

POCKET GUIDE TO *South Africa*

2015/16



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.

Pocket Guide to South Africa 2015/16

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FOREWORD

This edition of the *Pocket Guide to South Africa 2015/16* prominently portrays South Africa as being imbued with the requisite resources and countless opportunities, for sustainable growth and development. It also highlights the indomitable fact that South Africa is open for business as a tourist and investment destination of choice.

Since 1994 the country has witnessed unprecedented development, which is attributed to the far-reaching interventions that government has implemented in order to move the country forward.

The content in this Pocket Guide echoes the core elements being championed in the National Development Plan, which aims to tackle the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality by 2030. These include housing; water; electricity and sanitation; safe and reliable public transport; quality education and skills development; safety and security; quality healthcare; social protection; employment; recreation and leisure; clean environment, and adequate nutrition.

Another milestone worth celebrating is the more than 4,3 million houses and subsidies delivered by government since 1994, benefiting more than 20 million South Africans.

Government has been at the forefront of efforts to reduce poverty and unemployment through various job-intensive and capacity-building projects. They include the Expanded Public

Works Programme and environmental programmes such as Working on Waste, Working for Wetlands, Working for Water and Working on Fire, which have collectively created a significant number of work opportunities, especially for women and the youth.

Despite the devastating impact of the global economic downturn, the country remains amenable to foreign and local investors alike. One of the achievements that reinforce South Africa as one of the most globally competitive countries in the world is that the African Union has designated the country as the rail production hub for the continent. The tourism industry has proved to be a major contributor to the South African economy and employment.

The Bill of Rights, as enshrined in our Constitution, is the cornerstone of our democracy and affirms the right to human dignity, equality and freedom of all people in our country. Social cohesion and nation-building remain the building blocks for a united, non-sexist and prosperous nation that is averse to any form of racism, xenophobia and intolerance.

Some of the progressive policies introduced in 2015 included the *White Paper on the National Health Insurance*, which aims to provide access to healthcare to all people, and the *White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, which is intended to uphold the dignity and rights of persons with disabilities.

In addition to ongoing HIV and AIDS awareness campaigns, government has put over 3,4 million people on antiretroviral treatment, which has resulted in a significant reduction in both the number of people dying as a result of HIV infection and the levels of mother-to-child HIV transmission rates.

Government continues to provide social grants to more than 17 million South Africans in order to alleviate poverty. We value the importance of quality education and skills development. In the words of former President Nelson Mandela, “education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Therefore, more funding has been channelled towards learning and teaching at both basic and tertiary levels. Government remains steadfast in its fervent endeavour to improve the lives of all South Africans.



His Excellency Jacob G. Zuma
President of the Republic of South Africa
August 2016



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	55,91 million
Male	27,38 million (49%)
Female	28,53 million (51%)

Official languages

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

Currency

Rand (ZAR) – 100 cents equals one rand.

Time

GMT +2 hours

Government

Constitutional multiparty democracy, with three spheres – local, provincial and national government.

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 major cities.

Telecommunications

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

Health

Top-quality public and private healthcare is available throughout the country. Malaria precautions are necessary in some areas.

Sources: *Mid-year Population Estimates, 2016* 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.

Democratic government

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 in dealing with the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

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.

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 celebrated 20 Years of Freedom in 2014, which was a historic milestone for the country. The *Twenty Year Review*, which was released in 2013, and the National Planning Commission's 2011 Diagnostic Report, highlight that poverty, inequality and unemployment continue to negatively affect the lives of many people.

Despite progress in reducing rural poverty and increasing access to basic services in rural areas over the past 20 years, rural areas are still characterised by great poverty and inequality. As stated in the NDP, by 2030, South Africa's rural communities must have better opportunities to participate fully in the economic, social and political life of the country.

Government's programme of radical economic transformation is about placing the economy on a qualitatively different path that ensures more rapid, sustainable growth, higher investment, increased employment, reduced inequality and deracialisation of the economy. The NDP sets a growth target of at least 5% a year, and emphasises measures to ensure that the benefits of growth are equitably shared.

South Africa's fifth general elections were held on 7 May 2014. It was also the first time that South African expatriates were allowed to vote in a South African national election.

The ANC won the National Assembly election (62,1%) and the official opposition Democratic Alliance (DA) won 22,2% of the votes, while the newly formed Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) obtained 6,4% of the vote.

The ANC also won eight of the nine provincial legislatures. The EFF obtained over 10% of the votes in Gauteng, Limpopo and North West, and beat the DA to second place in Limpopo and North West. In the other six provinces won by the ANC, the DA obtained second place. In the Western Cape, the only province not won by the ANC, the DA increased its majority from 51,5% to 59,4%.

In 2015, South Africa celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Freedom Charter, which called for peace and friendship among nations. The 40th Anniversary of the 16 June 1976 Soweto Student Uprising was celebrated in 2016, along with the 20th Anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

The 2016 municipal elections were held on 3 August 2016. The ANC won 53,9% of the total vote, followed by the official opposition DA with 26,9% and the EFF with 8,2%.



South Africa's People



People

By mid-2016, Statistics South Africa estimated the population of South Africa as 55,9 million. Between 2002 and 2016, there was an overall increase in life expectancy (55,2 to 62,4 years) and a decline in infant (48,2 to 33,7 deaths per 1000 live births) and under five mortality rate (70,8 to 44,1 deaths per 1000 live births).

Life expectancy at birth for 2016 was estimated at 59,7 years for males and 65,1 years for females. A third of the population was estimated to be under the age of 15, whilst 8% of the population was aged 60 and over.

South Africa is one of the few developing countries experiencing an increase in the proportion aged 60 and over from 6,61% in 2002 to 8,01% in 2016. Declining population growth rates year on year among young people aged 15-34 in conjunction with increasing growth rates among elderly aged 60 and over indicated that South Africa's population was ageing.

With a decline in total fertility rate over time and increased life expectancy, South Africa was expected to experience a continued increase in old-age dependency. Of those elderly aged 60 years and older, the highest percentage 26,1% (1,17 million) reside in Gauteng. Nearly 10% of the population in the Northern Cape were elderly.

Improved access and uptake of antiretrovirals over time in the public and private sector in South Africa has enabled HIV-positive people to live longer and healthy lives, resulting in gradual decline in AIDS-related deaths between 2006 (48%) and 2016 (28%). Despite the gains made in the fight against the HIV and AIDS pandemic by reducing AIDS-related deaths and declining HIV-incidence rates, South Africa has paid a large price.

By mid-2016, the estimated overall HIV-prevalence rate was about 12,7% of the total South African population. The total number of people living with HIV was estimated at about 7,03 million in 2016. For adults aged between 15 and 49 years, an estimated 18,9% of the population was HIV positive.

Migration

Migration is an important demographic process in shaping the age structure and distribution of the provincial population. For the period 2011 – 2016 it was estimated that approximately 247 437 people would migrate from the Eastern Cape.

Limpopo was estimated to experience an out-migration of nearly 305 030 people. During the same period, Gauteng and the Western Cape were estimated to experience an inflow of migrants of approximately 1 216 258 and 363 114 respectively.



Mpumalanga and North West also received positive net migration. The Eastern Cape, Free State and Limpopo experienced the largest proportion of outflow.

Languages

South Africa is a multicultural society that is characterised by its rich linguistic diversity. Language is an indispensable tool that can be used to deepen democracy and also contribute to the

social, cultural, intellectual, economic and political life of the South African society.

The country is multilingual with 11 official languages, each of which is guaranteed equal status. Most South Africans are multilingual and able to speak at least two or more of the official languages.

According to the 2011 Census, 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%, Sepedi at 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 and nation-building.

Among other things, the legislation requires every government department, public entity and enterprise to establish a language unit and adopt a language policy.

It also encourages national government departments and public entities to use the official languages to enhance communication with the public in order to improve the quality of their lives.



Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries



The mandate of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) includes supporting and promoting agricultural, forestry and fisheries resources management through policies, strategies and programmes to enhance sustainable use, and achieve economic growth, job creation, food security and rural development.

The department has prioritised improving food security, creating jobs and increasing the contribution of the agriculture sector to the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

The department promotes food security by supporting food producers through the:

- Micro-Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa (MAFISA), which provides agricultural production loans to smallholder operators in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors.
- Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP) grant, which provides post-settlement support to targeted beneficiaries of land reform and redistribution, as well as to other producers who have acquired land privately and are engaged in domestic value-adding enterprises or exporting agricultural produce.
- Ilima/Letsema projects grant, which provides production inputs to subsistence and smallholder farmers.
- The 2012 – 2017 food security initiative, Fetsa Tlala, which is aimed at the production of staple foods on fallow land that has the potential for agricultural production.

Some of the animal improvement schemes to be implemented include *Kaonafatso ya Dikgomo*, a programme that assists poor farmers; and the poultry scheme, which assists poor poultry farmers to identify and manage risks associated with poultry diseases by 2018.

Drought

In addition to the devastating effect of dry weather conditions on field crops as well as animal and horticultural production, South Africa also experienced record-high temperatures in the final quarter of 2015, further scorching arable land.

According to the South African Weather Service, 2015 was the warmest year in recorded history.

The DAFF had reprioritised about R502 million in 2015/16 for drought relief activities, which included procuring water tankers, delivering water, protecting springs, and refurbishing and drilling boreholes.

Creating jobs

The Agricultural Policy Action Plan, approved by Cabinet in March 2015, is expected to promote the revitalisation of agriculture and agro-processing value chains in priority commodities such as maize, soyabeans, poultry and red meat.

These commodities have been identified in the national development plan as having high growth potential and high labour absorption capacity, hence contributing to creating one million jobs by 2030.

The LandCare Programme aims to promote sustainable land and soil management practices, prevent land degradation and desertification in rural areas and contribute to job creation.

Planned work also includes reducing the spread of invasive alien plants, fencing and protecting agricultural land against degradation, conserving water resources and combating the loss of topsoil.

The Expanded Public Works Programme's Working for Fisheries projects encourage communities to responsibly manage and conserve aquatic environments through, for example, cleaning fishing harbours and conducting harbour patrols.

Agricultural production by households

Less than one-fifth of South African households (16,9%) were involved in agricultural production activities in 2015, according to the results of the General Household Survey released by Statistics South Africa in June 2016.

Of these, 11,8% cultivated farmland while 91,3% created backyard gardens.

Food production consisted of grains (51,6%), fruit and vegetables (50,8%), livestock farming (34,3%) and poultry (33,7%). Only 12,1% of the households involved in agriculture reported getting agricultural-related support from the government.

Nationally, 2,1% of the households reported receiving training and 6,8% received dipping/livestock vaccination services.

Role players

Credit and assistance

The six major sources of credit for farmers are banks (56%), agricultural cooperatives and agribusinesses (9%), the Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa (the Land



Bank) (30%), private creditors (3%), and other creditors and financial institutions (2%).

Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa

The Land Bank is a specialist agricultural bank guided by a government mandate to provide financial services to the commercial farming sector and agribusiness, and makes available financial products to new entrants to agriculture from historically disadvantaged backgrounds. Today, the bank is a true South African development finance institution that serves all farmers equally.

Micro-Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa

MAFISA is a scheme that provides production loans to small-holder operators within the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors.

The maximum loan size offered by MAFISA is R500 000 per client with special provision for up to R1 million for special projects.

The loans are solely for use in agriculture, forestry or fisheries enterprises. They are also for purposes of covering production input, small equipment, livestock purchase, harvesting (in the case of fruit, forestry, aquaculture and artisanal fisheries) and agro-processing.

AgriBEE Fund

The AgriBEE Fund was established to provide support to businesses owned by black South Africans to advance the transformation agenda in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors.

The objective of the fund are to promote entry and participation of black people in the entire value chain by providing funding for equity deals, to acquire interest in existing commercially viable and sustainable enterprises and advance enterprise development through agro-processing and value-adding activities.

For the maximum loan of R5 million, applicants are required to contribute 10% to demonstrate their level of commitment. However, the Land Bank and DAFF may approve applications of more than R5 million and applicants will be required to contribute 20%.

Agri South Africa (AgriSA)

AgriSA promotes the development, profitability, stability and sustainability of agriculture in South Africa by means of its involvement and input on national and international policy, and the implementation thereof.

Agricultural Business Chamber (ABC)

The ABC is a voluntary, dynamic and influential association of agribusinesses. Its mission is to negotiate and position for a favourable agribusiness environment where members can perform competitively and profitably.

The ABC is the only organisation that serves the broader and common business interests of agribusinesses in South Africa. The chamber facilitates considerable networking

opportunities so that South African agribusinesses can play an active and creative role within the local and international organised business environment and be closely involved in the legislative and policy environment on many fronts.

Transvaal Agricultural Union South Africa (TAU SA)

TAU SA renders services to its members in terms of property rights, economic issues, and safety and security.

National African Farmers' Union of South Africa (NAFU)

The aim of NAFU is to create a "home" for thousands of black farmers who had previously been excluded from the mainstream of agriculture. It focuses on advocacy and lobbies for access to critical resources such as land, credit, information, extension and other support services.

African Farmers' Association of South Africa (AFASA)

AFASA's aim is to promote competent and successful commercial South African farmers, and to ensure the long-term sustainability of the agricultural sector. Its values are to facilitate the development of African farmers to increase their meaningful participation in the agricultural sector.

Agricultural Research Council (ARC)

The ARC contributes to improved productivity, competitiveness and sustainability for animal and crop production; national biodiversity and the integrity of the ecosystem; and an increased number of smallholder farmers who have access to agriculture technologies and extension services.

Forestry

Forestry contributes a modest 0,7% to the GDP and supports manufacturing subsectors such as sawmilling and paper and pulp production, as well as mining and construction. Of the total land area of 122,3 million ha in South Africa, only (1% or 1,273 million ha) is used for forestry.

The forest products industry ranks among the top exporting industries in the country. Paper and paper board, wood pulp, wood and articles of wood, and charcoal are some of the leading export products.

There are 47 protected tree species in terms of the National Forests Act of 1998, which may not be cut, destroyed, damaged or removed. Neither may the trees or their products be

collected, removed, exported or donated, unless the DAFF has granted a licence. The Act also protects live trees occurring in natural forests.

National Arbor Week, which is celebrated annually in September, serves to promote awareness for the need to plant and maintain indigenous trees throughout South Africa. Every Arbor Week celebration highlights two specific trees – one common and one rare species. The theme for the 2015 Arbor Week Campaign was: “Forests and People: Investing in a sustainable future”.

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.

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.

Fisheries

The fisheries industry is estimated to provide about 27 000 direct jobs in the industry (16 000 in the primary sector and 11 000 in the secondary and tertiary sectors), while an additional 81 000 people are indirectly employed in industries that are at least partially dependent on the fishing sector.

Fisheries output is determined by catch volumes, which, in turn, depend on the health and management of fish stocks, varying according to ecological changes and subjected to overexploitation through illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities.

The aquaculture (fish farming) sector is considered under-developed and as a result has been prioritised due to declining wild stocks.

Government aims to ensure the conservation, protection, rehabilitation and recovery of depleted and degraded natural resources by, among other things, developing recovery plans in prioritised areas of fish stocks such as abalone, west coast rock lobsters and deep water hake by 2018/19.

Inshore species are especially vulnerable to stock depletion, as they are easily accessed, especially illegally. The DAFF seeks to prevent overexploitation by assigning total allowable catch and/or total allowable effort per species, which are adjusted regularly, depending on the estimated state of the resource.

The DAFF has also sought to promote transformation in the sector by including small-scale fishing communities.

Aquaculture

Aquaculture incorporates the breeding, trading or rearing of aquatic organisms in a controlled or selected aquatic environment for recreational, commercial or subsistence purposes. It is divided into fresh-water culture and mariculture.

South Africa's aquaculture sector has been given a boost through its inclusion in Operation Phakisa (Big Fast Results programme) in 2014, and R40 million of the R125 million budget will fund 24 aquaculture projects over the medium term.

The projects are expected to increase current production of 4 000 tonnes of fish per year to 20 000 tonnes per year over the period, significantly contributing to food production. In addition, 210 000 jobs are expected to be created by 2030.

Species being farmed include dusky kob, abalone, Pacific oysters, Mediterranean mussels and black mussels, among others. Abalone fishing is severely restricted in South African waters, however, poaching is rife, as it is a lucrative trade.

Poaching has caused the decline in abalone numbers over the years. The species is highly coveted and fetches high prices, especially in the Far East.

In South Africa, 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 improve export opportunities.



Arts and Culture



The mandate of the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) is to:

- develop and promote arts and culture in South Africa, and mainstream its role in social development;
- develop and promote the official languages of South Africa, and enhance the linguistic diversity of the country;
- improve economic and other development opportunities for South African arts and culture nationally and globally through mutually beneficial partnerships in order to ensure the sustainability of the sector; and
- develop and monitor the implementation of policy, legislation and strategic direction for the identification, conservation and promotion of cultural heritage.

Over the medium term, the DAC was expected to focus on developing arts, culture and heritage infrastructure, positioning the cultural and creative industries as drivers of economic growth and job creation, and contributing to social cohesion and nation building.

To redress the historical imbalances in how South African heritage has been narrated, and to contribute to social transformation, the department was expected to construct new heritage infrastructure.

In 2016/17, the department was expected to conduct a feasibility study on a liberation movement museum. Heritage infrastructure projects that will be completed over the medium term include: the Sarah Baartman Centre of Remembrance in Hankey in the Eastern Cape (to be completed in March 2018/19 at a cost of R137,3 million), the OR Tambo Memorial in Mbizana in the Eastern Cape (to be completed in 2017/18 at R14 million), and the Ingquza Hill Museum in Lusikisiki in the Eastern Cape (to be completed in 2018/19 at R41 million).

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:xaarra//ke**, written in the Khoisan language of the !Xam people, means "diverse people unite".

Languages

South Africa is a multilingual country. The country's Constitution guarantees equal status to 11 official languages to cater for its diverse people and their cultures. These are: English, isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Siswati, Tshivenda and Xitsonga.

Other languages used in South Africa include the Khoi, Nama and San languages, Sign Language, Arabic, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, French, Portuguese, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telegu and Urdu. South Africa has various structures and institutions that support the preservation and development of languages.

Community art centres and other cultural organisations

There are more than 160 community art centres in operation, varying from community-initiated to government-managed centres.

The centres are located in different places such as craft centres, community halls and theatres.

The DAC endorses and supports programmes in needy centres that are community-initiated or non-governmental. In 2015, 100 community arts programmes were implemented.

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.

Moral Regeneration Movement (MRM)

The objective of the MRM is to contribute to the development of a caring society by reviving the spirit of botho/ubuntu (humanity). It also seeks to realise the values and ideals enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy

The DAC's Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy seeks to reposition the arts, culture and heritage sector as a key player in government's programme of action towards creation of sustainable jobs, building audiences and skills development.

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.

Living Living Legends Programme (LLLP)

In August 2015 the DAC announced the LLLP, an initiative that seeks to honour the living legends of the arts, culture and heritage sector, document their contribution and provide opportunities for interaction and imparting skills to younger generations of artists.

The aim of this initiative is to identify living legends across all arts disciplines and engage them actively in programmes that promote arts and culture development. This is in line with the DAC's policy intervention to develop the Living Heritage Policy. Implementation of the programme includes the compiling of a Living Legends Inventory.

Various other aspects of the Living Legends Legacy Programme include giving Master-Classes, participating in incubator programmes, giving lectures and contributing to artists in schools and artists in residence programmes.

The strategic objective is to ensure that there is transference of skills, knowledge and experience to the younger generation, while at the same time creating opportunities for the legends to continue pursuing viable careers in the arts.

Festivals

Arts and cultural festivals abound in South Africa and many of them have become annual events, growing in popularity and attendance numbers.

- Aardklop, held annually in Potchefstroom, North West, is inherently Afrikaans, but universal in character. The festival provides a platform for the creativity and talent of local artists.
- Arts Alive International Festival in Newtown in Johannesburg provides the best in homegrown and overseas entertainment in September.

- The Cape Town International Jazz Festival features international and African artists. It also features photographic and art exhibitions.
- The Dance Umbrella is a festival of contemporary choreography and dance, presenting work ranging from community-based dance troupes to international companies. The Dance Umbrella has established itself as the main “stepping stone” for many South African choreographers who now work internationally. They include Vincent Mantsoe, Robyn Orlin, Boyzie Cekwana and Gregory Maqoma.
- The Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, known as the KKNK, a vibrant festival for the performing arts, is held annually in Oudtshoorn and presentations include drama, cabaret, and contemporary and classical music.
- The 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.
- The 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 Bushveld Bash near Northam in North West offer live performances by rock, alternative and blues bands, both local and from abroad.
- The 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 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.
- The White Mountain Folk Festival in the Central Drakensberg mountain range offers great music in an awesome setting for three days in September. It features acoustic performances by some of South Africa’s top folk musicians.

Other festivals that attract visitors at both national and international level are: Innibos in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga; Taung Cultural Calabash in North West; the Awesome Africa Music Festival in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal; the Windybrow Theatre Festival in Johannesburg; Hilton Arts Festival in KwaZulu-Natal, and the One City Many Cultures in Cape Town, Western Cape.

The inaugural Mandela International Film Festival took place in Nelson Mandela Bay, Eastern Cape, in December

2015. It strives to encourage a bold new world of film-making and is committed to improving both the craft and business of film.

The Nelson Mandela Bay area offers not only an exceptional venue for the film industry but is also part of a massive investment promotion strategy that includes a range of initiatives from infrastructure to manufacturing, tourism and agriculture.

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.

Theatre

The theatre scene is buzzing in South Africa, with over 100 active spaces across the country offering everything from indigenous drama, music, dance, cabaret and satire to West End and Broadway hits, classical opera and ballet.

Venues range from the monolithic homes of the former state-supported performing arts councils to purpose-built theatres, a converted fruit market, country barns, casinos and urban holes-in-the-wall.

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 on which to build.

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.

In July 2015, the Khoisan indigenous dance group, *Die Nuwe Graskoue Trappers* – a traditional Khoisan Riel Dance troupe – won Gold in the Group Production Competition at the 19th Championship of the World Performing Arts in Los Angeles, USA. They beat France and Philippines to take the first prize.

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

The DAC funds a number of musical ensembles directly and indirectly, through the NAC.

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 Africa is the 25th largest market for recorded music, with the industry employing more than 20 000 people.

Local music accounts for a third of all the music bought by South Africans.

Township jazz and blues, especially the kwêla music of the forties and fifties, are being redefined; the country also has a rich choral tradition, and pop and rock musicians have made their mark internationally.

Even techno-rave and house music have found their own variations in local culture. Kwaito and hip-hop are very popular, combining elements of rap, reggae and other musical styles into a distinctly South African style. Kwaai Jazz is also gaining momentum.

South African Music Awards (SAMAs)

The 21st annual SAMAs ceremony was held at Sun City, North West, in April 2015. The winners were:

- **Album of the Year:** Beatenberg, *The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg*.
- **Duo or Group of the Year:** Beatenberg, *The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg*.
- **Female Artist of the Year:** Bucie, *Princess of House* (Easy to Love).
- **Male Artist of the Year:** AKA, *Levels*.
- **Newcomer of the Year:** Cassper Nyovest, *Tsholofelo*.
- **Best Rock Album:** aKing, *Morning After*.
- **Best Pop Album:** Beatenberg, *The Hanging Gardens of Beatenberg*.
- **Best Pop Album (Afrikaans):** Riana Nel, *Die Regte Tyd*.
- **Best Adult Contemporary Album:** Joe Niemand, *Back Again*.
- **Best Adult Contemporary Album (Afrikaans):** Dewald Wasserfall, *Ek en Jy*.

- **Best African Adult Album:** Maleh, *You Make My Heart Go*.
- **Best Alternative Album:** Bittereinder, *Skerm*.
- **Best R&B/Soul/Reggae Album:** Afrotraction, *For The Lovers*.
- **Best Rap Album:** K.O., *Skhanda Republic*.
- **Best Kwaito Album:** Professor, *University of Kalawa Jazmee since 1994*.
- **Best Dance Album:** Black Motion, *Fortune Teller*.
- **Best Traditional Faith Music Album:** S'fiso Ncwane, Bayede Baba.
- **Best Contemporary Faith Music Album:** Loyiso Bala, *Power Love Sound*.
- **Best Traditional Music Album:** Botlhale Boikanyo, *Spoken Word & Music*.
- **Best Maskandi Album:** Thokozani Langa, *Igama Lami*.
- **Best Jazz Album:** McCoy Mrubata, *Brasskap Sessions Vol. 2*.
- **Best Classical and/or Instrumental Album:** Wouter Kellerman, *Winds of Samsara*.
- **Best Live DVD:** Robin Kohl for *First Decade by Lira*.
- **Best Collaboration:** K.O. ft. Kid X, *Caracara*.
- **Best Music Video of the Year:** Ryan Kruger (director), *Let the Night In* by Prime Circle.
- **Best Producer of the Year:** Wouter Kellerman and Ricky Kej for *Winds of Samsara* by Wouter Kellerman.
- **Best Engineer of the Year:** Brian O'Shea, Crighton Goodwill and Maruis Poplanet for *Johnny Apple* by Johnny Apple.
- **Remix of the Year:** DJ Sbu and Robbie Malinga, *Indlela Yam* by DJ Sbu and Mojalefa Thebe.
- **Special awards:** KIA Record of the Year: K.O, featuring kid X, *Caracara*.
- **Best Selling Album:** Riana Nel.
- **Lifetime Achievement awards:** M'du Masilela, Mandla Mofokeng (Spikiri) and Zim Ngqawana.
- **International Achievement Award:** Wouter Kellerman.
- **Best Selling DVD:** Joyous SA, *Vol. 18 One Purpose*.
- **Best Selling Mobile Music Download:** Beatenberg and DJ Clock.

- **Best Selling Ring-Back Tone:** *Pluto*, DJ Clock ft Beatenberg.
- **Best Selling Full-Track Download:** *Pluto*, DJ Clock ft Beatenberg.
- **South African Music Performance Rights Association Award Highest Airplay of the Year:** *Pluto*, DJ Clock ft Beatenberg.

South African Traditional Music Achievement (SATMA) Awards

Launched in 2005, the SATMA Awards are aimed at promoting, preserving, uplifting, developing, honouring and awarding traditional musicians across racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The 10th SATMA Awards ceremony was held on 3 October 2015 in Richards Bay, KwaZulu-Natal and the winners were:

- **Best Sepedi Album:** Mponi (Dula le nna).
- **Best Tshivenda Album:** April Ramufhi (Vhavenda vha lale).
- **Best Xitsonga Album:** Joe Shirimani (Ni Heleketeni).

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.

- **Best isiNdebele Album:** Smangele (Ihlonipho).
- **Best isiXhosa Album:** Butho Vuthela (Emasimini kuyaphilwa Vol. 1).
- **Best Setswana Album:** Diragammu Cultural Group (Mahikeng).
- **Best Sesotho Album:** Phoka le Moketa (Lipoocho tsa Borhabela).
- **Best Siswati Album:** Make Shelangubo (Ngilele Ebaleni).
- **Best Indian Album:** Flash Entertainers (Nagara touch and chutney hits).
- **Best Boeremusiek Album:** Hans Bothma (Langarm Boerejol).
- **Best Maskandi Album:** Amageza Amahle (Ithende lemicimbi).
- **Best Vernacular Hip-Hop Album:** Zakwe (Reverse, ft Duncan).
- **Best Song of the Year:** Osaziwayo (Iphupho).
- **Best Female Artist:** Buselaphi (Gabi Gabi).
- **Best Afro Soul:** Choko (Lerato).
- **Best Poet:** Phindile “the poet” (Divine purpose).
- **Best African Jazz Song:** Quincy K (Motswana gorileng).
- **Best Indigenous Comedian:** Tsoro
- **Best Newcomer Artist:** Bahubhe (Impundulu).
- **Best Mbaqanga Album:** Sandile Khwela (Uvalo).
- **Best Isicathamiya Album:** Royal Messengers (Sakhisizwe).
- **Best Traditional Dance Group:** Kopano ke Matla Traditional Group.
- **Best Praise Singer:** David Leshomo (Molodi wa setso).
- **Best Reggae Album:** Judah of the next generation (Let thy kingdom come).

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

Dancing is part of the African way of life and has become a prime means of artistic expression, with dance companies expanding and exploring new territory.

Contemporary work ranges from normal preconceptions of movement and performance art or performance theatre to the completely unconventional.

Added to this is the African experience, which includes traditional dance inspired by wedding ceremonies, battles, rituals and the trifles of everyday life.

An informal but highly versatile performance venue in Johannesburg, The Dance Factory, provides a permanent platform for a variety of dance and movement groups. The University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) Theatre is another popular dance venue.

Visual arts

South Africa has a rich variety of visual art, with influences ranging from pre-historic, ancient and indigenous art to western, Asian and contemporary art.

Art galleries, ranging from small privately owned commercial galleries, to major regional galleries such as the South African National Gallery in Cape Town, the Durban Art Gallery in KwaZulu-Natal, the Johannesburg Art Gallery in Gauteng and King George VI Gallery in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, showcase collections of indigenous, historical and contemporary works.

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

With its scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, diversity of cultures and rich historical heritage, South Africa is a photographer's paradise.

Many South African photographers have been acclaimed for their work, which features in coffee-table books, documentaries, local and overseas exhibitions, magazines and newspapers.

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.

This is evident in the variety of architectural structures found all over the country, ranging from humble dwellings,

historical homesteads and public buildings, to modern, commercial buildings reflecting state-of-the-art technology and designs that match the best in the world.

Crafts

South African beadwork, once the insignia of tribal royalty alone, has found a huge range of applications, from the creation of coverings for everything from bottles to match-boxes.

With workplaces ranging from the pavements and markets of the big cities to dwellings in deep rural areas, South Africans produce a remarkable range of arts and crafts, including various forms of traditional artwork and innovative new products.

These range from jewellery, tableware, home decorations, embroidery and key rings to skilfully crafted wooden engravings and wirework sculptures. In addition to the standard materials such as beads, grass, leather, fabric and clay, many other mediums are also used, including telephone wire, plastic bags, empty cans, bottle tops and even food tin labels, to create brightly coloured paper mâché bowls.

Shops, markets and collectors dealing in African crafts provide much-needed employment and income to communities.

Cultural and Creative Industries Federation of South Africa (CCIFSA)

The CCIFSA is the controlling body set up in 2015, with the assistance of the DAC, for cultural and creative sectors in South Africa. It was formed as a non-profit company to promote and develop the social and economic interests of the cultural and creative industries, and to act as the controlling body for these sectors.

Literature

South Africa has a rich and diverse literary history, and the local literature sector has become globally competitive and the country's writers continue to command respect throughout the world.

National Book Week, a partnership between the South African Book Development Council and the DAC, was

In 2015, comedian and TV personality, Trevor Noah, replaced Jon Stewart on the popular 'Daily Show' in the USA. His achievement made a resounding statement that South Africa has the artistic talent of international stature and calibre.

celebrated from 7 to 13 September 2015. The initiative promotes literacy, celebrates reading. Reading statistics report that only 14% of the South African population are active book readers, and a mere 5% of parents read to their children. In an effort to fulfil its key objectives, the national campaign focused on two key facets – getting people to read and getting more books to South Africans.

#GOINGPLACES reflects the physical journey of National Book Week travelling throughout South Africa, as well as the magic of books and how reading books can both figuratively and literally take you places. This campaign, which primarily aims to encourage book reading, targets adults, children, youth and students, as well as librarians, teachers, parents and caregivers.

#BUYABOOK is a call to action which seeks to increase the perception of the value in books, particularly for those who do not own any. First in line to heed this call has been publishers Pan Macmillan SA, Penguin Random House SA, and NB Publishers who have offered discounted books that will be sold in Bargain Books and Exclusive Books stores nationwide.

In 2015, Marlene van Niekerk became the first South African author to be shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize. She was recognized for outstanding lifetime achievements in fiction, including works like *Triomf* and *Agaat*. She also received the Order of Ikhamanga in 2011 for “her outstanding intellectual contribution to literary arts and culture”.

South African Literary Awards

The 10th South African Literary Awards in 2015 were held at the Tshwane Events Centre in Pretoria. The winners were:

- **First Time Published Author Award:** Carol Campbell, *My Children Have Faces*.
- **K Sello Duiker Memorial Literary Award:** Zukiswa Wanner, *London – Cape Town – Joburg*.
- **Literary Translators Award:** Karen Press, *Mede-wete* and *Synapse*.
- **Poetry Award** (the award shared by all three nominees):
 1. Charl-Pierre Naude (Afrikaans), *Al die lifelike dade*.
 2. Mangaliso Buzani (isiXhosa), *Ndisabhala Imibongo*.
 3. Bishop MT Makobe (Sepedi), *Tsa Ngwedding wa Letopanta*.
- **Creative Non-Fiction Award:** Edwin Cameron, *Justice: A Personal Account*.
- **Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award:** Abraham H de Vries (Afrikaans), *Maar wie snoei die rose in die nag?*

- **Literary Posthumous Awards:** RRR Dhlomo and HIE Dhlomo.
- **Lifetime Achievement Literary Awards:** Antjie Krog (Afrikaans) and Achmat Dangor (English).
- **Literary Journalism Award:** Michele Magwood (English).

Film

The South African Government recognises the significant role played by the film sector in nation-building, promoting social cohesion, reconciliation and supporting economic growth and job creation.

Government offers a package of incentives to promote its film production industry. The Foreign Film and Television Production incentive aims to attract foreign-based film productions to shoot on location in South Africa, and the South African Film and Television Production and Co-production incentive aims to assist local film producers in producing local content.

The South African Emerging Black Filmmakers incentive, a sub-programme of the South African Film and Television Production and Co-production Incentive, which aims to assist local emerging black filmmakers to nurture and grow them to take up big productions and thus contribute towards employment creation.

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 Apollo Film Festival in Victoria West; 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

South Africa can justifiably be called the “museum country of Africa”, with the earliest of its museums dating back to the first half of the 19th century.

There are more than 300 museums in South Africa. They range from museums of geology, history, the biological sciences and the arts, to mining, agriculture, forestry and many other disciplines.

Visitors can find exhibits, both conventional and eccentric, on every conceivable topic – from beer to beadwork, from fashion to food.

National Library of South Africa (NLSA)

The NLSA is a custodian and provider of the nation's key knowledge resources. Its collections contain a wealth of information sources, including rare manuscripts, books, periodicals, government publications, foreign official publications, maps, technical reports, and special interest material, including Africana and newspapers.

South African Library for the Blind (SALB)

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

It is partly state-funded and depends for the remainder of its financial needs on funds from the private sector and the general public.

The SALB also produces documents in special media such as Braille, audio and tactile formats. It develops standards for the production of such documents and researches production methods and technology in the appropriate fields.

It also acquires, manufactures and disseminates the technology people with visual disabilities use to read. The SALB has a membership of about 5 427 people, an audio and Braille collection of more than 110 950 books, and an annual circulation of 141 950 books in Braille or audio format.

To make library services more accessible, the SALB partners 115 public libraries providing accessible reading material and assistive devices.

Blind SA

Blind SA, located in Johannesburg, provides services for blind and partially sighted individuals to uplift and empower them by publishing books, magazines and other documents in Braille.

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

Department of Communications (DoC)

The DoC comprises the following entities: Brand South Africa (Brand SA); Film and Publication Board (FPB); Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA), Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA) and the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC).

The vision of the DoC of providing vibrant and sustainable communication services for an informed citizenry and a positive image of South Africa supports its mission of creating an enabling environment for the provision of inclusive communication services to all South Africans in a manner that promotes socio-economic development and investment through broadcasting, new media, print media and new technologies, and brand the country locally and internationally.

The DoC is spearheading the process of migrating broadcasting signals from analogue to digital. South Africa's national digital network coverage comprises Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) transmission coverage of 84% of the population with the remaining 16% to be covered by satellite network.

DTT is a reliable and cost-efficient means to distribute linear TV content and has many advantages over the analogue broadcasting system. One of its major advantages for communities is that it clears the analogue spectrum for the delivery of broadband mobile Internet and Wi-fi services.

To view digital TV signals on an ordinary analogue TV set, consumers will need a set-top box (STB).

Government will provide about five million poor TV-owning households with free STBs.

In October 2015, the Minister of Communications, Ms Faith Muthambi, took the first households registration process for STBs to the Square Kilometre Array community of Keimoes, Kai !Garib Municipality, in the Northern Cape.

The Analogue Switch-Off Event was scheduled to take place in Carnarvon, Northern Cape in October 2016.

Brand SA

Brand SA develops and implements a proactive and coordinated international marketing and communication strategy for South Africa to contribute to job creation and poverty reduction; and to attract inward investment, trade and tourism.

The new slogan, "South Africa: Inspiring New Ways," is set to represent the next phase of the country's development, where South Africa has moved from possibility to

delivery, and is now an important regional power.

Internationally, Brand SA lobbies and networks extensively among global opinion leaders to shift perceptions about the country and the continent.

Film and Publication Board

The FPB regulates and controls the creation, production, possession, exhibition and distribution of certain films, interactive computer games and publications in terms of the Films and Publications Act of 1996. The board is also responsible for monitoring age restricted business premises for compliance with their licence and registration terms.

The Act recognises the right of adults to freedom of expression, except with respect to child pornography, and requires the board to intervene where there is a risk of harm to children.

The board spearheads a national anti-child-pornography campaign to educate learners about ways to avoid victimisation. Child-pornography websites can be reported by calling the board's toll-free number 0800 148 148.

Independent Communications Authority of South Africa

ICASA makes regulations and issues communication licences. In addition, it enforces compliance with rules and regulations, protects consumers from unfair business practices and poor quality services, hears and decides on disputes and complaints brought against licences, and controls and manages the frequency spectrum.

ICASA is responsible for regulating the telecommunications, broadcasting and postal industries in the public interest and ensure affordable services of a high quality for all South Africans.

Media Development and Diversity Agency

The MDDA promotes media development and diversity to ensure that all citizens can access information in a language of their choice; and to transform media access, ownership and control patterns in South Africa. Its mandate, among others, is to:

- Create an enabling environment for media development and diversity which reflects the needs and aspirations of all South Africans.
- Redress exclusion and marginalisation of disadvantaged

communities and persons from access to the media and the media industry.

- Promote media development and diversity by providing support primarily to community and small commercial media projects.
- Encourage ownership and control of, and access to, media by historically disadvantaged communities as well as by historically diminished indigenous language and cultural groups.
- Encourage the development of human resources and training, and capacity building, within the media industry, especially amongst historically disadvantaged groups.
- Encourage the channelling of resources to the community media and small commercial media sectors.
- Raise public awareness with regard to media development and diversity issues.

South African Broadcasting Corporation

The SABC is the country's only public service broadcaster. The SABC is made up of 18 radio stations, which cater for the country's 11 official languages, as well as the iXun and Khwe languages, and four TV channels, which include the 24-hour news channel.

The SABC has developed editorial policies which guide and give direction to the corporation's public broadcasting mandate and licence conditions, as set by ICASA and the provisions of the Broadcasting Act of 1999.

Government Communication and Information System

The GCIS was established in 1998 in terms of Section 239 of the Constitution as an organisation that ensures the dissemination of government information and messages to the public in a coherent manner and in line with constitutional imperatives of the country.

The GCIS is mandated to coordinate, guide and advise on government communications, including media liaison, development communication and marketing. Its goal is to achieve integrated, coordinated and clear communication between government and South African citizens, which enables the public to be involved in the country's transformation.

The main service of the GCIS is to provide accurate and timely government information to the citizens of South Africa through mediated and unmediated communication methods.

This is in support of the constitutional principles of freedom of expression, transparency and openness of government.

The GCIS uses different products and platforms to meet the information needs of various target audiences.

The department provides this service as a constitutional right to the citizens of South Africa wherein Section 195(g) of the Constitution stipulates that to foster transparency, the public should be provided with information that is timely, accurate and accessible.

Among other things, the GCIS is responsible for maintaining government's website (www.gov.za), which provides general information about government.

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

The year 2015 marked the 16th anniversary of the Thusong Service Centre Programme, which enables communities to access government information and services.

Thusong Service Centres are one-stop centres providing integrated services and information from government and other civil society groups, to communities close to where they live as part of a comprehensive strategy to better their lives.

They also enable communities to access opportunities offered by other civil society groups, such as businesses, non-governmental organisations and parastatals.

By the end of 2015/16, there were 197 centres across South Africa.

Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS)

The DTPS is mandated to develop information and communications technology (ICT) policies that create conditions for accelerated and sustained shared growth of the South African economy, and to ensure the development of robust, reliable, secure and affordable ICT infrastructure. This is to contribute to the development of an inclusive information society in which information and ICT tools are key drivers of economic and societal development.

The key focus for the department is the roll-out of South Africa Connect, the department's broadband policy, which ensures connectivity in under-served areas by prioritising schools, health facilities and other government institutions.

As South Africa migrates to digital broadcasting, the DTPS is expected to continue support the DoC in the roll-out of broadcasting digital migration.

The six state-owned enterprises under the DTSP are the South African Post Office (SAPO), Sentech; National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA); Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa (USAASA); .za.Domain Name Authority (ZADNA); Telkom; Broadband Infraco and State Information Technology Agency (SITA).

South African Post Office

The SAPO provides postal and related services to the public. 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.

In addition, 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 TV licences.

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.

The Postbank caters for 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.

Sentech

Sentech is mandated to provide broadcasting signal distribution for broadcasting licensees, with a particular focus on accelerating the implementation of government ICT interventions within the framework of the NDP and the strategic integrated project for expanding access to communication technology.

National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa

By mid-2016, NEMISA, a state-owned entity, was in the process of being incorporated into the Ikamva National e-Skills Institute (INeSI). The new organisation involves the

integration of three entities: NEMISA, INeSI and the Institute for Satellite and Software Applications.

The merger was initiated to address the overlap, duplication and gaps in e-skills development within and between government departments, the education sector, business and civil society. The INeSI is aimed at developing the local e-skills required by South Africa's ICT sector, and it will also develop ICT-user skills by training people how to use electronic devices, how to use the Internet, and how to access public services online.

NEMISA began as a non-profit institution of education and learning for skills in TV, radio and broadcasting.

Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa

The mandate of USAASA is to promote the goal of universal access and universal services by ensuring that ICTs are available, accessible and affordable to all citizens of South Africa.

The agency is charged with managing the Universal Service and Access Fund (USAF), which is used to fulfil universal access obligations in under-served areas.

Through USAF, the agency has played a pivotal role in the deployment of broadband infrastructure and access services with broadband projects having been successfully rolled out in the following underserved areas:

USAASA continues to support, amongst others, the South Africa Connect goals by facilitating the deployment of broadband and connecting educational institutions, primary healthcare (PHC) facilities and other government institutions through USAF.

By facilitating the roll-out of broadband connections in underserved areas and connecting educational and PHC institutions, the agency is bringing South Africa one-step closer to achieving its national targets of 100% broadband penetration by 2020; and deployment of a full range of government, educational and informational services by 2030.

.za.Domain Name Authority (ZADNA)

ZADNA is a not-for-profit company that manages and regulates the .za namespace. It is accountable to the DTPS, but does not receive government funding.

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.

Broadband Infraco

Broadband Infraco provides long distance national and international connectivity to licensed private sector partners, licence-exempt project of national importance and to previously underserved areas. The company's critical success factors are to enable 100% high-speed broadband connectivity for all provinces, districts and municipalities in South Africa; connect to all six neighbouring countries of South Africa and connect countries on the west coast of Africa to the West Africa 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 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.

The South Africa Connect Broadband Policy of the DTPS dictates that targets of 100% broadband penetration must be achieved by 2020. The transformation of 70% of all frontline services to e-Service is expected to be achieved by 2019.

State Information Technology Agency

SITA consolidates and coordinates the State's information technology (IT) resources in order to achieve cost savings through scale, increase delivery capabilities and enhance interoperability.

SITA is committed to leveraging IT as a strategic resource for government, managing the IT procurement and delivery process to ensure that the government gets value for money, and using IT to support the delivery of e-Government services to all citizens.

It serves as the IT business for the largest employer and consumer of IT products and services in South Africa – the Government.

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, 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 radio stations reach 77,3% of the Adult population with 29,5 million listeners.

The SABC has three stations in its commercial portfolio – 5FM, Metro FM and Good Hope FM.

Channel Africa broadcasts live on three platforms: short-wave, satellite and the Internet. Its broadcasts are in Chin-yanja, 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
- Capricorn FM
- 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 TV network comprises three free-to-air TV channels. SABC TV has a weekly audience of 30,248 million (86,6% of adults watch SABC TV in South Africa). South African TV is broadcast in all 11 official languages and also in Sign Language. The SABC also broadcasts a 24-hour news channel on DStv (Channel 404).

Community TV

Soweto TV was the first community TV 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.

Free-to-air TV

e.tv is South Africa's first private free-to-air TV 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.

Satellite broadcasting

eNews Channel Africa (eNCA) is South Africa's first and most watched independent 24-hour TV 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 more than 200 000 Afrikaans viewers on kykNET.

Internet

Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) General Household Survey (GHS) 2015 showed that half of South African households (53,5%) had at least one member who used the Internet either at home, workplace, place of study or Internet cafés.

Access to the Internet using all available means was highest in Gauteng (65,7%), Western Cape (63,3%) and Mpumalanga (55,7%). The lowest was in Limpopo (39,6%) and KwaZulu-Natal (42,3%).

Nearly one-tenth of South African households had access to the Internet at home. Access to the Internet at home was highest among households in the Western Cape (21,4%) and



Gauteng (15,6%), and lowest in Limpopo (1,3%) and North West (3,6%).

Social media

By mid-2016, Facebook was being used by a quarter of all South Africans, while Instagram saw the fastest growth of any social network in South Africa over the past year.

These are two of the key findings from the South African Social Media Landscape 2016 study, conducted by World Wide Worx and Fuseware.

The study was based on access to consumer data from seven major social networks and a corporate survey conducted among more than a 100 of South Africa's leading brands.

It showed that Facebook had grown by 8%, from 12 million to 13 million, and Twitter by 12%, from 6,6 million to 7,4-million users. Video sharing platform YouTube increased its user base marginally more, with a 15% rise from 7,2 million to 8,28-million users. The biggest growth came from Instagram, which rose a massive 133%, from 1,1 million to 2,68 million.

The study showed 10 million or 77% of South Africans on Facebook used it on their mobile devices. Smartphones were used by 7,9 million South Africans to access Facebook, while 1,6-million people were using basic feature phones to do so. Tablets were being used to access Facebook by 1,4-million people.

Online retail

For the first time since the dawn of e-commerce in South Africa, online retail in South Africa was expected to reach 1% of overall retail during 2016. This was the most significant finding of the Online Retail in South Africa 2016 report released by World Wide Worx.

According to the report, online retail continues to grow at a high rate in South Africa, having maintained a growth rate of above 20% since the turn of the century. In 2015, the rate of growth was 26%, taking online retail to the R7,5-billion mark. While the rate was expected to fall a little in 2016, to 20%, growth in Rand terms was expected to remain the same as in 2015, taking the total to above R9 billion.

Much of this growth has been attributed to an increase in the number of experienced Internet users in South Africa who are ready to transact online.

Forecasts by World Wide Worx for the next five years, from 2016 to 2020, show online retail sales almost exactly doubling over this period.

According to the report, the total number of online shoppers in South Africa at the beginning of 2015 was 3 225-million. This represents 60,8% of the Internet user base that World Wide Worx has established is ready to shop online.

Cybercrime and cybersecurity

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

It is estimated that cyber-related offences are escalating and exceed a value in excess of R1 billion annually. The Cybersecurity Hub, pooling public and private sector threat information is responsible for processing and disseminating information to relevant stakeholders in the industry and civil society.

Telecommunications

South Africa has one of the largest telecommunications markets on the continent. It has five major mobile operators, namely CellC, MTN, Vodacom, Telkom Mobile and Virgin Mobile.

Mobile phones are the dominant technology for voice and data communication among base of pyramid 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.

Stats SA's GHS has revealed that in 2015, there was high access to telecommunications for households nationally, as only 3,5% of households did not have access to either landlines or cellular phones. By comparison, 85,5% of households had access to at least one cellular phone, while 10,9% of households had access to both a landline and a cellular phone. Only 0,1% of households had only a landline.

However access to these means of communication differed by province. Households in historically rural provinces such as Mpumalanga (94,4%) and Limpopo (94,1%) were very reliant on the more accessible cellular telephones than landlines. By contrast, a combination of both cellular phones and landlines in households were most prevalent in the more affluent provinces, namely Western Cape (26,2%) and Gauteng (14,1%).

The media

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

Print Newspapers

Most South African newspapers and magazines are organised into several major publishing houses. These include Media24 (part of Naspers, the largest media group in Africa), the Irish-based Independent News & Media (Pty) Ltd group, Caxton Publishers & Printers Ltd and Avusa Ltd. Other important media players include M&G Media Ltd; the Natal Witness Printing & Publishing Company (Pty) Ltd; Primedia Publishing Ltd; RamsayMedia, and Kagiso Media.

Between January and March 2016, daily newspaper circulation declines were experienced by *The Times* (-43%), the *Daily Sun* (-26%) and *The Witness* (-22%). The *Sunday Times* had a less than 2% while the *Sunday World* was down by 20% and the broadsheet *City Press* by 22%.

Magazines

Between January and March 2016, there was a 8.3% decline in total magazine circulation, more than twice that of newspapers, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations of South Africa.

Consumer titles dropped 4,4%, business titles by 2,7% and custom magazines by 10,6%.

However, *The Big Issue* grew 14% and *GQ* by 9% while *Men's Health* dropped 8%. *Car Magazine*, the largest circulating motoring title in the country, grew by 7%.

Media organisations and role players

The non-profit-making Print and Digital Media South Africa (PDMSA) was originally formed to bring together under one roof publishers of diverse print genres.

The PDMSA recognised the advantages of extending its footprint online by extending its membership to include digital media publications. By the end of 2015, the PDMSA membership included more than 700 newspaper and magazine titles that cater for four different language groups.

The members include Times Media Group; Caxton and CTP; Independent Newspapers; Media24; Mail & Guardian, and the Association of Independent Publishers (AIP).

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.

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.

Media Monitoring Africa (formerly Media Monitoring Project) is a non-profit organisation that acts in a watchdog role to promote ethical and fair journalism that supports human rights.

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 Southern Africa; Printing Industries Federation of South Africa; South African Typographical Union; Specialist Press Association; South African Guild of Motoring Journalists; Professional Photographers of South Africa; Media Institute of Southern Africa; Publishers' Association of South Africa, and various press clubs in major centres.

News agencies

The non-profit national news agency, the South African Press Association, which has been in existence since 1938, terminated its services in March 2015.

The African News Agency, Africa's first syndicated multimedia content service, began publishing South African and international news stories in March 2015.

International news agencies based in South Africa include:

- 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
- Vodacom Journalist of the Year Awards
- South African Breweries Environmental Media and Environmentalist of the Year Awards
- Sanlam Financial Journalist of the Year Award
- CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Awards
- Discovery Health Journalism Awards
- Sanef's Nat Nakasa Award
- Local Media Excellence Awards.

Advertising awards

South Africa has a vibrant and dynamic advertising industry.

The Loerie Awards are the best-known South African awards recognising distinction in advertising. The 37th Annual Loerie Awards, took place on 16 August 2015 at the Durban ICC.

A total of 166 awards were handed out, including 17 Gold Awards, and six Craft Golds. Two Grand Prix were awarded in 2015.



Economy and Finance



South Africa is a dynamic and stable economy with solid economic fundamentals. It has a sound financial system, highly regulated banking sector, world-class infrastructure and is investor-friendly. The country has the most diversified economy on the continent and advocates for Africa's advancement.

The implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP) is the cornerstone of the country's democracy. As the strategy for reducing unemployment, inequality and poverty by 2030, the NDP provides a strong platform for collaboration among business, government, labour and civil society.

The plan promotes enhanced competitiveness, expanded infrastructure, greater spatial efficiency in growing cities, and accelerated rural development. It prioritises measures to build a capable, effective state that delivers services to citizens while encouraging business investment and growth.

To counter unemployment levels, especially amongst young people, government aims to create six million work opportunities over the next five years.

During 2015, the economy for the first time crossed the R4 trillion gross domestic product mark and total employment levels reached, also for the first time, 16 million jobs.

The budget for fiscal 2016/17, delivered in February 2016, strengthened measures to narrow the fiscal deficit more rapidly in the next three years and to stabilise government's gross loan debt.

The narrowing of the deficit was envisaged through various adjustments on both the revenue and expenditure side.

Government's Nine-Point Plan to reinvigorate the economy and create much-needed jobs includes:

- managing finances in a prudent and sustainable way;
- harnessing private-public partnership to invest more in infrastructure to increase potential growth;
- giving hope to youth through training and economic opportunities;
- protecting South Africans from the effects of drought through various drought relief efforts;
- continuously improving the education and health systems;
- accelerating transformation towards an inclusive economic growth that benefits all; and
- strengthening social solidarity and extending the social safety net.

Despite the precarious economic climate, South Africa remains committed to providing jobs, growing skills and human capital.

South African Reserve Bank (SARB)

The primary purpose of the SARB is to achieve and maintain price stability in the interest of balanced and sustainable economic growth in South Africa. Together with other institutions, it also plays a pivotal role in ensuring financial stability.

The primary function of the SARB, as the country's central bank, is to protect the value of South Africa's currency. In discharging this role, it takes responsibility for:

- ensuring that the South African money, banking and financial system as a whole is sound, meets the requirements of the community and keeps abreast of international developments;
- assisting the South African Government, as well as other members of the economic community of southern Africa, with data relevant to the formulation and implementation of macroeconomic policy;
- informing the South African community and all stakeholders abroad about monetary policy and the South African economic situation.

The SARB is governed by the SARB Act of 1989, as amended. It has more than 600 shareholders;

South African Revenue Service (SARS)

SARS is an organ of state outside the Public Service that aims to provide a world-class, efficient, transparent and taxpayer-centred service, ensuring optimum and equitable revenue collection. Its main functions are:

- collecting and administering all national taxes, duties and levies imposed under national legislation;
- collecting revenue that may be imposed under any other legislation, as agreed upon between SARS and an organ of state or institution entitled to the revenue
- advising the Minister of Finance on revenue
- facilitating trade
- providing protection against the illegal import and export of goods
- advising the Minister of Trade and Industry on matters concerning control over the import, export, manufacture, movement, storage or use of certain goods.

Tax administration

National Treasury is responsible for advising the Minister of Finance on tax policy issues. As part of this role, National Treasury must design tax instruments that can optimally fulfil a revenue-raising function. These tax instruments must be

aligned to the goals of government's economic and social policy. These instruments are then administered by SARS.

A single, modern framework for the common administrative provisions of various tax Acts administered by SARS, excluding Customs, was established by the Tax Administration Act of 2011, which commenced on 1 October 2012. The Act simplifies and provides greater coherence in South African tax administration law. It eliminates duplication, removes redundant requirements, and aligns disparate requirements that previously existed in different tax Acts administered by SARS.

The Act provides for common procedures across the various tax Acts, and strives for an appropriate balance between the rights and obligations of SARS and the rights and obligations of taxpayers in a transparent relationship.

Office of the Tax Ombud

The function of the Office of the Tax Ombud is to provide taxpayers with an impartial and low-cost mechanism to resolve service, procedural or administrative difficulties that taxpayers have not been able to resolve through SARS's complaints management channels.

South African tax system

South Africa has a residence-based income tax system. Residents are, subject to certain exclusions, taxed on their worldwide income, irrespective of where their income was earned. Non-residents are taxed on their income from a South African source. The liability of taxpayers is determined subject to the provisions of International Agreements for the Avoidance of Double Taxation.

Tax is levied on taxable income, which is calculated as gross income, less exemptions and permissible deductions, plus the applicable percentage of the net capital gain, for the year.

The main tax revenue sources are income tax (individuals, trusts and companies), value-added tax (VAT) and customs and excise duties. Relief is often available from any consumption-based tax when the goods are exported under certain terms and conditions.

Company income tax

Companies are subject to a flat tax rate, which is 28% of taxable income. Exceptions to the rule are the lower, progressive tax rates that apply to small and micro-businesses, as well as the reduced rate that applies to companies operating in designated Special Economic Zones.

Value-added tax

VAT is levied at 14% on the supply of all goods and services by VAT vendors (certain supplies are zero-rated). The quoted or displayed price of goods and services must be VAT-inclusive. A person who supplies goods or services is liable to register for VAT, if the income earned is more than R1 million in a 12-month period, or when there is a reasonable expectation that the income will exceed this amount.

A person can also register voluntarily for VAT, if the income earned from supplying goods or services for 12 months exceeded R50 000.

Personal income tax (PIT)

PIT mainly focuses on the taxation of an individual's income. The main contributor to PIT is employment income from salary earners, and income generated from sole-proprietor activities. The tax rate applicable to PIT-related taxable income is progressive, ranging from marginal rates of 18% to 41%.

As a means of collecting income tax from salary and wage income, a mechanism known as Pay-As-You-Earn is in operation that enables employers to withhold tax due to SARS from employees and pay this over to SARS on a monthly basis, and reconciled biannually.

Excise duty

Excise duty is levied on certain locally manufactured goods and their imported equivalents, such as tobacco and liquor products, and as an ad valorem duty on cosmetics, audio-visual equipment and motor cars.

Environmental levy

The four main areas of levies in this category are plastic bags levy, electricity generation levy, electric filament levy and motor vehicle carbon dioxide emission levy.

Fuel levy

The fuel levy is a consumption-based levy that is levied on petroleum products that are imported or manufactured in South Africa.

Transfer duty

Transfer duty is payable on the acquisition of property. Property costing less than R750 000 attracts no duty. A 3% rate applies to properties costing between R750 001 and R1,25 million.

In respect of property with a value between R1,25 million and R1,75 million, the duty is R15 000 plus 6% of the value above R1,25 million. In respect of property above R1,75 million, the duty is R45 000 plus a rate of 8% of the value exceeding R1,75 million.

For property above R2,25 million, the duty is R85 000 plus a rate of 11% of the value exceeding R2,25 million.

For a property above R10 million, the duty is R937 500 plus 13% of the value exceeding R10 million.

Estate duty

Estate duty is levied at a flat rate of 20% on residents' property and non-residents' South African property. A basic deduction of R3,5 million is allowed in the determination of an estate's liability for estate duty, as well as deductions for liabilities, bequests to public benefit organisations and property accruing to a surviving spouse.

Dividends tax

Dividends tax is a final tax at a rate of 15% on dividends paid by resident companies and by non-resident companies in respect of shares listed on the JSE. Dividends are tax exempt if the beneficial owner of the dividend is a South African company, retirement fund or other exempt person.

Non-resident beneficial owners of dividends may benefit from reduced tax rates in limited circumstances. The tax is to be withheld by companies paying the taxable dividends or by regulated intermediaries in the case of dividends on listed shares. The tax on dividends in kind (other than in cash) is payable and is borne by the company that declares and pays the dividend.

Securities transfer tax

Securities transfer tax is levied at a rate of 0,25% on the transfer of listed or unlisted securities. Securities consist of shares in companies or members' interests in close corporations.

Skills-development levy

Affected employers contribute to a Skills Development Fund that is used for employee training and skills development. This skills development levy is payable by employers at a rate of 1% of the total remuneration paid to employees. Employers paying annual remuneration of less than R500 000 are exempt from the payment of this levy.

Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF)

The UIF insures employees against the loss of earnings due to termination of employment, illness or maternity leave. The contribution to the UIF is shared equally by affected employers and employees at a rate of 1% of remuneration each. The employee share of 1% is withheld by the employer and paid to SARS, together with the employer share of 1%, monthly.

Tax on international air travel

This tax is levied as follows: R190 per passenger departing on an international flight, excluding flights to Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, in which case the tax is R100.

Rates on property

Property-related taxes include municipal rates and charges for refuse and sewerage, which are collected by municipalities.

Customs duty

Customs duty is a tax levied on imports by the customs unit within SARS. Customs duty rates and trade remedies relating to the importation of goods into South Africa are set by the International Trade Administration Commission under the authority of the Department of Trade and Industry (the dti).

The new Customs Control Act of 2014 and Customs Duty Act of 2014 provide a platform for the modernisation of customs administration that achieves a balance between effective customs control, the secure movement of goods and people into and from South Africa and the facilitation of trade and tourism. In addition, VAT is also collected on goods imported and cleared for home consumption.

Voluntary Disclosure Programme (VDP)

A permanent VDP is part of a package of compliance measures aimed at encouraging non-compliant taxpayers to regularise their tax affairs.

In addition, a Special VDP allowed non-compliant taxpayers to voluntarily disclose offshore assets and income, with a limited window period, from 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017.

Economic Development Department (EDD)

The aim of the EDD is to promote economic development through participatory, coherent and coordinated economic policy and planning for the benefit of all South Africans.

It is responsible for, among other things, coordinating the economic development contributions of government departments, state entities and civil society; and promoting government's ability to achieve its goals of advancing economic development with decent work opportunities.

Foreign investments

South Africa is a top destination for foreign direct investment (FDI), according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development FDI 2015 report.

International companies that have invested in South Africa include Mercedes; General Motors; Ford; Metair Group; Goodyear; BMW; VW; Beijing Automobile International Corporation; Hisense; Dunlop; GWK Farm Foods; Alstom SA and Marriot Hotels. Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Krispy Kreme and Facebook have chosen to set up office in South Africa.

State-owned enterprises (SOEs)

The Department of Public Enterprises manages a portfolio of SOEs, which are responsible for the development of key infrastructure and manufacturing capacity for South Africa. These are:

- **Alexkor** – A diamond mining company primarily operating in Alexander Bay and the greater Namaqualand.
- **Denel** – A defence company and although it is established as a private company in terms of the Companies Act of 2008, government exercises full control over it.
- **Eskom** – It generates, transmits and distributes electricity to industrial, mining, commercial, agriculture and residential customers and redistributors.
- **SAFCOL** – It is the government's forestry company, conducting timber harvesting, timber processing and related activities both domestically and regionally.
- **SA Express** – South African Express Airways is a domestic and regional air carrier with a mandate to be an African airline.
- **Transnet** – It is a freight and logistics company responsible for pipelines, ports and rail transport infrastructure operations in South Africa.

Department of Trade and Industry

The dti is committed to implementing the Nine-Point Plan, which seeks to ignite growth and create jobs. The department plays a critical role in facilitating three of these nine priority interventions:

- Beneficiation through adding value to mineral resources;
- A more effective implementation of a higher impact Industrial Policy Action Plan (IPAP); and
- Encouraging private sector investment.

In the medium term, the department was expected focus on developing a programme to promote the long term sustainable development of black industrialists. The programme aims to accelerate the participation of black industrialists in the national economy, both in terms of their numbers and their influence.

The department was expected to create multiple, diverse instruments for black industrialists to enter targeted industrial sectors and value chains aligned with government developmental priorities, specifically the IPAP.

Small Business Development

The mission of the Department of Small Business Development is to create a conducive environment for the development and growth of small businesses and cooperatives through the provision of enhanced financial and non-financial support services and leveraging on public and private partnerships. The NDP articulates a vision of an economy that is inclusive, equitable and fast growing, with small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) contributing 90% of the jobs by 2030.

The department's Mass Youth Enterprise Creation Programme is aimed at creating enterprise opportunities for youth-owned SMMEs and Cooperatives committing government departments to earmark 30% of their procurement spend towards growing and expanding youth owned enterprises in their acquisition of goods and services in fulfilling their operational mandate.

By June 2015, young people between the ages 16 and 35 years owned approximately 33% of all businesses in South Africa.

The Bavumile Skills Development Programme facilitates for many women to access formal training to improve the quality in their products. Participants are supported to either formalise their businesses or to access markets by participating in the national pavilions or supplying local markets such as schools.

Banking industry

South Africa's five largest commercial banks – Capitec Bank, FNB, Absa, Nedbank and Standard Bank – continued to dominate the South African banking sector.

In January 2016 there were 34 banking institutions registered in South Africa, one more than in 2015, while the number of foreign banks with approved representative offices in South Africa declined to 38, down from 40 in January 2015.

Johannesburg Stock Exchange Limited (JSE Ltd)

The JSE Ltd is the largest exchange on the African continent and the 19th largest in the world.

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.

Jobs Fund

The Jobs Fund, launched in June 2011, aims to co-finance projects by public, private and non-governmental organisations that will significantly contribute to job creation.

This involves the use of public money to catalyse innovation and investment on behalf of a range of economic stakeholders in activities that contribute directly to enhanced employment creation in South Africa.

By 31 March 2016, the Jobs Fund had allocated R5,5 billion in grant funding to 105 projects, disbursed R3,2 billion to implement portfolio projects and leveraged R6,4 billion in matched funding from project partners.

These projects reportedly created 73 698 new permanent jobs; placed 40 641 individuals in permanent positions; created 17 642 short-term jobs, and trained 148 782 beneficiaries.



Education



The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has since aligned its Action Plan to take account of the 2030 timelines prescribed in the National Development Plan (NDP): Vision 2030. The Action Plan to 2019: Towards the Realisation of Schooling 2030, is expected to guide the basic education sector in its work.

Among other things, the plan requires the department to use school as a vehicle for promoting access to a range of public services amongst learners in areas such as health, poverty alleviation, psychosocial support, sport and culture.

Over the medium term, the DBE was expected to improve school infrastructure; improve curriculum delivery; reduce illiteracy; increase the number of learners completing Grade 12 (Matric); ensure the adequate supply of quality teachers, and assess the quality of teaching and learning.

The department would also provide infrastructure, equipment and teacher training to improve participation and success rates in mathematics, science and technology, including structured training programmes in technical maths and science for subject advisors and teachers.

The DBE's National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) contributes to the NDP's priority of eliminating poverty and supporting food security by providing meals to schools each year.

During the 2015/16 financial year, more than nine million learners in 21 191 public schools benefited from the NSNP, which represents 75,9% of learners in 88,1% public schools.

According to the results of the General Household Survey released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) in June 2016, nationally, 33,2% of individuals aged five years and older attended an educational institution in 2015.

Approximately 88% of South Africans above the age of five years who attended educational institutions were in either primary or high school, while 4,4% attended tertiary institutions.

The percentage of learners who reported that they were exempted from paying tuition fees increased from 0,4% in 2002 to 64,6% in 2015. Provinces with the highest proportion of non-payers were Limpopo (92,5%) and Eastern Cape (79,1%). Learners were least likely to benefit from the 'no fee' system in Western Cape (43%) and Gauteng (41,6%).

Basic education

The aim of the 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.

The NDP enjoins all South Africans to learn at least one indigenous language as part of nation-building and social cohesion.

Annual National Assessment (ANA)

The ANA is a standardised national assessment for languages and mathematics in the senior phase (grades 7 - 9), intermediate phase (grades 4 - 6) and in literacy and numeracy for the foundation phase (grades 1 - 3).

The question papers and marking memoranda (exemplars) are supplied by the DBE and the schools manage the conduct of the tests as well as the marking and internal moderation.

Curriculum and Policy Statement (CAPS)

CAPS is a single, comprehensive and concise policy document which has replaced the Subject and Learning Area Statements, Learning Programme Guidelines and Subject Assessment Guidelines for all the subjects listed in the National Curriculum Statement Grades R - 12.

Spelling Bee South Africa

As part of the Integrated National Literacy and Numeracy Strategy: A Whole School Approach and also as part of the Getting the Nation to Read Campaign, the DBE in partnership with SABC Education, UNISA, AVBOB Foundation, Spell It SA and Camp I am and Soul Buddies, hosted the national championships at Sci-Bono Discovery Centre in Johannesburg on 10 October 2015.

The DBE Spelling Bee South Africa (Spelling Bee) is aimed at improving learners' performance in languages, especially in English.

The 2015 national champions in the Spelling Bee were: Greenfield Primary in the Western Cape, Pioneer Primary in Gauteng and Dikolobe Primary in Limpopo.

Kha Ri Gude Mass Literacy Campaign

The DBE has won the 2016 UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy Award for the Kha Ri Gude Mass Literacy Campaign. The Kha Ri Gude Literacy Campaign was intended to reduce the national rate of illiteracy by 50% by 2015. This was in line with the government's Education for All commitment made in Dakar in 2000 as well as its commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals on poverty reduction, women's empowerment, HIV and AIDS eradication, environmental pro-

tection, and sustainable democratisation and peacebuilding.

The aim of Kha Ri Gude is to empower (skills development) socially disadvantaged people to become self-reliant and to be able to participate more effectively in the economy and society.

The department was expected to reach the targeted 4.7 million illiterate adults by 2016/17, after which the programme would be phased out.

Safety in schools

The DBE has implemented various policies and measures to ensure the safety of all learners, educators and relevant stakeholders in schools.

Interventions focus on addressing elements of physical infrastructure related to proper fencing, alarm systems and burglarproofing, resilience-building programmes for young people and the strengthening of partnerships with relevant stakeholders.

The department has a solid partnership with the South African Police Service aimed at linking schools with local police stations. A National School Safety Framework has been developed to serve as a management tool for provincial and district officials responsible for school safety, principals, senior management team members, SGB members, teachers and learners to identify and manage risk and threats of violence in and around schools.

The department has developed a National Strategy for the Prevention and Management of Alcohol and Drug Use amongst learners in schools. Schools have been provided with a Guide to Drug Testing in South African Schools.

In terms of the Regulations for Safety Measures at all Public Schools, the Minister has declared all public schools as drug-free and dangerous weapon free zones. Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Sexual Violence and Harassment have been developed and distributed to schools to support schools and school communities in responding to cases of sexual harassment and violence against learners.

The guidelines set out clearly how public schools should treat victims of sexual harassment and violence, and the steps to be taken to deal with those who have or are alleged to have committed such acts.

The department has released a handbook for learners on how to prevent sexual abuse in public schools, titled Speak Out – Youth Report Sexual Abuse. The purpose of the handbook is to equip learners with knowledge and understanding

of sexual harassment and sexual violence, its implications, ways to protect themselves from perpetrators, and where to report.

The handbook also provides very useful contact details of national and provincial organisations that can assist.

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.

Umalusi

The Umalusi Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training (GFET) sets and maintains standards through the development and management of the GFET qualifications sub-framework. The Nguni name means "herder" or "shepherd."

National Education Evaluation and Development Unit (NEEDU)

The NEEDU facilitates school improvement through systematic evaluation. The unit evaluates how district offices, provincial departments and the national department monitors and supports schools, school governing bodies and teachers.

This entails identifying critical factors that inhibit or advance the attainment of sector goals and school improvement, and making focused recommendations for addressing problem areas that undermine school improvement and the attainment of sector goals.

Programmes and projects

Learning and teaching support material

Educational portal

Through the Thutong Portal (www.thutong.doe.gov.za), the DBE aims to lead the drive to improve learning in the country through appropriate use of technology.

The Thutong Portal is the online point of entry to a comprehensive array of free educational resources, policy information, and interactive services concerning all aspects of the South African schooling sector. It provides relevant information and services about the South African school curriculum, teacher development, school administration and management.

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

School fees and exemption

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

Parents who cannot afford to pay school fees can apply to the SGB for conditional, partial or full exemption from paying school fees. Schools must not charge school fees for orphans.

The right not to charge school fees will be limited to the schools that have been declared no-fee schools. The names of the no-fee schools, which are determined based on the economic level of the community around the school, will be published in a provincial gazette.

Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Development Initiative (ASIDI)

The objective of ASIDI is to eradicate the backlog in schools without water, sanitation and electricity, and to replace those schools constructed from inappropriate material such as mud, and asbestos to contribute towards levels of optimum learning and teaching. The Schools Infrastructure Backlog Grant funds the ASIDI portfolio.

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.

The objective of the Post-School Education and Training function is that all South Africans have equitable access to relevant and quality post-school education and training.

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, Eastern Cape
- Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, Pretoria.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

TVET comprises vocational, occupational and artisan education and training as offered by TVET colleges. This band of education and training is also referred to as 'post-school',

meaning that it refers to education and training that takes place after leaving school, even if only with a Grade 9 completed. The only age restriction for a person wishing to study at the TVET level is that the person should be 16 years or older. There are 50 registered and accredited public TVET colleges in South Africa operating on more than 264 campuses spread across the rural and urban areas of the country.

Role players

South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

SAQA is a statutory body that oversees the development of the National Qualifications Framework by formulating and publishing policies and criteria for the registration of organisations. It also oversees the implementation of the national framework by ensuring the registration, accreditation and assignment of functions.

Council on Higher Education (CHE)

The CHE is tasked with developing and implementing a system of quality assurance for higher education, including programme accreditation, institutional audits, quality promotion and capacity development.

Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)

The QCTO oversees the development and maintenance of the occupational qualifications sub-framework in the national qualifications framework, and advises the Minister of Higher Education and Training on all matters of policy concerning occupational standards and qualifications.

Sector education and training authorities (Setas)

Skills development has been identified as a key requirement for economic growth in South Africa and for the economic empowerment of the previously disadvantaged majority.

Setas are responsible for the disbursement of training levies payable by all employers in the country.

Part of the objective of the Setas is to ensure that the skills requirements of the various sectors are identified, and that the adequate and appropriate skills are readily available.

They are required to ensure that training is of the appropriate quality and meets standards as laid out by the national framework.

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.

National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

The NSFAS provides loans and bursaries to eligible students attending public higher education and training institutions, and the subsequent administration of such loans and bursaries.

In 2016, the fund was expected to spend about R14,6 billion to fund more than 405 000 students from 25 universities and 50 TVET colleges, across 320 campuses.





Energy and Water

Energy

The National Development Plan (NDP) envisages that by 2030 South Africa will have an energy sector that promotes economic growth and development through adequate investment in energy infrastructure. The plan also 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 NDP 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.

Energy security is at the core of current and future industrial and technological advancement.

The Department of Energy (DoE) is mandated to ensure the secure and sustainable provision of energy for socio-economic development. This is achieved by developing an integrated energy plan, regulating the energy industries, and promoting investment in accordance with the integrated resource plan.

The department's strategic goals, among others, are to ensure that the energy supply is secure and demand is well managed, and that there is an efficient and diverse energy mix for universal access within a transformed energy sector, and implement policies that adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

The DoE places emphasis on broadening electricity supply technologies to include gas and imports, as well as nuclear, biomass and renewable energy resources (wind, solar and hydro), to meet the country's future electricity needs and reduce its carbon-dioxide emissions.

Goals beyond 2020 include contracting more than 20 000 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, including an increasing share from regional hydro-electricity.

About 11 000 MW of Eskom's older coal-powered stations will be decommissioned, but close to 6 000 MW of new coal capacity will be contracted – part of it from other southern African countries.

South Africa has committed to attain substantial reductions in carbon dioxide emissions by 2025. The country

supports research, technology development and special measures aimed at environmentally sustainable economic growth.

National Strategic Fuels Stock Policy

The Energy Security Master Plan for Liquid Fuel identified a number of capacity constraints and challenges faced by the petroleum sector in meeting the energy demand.

The National Strategic Fuels Stock Policy 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.

National Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) Strategy

The LPG Strategy's main objectives are to provide 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.

The strategy highlights strategic options that could be adopted for the orderly development of the LPG industry in South Africa to make LPG an energy carrier of choice for thermal applications. LPG is considered one of the safest, cleanest and most sustainable energy sources.

National building standards

Energy-efficient regulations for new buildings form part of the deliverables of South Africa's National Energy Strategy to strengthen standards and regulations for energy efficiency.

The energy-efficient regulations apply to residential and commercial buildings, places of learning and worship, certain medical clinics and other categories of building.

The regulations make it compulsory for all new buildings to be designed and constructed to a standard that makes it possible for the user to minimise the energy required to meet the functional requirements. This will save energy significantly, which will relieve pressure on the electricity supply grid.

In addition to temperature regulations, all buildings will also have to be fitted with renewable-energy water-heating systems such as solar systems, which also have to comply with South African national standards.

Role players

Sasol

Sasol is an international integrated energy and chemical company that 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 about five million customers in the industrial, mining, commercial, agricultural and residential sectors, and to redistributors.

Eskom sells electricity directly to about 3 000 industrial customers, 1 000 mining customers, 49 000 commercial customers, 84 000 agricultural customers and more than four million residential customers (of whom the majority are prepaid customers). Most of the sales are in South Africa, with other southern African countries accounting for a small percentage.

Additional power stations and major power lines are being built to meet South Africa's rising demand for electricity. Recent successes have been the commercialisation of the Sere Wind Farm (100 MW) in the Western Cape in March 2015, and the inauguration and electricity switch-on of the Kouga Wind Farm in the Eastern Cape in September 2015.

The Kouga Wind Farm was expected to provide about 300 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of clean electricity annually to supply an average of 50 000 households.

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).

Other 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.
- The **National Energy Regulator of South Africa** is the regulatory authority for electricity, piped gas and petroleum pipelines.
- The **National Nuclear Regulator** is responsible for safety standards and regulatory practices for the protection of people, property and the environment against nuclear damage.
- The **Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa** is responsible for undertaking and promoting research and development in the field of nuclear energy and radiation sciences. It is also responsible for processing source material, including uranium enrichment, and co-operating with other institutions, locally and abroad, on nuclear and related matters.
- The **South African National Energy Development Institute** is mandated to stimulate innovation in energy research and development, transform the gender and race profile of researchers in the sector, and improve South Africa's competitiveness in energy research internationally.
- The **Central Energy Fund** researches, finances, develops and exploits appropriate energy solutions across the spectrum of energy sources to meet South Africa's future energy needs.

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. In 2015, government announced a gas-to-power programme that will contribute 3 126 MW of electricity between 2019 and 2025.

Electricity

Eskom generates 95% of the electricity used in South Africa and 45% of the electricity used in Africa.

Unit 6, one of six generating units at the Medupi Power Station in Lephalale in Limpopo, was opened in August 2015 to contribute about 800 MW to the national grid.

Once completed in 2020, Medupi Power Station will add 4 764 MW to Eskom's grid and will be the world's largest coal-fired power station. This is also the fourth dry-cooled, baseload station to be built in 20 years by Eskom, after Kendal, Majuba and Matimba power stations.

Unit 5 is due for commercial operation in March 2018; Unit 4 in July 2018; Unit 3 in June 2019; Unit 2 in December 2019, and Unit 1 in May 2020.

At Kusile Power Station in Mpumalanga, Unit 1 is due for commercial operation in July 2018; Unit 2 in July 2019; Unit 3 in August 2020; Unit 4 in March 2021; Unit 5 in November 2021, and Unit 6 in September 2022. Once completed, Kusile will be the fourth-largest coal-fired power station in the world.

Biofuel

South Africa had 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. The biofuels sector has strong linkages to agri-

culture, manufacturing and distribution, and has the potential to create substantial numbers of labour-intensive jobs in the agriculture sector in particular.

In addition, second-generation biofuel technology will also contribute to South Africa meeting its renewable energy targets sustainably.

Hydropower

Energy from water can be generated from waves, tides, waterfalls and rivers and will never be depleted as long as water is available. South Africa has a mix of small hydro-electricity stations and pumped-water storage schemes.

The Grand Inga Hydro-electrical Project, in partnership with the Democratic Republic of Congo, was expected to generate over 48 000 MW of clean hydro-electricity. South Africa was expected have access to over 15 000 MW.

In March 2016, Unit 3 of the Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme was the first of the four units to be synchronised to the national power grid. All four units of the Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme are expected to produce a total of 1 332 MW. The project involves the release of stored water during peak periods to drive turbines that generate electricity.

Solar power

Most areas in South Africa average more than 2 500 hours of sunshine per year, and average daily solar-radiation levels range between 4,5 kWh/m² and 6,5 kWh/m² in one day. The southern African region, and in fact the whole of Africa, has sunshine all year round.

The annual 24-hour global solar radiation average is about 220 W/m² for South Africa.

In March 2016, government unveiled the Solar Capital De Aar 3 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) plant worth R2,6 billion at De Aar in the Northern Cape. The Solar Capital De Aar 3 PV is a 75 MW facility that will provide power to 49 500 South African homes every year, and with the introduction of lithium batteries, it was expected to transfer power at night when most needed.

De Aar Solar Power is one of the first solar power projects in South Africa, as part of government's REIPPP.

The project has a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement with Eskom as well as an Implementation Agreement with government.

The site spans 100 hectares on which there are 167 580 solar PV panels in operation.

The project generates 85 458 MWh per year, supplying enough clean renewable energy to power more than 19 000 homes.

South Africa was recognised among the top-10 countries with the largest installed utility scale solar PV capacity in the world, having reached 3 300 GWh by December 2015. Concentrated solar power's contribution to the grid was 181 GWh, whilst small hydro technologies made 40 GWh.

Wind power

A study by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research found that the wind and solar power capacity operational during 2015 showed an R800 million net benefit to the economy achieved during that year, followed by a further marked increase in the first six months of 2015, helping to save more than an additional R4 billion in costs to the economy.

Hybrid systems

Hybrid energy systems are a combination of two or more renewable energy sources such as photovoltaic, wind, micro-hydro, storage batteries and fuel-powered generator sets to provide a reliable off-grid supply.

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

Government has committed itself, by means of its Nuclear Energy Policy and Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), to an energy mix consisting of coal, gas, hydro, nuclear, solar and wind.

The nuclear new build programme will enable the country to create jobs, develop skills, create industries, and catapult the country into a knowledge economy. The IRP 2010 – 2030 envisages 9 600 MW additional nuclear capacity by 2030. The IRP is a 20-year projection on electricity supply and demand.

In July 2015, the DoE announced that the first new nuclear power station would start operations in 2023. The government intended to build between six and eight nuclear power plants.

Eskom operates the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station near Cape Town, the only nuclear power station in South Africa and the entire African continent, which supplies power to the national grid.

On 17 September 2015, the South Africa Fundamental Atomic Research Installation (SAFARI-1), celebrated its

50th anniversary. The 20 MW tank-in-pool type nuclear research reactor, owned and operated by the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation, is located at Pelindaba, near Pretoria.

Programmes and projects

Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP)

Earlier in 2015, the DoE expanded opportunities for the private sector to contribute to the production of power by approving 13 new renewable Independent Power Producers (IPPs) that will add 5 243 MW to the national grid.

At the end of 2015, the DoE had procured 6 376 MW of power from 102 IPPs in four bid rounds of the REIPPPP and connected 44 projects with a capacity of 2 021 MW to the national grid.

The 6 376 MW of power procured represents an extraordinary 92,1% of the target 6 925 MW renewable energy to be operational by 2020.

The energy contribution of IPPs was expected to grow to approximately 7 000 MW with the first 47 renewable energy IPPs fully operational by mid-2016. The programme also seeks to procure energy from small scale IPPs, with projects that generate between one MW and five MW of energy from solar, wind, biomass and landfill gas projects.

Through the REIPPPP, the DoE is targeting the procurement of 13 225 MW from IPPs by 2025.

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 and sanitation

Water is a critical element to sustainable socio-economic development and the eradication of poverty, and has a critical function in the South African economy where it contributes 60% towards agriculture and irrigation.

The Department of Water and Sanitation's (DWS) legislative mandate seeks to ensure that the country's water

resources are protected, managed, used, developed, conserved and controlled by regulating and supporting the delivery of effective water supply and sanitation.

By mid-2015, the War on Leaks Programme, which was launched in August 2015 to eradicate water leaks whilst creating jobs for the youth, had about 3 000 trainees that were in the system as plumbers, water agents and artisans.

The DWS aimed to train an additional 7 000 unemployed youth in 2016/17.

According to the results of the General Household Survey released by Statistics South Africa in June 2016, some 89,4% of South African households had access to piped water in 2015. During the same year, an estimated 45,8% of households had access to piped water in their dwellings.

Nationally, 62% of households rated the quality of water-related services they received as 'good'. A further 27% accessed water onsite while 13,9% relied on communal taps and 2,7% relied on neighbours' taps.

Although households' access to water is improving, 4,4% of households still had to fetch water from rivers, streams, stagnant water pools and dams, wells and springs in 2015.

This is a decrease of more than five percentage points from 9,5% of households that had to access water from these sources in 2002.

Nationally, the percentage of households with access to 'RDP-standard' sanitation increased from 62,3% in 2002 to 80% in 2015. The majority of households in the Western Cape (93,3%) and Gauteng (91%) had access to adequate sanitation, while about half those in Limpopo (54%) and just below two-thirds of those in Mpumalanga (65,8%) had adequate access.

The percentage of households that continued to live without proper sanitation facilities declined between 2002 and 2015, decreasing from 12,3% to 4,7% during this period.

Sanitation and Hygiene Week

The DWS marked Sanitation and Hygiene Week from 11 to 15 May 2015 under the theme "It's not all about flushing".

The week, which was first introduced at the Global WASH Forum held in Dakar, Senegal in 2004, aims to raise awareness on the importance of sanitation and promotes sanitation best practices.

National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS)

The NWRS2 sets out the vision and strategic actions for effective water management. These included the security of

water supply, environmental degradation, and pollution of resources.

The NWRS2 outlines the key challenges, constraints and opportunities in water resource management and proposes new approaches that ensure a collective and adequate response for the benefit of all people in South Africa.

This strategy moves towards the achievement and attainment of an inclusive sustainable and equitable economy.

The NWRS2 ensures that the management of national water resources contributes towards achieving South Africa's growth, development and socio-economic priorities in an equitable and sustainable manner over the next five to 10 years.

The strategy also responds to the priorities set by government in the NDP and National Water Act of 1998 imperatives that support sustainable development.

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.

Bucket Eradication Programme

In keeping with the aspirations of the NDP, steady progress is being made towards eradicating the bucket toilet system in both formal and informal areas across South Africa.

By March 2016, the DWS's Bucket Eradication Programme had prioritised North West, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape and Free State.

By March 2016, some 2 261 structures were completed in the Eastern Cape, 124 in North West, 6 377 in Northern Cape and 6 974 in the Free State. Since September 2013, the DWS has eradicated the use of 14 386 buckets countrywide. Government remains committed to completely eradicate the backlog of the bucket system in communities.

Role players

Water boards

The primary activity of water boards is to provide water services (bulk potable and bulk waste water) to other water services institutions within their respective service areas.

They may perform other activities under conditions set out in the Water Services Act of 1997. There are 15 water boards in South Africa, with the three largest being Rand Water in Gauteng, Umgeni Water in KwaZulu-Natal and Overberg Water in the Western Cape.

Catchment management agencies (CMAs)

The main responsibilities of CMAs are to manage water resources at catchment level in collaboration with local stakeholders, with specific focus on involving local communities in the decision-making processes, in terms of meeting basic human needs, promoting equitable access to water, and facilitating social and economic development.

Water-user associations (WUAs)

WUAs are cooperative associations of individual water users who wish to undertake water-related activities at local level for their mutual benefit.

Water Research Commission

The WRC has a vital role in water research by establishing needs and priorities, stimulating and funding research, promoting the transfer of information and technology, and enhancing knowledge and capacity building in the water sector.

It also focuses on water resources management, water-linked ecosystems, water use and waste management, and water use in agriculture.

Water Trading Entity (WTE)

The DWS is responsible for the regulation of water use in South Africa by ensuring that water is allocated equitably and used beneficially in the public interest, and is also required to create a register of all water users in the country.

The National Water Act of 1998 provides for cost recovery on services rendered by the department to water users. It is against this background that the department created the WTE within its administration.

The main function of the WTE is development, operation and maintenance of specific water resources infrastructure

and managing water resources in specific water management areas.

Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)

The TCTA is a State-owned entity (SOE) specialising in project financing, implementation and liability management. It is responsible for the development of bulk raw-water infrastructure. It also provides an integrated treasury management and financial advisory service to the DWS, water boards, municipalities and other entities that are linked to bulk raw-water infrastructure.

Komati River Basin Water Authority

The Komati Basin Water Authority was established in terms of a treaty between South Africa and Swaziland. The aim of the authority is to manage the water resources of the Komati River basin sustainably. The authority is responsible for financing, developing, operating and maintaining the water resources infrastructure in the basin, comprising the Driekoppies Dam in South Africa and the Maguga Dam in Swaziland.

Water Tribunal

The aim of the Water Tribunal is to hear appeals against directives and decisions made by responsible authorities, CMAs or water management agencies about matters such as the issuing of licences to use water. It is an independent body and can hold hearings anywhere in the country.

Strategic Water Partners Network (SWPN)

The SWPN is a dynamic and cutting-edge partnership between the DWS, the private sector and civil society working collectively to close a 17% gap between water supply and demand that is anticipated to manifest by the year 2030 in South Africa.

The partnership strives to contribute to efficient, equitable and sustainable water supply and access to water for all South Africans through the identification and application of innovative and cost effective solutions and programmes.





Environment

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is mandated to give effect to the right of citizens to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being, and to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations. To this end, the department provides leadership in environmental management, conservation and protection towards sustainability for the benefit of South Africans and the global community.

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 protecting 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.

The DEA focuses on protecting the environment, reducing carbon emissions, reducing atmospheric pollutants and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Much of the associated work is implemented through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP), including the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems, the expansion of the conservation estate, the protection, restoration and rehabilitation of wetlands, the protection of water resources, and the sustainable management of land use.

The EPWP concretely contributes to the national development plan's target of creating over five million jobs by 2030, and positions the environmental sector as a hub of job creation. The department's other priorities include: wildlife conservation, recycling waste, climate change and air quality, the strategic management of oceans and coastal conservation, and moving towards a green economy. These support Outcome 10 of government's 2014-2019 Medium Term Strategic Framework (protect and enhance our environmental assets and natural resources).

South Africa hosted the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the Convention on International Trade in

Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in September and October 2016.

Role players

South African National Biodiversity Institute

SANBI leads and coordinates research, and monitors and reports on the state of biodiversity in South Africa. The institute provides knowledge and information, gives planning and policy advice and pilots best-practice management models in partnership with stakeholders.

SANBI engages in ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation, leads the human capital development strategy of the sector and manages the National Botanical Gardens as 'windows' to South Africa's biodiversity for enjoyment and education.

South Africa is one of the most biologically diverse countries in the world, after Indonesia and Brazil. The country is surrounded by two oceans, occupies only about 2% of the world's land area, but is home to nearly: 10% of the world's plants; 7% of the reptiles, birds and mammals and 15% of known coastal marine species. The country comprises nine biomes (unique vegetation landscapes), three of which have been declared global biodiversity hotspots.

Biodiversity richness is one of South Africa's greatest assets, in terms of landscapes, ecosystems and species – the web of natural life – provides goods and services vital for human well-being and the survival of the planet. Goods and services such as water purification, grazing, eco-tourism, fisheries, sources of medicine, energy, food, healthy soils, pollination, carbon sinks, clean air and production of oxygen.

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

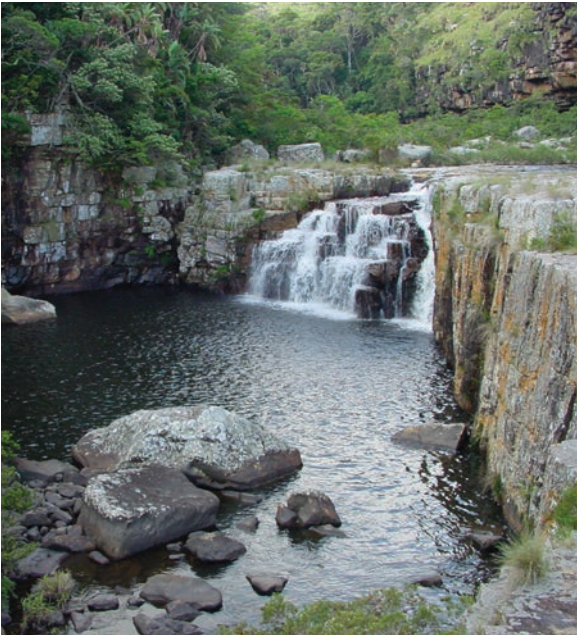
- Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park
- Kruger National Park
- Mapungubwe National Park
- Marakele National Park
- Mokala National Park
- Mountain Zebra National Park
- Namaqua National Park
- Table Mountain National Park (which incorporates the Cape of Good Hope, Table Mountain and Silvermine nature reserves)
- Tankwa Karoo National Park
- West Coast National Park.



SANParks is the leading conservation authority in all national parks around South Africa and responsible for 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 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 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 Lephalale, 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.

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

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 Baviaans-kloof Wilderness Area in the Eastern Cape.

Biomes

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

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.

In addition to sites inscribed on the World Heritage list, member states can maintain a list of tentative sites that they may consider for nomination. Nominations for the World Heritage

list are only accepted if the site was previously listed on the tentative list. As of 2016, South Africa had listed seven properties on its tentative list:

- The !Xam Khomani Heartland
- The Barberton Mountain Land, Barberton Greenstone Belt or Makhonjwa Mountains
- Succulent Karoo Protected Areas
- Liberation Heritage Route
- Early Farmsteads of the Cape Winelands
- The Emergence of Modern Humans: The Pleistocene occupation sites of South Africa
- Human Rights, Liberation Struggle and Reconciliation: Nelson Mandela Legacy Sites.

Wetlands

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:

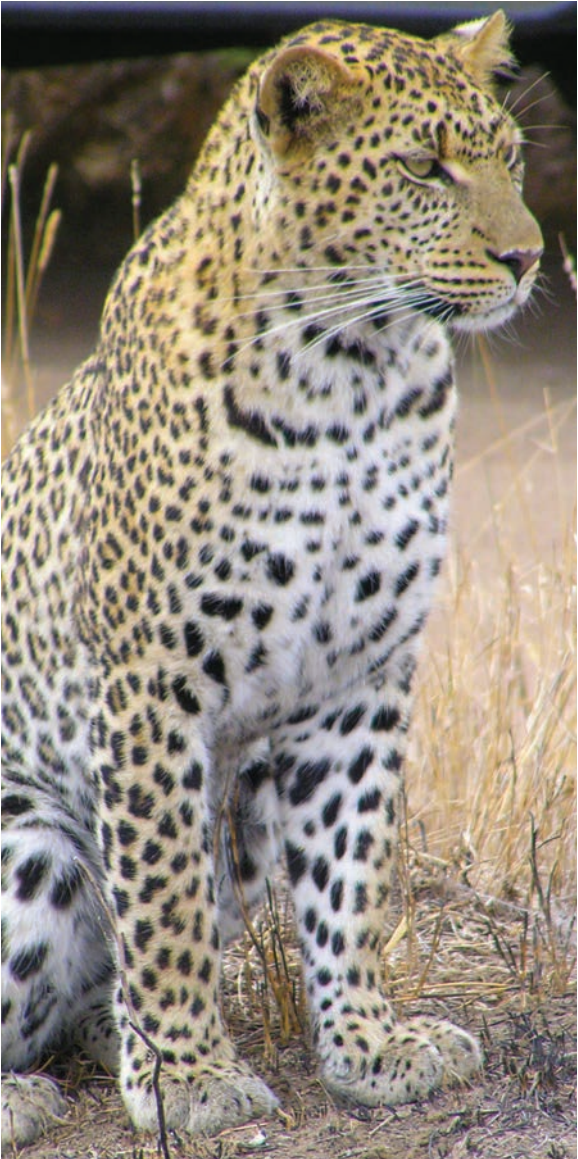
- Barberspan
- Blesbokspruit Nylsvley Nature Reserve
- De Hoop Vlei
- De Mond (Heuningnes Estuary)
- Kosi Bay
- Langebaan
- Makuleke Wetlands
- Ndumo Game Reserve
- Ntsikeni Nature Reserve
- Nylsvley Nature Reserve
- Orange River Mouth Wetland
- Prince Edward Islands in Antarctica
- Seekoeivlei
- St 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.

Zoological gardens

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 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 Zoo in Durban is the country's second oldest zoo after the Pretoria zoo.

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

More than 400 organisations in South Africa 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 Environment Society of South Africa
- World Wildlife Fund of South Africa.

Biodiversity

South Africa is home to some 24 000 species, around 7% of the world's vertebrate species, and 5,5% of the world's known insect species (only about half of the latter have been described).

In terms of the number of endemic species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians found in South Africa the country ranks as the fifth richest in Africa and the 24th richest in the world.

Marine biodiversity is also high, with more than 11 000 species found in South African waters, which is about 15% of global species. More than 25% of these species (or 3 496 species) are endemic to South Africa, many of which are threatened, especially in river ecosystems (82%) and estuaries (77%).

The DEA's 14-year National Biodiversity Economy Strategy aims to increase the biodiversity contribution to Gross Domestic Product between now and 2030 while conserving the country's ecosystem. It focuses on enhancing growth in both the wildlife and tourism sectors by facilitating the entry of previously disadvantaged individuals.

This strategy has the strategic objective of capitalizing on the conservation successes of the country to contribute towards the socio-economic development of communities. A key component is to make communities owners of wildlife.

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.

Rhino poaching

A total of 1 175 rhinos were poached in South Africa during 2015, a slight decrease on the previous year when a record 1 215 rhinos were illegally killed, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission's African Rhino Specialist Group.

In the first four months of 2016, 363 rhino were poached countrywide. During the same period last year, that national figure was 404. During the same period, the largest number of rhino poached had been in the Kruger National Park, where 232 were poached. A total of 51 rhino were poached in KwaZulu-Natal, 30 in Limpopo, 15 in North West, 14 in Mpumalanga, 13 in the Eastern Cape, five in Northern Cape, and three in the Free State.

The Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (Hawks) has been working closely with various partners in the prevention, combating and investigation of wildlife trafficking.

Between January and May 2016, a total of 206 alleged poachers were arrested in South Africa. In terms of rhino prosecutions between April 2015 and March 2016, there were 49 finalised cases involving 103 accused.

A total of 80 of these accused were convicted, resulting in a conviction rate of 78%.

Climate change

South Africa participated in the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and 11th Meeting of the Parties service as the Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol held in Paris, France from 30 November to 12 December 2015.

The conference led to the adoption of consensus of the Paris Agreement and a package of supporting decisions addressing climate action in both the pre- and post-2020 periods.

Green economy

Through South Africa's Green Economy Strategy, the DEA continues to promote equitable, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and social development. The strategy has eight key pillars, namely:

- Green buildings and the built environment;
- Sustainable transport and infrastructure;
- Clean energy and energy efficiency;
- Natural resource conservation and management;
- Sustainable waste management;
- Water management;
- Sustainable consumption and production; and
- Agriculture food production and forestry.

Regarding green buildings and the built environment, the department was implementing energy efficiency and sustainable infrastructure projects as part of its Green Cities Programme.

The Buffelsdraai Landfill Site Community Reforestation Project is another example of the way in which communities are working to restore ecosystems, improve water quality, and mitigate the effects of flooding, to name but a few.



Government

WE BE WOMEN FROM EVERY PART OF
WE ARE WOMEN OF EVERY
WE COME
THE CITIES AND THE TOWNS
THE RESERVES AND THE VILLAGES
WOMEN UNITED IN OUR PURPOSE
TO SAVE THE AFRICAN WOMEN FROM THE DEGRADATION
IN THE NAME OF THE WOMEN OF SOUTH AFRICA
WE SAY TO YOUR ACTION FOR US
THAT WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE PASS SYSTEM
WE SHALL NOT REST
until
LAWS AND ALL FORMS OF PERMITS RESTRICTING OUR
WE SHALL NOT REST
until
WE HAVE WON FOR OUR CHILDREN
their
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS
of
FREEDOM
JUSTICE
and
SECURITY



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 *Izimbizo* programme is a communication platform that enables the citizenry to have a meaningful and direct engagement with members of the national, provincial and local executive. It promotes unmediated face-to-face communication with the public. It provides an opportunity to political principals to share government plans to improve service delivery and to listen to issues facing communities.

The second National Imbizo Focus Week of the fifth democratic administration took place from 7 to 12 April 2015 under the theme: “Together we move South Africa forward”. This is a rallying theme which promotes partnerships and the transformation of South Africa into a better place for all to live in. Over 70 *Izimbizo* events took place countrywide.

Inter-Ministerial Committees (IMCs)

President Jacob Zuma (and in certain instances the Cabinet) appoints IMCs for specific purposes that require the attention and dedication of a team of certain Ministers. The mandate of the IMCs is limited to the matter that they are established to execute. They included:

- IMC on the Prevention and Combating of Corruption;
- IMC on Information and Publicity;
- IMC on State funerals;
- IMC on the Revitalisation of Distressed Mining communities;
- IMC on Migration;
- IMC on Investment Promotion;
- IMC on Local Government Elections.

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.

There are two Ministers in The Presidency, one responsible for Women 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.

Premiers, as at August 2016	
Province	Premier
Eastern Cape	Phumulo Masualle
Free State	Ace Magashule
Gauteng	David Makhura
KwaZulu-Natal	Willies Mchunu
Limpopo	Stanley Mathabatha
Mpumalanga	David Mabuza
Northern Cape	Sylvia Lucas
North West	Supra Mahumapelo
Western Cape	Helen Zille

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.

Traditional leadership

The National House of Traditional Leaders was established in terms of the then National House of Traditional Leaders

Act of 1997. Its objectives and functions are to promote the role of traditional leadership within a democratic constitutional dispensation, enhance unity and understanding among traditional communities and advise national government.

Provincial houses of traditional leaders were established in all six provinces that have traditional leaders, namely the Eastern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and North West.

The national and provincial houses of traditional leaders enhance the cooperative relationships within national and provincial government, while the establishment of local houses of traditional leaders deepens and cements the relationship between municipalities and traditional leaders on customary law and development initiatives.

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 for eradicating municipal infrastructure backlogs in poor communities to ensure the provision of basic services such as water, sanitation, roads and community lighting.

Community development workers (CDWs)

CDWs serve as a link between communities with many government services and programmes. Located within communities, CDWs assist citizens by helping them to access services such as health, welfare, housing, agriculture, economic activity, education and training, and employment opportunities.

Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers, as at August 2016

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	Des van Rooyen	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 Thomson
Finance	Pravin Gordhan	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 August 2016

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	Mosebenzi Zwane	Godfrey Oliphant
Police	Nkosinathi Nhleko	Makhotso Sotyu
Public Enterprises	Lynne Brown	Gratitude Magwanishe
Public Service and Administration	Ngoako Ramatlhodi	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: Planning, 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

Public Service Commission (PSC)

The PSC is tasked and empowered to, amongst others, investigate, monitor, and evaluate the organisation and administration of the Public Service.

This mandate also entails the evaluation of achievements, or lack thereof of government programmes. The PSC also has an obligation to promote measures that would ensure effective and efficient performance within the Public Service and to promote values and principles of public administration as set out in the Constitution, throughout the Public Service.

National School of Government (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)

The DPW aims to promote the government's objectives of economic development, good governance and rising living standards and prosperity by providing and managing the accommodation, infrastructure needs of national departments, by leading the national Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and transformation of the construction and property industries.

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.

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 mandated to provide security printing and ancillary services to all organs of state in all spheres of government.



It 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. The GPW also provides printing services to some Southern African Development Community states.





Health

The Department of Health (DoH) provides leadership and coordination of health services to promote the health of all people in South Africa through an accessible, caring and high quality health system based on the primary healthcare (PHC) approach.

The department contributes directly to achieving the government's goal for a long and healthy life for all South Africans.

In line with the vision of the National Development Plan (NDP) of ensuring a long and healthy life for all South Africans, the department focuses on sustainably expanding HIV and AIDS and tuberculosis (TB) treatment and prevention, revitalising public healthcare facilities, and ensuring the provision of specialised tertiary hospital services.

South Africa has reduced the HIV-infection rate from 8% in 2008 to 1,5% in 2015.

Increased life expectancy of the population demonstrates that the number of AIDS-related deaths and infant mortality rates have dropped over the past few years.

More women are getting into government's Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Programme. The country runs the biggest HIV-treatment programme in the world, with more than 12 million people tested in 2015 and close to 170 000 babies tested at the crucial six-weeks stage.

According to the results of the General Household Survey released by Statistics South Africa in June 2016, seven in every 10 (70,5%) households went to public clinics and hospitals as their first point of access when household members fell ill or got injured.

By comparison, a quarter (25,3%) of households indicated that they went to private doctors, private clinics or hospitals. Most households (92,8%) went to the nearest health facility.

Innovative health solutions

By mid-2016, the DoH was piloting a self-service dispensing machine for medicines at the Thembaletu Clinic in Johannesburg.

The Pharmacy Dispensing Unit (PDU) is a self-service machine where patients can obtain their medication in the same way people withdraw money at an ATM. To use the machine, a patient needs to register for the service and receive a PIN-protected card similar to a bank card.

To "withdraw" their medication, users simply insert their card into the PDU machine, enter their PIN and select the medication they require from their prescription list.

The machine immediately dispenses the selected medication, eliminating the need for the patient to wait in queues.

The PDU also allows patients to communicate directly with a trained pharmacist directly from the machine using a built-in video conferencing function.

Other technologies include the Stock Visibility System, a mobile application that enables medicine availability information at PHC clinics to be uploaded to a central online data repository. The camera on the phone can be used to scan the medicine barcode and update stock levels, thus enabling healthcare workers to easily monitor the quantity of medication they have in stock and timeously order medication that might be running low. This will help to reduce the number of stock-outs at clinics.

The DoH has also launched MomConnect, a free sms service that provides pregnant mothers with regular foetal development updates throughout their term of pregnancy. By mid-2016, the service had more than 800 000 registered users.

The Mother2Mothers is a service that connects new mothers to experienced mentors to help them through their pregnancy.

The Medication Adherence app reminds users of their clinic or hospital visits and to take their scheduled medication. The B-Wise is a youth focused online service that provides young people with health information and allows them to have their health-related questions answered by an expert adviser within 48 hours.

Managing communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs)

The main NCDs in the country include diabetes, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases, mental disorders and cardiovascular diseases.

Africa remains the only WHO region where communicable diseases still account for more deaths than NCDs, according to a 2010 global status report.

The main risk factors associated with NCDs are tobacco use, alcohol abuse, an unhealthy diet and physical inactivity.

Hepatitis B is widespread in sub-Saharan Africa and South Africa. Past studies have found that about 8% of children under the age of one and almost 16% of children under the age of six are infected with Hepatitis B.

Between 10% and 18% of South African adults are Hepatitis B virus carriers. Infection has been more common in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

HIV, AIDS and TB

South Africa has increased the number of people who receive ARVs to over 3,4 million people in 2016.

The department expects ARV therapy to reach five million South Africans by 2018/19. This expansion is part of South Africa's progressive scaling up towards 90-90-90 targets for 2020 of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, namely: 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained ARV therapy, and 90% of all people receiving ARV therapy will have viral suppression.

Further increases in the HIV and AIDS, TB, Maternal and Child Health Programme of R60 million in 2017/18 and R140 million in 2018/19 will be used to scale up HIV-prevention programmes, such as condom distribution, medical male circumcision and social behaviour change communication campaigns.

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for sex workers

With effect from 1 June 2016, selected sex-worker programmes around the country were expected to offer oral antiretrovirals (ARVs) as PrEP, in addition to the other HIV-prevention interventions. They would also offer treatment upon diagnosis for HIV positive sex workers.

Combination prevention has been demonstrated to prevent new HIV infections. Early initiation on ARVs contributes to both better health and decreases the possibility of HIV transmission to their clients and partners.

An estimated 20% of the 350 000 people annually infected with HIV in South Africa are connected with sex work. HIV prevalence amongst female sex workers in South Africa is estimated to be 59,8%. The SA Health Monitoring Survey of Female Sex Workers estimated that the prevalence of HIV among female sex workers was 71,8% in Johannesburg, 39,7% in Cape Town and 53,5% in eThekweni.

To ensure that PrEP is offered in programmes that already provide comprehensive services to sex workers (including general health screening, STI screening and treatment, provision of condoms, contraceptives, HIV counselling and testing, ART treatment, PrEP and circumcision for male sex workers), the DoH had assessed and approved the following sites for the initial rollout of PrEP:

- Esselen Street Clinic in Hillbrow, City of Johannesburg.
- SSWP Wellness Centre in Soweto.

- Sediba Hope Medical Centre in Pretoria.
- TB/HIV Care Clinic in Durban.
- North Star Alliance Trucker Wellness Centres in Musina (Limpopo); Pomona (Gauteng); Ngodwana (Mpumalanga); Pongola (KwaZulu-Natal); Upington (Northern Cape), and Hoedspruit (Limpopo). Additional sites were expected to be provided in the future.

The 21st International AIDS Conference was held in Durban from 18 to 22 July 2016 and South Africa hosted it for the second time in the same town since 2000.

National Health Insurance (NHI)

In 2015, the Ministry of Health released the Cabinet-approved White Paper on the NHI for public comment. The aim of the NHI is to provide access to quality and affordable healthcare services for all South Africans based on their health needs irrespective of their socio-economic status.

The NDP envisions a health system that works for everyone, produces positive health outcomes and is accessible to all.

By 2030, the NDP expected South Africa to have, among other things, raised the life expectancy of South Africans to at least 70 years; produced a generation of under-20s that is largely free of HIV; achieved an infant mortality rate of less than 20 deaths per thousand live births, including an under-five mortality rate of less than 30 per thousand; achieved a significant shift in equity, efficiency and quality of health service provision.

National Health Laboratory Service

The NHLS is mandated to support the DoH by providing cost-effective diagnostic laboratory services to all state clinics and hospitals.

It also provides health science training and education, and supports health research. It is the largest diagnostic pathology service in South Africa, servicing more than 80% of the population, through a national network of 268 laboratories.

Its specialised divisions include the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, the National Institute for Occupational Health, the National Cancer Registry and the Anti-Venom Unit.

Medical schemes

By September 2016, there were about 87 medical schemes in South Africa, with around 8,8 million beneficiaries.

Health entities

The **Compensation Commissioner for Occupational Diseases** in Mines and Works is mandated to compensate workers and ex-workers in controlled mines and works for occupational diseases of the cardiorespiratory organs and reimburse for loss of earnings incurred during TB treatment.

- The **Council for Medical Schemes** is a regulatory authority responsible for overseeing the medical schemes industry in South Africa. Its functions include protecting the interests of beneficiaries, controlling and coordinating the functioning of medical schemes, collecting and disseminating information about private healthcare and advising the Minister of Health on any matter concerning medical schemes.
- The **Office of Health Standards Compliance** is mandated to monitor and enforce the compliance of health establishments with the norms and standards prescribed by the Minister of Health in relation to the national health system; and ensure the consideration, investigation and disposal of complaints relating to non-compliance with prescribed norms and standards in a procedurally fair, economical and expeditious manner.
- The **South African Medical Research Council** is mandated to promote the improvement of health and quality of life through research development and technology transfer. Research and innovation are primarily conducted through council funded research units located within the council and in higher education institutions.

Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University

On 14 April 2015, President Jacob Zuma launched the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University in Ga-Rankuwa, Gauteng. This university, which incorporates the former Medical University of South Africa's campus of the University of Limpopo, started its first academic year in 2015 with 5 000 students.

The establishment of the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University provides an excellent opportunity for the development and training of a new generation of health professionals who will make a positive impact on the lives and livelihoods of the many South Africans still marginalised by poverty and lack of access to health services.

The Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University is the first stand-alone health sciences university to be established in the country. Government will continue to invest in education and skills development as a key driver to economic growth and development.





Human Settlements

The right to adequate housing is one of the most important basic human rights. It speaks to the restoration of dignity to the millions of South Africans who have been marginalised for centuries and who still suffer from the legacy of apartheid's selective development.

The Department of Human Settlements (DHS) is committed to the National Development Plan's 2030 vision of transforming human settlements and the spatial economy to create more functionally integrated, balanced and vibrant urban settlements.

By May 2016, government had delivered more than 4,3 million houses and subsidies since 1994, benefiting more than 20 million South Africans.

The DHS's goal is to deliver over 1,5 million housing opportunities by 2019, as set out in the 2014-2019 Medium Term Strategic Framework. It also seeks to ensure, among other things, that poor households have access to adequate housing in better living environments.

Catalytic human settlement projects aim to initiate more spatially, socially and economically integrated communities. New non-racial towns and cities are being developed to fulfil the principle of a united people in non-racial residential areas.

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, firefighters, teachers and members of the armed forces, who earn between R3 000 and R15 000 per month and therefore do not qualify for RDP houses and do 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 (FLISP), which gives all qualifying beneficiaries the certainty of being granted loans, bonds or mortgages by banks and other financial institutions.

Social housing

A key model for the delivery of affordable housing is social housing, which provides medium density, affordable, rental housing to low and middle income households. Social housing contributes to transforming urban spatial patterns as it promotes integration and densification in close proximity to economic and social amenities.

The DHS's social housing programme is largely funded through the restructuring capital grant, which is transferred from the Housing Development Finance programme to be administered by the Social Housing Regulatory Authority (SHRA).

The grant was expected to reach R1 billion by 2018/19 to fund the delivery of 17 333 social housing units, contributing to achieving the target of an additional 27 000 social housing units by 2019.

Housing entities

The department's housing entities include the:

- **National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBCRC)**, which represents the interests of housing consumers by providing warranty protection against defined defects in new homes and to regulate the home building industry. The NHBCRC also provides training and capacity building to promote and ensure compliance with technical standards in the home-building environment.
- **Community Schemes Ombud Service**, which provides a dispute-resolution service for community schemes; monitor and control the quality of all governance documentation relating to sectional title schemes; and take custody of, preserve and provide public access to scheme governance documentation.
- **Estate Agency Affairs Board**, which regulates, maintains and promotes the conduct of estate agents; issues certificates from the Estate Agents Fidelity Fund; prescribes the standard of education and training for estate agents; investigates complaints lodged against estate agents, and manages and controls the Estate Agents Fidelity Fund.
- **Housing Development Agency**, which identifies, acquires, holds, develops and releases state-owned and privately owned land for residential and community purposes; and project manages housing developments for the creation of sustainable human settlements.
- **National Housing Finance Corporation**, which broadens and deepens access to affordable housing finance for

low- to middle-income households by facilitating private-sector lending for housing purposes.

- **National Urban Reconstruction and Housing Agency**, which provides bridging finance to contractors building low to moderate income housing, infrastructure and community facilities.
- **Rural Housing Loan Fund**, which facilitates access to housing credit to low income rural households by providing wholesale finance through a network of retail intermediaries and community-based organisations.
- **Social Housing Regulatory Authority**, which regulates the social housing sector, and ensures a sustainable and regulated flow of investment into the social housing sector in order to support the restructuring of urban spaces by providing capital grant to accredited social housing institutions.

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.

Government Employees Housing Scheme (GEHS)

The Department of Public Service and Administration has partnered with the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) in terms of which the PIC, through its Developmental Investment Policy, has invested R11 billion in support of the GEHS Housing Finance Access Service to promote and increase home-ownership among public service employees.

Prior to the GEHS, over 954 000 employees received housing allowance of R900 per month, which increased to R1 200 with effect from 1 July 2015.

The scheme was established in response to the housing finance and access gap that exists with households in the monthly bracket of R3 500 and R15 000, who continue to remain underserved and excluded from accessing home loans in spite of their regular income and relatively secure employment.

Marikana Housing Project

In January 2016, government handed over the R700-million Marikana Housing Project in Rustenburg, North West. The housing project is part of government's plan to revitalise distressed mining communities across the country. A total of 22 mining towns in distress are expected to benefit from this commitment.



The Marikana Housing Project was expected to yield 2 600 units upon completion. By January 2016, some 544 housing units had been completed. The project will also cater for beneficiaries of the FLISP and bonded houses.





International Relations and Cooperation



The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) focuses, among other things, on consolidating South Africa's global economic, political and social relations, strengthening the African Agenda and regional integration.

South Africa continues to engage with strategic formations of the North, while advancing mutually beneficial South-South cooperation through structured bilateral mechanisms and multilateral agreements.

The department also planned to use the United States' African Growth and Opportunity Act as a platform for industrialisation and regional integration, and relations with the European Union (EU) on the establishment of joint infrastructure projects were at the advanced stages by mid-2016.

These engagements are complementary with ongoing participation in United Nations (UN) structures and multilateral organisations and forums. The department will strengthen and consolidate South-South relations, reflecting the shift in the balance of the global distribution of power and the increasing influence of emerging economies in the multilateral trading system.

The department continues to use its membership and engagements with groupings of the South, such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), the Group of 77, the People's Republic of China (PRC), and the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS), to advance South Africa's foreign policy objectives.

The adoption of the strategy for the BRICS economic partnership was expected to facilitate trade and investment, enhance market access opportunities and facilitate market interlinkages between the countries. The BRICS' New Development Bank is expected to serve as an instrument for financing infrastructure investment and sustainable development projects in the BRICS and other developing countries and emerging market economies.

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation is entrusted with the formulation, promotion, execution and daily conduct of South Africa's foreign policy. The department's strategic objectives are to:

- protect and promote South African national interests and values through bilateral and multilateral interactions
- conduct and coordinate South Africa's international relations and promote its foreign policy objectives
- monitor international developments and advise government on foreign policy and related domestic matters
- contribute to the formulation of international law and enhance respect for its provisions
- promote multilateralism to secure a rules-based international system
- maintain a modern, effective department driven to pursue excellence provide a world-class and uniquely South African state protocol service.

African Union (AU)

South Africa's future is inherently linked to that of the rest of the African continent. The DIRCO continues to support regional and continental processes, responding to and resolving crises, strengthening regional integration, contributing to an enabling trade environment, increasing intra-Africa trade, and championing sustainable development and opportunities. Strengthening the AU and its structures is a key priority for deepening continental integration.



The department continues to make contributions to: operationalising the tripartite agreement between South Africa, Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo in support of the peace and security framework agreement for the Great Lakes region; deploying the Southern African Development Community (SADC) intervention brigade; and, working with the Department of Defence, operationalising the AU Peace and Security Architecture and the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises, which is the multinational African interventionist standby force set up in November 2013.

The AU's Agenda 2063, under the theme "The Africa We Want", seeks to chart a new development trajectory for Africa towards self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity. The first 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 identifies the key outcomes by 2023. The DIRCO will be involved in rationalising regional economic communities towards a Continental Free Trade Area, revitalising the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) on infrastructure development, and promoting good governance systems through the African Peer Review Mechanism.

Among others, Agenda 2063 aspires to a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development. It also seeks an integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance.

The AU Agenda includes the commitments to support railway and road infrastructure, power generation and distribution networks, industrial and technology parks and human resources development,

South Africa hosted the 25th AU Summit in Johannesburg from 7 to 15 June 2015. The primary objective of the summit was to review progress made in the attainment of continental objectives, with a particular focus on the 2015 theme, the “Year of Women Empowerment and Development towards Africa’s Agenda 2063”. The last time South Africa hosted this important gathering was in 2002 in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, where the then Organisation of African Unity was transformed into the AU.

Africa Day

The 2015 Africa Day celebrations under the theme: “We are Africa – Opening the doors of learning and culture from Cape to Cairo”, were held in Mamelodi, east of Pretoria, on 24 May 2015.

The annual Africa Day is a platform to promote unity amongst African nations and foreign nationals residing in South Africa. The unity of the continent is driven through the AU’s programmes to attain its vision as articulated in the Agenda 2063. The continent, guided by its citizens, strives for an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa.

Africa Day also presents an opportunity for South Africans to reconnect and recommit themselves in support of all government interventions to develop a better Africa and a better world.

The inaugural South African Migrants Awards, which honour outstanding migrants in South Africa and South Africans working in African countries who embody the spirit of Ubuntu and are dedicated to the development of the African continent, took place in May 2015. One of the categories recognises a South African community that has succeeded in integrating foreign nationals within itself and live together peacefully.

New Partnership for Africa’s Development

NEPAD, an AU strategic framework for pan-African socio-economic development, is both a vision and a policy framework for Africa in the 21st century. NEPAD provides unique opportunities for African countries to take full control of their development agenda, to work more closely together, and to cooperate more effectively with international partners.

NEPAD manages a number of programmes and projects in six theme areas namely:

- agriculture and food security
- climate change and national resource management
- regional integration and infrastructure

- human development
- economic and corporate governance
- cross-cutting issues, including gender, capacity development and information and communication technology (ICT).

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.

South Africa has championed a “developmental regionalism” approach that combines market integration, cross-border infrastructure development, and policy coordination to diversify production and boost intra-African trade.

South Africa and Africa

Africa has taken steps to find African solutions to end conflicts and instability.



The continent has committed to Silencing the Guns in the continent by 2020, in alignment with commitments to Agenda 2063.

The African Standby Force and its Rapid Deployment Capability was expected to respond quickly in conflict situations to save lives and bring stability.

Africa is the second fastest growing region in the world after Asia, growing steadily at a rate of 5% per year over most of the last decade.

This growth has been attributed to the increasingly sound macro-economic environment with low government debt, rising domestic resource mobilisation and reduced inflation rates. President Zuma attended the 40th Anniversary of the Independence of Angola in November 2015.

South Africa increased its presence on the continent from seven diplomatic and consular missions in 1994 to 47 in 2015. The country's trade on the continent increased 39 times from R11,4 billion in 1994 to R385 billion in 2015.

North Africa and The Horn

This region comprises 14 countries, of which nine are defined as North Africa and five as Horn of Africa. These countries stretch from Mauritania in the West through to Somalia in the East.

South African enjoys a special relationship with the countries of the region. This is epitomised by joint commissions held annually with three countries at Ministerial level (Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia), and an annual Binational Commission at Presidential level with Algeria. North African countries represent the largest economies in Africa apart from South Africa and Nigeria.

Asia and Australasia

The PRC has become Africa's largest trade partner, and Africa is now one of the PRC's major import sources and fourth largest investment destination.

The Johannesburg Summit and the 6th Ministerial Conference of the FOCAC were held in Johannesburg from 3 to 5 December 2015. Heads of State and Government, Heads of Delegation, the Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission and Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers in charge of economic cooperation from China and 50 African countries attended the summit and ministerial conference respectively. The theme of the summit, which took place in Africa for the first time, was: "Africa-China Progressing Together: Win-Win Cooperation for Common Development".

The PRC announced 10 priority programmes aimed at addressing three of the primary bottlenecks hindering Africa's development, namely the lack of infrastructure, skilled personnel and funding.

Interventions to address these bottlenecks include industrialisation; agricultural modernisation; infrastructure; finance; green development; trade and investment facilitation; poverty eradication and people's well-being, public health; people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and peace and security.

China pledged US\$60 billion, of which South Africa will receive US\$10 billion, for Africa's infrastructure, industrialisation and skills development. The forum is one of the most strategic partnerships between Africa and its development partners.

The 7th Ministerial Conference of FOCAC will be held in the PRC in 2018.

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

South Africa's relationship with the Arab States remains cordial, with ongoing engagements at various political and economic levels that are anchored by the strategic objective of strengthening South-South relations.

South Africa supports peace between Israel and the Arab world, which must involve an end to the illegal occupation by Israel of Arab land, namely in Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, which has led to conflict and violence between the peoples of the region over the last six decades.

The Americas

The USA is a major economic partner for South Africa and continues to feature high on the list of trade and investment partners. There are about 600 companies from the USA trading in South Africa, which provide over 120 000 local jobs.

These companies contribute about 30% of all corporate social investment for corporate social projects. The USA is South Africa's third-largest trading partner and 98% of South Africa's exports enter the USA market duty-free and quota-free under the current dispensation of Agoa and the Generalised System of Preferences.

The AGOA was re-authorised in June 2015 for 10 years until 2025, with South Africa's inclusion. This will secure continued market access for South African products, including in value-added generating sectors such as agriculture and automobiles.

While the USA is a significant market for South Africa, South Africa is the USA's biggest market in Africa.

The USA is an important supporter of South Africa's domestic priorities and has made an effort to align its assis-

tance programmes and projects with these. The USA is a major source of official development assistance (ODA) to South Africa, contributing approximately US\$541 million in ODA per year.

The Caribbean

South Africa enjoys cordial relations with the countries of the Caribbean. The majority of inhabitants of the Caribbean are of African descent and have strong historical and cultural links to the continent.

South Africa's endeavour in conjunction with the AU and Caricom to strengthen cooperation between Africa and the African Diaspora in the Caribbean has given added impetus to bilateral and multilateral relations.

South Africa attaches importance to strengthening its relations with the Caribbean and developing common positions on global issues such as access to the markets of the industrial north, reform of international institutions and promoting the development agenda and protection of small island states.

Europe

Since 1994, building on shared values and mutual interests, South Africa and the EU have developed a comprehensive partnership based on the Trade, Development and Cooperation Agreement.

The SA-EU relationship is guided by the principle that the EU should support South Africa's national, regional and African priorities and programmes to eradicate poverty and underdevelopment.

The EU is South Africa's main development assistance partner. The third South Africa-EU dialogue took place on 11 December 2015 in Pretoria. Among other things, the parties agreed to work in partnership and organise joint side events in areas of mutual concern and interest.

The 4th South Africa-Ireland Partnership took place in Ireland-Dublin on 26 November 2015. The partnership is the structured mechanism to manage and monitor bilateral relations between the two countries. In 2015, South African exports to the EU amounted to more than R216 billion, of which half were manufactured goods.

Benelux countries

The Benelux countries (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg) remain important trade and investment partners of South Africa, and major providers of tourism. The Netherlands is the second-most important source of FDI into South Africa.

There has been important trilateral cooperation with the Netherlands and Belgium in the past in support of peace and security in Africa, inter alia on capacity building in the Great



Lakes Region. Such trilateral cooperation can be further expanded in the future.

There is a regular exchange of views between South Africa and Belgium, as well as with the Netherlands, on the issues and complicated processes necessary to find durable solutions to the conflicts in the region.

South Africa participated in the 14th Session of the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court (ICC), which took place in The Hague Kingdom of the Netherlands from 18 to 26 November 2015.

The Assembly of States Parties is the management oversight and legislative body of the ICC.

German-speaking countries

Bilateral relations between South Africa and the German-speaking countries cover various issues, including investment and trade, science and technology, defence, culture, the environment, tourism, sport, development cooperation and energy, but also entail multilateral and trilateral engagements.

Nordic countries

South Africa enjoys good relations with all the Nordic countries – Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Flowing from the strong grassroots support in these countries for democratisation in South Africa, relations have been established in virtually every field at both public and



official levels. The scope of Nordic development cooperation is broad and has benefited civil society and government.

Relations in the international arena have seen close cooperation on multilateral issues. The Nordic countries are strong supporters of NEPAD and are directly involved in conflict resolution and reconstruction projects in Africa.

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.

India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA)

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. South Africa participated in the India-Africa Summit held in New Delhi, India, from 26 to 30 October 2015.

United Nations

The year 2015 marked the 70th Anniversary of the formation of the UN and the deadline for the UN Millennium Development Goals.

The UN occupies the central and indispensable role within the global system of governance. South Africa looks to the UN to advance the global development agenda and address under-development, social integration, full employment and decent work for all and the eradication of poverty globally.

Through participation in multilateral forums, South Africa also upholds the belief that the resolution of international conflicts should be peaceful and in accordance with the centrality of the UN Charter and the principles of international law. South Africa was one of the 51 founding member of the UN in 1945. Since then, UN membership has grown to 193 states.

After being suspended in 1974, owing to international opposition to the policy of apartheid, South Africa was readmitted to the UN in 1994 following its transition to democracy. South Africa participated in the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 11th Session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol held from 30 November to 11 December 2015 in Paris, France.

In line with South Africa's national interest as an African and developing country that will require post-2020 support, South Africa continues to defend the UNFCCC's core principles of equity and differentiation.

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.

Since rejoining the Commonwealth in 1994, South Africa has interacted closely with the work of the Commonwealth contributing politically, financially and in terms of capacity and expertise to the work of the organisation.

Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane led the South African delegation at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM 2015) held in Malta from 25-29 November 2015 under the theme: "The Commonwealth – Adding Global Value".

CHOGM 2015 took place in the context of several prominent international developments and events, namely the commemoration on the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the establishment of the UN.

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 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.

Group of Twenty (G20)

South Africa is a member of the G20, which consists of 19 countries, including the EU. G20 members have been meeting regularly since 1999 to discuss global economic policy coordination.

The G20 was conceptualised to stabilise and strengthen the global economy, by bringing together the major advanced and emerging market economies. These economies together represent around 85% of global GDP, 80% of global trade and two-thirds of the world's population.

South Africa's participation in the G20 is aimed at advancing the national agenda to create a better South Africa and contribute to a better and safer Africa and a better world.

The country's participation in the G20 is to provide strategic foresight in establishing an economic and international policy platform that will drive and negotiate the best possible outcomes for South Africa, Africa and the developing world.

South Africa participated in the G20 Leaders Summit in Antalya, Turkey from 15 to 16 November 2015. The theme of the summit was "Inclusiveness, Investment and Implementation".

World Health Organisation (WHO)

South Africa is a member of the WHO, whose goal is to build a better, healthier future for people all over the world.

New Development Bank (NDB)

The BRICS NDB opened its headquarters in Shanghai, China, on 21 July 2015, together with its regional office in South Africa, the African Regional Centre, and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement, constitute the first formal BRICS financial institutions.

The purpose of the NDB is to mobilize resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS and other emerging market economies, and developing countries to complement the existing efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global growth and development.



Justice and Correctional Services



The responsibilities of both the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development's (DoJ&CD) and the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) are to ensure a just, peaceful and safe society.

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development

The DoJ&CD's constitutional mandate provides a framework for the effective and efficient administration of justice and to promote constitutional development through the development and implementation of legislation and programmes to advance and sustain constitutionalism and the rule of law.

At the same time, the department also provides an enabling environment for the judiciary and constitutional institutions to exercise their constitutional powers and functions freely and independently. The department's functions include, among other things, the:

- establishment and functioning of the Superior Courts, Magistrates' Courts and Specialised Courts;
- appointment of judges and other judicial officers, their conditions of service, discipline and training;
- establishment and functioning of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and the Asset Forfeiture Unit (AFU),
- conduct of criminal proceedings, the investigation of organised crime and corruption, and the forfeiture of assets obtained through illicit means;
- establishment and functioning of bodies responsible for legal aid, law reform and rule making;
- appointment of masters of the high courts and the administration of the Guardian's Fund and deceased and insolvent estates; the regulation and provisioning of legal advisory services to government departments; the promotion, protection and enforcement of certain human rights; the protection of vulnerable groups; and support to Chapter 9 institutions.

The strategic goals of the department relate to ensuring safer communities, fighting corruption and enhancing accountability for all people in South Africa to feel and be safe.

The department facilitates the effective and efficient resolution of disputes by providing accessible, efficient and quality administrative support, thereby improving the finalisation rates of cases; helping to clear the backlogs of criminal, civil and family matters by the courts and justice service points; providing access to quality guardian and probate services for citizens.

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.

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

The Small Claims Court allows you to institute minor civil claims not exceeding R15 000 in a speedy, affordable and simple manner without using an attorney.

Equality courts

Any person who has been unfairly discriminated against in terms of section 9 of the Constitution may approach the Equality Court. Most of the complaints dealt with include hate speech, unfair discrimination and harassment.

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

The courts feature specially trained officials, procedures and equipment to reduce the chance of secondary trauma for victims. By March 2016, the DoJCD had upgraded 46 regional courts into sexual offences courtrooms.

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

Maintenance is the obligation to provide another person, for example a minor, with housing, food, clothing, education and medical care, or with the means that are necessary for providing the person with these essentials.

As part of further improving the maintenance system, the Maintenance Amendment Act of 2015 was enacted to ensure that every child receives the appropriate parental care, basic nutrition, shelter, basic healthcare services, education and other related support. The amendment also ensures the blacklisting of defaulters.

Domestic violence

To curb gender-based violence, government has adopted a 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.

Human trafficking

Human trafficking has become a focus of attention in the country following the introduction of the new visa requirements for children travelling through South

Africa's ports of entry. Legislation aimed at preventing trafficking defines trafficking to include the recruitment, transportation, sale or harbour of people by means of force, deceit, the abuse of vulnerability and the abuse of power for exploitation.

Drug abuse

To curb the growing abuse of drugs, the DoJCD has amended Schedules 1 and 2 of the Drugs and Drug Trafficking Act of 1992 to make the use and possession of drugs such as Nyaope a criminal offence.

The use, possession and sale of dependence-producing drugs is strictly prohibited and punishable in South Africa. If convicted, a fine and/or imprisonment period of up to 15 years can be imposed. Selling or dealing in Nyaope is punishable with a fine and/or imprisonment for a period of up to 25 years.

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 the first three quarters of 2015/16, Legal Aid SA took on 315 138 new criminal matters, 228 905 new civil matters and assisted 11 781 children through its justice centres and 64 satellite offices.

Special Investigating Unit

The SIU works closely with the 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.

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. During 2015/16, the NPA achieved an 82% conviction rate in trio crimes, 88% in organised crime and 94% in complex commercial crimes.

Asset Forfeiture Unit

The AFU can seize and forfeit property that was bought from the proceeds of crime, or property that was used to commit



a crime. In 2015/16 financial year 163 government officials were convicted of corruption-related offences. The AFU obtained 483 forfeiture orders to the value of R372 million. Recoveries totalling R356.9 million were also 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 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.

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. To give further impetus to the investigation of crimes of this nature, 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.

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.

Department of Correctional Services

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.

The strategic goals of the department are to ensure that:

- the efficiency of the justice system is improved through the effective management of remand processes
- society is protected through incarcerated offenders being secured and rehabilitated
- society is protected by offenders being reintegrated into the community as law-abiding citizens.

In this way, the department contributes to ensuring that all people in South Africa are and feel safe.

Other roleplayers

Medical Parole Advisory Board

The Correctional Matters Amendment Act of 2011 provides for a new medical parole policy and correctional supervision.

Correctional Supervision and Parole Board

Correctional Supervision and Parole boards are responsible for dealing with parole matters and matters of correctional supervision. The Correctional Supervision and Parole boards have decision-making competency except:

- decisions regarding the granting of parole to people who are declared dangerous criminals in terms of Section 286A of the CPA of 1998.
- the converting of sentences of imprisonment imposed in terms of Section 276 (A) (3) of the CPA of 1998 into correctional supervision
- decisions with regard to those sentenced to life imprisonment.

In such cases, recommendations are submitted to the courts that in turn will make a decision in respect of conditional placement.

There are 52 Correctional Supervision and Parole Boards countrywide. These boards are chaired by community members who are regarded as suitable and capable of carrying out the responsibilities. The DCS provides the members with intensive training in respect of the processes, legislative implications and relative policies.



Mineral Resources



Mining plays a pivotal role in South Africa's socio-economic development objectives and remains one of the Government's strategic tools for the economic emancipation of its people.

The Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) continues to focus, among other things, on ensuring the best utilisation of mineral resources, monitoring mining rights, and ensuring compliance with safety and environmental legislation, all of which in turn, contribute towards promoting investment in South Africa, as well as contributing more broadly to an equitable and inclusive economy.

Specific initiatives include promoting investment in the minerals and upstream petroleum sector include research on shale gas; assisting small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs); marketing and providing information, and licensing.

Mining production picked up in the final quarter of 2015; annualised growth in real output accelerated from -9,8% in the third quarter of 2015 to 1,5% in the final quarter, supported by the higher production of especially diamonds and nickel. The production volumes of coal, platinum-group metals and building materials increased at a more moderate pace despite further steps to enhance operational efficiencies, while the production of gold, manganese ore and other metallic minerals contracted over the period.

Annually, growth in the real output of the mining sector turned around from -1,6% in 2014 to 3,0% in 2015, adding 0,2 percentage points to growth in aggregate GDP. Mining production in 2015 benefited mainly from the normalisation in platinum production following improved productivity and cost-containment measures introduced at a number of platinum mines after the protracted labour strike in the industry in 2014.

In addition, in some of the other domestic mining subsectors, work disruptions as a result of wage disputes were less prevalent in 2015. Despite this improved performance, the industry continued to be adversely affected by infrastructural constraints, policy uncertainty, ongoing labour tension, declining commodity prices, rising operational costs, and a global oversupply of certain mining products.

Mineral wealth

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.

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.

Research on shale gas is progressing and by February 2016, five applications for mining shale gas were being considered for licensing. Shale gas exploration and mining is expected to contribute to economic growth and job creation.

Reserves

Gold

There are 35 large-scale gold mines operating in South Africa, including the record setting TauTona mine, which extends 3,9 km underground. TauTona means “great lion” in Setswana. South Africa accounts for 11% of the world’s gold reserves.

Coal

The coal sector is important for the South African economy. The accelerated demand for coal, accompanied by an increase in international coal prices, has invariably changed the buying patterns and structure of the local coal export industry.

In the national energy plan, coal remains an important component of the country’s future energy mix and requirements.

Platinum group metals

Platinum, palladium, rhodium, osmium, ruthenium and iridium occur together in nature alongside nickel and copper. Platinum, palladium and rhodium, the most economically significant of the PGMs, are found in the largest quantities.

The remaining PGMs are produced as co-products. South Africa is the world’s leading platinum and rhodium producer, and the second- largest palladium producer after Russia. South Africa’s production is sourced entirely from the Bushveld Complex, the largest known PGM-resource in the world.

Platinum

South Africa accounts for 96% of known global reserves of the PGMs.

The Merensky Reef, stretching from southern Zimbabwe through to the Rustenburg and Pretoria regions, is the centre of platinum mining in South Africa, playing host to companies such as Rustenburg Platinum Mines and Bafokeng Rasimone Platinum Mines.

Amplats is the industry leader in the mining, marketing, and distribution of platinum. Amplats produces 40% of the world’s total platinum group metals.

Other key platinum mining companies in South Africa include BHP Billiton and Impala Platinum.

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

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.

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.

Industrial minerals

There are some 680 producers of industrial minerals in South Africa, of which almost half are in the sand and aggregate sector.

There are some 153 producers of clays (brick-making and special), 40 limestone and dolomite, 79 dimension stone, 28 salt and 20 silica producers.

Bulk consumption of industrial minerals is realised in the domestic market, as most are low-priced commodities and sold in bulk, making their economic exploitation highly dependent on transport costs and distance to markets.

Stability in the mining sector

The Framework Agreement for a Sustainable Mining Industry, which was signed by mining companies, trade unions and government departments in July 2013, is aimed at resolving problems in the industry, rooting out unrest and restoring investor confidence in the sector.

Geology

South Africa has a long and complex geological history dating back more than 3 700 billion years.

The preservation of so much Archaean geology, dating back more than 2 500 million years, has resulted in the Archaean Witwatersrand Basin, as well as several greenstone belts, being preserved.



Police, Defence and Intelligence



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 (IPID)
- 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.

The SAPS's policing objectives, in accordance with the provisions of Section 205 of the Constitution, are to:

- prevent, combat and investigate crime
- maintain public order
- protect and secure the inhabitants of South Africa and their property
- uphold and enforce the law.

The vision of the SAPS is to create a safe and secure environment for all people in South Africa.

The mission of the SAPS is to:

- prevent and combat anything that may threaten the safety and security of any community
- investigate any crimes that threaten the safety and security of any community
- ensure offenders are brought to justice
- participate in efforts to address the root causes of crime.

The National Development Plan (NDP) complements the Constitution by emphasising the form of policing that is required in a democratic South Africa.

The NDP denotes "Building Safer Communities" as a key objective and establishes the following as the vision for the country by 2030: "In 2030, people living in South Africa feel safe at home, at school and at work, and they enjoy a community life free of fear. Women walk freely in the streets and children play safely outside. The police

service is well-resourced and professional, staffed by highly skilled officers who value their work, serve the community, safeguard lives and property without discrimination, protect the peaceful against violence, and respect the rights to equality and justice.”

The NDP sets five priorities for the achievement of the above vision:

- Strengthen the criminal justice system;
- Make the police service professional;
- Demilitarise the police;
- Build safety using an integrated approach; and
- Build community participation in safety.

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.

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.

The SAPS aims to provide a proactive and responsive policing service to discourage and prevent serious crimes by reducing the number of serious crimes reported, from 1 820 796 in 2014/15 to 1 685 136 in 2018/19, by implementing sector policing at all stations and crime-prevention operations in identified hotspots; and providing enhanced training for detectives and forensic specialists.

Victims, women and children

The main responsibility of the SAPS towards empowering victims is to render a victim-friendly service to all victims of crime. It includes:

- developing, monitoring and implementing policies, directives and instructions aimed at improving services to victims of crime
- sensitising and training SAPS members to render a professional, victim-friendly service
- ensuring that SAPS facilities are victim-friendly.

Community partnership programmes

Community policing forums at police stations serve as the instrument for ensuring that the SAPS engages and cooperates with communities.

Independent Police Investigative Directorate

The IPID ensures independent oversight of the SAPS and the municipal police services. It conducts independent and impartial investigations of identified criminal offences allegedly committed by members of the SAPS and the municipal police services; and make appropriate recommendations.

Working with other departments in the justice, crime prevention and security cluster, the IPID aims to ensure that all people in South Africa live safely in a corruption free society, with an independent and fair criminal justice system.

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.

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.

Department of Military Veterans (DMV)

The DMV's aim is to formulate policies and standards aimed at providing a comprehensive delivery system to military veterans and their dependants in recognition of their role in the democratisation of South Africa.

The department's strategic goals over the medium term are to:

- coordinate and facilitate the provision of socioeconomic support services to military veterans
- manage and coordinate military veterans' empowerment and stakeholder relations services
- ensure that the needs of military veterans and their dependants are addressed.

The DMV provides socio-economic services to facilitate employment opportunities for military veterans with the support of line-function departments, private companies and State agencies.

Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armcor)

Armcor is an acquisition agency for the Department of Defence and other organs of state. Armcor is renowned for its acquisition expertise in providing defence turnkey solutions, which encompasses technology development, product development and support, product upgrading, as well as disposal of equipment. Its research and development focuses on producing cutting-edge technology products.

Denel Group of South Africa

Denel is a state-owned commercially driven company and strategic partner for innovative defence, security and related technology solutions. It groups together several defence and aerospace divisions and associated companies.

Denel provides turn-key solutions of defence equipment to its clients by designing, developing, integrating and supporting artillery, munitions, missiles, aerostructures, aircraft maintenance, unmanned aerial vehicle systems and optical payloads based on high-end technology.

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.

Vetting

Part of the SSA's objective is to be able to conduct vetting for all government departments in a user-friendly and speedy manner, in line with its counter-intelligence mandate that ensures that the department creates conditions of security, which enable government and key state entities to do their work.



Provinces



South Africa has been aptly described as a microcosm of the world, a place where civilisations meet. 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. The country has a lot to offer in the form of places of interest and varying forms of amusement.

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.

Eastern Cape

Capital: Bhisho

Principal languages:

isiXhosa	78,8%
Afrikaans	10,5%
English	5,6%



Population: 7 061 700

Percentage share of the total population: 12.6%

Area: 168 966 km²

Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016 and 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, Odendaarsrus, 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

Free State

Capital: Bloemfontein

Principal languages:

Sesotho 64,2%

Afrikaans 12,2%

isiXhosa 7,5%



Population: 2 861 600

Percentage share of the total population: 5,1%

Area: 129 825 km²

Source: StatsSA's Mid-year population estimates 2016 and Census 2011

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, Gauteng comprises the largest share of the South African population.

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.

Gauteng

Capital: Johannesburg

Principal languages:

IsiZulu	19,79%
Afrikaans	12,4%
Sesotho	11,5%
English	13,27%



Population: 13 498 200

Percentage share of the total population: 24.1%

Area: 18 178 km²

Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016* and *Census 2011*

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.

KwaZulu-Natal

KwaZulu-Natal, one of the country's most popular holiday destinations, is the province with the second largest population. 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.

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.

KwaZulu-Natal

Capital: Pietermaritzburg

Principal languages:

isiZulu	77,8%
English	13,1%
Afrikaans	1,5%



Population: 11 079 700

Percentage share of the total population: 19.8%

Area: 94 361 km²

Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016* and *Census 2011*

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 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.

Limpopo

Capital: Polokwane

Principal languages:

Sepedi	52,9%
Tshivenda	16,7%
Xitsonga	16,9%



Population: 5 803 900

Percentage share of the total population: 10.4%

Area: 125 754 km²

Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016* and *Census 2011*

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.

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.

Mpumalanga

Capital: Nelspruit

Principal languages:

Siswati	27,67%
isiZulu	24,1%
Xitsonga	10,4%
isiNdebele	10%



Population: 4 328 300

Percentage share of the total population: 7.7%

Area: 76 495 km²

Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016* and *Census 2011*

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, covering 31% of the country's surface area (slightly bigger than Germany). However, the Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population.

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. The province is renowned for its spectacular display of spring flowers,

Northern Cape

Capital: Kimberley

Principal languages:

Afrikaans	53,75%
Setswana	33,08%



Population: 1 191 700

Percentage share of the total population: 2.1%

Area: 372 889 km²

Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016* and *Census 2011*

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 Kilometre Array radio-telescope (better known as the SKA Project), 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 Carnarvon. Electrical power generation presents an opportunity for greater economic diversification and growth in the province.

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.

North West

Capital: Mahikeng

Principal languages:

Setswana 63,38%

Afrikaans 8,96%

isiXhosa 5,51%

Population: 3 790 600

Percentage share of the total population: 6.8%

Area: 140 882 km²



Source: StatsSA's *Mid-year population estimates 2016* and *Census 2011*

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 due to its abundant mineral riches of platinum, chrome and the platinum group metals. It is also home to a strong dimension stone sector, due to the riches of its slate, marble and granite deposits. 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

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.

Western Cape

Capital: Cape Town

Principal languages:

Afrikaans	49,6%
isiXhosa	24,7%
English	20,2%



Population: 6 293 200

Percentage share of the total population: 11.3%

Area: 129 462 km²

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.

Cape Town has proved again that it's a film-friendly destination and it is reaping the benefits.

The Department of Trade and Industry's rebate to international productions is also a big incentive for foreign filmmakers.



Rural Development and Land Reform



The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) has an ongoing commitment to build sustainable rural livelihoods. It is also mandated to initiate, facilitate, coordinate, catalyse and implement an integrated rural development programme, which is linked to the need to create vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities.

Among other things, the department continues to recapitalise and redevelop redistributed farms; establish agri-parks; implement the One Household, One Hectare programme; socio-economic and river valley catalytic, and animal and veld management projects.

In addition to establishing the South African Geomatics Council and strengthening the relative rights of people working on the land, the department's key priorities include 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, and expediting the finalisation of land claims.

Land Reform Programme

The Restitution of Land Rights Amendment Act of 2014 extends the deadline for land claims to June 2019.

The amendment also criminalises false and fraudulent claims made by illegible people, which waste of taxpayers' money.

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.

The Commission on the Restitution of Land Rights (CRLR) is responsible for investigating and processing restitution claims. The CRLR also develops and coordinates restitution policies and oversees restitution court cases. The restitution programme is aimed at removing the settlement of land restitution claims under the Restitution of Land Rights Act of 1994.

The strategic objective of the CRLR is the restitution of rights in land or awards of alternative forms of equitable

redress to claimants, within Medium Term Expenditure Framework budgetary allocation.

The CRLR seeks to provide equitable redress to victims of racially motivated land dispossession, in line with the provisions of the Restitution of Land Rights Act of 1994. It plans to increase the number of lodgement sites to 52 by 2019.

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.

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)

The AVMP is aimed at providing relief for farmers in rural areas operating under challenging circumstances made worse by spatial congestion and environmental degradation owing to overgrazing.

The programme will also help with soil rehabilitation, spatial decongestion and 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.

The AVMP is expected to reach the country's 24 poorest district municipality areas.

Comprehensive Rural Development Programme

The fulfil its mandate to develop rural areas throughout South Africa, the DRDLR developed the CRDP to tackle issues such as underdevelopment, hunger, poverty, joblessness, lack of basic services and other social ills which have become synonymous with rural areas and redistributing 30% of the country's agricultural land.

The CRDP addresses specific needs of the communities in rural areas such as running water, sanitation, housing and development support.

Rural Enterprise Industrial Development (REID)

REID aims to create an enabling institutional environment for vibrant and sustainable rural communities.

The Social Organisation and Mobilisation Unit is primarily responsible for the promotion of a participatory approach to rural development to ensure that rural communities are able to take full charge of their collective destinies.

The approach is predicated on social mobilisation of rural communities, so that there can be ownership of rural development projects and programmes.

The participatory approach is used to assess the needs of the rural areas through the profiling of households and communities.

The needs assessments are conducted through participatory rural appraisal methods, which also offers communities the opportunity to prioritise their needs.

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. The unit determines skills levels of rural communities through household profiles, and develops training programmes aligned to interventions and economic opportunities. 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 job-creation model further entails the empowerment of rural communities through skills transfer, developing artisans and enabling communities to start their own enterprises.

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 agriprocessing 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.

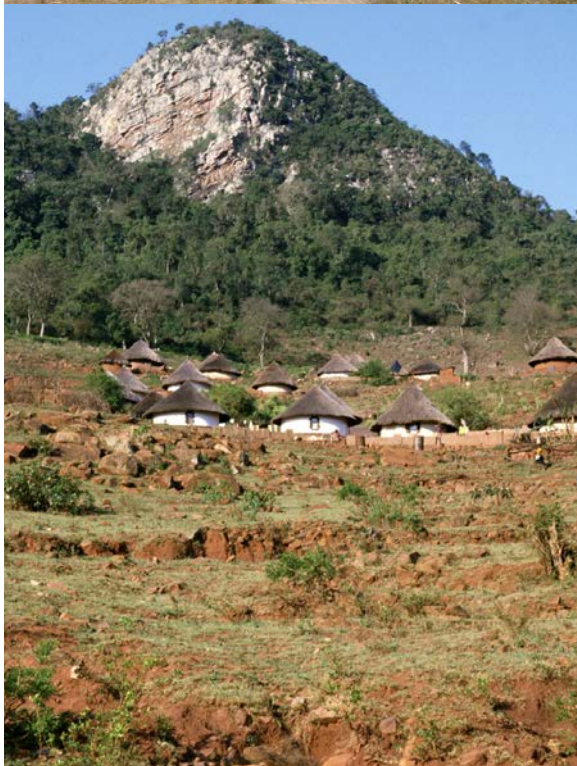
The unit is responsible for the establishment and facilitation of community structures such as the Council of Stakeholders. It is also responsible for establishing and building the capacities of cooperatives.

National Rural Youth Service Corps (NARYSEC)

The DRDLR established the programme to complement the government's job creation model.

NARYSEC aims to help transform young people in the rural areas from being job seekers to being job creators in their own right, as well as reducing their dependency on social grants.

The long-term programme also aims to uplift rural areas with services and infrurakastructure. 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.





Science and Technology



The Department of Science and Technology (DST) executes its mandate through the implementation of the *1996 White Paper on Science and Technology*, the national research and development strategy and the 10-Year Innovation Plan. The plan aims to make science and technology a driving force in enhancing productivity, economic growth and socio-economic development.

Research, Development and Innovation

Government has set a target of raising gross expenditure on research and development to 1,5% of gross domestic product by 2019, from the level of 0,75% by end of 2015. The National Development Plan (NDP) recognises the crucial importance of science, technology and innovation in accelerating South Africa's socio-economic development.

Square Kilometre Array (SKA)

The SKA project is an important endeavour for Africa, with huge potential to contribute to and raise the profile of science, technology and innovation. The SKA Project is an international enterprise to build the largest and most sensitive radio telescope in the world, and will be located in Africa and Australia.

The SKA African partner countries include Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia. The MeerKAT, a precursor to the SKA Project, was being constructed near Carnarvon in the Northern Cape. The final MeerKAT will comprise 64 antennas, and will be integrated into the mid-frequency component of the SKA Phase 1.

Until the SKA is completed, the MeerKAT will be the most sensitive radio interferometer in the L-Band in the world. The sensitivity is expected to be more than 300 square metre per Kelvin (m^2/K), well above the 220 m^2/K originally specified.

At least 75% of the components making up the MeerKAT dish will be manufactured in South Africa.

Hydrogen fuel-cell technology

Local Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology (HFCT) development holds the promise of boosting manufacturing capacity and competitiveness in South Africa. This forms part of the technologies identified in government's Nine-Point Plan, which seeks to boost the economy and create much-needed jobs. HFCT has been identified as a clean and reliable alternative energy source to fossil fuels.

Titanium metal powder project

The DST supports the Titanium Metal Powder Project, which has a potentially significant economic impact for South Africa.

Titanium is used in industries such as aerospace, medical applications, transport and chemical processing to create high-performance, lightweight parts.

The titanium powder is also used in 3D printing, which is considered an alternative mode of manufacturing.

National Bio-economy Strategy

The DST's Bio-economy Strategy positions bio-innovation as essential to the achievement of government's industrial and social development goals.

The strategy provides a high-level framework to guide biosciences research and innovation investments, as well as decision-making as South Africa adapts to the realities of global transition to a low-carbon economy.

Through the Bio-economy Strategy, bioinnovation would be used to generate sustainable economic,

social and environmental development. The DST was aiming to have biotechnology make up 5% of the country's gross domestic product by 2050.

The strategy focused on three sectors namely agriculture, health and industrial applications and is also closely linked to other policies such as the Industrial Policy Action Plan, the NDP and the New Growth Path.

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

The CSIR, one of the leading science and technology research, development and implementation organisations in Africa, celebrated its 70th birthday in 2015. The CSIR's main site is in Pretoria, Gauteng, and it is represented in other provinces of South Africa through regional offices.

The generation and application of knowledge reside at the core of the CSIR. This takes place in domains such as biosciences; the built environment; defence, peace, safety and security; materials science and manufacturing; and natural resources and the environment.

South African National Space Agency (SANSA)

SANSA was created to promote the use of space and cooperation in space-related activities while fostering

research in space science, advancing scientific engineering through the development of South Africa's human capital and providing support to industrial development in space technologies. SANSa continues to provide state-of-the-art ground-station services to many globally recognised space missions, such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Indian Space Research Organisation Mars missions, and NASA's Orbiting Carbon Observatory-2, which is giving scientists a better idea of how carbon is contributing to climate change, answering important questions about where carbon comes from and where it is stored.

SANSa was expected to launch the first remote-sensing atlas for the country in 2016. The 40-pages atlas covers broad areas such as history of space technology in South Africa, South African satellites, application of satellite images, geology, mining, agriculture, woody-cover mapping, water quality, urban planning, urban development, and post-floods analysis.

Satellite remote sensing imagery has many applications in mapping land-use and cover, agriculture, soils mapping, vegetation, urban planning, and water and disaster management, among other uses.

Research and science bodies

South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)

The SABS provides standardisation and conformity assessment services to protect the integrity of the South African market, protect consumers, create a competitive advantage for South African industry, and facilitate access by South Africans to local and international markets. The bureau is the sole publisher of South African national standards.

Technology Innovation Agency (TIA)

The TIA was established to promote the development and exploitation of discoveries, inventions, innovations and improvements. The object of the TIA is to support the State in stimulating and intensifying technological innovation in order to improve economic growth and the quality of life of all South Africans by developing and exploiting technological innovations.

National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO)

NIPMO provides support to the offices of technology transfer at publicly funded research institutions, which has led to

significantly improved intellectual property management in universities and other research institutions.

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.

Council for Geoscience

As a scientific research council, the CGS provides for the promotion of research and the extension of knowledge in the field of geoscience as well as the provision of specialised geoscientific services.

Medical Research Council (MRC)

The MRC is an independent statutory body that coordinates health and medical research activities throughout South Africa. The scope of the organisation's research projects includes tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS, cardiovascular and non-communicable diseases, gender and health, and alcohol and other drug abuse.

With a strategic objective to help strengthen the health systems of the country, in line with that of the Department of Health, the MRC constantly identifies the main causes of death in South Africa.

The MRC distinguishes and awards scientific excellence with its annual Scientific Merit Awards Gala Ceremony. These awards acknowledge the contributions of established scientists on the one hand, while recognising fresh scientists with ground-breaking efforts in their individual fields of science, engineering and technology.

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.

The goal of the NRF is to create innovative funding instruments, advance research career development,

increase public science engagement and to establish leading-edge research platforms that will transform the scientific landscape and inspire a representative research community to aspire to global competitiveness.

In the NRF Strategy 2020, the organisation places renewed emphasis on its agency function and its role in influencing and implementing policy within the National System of Innovation.

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 Health Laboratory Service (NHLS)

The NHLS is the largest diagnostic pathology service in South Africa with the responsibility of supporting the national and provincial health departments in the delivery of healthcare.

The NHLS provides laboratory and related public health services to over 80% of the population through a national network of laboratories. Its specialised divisions include the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, National Institute for Occupational Health, National Cancer Registry and Antivenom Unit.

Bureau for Economic Research (BER)

The BER primarily focuses on the South African macro economy and selected economic sectors. It monitors and forecasts macroeconomic economic and sector trends, and identifies and analyses local and international factors that affect South African businesses.

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 main function of SANEDI is to direct, monitor and conduct applied energy research and development, demonstration

and deployment as well to undertake specific measures to promote the uptake of Green Energy and Energy Efficiency in South Africa.

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)

The mission of the NARF is to facilitate consensus and integrate coordination in the fields of research, development, and technology transfer to agriculture in order to enhance national economic growth, social welfare and environmental sustainability.

Water Research Commission (WRC)

The WRC aims to develop and support a water-related knowledge base in South Africa, with all the necessary competencies and capacity vested in the corps of experts and practitioners within academia, science councils, other research organisations and government organisations (central, provincial and local) which serve the water sector.

The WRC provides the country with applied knowledge and water-related innovation, by continuously translating needs into research ideas and, in turn, transferring research results and disseminating knowledge and new technology-based products and processes to end-users.

Institute for Water Research (IWR)

The IWR is a multidisciplinary research department of Rhodes University. The objectives of the IWR are to contribute to the knowledge of and promote the understanding and wise use of natural water resources 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. The ASSAf celebrated its 20th year in the service of society in 2015.

Fluorspar industry

South Africa has the world's largest reserves of fluorspar, with estimated reserves of 41 million tons. The country supplies around 10% of the fluoride requirements to the global fluorochemicals industry.

Women in Science Awards (WISA)

The DST hosts the annual WISA during the Women's Month in August, to reward excellence among women scientists and researchers.

The theme for the 2015 WISA was "Science for a sustainable future", highlighting the contribution made by women researchers towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The year 2015 marked the target date for achieving the MDGs.

The 2015 WISA were held at the Hilton Sandton Hotel in Johannesburg on 13 August 2015.

The top awards went to:

- **Prof Maureen Coetzee** – Distinguished Woman Scientist (Life Sciences): Recognised for her outstanding work in the field of medical entomology. Her research interests include insecticide resistance in the major African malaria

vector mosquitoes, biodiversity within the genus *Anopheles*, novel methods for controlling malaria vectors, and vector-parasite interactions.

- **Prof Marla Trindade** – Distinguished Woman Scientist (Life Sciences): She is the Director of the Institute for Microbial Biotechnology and Metagenomics, an internationally recognised research centre in the Department of Biotechnology at the University of the Western Cape, comprising a team of over 45 researchers and staff, and is leading the country in the area of mining microbial genomes for novel biotechnologically relevant enzymes and products. She is also the Vice President of the South African Society for Microbiology.
- **Prof Lindiwe Zungu** – Distinguished Woman Researcher (Humanities and Sciences): She is a full Professor of Health Studies at the University of South Africa. Her research outputs have contributed to workers' health and safety, for instance, guidelines for the redesign of safety clothing for women in mining. Her guidelines have been accepted as a national standard for the mining sector, and she continues to receive invitations to make presentations on the guidelines to stakeholders such as the Safety in Mines Research Advisory Committee and other key stakeholders like the Chamber of Mines.
- **Dr Gina Ziervogel** – Distinguished Woman Researcher (Humanities and Sciences): Her work has contributed to MDG 7 (ensure environmental sustainability), where she has situated environmental concerns within the broader development paradigm, helping to address MDG 1 (eradicating poverty and hunger) as well. Her work has focused on adaptation to the impacts of climate change, from household level up to village and municipal level. Dr Ziervogel is a senior lecturer in the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science and a research fellow in the African Climate and Development Initiative at the University of Cape Town.





Social Development

The Department of Social Development (DSD) has the following primary core functions:

- Management and oversight over social security, encompassing social assistance and social insurance policies that aim to prevent and alleviate poverty in the event of life-cycle risks such as loss of income due to unemployment, disability, old age or death.
- Developmental social welfare services that provide support to reduce poverty, vulnerability and the impact of HIV and AIDS through sustainable development programmes in partnership with implementing agents such as state-funded institutions, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations and faith-based organisations.

Role players

Ministry of Women

The Ministry of Women is situated in The Presidency. Its mandate is to lead, coordinate and oversee the transformation agenda on women's socio-economic empowerment, rights and equality.

National Development Agency (NDA)

The NDA focuses on strengthening the institutional capacity of civil society. The agency also promotes consultation and dialogue between civil society and the State, debates policy development and conducts research.

Capacity-building interventions ensure that recipients of grant funding are not only given money to start and run their projects, but that they are empowered with the necessary skills to ensure sustainability.

The NDA's Programme Management Unit provides project management services to private and public-sector stakeholders who wish to fund poverty-eradication projects.

Particular emphasis is placed on those in the NDA's primary areas of focus, namely food security, early childhood development (ECD), enterprise development and income-generation programmes.

National Youth Development Agency (NYDA)

The main role of the NYDA is to initiate, implement, facilitate and monitor youth development interventions aimed at reducing youth unemployment and promoting social cohesion.

South Africa, like most countries, is grappling with the challenge of youth unemployment. Youth unemployment in South Africa is estimated to be 36,1%, which is significantly higher than adult unemployment at 15,6%.

The Youth Employment Accord (2013) and the Skills Accord (2011) – signed by business, government, labour, civil society and NGOs – aim to improve the equipping and placement of young people in jobs, and generally make the economy sensitive to the employment needs of young people.

Government strives to provide an opportunity to raise the share of youth-owned businesses and to support youth to engage in cooperatives in the country.

South African Social Security Agency (SASSA)

SASSA's core business is to administer, finance and pay social security transfers. Among other things, it is required to pay the right grant to the right person at the right time and place.

SASSA ensures the provision of comprehensive social security services against vulnerability and poverty within the constitutional and legislative framework.

The agency was expected to conduct extended beneficiary education campaigns to inform beneficiaries of their rights, and to protect them from unwarranted and unsolicited service providers marketing goods and products.

It was also expected to introduce measures to deal with disputes arising from deductions and electronic funds transfer debits from social grants.

Programmes and projects

ECD services

In December 2015, Cabinet approved the National Integrated ECD Policy, developed in consultation with a range of stakeholders.

The main objectives of the policy are to ensure that comprehensive and quality ECD services are in close proximity and equitably accessible to all children and their caregivers. It also enables parents to lead and participate in the development of their young children through the use of these services.

At the end of 2014/15, about 1,4 million children were accessing ECD services, of which just over half were receiving a subsidy. Government aims to provide all poor children accessing ECD services in registered centres with an ECD

subsidy. A total R663 million has been allocated to increase the number of poor children receiving a subsidy by about 104 000 by 2018/19.

Project Mikondzo

Project Mikondzo (which means “footprint” in Xitsonga) is a nationwide service-delivery initiative to assess the footprint and impact of the social development system.

Through direct interactions with municipalities and community members, Project Mikondzo aims to monitor service delivery at community level, determine the gap between policy formulation and implementation, and understand service-delivery challenges and backlogs.

The project provides a platform for profiling households and communities, and developing community and household intervention plans. The intention is to profile 300 000 households and develop 2 400 community plans in 1 256 municipal wards between 2016/17 and 2018/19.

Tackling substance abuse

Substance abuse is a key social challenge in many South African communities, and the Prevention of and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act of 2008 prescribes that each province must have at least one public treatment centre.

By the end of 2015, there were seven operational in-patient treatment centres in four provinces. The construction of additional substance abuse in-patient treatment centres in Northern Cape, Eastern Cape, North West and Free State was expected to be completed by the end of 2016/17.

Gender-Based Violence Command Centre (GBVCC)

The GBVCC is a 24-hour call centre that was launched in March 2014 to provide immediate, consistent, coordinated and timely support and counselling to victims of GBV. The GBVCC is linked to the services of the police, emergency medical services and the Department of Health.

Among other awards, the GBVCC was named the Best Technology Innovation – Small Centre of the World at the Global Best Contact Centre Awards in Las Vegas, USA, on 5 November 2015. As the Gold Medal winner, this means the GBVCC is ranked number one in the world in its category.

The toll-free number to call to speak to a social worker for assistance and counselling is 0800 428 428 (0800 GBV



GBV). Callers can also request a social worker from the Command Centre to contact them by dialling *120*7867# (free) from any cellphone.

The GBVCC has attended to a variety emergency situations including indecent assault, physical violence, rape, abandoned children and verbal abuse. It has also attended to cases such as stalking, emotional abuse, sexual harassment, forced marriages, forced prostitution, elderly citizen abuse, bullying and family disputes.

The GBVCC uses technology to geographically locate a caller from a mobile phone in order to determine the resources nearest to the caller such as a social worker, a police station, a hospital or safe house.

Social security

Government is committed to eradicating inequality and poverty by providing social grants to vulnerable citizens.

According to the results of the General Household Survey released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) in June 2016, the percentage of individuals that benefited from social grants increased from 12,7% in 2003 to 30,1% in 2015. The percentage of households that received at least one grant increased from 29,9% to 45,5% in 2015 over the same period. By 2018, it is expected that nearly 17,5 million South Africans would receive some form of social grant.

South Africa's social assistance system is one of the largest in Africa and is government's most direct means of combating poverty.

The Child-Support and Old-Age grants are the two largest social grant programmes, constituting about 75% of total grant spending. Others are the War Veterans, Disability, Grant-in-Aid, Foster Child and Care Dependency grants.

Food for All Programme

An estimated 14 million South Africans go hungry every day. FoodBank South Africa collects edible surplus food from

manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, and redistributes this food to hundreds of verified NPOs that collectively feed thousands of hungry people daily. The vision is 'a South Africa without hunger'.

FoodBank South Africa relies on the generosity of corporates and individuals to implement this cost-effective solution to feed hungry people.

HIV and AIDS support

The National Strategic Plan (NSP) on HIV, AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and Tuberculosis (TB) 2012 – 2016, which addresses the social drivers and social impact of HIV and AIDS, is a key component of the department's fight against the spread of HIV and AIDS.

The DSD developed a new National Action Plan for orphans, vulnerable children and youth affected by HIV and AIDS (2012 – 2016), which is aligned with the NSP on HIV, STIs and TB (2012 – 2016).

The action plan calls for meaningful involvement and participation by all stakeholders in the national response to orphans, vulnerable children and youths affected by HIV and AIDS.

People with disabilities

In December 2015, government released the *White Paper on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (WPRPD) for public comment.

The White Paper is a call to action for government, civil society and the private sector to work together to ensure the socio-economic inclusion of persons with disabilities. Government seeks to create a caring and inclusive society that protects and develops the human potential of its children, a society for all where persons with disabilities enjoy the same rights as their fellow citizens, and where all citizens and institutions share equal responsibility for building such a society.

The WPRPD is intended to accelerate transformation and redress regarding full inclusion, integration and equality for persons with disabilities.

South Africa has been celebrating the International Day for Persons with Disabilities annually since 1997.

Children and youth

The Home Community-Based Care (HCBC) 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 HCBC 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.

National Youth Policy (NYP)

The NYP for 2015 – 2020 (NYP 2020) focuses on redressing the wrongs of the past and addressing the specific challenges and immediate needs of the country's youth.

The NYP 2020 builds on South Africa's first NYP, which covered the period 2009 – 2014.

The policy seeks to create an environment that enables the young people of South Africa to reach their potential. It outlines interventions to enable the optimal development of young people, both as individuals and as members of South African society, enhancing their capabilities to transform the economy and the country.

This will be achieved by addressing their needs; promoting positive outcomes, opportunities, choices and relationships; and providing the support necessary to develop all young people, particularly those outside the social, political and economic mainstream. The NYP 2020 emphasises the need for various youth development efforts and interventions that holistically respond to all aspects or spheres of young people's lives.

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 an NGO. 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 hearing impaired

South Africa's national organisation for the hearing impaired 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.

Other private organisations include the National Institute for the Deaf and the South African National Deaf Association.

Older people

The DSD promotes a holistic approach to active ageing and well-being among the country's senior citizens. A number of initiatives have been rolled out by the departments of social development, health, tourism, sport and recreation South Africa and other stakeholders to promote general health among older persons, especially through sports to promote general well-being.

The government has since 2008 implemented a national active ageing programme in line with the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing of 2002.

The Madrid Plan of Action offers a bold new agenda for handling the issue of ageing in the 21st century. It focuses on three priority areas: older persons and development, advancing health and well-being into old age and ensuring enabling and supportive environments.

The Older Persons Act of 2006 aims to enhance the quality of life and improve the health of older persons by engaging them in programmes that promote social, physical, mental and emotional well-being to prevent or delay the onset of ageing challenges and keep old age related illness at bay.

The Older Persons' Parliament takes place annually in October. It gives elders the opportunity to engage with the executive on critical issues affecting their lives.



Sport and Recreation



The Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa (SRSA) oversees the development and management of sport and recreation in South Africa.

The SRSA responds to the National Development Plan's imperatives of nation-building, social cohesion and a healthy national lifestyle by encouraging participation in sport and recreation at various levels, developing talented athletes and supporting high performance athletes, and supporting transformation in sport and recreation, as stipulated in the National Sport and Recreation Plan.

The department has started with preparations following the Commonwealth Games Federation announcement in September 2015 that Durban would host the 2022 games in Durban.

In 2015/16, the SRSA was expected to establish a National Sports Hall of Fame.

Developing talented athletes

The department's Talent Identification and Development Strategy includes the Ministerial Sports Bursary, which is awarded to learners from grades 8 to 12 for the duration of their high-school career.

The bursary allows them to attend a sports-focus school, of which there were 24 across South Africa in 2015. These schools are identified by provincial departments as having exceptional sports coaching and facilities. New recruits for the bursary programme were identified during the 2015 national school sport championships.

Including those already on the programme, a minimum of 40 athletes who meet the performance criteria were expected to be supported in 2016/17. A second level of support was to be provided to 40 emerging athletes with the potential to compete at a high-performance level, but who are not yet on the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee's (SASCOC) operation excellence programme.

These athletes request specific support, which is provided on an ad hoc basis on consideration of their circumstances and their performance potential.

Elite athletes are supported through the SASCOC's high-performance programme. These athletes are expected to perform at the four major games – the All Africa Games, World Games, Commonwealth Games, and Olympic and Paralympic games).

Role players

South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee

SASCOC is the national multi-coded sporting body responsible for the preparation, presentation and performance of teams to all multi-coded events, namely the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Games, World Games, All Africa Games, Olympic Youth Games, Commonwealth Youth Games and Zone VI Games.

It also look after the various national federations affiliated to it, together with the various provincial sports councils. SASCOC is responsible for the awarding for National Protea Colours to athletes/officials who have met the criteria to represent South Africa in different sporting codes and arenas.

South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport (SAIDS)

The SAIDS promotes participation in sport without the use of prohibited performance enhancing substances and methods, and educates sportspeople on fair play and the harmful effects of the use of prohibited performance enhancing substances and methods.

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

The Africa Regional Office of the WADA was established in Cape Town in 2004 to coordinate the anti-doping activities of the agency through-out Africa.

This includes promoting and maintaining effective lines of communication between the WADA and all relevant stakeholders, governments and public authorities, the broad sports movement, national antidoping agencies and laboratories.

South Africa continues to serve as the African representative on the Executive Committee of WADA.

Boxing South Africa (BSA)

The BSA administers professional boxing, recognises amateur boxing, creates synergy between professional and amateur boxing, and promotes interaction between associations of boxers, managers, promoters and trainers.

Programmes and projects

National Sport and Recreation Plan (NSRP)

The NSRP's five strategic objectives are transformation, priority codes, ethical environment, geo-political sports boundaries and amateur versus professional sport.

Major events

Africa Games

Team South Africa finished in third place with 122 medals at the 11th Africa Games in Brazzaville, Congo from 4 to 19 September 2015.

Big Walk

The Big Walk is staged on the first Sunday of October to encourage participation in physical activity. The Big Walk takes place in October to align it with The Association for International Sport for All's (TAFISA) World Walking Day.

TAFISA encourages and lobbies countries to walk by creating advocacy and awareness during October.

Annual National Recreation Day

The first-ever National Recreation Day was held on 2 October 2015, at Tshwane Events Centre. Although not a public holiday, the day provides an opportunity to all South Africans to be actively involved by participating in recreation activities that will improve their health and well-being.

National Indigenous Games

The 10th Indigenous Games 2015 event was held in Polokwane, Limpopo from 20 to 24 September 2015.

The games played included khokho, intonga, ncuva, morabaraba, 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.

South African Sports Awards

The 10th South African Sports Awards ceremony was held at the Sand du Plessis Theatre in Mangaung, Free State in November 2015.

Wayde van Niekerk received the 2015 SA Sport Star of the Year, 2015 People's Choice and Sportsman of the Year awards respectively.



Ashleigh Moolman-Pasio received the Sportswoman of the Year Award.

The Sportswoman with a Disability and Sportsman with a Disability awards went to Ilse Hayes and Lucas Sithole respectively.

Other winners included:

- Volunteer of the Year – Nkosinathi Ngubane.
- Coach of the Year – Graham Hill.
- Newcomer of the Year – Kagiso Rabada.
- Team of the Year – Springbok Sevens.
- Sport Journalist of the Year – Bareng-Batho Kortjaas.
- Photographer of the Year – Veli Nhlapo.
- Recreational Body of the Year – Indigo Skate Cam.
- Indigenous Games Star of the Year – KwaZulu-Natal Dibeke Team.
- National Federation of the Year – Basketball SA.
- Administrator of the Year – Virginia Mabaso.
- School Team of the Year – St John's College: Junior Men's Pair.



- Developing School Team of the Year – Montshiwa Primary School.
- Steve Tshwete Lifetime Achievement Award – Rev Makhenkesi Arnold Stofile; Mohamed Margiet; Enos Mafokate, and Dr Chomane Chomane.

Major sporting activities

Sporting codes

Major sporting codes in South Africa include, among others: Athletics; Biking; Mountain Biking; Cycling; Boxing; Cricket; Canoeing; Rowing; Golf; Hockey; Ice Hockey; Motorsport; Flying; Netball; Rugby; Running (including South Africa's two world-renowned ultra-marathons – the Comrades Marathon in KwaZulu-Natal and the Two Oceans Marathon in the Western Cape); Soccer; Surfing; Sailing; Swimming; Tennis, and Chess.



Tourism



Tourism remains a key driver of South Africa's national economy and contributes to job creation. The tourism industry is a major contributor to the South African economy and employment of citizens.

The sector contributes about 9% to the country's gross domestic product.

A total of 8 903 773 foreign tourists visited South Africa in 2015. Over 1,6 million local and international tourists visited the Kruger National Park in 2015, one of the favourite destinations. During the same year, government introduced far-reaching immigration regulations to combat child trafficking and improve security at South Africa's points of entry.

According to research conducted by the National Convention Bureau, 40% of all convention delegates attending meetings in South Africa return in the next five years as tourists, thus boosting tourism growth and job creation.

Tourism Month is celebrated annually in September with the aim of encouraging South Africans to explore their own country. It also provides the tourism industry with an opportunity for a sustained, heightened month-long focus on the importance of domestic tourism to the economy.

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 as a business unit under SAT.

SAT's Sho't Left marketing campaign for domestic tourists is already delivering results.

The "It's Here, Vaya Mzansi" campaign is an industry-wide project that relies on collaboration and partnership from the wider industry for success and to grow domestic leisure travel to meet targets. SAT partnered with more than 50 tourism companies in South Africa to create discount vouchers ranging from tour-operator services, accommodation and experiences including wine tastings, canopy tours and hiking.

Enterprise Development Programme Management Unit (PMU)

The Department of Tourism has established an Enterprise Development PMU following the conclusion of the Tourism Enterprise Partnership (TEP) contract on 31 March 2016.

TEP is a non-profit company that facilitates the growth, development and sustainability of small tourism businesses.

The Enterprise Development Programme will focus on the following areas: Enterprise Development Online Information Portal; Business Advisory Services; Tourism Incubator Hubs Establishment, and Stakeholder Engagement. There will also be continued support of 100 rural tourism enterprises with coaching and mentorship.

Tourism Indaba

The Tourism Indaba, held from 9 to 11 May 2015, provided an opportunity to showcase South Africa and its people.

The Department of Tourism and SAT held the Indaba at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban.

The annual Tourism Indaba is one of the largest tourism marketing events in Africa and one of the top-three events of its kind in the world. It showcases a wide variety of southern Africa's best tourism products and attracts international visitors and media from across the world.

This Pan-African event is a critical platform to promote local tourism products to the international market. It also supports the strategic vision of the National Tourism Sector Strategy to grow international arrivals to 15 million by 2020 and therefore create 225 000 new jobs.

Tourism Grading Council of South Africa (TGCSA)

Operating as a business unit of SAT, the TGCSA is the only recognised and globally credible quality assurance body for tourism products in South Africa.

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 blockhouses 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.
- 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 is the Mangaung African Cultural Festival, popularly known as the Macufe Arts Festival, in September.

- The National Women's Memorial commemorates the women and children who died in concentration camps during the Anglo-Boer/South African War.
- 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

- Port Elizabeth has 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 yellow-wood 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 presidential inaugurations. 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.

Top-10 reasons to visit South Africa

1. Affordable – In South Africa, you can even afford luxury and have spending money for shopping and other treats.

2. Natural beauty – South Africa's scenic wonders are legendary. From Table Mountain to God's Window, the mountains, forests, coasts and deserts will sooth your soul and delight you.

3. World-class facilities – You will find it easy to get around, find a comfortable place to stay and have a great meal.

4. Adventure – South Africa is the adventure capital of the world. With over 130 adventures, there is something for everyone from mountain walks to shark-cage diving.

5. Good weather – In sunny South Africa with a great weather, you can enjoy the outdoors, play golf year-round and take advantage of the nearly 3 000 km coastline.

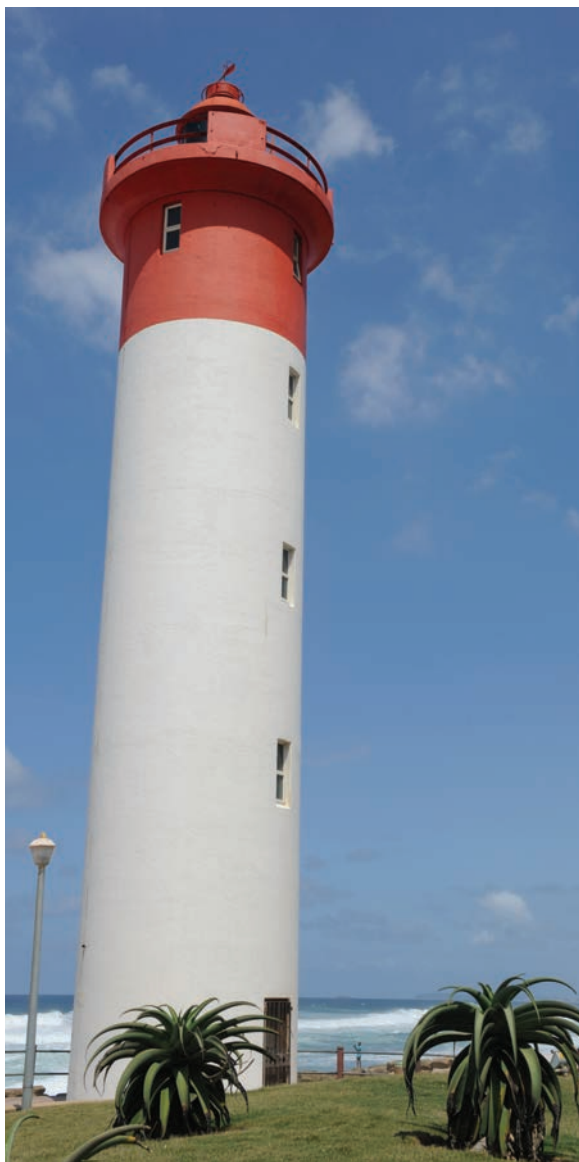
6. Rainbow Nation – The Rainbow Nation celebrates all its African and immigrant cultures. South Africans are known for their friendliness and hospitality.

7. Diverse experiences – Go almost anywhere in South Africa and experience the ultimate combination of nature, wildlife, culture, adventure, heritage and good vibe.

8. Wildlife – The abundant and diverse wildlife include the Big Five (African lion, African elephant, Cape buffalo, African leopard and black rhinoceros).

9. Freedom Struggle – Discover a nation's struggle for freedom whilst following the footsteps of Nelson Mandela, Hector Pieterse and many other celebrated revolutionaries.

10. Responsible tourism – In South Africa you can travel with care as you explore protected areas, contribute to social and conservation projects, and collect arts and crafts.





Transport



The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 identifies the legislative responsibilities of different spheres of government with regard to airports, roads, traffic management and public transport. Transport is a function that is legislated and executed at the national, provincial and local spheres of government.

The development and maintenance of an efficient and competitive transport system is a key objective of the National Development Plan (NDP) and of Outcome 6 (an efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network) of the Medium Term Strategic Framework 2014-2019.

The *1996 White Paper on Transport* defines the different subsectors in the transport sector. Broadly, these are the infrastructure and operations of rail, pipelines, roads, airports, harbours as well as the cross-modal operations of public transport and freight. The Department of Transport (DoT) is responsible for the legislation and policies for all these subsectors.

For the cross modal functions of public transport and freight, the guiding documents are the National Land Transport Act of 2009, the Public Transport Strategy and the National Freight Logistics Strategy.

The DoT is therefore responsible for conducting sector research, formulating legislation and policy to set the strategic direction of subsectors, assigning responsibilities to public entities and other levels of government, regulating through setting norms and standards, and monitoring implementation.

The department's strategic goals are to, among other things, ensure an efficient and integrated infrastructure network that serves as a catalyst for social and economic development; ensure a safe and secure transport sector; improve rural access, infrastructure and mobility; improve public transport systems, and increase the contribution of the transport sector to job creation.

Transport infrastructure and services support economic growth and development by connecting people and goods to markets. The development and maintenance of an efficient and competitive transport system is a key objective of the NDP.

The DoT aims to maintain the national and provincial road networks, upgrade rail infrastructure and services, and expand road based public transport.

The implementation of transport functions at the national sphere takes place through public entities that are overseen by the department.

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 (RTIA), 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

PRASA provides rail commuter services within, to and from South Africa in the public interest. In consultation with the DoT, it also provides for long haul passenger rail and bus services within, to and from South Africa.

By mid-2015, PRASA owned 2 280 km of South Africa's rail network and used some of the 22 000 km of rail track under the control of Transnet. It had 585 train stations and a total fleet of 4 735 coaches, with an overall staff complement of 18 207.

Government is expected to spend about R51 billion on new rail rolling stock and R4 billion on new hybrid locomotives in the next five years. By mid-2015, PRASA had taken delivery of 13 of the 70 new locomotives.

Transnet Limited

Transnet's mandate is to contribute to lowering the cost of doing business in South Africa, enable economic growth, and ensure security of supply by providing appropriate port, rail and pipeline infrastructure in a cost-effective and efficient manner.



Gautrain

The Gautrain is an 80-km long mass rapid transit railway system that links Johannesburg, Pretoria and OR Tambo International Airport.

It was built to relieve traffic congestion in the Johannesburg-Pretoria traffic corridor and offer commuters a viable alternative to road transport, as Johannesburg had limited public transport infrastructure.

In 2014, a consortium of Transaction Advisors was appointed to conduct the feasibility study for the possible rapid rail extensions to the Gautrain network.

The possible rapid rail extensions follow from the Gauteng 25-Year Integrated Transport Master Plan. This plan will ensure integration of transport with spatial patterns as well as the integration between various transport modes to transport people effectively.

The Gautrain transports about 52 000 people a day (including weekends) or 1,2 million people a year.

Road Accident Fund

The mandate of the RAF is to compensate South African road users for loss or damage caused by the negligent driving of motor vehicles within the borders of South Africa.

Road Traffic Management Corporation

The RTMC is responsible for coordinating road-traffic management across the three spheres of government. The core



mandate of the corporation is to improve traffic-law compliance and reduce road fatalities.

South African Maritime Safety Authority

The SAMSA promotes South Africa's maritime interests, ensures the safety of life and property at sea, and prevents and combats the pollution of the marine environment by ships.

South African National Roads Agency Limited

SANRAL is responsible for the design, financing, maintenance, operation and rehabilitation of South Africa's national toll and non-toll roads.

The toll-road network comprises about 15% of the national road network of about 21 451 km. SANRAL manages some 1 832 km of these toll roads.

South Africa has a vast road network of 750 000 km, ranging from freeways to grave roads and is the tenth longest road network in the world. In an effort to alleviate traffic congestion, save time and migrate towards cashless tolling, SANRAL is also using an optional toll-collection method that uses a tag fitted on the windscreen. SANRAL's total road network is 21 451 km (93%) and it has awarded concessions to the following three private companies to be responsible for 6,2% of the road network:

- Bakwena Toll Concessionaires (1,6%) manages the section of the N1 north of Pretoria up to the Bela Bela interchange, and the N4 travelling west towards the Botswana border, known as the Platinum Highway – 352 km.
- Trans African Concessions (2,7%) is responsible for the 570 km of the road between Solomon Mahlangu off-ramp in Tshwane and the Port of Maputo in Mozambique.
- N3 Toll Concessions manages the N3 between Heidelberg in Gauteng and Cedara near Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal – 415 km.

Cross Border Road Transport Agency

The agency's legislative mandate requires it to advise the Minister of Transport on cross border road transport policy, regulate access to the market by the road transport freight and passenger industry in respect of cross border road transport by issuing permits, undertake road transport law enforcement, and play a facilitative role in contributing to economic prosperity of the region.

Ports Regulator of South Africa

The Ports Regulator of South Africa performs functions that relate mainly to the regulation of pricing and other aspects of economic regulation, the promotion of equity of access to ports facilities and services, the monitoring of the industry's compliance with the regulatory framework, and the hearing of any complaints and appeals lodged with it.



Railway Safety Regulator

The Railway Safety Regulator oversees and promotes safe railway operations through appropriate support, monitoring and enforcement, guided by an enabling regulatory framework, including regulations for all rail operators in South Africa and those of neighbouring countries whose rail operations enter South Africa.

Road Traffic Infringement Agency

The RTIA promotes road traffic quality by providing for a scheme to discourage road traffic infringements to support the prosecution of offences in terms of national and provincial laws relating to road traffic, and implements a points demerit system.

National Transport Master Plan (NAP-MAP)

The NATMAP 2050 is aimed at delivering a dynamic, long-term and sustainable transportation system framework which

is demand responsive and that provides a coordinated transport agenda for the whole country.

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.

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.

South Africa's nine major airports are:

- OR Tambo International in Gauteng
- Cape Town International in the Western Cape
- King Shaka International in KwaZulu-Natal
- Bloemfontein International in the Free State
- Port Elizabeth International in the Eastern Cape
- Upington International in the Northern Cape
- East London Airport in the Eastern Cape
- George Airport in the Western Cape
- Kimberley Airport in the Northern Cape.

Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS)

The ATNS provides air traffic, navigation, training and associated services within South Africa and a large part of the Southern Indian and Atlantic Ocean, comprising approximately 10% of the world's airspace. South Africa is committed to regional aviation safety, security and environmental issues.

South African Civil Aviation Authority

The SACAA promotes, regulates and enforces civil aviation safety and security standards across the aviation industry.

South African Airways

SAA is the leading carrier in Africa, serving 26 destinations across the continent, as well as major destinations within South Africa and internationally from its Johannesburg hub at OR Tambo International Airport and is a member of the largest international airline network, Star Alliance.

SAA's core business is the provision of passenger airline and cargo transport services together with related services, which are provided through SAA and its four wholly owned subsidiaries: SAA Technical; Mango, its low-cost carrier; Air Chefs, the catering entity of SAA; and South African Travel Centre.

In January 2015, SAA became the first airline globally to install the Satellite Authorisation System (SatAuth) that allows for secure credit-card transactions anywhere in the skies.

The system also provides pin-point accurate aircraft tracking services for operational purposes.

The system will allow for secure credit card transactions at any point and real-time positioning of any flight, anywhere, impacting fuel saving interventions in-flight as well as providing full visibility of actual flight paths versus planned routing at any time. SatAuth, the first product of its kind, was developed in South Africa.

Public transport

Scholar Transport

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.

Taxi and bus industries

The taxi industry remains the most important part of South Africa's public transport system. Taxis, which move 68% of the 5,4 million daily, are the preferred type of road transport

With more than 200 000 taxis on the road, the taxi industry generates about R40 billion per year and has created approximately 300 000 direct and indirect job opportunities, including drivers, taxi marshals and administrative support.

Integrated public transport networks

Bus Rapid Transport (BRT)

South Africa has introduced rapid public transport networks

which contribute to economic development, job creation and tourism.

- In Cape Town, *MyCiTi* is moving an average of 42 522 people against a target of 50 000 per weekday.
- *Rea Vaya* in Johannesburg is moving an average of 33 670 people against a target of 40 000 per weekday.
- In Pretoria, *A Re Yeng* is moving an average of 3 000 people against a target of 10 000 per weekday.
- *Go George* is moving an average of 7 630 people against a target of 10 000 per weekday in George, Cape Town.
- The City of Ekurhuleni was expected to launch *Harambe* (pulling or working together in Kiswahili), in 2016.
- The Rustenburg Rapid Transport system in North West was expected to serve an 18 km trunk line network of dedicated bus lanes and station terminals.
- *GO!Durban* is the term and brand used to refer to Durban's Integrated Rapid Public Transport Network.

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 The MRCC enables South Africa to exercise its responsibilities to the international community by employing state-of-the-art search-and-rescue infrastructure and services.



South Africa has a well-established pollution prevention strategy, and is ready to respond in case of threats to the environment or to provide assistance to vessels at risk.

Arrive Alive campaign

The objectives of the Arrive Alive Road-Safety Campaign, especially during the Easter and December holidays, are to reduce the number of road-traffic accidents in general and fatalities in particular, and improve road-user compliance with traffic laws.

The goals of the campaign are to:

- reduce the number of road-traffic accidents in general, and fatalities in particular, by 5% compared with the same period the previous year.
- improve road-user compliance with traffic laws.
- forge improved working relationships between traffic authorities in the various spheres of government.



Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020

South Africa is a signatory to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020.

A key aspect of the Integrated Road Safety Management Programme is increasing pedestrian safety. In South Africa, there are close to 14 000 fatal road accidents a year, which cost the country over R300 billion.

About 88% of the crashes are caused by human factors, with an average of 40 people dying and 20 left permanently disabled every day.





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Private Bag X250, Pretoria, 0001

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Website: www.dac.gov.za

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Basic Education

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Defence

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Economic Development

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Environmental Affairs

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Health

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Higher Education and Training

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Home Affairs

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Human Settlements

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Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

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Public Enterprises

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Public Service and Administration

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Public Works

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Rural Development and Land Reform

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Science and Technology

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Social Development

Website: *www.dsd.gov.za*

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South African Police Service

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South African Revenue Service

Website: *www.sars.gov.za*

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