trade. This is evident from the ongoing discussions to achieve inter-regional cooperation and integration among the regional economic communities (RECs) of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the East African Community and the SADC aimed at forming a TFTA with the ultimate goal of establishing a single customs union.

The three RECs comprise 26 countries, a combined population of close to 600 million people, and a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of just under US\$1 trillion.

At the SADC summit in Malawi during August 2013, two women were ushered in at the top – Malawian President Joyce Banda as chairperson and Stergomena Lawrence Tax of Tanzania as executive secretary. Tax, who was elected during the Heads of State and Government Summit, took over from Dr Tomaz Augusto Salomão, who served two terms of eight years. Tanzania handed the Chair of the Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation to Namibia in 2013.

Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Customs Union (Sacu) member states attended the fourth Sacu Summit in April 2013, held in Gaborone, Botswana to discuss various issues broadly related to regional trade and industrialisation, under the auspices of the customs union.

South Africa and Africa

South Africa regards Africa as the centrepiece of its foreign policy and remains committed to promoting the African Agenda, particularly regional peace, security and stability, as the key determinants for socio-economic development on the continent.

In February 2013, President Jacob Zuma met with his Mozambican counterpart, Armando Guebuza, in Pretoria within the context of the enhanced bilateral cooperation between their respective countries.

In April 2013, President Zuma attended the inauguration of the President-elect Uhuru Kenyatta in Kenya's capital Nairobi.

In April 2013, South Africa and Lesotho resolved to work towards increasing economic activities that will lead to the creation of sustainable jobs that are mutually beneficial to the two intricately linked economies.

In May 2013, the South African non-governmental organisation, Open Africa, and Grant Thornton Consulting were contracted by the Millennium Challenge Account Namibia Compact to assist the Namibia Tourism Board in plotting three self-drive travel routes in Namibia.

President Zuma hosted his São Tomé and Príncipe counterpart, Manuel Pinto Da Costa, who was on a state visit aimed at revitalising diplomatic relations between the two countries in August 2013.

In August 2013, President Zuma travelled to Angola where he had consultations with his counterparts President José Eduardo Dos Santos, and the President of the DRC, Joseph Kabila Kabanga.

By October 2013, South Africa and Angola had signed over 22 bilateral agreements and MoUs covering a wide range of sectors such as trade and industry, energy, science and technology, sport, mining, tourism and defence.

In February 2014, the Republic of the Congo bestowed its Order of Merit on Mathews Phosa at a ceremony in Brazzaville occurring during the 25th anniversary celebrations of the signing of the Brazzaville Peace Accord, which paved the way for the end of the Angolan civil war and Namibia attaining independence.

In February 2013, the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry visited Equatorial Guinea to explore business opportunities and increase trade and investment.

In January 2013, 200 Department of Defence and Military Veterans personnel were deployed in the Central African Republic (CAR), in the aftermath of the coup d'état that toppled President Bozize. The SANDF withdrew its soldiers during April 2013. In the same month President Jacob Zuma attended the Extraordinary Summit of the Economic Community of Central African States, which discussed the CAR.

In 2013, South Africa appointed a Resident Ambassador in N'djamena.

In June 2013, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation hosted her Western Sahara counterpart, Mohamed Salem Ould Salek, for bilateral consultations in Pretoria.

By 2014, South Africa had trained more than 1 600 government officials from South Sudan as part of a capacity-building programme within the context of the AU Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development initiative.

President Zuma paid a working visit to President Goodluck Jonathan in Abuja in April 2013.

In November 2013, during his first State visit to Ghana President Zuma held talks with President John Mahama. South Africa will participate in a National Pavilion at the Ghana International Trade Fair in 2014.

In September 2013, President Zuma travelled to Senegal where he met with his counterpart President Macky Sall to strengthen bilateral relations and exchange views on various regional and global issues.

In October 2013, South Africa and Niger recommitted to strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries, as well as working together to promote peace and stability in Africa. This emerged after the inaugural session of the

Joint Commission for Cooperation, which the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation and her counterpart Mohamed Bazoum co-chaired.

Asia and Australasia

China and African countries have pledged to ensure the full implementation of the proposals enshrined in the Beijing Action Plan 2013 – 2015 of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC). South Africa has taken over co-chairmanship of the FOCAC from Egypt, on behalf of Africa, for the next six years. The forum is one of the most strategic partnerships between Africa and its development partners. The sixth Ministerial Conference of the FOCAC will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2015.

During March 2013, the Chinese President Xi Jinping and President Zuma signed several agreements in various fields that would serve to strengthen the already cordial ties between South Africa and China.

President Zuma participated in the fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development held in Yokohama, in May 2013. This was followed by a working visit on 4 June.

In November 2013, the then Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ebrahim Ebrahim, paid an official visit to the DPRK to hold political consultations and review bilateral relations.

Then Deputy Minister Ebrahim hosted Kazakhstan's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kairat Sarybay, in October 2013. The President of Kazakhstan was on a State visit to South Africa in December 2013, during which he signed several draft agreements.

Bilateral relations between South Africa and the oil rich Azerbaijan came under the spotlight in May 2013. The then Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Marius Fransman, was on an official visit, which reviewed the relations between the two countries.

In November 2013, the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry addressed a business seminar in Istanbul while in Turkey with a business delegation on an Outward Selling and Investment Mission.

In October 2013, the third Africa-India Trade Ministers' Meeting took place in Johannesburg. Ministers of trade from several African countries including Nigeria, Ethiopia, Benin, Namibia, Senegal and Libya attended the high-level gathering.

In November 2013, President Zuma attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Sri Lanka.

In August 2013, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation hosted her Thai counterpart, Surapong Tovichakchaikul, for a working visit that redefined and refocused the priority areas of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

President Zuma arrived in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in August 2013, on an official visit to boost political, economic and social ties with the southeast Asian country.

In 2013, South Africa and Vietnam signed an action plan that promotes cooperation between the two countries in law enforcement and compliance with legislation such as the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

In October 2013, South Africa signed a memorandum aimed at curbing rhino poaching with the government of the Lao PDR.

In December 2013, then Deputy Minister Ebrahim was in Myanmar to explore avenues to boost bilateral relations between the two countries.

In January 2013, the DIRCO hosted the inaugural meeting of the South Africa-Philippines Bilateral Consultative Forum. In November 2013, South Africa joined the international community in making a contribution to rescue efforts in the typhoon-ravaged Philippines.

South Africa contributed R4 million in response to the call for international assistance by the Government of the Philippines.

South Africa and Australia have a history of productive cooperation across a range of sectors and issues, including fisheries protection, mining, law enforcement, sport, tourism, education and training [in fields such as information and communications technology, public administration, mining and resources management], defence relations and customs cooperation.

At bilateral level, South Africa and New Zealand enjoy close cooperation in business, tourism, agriculture, disarmament, fisheries, environmental protection, indigenous people and human rights issues.

The Middle East

The Outward Selling Mission to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in November 2013 aimed to expose South African companies

to the Middle Eastern market and deepen bilateral trade and investment relations between these countries.

In October 2013, South Africa hosted the 11th Meeting of the South Africa-Iran Joint Commission.

In April 2013, then Deputy Minister Ebrahim, attended the Fourth Round of Bilateral Consultations in Qatar.

In November 2013, Mpumalanga Premier, David Mabuza said the province was ready to enter into an agreement with Oman to help resolve that country's food security problems.

The third Africa-Arab Summit of Heads of State and Government opened in Kuwait City in November 2013, under the theme "Partners in Development and Investment."

In 2013, the Department of Trade and Industry (the dti) sent a delegation to Iraq comprising government officials and people from the private sector on an international trade initiative.

The Americas

Formal relations between South Africa and the United States of America (USA) go back as far as 1789 when the USA opened a Consulate in Cape Town. Cordial relations between the two countries deteriorated during the apartheid years and in 1986, the USA Congress introduced wide-ranging sanctions against South Africa in terms of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act.

The climax of the South Africa 2012 Campaign, was the Celebration of the Life, Legacy and Values of Nelson Mandela and the unveiling of the Nelson Mandela statue in front of the newly-renovated Embassy of South Africa on 3051 Massachusetts Avenue in Washington DC in September 2013.

In November 2013, then Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe was in Canada for a working visit to promote investment by Canadian companies in South Africa's mining sector.

The Caribbean

The developing countries in Latin America continue to play an important role in international political bodies and formations such as the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the G20 (Brazil and Mexico), BRICS (Brazil), IBSA (Brazil) and the UN. South Africa's business sector has extensive interests in the region, including SAB Miller, AngloGold Ashanti, Naspers, Denel, Sasol, PetroSA. These relate to exports of capital equipment, intermediary goods and investments as well as a growing presence of South African companies in the service sector.

The fourth meeting of the Argentina-South Africa BNC took place in Buenos Aires in August 2013, co-chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic, Héctor Timerman, and the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.

The latter part of 2013 saw ministerial visits from both Colombia and Ecuador to South Africa as a follow-up to high-level visits by South Africa to those countries in September 2013.

Then Deputy Minister Fransman visited Lima, in Peru, in September 2013. The visit was used to strengthen political, social and economic bilateral relations. The two countries also identified new areas of cooperation.

Relations between South Africa and Venezuela came under discussion when Minister Nkoana-Mashabane, held talks with her counterpart, Elias Jaua Milano, in September 2013.

Minister Nkoana-Mashabane was in Venezuela to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation in the areas of energy, mining, agriculture, education, as well as arts and culture.

Trade relations between South Africa and Venezuela have decreased over the years, with the balance of trade changing to favour South Africa. Between June and July 2013, trade statistics showed imports standing at R42,5 million, while exports stood at R84,6 million.

Several South African medical students have graduated from Cuban medical faculties thanks to the South Africa-Cuba medical study programme.

The 80 bursaries offered by Cuba in 2013 increased the number of qualified medical practitioners in South Africa significantly. Several hundred Cuban specialists are deployed in South Africa, rendering professional services in the fields of public health, human settlements, public works and social development.

Europe

The 10th South Africa-United Kingdom (UK) Bilateral Forum met in September 2013 in Cape Town, co-chaired by Minister Nkoana-Mashabane and UK Foreign Secretary William Hague. The Bilateral Forum is a structured mechanism to monitor and manage bilateral relations between the two countries and meets every two years, co-chaired at Foreign Minister level.

During the 10th Bilateral Forum, the two countries committed to further strengthening bilateral relations.

The UK announced in April 2013 that it would end its development cooperation programme in South Africa in 2015.

In July 2013, President Zuma and his delegation met with the EU delegation led by the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, and President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, in Pretoria.

Given the challenges that face South Africa, President Zuma emphasised that the central theme of South Africa's engagements with Europe should be "Job Creation through Inward Investment."

A South African delegation, led by President Zuma, was in talks with representatives from the EU in July 2013, where ways to boost trade and investment were discussed. President Zuma also discussed the October 2014 deadline imposed by the EU for the conclusion of the economic partnership agreement (EPA) with the SADC countries. The EPA gives the countries preferential access for their agricultural and agro-processed products to EU markets.

Since 1994, Belgium has allocated substantial resources to South Africa in the form of official development assistance. This support has covered such areas as health, ports management and logistics, education, rural development and further education and training. The budget of the development cooperation programme, which will run up to 2016, is R66 million a year. The Belgian region of Flanders also has a long-standing development programme in South Africa, also with a budget of R66 million per year up to 2016. Minister Nkoana-Mashabane held a bilateral meeting with her Belgian counterpart, Didier Reynders, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, in June 2013 in Brussels. The meeting covered bilateral political and economic relations as well as the African Agenda, including the Great Lakes Region. In October 2013, a high-level and very large Belgian economic mission of 333 participants, including 252 business leaders, arrived in South Africa hoping to boost trade, investment and other ties.

The South African-German Year of Science (2012–2013) displayed great strides in science and technology cooperation. Around 41 joint research projects were initiated, focusing on areas such as astronomy, renewable energy and pharmaceuticals. South Africa and Germany signed an MoU in February 2013 to enhance bilateral dialogue and practical cooperation between the two countries in the energy sector by establish-

ing a partnership, which builds on the ongoing successful cooperation in the energy sector. In April 2013, German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, paid an official visit to South Africa, during which he recommitted Germany to further strengthening economic relations with South Africa. The German Minister for Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Ilse Aigner, met with the South African Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, in May 2013, for bilateral discussions. Germany is a good partner in terms of offering South Africa technical assistance in agriculture.

The dti hosted the South Africa-Switzerland business forum in September 2013, which showcased business opportunities in the renewable energy sector. South Africa and Switzerland also signed an MoU on cooperation and trade promotion. South Africa held high-level discussions with Switzerland when then Deputy Minister Fransman, was on an official visit in November 2013. He co-chaired the fifth Annual Switzerland-South Africa high-level consultations (HLC) with his Swiss counterpart, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Yves Rossier.

Denmark was a very strong supporter of the anti-apartheid struggle and a major force in sanctions and disinvestment. In addition, Denmark has always had a very active development cooperation programme, which ended in 2013. The Danish Government is focusing on renewable energy development in South Africa. This programme has been developed in response to the commitments made in the MoU of October 2011 between Denmark and South Africa and to the Declaration of Intent on the South African Renewable Initiative, to which Denmark is a co-signatory. As part of the country's 2009 to 2013 programme, more than R7 billion is disbursed to projects ranging from water, energy, education, and governance, the South African Police Service, business support, and the fight against HIV and AIDS.

Then Deputy Minister Fransman co-chaired the inaugural HLC with his Norwegian counterpart, State Secretary Bard Glad Pedersen, in Oslo during his official visit in November 2013. The structured HLC cover the areas of international relations and human rights, trade and investment, renewable energy, education and skills development, and science and technology.

In June 2013, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation concluded a successful working visit to Finland, where she participated in the 13th Africa-Nordic Foreign Ministers' Meeting, held in the Finnish town of Hameenlinna.

The meeting addressed three issues, namely, how macro-economic challenges affect the Nordic Welfare model, Africa on the rise – how to make economic growth inclusive, and seeking solutions to African conflicts – the role of regional and global actors.

In May 2013, ministers from South Africa and Sweden met in Pretoria to assess the state of relations between the two countries. The high-level meeting was attended by the ministers of International Relations and Cooperation, Trade and Industry, National Planning, and the Deputy Minister of Finance. The two sides also exchanged views on developments on the African continent and in the multilateral arena.

From 2003 to 2013, Sweden invested in 14 projects in South Africa across a range of sectors, with total capital investment estimated at R2,04 billion, creating over 1 807 jobs. In October 2013, then Deputy President Motlanthe and the Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden Jan Björklund convened the eighth South Africa-Sweden BNC in Pretoria.

The eighth session assessed the state of relations between the two countries, particularly the implementation of the programme of bilateral cooperation.

Sweden has a well-developed maritime sector and South Africa has established a Maritime Skills Development Programme with Sweden through the South African Maritime Safety Authority. Through the programme, 26 postgraduate South African students have been awarded scholarships to study at the World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden.

In October 2013, French President François Hollande paid an official visit to South Africa.

South Africa will count on France's support in ensuring the effective implementation of the UN Resolution 2033, which provides for closer coordination between the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council.

Between 2012 and 2013, South Africa undertook a number of high-level visits to Italy. Then Deputy President Motlanthe met with Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti in Italy to review the scope of relations between the two countries and identify possible further areas of cooperation.

South Africa remains the largest recipient of Spanish outward investment to Africa with FDI in the period 2006 to 2012 estimated at over R7 billion. By September 2013, Spanish companies had targeted the energy, financial services, tourism, textiles, information technology and software, metals, and mining sectors in South Africa for foreign direct invest-

ment (FDI). In July 2013, the ninth Session of South Africa-Spain Annual Consultations was concluded in Pretoria.

In February 2013, then Deputy Minister in The Presidency Obed Bapela visited Portugal.

Poland is not only one of the strongest role players in the political and economic arenas in central Europe, but also an emerging power in the EU. In October 2013, then Deputy President Motlanthe, held discussions with visiting Polish Prime Minister Donald Franciszek Tusk in Pretoria.

In February 2013, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane hosted Minister Donskoy, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation, in Pretoria during an Joint Intergovernmental Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation co-chairpersons' meeting. The agreements under consideration are in the fields of agriculture; education; energy; fisheries; justice, mineral resources, science and technology, and transport.

South Africa and Belarus marked the beginning of an important relationship when the two countries established a working group to facilitate bilateral cooperation in agriculture. In March 2013, on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in South Africa, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Head of Presidential Affairs in Belarus Viktor Vladimirovich Sheiman discussed further cooperation in the field of agriculture between the two countries.

International bodies

Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

BRICS is the acronym for a grouping of five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The fifth BRICS Summit was held in South Africa in March 2013.

In August 2013, business leaders from the BRICS group of countries converged in Johannesburg for the first meeting of the BRICS Business Council. The council was established during the 2013 BRICS Summit in Durban in March, with South African businessman Patrice Motsepe named chairman of the body.

In September 2013, leaders of the BRICS bloc met away from the G20 meeting, which was held in Russia. The BRICS bloc emerged saying the G20 leaders could do more to boost global demand and market confidence.

The summit presented a unique high-level opportunity for South Africa to further support key priority areas of the African Agenda.

India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) Dialogue Forum

IBSA is a coalition of the south that has facilitated dialogue at a level previously unimaginable. Development cooperation, along with the views on tackling socio-economic distress and trading among the three nations distinguishes IBSA from BRICS. All the IBSA members are democracies and can discuss issues which cannot be discussed in BRICS summits.

The forum provides the three countries with a platform to engage in discussions for cooperation in fields such as agriculture, trade, culture and defence.

United Nations

President Zuma attended the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2013. The 2013 theme was "Setting the stage for the post-2015 agenda."

In December 2012, South Africa concluded its second term as an elected member of the UN Security Council (UNSC). South Africa's second tenure in the UNSC was aimed at building upon its experience during its previous term by contributing to achieving peace and stability on the African continent and in all the regions of the world. Throughout its term, South Africa sought to promote a multilateral, rules-based system. Despite constraints, South Africa influenced a large number of UNSC outcomes and actively engaged on all issues on the Security Council's agenda pursuant to the global mandate associated with its membership.

Notable achievements during South Africa's tenure include its leadership role in chairing the Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, whose strategic intent is to find ways by which to prevent and resolve conflicts in Africa and the 1540 Committee, which prevents non-state actors from gaining access to weapons of mass destruction.

South Africa also championed landmark UNSC decisions on strengthening the strategic cooperation between the UNSC and the AU Peace and Security Council in Resolution 2033 as well as the promotion of the rule of law in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc) is a premier organ of the UN responsible for economic and social development

matters of the world. South Africa assumed membership of Ecosoc on 1 January 2013. This will give South Africa an opportunity to be located at the centre of the debate on the global development agenda, including the acceleration of the implementation of the MDGs.

In February 2013, then Deputy Minister Ebrahim, participated in the 22nd Session of the UN Human Rights Council, in Geneva, Switzerland.

In February 2013, South Africa and the UN signed a five-year UN Strategic Cooperation Framework that will help government as it tries to meet its development agenda and implement its Programme of Action.

Commonwealth

The modern Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 54 independent member countries. Membership is diverse and includes both developed and developing countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe and the South Pacific.

In March 2013, South Africa hosted the first Commonwealth Conference on Education and Training of Youth Workers.

In late-August 2013, the South African Parliament hosted the 59th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in Johannesburg.

In December 2012, the commonwealth adopted a charter that brings together the values and aspirations of its membership and unites the principles of democracy, human rights and rule of law in a single document. In May 2013, member states approved a new strategic plan for the period 2013/14 to 2016/17.

In November 2013, the biannual Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), under the theme "Growth with Equity: Inclusive Development" took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka. President Zuma represented South Africa. At the same time the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation attended the pre-CHOGM Foreign Ministers Meeting.

Non-Aligned Movement

The NAM, with its 120 member states, is the largest political grouping of countries outside the UN, making it an important lobby group of developing countries in global affairs.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is chairing the NAM for the period 2012 to 2015. The NAM consists of 120 member states.

South Africa formally joined the movement in 1994 and has played a leading role in NAM deliberation and meetings ever since.

The next NAM Summit is scheduled to be held in Venezuela in 2015.





Justice and Correctional Services

The responsibilities of the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD) are closely linked to those of the Department of Correctional Services (DCS). Both include ensuring a just, peaceful and safe society and both are involved in South Africa's criminal justice and court system.

South African law is a combination of different legal systems, with its origin in Europe and in Great Britain. As with any other country, the common law has been augmented by statutory law and many of the cases before the court are now concerned with their interpretation and application.

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development

The DoJ&CD is responsible for ensuring an accessible justice system that promotes and protects social justice, fundamental human rights and freedoms, thus providing a transparent, responsive and accountable justice for all.

In particular, the department leads government programmes to afford all citizens equal benefit and protection of the law and the realisation of the Bill of Rights. The department also exercises executive oversight in the provision of public defence for citizens from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Transforming the judiciary

By 2013, 61% of judges (generic) were black compared to only one black in 1994. Similar progress has been made in addressing race and gender imbalances in the magistracy. Of the 1 661 magistrates, 974 are black and 687 are white, 647 are women and 1 014 are men.

There are still challenges regarding the appointment of female judges. Out of 239 judges only 76 are women. Out of 311 judges appointed since 1994, 113 are white males compared to 76 female judges. Of the 5 708 enrolled advocates only 1 841 are women, while there are 7 477 female attorneys from a total number of 21 463.

The department has increased the allocation of briefs to legal practitioners from previously disadvantaged individuals to 70% in 2013.

The courts Constitutional Court

The Constitutional Court in Johannesburg is the highest court in all constitutional matters. It is situated on a historical site called Constitution Hill in a building specially designed to reflect the values of the new constitutional democracy.

The Constitutional Court makes the final decision on whether an Act of Parliament, a provincial Act or the conduct of the President is constitutional. It consists of the Chief Justice of South Africa, the Deputy Chief Justice and nine Constitutional Court judges.

President Jacob Zuma, in terms of section 174(4) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, appointed Adv Mbuyiseli Russel Madlanga SC as a Judge of the Constitutional Court with effect from 1 August 2013.

Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA)

The SCA, situated in Bloemfontein in the Free State, is the highest court in respect of all matters other than constitutional ones. It consists of the President and Deputy President of the SCA, and 23 other judges of appeal. The SCA has jurisdiction to hear and determine an appeal against any decision of a high court.

Decisions of the SCA are binding on all courts of a lower order, and the decisions of high courts are binding on magistrates' courts within the respective areas of jurisdiction of the divisions.

High courts

A high court has jurisdiction in its own area over all persons residing or present in that area. These courts hear matters that are of such a serious nature that the lower courts would not be competent to make an appropriate judgment or to impose a penalty. Except where a minimum or maximum sentence is prescribed by law, their penal jurisdiction is unlimited and includes handing down a sentence of life imprisonment in certain specified cases.

There are 13 high courts: the Eastern Cape High courts in Grahamstown, Port Elizabeth, Mthatha and Bhisho; the Free State High Court in Bloemfontein; the North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria; the South Gauteng High Court in Johannesburg; the KwaZulu-Natal High courts in Pietermaritzburg and Durban; the Limpopo High Court in Thohoyandou; the Northern Cape High Court, Kimberley; the North West High Court, Mafikeng; and the Western Cape High Court in Cape Town.

The following specialist high courts exercise national jurisdiction:

- The Labour Court and Labour Appeal Court in Braamfontein, Gauteng, which adjudicate over labour disputes and hear labour appeals, respectively.

- The Land Claims Court, in Randburg, Gauteng, which hears matters on the restitution of land rights that people lost after 1913 as a result of racially discriminatory land laws.
- The Competition Appeal Court, situated in Cape Town, which deals with appeals from the Competition Tribunal.
- The Electoral Court, situated in Bloemfontein, which sits mainly during elections to deal with associated disputes.
- The Tax Court, situated in Pretoria, which deals with tax-related matters, including non-compliance with tax obligations.

Regional courts

Regional courts are established largely in accordance with provincial boundaries with a regional court division for each province to hear matters within their jurisdiction. There are nine regional court presidents and 351 regional court magistrates.

Magistrates' courts

Magistrates' Courts form an important part of the judicial system as it is where ordinary people come into contact with the justice system daily. Besides the 43 new courts, the department has refurbished and equipped a further 24 branch courts and elevated them into proper courts. The outstanding 65 branch courts and 230 periodical courts have been lined-up for rehabilitation consistent with the National Development Plan.

Small claims courts

By June 2013, there were 277 small claims courts. The number of commissioners who preside over small claims courts has almost doubled in the past four years, from 811 in 2009 to 1 546 in 2013 – comprising 1 314 men and 232 women.

Equality courts

Any person who has been unfairly discriminated against in terms of section 9 of the Constitution may approach the Equality Court. In 2013, 619 matters were enrolled before equality courts. Most of the complaints dealt with include hate speech, unfair discrimination and harassment. The department is preparing legislation that will criminalise hate speech.

Community courts

Community courts, such as the Hatfield Community Court in Pretoria, are normal district magistrates' courts that assist in dealing with matters in partnership with the community and business. These courts focus on restorative justice processes, such as diverting young offenders into suitable programmes.

Traditional courts

There are traditional courts (formerly chiefs' courts established at traditional community areas in rural villages).

Sexual offences courts

Sexual offences courts had been reintroduced by the end of the 2013/14 financial year, and up to 57 sexual offences courts would be operational countrywide within the next three years.

The courts feature specially trained officials, procedures and equipment to reduce the chance of secondary trauma for victims.

National register for sex offenders (NRSO)

The NRSO is a record of names of those found guilty of sexual offences against children and mentally disabled people.

The register gives employers in the public or private sectors such as schools, crèches and hospitals the right to check that the person being hired is fit to work with children or mentally disabled people.

Maintenance

From the 369 maintenance courts nationwide, the department registers about 200 000 new maintenance complaints a year. To reduce the maintenance queues at courts, the department installed technology to process payments through electronic financial transfers to replace the card-based manual system. The courts are also increasingly making orders for payments to be deposited directly into the accounts of beneficiaries.

Through the Guardian's Fund, the department contributes substantially to poverty alleviation. In 2013, the department made 37 000 payments totalling R1,006 billion to Guardian's Fund beneficiaries.

Domestic violence

The rigorous steps that the justice, crime prevention and security cluster is taking to root out gender-based violence is the adoption of zero-tolerance towards rape, violation of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gender and intersex

people and other forms of violence towards women and children. The department has, after engaging with regional court presidents, identified 57 regional courts across the country for use as dedicated sexual offences courts.

Human trafficking

In July 2013, President Zuma assented to the Prevention and Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act of 2013. It will see a maximum penalty of R100 million or life imprisonment or both in the case of a conviction. The new legislation gives effect to South Africa's international obligations in terms of a United Nations Protocol.

Role players

Legal Aid South Africa (Legal Aid SA)

Legal Aid SA provides legal aid or makes legal aid available to indigent persons within the budget allocated to it by the State.

In 2013, Legal Aid SA provided assistance in 736 679 matters.

The staff comprises a representative team of 183 at national office and 2 395 staff based at 128 justice centres nationally comprising 64 main and 64 satellite offices.

Special Investigating Unit (SIU)

The SIU, the Anti-Corruption Task Team, the Asset Forfeiture Unit (AFU) and the Hawks have made notable progress in the quest to combat corruption in the public sector.

The SIU works closely with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to ensure that prosecutions take place as soon as possible. It also works with the AFU in cases where the powers of this unit are more suitable for recovering the proceeds of crime.

By February 2013, the capacity of the SIU had increased from 70 staff members to more than 600. The SIU had 25 active prosecutions by May 2013.

Investigations in relation to seven prosecutions were finalised in 2013, 15 were finalised in 2014 and 10 are expected to be finalised in 2015. These include the investigation of 481 incidents of serious corruption recorded in 2013 and more than 758 persons who were under criminal, financial and/or forensic investigation in 2013.

National Prosecuting Authority

The NPA structure includes the National Prosecutions Service (NPS), the Witness-Protection Programme, the AFU and units such as the Sexual Offences and Community Affairs

(Soca) Unit, the Specialised Commercial Crime Unit (SCCU) and the Priority Crimes Litigation Unit.

Asset Forfeiture Unit

The AFU was created in 1999 in terms of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act of 1998. The AFU can seize and forfeit property that was bought from the proceeds of crime, or property that was used to commit a crime. The AFU completed 302 forfeiture cases in 2013, with a value of R118,4 million. The success rate of the AFU in this period was 94,1% (289 cases). In addition, 276 new freezing orders to the value of R518 million were obtained.

The family advocate

The role of the Family Advocate is to promote and protect the best interests of the children in civil disputes over parental rights and responsibilities.

Sexual Offences and Community Affairs (Soca) Unit

Soca acts against the victimisation of vulnerable groups, mainly women and children. One of the unit's key achievements in ensuring government's commitment to the fight against sexual offences and gender-based violence is the establishment of Thuthuzela care centres (TCCs).

The TCC concept is recognised by the UN General Assembly as a "world best-practice model" in the field of gender-violence management and response. The TCCs are one-stop facilities located in public hospitals that aim to provide survivors with a broad range of essential services – from emergency medical-care counselling to court preparation – in a holistic, integrated and victim-friendly manner. The Thuthuzela Project is supported by the roll-out of victim support rooms in an effort to show empathy to victims of violent crime, especially in cases of sexual offences, child abuse and domestic violence.

In March 2013, Soca, in partnership with various state departments and United States Agency for International Development, launched the Increasing Services for Survivors of Sexual Assault Programme to enhance the role of the TCCs.

The family violence, child protection and sexual offences units (FCS)

The FCS units have been reintroduced in all 176 South African Police Service clusters across the country. By October 2013,

there were 176 FCS units, with a workforce of 2 238 members. To give further impetus to the investigation of crimes of this nature, 72 forensic social workers were appointed to assist in cases of child sexual abuse by conducting forensic assessments, compiling court reports and providing expert evidence in court.

Priority Crimes Litigation Unit (PCLU)

The PCLU is a specialist unit mandated to tackle cases that threaten national security. The PCLU was created by presidential proclamation and is allocated categories of cases either by the President or by the National Director.

National Prosecutions Service

A significant majority of the NPA's prosecutors are housed in the NPS, the organisation's biggest unit. The NPS is headed by the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions (DPPs). They head the respective regional jurisdictions, which are attached to the high courts of the country. All the public prosecutors and state advocates manning the district, regional and high courts report to the DPPs in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

Specialised Commercial Crime Unit

The SCCU's mandate is to effectively prosecute complex commercial crime cases emanating from the commercial branches of the SAPS. The client base of the unit comprises a broad spectrum of complainants in commercial cases, ranging from private individuals and corporate bodies to state departments.

Public Protector

The Public Protector investigates complaints from the public or on own initiative against government at any level, its officials, persons performing public functions, corporations or companies where the State and statutory councils are involved. The Public Protector's services are free and available to everyone. By 2012/13, the third Public Protector, was investigating 33 533 complaints per year, assisted by 160 staff members based at a national office and 238 at nine provincial and satellite offices throughout the country.

Complainants' names are kept confidential as far as possible. The President appoints the Public Protector on recommendation of the National Assembly and in terms of the Constitution, for a non-renewable period of seven years.

The Public Protector is subject only to the Constitution and the law, and functions independently from government and

any political party. No person or organ of State may interfere with the functioning of the Public Protector.

The Public Protector has the power to report a matter to Parliament, which will debate it and ensure that the Public Protector's recommendations are followed.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Unit (TRC)

The TRC was dissolved in March 2002 by way of proclamation in the *Government Gazette*. The TRC made recommendations to government regarding reparations to victims of human rights and abuses experienced during the apartheid years. Government approved four categories of recommendations in June 2003 for implementation, namely:

- final reparations
- TRC-identified victims
- symbols and monuments
- medical benefits and other forms of social assistance
- community rehabilitation.

By May 2013, 16 721 beneficiaries had been paid reparations.

Correctional services

To promote good governance, ethical administration and effective human resource management, the DCS declared 2013 as "The Year of the Correctional Official."

This department has been in existence for 102 years. DCS marks the end of a life of crime, and the beginning of restoration. The department must deliver justice for victims and ensure that offenders make restitution both to society for their crimes, and leave correctional centres with better skills and prospects. The field of corrections is gaining prominence. On 16 May 2013, 45 students from the University of Zululand, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Correctional Studies.

The DCS remains committed to placing humane and safe detention and rehabilitation at the centre of service delivery. In doing so, the department strives to promote corrections as a societal responsibility, contributing to enhanced public safety and reducing re-offending.

The DCS has various offender rehabilitation programmes which focus on restorative justice, skilling, training, reading and offender reintegration.

Development and care of offenders

The *White Paper on Corrections in South Africa* represents the final fundamental break with a past archaic penal system,

and ushers in a start to the second decade of freedom where prisons become correctional centres of rehabilitation and offenders are given new hope and encouragement to adopt a lifestyle that will result in a second chance towards becoming the ideal South African citizen.

The Second Chance Act of 2011 repudiates the notion that recidivism reduction is best achieved through deterrent threats alone, and calls for the delivery of services to former prisoners not in a minimal or grudging way but in a systematic, progressive fashion. It is a re-entry movement that could be classified as therapeutic jurisprudence, restorative justice and to some extent victims' rights. The Act provides programmes and services that will aid rehabilitation efforts and encourage positive participation in society upon release.

It eliminates 'invisible punishment' by excluding access to public benefits such as social grants, general assistance, housing and jobs.

The Act counters the effects of policies, which have made it difficult for ex-offenders to re-enter the normative non-criminal community and could explain why there are so many recidivists.





Mineral Resources

South Africa is by far the wealthiest mineral jurisdiction in the world. Government's industrialisation policy calls for a paradigm shift in mineral development, strategic investment in assets to maximise long-term growth beneficiation projects, enhanced value of exports, increased sources for consumption of local content, and creation of opportunities for sustainable jobs.

In May 2013, the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) was tasked to develop a rescue plan for the platinum and gold sectors to ensure long-term sustainability.

The platinum and gold sectors had been negatively affected by the persistent global economic market environment, which had an adverse bearing on their long-term viability.

The rescue plan is expected to enable the department to find appropriate government-wide measures for appropriate sector-wide responses. The particular focus is on supply- and demand-side interventions.

Platinum and gold are among the largest sectors of South Africa's mining industry in terms of employment, investment and revenue generation.

South Africa's mineral wealth is typically found in the following geological formations and settings:

- the Witwatersrand Basin yields some 93% of South Africa's gold output and contains considerable uranium, silver, pyrite and osmiridium resources
- the Bushveld Complex is known for platinum group metals (PGMs) (with associated copper, nickel and cobalt mineralisation), chromium and vanadium-bearing titanium-iron ore formations and industrial minerals, including fluorspar and andalusite
- the Transvaal Supergroup contains enormous deposits of manganese and iron ore
- the Karoo Basin extends through Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal, the Free State and Limpopo, hosting considerable bituminous coal and anthracite resources
- the Phalaborwa Igneous Complex hosts extensive deposits of copper, phosphate, titanium, vermiculite, feldspar and zirconium ores
- kimberlite pipes host diamonds that also occur in alluvial, fluvial and marine settings
- heavy mineral sands contain ilmenite, rutile and zircon
- significant deposits of lead-zinc ores associated with copper and silver are found near Aggeneys in the Northern Cape.

Beneficiation strategy

In October 2013, the first National Jewellery Forum was held in Johannesburg.

The forum brings together mining and jewellery manufacturing associations and government to create entrepreneurs with the requisite skills to enable South Africa to become a global jewellery hub.

Mining qualifications authority

The future of mining in the country depends largely on the successful implementation of skills development initiatives.

Particular focus is placed on artisan and artisan aid as well as other technical skills. Capacity building within the DMR and associated institutions has also been prioritised in respect of identified critical areas of skills shortage and necessary interventions have been introduced, which include learnership programmes and bursary schemes.

The Mining Qualifications Authority was established as a sector education and training authority and facilitates the development of appropriate knowledge and skills in the mining, minerals and jewellery sectors.

Shale gas exploration

The potential of shale gas exploration and exploitation provides an opportunity for South Africa to begin exploring the production of its own fuel and marks the beginning of the re-industrialisation of the economy.

In October 2013, Cabinet approved the gazetting of technical regulations on petroleum exploration and exploitation.

Reserves

Gold

There are 35 large-scale gold mines operating in South Africa. In 2013, South Africa had fallen from being the world's biggest gold producer to the number six position with a 6% contribution to the total global gold production, despite still having an abundance of gold reserves in the ground.

Coal

Government resolved that coal should be declared strategic national resources, based on the balance of evidence. In mid-2013, the findings of the coal resources and reserves report concluded by the Council for Geosciences were released.

Platinum

Platinum mining in South Africa is supported by the country possessing over 80% of the world's PGM reserves.

The Merensky Reef, stretching from southern Zimbabwe through to the Rustenburg and Pretoria regions, is the centre of platinum mining in South Africa.

Palladium

South Africa is the world's second largest palladium producer. All of South Africa's production is sourced from the Bushveld Igneous Complex, which hosts the world's largest resource of PGMs.

Palladium, together with platinum, is more abundant than any of the other PGMs. It has the lowest melting point (1 554°C) of all the PGMs. Its most remarkable property is its ability to absorb enormous amounts of hydrogen at room temperature.

Ferrous minerals

In March 2013, the Minister of Mineral Resources unveiled the R1-billion expansion project at BHP Billiton's Metalloys manganese smelter in Meyerton, south of Johannesburg.

It is the largest new investment in the manganese industry in the country and supports government's drive to increase the beneficiation in South Africa.

The furnace is designed to produce 120 000 kt of High Carbon Ferro Manganese a year, and includes improvements to ensure increased reliability, availability and also improved pollution control during the production process.

Copper

Palabora, a large copper mine, smelter and refinery complex managed by the Palabora Mining Company in Limpopo is South Africa's only producer of refined copper.

Producing about 80 000 t per year, it supplies most of South Africa's copper needs and exports the balance.

Useful byproduct metals and minerals include zirconium chemicals, magnetite and nickel sulphate as well as small quantities of gold, silver and platinum.

Palabora's large block cave copper mine and smelter complex employs approximately 2 200 people.

Manganese

South Africa has significant proven manganese reserves, but exploitation of the mineral has not reflected its development potential.

Diamonds

South Africa plans to process a greater proportion of its gems locally to keep more profit in the country.

Government wants to cut and refine 70% of the diamonds mined in South Africa by 2023.

Stability in the mining sector

In July 2013, mining companies, trade unions and government departments met to sign the Framework Agreement for a Sustainable Mining Industry, which is aimed at resolving problems in the industry, rooting out unrest and restoring investor confidence in the sector.

Mine health and safety

The DMR continues to place particular emphasis on the health and safety of mine workers, which is crucial to the sustainability of the mining sector. As a result progress has been made in improving the record of fatalities, injuries and occupational diseases.

The Mine Health and Safety Inspectorate of the DMR pursued a strategy to eliminate silicosis and noise-induced hearing loss, also known as occupational deafness, by 2013.

The department finalised the HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) Reporting Form.

Mining Companies are expected to report on the programmes implemented in relation to HIV and TB annually to the department.

The department, in collaboration with the Mine Health and Safety Council, finalised the review of the Guidance Note on Management of TB in South African Mines.

The guidelines on Minimum Standards of Fitness to Perform Work in a Mine, and Prevention of Flammable Gas Coal Dust Explosions in Collieries were also reviewed.

Two new guidelines were developed: Incapacity Due To Ill-Health and Injury Guideline and the Compilation of a Mandatory Code of Practice for Risk-Based Emergency Care. The Regulations on Reporting of Occupational Diseases were gazetted during 2013/14.

Illegal mining

In July 2013, the Minister of Mineral Resources requested that law-enforcement agencies conduct sting operations at several mine dumps to root out illegal mining. In 2013, emergency teams had to be dispatched to disused mines and dump sites where illegal miners had lost their lives while drilling rocks underground. The illegal activity was not only a threat to the health of the illegal miners, but also negatively affected the economy.

Rehabilitation of mines

The mine-rehabilitation programme has had a positive impact on communities where the projects are. This includes economic growth due to sourcing labour and material locally. By March 2013, the department had rehabilitated 13 mine sites. A total of 284 jobs were created as part of the programme.

Acid mine drainage (AMD)

By November 2013, significant progress had been made towards addressing the critical challenge of AMD. In September 2013, Rand Water received a United States patent for an acid mine water treatment process. The magnesium-barium-hydroxide (MBO) process, which removes metals and sulphate from mine water, offered South Africa a technically sound and cost-effective solution for the acid mine water problem. Removing metals and sulphate with the MBO process could produce water that contained levels low enough to be acceptable as drinking water.





Police, Defence and Intelligence

The task of maintaining the safety and security of society is critical to the success of all government's programmes. Law-enforcement services in South Africa fall under the Department of Police, which is responsible for policy determination, direction and overall execution of the department's mandate in relation to relevant legislation.

The National Police Commissioner answers directly to the Minister of Police. Entities reporting to the Minister of Police are the:

- Civilian Secretariat for Police
- Independent Police Investigative Directorate
- South African Police Service (SAPS)
- Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority.

South African Police Service

The SAPS is South Africa's principal law enforcement body. The vision of the SAPS is to create a safe and secure environment for all people in South Africa.

The National Commissioner heads the SAPS. Deputy national commissioners (under whom the divisions and components of the SAPS fall) and provincial commissioners (under whom the police stations fall) report to the National Commissioner.

Crime prevention

To deliver on its mandate the SAPS conducted 34 428 policing actions in 2012/13, which included:

- 46 079 roadblocks and 2 902 917 stop-and-search operations
- 1 682 763 arrests for all crime during policing actions, compared to 1 613 254 in 2011/12 (an increase of 69 509 or 4,3%)
- 67 020 vehicles stolen and robbed in 2012/13
- 30 132 vehicles recovered
- an additional 21 598 vehicles recovered.

There are 51 vehicle identification sections countrywide. Their functions include identifying and investigating vehicles; issuing South African police vehicle identification numbers; controlling all SAPS vehicle clearance offices; controlling all unique marking of vehicles; activities relating to the registration of vehicle manufacturers, importers and builders; concluding investigations into vehicles forfeited to the State; and assisting local detective units with Interpol vehicle enquiries.

In June 2013, the South African Centre for Information Security reported that cybercrime had become a national crisis. Government published a cybercrime policy in August 2013. A National Cybersecurity Committee would oversee the implementation of the policy, while the Department of State Security would accelerate an “awareness” drive.

The aim was to create widespread awareness of cybercrime, to ensure citizens and public servants were enabled to respond to threats quickly and report the crime, and to enable the government and private sector to assess the scale of the attacks and formulate appropriate prevention plans.

A Cybersecurity Hub was established within the Department of Communications to pool public- and private-sector threat information and process and disseminate information to relevant stakeholders in the industry and civil society.

Forensic Science Services and Criminal Record Centre

The function of the Criminal Record Centre is to identify and confirm any previous convictions of suspects in crimes being investigated by the SAPS.

In 2012/13, 2 087 574 fingerprint searches were performed to identify individuals involved in crime, and to determine whether an individual has a criminal record.

The Criminal Record and Crime Scene Management arm expanded its frontline service delivery capacity to make it more accessible to local investigating officers, and to improve response times in attending to crime scenes.

The forensic science laboratory renders a support service to investigating officers by analysing physical evidence collected from various crime scenes.

Visible policing

Visible policing is regarded as a line-function division of the SAPS, specifically responsible for combating crime through crime operations; providing for the activities at police stations; combating crimes in the railway environment; dealing with crimes affecting the social fabric of society, including crimes against women and children and community-based crime prevention; providing a rapid-response service in respect of crimes in progress; eradicating the proliferation of illegal firearms available for use in crime and violence; and ensuring effective compliance and enforcement of liquor control and second-hand goods legislation to address serious crime in South Africa.

Defence

The primary role of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) is to defend South Africa against external military aggression. In this regard deployment in an internal policing capacity is limited to exceptional circumstances and subject to parliamentary approval.

The SANDF's core mandate is the protection of the country, its territorial integrity and its people.

Peace support

South Africa has been active in the formation of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Brigade as part of the overall African Standby Force whose mandate is to provide the African Union with a rapid reaction capability consisting of five regionally based brigades. The manner in which South Africa's has undertaken peace-keeping missions in the past is in line with the country's defence policy.

In Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa generally followed a negotiated strategy in which it functioned as a mediator, followed by a military commitment during the implementation phase. In this case, the SANDF was used to broker peace agreements in extremely volatile circumstances.

As part of the SANDF's troop deployment, operations were conducted to combat cross-border crime, stock theft and illegal grazing, and rhino poaching in the Kruger National Park. By 2013/14, 14 SANDF companies were deployed on the South African borders.

National Youth Service (NYS)

The NYS is a strategic priority of the department. The SANDF recruits young people into the various arms of the SANDF and in doing so is teaching them discipline, fitness and honour and fostering patriotism.

In South Africa, approximately 138 000 young South Africans are enrolled in the NYS. The last four and half years have seen almost six million youths receive some form of assistance from State entities, including loans and vouchers for youth entrepreneurs, bursaries and scholarships for young learners, career guidance, vocational training and skills development.

South Africa and Namibia have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) that will see the NYS play a much stronger role in youth development in the two countries.

Through the MoC young Namibians and South Africans would work together to fight poverty, inequality and under-development. The National Youth Development Agency and Namibia's NYS immediately implemented the Youth Service Exchange programme, where Namibian and South African youth will engage in community development work from February 2014 to February 2015.

Maritime safety and security

The substantial increase in acts of piracy along Africa's coastline threatens the peace, security and stability of the continent. South Africa has an exclusive economic zone of 1 553 000 km² of which the areas around the Marion and Prince Edward Islands comprise 474 400 km². The Atlantic Ocean borders the west coast, the Indian Ocean borders the east and south coast and the southern ocean surrounds the Marion and Prince Edward Islands. South Africa has tabled its claim to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for the extension of the continental shelf. This means that South Africa will have to exercise control and enforce state authority over 4 340 000 km² of maritime territory.

Military veterans

Government budgeted R300 million for 504 houses, access to free medical service and education for military veterans and their dependants in 2013. The budget of the Department of Military Veterans (DMV) was increased by R1,3 billion to pay benefits to military veterans. In August 2013, two military veterans who fought in World War II were given keys to fully furnished houses, making them the first beneficiaries of a national housing programme for military veterans across the country.

The DMV is also rolling out a programme that will give veterans free access to public transport, free healthcare and counselling, which will also be extended to family members. From March 2013, the DMV embarked on a programme of issuing healthcare cards to military veterans so that they could have easy and free access to the country's military hospitals. Healthcare cards were issued to military veterans that had updated their files with the DMV.

In September 2013, the DMV established an umbrella body to unite all military veterans associations in response to section 7 of the Military Veterans Act of 2011, which directs the department to establish a body for all military veterans nationally to include all non-statutory forces members.

Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armcor)

According to its Corporate Plan 2012/13 – 2014/15, Armcor intends to be the premier technology and acquisition agency for the South African Government and governments of the SADC region.

It aims to meet the defence materiel, defence technology, research, development, analysis, tests and evaluation requirements of the department or any other organ of state on request or any sovereign state on agreement, effectively, efficiently and economically.

Armcor may exploit commercial opportunities as may arise out of its duty to acquire defence matériel or to manage technology projects. It may also procure commercial materiel on behalf of any Organ of State at the request of the Organ of State in question.

Denel Group of South Africa

Government wants Denel to grow into a preferred global supplier in the defence industry. To achieve this the state-owned company would have to aggressively invest in research and development to help secure long-term sustainability.

In support of the collaborative initiatives between the departments of public enterprises and defence, the SANDF is expected to become the platform for showcasing Denel's capabilities.

Improvements in Denel's performance in 2013/14 included:

- 10% growth in revenue, driven by a 34% increase in exports
- a 73% improvement in net profit of R71 million marking a third consecutive year of positive financial performance
- a 35% reduction in losses in Denel Aerostructures
- a 4% improvement in debt-to-equity ratio
- improvements in the terms of the Denel Aerostructures' Airbus A400M contract
- the introduction of new capabilities in Denel through the Tawazun Dynamics joint venture between Denel Dynamics and Tawazun Holdings
- Denel Land Systems' acquisition of a majority stake in Light Mobility Technologies to the introduction of armoured vehicles
- the accreditation of Denel Aviation as a maintenance, repair and overhaul centre for Russian Helicopters.

Project Horseshoe – the supply of combat vehicles – is one project that will benefit the local arms manufacturing industry.

In September 2013, Armscor awarded a multibillion rand contract to Denel to manufacture over 200 armoured vehicles for the SANDF over 10 years.

In addition to job and enterprise creation, the contract will also lead to an increase in skills development and retention in the industry.

The new Badger infantry combat vehicle, displayed at the Department of Defence and Military Veterans' Industry Day at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in Pretoria, provides the SANDF with unrivalled firepower, mobility and maximum armoured protection for the soldiers it transports.

Intelligence services

The State Security Agency's (SSA) mandate is to provide government with intelligence on domestic, foreign or potential threats to national stability, the constitutional order, and the safety and well-being of its people. This enables government to implement and improve policies to deal with potential threats and to better understand existing threats.

The SSA comprises:

- the Domestic Branch (formerly the National Intelligence Agency)
- the Foreign Branch (formerly the South African Secret Service)
- the Intelligence Academy (formerly the South African National Academy of Intelligence)
- National Communications, which includes the former National Communications Centre, Office for Interception Centres and Electronic Communications Security (Pty) Ltd.

The SSA focuses on matters of national interest including terrorism, sabotage, subversion, espionage and organised crime.





Provinces

With its spectacular views, stunning wildlife and unbeatable biodiversity in contrast with its bustling modern cities, and vibrant economy, South Africa is often described as “A world in one country.” The country has more than 290 conservation parks. It is home to almost 300 mammal species, and about 860 bird species, and 8 000 plant species.

The annual sardine run is the biggest migration on the planet.

There are eight World Heritage Sites and seven different biomes. It is considered the cradle of humankind and boasts 40% of all hominid finds on Earth.

South Africa has nine provinces. Each province has its own Legislature, Premier and Executive Council. The country has common boundaries with Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, while Mozambique and Swaziland lie to the north-east. Completely enclosed by South African territory in the south-east is the mountain kingdom of Lesotho.

Eastern Cape

The Eastern Cape, lying on the south-eastern South African coast, is a region of great natural beauty, particularly the rugged cliffs, rough seas and dense green bush of the stretch known as the Wild Coast. In the Eastern Cape, various floral habitats meet. Along the coast, the northern tropical forests intermingle with the more temperate woods of the south.

The province is serviced by airports situated in Port Elizabeth, East London, Mthatha and Bhisho.

The Coega Industrial Development Zone (IDZ) has operational investors on site with private investment of more than R1,2 billion. In addition, secured private investments of R5,4 billion were implemented, with investments of more than R8 billion in the project pipeline. The East IDZ secured R2,2 billion in investments, with a project pipeline of R12,7 billion.

Eastern Cape

Capital: Bhisho

Principal languages:

isiXhosa	78,8%
Afrikaans	10,5%
English	5,6%

Population: 6 562 053

Percentage share of the total population: 12,67%

Area: 168 966 km²



Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

Free State

Capital: Bloemfontein

Principal languages:

Sesotho 64,2%

Afrikaans 12,2%

isiXhosa 7,5%

Population: 2 745 590

Percentage share of the total population: 5,3%

Area: 129 825 km²



Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

Free State

The Free State, a province of wide horizons and blue skies, farmland, mountains, goldfields and widely dispersed towns, lies in the heart of South Africa.

Between the Vaal River in the north and the Orange River in the south, this immense rolling prairie stretches as far as the eye can see.

Mining, particularly gold, is the biggest employer, followed by manufacturing.

The Free State also produces high-quality diamonds from its kimberlite pipes and fissures, and the country's largest deposit of bentonite is found in the Koppies district.

The National Development Plan has intensified the mining potential that still exists in the goldfields region of Matjhabeng in the Lejweleputswa District as a job intervention zone.

The capital, Bloemfontein, houses the Supreme Court of Appeal, a leading university and some top schools. Important towns include Welkom, Sasolburg, Odendaalsrus, Kroonstad, Parys, Phuthaditjhaba, Bethlehem.

The charming village of Clarens situated in the rolling foothills of the Maluti Mountains.

Some of South Africa's most valued San rock art can be found in the Free State.

Other key tourist attractions in the province include the majestic Golden Gate National Park, the annual air show in Bethlehem, the Cherry Festival in Ficksburg, and the Fauresmith International Endurance Ride equestrian event.

The annual Mangaung African Cultural Festival, known as Macufe, is hosted in partnership with the Tourism Authority and the Performing Arts Centre of the Free State.

The Vredefort Dome, 10 km in diameter, is on the United Nations' World Heritage Site List.

Gauteng

Gauteng is the economic centre of South Africa and the continent, responsible for over 34,8% of the country's total gross domestic product, although it is the smallest of South Africa's nine provinces. More than 60% of South Africa's research and development takes place in Gauteng.

Gauteng

Capital: Johannesburg

Principal languages:

isiZulu	19,79%
Afrikaans	12,4%
Sesotho	11,5%
English	13,27%



Population: 12 272 263

Percentage share of the total population: 23,7%

Area: 18 178 km²

Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

Financial and business services, logistics, manufacturing, property, telecommunications and trade are some of the most important economic sectors.

The province is an integrated industrial complex with major areas of economic activity in three subregional areas, namely the Vaal Triangle; the East, West and Central Rand, and Pretoria. Johannesburg houses the Johannesburg Stock Exchange Limited, the largest securities exchange in Africa.

Most overseas visitors enter South Africa via OR Tambo International Airport. Some 50 km north of Johannesburg lies Pretoria, the administrative capital of South Africa and home to the Union Buildings. The Gauteng Investment Centre, launched in 2013, hosted 52 trade missions during 2013/14.

KwaZulu-Natal

KwaZulu-Natal is one of the country's most popular holiday destinations. This verdant region includes South Africa's lush subtropical east coast. Washed by the warm Indian Ocean, it stretches from Port Edward in the south, and northwards to the Mozambique boundary.

KwaZulu-Natal

Capital: Pietermaritzburg

Principal languages:

isiZulu	77,8%
English	13,1%
Afrikaans	1,5%



Population: 10 267 300

Percentage share of the total population: 19,8%

Area: 94 361 km²

Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

In addition to the magnificent coastline, there is the sweeping savanna in the east, and the majestic Drakensberg mountain range in the west that offers some of the country's most awe-inspiring landscapes.

Within the area is a vast 243 000-hectare sweep of basalt summits and buttresses. This section was formally granted World Heritage status in November 2000, and was renamed uKhahlamba-Drakensberg Park.

Visitors can enter the province through the King Shaka International Airport at La Mercy, north of Durban or use the extensive national road network. There are also two major harbours – the port of Durban, which is one of the busiest in Africa, and Richards Bay, which is an important coal-export harbour.

There are several tertiary institutions of learning, such as the University of KwaZulu-Natal and the Durban Institute of Technology.

KwaZulu-Natal is the only province with a monarchy specifically provided for in the Constitution.

Limpopo

Limpopo, South Africa's northernmost province, borders onto Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana, making it the ideal entrance to Africa. Named after the Limpopo River that flows along its northern border, the province is rich in wildlife, spectacular scenery and a wealth of historical and cultural treasures.

This province is in the Savanna Biome, an area of mixed grassland and trees, which is generally known as bushveld. The province's natural resources include more than 50 provincial reserves, as well as several private game reserves. The largest section of the Kruger National Park is situated along the eastern boundary of Limpopo with Mozambique.

Limpopo

Capital: Polokwane

Principal languages:

Sesotho sa Leboa 52,9%

Tshivenda 16,7%

Xitsonga 16,9%



Population: 5 404 868

Percentage share of the total population: 10,4%

Area: 125 754 km²

Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

Mpumalanga

Capital: Nelspruit

Principal languages:

siSwati	27,67%
isiZulu	24,1%
Xitsonga	10,4%
isiNdebele	10%



Population: 4 039 939

Percentage share of the total population: 7,8%

Area: 76 495 km²

Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga means *Place where the Sun Rises*. Due to the provinces spectacular scenic beauty and abundance of wildlife, it is one of South Africa's major tourist destinations. Mpumalanga falls mainly within the Grassland Biome. The escarpment and the Lowveld form a transitional zone between this grassland area and the Savanna Biome.

The area has a network of excellent roads and railway connections, making it highly accessible. Mpumalanga is also served by a number of small airports, such as the Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport.

Mbombela is the capital of the province and the administrative and business centre of the Lowveld. Other important towns are eMalahleni, Standerton, Piet Retief, Malalane, Ermelo, Barberton and Sabie.

Large-scale manufacturing occurs especially in the northern Highveld area, particularly chrome-alloy and steel manufacturing.

Northern Cape

The Northern Cape is the largest province in South Africa, (slightly bigger than Germany) – taking up almost a third of the country's total land area.

The province is noted for its San rock art, diamond diggings, 4X4 safaris and the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. It is a vast stretch of semi-desert land.

Northern Cape

Capital: Kimberley

Principal languages:

Afrikaans	53,75%
Setswana	33,08%



Population: 1 145 861

(*Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2011*)

Percentage share of the total population: 2,2%

Area: 372 889 km²

Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

The province is renowned for its spectacular display of spring flowers, which, for a short period every year, attracts thousands of tourists.

Sutherland hosts the southern hemisphere's largest astronomical observatory, the multinational-sponsored Southern African Large Telescope. The Northern Cape is one of two sites to host the Square Kilo-metre Array radio-telescope (better known as the SKA Project). Developed by scientists from 17 countries, it will be the largest and most advanced radio telescope in the world.

Among many other benefits, the province's tourism and hospitality industry is profiting from the project, as scientists and other interested parties are flooding into the town of

North West

Capital: Mahikeng

Principal languages:

Setswana 63,38%

Afrikaans 8,96%

isiXhosa 5,51%

Population: 3 509 953

Percentage share of the total population: 6,8%

Area: 140 882 km²



Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)

Carnarvon.

North West

North West lies in the north of South Africa, on the Botswana border, fringed by the Kalahari desert in the west, Gauteng to the east, and the Free State to the south. Sun City, the Pilanesberg National Park, the Madikwe Game Reserve, the Cradle of Humankind Site, the Taung Heritage Site, the De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust and the Lesedi Cultural Village are some of the tourist attractions.

Some of the largest cattle herds in the world are found at Stellaland near Vryburg, which explains why this area is often referred to as the Texas of South Africa. Marico is also cattle country. North West is South Africa's major producer of white maize.

Mining contributes 23,3% to North West's economy, and makes up 22,5% of the South African mining industry. It is known as the Platinum Province for the wealth of this metal it has underground. The Rustenburg and Brits districts produce 94% of the country's platinum. In addition to granite, marble, fluorspar and diamonds, the province also produces a quarter of South Africa's gold.

Western Cape

Capital: Cape Town

Principal languages:

Afrikaans 49,6%

isiXhosa 24,7%

English 20,2%

Population: 5 822 734

Percentage share of the total population: 11,2%

Area: 129 462 km²

Source: Statistics South Africa (*Census 2011*)



Western Cape

Situated on the south-western tip of Africa, the Western Cape with its wide beaches and breathtaking scenery, complemented by a rich variety of cultures, historical landmarks, world-class restaurants and entertainment, is a world-famous tourist destination.

Table Mountain, the Cape winelands, Robben Island and the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens are among the province's most popular tourist attractions.

The Western Cape is also known for its floral diversity. The Cape Floristic Region World Heritage Site comprising eight separate protected areas, covers an area of more than 553 000 ha stretching from the Cape Peninsula to the Eastern Cape. The Knysna-Tsitsikamma region has the country's biggest indigenous forests.

In October 2013, SAF3, the new television show running in the United States of America, and already sold worldwide, was being filmed on location in Cape Town. SAF3 was one of the biggest TV series yet filmed in South Africa, bringing 103 filming days, over 200 jobs, and approximately R160-million into the local economy.

All post-production was done in South Africa, which was a first for an international television series of this scale. Cape Town has proved again that it's a film-friendly destination, and it's reaping the benefits.

The Department of Trade and Industry's rebate, which offers international productions like SAF3 up to 25% of their qualifying South Africa spend back, is also a big incentive for foreign film makers.



Rural Development and Land Reform

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) is committed to ensuring that South Africans in rural areas enjoy the same benefits as those in urban areas regarding the human rights and basic dignity guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

The department's key priorities are:

- rolling out the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) to all rural municipalities
- improving productivity in land reform projects through effective implementation of the Recapitalisation and Development Programme
- expediting the finalisation of land claims
- improving corporate governance and ensuring enhanced service delivery
- implementing proper change management and innovation strategies
- enhancing the efficiency of information management systems.

Legislation and policies

The Restitution of Land Rights Amendment Act of 2014 extends the deadline for land claims to June 2019.

The amendment also seeks to criminalise false and fraudulent claims that have been deemed a waste of taxpayers' money, where people submit land claims, knowing that they do not have a valid historic claim to a piece of land.

The Act also simplifies the procedure for the appointment of judges to the Land Claims Court, and the amendment of certain provisions aimed at promoting the effective implementation of the Restitution of Land Rights Act of 1994.

Extending the deadline for the lodging of claims was in line with the proposals of the National Development Plan, the CRDP and other growth strategies intended to promote national reconciliation and social cohesion.

The Act seeks to reopen the window for persons or communities dispossessed of their land due to past discriminatory laws and policies to lodge claims for their properties.

Cabinet also approved the submission of the report on the Audit of Registered State Land and a desktop analysis of private land ownership in South Africa for submission to Parliament. The land audit will be used to enhance the integrity of the land register, which will serve as the basis for enhanced land planning and administration, including other functions relating to property portfolio management and improved delivery of services.

About 1,15 million land parcels have been surveyed: 14% of land in South Africa is state-owned, 79% is privately owned and 7% has not been registered.

In August 2013, President Jacob Zuma signed into law the Spatial and Land Use Management Act of 2013. It seeks to bridge the racial divide in spatial terms and transform the settlement patterns that put a considerable burden on public resources. President Zuma also assented to the Cooperatives Amendment Act of 2013, which amended the Cooperatives Act of 2005.

The amendment provides for associate membership of cooperatives, the annual submission of information to the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission, categories of primary cooperative and the national apex cooperatives.

Cadastral survey management

Cadastral surveying is the survey and demarcation of land for the purpose of defining parcels of land for registration in a land registry. Cadastral surveying in South Africa is undertaken exclusively by or under the control of professional land surveyors.

Deeds registration

The 10 deeds registries are located in Pretoria, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pietermaritzburg, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, King William's Town, Vryburg, Mthatha and Nelspruit. These offices register deeds and documents relating to real rights in more than eight million registered land parcels consisting of township erven, farms, agricultural holdings, sectional title units and sectional title exclusive-use areas in terms of the Deeds Registries Act of 1937 and the Sectional Titles Act of 1986.

Animal and Veld Management Programme (AVMP)

In September 2013, the DRDLR unveiled the AVMP. The AVMP is aimed at providing relief for farmers in rural areas operating under challenging circumstances.

The programme will also help with soil rehabilitation, spatial decongestion and re-greening of the environment. It is part of government's intervention towards reversing the legacy of the 1913 Natives Land Act, which led to the majority of black people being confined to 13% of the land, resulting in challenges of overcrowding and overgrazing in communal areas.

The department will identify farmers in communal areas who have showed potential for successful farming. Based on their track record, such farmers will be moved into some of the state-owned farms to enable them to expand their farming operations.

Comprehensive Rural Development Programme

The CRDP is focused on enabling rural people to take control of their lives, with support from government. The programme aims to effectively deal with rural poverty through the optimal use and management of natural resources through an integrated broad-based agrarian transformation and the strategic investment in economic and social infrastructure that will benefit rural communities.

The DRDLR contributed to the increased number of households with access to sanitation by 10%, 10,45% access to electricity, 4% access to clean water, distributed 39 331 rainwater harvesting tanks and constructed 37 km of water pipeline in North West.

Bulk water and sanitation infrastructure have been constructed in KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Cape and North West. Rain water harvesting tanks have been distributed throughout CRDP sites.

In August 2013, the North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development planted a variety of vegetables and fruit trees for 70 families in Marikana, Segswaelane, Wonderkop and at the local home-based care centre near Rustenburg.

This was aimed at encouraging backyard gardening in rural communities. Garden tools, rakes, spades, forks, watering cans, fertiliser and spray bottles were also handed over.

This project forms part of the DRDLR's One Family, One Food Garden Campaign, which aims to combat vitamin and mineral deficiency, which is the leading cause of malnutrition in many rural areas.

By January 2013, 2 656 Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) beneficiaries had been taught technical enterprise in various trades; 52 councils of stakeholders had been established as representative community forums; the CRDP had been rolled out to 157 rural wards; 143 698 poor households had been profiled to assess their needs; 692 km of fencing had been erected in the CRDP wards; and 96 km of roads had been upgraded.

Rural Enterprise Infrastructure Development (REID)

REID aims to create an enabling institutional environment for vibrant and sustainable rural communities through the participatory approach, which is used to assess the needs of the rural areas through the profiling of households and communities.

The Technical Support, Skills Development and Nurturing unit provides technical support to the institutions and structures established in rural communities, through skills development and capacity building. It is also responsible for the implementation of the job creation model, which is aimed at improving households' basic needs, as well as promoting economic livelihoods.

The Rural Livelihoods and Food Security unit forms strategic partnerships that are important to the improvement of rural livelihoods, by promoting both economic development and the development of rural enterprises.

These strategic partnerships also facilitate value-added services such as agri-processing and the establishment of village industries and enterprises. The strategic partners involved are from the private sector, state-owned enterprises and international organisations.

The Institutional Building and Mentoring unit is responsible for facilitating, building and mentoring institutions in rural communities. This function involves the identification of existing institutions and the assessment of needs, including building new institutions to ensure sustainable development.

National Rural Youth Service Corps (Narysec)

During 2013, 12 881 rural youth enrolled for the skills-training programme. Narysec youths between the ages of 18 and 35 are recruited from the 3 000 rural wards, irrespective of gender and disability. These youths are trained in various skills such as waste-water management, water purification, construction, electricity and agriculture so that they are marketable and can open their own businesses.

Land Reform Programme

The principles which underpin the new approach to sustainable land reform are:

- deracialisation of the rural economy

- democratic and equitable land allocation and use across gender, race and class
- strict production discipline for guaranteed national food security.

The centenary of the Natives Land Act of 1913 promulgated on 19 June 1913, which is seen as providing the cornerstone of laws that followed, for a systematic process of land dispossession by the State was commemorated in 2013.

By the end of January 2013, 77 979 claims had been settled which was 97% of the total claims, translating to 1443 million ha and benefiting 13 968 female-headed households and 672 persons with a disability.

Strategic support was provided to 416 new emerging farmers through recapitalisation in addition to the existing 595 farms that were supported at a cost of R1,2 billion.

Work on revitalising eight irrigation schemes, namely Ncora and Keiskamma Hoek in the Eastern Cape; Taung in North West; Vaalharts in the Northern Cape; Nkomazi in Mpumalanga; and Tugela Ferry, Nsuze and Bululwane in KwaZulu-Natal commenced.

The department also revived the Butterworth abattoir and tannery to assist local communal livestock farmers to become part of the red meat value-chain.

A total of 823 300 ha had been acquired and redistributed since 2009. Of this, 7 000 ha were allocated to provide the core estate for the Cradock Bio-ethanol Project in the Eastern Cape.

Smallholder support programmes are being reviewed and a smallholder plan is being developed.

These plans are supported by some agro-processing programmes, including soya bean processing, canning, biofuels, furniture, and food processing industries, as well as small-scale maize milling in rural areas.

Other developments include the launch of the Zero Hunger Programme and the Aquaculture Programme. Zero Hunger creates opportunities for the smallholder sector to grow by

Government's aim for the youth is to enable them to develop their own rural areas once they are fully skilled.

The Eastern Cape benefited from 2 603 enterprise development jobs, including 1 971 infrastructure jobs and an intake of 2 400 Narysec youths, while KwaZulu-Natal scooped a total of 5 047 jobs. The Free State had 1 613 rural development jobs, Gauteng 3 993, Limpopo 4 274, Mpumalanga 2 635, Northern Cape 2 275, North West 3 048 and the Western Cape 4 405.

opening up institutional markets for their benefit, such as the School Nutrition Programme, hospitals and clinics.

As part of the implementation of the National Climate Change Response Policy, long-term adaptation scenarios are developed to determine which sectors may be climate sensitive and to develop response strategies.

Recapitalisation and development

During the past four years, another 7 000 jobs were created during the department's implementation of the Recapitalisation and Development Programme that saw 1 269 farms that had been lying fallow being converted into 100% productive farms.

The DRDLR's service-delivery programmes have created over 40 000 jobs.

Various rural development jobs have come about because of such initiatives as constructing bridges, schools, health facilities, roads and other infrastructure-related activities.

Infrastructure jobs were created during the first phase of rural development at identified rural development pilot sites and the CRDP sites in all nine provinces.

During the implementation of these infrastructure and enterprise projects, several rural villagers, especially youths and women, benefited from the accompanying skills development.

This initiative culminated in 17 279 people gaining skills in various trades such as brickmaking, road paving, and the construction of houses and bridges.





Science and Technology

The National Development Plan identifies the important role of science, technology and innovation in achieving the country's longer term vision. As approved in the Medium Term Expenditure Framework, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) allocated the additional R87 million, R310 million and R401 million in the 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years, respectively, to relevant National Research Foundation (NRF) programmes.

New-generation researchers are set to get R450 million; emerging researchers will get R196 million, and postgraduate bursaries are allocated R340 million. The NRF's internship programme will receive an increased allocation of R110 million over the next three years.

The DST has four main programmes. These programmes represent distinct but complementary ways of promoting the National System of Innovation, and harnessing science and technology to benefit all South Africans.

In June 2014, the Science and Technology Laws Amendment Act of 2014, was signed. The Act deals with amendments to a battery of Acts, which govern the operations of entities (science councils) that were established. The Act seeks to streamline the process for the nomination and appointment of members as well as the filling of vacancies on the boards or councils of such entities. In strengthening Parliament's oversight role, the Act seeks to release Parliament from certain executive responsibilities relating to the appointment of members and filling of vacancies to such boards or councils.

Research, Development and Innovation

This is at the heart of the department's efforts to drive innovation in scientifically strategic areas.

The programme has five subprogrammes:

- space science and technology
- hydrogen and energy
- biotechnology and health innovation
- innovation planning and instruments
- radio astronomy advances.

Astronomy

In March 2013, South Africa officially launched the first of 64 antennas that will make up the MeerKAT radio telescope, the one of the precursors to the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) telescope, and will later be incorporated into the mid-frequency component of SKA Phase 1 when that instrument is being constructed at the SKA South Africa site outside Carnarvon

A group of more than 40 students from the CubeSat Programme at the French South African Institute of Technology at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology made history in November 2013. They participated in building Africa's first cube satellite. The ZACUBE-1 satellite was launched from Yasny in Russia. The Department of Science and Technology funded the project with R22 million.

in the Northern Cape. The MeerKAT Karoo Array Processor Building, a cutting-edge data centre for the MeerKAT that has been built in an underground bunker at the Karoo observatory site, was officially opened at the same time. The SKA will be the world's largest radio telescope, located in Australia and Africa but shared by astronomers around the globe.

Standing 19,5 metres tall and weighing 42 tons, the new MeerKAT antenna towers above the antennas of the nearby KAT-7 instrument, an engineering prototype for the MeerKAT, which is now routinely used for scientific research. The full MeerKAT array will consist of 64 identical receptors, digitisers and other electronics installed. Forty-eight of the antennas will be packed closely together in a one-kilometre diameter area, with the rest located up to four kilometres from the core.

Connected by 170 km of underground fibre-optic cable, the 64 receptors will operate as a single, highly sensitive astronomical instrument, controlled and monitored remotely from the MeerKAT control room in Cape Town.

Square Kilometre Array

The SKA project could act as a catalyst for science, technology and engineering business opportunities, jobs and innovation, and has the potential to put South Africa and Africa on the map as a world Big Data and analytics hub.

The multibillion rand SKA will extend into eight African countries. It is also one of the biggest-ever scientific projects and multinational collaborations in the name of science. The project has already entered its first phase, with radio astronomy scientists and engineers finalising its design, with construction to start in 2016.

The radio telescope should be operationally mature by 2020. With thousands of linked radio wave receptors in Australia and in southern Africa, the SKA radio telescope will constantly scan space and feed the data to astronomers around the world. The amounts of data being collected and transmitted by the SKA in a single day would take nearly two million years to play back on an iPod. This means the project requires supercomputing power and Big Data management and analytics capabilities on an unprecedented scale.

The SKA is working with the world's most significant ICT powerhouses on the project.

One aspect of the project will see ASTRON, the Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy and IBM collaborating to research extremely fast, but low-power exascale computer systems, data transport and storage processes, and streaming analytics that will be required to read, store and analyse all the raw data that will be collected daily.

The SKA project will also have unprecedented data connectivity needs. Meeting the advanced technological and engineering needs of this project will result in significant local skills development, revolutionise science and technology research and enable innovative new businesses and employment in the science, technology and engineering fields.

Aside from the benefits to African science, Big Data capabilities could be the biggest spin-off from the SKA project. The innovations, skills development and commercial potential emerging as a result of the project are huge. The potential is not just academic – the taxpayer-funded intellectual property (IP) is developed to a point where it is ready to become commercialised and benefit the economy.

Human capital development is already taking place as a result of the SKA project, with bursaries and scholarships being granted to allow students to learn the necessary cutting-edge science, technology, maths and engineering skills to support the project. Because the SKA is a long-term project over decades, its impact will increase. Going forward, there will be a strong drive to leverage the SKA as a spearhead for other programmes – including next generation high performance computing challenges and Big Data challenges.

Since 2005, the African SKA Human Capital Development Programme has awarded close to 400 grants for studies in astronomy and engineering from undergraduate to post-doctoral level, while also investing in training programmes for technicians. Astronomy courses are being rolled out in other African countries, including Kenya, Mozambique, Madagascar and Mauritius. Career opportunities will increase substantially and new business opportunities will emerge.

The project has already changed the world's view of South Africa's scientific capability.

Nanotechnology

Nanoscience and nanotechnology are the study and application of extremely small things and can be used across all

The first-ever evidence of a comet entering Earth's atmosphere and exploding was discovered by a team of South African scientists and international collaborators in October 2013. Professor David Block of Wits University, Professor Jan Kramers of the University of Johannesburg, Dr Marco Andreoli of the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation, and Chris Harris of the University of Cape Town, conducted highly sophisticated chemical analyses on black pebble found years earlier by an Egyptian geologist in the area of the impact. They came to the conclusion that it represented the first known hand specimen of a comet nucleus, rather than simply an unusual type of meteorite.

the other science fields, such as chemistry, biology, physics, materials science, and engineering.

Microscopy – the technical field of using microscopes to view samples and objects that cannot be seen with the unaided eye – was a boon to emerging research areas such as nanotechnology. This was aligned with the objectives of the National Nanotechnology Strategy. The growth of microscopy is essential to help government expand its research capabilities in important health- and economy- related fields. The NRF has been supporting the microscopy community.

The DST funded the establishment of the state-of-the-art specialised facility, the Centre for High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy, based at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth.

The department has invested R84 million in support of the centre through which South Africa is firmly positioned as a global player in the high resolution arena. This investment is expected to translate into cutting-edge research and development capacity, providing young scientists with high-end skills and attracting beneficial collaborative partnerships internationally. Given the importance and growth of microscopy, the DST regards it as crucial in addressing some of the strategic priorities in the areas of human capital development by training competent technicians to do research into HIV, mining and many other fields, using the high-end microscopes that the department has funded.

Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS)

The indigenous knowledge of many communities embodies a deeply spiritualised and ancient relationship with the Earth's systems and cycles. The National Recordal System is the largest fingerprint initiative of the region to document and record indigenous knowledge. The department established IKS documentation centres in all the provinces by 2013.

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

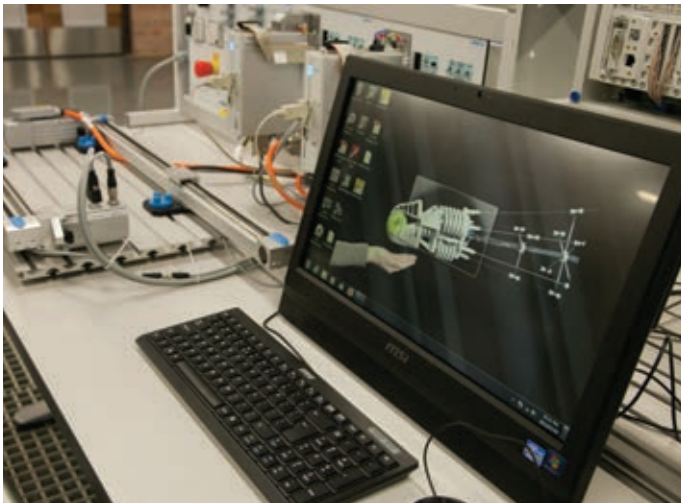
In September 2013, researchers at the CSIR developed the world's first digital laser. The team of researchers behind the innovation describe the development of the digital laser as a “disruptive technology,” which will help to create a new market and value network, and eventually disrupt the existing market and value network over time.

The innovation, according to CSIR researchers, is regarded as a milestone in laser technology and could spur future laser-related innovations. Researchers said the development of the digital laser could have possible applications predominantly in the health, manufacturing and communications sectors, and other industries.

South African National Space Agency (Sansa)

In March 2013, the Sansa and the Russian Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos) signed the RadioAstron space satellite agreement. The agreement paved the way for the two countries to work together on the development of science and space technologies.

If considered as a single, virtual telescope, RadioAstron would be the world's largest radio telescope, with a “dish” measuring about 390 000 km (almost 30 times the Earth's



diameter or about the same size as the distance between the Earth and the moon).

Telkom has made an 18-m C-Band antenna available for RadioAstron tracking and acquisition in South Africa.

Under the agreement, Roscosmos will provide the hardware for upgrading the tracking station for compatibility with RadioAstron, while Sansa will install and maintain the upgraded hardware and operate the tracking station.

Through Sansa, the country's capacity to design, build, maintain and possibly even launch satellites is being developed. As part of the four-country African Resource Management Constellation, South Africa has begun work on the ZA-ARMC1 satellite and R232 million has been budgeted over the next three years for this project. This satellite will enhance Africa's ability to monitor and manage its precious natural resources. A business rescue plan for Sunspace was put in place, and the process of transferring its capabilities and IP into the Sansa satellite programme is continuing.

Council for Geoscience (CGS)

The Minister of Science and Technology paid a courtesy visit to the Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences in Berlin. The DST committed R4 million towards improving the skills base in South Africa, aimed at understanding the earth system, in a major research programme in partnership with Germany.

A joint initiative between the DST and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Year of Science, celebrated 16 years of successful cooperation on science and technology between the two countries.

The Africa Earth Observatory Network is the leading network of the cooperation programme on South Africa's side with Germany led by the German Research Centre for Geosciences.

Research bodies and areas

South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)

The SABS produces, maintains and disseminates standards. It promotes standardisation in business and government, and administers compulsory standards on behalf of the State. The SABS also certifies international quality standards.

Technology Innovation Agency (TIA)

TIA invests in the following technology sectors: advanced manufacturing, agriculture, industrial biotechnology, health,

mining, energy, and information and communications technology.

National Intellectual Property Management Office (Nipmo)

Nipmo protects intellectual property emanating from publicly financed research and development from appropriation and ensure that it is available to the people of South Africa.

Agricultural Research Council (ARC)

The ARC conducts fundamental and applied research with partners to generate knowledge, develop human capital, and foster innovation in agriculture by developing technology and disseminating information.

Mintek

Mintek, South Africa's national mineral research organisation, is one of the world's leading technology organisations specialising in mineral processing, extractive metallurgy and related areas.

Medical Research Council (MRC)

The MRC is an independent statutory body that coordinates health and medical research activities throughout South Africa.

National Research Foundation

The NRF provides services to the research community, especially at higher education institutions and science councils, with a view to promote high-level human capital development.

Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

The HSRC conducts large-scale, policy-relevant, social-scientific projects for public-sector users, non-governmental organisations and international development agencies.

National Advisory Council on Innovation (Naci)

Naci advises the Minister of Science and Technology on the role and contribution of innovation (including science and technology) in promoting and achieving national objectives.

Eskom

Eskom's Technology Services International group is a multidisciplinary industrial laboratory and consulting organisation.

In July 2013, the Minister of Science and Technology launched the South African version of the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO-SA). It is a searchable full-text journal database that is completely open-access. It is part of the Brazilian SciELO project, which is driven by Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (The Foundation for Research Support of the State of São Paulo) in partnership with the Latin American and Caribbean Centre on Health Sciences Information. The project is funded by the Department of Science and Technology, maintained by the Academy of Science of South Africa and endorsed by the Department of Higher Education and Training. In April 2013, SciELO-SA received certification as a fully operational collection indexed in the global SciELO portal.

Sasol

Sasol's culture of innovation began in the 1950s when it developed its unique blend of coal gasification and Fischer-Tröpsch (FT) technology for its original coal-to-liquids operations at Sasolburg. Focused FT research and development in the 1980s and 1990s led to the development of the low temperature FT Sasol Slurry Phase process used at Sasolburg, and the high-temperature Sasol Advanced Synthol™ process used at Secunda.

ArcelorMittal

ArcelorMittal, a global steel-maker, is a leader in research and development and technology; holds sizeable captive supplies of raw material, and operates extensive distribution networks with an industrial presence in 27 countries.

National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS)

The NHLS forms a national network of integrated pathology laboratories throughout the country. The NHLS has 265 laboratories and employs about 6 500 people. All laboratories provide laboratory diagnostic services to the Department of Health, provincial hospitals, local authorities and medical practitioners.

Bureau for Economic Research (BER)

The BER, located at the University of Stellenbosch, Western Cape, renders a service to organisations ranging from small one-person businesses to policy-makers at the highest level of government.

National Institute for Tropical Diseases

The National Institute for Tropical Diseases in Tzaneen, Limpopo, is responsible for the ongoing assessment of malaria-control programmes carried out by various authorities in South Africa. A malaria-reference service is also provided. Malaria tests are carried out by the institute, and statistical analyses of data pertaining to the programme is undertaken.

South Africa's National Energy Development Institute (Sanedi)

The departments of science and technology, minerals and energy are joint custodians of Sanedi and assist in providing political and strategic focus for the company. The institute is entrusted with the coordination and undertaking of public interest energy research, development and demonstration.

Mine-safety research

The Safety in Mines Research Advisory Committee is a statutory tripartite subcommittee of the Mine Health and Safety Council. It has a permanent research-management office managing the engineering, rock engineering and mine occupational health fields of research.

National Agricultural Research Forum (Narf)

Narf coordinates agricultural research and development within the national agricultural research system.

Water Research Commission

The main areas of research are surface hydrology, groundwater, hydrometeorology, agricultural water-use, water pollution, municipal effluents, industrial water and effluents, drinking water, membrane technology, water ecosystems, hydraulics, mine-water management, water policy, developing communities and the transfer of technology.

Institute for Water Research (IWR)

The IWR is a multidisciplinary research department of Rhodes University. Its main objective is to contribute to sustainable water-resource management in southern Africa.

Coastal and marine research

The NRF supports marine and coastal research in partnership with the Department of Environmental Affairs and the

South African Network for Coastal and Oceanic Research. Sustainable use and the need to preserve future options in using marine ecosystems and their resources are guiding objectives in the research and advice provided by the chief directorate.

South African Environmental Observation Network (Saeon)

Saeon is a research facility that establishes and maintains nodes (environmental observatories, field stations or sites) linked by an information management network to serve as research and education platforms for long-term studies of ecosystems that will provide for incremental advances in the understanding of ecosystems and the ability to detect, predict and react to environmental change.

Biotechnology

South Africa's research institutions and universities are conducting biotechnology research to understand the nutritional components of food indigenous to South Africa, with the aim of making those with a high nutritional value available and accessible to the majority of people.

Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

ASSAf is the official national Academy of Science of South Africa and represents the country in the international community of science academies.

Africa Institute for South Africa (Aisa)

Aisa's mandate is to produce knowledge aimed at informing sustainable political and socio-economic development in Africa. Its vision is to be an indispensable African voice on African affairs, and its 2011 – 2015 research agenda is to seek solutions for Africa's developmental challenges.

Natural-resource development

South Africa's fluorspar chemicals sector has enormous economic potential. The DST has implemented a fluorochemicals development programme targeting human-capital development, new business formation and novel processes and products. A multipurpose fluorination pilot plant was completed and launched in 2012.

The department secured a commitment of R60 million for the period 2013 to 2015 from the competitiveness fund announced by the Minister of Finance in 2012. This enabled it to increase the companies on its register by a further 50 by the end of 2012/13, with an additional 100 planned by the end of 2014/15.

Women in Science Awards (WISA)

The WISA, which is part of government's efforts to recognise and create incentives for women scientists and researchers in the country and to profile successful women scientists, has been an annual event since 2003.

The theme of the 2013 awards was: "The Role of Science and Research against Violence towards Women."

This is rooted in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women's 2013 theme: "Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, a topic of high interest in South Africa, given the high levels of violence against girls and women in society."

In August 2013, the awards were made in the life sciences and humanities categories and included distinguished women scientists and distinguished young women in science.





Social Development

Social assistance continues to form an important part of government's strategy to fight the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment. More than half of all households in South Africa benefit from government's social assistance programme.

According to National Treasury, for 22% of households, social grants are the main source of income. More than 11 million children receive the child support grant.

Comprehensive social security alleviates and reduces poverty, vulnerability, social exclusion and inequality through a comprehensive social protection system.

Integrated and social development reduces poverty. Empowering young and old people, those with disabilities as well as women in particular helps rebuild families and communities.

Welfare services create and provide social protection to the most vulnerable of society through the delivery of social welfare services via provincial government and non-profit organisation structures.

Role players

Department of Women, Children and People with Disabilities (DWCPD)

In March 2013, the United Nations (UN) Commission Focusing on Women (UNCSW) kicked off its annual session with a call to eliminate violence against women and girls, a global scourge that affects millions around the world.

In countries such as Australia, Canada, Israel, South Africa and the United States of America, intimate partner violence accounts for 40 to 70% of female murder victims.

A South African Government delegation, led by the Minister of Women, Children and People with Disabilities, attended the 57th UNCSW.

South Africa participated in various activities of the session and hosted and coordinated side events on gender-based violence, the economic empowerment of women as well as an event which emphasised strengthening the hand-in-hand approach in the fight against gender-based violence, strategies and approaches for ending violence against women.

The theme for the session was "Equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care giving in the context of HIV and AIDS."

In November 2013, the first ever National Conference on Albinism was held in Boksburg, Gauteng. Hosted by the DWCPD in partnership with the Albinism Society of South

Africa the conference was attended by 300 delegates, including 90 children with albinism.

High on the conference agenda was the development of positive language associated with albinism in all official languages.

National Development Agency (NDA)

The NDA is a public entity, listed under Schedule 3A of the Public Finance Management Act. Its primary mandate is to contribute towards the eradication of poverty and its causes by granting funds to civil society organisations. It is an important partner in the department's efforts to promote Early Childhood Development (ECD) by using its grants to strengthen the capacities of ECD community service organisations, which support the department's efforts to reduce violence against women and children by providing key support to the gender-based violence sector.

NDA programmes include grant funding, capacity-building and research, policy dialogue and impact assessment.

In 2012/13:

- The NDA trained 667 ECD practitioners.
- ECD projects and sites, which targeted 4 122 primary beneficiaries and 400 job opportunities, were approved against the respective annual targets of 3 850 primary beneficiaries and 114 job opportunities.
- The NDA generated 3 480 primary beneficiaries of food security projects, with the creation of 477 job opportunities.
- Income generation projects were approved and that created 906 job opportunities against an annual target of 1 686, representing a 63% negative variance against the annual target. This is an area that will receive focused attention in the 2013/14 financial year.
- In addition to its formal income stream from the National Treasury, the NDA established a PMU1 in 2012, with the objective of mobilising alternative funding for poverty alleviation programmes. Partnerships were developed with provincial departments of social development and private institutions. To this end, R80,6 million was mobilised for poverty eradication programmes.

National Youth Development Agency (NYDA)

The focus on youth development is still very much on the Government and NYDA's agenda. The Youth Employment Accord was signed in 2013. It is a viable and meaningful approach to addressing the challenge of youth unemployment.

Great progress was made across the country during 2013:

- 606 unemployed graduates were appointed by provincial government departments across North West in internship programmes for them to gain much-needed workplace experiential learning
- 170 bursaries were awarded to needy and deserving students
- R11,9 million was budgeted for provincial bursary schemes for the 2013/14 financial year.

As part of the Youth Employment Accord, the Department of Economic Development committed R3 billion in support of the growth of young entrepreneurs over the next five years, through the Industrial Development Corporation and Small Enterprise Finance Agency, which will go a long way towards facilitating the growth and development of young entrepreneurs in South Africa.

The Commonwealth Conference on Education and Training of Youth Workers was hosted by the South African Government in partnership with the Commonwealth Africa Regional Centre, University of South Africa and the NYDA during March 2013. It was geared towards sharing experiences and lessons learnt to advance the agenda of professionalising the field of youth work.

South African Social Security Agency (Sassa)

Sassa's mandate is to ensure the provision of comprehensive social security services against vulnerability and poverty within the constitutional and legislative framework.

By October 2013, social grant beneficiaries increased to 16 106 110, thus protecting thousands more households and millions of children from abject poverty. Although the number of beneficiaries increased, government achieved savings on social grant payments when Sassa cleaned up the beneficiary re-registration process to reduce fraud.

Programmes and projects **Early Childhood Development Programme**

The government has identified ECD as a key focus area in its effort to improve the quality of basic education and care for children. More than 836 000 children currently benefit from ECD services in South Africa. The department recognises that one of the ways of breaking the cycle of inter-generational poverty is investment in children to aid their development, especially from the ages of 0 – 4. More than 836 000 children benefitted from ECD programmes in 2013.

In line with the Department of Social Development's target of 10 000 Child and Youth Care Workers over five years, 3 150 Child and Youth Care Workers from local communities were recruited and have begun with the training programme for the roll out of the Isibindi Model in 260 sites.

Project Mikondzo

In September 2013, the Minister of Social Development launched a new project to expand social services to 1 300 of the country's poorest wards and called on community members to lend their support to the department and its agencies.

Project Mikondzo (which means "footprint" in Xitsonga) will compel office-bound officials from the department, the NDA and the Sassa to join frontline officials to interact with communities in a bid to tackle social problems such as poverty, malnutrition, violence against women and child-headed households.

The 1 300 wards form part of 23 district municipalities from seven provinces which Cabinet has prioritised for additional support.

The project includes an audit of ECD centres and the setting up of a command centre with a toll-free hotline open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

It also includes a current substance abuse awareness campaign targeting sports and music events, the targeting of gender-based violence and the strengthening of non-profit organisations.

The roll-out would, for example, help government reach the about two million children who qualify for child-support grants but who have not registered with Sassa to receive grants.

The project will be funded by Sassa and the department, but the department plans to approach the National Treasury for funding in future financial years.

The audit of ECD centres, which will cover 19 971 registered and unregistered centres, aims to establish, among other things, the kind of services that these centres offer and the quality of infrastructure and resources available to them.

About 1 000 unemployed youths have been recruited and trained to carry out the audit.

The department has begun training caregivers to improve assistance to child- and youth-headed households.

The department is also auditing 92 000 child-headed households that are in the Statistics South Africa database to ensure compliance with the Children's Act of 2005 definition of a child-headed household.

Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP)

The EPWP provides an important avenue for labour absorption and income transfers to poor households in the short to medium-term. It is also a deliberate attempt by public sector bodies to use expenditure on goods and services to create work opportunities for the unemployed.

Social security and assistance

More than 16 million South Africans receive social assistance from government, 11 million of these being children. Social grants remain the cornerstone of government's key programmes to fight poverty afflicting children, people with disabilities and older persons.

Independent research results showed in November 2013 that the provision of social protection in the form of social grants had sustained many vulnerable households, particularly against the global financial crisis that threatens to reverse development gains in many developing countries across the globe.

From October 2013, government increased the monetary value of social grants. At the Conference on Orphans, Children and Youth made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS, which took place in May 2013 in Durban, delegates heard that improved financial stability, facilitated by social grants, improved children's school attendance.

Poor children who receive grants tend to stay at school for longer and perform better compared to poor children who get no financial support at all.

Food for All Programme

The department is tasked with facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the Food for All Programme. To this end, 555 957 distressed households were provided with food through the department and Food Bank South Africa programme.

While social relief of distress provides short-term relief for poor households, government recognises that longer-term solutions are needed.

During 2012/13, the department created 171 668 job opportunities in the Social Sector and extended the number of Community Work Programme sites by 148.

Spending on community development increased in 2013 due to an additional allocation of R120 million to FoodBank South Africa, aimed at strengthening the Food for All programme.

The programme is meant to feed three million people by 2015/16.

Consistent with the department's commitment to keeping children in their families and communities, 3 150 child and youth care workers from local communities were recruited and started with the training programme for the roll-out of the Isibindi Model at 260 sites throughout the country.

The aim is to recruit 10 000 child and youth careworkers over the next five years.

It is expected that the recruitment and deployment of this cadre of social service professionals will go a long way towards upholding government's constitutional obligation to protect and provide care and support for orphans, vulnerable children and youths affected by HIV and AIDS in South Africa.

HIV and AIDS support

In 2013, free antiretroviral (ARV) treatment reached 1,8 million adults so they could live to see their children grow. Government also provided ARV treatment to 150 000 children – up from 4 200 children in 2004.

Most funds continued to be disbursed to loveLife, enabling it to increase and extend its HIV and AIDS awareness programmes, and scholarships for social work students. By 2015/16, the number of students benefiting from these scholarships is expected to be 4 248.

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National Family Policy

In May 2012, the Department of Social Development released the *Green Paper on Families*, which emphasises the need for all to build strong families that protect the most vulnerable members of society.

Through the *Green Paper on Families*, the department shifts the focus of government services from simply targeting

individuals to focusing more on responding to their needs as members of families. The purpose of the Green Paper is to provide a platform for all South Africans to engage and exchange views on how to build stable families. It also addresses some of the challenges faced by individuals in families, including the abuse of women and children, the elderly as well as people with disabilities.

Prevention and treatment of substance and drug abuse

The Department of Trade and Industry opened the third annual Sobriety Week, a national campaign aimed at creating awareness among the general South African public, particularly the youth, women and pregnant women about the adverse effects of liquor abuse. Sobriety Week incorporates the International Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Day which is observed internationally on 9 September every year to highlight the irreversible damage that is caused to unborn babies when their mothers consume alcohol during pregnancy.

Government recognises challenges faced by communities such as unemployment which result in people using and abusing liquor. She encouraged residents to find information about how they can actively participate in the economy of the country instead of resorting to liquor.

Liquor abuse was causing havoc on families, communities and the South African nation in general.

Children and youth

At the end of May 2013, government reaffirmed its commitment to continue its efforts to address violence against women and children through partnerships and the effective implementation of relevant policies and programmes during Child Protection Week. The Home Community-Based Care programme is the centrepiece of government's interventions to build a protective and caring environment for vulnerable children. Most services to orphans and vulnerable children are rendered through the Home-Community Based Care programme and include early identification of vulnerable children and their families, referrals, training of community caregivers and psychosocial support and material assistance, to name a few.

This approach is geared towards keeping children within their families and communities.

It is aimed at providing comprehensive care and support which is complemented by proactive action at community

level. This includes linking families with poverty alleviation projects and other services in the community, such as food security initiatives and ECD services.

Blind SA

Blind SA is an organisation for the blind, and is governed by the blind. Situated in Johannesburg, it is aligned with other member organisations throughout South Africa. The organisation provides, among other things, study bursaries for visually impaired students for further education, Braille publications in all of South Africa's official languages, Braille training that entails writing and reading, and orientation and mobility training.

South African Braille Authority

The South African Braille Authority was established in May 2012 as a non-governmental organisation. Its purpose is to set and maintain standards for Braille in all 11 official languages of South Africa.

South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB)

The SANCB is the coordinating body for over 100 member organisations throughout South Africa. These organisations span the full spectrum of services offered for and to blind and partially sighted persons.

Support for the deaf

South Africa's national organisation for the deaf is the Deaf Federation of South Africa (DeafSA), formerly the South African National Council for the Deaf, which was established in 1929. DeafSA has nine provincial chapters throughout South Africa. An estimated 500 000 to 600 000 South Africans use South African Sign Language.

Older people

The *Global AgeWatch Index Report*, released in September 2013, ranks South Africa second in Africa in terms of programmes implemented to secure the well-being of older persons. *The Global AgeWatch Index* is a global study conducted by the UN and an elder rights group, the Help Age.

The Golden Games are held during Social Development Month in October every year. The theme of the 2013 Golden Games was: "Building a caring society for all ages." The Games encourage older persons to live healthy lifestyles by

participating in sport and other social activities. The Games are also a way to encourage all South Africans to provide support to older persons by helping them live healthier lives.

The old age grant means test would be phased out by 2016, accompanied by offsetting revisions to the secondary and tertiary rebates. All citizens over a designated age will be eligible for the grant, which will simplify its administration and address the disincentive to save that arises from the present means test.

Training and skills development Recruitment and Retention Strategy for Social Workers

In August 2013, the Minister for Social Development invited unemployed social workers to register on a new database aimed at keeping a record of all unemployed qualified social workers in the country.

The database will be used to lobby for funds to create social work posts that are required within the public service. There are 9 456 social workers in the employ of government.

The Unemployed Social Workers Database will also inform the department about the number of unemployed social workers who have studied outside the Social Development scholarship programme. This is in response to the issue raised by communities and the media that there are qualified social workers who are unemployed.

The Draft Scarce Skills and Policy Framework of 2003 recognised social work as a scarce skill. Government mandated the development of strategies to facilitate the recruitment and retention of such scarce skills.

The Department of Social Development has been the main driver in the implementation of this social policy. In addition, the National Development Plan indicates that 60 000 social workers will be needed by 2030 to serve the population.



Sport and Recreation

South African sportsmen and women excelled on the world stage in 2013/14. The country's national rugby and football teams both boosted their world rankings over the course of the year. The Proteas remained the undisputed number one team in test cricket. Perhaps the biggest upset in football in 2013 occurred at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg on 19 November, when Bafana Bafana, ranked 61st in the world defeated world and European champions, Spain by a goal to nil. It was a welcome boost for a team that had missed out on qualifying for the 2014 Fifa World Cup.

Role players

Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA)

SRSA is the national department responsible for sport in the country. Aligned with its vision of an active and winning nation, its primary focuses are on providing opportunities for all South Africans to participate in sport; managing the regulatory framework; and providing funding for different codes of sport.

South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (Sascoc)

Sascoc is the national coordinating macro-body for the promotion and development of high-performance sport in South Africa, including team presentation, and must consult with relevant sports bodies in this regard. It represents Team South Africa for all multicoded sport participating in international games, such as the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Games and All-Africa Games.

South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS)

The SAIDS, which was established in terms of the SAIDS Act of 1997 as amended, is controlled and administered by the SRSA.

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

South Africa serves as the African representative on the Executive Committee of WADA. The Africa Regional Office of the WADA was established in Cape Town in 2004 to coordinate the anti-doping activities of the agency throughout Africa.

Boxing South Africa (BSA)

BSA's intention is to ensure effective and efficient administration of professional boxing in South Africa; to create synergy

between professional and amateur boxing and to promote interaction between associations of boxers, managers, promoters, trainers and officials and BSA.

Programmes and projects

National Sport and Recreation Plan (NSRP)

The five transversal issues, which permeate every building block of the NSRP are reflected in five strategic objectives, namely transformation, priority codes, ethical environment, geo-political sports boundaries and amateur versus professional sport. Other programmes and projects include:

- National Sport and Recreation Plan
- *I Play Fair – Say NO! to Doping* campaign
- International Rugby Board (IRB) *Keep Rugby Clean* campaign
- *ThinkSport Journal* project
- *Little Green Book* project
- Qhubeka: bicycles for rural development.

Major events

Nelson Mandela Sports Day

The inaugural Nelson Mandela Sport and Culture Day at the FNB stadium on 17 August 2013 saw, for the first time in the history of South African sport, South Africans watching both rugby and football teams playing against their opponents at the same venue. There were also cultural activities and a music concert later in the day. Proceeds went towards the building of the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital.

African Nations Championship (CHAN)

South Africa hosted the CHAN tournament from 11 January to 1 February 2014. CHAN featured African national teams made up entirely of players from the domestic leagues of the different countries. As host, South Africa qualified automatically for the event and was joined from the Southern Zone by Zimbabwe, who booked their place with a win over Zambia, and Mozambique, who defeated Angola.

The other participants were Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Mali, Ghana, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Congo, Gabon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Ethiopia and Uganda. The draw for the tournament finals took place at the Confederation of African Football's headquarters in Cairo, Egypt on 18 September 2013. The teams were divided into four groups of four, with the CHAN organising committee

determining the four seeded teams based on the rankings of those countries.

The CHAN matches were played at the Cape Town and Athlone Stadiums in Cape Town, the Free State Stadium in Bloemfontein, and the Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane.

Fina World Cup

At the Fina World Cup in Barcelona in August 2013, Chad le Clos set a new world record in the 200 m butterfly event in a time of 1:49.04. Le Clos also won gold in the 100 m butterfly. Cameron van der Burgh won gold in the 50 m breaststroke event in Barcelona. South Africa finished ninth on the medal table in Barcelona. Roland Schoeman won gold in the men's 50 m breaststroke, 50 m freestyle and 50 m butterfly events at the Fina World Cup in Berlin.

Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon) 2013

South Africa hosted a successful Afcon 2013, held from 19 January 2013 to 10 February 2013. Johannesburg City Parks in partnership with Township TV broadcast all the Afcon matches at nine public parks within the City of Johannesburg.

South African Sports Awards

The South African Sports Awards were presented at a ceremony in November 2013 where the SRSA honoured the sporting heroes who had excelled in the last 12 months.

Itumeleng "Spider Kid" Khune was the 2013 SA Sport Star of the Year.

Mapaseka Makhanya, who was the only woman in the running for the Sports Star of the year award, was the Sports-woman of the Year. She was the champion in the 1 500 m and 5 000 m events at the South African Senior Championships in Stellenbosch. She was also the overall winner of the SPAR Grand Prix series and claimed victory at the Gauteng Marathon, smashing the women's record by more than six minutes in her marathon debut.

Cameron van der Burgh was chosen the Sportsman of the Year. He is Africa's first home-trained world record holder and individual male Olympic Champion.

Sportswoman with Disability and Sportsman with Disability awards went to Kgothatso Montjane and Lucas Sithole respectively.

The Proteas were named the Team of the Year. They returned from a successful tour against Pakistan in Dubai.

They drew 1-1 in a test series; won 4-1 in the One Day International series and won 2-0 in the Twenty20 series.

National Indigenous Games

The 2013 National Indigenous Games Festival, which is organised annually by the SRSA, took place at the Tshwane Events Centre from 20 to 24 September 2013.

The games played included *khokho*, *intonga*, *ncuva*, *mora-baraba*, *diketo*, *drie stokkies*, *kgati*, *dibeke* and *juskei*, all of which are indigenous to South Africa and played in various parts of the country. The Games also provide recreational activities for young children and families.

National Sports Volunteer Corps (NSVC)

At the end of the 2012/13 financial year 864 sports legends were registered for the NSVC programme.

The purpose is to register and to keep a record of sporting greats in the form of sports legends and former players, athletes, coaches and administrators to use their experience in developing sport in schools.

Most public and rural schools do not have specialist coaches to train their teams and to run their leagues.

The department took delivery of 12 sports buses in 2013 that would transport sports stars who conduct training.

Major sporting achievements in 2013

One of the most exciting events in 2013 was the announcement of an athletics academy in Pretoria, aimed at high school pupils. The project, which will cost in the region of R15 million a year, is being fully funded by a donor who wants to remain anonymous.

Athletics

In May 2013, 23-year-old Reinhardt Hamman beat the African record for javelin of 43,37 m in the F37 class by throwing 44,93 m in the annual Nedbank National Championships for the Physically Challenged. In August 2013, Johan Cronje claimed bronze and the first ever medal for South Africa in the men's 1 500 m event at the International Association of Athletics Federations World Championships in Moscow.

Biking, mountain biking, cycling

Ashleigh Moolman Pasio's 2013 was faultless. In March she claimed both gold medals at the South African Championships

in Nelspruit and then bookended her racing year appropriately in December with double gold at the African Championships in Egypt.

Daryl Impey made international headlines when he became the first South African to lead the Tour de France for two stages. He also snatched the silver medal in the men's team time-trial at the Road World Championships in Italy. Back on South African soil, Impey won his second individual time-trial at the South African road championships.

Greg Minnaar retained his Downhill World Championship crown at the UCI Mountain Bike and Trials World Championships in his home town of Pietermaritzburg.

Kevin Evans, claimed victory in the elite men's road race at the Maccabi Games, increasing the tally of medals to four for the small team at the games in Israel. The team went on to claim eight gold, four silver and four bronze medals at the African Continental Championship in Egypt.

Dylan Girdlestone won the eight-day Tour of Rwanda in Kigali.

Louis Meintjes was named Best African Rider of the Year in a poll of African cyclists conducted annually by La Tropicale Amissa Bongo.

He claimed a silver medal at the *Union Cycliste Internationale* Road World Championships in Italy.

On the local circuit, Jay Thomson secured the national men's title at the South African Road Championships in Nelspruit. The gold medal followed Thomson's silver in the individual time trial earlier that week.

Olympian Philip Buys and Samantha Sanders claimed the elite cross-country titles at the South African Mountain Biking (SA-MTB) National Championships in Port Elizabeth, while defending champion Tiaan Odendaal won his second consecutive downhill championship title.

James Reid and London Olympic road cyclist Robyn de Groot, were crowned champions at the SA-MTB in Hazyview.

One highlight was the inaugural staging of the Mzansi Tour, which was won by Robert Hunter.

The Momentum 94.7 cycle challenge was won by Bonitas rider Willie Smith. Team Bonitas' Herman Fouche claimed his first win of the season in the Cape Argus Cycle Tour. The women's race was won by Anriette Schoeman, who was later rewarded with a motion of congratulations in Parliament, for achieving a record seven Cape Argus titles.

Girdlestone claimed victory in the 151 km Jock Cycle Classic, while Bestmed-ASG captain An-Li Kachelhoffer took the overall honours in the women's race.

Team Abantu's Nolan Hoffman bagged 15 road titles, which included the Amashova Durban Classic, GoWest Cycle Classic and the Engen Cycle Challenge. In MTB racing, national women's MTB marathon champion De Groot won at the Momentum 94.7 MTB Challenge race, while Kallen Williams defended his men's title.

In June 2013, De Groot won the national MTB marathon championships, as well as the women's 75 km marathon at the MTN Rooiberg event in the same month. South Africa's team RE:CM's Waylon Woolcock and Erik Kleinhans secured the men's title at the seven-day Cape Pioneer Trek.

Cape Epic victory went to Christoph Saucer and Jaroslav Kulhavy in the men's race, while Yolande Speedy and Catherine Williamson won the women's race.

Max Knox and Nico Bell claimed overall victory in the three-day Nedbank sani2c MTB race which finished on the KwaZulu-Natal south coast.

Candice Neethling and Philip Buys bagged titles at the National MTB Cup Series.

Track cycling Olympian Bernard Esterhuizen smashed his own national record in the 200 m sprint qualifying event at the UCI Track World Cup in Mexico.

He also won the men's title in the keirin at the Deer Park Nature Spring Water UCI Fastest Man (and Woman) on Wheels in Pennsylvania, USA.

At the national championships in Belville, Esterhuizen won both the sprint and one-kilometre time-trial. Nolan Hoffman won both the scratch and omnium events. Elite BMX racer Teagan O'Keeffe finished 12th overall in the UCI Supercross World Cup standings, while Sifiso Nhlapo ended the season ranked 31 in the men's standings.

H4 hand-cyclist and defending road-race World Champion Ernst Van Dyk won his second silver medal at the UCI Paracycling Road World Championships in Canada.

Boxing

Vision 2017 is a strategy to resuscitate and promote boxing in all the provinces.

In March 2013, officials projected that if all went well, boxing revenue would reach R5 million in the 2013/14 financial year, R6,2 million in 2014/15, increasing to R7,1 million by 2016.

In October 2013, nine Eastern Cape boxers beat some of South Africa's big guns to secure themselves a seat on the plane to Scotland to participate in the 2014 Junior Olympics.

The nine boxers, including four boys and five girls aged between 15 and 18, won their places at the Junior Olympics by beating their opponents at a national youth boxing tournament held in Bethlehem in October.

Simpiwe Vetyeka became South Africa's first World Boxing Association super champion in 20 years.

Cricket

South Africa's national team, the Proteas brushed Pakistan aside in a three-test series. Six months later, in the United Arab Emirates the Proteas romped to an innings victory in the second test to tie the series. The win was South Africa's 100th since the country's re-admission to world cricket in 1992.

Three of Wisden's Cricketers of the Year were South Africans, with Hashim Amla, Dale Steyn and Jacques Kallis being recognised by the *Cricketer's bible*.

Canoeing, rowing

In September 2013, South African paddlers excelled at the ICF Canoe Marathon World Championships in Copenhagen.

Hank McGregor captured the prestigious open K1 title on the final day of competition to become world champion for the third time. Andy Birkett, the three-time winner of the world's largest canoe race, the Dusi Canoe Marathon, meanwhile showed that his talents are not suited to the uniquely challenging Dusi only. He won in the under-23 K1 category.

Kirsten Flanagan, the under-18 world surfski champion, added a silver for South Africa in the K1 women's junior race.

In the Masters World Championships, Natal Canoe Club's Marion Young and Len Jenkins senior both came away with two gold medals. Young teamed up with Angela Scruby to capture the K2 title.

Jenkins, who had coached Young, managed the same feats in the men's 70 to 74 age group. Lee McGregor teamed with Alan Hold for a K2 gold medal in the 60 to 64 age category. Hold had won a silver medal in K1 competition, while McGregor claimed fourth place against competition 10 years his junior while contesting the K1 race in the 50 to 54 age group.

Rowers David Hunt and Vincent Breet won gold in the men's pairs at the under-23 World Championships.

Golf

South Africa's Lee-Anne Pace came from behind to triumph at the Turkish Airlines Ladies Open, a Ladies European Tour event, at the National Golf Club in Belek, Antalya, in May 2013.

In March 2013, Thomas Aiken captured the second European Tour title of his career winning the Avantha Masters in New Delhi, India to become the sixth South African winner in just 12 tournaments on the European Tour.

In February 2013, South Africa Special Olympics gold medallist Thomas Lugg, set a new benchmark for Special Olympians worldwide when he made a historic debut at the 2013 Sanlam South African Amateur Golf Championship at Johannesburg's Country Club. Also in February 2013, Darren Fichardt captured the Africa Open Golf Challenge in East London to continue the run of success by local golfers in European Tour events hosted in South Africa.

Richard Sterne won his sixth title in February 2013, winning the event with a tournament record total of 27-under-par 260 in the Joburg Open at the Royal Johannesburg and Kensington Golf Club.

South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen began 2013 in style by capturing the Volvo Golf Champions at Durban Country Club in January. With the win, he climbed to a career-high ranking of fourth in the world.

In the KeNako South Africa World Junior Tournament, Jade Buitendag won the 2013 title. Jason Froneman was paired with Buitendag in the team competition. The team's combined 136 strokes won the day against closest rivals, Australia's 147 strokes. Lara Weinstein became the first player to successfully defend her title.

At the official prize giving dinner KeNako Academy announced that the academy had signed a new three-year contract with the World Junior Golf Series, extending the KeNako South Africa World Juniors Tournament to 2016.

In June 2013, British Open Champion, Ernie Els, claimed his first victory in Germany when he won the BMW International Open in München. A group of golfers, including South African sports celebrities Jacques Kallis, Nick Mallet, Jake White and Francois Pienaar, have raised and donated almost R650 000 to help fund several struggling community organisations.

The sports stars were among about 1 000 golfers who played in the week-long Cadiz Steenberg Classic at one of the world's top golf estates, the Steenberg Golf Estate in Cape Town.

Hockey

South Africa played the Netherlands in the Investec Challenge final in January 2013.

In the same month, the Investec South African women's hockey team beat Austria 2-0 in their final World League round two match at Hartleyvale Stadium in Cape Town.

South Africa's hockey captain Austin Smith netted a hat-trick of penalty corners in his team's 3-1 Test 3-1 victory over Malaysia in Potchefstroom, in June 2013.

Ice hockey

The South Africa men's team is currently ranked 40th, and the women's team ranked 28th in the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) World Rankings.

The 2013 IIHF World Championship Division III was an international ice hockey tournament run by the IIHF.

Group A was contested in Cape Town, South Africa from 15 to 21 April 2013.

Motorsport

Giniel de Villiers finished second in the Dakar Rally in a South African-built Toyota Hilux 4x4 and was named the South African Motor Sportsman of the Year.

Kelvin van der Linde made South African motor racing history when he won the 2013 Volkswagen Scirocco R-Cup Championship at the Hockenheimring circuit in Germany and Austria in October 2013 and won a place at the FIA Institute's 2013/14 Young Driver Excellence Academy.

At Hakskeen Pan, a dry lake bed in South Africa's Northern Cape, a team of 317 previously unemployed people funded by the provincial government is finishing up its job of clearing rocks and stones from 10 million square metres of desert race track – by hand.

When they're done, they'll have helped create what land speed record holder Andy Green has described as the world's best race track, just waiting for the world's first 1 000-miles-per-hour-car to arrive.

The Bloodhound Project is a global education initiative that has been built around the record attempt. It aims to inspire young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and its centrepiece is the Bloodhound Super Sonic Car, a 33 000 horsepower jet- and rocket-powered racing car.

Netball

South African netball umpire Theresa Prince began 2013 by officiating a test series between reigning world champions Australia and third ranked England in January.

The South African Under-21 netball squad made a clean sweep of all their matches in their short tour of Singapore.

Rugby

The Springboks began their international season with an emphatic 44-10 win over Italy in their first game of the Incoming Series in June 2013. South Africa staged a second-half comeback to record a flattering 30-17 win over Scotland in the four-nation tournament in June 2013.

Bryan Habana took his Test try total to 50 as South Africa defeated a 14-man Samoa side 56-23 at Loftus Versfeld to win the Incoming Series final.

The Springboks got their Rugby Championship campaign off to a good start with a 73-13 annihilation of Argentina at the FNB Stadium in August 2013. Two late penalties by flyhalf Morné Steyn sealed an unimpressive 22-17 win for South Africa over Argentina in a Rugby Championship Test in August 2013.

The new Springbok Experience rugby museum opened its doors to the public at the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town on Heritage Day 2013, and was given an enthusiastic thumbs-up by Springboks and former national captains.

The South African Sevens team finished second in the HSBC Sevens World Series, won titles in Las Vegas, Tokyo and Edinburgh, defeating New Zealand on all three occasions for the title, and also captured World Games gold in Colombia in August.

Former Springbok coach Ian McIntosh received the International Rugby Board's Vernon Pugh Award for Distinguished Service at the IRB World Rugby Conference and Exhibition in Dublin, Ireland, in November 2013.

Running

Endurance running is a popular sport in South Africa and is widely supported. It is highlighted by two ultra-marathons, namely the Comrades Marathon and the Two Oceans Marathon. Both events are world-renowned and attract large numbers of participants from across the globe. The Comrades Marathon takes place in KwaZulu-Natal and the Two Oceans in the Western Cape.

A record field of athletes lined up at the start of the 2013 Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon in cold and windy conditions. Novice runner David Gatebe beat a highly competitive field at the 44th Old Mutual Two Oceans Ultra Marathon in April 2013, in a time of 03:08:54.

Charne Bosman came third in the Women's Race.

The combined results for those athletes who completed both the Old Mutual Two Oceans Ultra Marathon and the Cape Argus Pick n Pay Cycle Tour in 2013 were Lindy-Lee Fölscher who topped the women's race in a total time of 8:02:47 and Marco De Freitas who took the men's in a total of 7:03:04.

In the half marathon, both the men's and ladies winners established new course records despite windy conditions. Stephen Lesego Mokoka (Team Transnet) won the men's race in a time of 01:03:36. In the ladies race, Rene Kalmer took second place. Third place in the ladies 21 km went to Irvette van Blerk.

The searing heat and strong winds will have the 2013 Comrades remembered as one of the toughest Comrades marathons.

Some memorable Comrades 2013 moments:

- South African Claude Moshiywa won the 2013 race, in a time of 05:32:09.
- Defending champion Ludwick Mamabolo finished in fourth place.
- Charne Bosman was the first South African woman across the line, in fifth place.
- Alan Robb ran his 40th consecutive Comrades Marathon.
- Out of 19 907 entrants 14 336 started the race and only 10 188 finished.
- Around 7 000 runners crossed the finish line in the last 90 minutes of the event.

Soccer

Banyana Banyana finished in 11th place in the Cyprus Cup in March 2013 after defeating Northern Ireland 5-4 in a penalty shootout at the Tasos Markou Stadium in Paralimni. Banyana Banyana were too strong for Mozambique in an international friendly played at KaNyamazane Stadium in Nelspruit in June 2013, romping to a 5-0 victory. In June 2013, Banyana Banyana played to a 1-1 draw with Zimbabwe in a friendly international at Sinaba Stadium in Daveyton.

Bafana Bafana's hopes of reaching the World Cup in Brazil in 2014 ended in heartbreak despite a Bernard Parker brace

propelling them to an emphatic 4-1 victory over Botswana in their final qualifying match in Durban in September 2013.

Tlou Segolela scored a goal in each half as Bafana Bafana defeated Lesotho 2-0 in an international friendly match played at the Setsoto Stadium in Maseru, Lesotho in June 2013. Orlando Pirates made headlines when they reached the final of the African Champions League.

Pirates' great rivals, Kaizer Chiefs, the most popular team in South Africa, won the Premier Soccer League title for the first time since 2004/05.

Surfing, surfski, sailing

In May 2013, the South African surfing team celebrated a superb double at the 2013 Reef ISA World Surfing Games in Panama when they were crowned the ISA World Team Champions and captain Shaun Joubert clinched the ISA Men's World Champion title.

In addition to the gold medals, Team South Africa collected the Fernando Aguerre World Team Champion Trophy, the International Olympic Committee President's Trophy, and the once-off 5th Century Cup of the Discovery of the Pacific Ocean for winning the title for the first time outside South Africa.

In July 2013, the Sapinda Rainbow project and Nelson Mandela Children's Fund bid 'bon voyage' to 10 young South Africans (eight primary crew and two reserves) before they left for the United Kingdom (UK) to train for the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, which set off from London on 1 September 2013; at 40 000 miles it's the longest ocean challenge on the planet. The unique initiative aims to develop young community leaders of the future who will also raise international awareness and funds for the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital.

The group took centre stage at the 2013 Annual Children's Celebration to mark its founder Nelson Mandela's 95th birthday.

Swimming

In September 2013, South African Olympic and Paralympic medal-winning swimmer Natalie du Toit was awarded an honorary Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth of the UK for her services to Paralympic sport.

Ice swimmers Andrew Chin, Ram Barkai, Ryan Stramrood and Toks Viviers were part of the international relay swim in Arctic gale force winds (at times up to 44 knots), strong

currents, five metre swells and water temperatures ranging between 2° and 8° C.

Carina Bruwer, lead player of Sama Award-winning instrumental pop group Sterling EQ, successfully rounded Cape Point on 23 April 2013, finishing an 8 km extreme swim equipped only with a standard swimming costume, cap and goggles, according to openwater swimming rules. The “Swim for Hope” was in support of the Little Fighters Cancer Trust a local charity that offers support to children with cancer and their families.

Cameron van der Burgh and Giulio Zorzi of Pretoria shared the 50 m breaststroke podium at the World Swimming Championships in Barcelona. Van der Burgh, with his gold medal, and Zorzi, wearing his bronze, stood arm-in-arm as Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika played for them. At the same event Chad le Clos claimed the butterfly double

Tennis

In February 2013, South Africa's junior tennis players proved they are the best on the continent by dominating the African Junior Championships at the University of North West in Potchefstroom.

In April 2013, South Africa's leading players shone at the Airports Company South Africa, South African Open.

Chess

In July 2013, South Africa hosted the African Open Chess Championships for the second time in two years. Eight hundred players from 29 countries participated.

President Zuma said at the opening of the event that sport contributed to advancing sustainable development in different sectors of South African society.

The Department of Basic Education encourages chess as a sport in schools.

South Africa intends to use chess as an educational tool, to enhance logic and lateral thinking for mathematics and sciences.

South Africa will count on the Local Organising Committee's commitment to supporting chess development programmes in underprivileged communities.



Tourism

International tourists are flocking to South Africa. The Cape and the Kruger National Park are the most popular destinations on the travel circuit.

The tourism sector is working towards positioning South Africa as one of the world's top 20 travel destinations by 2020.

International tourist arrivals in South Africa grew by 10,2% year-on-year to almost 9,2 million in 2012, which was more than double the global average of around 4%.

Role players

South African Tourism (SAT)

Business tourism has also increased, especially since the establishment of the country's first South African National Convention Bureau (SANCB) as a business unit under SAT.

For the next five years, South Africa has secured over 200 international conferences, which are estimated to attract 300 000 delegates and provide an economic boost of more than R1,6 billion.

Tourism Enterprise Partnership (TEP)

Funding for TEP's Small Tourism Business Development interventions is provided by the National Department of Tourism (NDT) as well as the Business Trust, the Tourism Micro Enterprises Support Fund, global financial services company Credit Suisse, and the Eastern Cape Development Corporation.

Tourism Indaba

The 2013 Tourism Indaba held from 11 to 14 May provided an opportunity to showcase South Africa as a globally competitive and responsible tourism destination.

Government raised the profile of the country's heritage and cultural tourism assets. Preliminary figures showed that over R40 million was injected into the Durban economy by the four-day 2013 Tourism Indaba event. The number of visitors exceeded 11 000.

Indaba 2013 featured Indaba Connect, which is new technology that enabled thousands of delegates to connect and exchange information electronically. More than 11 000 users had been activated on Indaba Connect, making 136 585 connections.

Another innovation, the Indaba Matchmaking diary, proved an invaluable networking tool, with 2 744 meetings facilitated through this platform.

Newlands is home to the renowned Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden. Sunset music concerts at the garden are held on Sunday evenings during summer, from late November until early April.

Meetings Africa

In February 2013, Meetings Africa 2013 took on a distinct and proudly pan-African flavour under the theme of “Advancing Africa Together.” In 2013, the SANCB hosted Meetings Africa for the first time. Meetings Africa 2013 took the first in a series of steps to include other destinations on the continent to eventually make it the single most influential and biggest pan-African business event trade exhibition on the continent. Over 50 African association buyers, 200 international hosted buyers and 200 local corporate and government buyers attended.

Tourism Grading Council of South Africa (TGCSA)

The TGCSA's grading system is South Africa's only officially recognised system for the star-grading of accommodation establishments.

Tourism in the provinces Western Cape

The Western Cape is South Africa's most developed tourism region.

The tourism industry in the province has grown faster and created more jobs than any other industry.

One in 10 employees in the Western Cape earns a living in the tourism industry, and it contributes more than R25 billion to the provincial economy.

Key attractions

- Table Mountain, which forms part of the Table Mountain National Park, is one of the official New Seven Wonders of Nature, following a lengthy international public voting process. A modern cableway takes visitors to the top of the mountain, providing spectacular views.
- The Victoria and Alfred (V&A) Waterfront, the Company's Gardens, the District Six Museum, the houses of Parliament and the South African National Gallery.
- The Nelson Mandela Gateway to Robben Island is in the Clock Tower Precinct at the V&A Waterfront. It houses interactive multimedia exhibitions, an auditorium, boardrooms, the Robben Island Museum and a restaurant.

- The Gold of Africa Museum, established by Anglo Gold, houses a celebrated collection of more than 350 gold artefacts.
- The South African Rugby Museum in Newlands reflects the history of the sport as far back as 1891.
- All South African wine routes fall under the auspices of the Wine of Origin Scheme. Production is divided into official regions, districts and wards. There are five principle demarcations – Coastal, Breede River Valley, Little Karoo, Olifants River and Boberg, covering 21 districts and 61 wards.
- Jazz is big in Cape Town. From traditional blues through progressive jazz to African-influenced jazz, every taste is catered for at a number of restaurants, jazz cafés, cigar bars, pubs and wine farms. The top jazz event in the Western Cape is the annual Cape Town International Jazz Festival.

Garden Route

The Garden Route features the pont at Malgas, which is one of the two remaining ponts in the country, ferrying vehicles and livestock across the Breede River. This popular route spans roughly 200 km of South Africa's southern coast, incorporating a picturesque stretch of coastline.

Key attractions

- Attequas Kloof Pass, South African/Anglo-Boer War block-houses and the Bartolomeu Dias complex.
- Great Brak River offers a historic village with many opportunities for whale- and dolphin-watching along the extensive coast.
- The Slave Tree in George, located just outside the Old Library, was planted in 1811. It is known to be the biggest English oak in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Nearby, bungee-jumping at the Gouritz River Gorge, hiking, mountain-biking and angling are popular pastimes.
- The Point in Mossel Bay is popular among surfers and its natural pool formed by rock is also a favourite swimming spot at low tide.
- Genadendal is the oldest Moravian village in Africa, with church buildings and a school dating back to 1738. The Genadendal Mission and Museum complex documents the first mission station in South Africa.

- Villiersdorp houses the Dagbreek Museum that dates back to 1845. The historical home, Oude Radyn, is possibly the only building in the Western Cape to have Batavian wooden gutters and down pipes.

Little Karoo

The Little Karoo's fascinating landscape is fashioned almost entirely by water. Its vegetation ranges from lush greenery in the fertile river valleys to short, rugged Karoo plants in the veld. Gorges feature rivers that cut through towering mountains, while breathtakingly steep passes cross imposing terrain. The region is also home to the world's largest bird – the ostrich.

Key attractions

- Excellent wines and port are produced in the Calitzdorp and De Rust areas.
- The Swartberg Nature Reserve and Pass with their gravel roads are also worth a visit.
- The Little Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees (National Arts Festival) is held in Oudtshoorn annually.
- The Cango Caves, a series of 30 subterranean limestone caves, bear evidence of early San habitation and features magnificent dripstone formations.
- Amalienstein and Zoar are historic mission stations midway between Ladismith and Calitzdorp. Visitors can go on donkey-cart and hiking trails through orchards and vineyards. The Seweweekspoort is ideal for mountain-biking, hiking, and protea and fynbos admirers.

Northern Cape

The Big Hole in Kimberley is the largest hand-dug excavation in the world. In 1871, diamonds were discovered at the site and mined manually by prospectors.

Key attractions

- The house where Sol Plaatje (African National Congress founding member and human-rights activist) lived in Kimberley, has a library of Plaatje's and other black South African writers' works, and several displays, including a portrayal of black involvement in the South African/Anglo-Boer War.
- Known as the "Oasis of the Kalahari", Kuruman is blessed with a permanent and abundant source of water that flows

from Gasegonyana (Setswana for “the little water calabash”) – commonly called the “Eye of Kuruman” – which yields 20 million litres of water a day.

- The Wonderwerk Cave at Kuruman features extensive San paintings that may be viewed by appointment.
- The Kalahari Raptor Centre cares for injured birds. Many of these majestic creatures can be seen at close quarters.
- Upington is the commercial, educational and social centre of the Green Kalahari, owing its prosperity to agriculture and its irrigated lands along the Orange River. A camel-and-rider statue in front of the town’s police station pays tribute to the “mounties”, who patrolled the harsh desert territory on camels.
- In September 2013, the Kalahari Desert SpeedWeek was held at Hakskeen Pan, 200 km north of Upington.
- Namaqualand is famous for a spectacular annual show in spring when an abundance of wild flowers covers vast tracts of desert.
- Namaqualand is also home to the Ais-Ais/Richtersveld National Park. It is managed jointly by the local Nama people and South African National Parks.
- De Aar is the most important railway junction in South Africa. The author Olive Schreiner lived in the town for many years. Visitors can dine in her former house, which has been converted into a restaurant.
- Hanover is known for its handmade shoes and articles made mostly from sheepskin and leather.

Free State

This central region of South Africa is characterised by endless rolling fields of wheat, sunflowers and maize, and forms the principal bread basket of South Africa.

Key attractions

- With its King’s Park Rose Garden containing more than 4 000 rose bushes, the Free State’s major city, Bloemfontein, has rightfully earned the nickname “City of Roses.” The city also hosts an annual rose festival.
- Bloemfontein has a busy cultural and social-events calendar. One of the annual events not to be missed is the Mangaung African Cultural Festival, popularly known as the Macufe Arts Festival, in September every year.
- The National Women’s Memorial commemorates the women and children who died in concentration camps during the Anglo-Boer/South African War.

Blue Flag is a voluntary eco-label that is given to beaches that meet 32 main criteria spanning four aspects of coastal management: (1) water quality, (2) environmental education and information, (3) environmental management and (4) safety and services, which include excellent life-saving standards, top-rate parking and sparkling ablution facilities. In 2013/14 South Africa had 43 Blue Flag beaches and marinas.

- The Gariep Dam, more than 100 km long and 15 km wide, is part of the Orange River Water Scheme, the largest inland expanse of water in South Africa.
- Between the dam and Bethulie is the Gariep Dam Nature Reserve.
- Clocolan is known for the beauty of its cherry trees when they are in full bloom in spring. San rock paintings and engravings are also found in the area.
- The Llandaff Oratory in the nearby village of Van Reenen is believed to be the smallest Roman Catholic church in the world.
- At Harrismith, there are various memorials in honour of those who fought in the Anglo-Boer/South African War and World War I. Of particular interest is a memorial for the Scots Guards and Grenadier Guards.
- The Golden Gate Highlands National Park outside Clarens has beautiful sandstone rock formations.
- The Vredefort Dome, a World Heritage Site, is the oldest and largest meteorite impact site in the world. It was formed about two billion years ago when a giant meteorite hit Earth.

Eastern Cape

The main feature of the Eastern Cape is its magnificent coastline. Added to the diverse coastal experiences are more than 60 state-owned game reserves and over 30 private game farms, which collectively cover an area greater than the Kruger National Park.

Key attractions

- Within the Port Elizabeth there are some beautiful parks with well-landscaped gardens, including St George's Park, which covers 73 ha and houses the famous Port Elizabeth Cricket Club, the oldest bowling green in South Africa; Prince Alfred's Guard Memorial; the 1882 Victorian Pearson Conservatory; and the 54-ha Settlers' Park.
- To the north-west of Graaff-Reinet lies the Valley of Desolation. The valley is a national monument within the Karoo Nature Reserve, formed millions of years ago by weathering erosion.

- Varied game reserves, including the Addo Elephant, Mountain Zebra and Mkambati parks.
- South Africa's first marine park, the Tsitsikamma National Park extends along a rocky coastline of 50 km, and 3 km out to sea.
- Southern right and humpback whales and their calves are regularly spotted from the high dunes, usually between May and November, while common and bottlenose dolphins are often seen close to shore.

Limpopo

The Limpopo landscape is made up of dramatic contrasts characterised by hot savanna plains and mist-clad mountains, age-old indigenous forests and cycads alongside modern plantations, and ancient mountain fortresses and the luxury of contemporary infrastructure and modern-day facilities.

Key attractions

- The Marakele National Park is home to some rare yellowwood and cedar trees and the world's largest colony of Cape vultures. It is also a leader in the conservation of the black rhino outside of the Kruger National Park and the KwaZulu-Natal parks.
- Polokwane is considered the premier game-hunting destination in South Africa.
- The Mapungubwe Archaeological Site, 80 km west of Musina, lies within the boundaries of the Mapungubwe National Park. It is one of the richest of its kind in Africa and a world heritage site. Excavations in the 1930s uncovered a royal graveyard, which included a number of golden artefacts, including the famous gold-foil rhinoceros.
- The Kruger National Park (northern section) is one of South Africa's major tourist attractions. The park is home to a large number and wide variety of amphibians, reptiles and birds, as well as 147 mammal species, including the Big Five.

North West

North West has several cultural villages that entertain and attract visitors.

A number of excellent game reserves have been established, including the Pilanesberg National Park.

Key attractions

- The historic route of Mahikeng includes an South African/Anglo-Boer War siege site, the Molema House where

Sol Plaatje lived while writing his Mafikeng Diary, and the Mahikeng Museum.

- The Groot Marico region is known as mampoer country and visitors can explore the Mampoer Route. The Kortkloof Cultural Village is dedicated to the Tswana people.
- Ottosdal is the only place in South Africa where the unique “wonderstone”, or pyrophyllite, is found and mined.
- The Ottosdal Night Race is organised in conjunction with the Diamond Marathon Club. The event consists of 42,2-km, 21,1-km, 10-km races and a 5-km fun run.
- San rock engravings, Stone Age implements and structures are found on farms such as Witpoort, Gestoptefontein, Driekuyl and Korannafontein.

Mpumalanga

The climate and topography vary from cool highland grasslands at 1 600 m above sea level, through the middleveld and escarpment, to the subtropical Lowveld towards the Kruger National Park and many private game reserves.

Scenic beauty, climate and wildlife, voted the most attractive features of South Africa, are found in abundance in this province.

Key attractions

- Barberton features many reminders of the early gold-rush era. Museums include Belhaven, Fernlea House and Stopforth House. The only known verdite deposits in the world are found in the rocks of the Barberton district. The annual Diggers Festival is held in September every year.
- The spectacular Blyde River Canyon is a 26-km-long gorge carved out of the face of the escarpment, and is one of the natural wonders of Africa. God’s Window provides a magnificent panoramic view across miles of densely forested mountains, the green Lowveld and the canyon.
- Sabie is the centre of the largest man-made forest in South Africa and a popular destination among mountain bikers. The Cultural Historical Forestry Museum depicts various aspects of the country’s forestry industry.
- The Bridal Veil, Horseshoe and Lone Creek waterfalls, and Mac Mac pools and falls just outside Sabie are well worth a visit.
- The 69-km Prospector’s Trail starts at the Mac Mac Forest Station and leads to the Bourke’s Luck potholes.
- At the Montrose Falls in Schoemanskloof, the Crocodile River cascades 12 m into a series of rock pools.

It is also the starting point of the annual Lowveld Crocodile Canoe Marathon, held in February every year.

- The region also holds rich historical sentiments centred on the monument of the late Mozambican President Samora Machel, constructed in the village of Mbuzini.

Gauteng

Gauteng is characterised by a cosmopolitan mix of people from all walks of life.

Key attractions

- Natural areas include the Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve (Heidelberg); Braamfontein Spruit Trust, The Wilds on Houghton and the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve in Johannesburg; the Kloofendal Nature Reserve and Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens (in Roodepoort); and the National Botanical Garden, Smuts House Museum, and Freedom Park in Pretoria; as well as the Tswaing Crater Trail.
- A team of Lippizaner stallions performs every Sunday at the South African National Horsemanship Centre in Kyalami.
- The Sterkfontein caves near Krugersdorp are the site of the discovery of the skull of the famous Mrs Ples, an estimated 2,5-million-year-old hominid fossil; and Little Foot, an almost complete hominid skeleton of more than 3,3 million years old.
- The Constitution Hill Precinct is set to become one of South Africa's most popular landmarks.
- A guided tour of Soweto leaves a lasting impression of this vast community's life and struggle against apartheid.
- The Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg tells the story of the legacy of apartheid through photographs, film and artefacts.
- The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory opened its doors to the public following the death of former President Nelson Mandela, in December 2013.
- The Union Buildings celebrated its centenary in 2013. Designed by Sir Herbert Baker, construction started in 1910 and was completed in 1913. It has since been the setting for the presidential inauguration of former President Nelson Mandela in 1994, as well as those of former President Thabo Mbeki on 16 June 1999, and 27 April 2004, and of President Jacob Zuma on 9 May 2009, and 24 May 2014. It is also the setting of many national celebrations, including Women's Day and Freedom Day.

- In December 2013, a bronze statue of former President Mandela was unveiled at the Union Buildings.
- The National Zoological Gardens in Pretoria is considered one of the 10 best in the world.
- The old mining town of Cullinan is where the world's biggest diamond, the 3 106-carat Cullinan diamond, was found.

KwaZulu-Natal

One of the country's most popular tourist destinations, the province stretches from Port Edward in the south to the borders of Swaziland and Mozambique to the north.

Key attractions

- The Durban area has more than 50 reserves, developed parks and specialised gardens, the most renowned being the Municipal Botanical Garden. Besides the botanical gardens, Mitchell Park is one of the most popular green spaces, which includes an outdoor restaurant, a zoo and a playground for children.
- Annual events in and around the city include the popular Comrades Marathon between Durban and Pietermaritzburg, an international surfing competition, the Duzi canoe marathon, the Midmar Mile, Dolphin Mile open water swimming events, the July Handicap horse-race, the Amashova-shova cycle tour, and the Spar Mercury Ladies 10 km Challenge.
- The Weza State Forest in East Griqualand runs through indigenous forests and commercial plantations. The forest is home to several antelope species and a huge variety of birds.
- St Lucia and its surroundings comprises the iSimangaliso Wetland Park that have five separate ecosystems. It is a fishing and bird watching paradise. Boat trips on the lake offer opportunities for crocodile and hippo sightings. The Kosi Bay Nature Reserve is part of the Coastal Forest Reserve between Mozambique and Sodwana Bay.
- The Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Park, one of the largest game parks in South Africa, is home to the Big Five, as well as cheetah and wild dogs.
- The Battlefields Route in northern KwaZulu-Natal has the highest concentration of battlefields and related military sites in South Africa.

- The Midlands Meander is a scenic drive between Hilton and Mooi River, with some 430 art studios, potters and painters, to herb gardens and cheese makers.
- Midmar Dam is zoned for yachting and power-boating. The 1 000-ha Midmar Game Park has rhino, zebra, a wide variety of antelope species and waterfowl. The yearly Midmar Mile attracted 18 000 swimmers in 2013.





Transport

A sound and solid transport infrastructure remains crucial to generating economic growth, alleviating poverty, reducing inequality and increasing domestic and international competitiveness. With these goals in mind, departmental spending in 2013 focused on maintaining road infrastructure, upgrading rail infrastructure and services, and constructing and operating transportation infrastructure.

The Department of Transport's (DoT) effort to make transport the heartbeat of the economy continues. The department was finalising the National Transport Master Plan (Natmap).

There are 12 public entities that report to the Minister of Transport, namely Airports Company South Africa, Air Traffic and Navigation Services, the Cross-Border Road Transport Agency (CBRTA), the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa), the Ports Regulator, the Railway Safety Regulator, the Road Accident Fund (RAF), the Road Traffic Infringement Agency, the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), the South African Maritime Safety Authority (Samsa) and the South African National Roads Agency Ltd (Sanral). Commercial role players include Transnet, South African Airways (SAA) and SA Express (SAX).

Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa

In July 2013, the Prasa board finalised the details of the 30% Black Economic Empowerment component of the Gibela consortium, which increased black economic participation in the contract to 41%. The consortium is led by Alstom, which in December won the first Prasa contract to manufacture new rolling stock. Prasa aims to spend R123,5 billion on its fleet renewal programme, to procure 7 224 coaches to replace its ageing fleet, through two 10-year contracts. For 2014/15 and 2015/16, R4 billion and R5,3 billion have been set aside respectively under Prasa's capital investment programme to fund new rolling stock.

Transnet Limited

In March 2013, Transnet and the China Development Bank signed a cooperation agreement, which will help finance the construction and upgrade of railway and port infrastructure.

Gautrain

Government had paid a monthly ridership guarantee to the operator of the Gautrain, the Bombela consortium, since June

2012, amounting to R831,4 million by the end of March 2013. The monthly patronage guarantee has been steadily dropping since 2012, because of an increasing number of people using the public transport system. Average weekday passenger trips on the train increased from 26 000 at the beginning of April 2012 to 42 000 at the end of March 2013.

In October 2013, the Gautrain Management Agency proposed the development of seven new rapid rail routes that would include a link from the existing Sandton station to Randburg; Ruimsig to the Samrand station; Samrand station to Tshwane East; Rhodesfield to the East Rand Mall; Naledi to Ruimsig; and Mamelodi to Tshwane East. The Gautrain transports 1,2 million people a year.

Road Safety and Road Accident Fund

With road safety being a daunting challenge, the DoT is working on education, engineering and awareness campaigns to reduce the carnage. Fatalities and critical injuries mean more claims against the RAF. By the end of March 2013, 15 communities and more than 8 000 customers had been assisted and settlement offers to the value of R102 million been made during the outreach campaigns.

Road Traffic Management Corporation

By May 2013, the RTMC had passed its target of stopping and checking a million vehicles a month. Its new target is 1,1 million vehicles a month.

South African Maritime Safety Authority

Samsa and the DoT are working on mobilising the maritime sector, organising its industries and drawing the attention towards what the sector can contribute to the achievement of government's social and economic goals.

South African National Roads Agency Limited

South Africa has a 750 000 km-long road network, of which Sanral manages 19 667 km of paved roads. The non-toll road network accounted for 83,1% of the national network funded by the fiscus.

National Transport Master Plan

The Natmap 2050 was finalised in 2013 in line with the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030. The long-term

vision of Natmap 50 will sustain South Africa's projected growth and focus on integrated transport planning to ensure that the different modes of transport complement each other. The transport sector is critical to realising the implementation of the NDP 2030 vision of advanced economic development, job creation, growth, and provision of equitable access to opportunities and services for all, while fostering an inclusive society and economy.

Toll roads

The Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Committee expressed full support for the N2 Wildcoast Project and indicated that substantial funding could be available in 2013/14. The Greenfields portion of the highway was implemented as a toll road using a hybrid funding model.

In September 2013, President Jacob Zuma signed the Transport Laws and Related Matters Amendment Bill into law. This development provides the necessary legal framework and paves the way for the implementation of the electronic tolling system on selected highways in Gauteng, covering at least 200 km of road network. The Transport Laws and Related matters Amendment Act, 2013 aims, among other things, to amend the CBRTA to collect toll on behalf of Sanral.

Non-toll projects

Under the non-toll projects, the construction of a new westbound carriageway turned the N2 into a dual carriageway. A new bridge over the Sunday's River was being constructed to accommodate the new westbound carriageway. The upgrade of the Mount Edgecombe Interchange connects Phoenix and Umhlanga with Durban and the North Coast via the N2. The Interchange will be upgraded to a four-level system that will provide free-flow movements in all directions.

The R61 between Mthatha and Ngqeleni entails the construction of a new dual carriageway between Mthatha and the turn-off to Ngqeleni. The new carriageway will require the construction of four new bridges, one over each of the and Corana rivers, one agricultural overpass and a new bridge at the Ngqeleni interchange. A fifth bridge is to be constructed over the Sidwadweni River on Bernard Schultz Avenue.

S'hamba Sonke Road Maintenance Project

The S'hamba Sonke (meaning "walking together") Programme through the Provincial Roads Maintenance Grant

consists of three budget components. The largest enables provinces to expand their maintenance activities. The other components allow provinces to repair roads damaged by floods and cover the cost of rehabilitation work created by coal haulage activities in Mpumalanga and Gauteng.

Future allocations of funds will depend on the satisfactory use of the road asset management systems from 2013/14.

The grant has an allocation of R27,6 billion over the Medium Term Expenditure Framework starting with R8 696 210 in 2013/14 rising to R9 126 190 in 2014/15, and reaching R9 773 920 in 2015/16.

The DoT, through the Rural Roads Asset Management Systems Grant, supports local government in improving the planning and budgeting of rural roads infrastructure. The grant funds the collection of accurate data on the condition and usage of rural roads in line with the Road Infrastructure Strategic Framework.

By 2013, 120 civil engineering graduates were being trained in the programme and later may be absorbed into the municipality's staff structure.

Rural Transport Strategy

Rural transport development ensures better mobility and access in rural areas. The national transport survey found that a higher percentage of the population cannot afford the high cost of transport. This limits their access to transport and therefore social and economic opportunities. This perpetuates underdevelopment and isolation from mainstream public transport system.

The National Land Transport Act of 2009 provides for different levels of government to be responsible for planning. In line with this, the DoT looked at ways to help six district municipalities develop their rural public transport network plans through various funding models in 2013.

The Rural Transport Strategy is expected to contribute to the formulation of the National Planning Guidelines for rural district municipalities' public transport network plans.

Aviation

Civil aviation serves as a major catalyst for global economic activities and is vital to trade and tourism. South Africa's airport network consists of 135 licensed airports, 19 military airports and up to 1 300 unlicensed aerodromes.

In June 2013, SAA and SAX launched the Pilot Cadet Training and Development Programme for those who had been previously disadvantaged.

By 2013, the programme had produced 246 cadet pilots, 166 of whom have successfully completed training and been absorbed within SAA and SAX. Through the launch of this programme, the three state-owned airlines – SAA, SAX and Mango – will strengthen their role as engines of economic growth in the developmental state, and as leaders in the transformation of the aviation sector.

In April 2013, SAA and Jet Airways, India's premier international airline, announced a code-share agreement that would enable seamless air travel connectivity to several business centres in India and South Africa.

Under the agreement, SAA, the only airline with non-stop flights between Johannesburg and Mumbai, will code-share on Jet Airways' operations between Mumbai and Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram. In turn, Jet Airways will code-share on SAA's flights between Mumbai and Johannesburg and to Cape Town and Durban.

Air Traffic and Navigation Services

South Africa is one of the 36 council members of the International Civil Aviation Organisation Council. South Africa is committed to regional aviation safety, security and environment issues.

Through the Southern African Development Community and African Civil Aviation Commission mechanism the department works to prevent an European Union (EU) blacklist of African states and unilateral imposition of the EU Emission Trading Scheme.

South African Civil Aviation Authority

SACAA is charged with promoting, regulating and enforcing civil aviation safety and security standards. It performs administrative and oversight control over 11 801 registered aircraft, 2 022 licensed aircraft maintenance engineers, 430 air maintenance organisations, 303 air operating certificate holders, 200 aviation training organisations and 16 755 aeroplane and helicopter pilots.

In November 2013, Cabinet gave the SACAA approval to host, together with the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the first African Aerospace Medicine conference in February 2014.

It brought together regulatory authorities and health practitioners in the aerospace environment to discuss challenges confronting the sector.

Hosting the event helped promote awareness and encouraged African States to share information regarding aircrew performance, the safety of aircrew and passengers in flight as well as safety management.

South African Airways

In April 2013, SAA submitted its long-term Turnaround Strategy to the Minister of Public Enterprises.

In March 2013, the airline topped the list of the most on-time airlines in the world according to the FlightStats On-Time Airline and Airport Performance Report, produced by FlightStats Inc. SAA was one of the only two major international carriers that delivered over 90% of their flights on time in that month. In April 2013, SAA's business class was also voted as the Best Business Class product among Star Alliance carriers, by FVW, Germany's leading travel trade magazine for tourism and business travel.

In June 2013, SAA became one of the first six airlines in the world to achieve International Air Transport Association Environmental Assessment Stage 1 status.

Public transport Scholar Transport

Learners have difficulty getting access to safe public transport to their educational institutions and transport infrastructure is inadequate particularly in rural areas.

The National Scholar Transport Policy provides a framework for safe and secure transport for learners through the cooperation of stakeholders and law-enforcement authorities.

The DoT developed the national operational guidelines to remedy operational challenges that provinces have in implementing the Scholar Transport Programme.

Integrated public transport networks Bus Rapid Transport (BRT)

In 2013/14 over R5,5 billion was spent in up to 13 cities on planning, building and operating integrated public transport networks. Both Johannesburg and Cape Town constructed over 20 km of dedicated bus lanes on which services are operated, supported by over 100 km of complementary, feeder and distributor services.

In the 2013/14 financial year, both Cape Town and Johannesburg expanded operations on My CiTi and Phase 1 Rea Vaya services to carry up to 100 000 passenger trips a day on each system. The City of Johannesburg's new Rea Vaya bus system route was operational in October 2013.

The new route runs from Soweto and passes through Noordegesig, New Canada, Pennyville, Bosmont, Coronationville, Newclare, Westbury, Westdene, Melville, Auckland Park and Parktown, and it links to the CBD. The faster, safer and cost-effective Rea Vaya bus service is exceeding its daily target of transporting 80 000 passengers daily.

The new services will be using 134 new buses, which have also been manufactured locally. Residents and students will be able to travel to universities and hospitals much easier with Rea Vaya.

The introduction of the Rea Vaya smart card is another innovation that commuters can use to pay for travel easily and safely.

Nelson Mandela municipality's Libhongo Lethu continued to run a pilot service on its upgraded network.

A feature of 2013/14 public transport network development was that construction commenced in four more cities, namely, Tshwane, eThekweni, Rustenburg and Mbombela.

George municipality was a new entrant to the public transport network development enterprise and during the course of 2013/14 George was expected to complete its full city-wide network on a more modest scale than the networks being constructed in the metropolitan areas.

Buffalo City, Ekurhuleni, Mangaung, Msunduzi and Polokwane completed their public transport network development planning and service contract designs during 2013/14 and were expected to commence with network development in 2014/15.

The Tshwane Rapid Transit (A Re Yeng) was due to operate in 2014.

All the South African BRT systems will expand in phases over the next decade.

- carries 95% of freight volumes via 30% of the core network
- has annual revenue of more than R14 billion
- will, over the next five years, invest R35 billion in capital
- has 25 347 employees system-wide.

Maritime

The South African Maritime Training Academy at Simon's Town in the Western Cape provides advanced training to the broader maritime sector, including the merchant navy, harbour-craft operations, the fishing industry and the South African Navy. The South African Merchant Navy Academy at Granger Bay, is integrated with the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, with a similar training facility at the Durban Institute of Technology.

As part of an initiative to reduce the vacancy rate of at least 45 000 jobs in the maritime industry, 12 Further Education and Training colleges across the country started to offer courses aimed at equipping young people for a career in the industry from 2013.

In June 2014, Africa's first-ever training vessel, the *SA Agulhas* will go to Ghana, Abidjan in the Ivory Coast, before docking in Canary Wharf in London.

Arrive Alive campaign

Government renewed its mission to curb the escalating rate of accidents throughout the country with the launch of the Arrive Alive Festive Season Campaign in the Free State in November 2013. The launch coincided with the World Remembrance Day for road traffic victims observed internationally on the third Sunday of November every year. The campaign emphasised that the reduction in road deaths was urgent and non-negotiable. The campaign will see government stepping up law enforcement operations focusing on responsible driving while arresting drunk, reckless and speeding drivers.

According to DoT statistics, about 40 people are killed on South African roads every day, costing the economy R306 billion annually. The RAF pays out about R15 billion to victims of road accidents every year.

Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020

South Africa is a signatory to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020. The resolution is co-sponsored by more than 90 countries.

A key aspect of the Integrated Road Safety Management Programme is increasing pedestrian safety. In planning and design, Sanral provides for interventions such as traffic calming, safe stopping areas for public transport, and pedestrian

bridges. The DoT also engages communities adjacent to national roads to find solutions to pedestrians' needs.

To contribute to safety on the roads, Sanral developed a database of projects that need to be implemented in areas that are hazardous to pedestrians. The solutions range from pedestrian bridges, pavements, road safety education and traffic calming measures.

When it comes to managing safety on freeways, Sanral's incident management system, supported by central coordination centres, embraces interaction between emergency services and law enforcement agencies on all declared national routes.

