OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

government communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

2030 NDP

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

CONTENTS AND FOREWORD

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nkosi sikelel’ i Afrika
(God bless Africa)
Maluphakanyisw’ uphondo lwayo,
(Raise high her glory)
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
(Hear our prayers)
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.
(God bless us, we her children)

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
(God protect our nation)
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
(End all wars and tribulations)
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
(Protect us, protect our nation)
Setjhaba sa South Afrika – South Afrika.
(Our nation South Africa – South Africa)

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
(Ringing out from our blue heavens)
Uit die diepte van ons see,
(From the depth of our seas)
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
(Over our everlasting mountains)
Waar die kranse antwoord gee.
(Where the echoing crags resound)

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

Official Guide to South Africa 2020/21

Eighteenth (18th) edition
Compiled, edited and published by:
Government Communications (GCIS)
Private Bag X745, Pretoria, 0001
Telephone: 012 473 0000
Website: *www.gcis.gov.za*

ISBN: 978-0-621-49291-0

Editor: Elias Tibane

Picture coordinator: Elizabeth Sibiya

Images supplied by: GCIS Photography Unit

Design and layout: GCIS Design Unit

Compiled, edited and published by the GCIS.

The editor has taken all reasonable care to ensure correctness of facts and statistics. However, any person requiring confirmation of any data in the *Official Guide to South Africa* or more detailed and specific information, should contact the relevant government institution.

Unless otherwise specified, information contained in this *Official Guide to South Africa* was the latest available as at October 2021.

For all enquiries, please contact the Editor, Mr Elias Tibane, on 012 473 0069 or *elias@gcis.gov.za.*

CONTENTS

FOREWORD

The 2020/21 edition of the *Official Guide to South Africa* is published at a time when South Africa is undertaking a process of recovery and rebuilding following the devastating impact of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Government acted decisively to deal with the deadly pandemic by safeguarding lives and livelihoods. The measures taken in March 2020 helped to curb the spread of COVID-19 and allowed government enough time to intensify prevention efforts and strengthen the healthcare system to be able to respond to the anticipated increase in infection rates. Government introduced a massive social and economic relief package to mitigate the hardships caused by COVID-19 and prepare the country for the phased reopening of the economy.

As a result of the pandemic, South Africa has experienced a sharp decline in economic growth and a significant increase in unemployment. We have therefore made it a priority to accelerate the pace of our economic recovery to overcome poverty, hunger, joblessness and inequality.

The Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan – which we launched in October 2020 – aims to create jobs, primarily through aggressive infrastructure investment and mass employment programmes; reindustrialise our economy, focusing on growing small businesses; accelerate economic reforms to unlock investment and growth; fight crime and corruption, and improve the capability of the State.

Operation Vulindlela, an initiative of The Presidency and National Treasury, aims to open the way for high-impact economic reforms in network industries such as energy, water, telecommunications and transport. It focuses on a number of priority reforms and seeks to ensure that they are effectively and swiftly executed.

The Infrastructure Fund, which was launched this year, has fundamentally transformed the State's approach to the financing of infrastructure projects through mobilising finance from public entities, the private sector and multilateral institutions.

The African Continental Free Trade Area, which came into operation on 1 January 2021, will ensure that South African businesses expand into markets across Africa and enable the country to position itself as a gateway to the continent. With its advanced infrastructure, diverse economy, sophisticated capital markets and developed manufacturing capacity, South Africa is the ideal location for any company wanting to reach the continental market.

As part of the recovery of our tourism sector, which was particularly hard hit by the pandemic, South Africa is introducing eVisas to visitors from 15 countries across the world.

To expand energy generation capacity, government is working with Eskom to find ways of ensuring that the utility's financial positions improves, manages its debt and reduces its dependency on the fiscus.

Government continues to intensify the fight against crime and corruption, and is strengthening the State by advancing honesty, ethics and integrity at all levels of the Public Service. The National School of Government provides ongoing training to government officials to ensure a capable state.

The signing of performance agreements between Ministers and the President is intended to enhance accountability and focused performance by members of the Executive.

To ensure that deserving students are supported to access higher education, government is implementing the policy of providing fee-free higher education.

South Africa is facing another pandemic in the form of gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF). The National Strategic Plan on GBVF provides a framework to guide the country's response to dealing with the crisis by, among other interventions, making law-enforcement agencies more effective in combating the scourge.

This edition of the *Official Guide to South Africa* details these developments alongside many other government programmes and projects. It chronicles a year in which the country has faced unprecedented challenges, to which it has responded with determination, resourcefulness and most importantly, unity.

Cyril Ramaphosa

His Excellency Cyril M. Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa
October 2021

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

SOUTH AFRICA AT A GLANCE

Land surface area
1 220 813 km^2

Key economic sectors
Mining, transport, energy, manufacturing, tourism and agriculture.

Population
Total: 60,14 million
Male: 29,39 million (48,9%)
Female: 30,75 million (51,1%)

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

Currency
Rand (ZAR) – 100 cents equal 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.

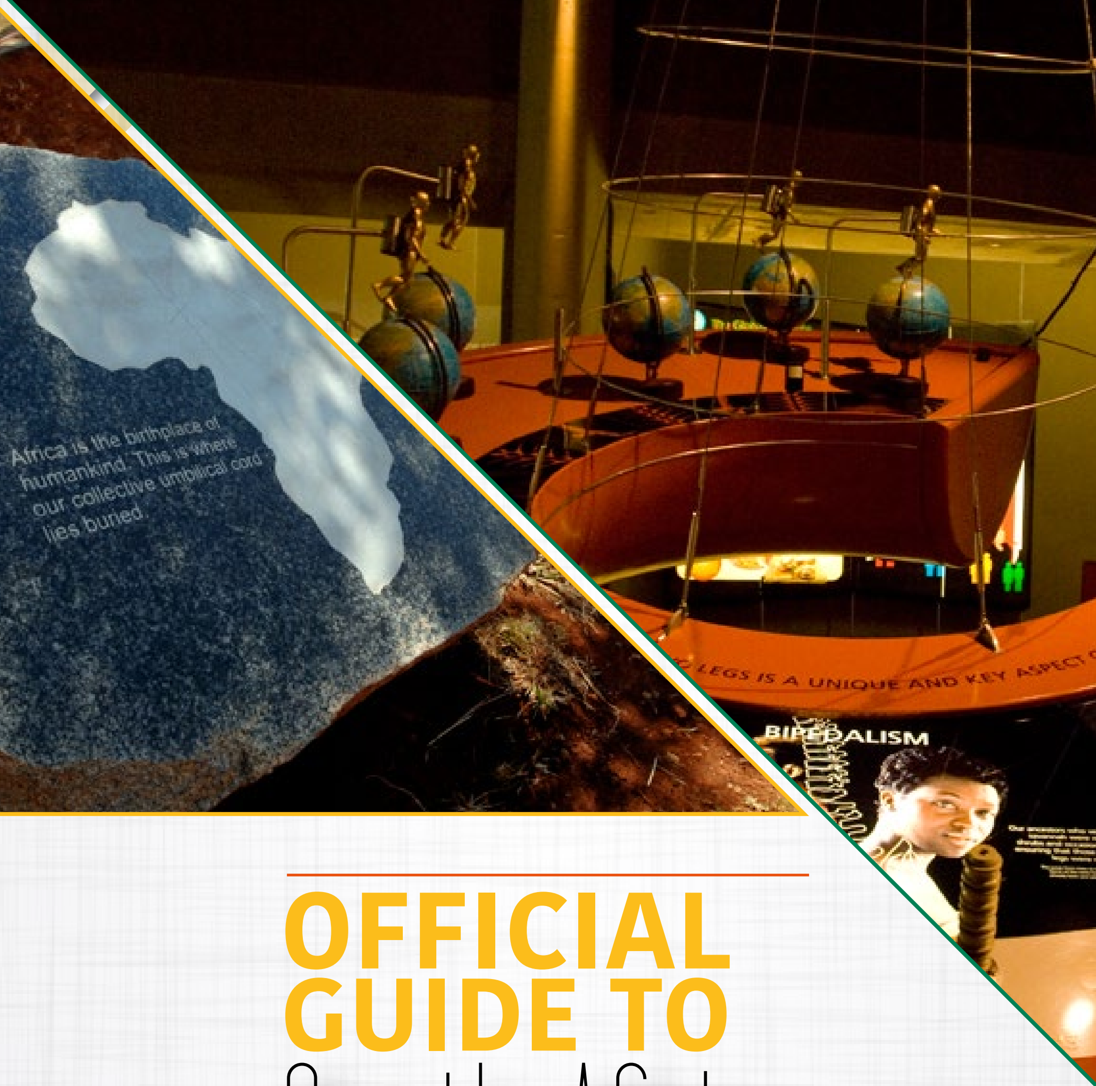
Provinces
Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape.

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 and WiFi access is widely available. The four major mobile (cellular) networks are Vodacom, MTN, Cell C and Telkom Mobile.

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

Source: Statistics South Africa's *Mid-year population estimates*, 2021.
For more information, visit *www.southafrica.info* and *www.gov.za.*



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

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 Britain lost more than 22 000 men. 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 Rolihlahla 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 Mr 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 (IFP) 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, Mr 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. Mr 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 (NDP): 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, Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka was appointed executive director of the UN Women Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, and Ms 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 antiapartheid icon 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%. In 2017, South Africa celebrated five years since the launch of the NDP, which outlines the goals to achieve the vision of a prosperous South Africa by tackling the triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality by 2030.

South Africa celebrated the Centenary of the late Oliver Reginald Tambo in 2017, under the theme: "Life and Legacy of OR Tambo".

He was one of the key drivers of South Africa's liberation and one of the founding fathers of the country's constitutional democracy. At its 54th National Conference held at Nasrec in Soweto on 18 December 2017, the ANC elected Mr Ramaphosa as its president. Following the resignation of President Zuma in February 2018, Mr Ramaphosa was elected unopposed as the fifth President of democratic South Africa by the National Assembly on 15 February 2018.

In 2018, South Africa celebrated the centenary of two Struggle stalwarts, Tata Mandela and Mama Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu. In 2019, South Africa celebrated 25 Years of Freedom. In May 2019, the country also held its sixth national and provincial elections. The ANC won 57,50% of the total vote, followed by the official opposition DA with 20,77% and the EFF with 10.79%.

On 25 May 2019, Mr Ramaphosa was inaugurated as the sixth democratically elected President of South Africa. In a departure from the tradition of holding the inauguration at the Union Buildings, the event took place at Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria.

On 31 December 2019, the World Health Organization reported a cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan City, China. 'Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2' (SARSCoV-2) was confirmed as the causative agent of what we now know as 'Coronavirus Disease 2019' (COVID-19). Since then, the virus has spread to more than 100 countries, including South Africa.

On 15 March 2020, President Ramaphosa declared a national state of disaster, and announced measures such as immediate travel restrictions and the closure of schools from 18 March. On 17 March, the National Coronavirus Command Council was established to lead the nation's plan to contain the spread and mitigate the negative impact of COVID-19. On 23 March, a 21-day national lockdown was announced, starting on 27 March 2020.

President Ramaphosa announced that from 1 May 2020, a gradual and phased easing of the lockdown restrictions would begin. From 1 June, the national restrictions were lowered to Alert Level 3. The restrictions were lowered to alert Level 2 on 17 August 2020 and from 21 September 2020 restrictions were lowered to Alert Level 1.

Government declared 2021 The Year of Charlotte Mannya-Maxeke under the theme: "The Year of Charlotte Mannya-Maxeke: Realising Women's Equality". She was a pioneer, activist, artist, intellectual, internationalist and visionary.

On 1 November 2021, the country held its sixth Local Government Elections. The ANC won the majority seats in 161 municipal councils, followed by the DA in 13 municipalities and the IFP in 10 municipalities. A total of 66 municipal councils were hung – meaning that no party gained an outright majority in those councils.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA

For 2021, Statistics South Africa estimates the mid-year population at 60,14 million people. Approximately 51,1% (about 30,75 million) of the population is female and approximately 48,9% (about 29,39 million) is male.

Life expectancy at birth for 2021 was estimated at 59,3 years for males and 64,6 years for females. The infant mortality rate for 2021 is estimated at 24,1 per 1 000 live births. Life expectancy at birth for 2021 is estimated at 59,3 years for males and 64,6 years for females. The infant mortality rate for 2021 is estimated at 24,1 per 1 000 live births.

The estimated overall HIV prevalence rate is approximately 13,7% among the South African population. The total number of people living with HIV is estimated at approximately 8,2 million in 2021. For adults aged 15–49 years, an estimated 19,5% of the population is HIV positive.

For the period 2016 to 2021, Gauteng and Western Cape are estimated to experience the largest inflow of migrants of approximately, 1 564 861 and 470 657 respectively. Gauteng still comprises the largest share of the South African population, with approximately 15,81 million people (26,3%) living in this province.

KwaZulu-Natal is the province with the second largest population, with an estimated 11,5 million people (19,1%) living in this province. With a population of approximately 1,30 million people (2,2%), Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population.

About 28,3% of the population is aged younger than 15 years (17,04 million) and approximately 9,2% (5,51 million) is 60 years or older. Of those younger than 15 years of age, the majority reside in Gauteng (21,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (21,2%). The proportion of elderly persons aged 60 years and older in South Africa is increasing over time and as such policies and programs to care for the needs of this growing population should be prioritised.

The approximately 34% rise in deaths in adults in the year 2021, significantly affected the life expectancy at birth in South Africa. In South Africa, female mortality was already disproportionately higher than male mortality due to the impact of HIV and AIDS. In the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, female life expectancy declined by 3,8 years and male life expectancy declined by 3,1 years.

Registration of births

In South Africa, the right to identity – which includes nationality, name and family relations – is enshrined in Section 28 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996. The Births and Deaths Act of 1992 governs the registration of births in South Africa.

The Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1992 has been amended several times, with the last amendment, Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act, being made in 2010. The registration of births in South Africa falls under the mandate of the Department of Home Affairs.

To better enforce the registration of births, the Amendment Act of 2010 mandates the registrations of births within 30 days from date of birth. The Constitution and the Act reaffirm South Africa's commitment to Articles seven and eight of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the rights and welfare of the child.

The agreements mandate the preservation of children's rights to identity, a nationality, to a name from birth, family ties and birth registration immediately after birth. The realisation of the right to be registered is closely linked to the safeguarding of a whole range of fundamental rights, including healthcare, social security, education, participation and protection.

The primary purpose of the records derived from the civil-registration process is to create a permanent record of the birth occurrence and for the issuing of a birth certificate, which is a personal document to attest birth registration and the most visible evidence of the government's legal recognition of the child. In essence, without a birth certificate the unregistered babies/children essentially do not legally exist.

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.

In terms of the Use of Official Languages Act in 2012, and as part of promoting social cohesion and nation-building, every government department, public entity and enterprise is expected to establish a language unit and adopt a language policy.

Religious beliefs

Religious beliefs in South Africa include Christianity; Islam; Traditional African religion; Hinduism; Buddhism; Bahaism; Judaism; Atheism and Agnosticism.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

GOVERNMENT

South Africa is a constitutional democracy with a three-tier system of government and an independent judiciary. The national, provincial and local levels of government all have legislative and executive authority in their own spheres, and are defined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 as distinctive, interdependent and interrelated.

Operating at both national and provincial levels are advisory bodies drawn from South Africa's traditional leaders. It is a stated intention in the Constitution that the country be run on a system of cooperative governance.

Government is committed to building a free, non-racial, non-sexist, democratic, united and successful South Africa.

The Constitution

The Constitution is the supreme law of the land. No other law or government action can supersede the provisions of the Constitution. It 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 is constitutionally mandated to ensure that provincial interests are taken into account in the national sphere of government. This is done through participation in the national legislative process and by providing a national forum for consideration of issues affecting provinces. The NCOP consists of 90 provincial delegates, which is 10 delegates for each of the nine provinces.

Government clusters

Government clusters are groupings of government departments with cross-cutting programmes. Clusters foster an integrated approach to governance that is aimed at improving government planning, decision making and service delivery.

The objective is to ensure proper coordination of all government programmes at national and provincial levels. The main functions of the clusters are to ensure the alignment of government-wide priorities, facilitate and monitor the implementation of priority programmes and to provide a consultative platform on cross-cutting priorities and matters being taken to Cabinet.

The clusters of the Forum of South African Directors-General (FOSAD) mirror the Ministerial clusters. The FOSAD clusters provide technical support to the Ministerial Clusters. The Director-General in the Presidency is the chairperson of FOSAD.

The clusters are as follows:
- Economic Sectors, Investment, Employment and Infrastructure Development
- Social Protection, Community and Human Development
- Governance, State Capacity and Institutional Development
- Justice, Crime Prevention and Security
- International Cooperation, Trade 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.

Inter-Ministerial Committees (IMCs)

The President of the Republic of South Africa (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. Some of the past and present IMCs include the following:
- 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 Immigration Regulations

- IMC on Investment Promotion
- IMC on Local Government Elections
- IMC on the Centenaries of Mama Albertina Sisulu and Tata Nelson
- IMC on the South Africa Investment Conference
- IMC on Land Reform
- IMC on Illegal Mining
- IMC on Climate Change
- IMC on Comprehensive Social Security
- IMC on Electricity Reticulation
- IMC on Energy
- IMC on the South African National AIDS Council
- IMC on District-Level Service Delivery
- IMC on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide
- IMC on Vaccines.

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.

The 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; and
- uniting the nation.

The Deputy President

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

The Presidency - Appointed since June 2018

- President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa.
- Deputy President David Dabede Mabuza.

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.

Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers, as at October 2021		
Portfolio	**Minister**	**Deputy Minister**
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Thoko Didiza	Mcebisi Skwatsha Rosemary Capa
Basic Education	Angie Motshekga	Reginah Mhaule
Communications and Digital Technologies	Khumbudzo Ntshavheni	Philly Mapulane
Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs	Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma	Obed Bapela Thembi Nkadimeng
Defence and Military Veterans	Thandi Modise	Thabang Makwetla
Employment and Labour	Thulas Nxesi	Boitumelo Moloi
Finance	Enoch Godongwana	David Masondo
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	Barbara Creecy	Magdeline Sotyu
Health	Joe Phaahla	Sibongiseni Dhlomo
Higher Education, Science and Innovation	Blade Nzimande	Buti Manamela
Home Affairs	Aaron Motsoaledi	Njabulo Nzuza
Human Settlements	Mmamoloko Kubayi	Pamela Tshwete
International Relations and Cooperation	Naledi Pandor	Alvin Botes Candith Mashego-Dlamini
Justice and Correctional Services	Ronald Lamola	John Jeffery Inkosi Patekile Holomisa
Mineral Resources and Energy	Gwede Mantashe	-
Police	Bheki Cele	Cassel Mathale

Public Enterprises	Pravin Gordhan	Phumulo Masualle
Public Service and Administration	Ayanda Dlodlo	Chana Pilane-Majake
Public Works and Infrastructure	Patricia de Lille	Noxolo Kiviet
Small Business Development	Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams	Sdumo Dlamini
Social Development	Lindiwe Zulu	Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu
Sport, Arts and Culture	Nathi Mthethwa	Nocawe Mafu
The Presidency (State Security)	-	Zizi Kodwa
The Presidency	Mondli Gungubele	Thembi Siweya Pinky Kekana
Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities	Maite Nkoana-Mashabane	-
Tourism	Lindiwe Sisulu	Fish Mahlalela
Trade, Industry and Competition	Ebrahim Patel	Nomalungelo Gina
Transport	Fikile Mbalula	Sindisiwe Chikunga
Water and Sanitation	Senzo Mchunu	David Mahlobo

Provincial government

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

Premiers, as at November 2021	
Eastern Cape	Oscar Mabuyane
Free State	Sefora Ntombela
Gauteng	David Makhura
KwaZulu-Natal	Sihle Zikalala
Limpopo	Stanley Mathabatha
Mpumalanga	Refilwe Mtshweni

Northern Cape	Zamani Saul
North West	Bushy Maape
Western Cape	Alan Winde

Traditional leadership

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

Local government is the sphere of government closest to the people. 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 257 municipalities in South Africa comprising eight metropolitan, 44 district and 205 local municipalities.

Municipalities govern on a four-year term basis and run local affairs subject to national and provincial legislation. They focus on growing local economies and providing infrastructure and services.

The eight metropolitan municipalities are:

- Buffalo City (East London)
- City of Cape Town
- Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality (East Rand)
- City of eThekwini (Durban)
- City of Johannesburg

- Mangaung Municipality (Bloemfontein)
- Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality (Port Elizabeth)
- City of Tshwane (Pretoria).

DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE (DCOG)

The DCoG is mandated to develop and monitor the implementation of national policy and legislation aimed at transforming and strengthening key institutions and mechanisms of governance in national, provincial and local government to fulfil their developmental role; develop, promote and monitor mechanisms, systems and structures to enable integrated service delivery and implementation within government; and promote sustainable development by providing support to and exercising oversight of provincial and local government.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS (DTA)

The DTA is mandated to oversee issues related to traditional affairs and support the development of stable and cohesive interfaith communities. The 2003 *White Paper on Traditional Leadership and Governance* sets out a national framework, and the norms and standards that define the role of the institutions of traditional leadership in South Africa.

It seeks to support and transform the institutions in accordance with constitutional imperatives, and restore the integrity and legitimacy of traditional leadership in line with the African indigenous law and customs subject to the Constitution.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION (DPSA)

The DPSA draws its mandate from Section 195(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, which sets out basic values and principles the Public Service should adhere to, and the Public Service Act of 1994.

In terms of the Act, the Minister of Public Service and Administration is responsible for establishing norms and standards relating to:

- the functions of the Public Service;
- organisational structures and establishments of departments, and other organisational and governance arrangements in the Public Service;
- the conditions of service and other employment practices for employees;
- labour relations in the Public Service;
- the health and wellness of employees;

- information management in the Public Service;
- electronic government;
- integrity, ethics, conduct and anti-corruption in the Public Service; and
- transformation, reform, innovation and any other matters to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Public Service and its service delivery to the public.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC)

The PSC is an independent institution established in terms of Chapter 10 of the Constitution and derives its mandate from sections 195 and 196 of the Constitution, which set out the values and principles governing public administration.

The commission is vested with custodial oversight responsibilities for the Public Service, and monitors, evaluates and investigates public administration practices. It has the power to issue directives on compliance with personnel procedures relating to recruitment, transfers, promotions and dismissals.

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT (NSG)

The NSG derives its mandate from the Public Service Amendment Act of 2007. In terms of the Act, the institution is mandated to provide training or effect its provision. The school responds to its mandate by developing relevant training and development programmes for delivery to South African public service officials at all levels.

Through education and training, the school promotes the progressive realisation of the values and principles governing public administration, and enhances the quality of human resource capacity in public service institutions.

Over the medium term, the NSG was expected to continue to focus on contributing towards the fulfilment of the educational, training and development needs of the Public Service. Other specific focus areas over the period ahead include increasing the school's active online learning interventions, and revising the trading account's funding model to ensure that the school generates more revenue. The NSG aims to continue revising its funding model to generate more revenue through training projects.

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE INNOVATION (CPSI)

The responsibility for innovation in the public sector is vested in the Minister of Public Service and Administration, in terms of Section 3(1)(i) of the Public Service Act of 1994. The CPSI is tasked by the Minister to fulfil this mandate, which includes establishing norms and standards relating to transformation, reform and innovation to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Public Service and its service delivery to the public. Over the medium term, the centre aimed to use innovation to solve service delivery challenges. This will be done through initiatives such as the annual public sector innovation awards, which serve as a means for identifying innovative solutions that can be replicated or upscaled in government institutions.

The centre also partners with other government departments, non-governmental organisations, the private sector, tertiary institutions, academics and international entities to unearth innovative solutions for identified service delivery challenges. Where existing solutions cannot be found, new solutions will be developed through these innovation partnerships.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE (DPWI)

As set out in the Government Immovable Asset Management Act of 2007, the DPWI is mandated to be the custodian and portfolio manager of government's immovable assets.

Since the creation of the Property Management Trading Entity in 2015/16, the department's role includes policy formulation, coordination, regulation and oversight relating to the provision of accommodation and expert built environment services to client departments at the national level; and, through the entity, the planning, acquisition, management and disposal of immovable assets in the department's custody.

The department is further mandated to coordinate and provide strategic leadership in initiatives for the creation of jobs through the implementation of the expanded public works programme. Public Works is constitutionally designated as a concurrent function exercised by the national and provincial levels of government.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (DHA)

The mandate of the DHA is derived from the Constitution and various acts of Parliament and policy documents. The department's services are divided into two broad categories: civic services and immigration services.

As such, the department is mandated to manage citizenship and civic status; and manage international migration, which includes providing refugee protection.

The execution of this mandate means that the department is a key enabler of national security, citizen empowerment, efficient administration and socio-economic development. Accordingly, these functions must be managed securely and strategically. Over the medium term, the DHA planned to establish and incrementally operationalise the Border Management Authority to secure international migration, continue with its IT modernisation programme to expand its client interface, and ensure the timeous issuing of permits and visas.

Establishing and operationalising the Border Management Authority (BMA), and securing international migration

As part of the DHA's commitment to adopting an integrated approach to border management, the BMA Act of 2020 was assented to by the President of South Africa in 2020/21. It was expected to be established in 2021/22.

As the authority is operationalised incrementally over the period ahead, the department plans to redevelop and modernise six priority land ports of entry (Beitbridge, Maseru Bridge, Kopfontein, Lebombo, Oshoek and Ficksburg).

As part of the iBorders strategy, which entails adopting a risk-based approach to managing migration, the department aims to implement systems to record passenger names and process passengers effectively.

These will enable the department to identify unknown threats based on passenger profiles and known suspects such as those on watchlists.

Timeous issuing of permits and visas

The timeous issuing of permits and visas enables economic growth and removes impediments to foreign investment. As such, the department plans to continue implementing the visa simplification process, through which certain low-risk countries will benefit from visa waivers and relaxed conditions; and rolling out electronic visas.

As a result, the department intends to maintain the percentage of business and general work visa applications per year that are adjudicated within eight weeks at 90% over the medium term.

The department is also targeting an increase in the percentage of critical skills visa applications per year adjudicated within four weeks from 82% in 2021/22 to 95% in 2023/24.

Modernising IT infrastructure

Since implementing the IT modernisation programme, the DHA has been able to automate its business processes and products. Most significantly, this has made capturing information and images, digitising supporting documents, and issuing enabling documents more efficient. The department will continue with the modernisation programme over the period ahead.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS (GPW)

The GPW is mandated to provide security printing and ancillary services to all organs of state in all spheres of government. The entity was converted to a full government component in 2009 in terms of the Public Service Act of 1994, enabling it to operate on sound business principles.

The entity fulfils its mandate subject to policies as prescribed by the Minister of Home Affairs. Over the medium term, the entity was expected to continue focusing on producing security printed material, including identity documents/smart identity cards and travel documents; coordinating and distributing government gazettes; completing ongoing capital works projects; motivating for the adoption of its newly proposed organisational structure; and ensuring alignment with new technological developments in the printing industry.

Ongoing capital works projects include the construction of the GPW precinct and the refurbishment of the existing building. The envisaged precinct will comprise a number of campuses with self-contained and product-oriented processing centres that will allow for secure and efficient operations. The project was expected to resume in 2021/22.

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR (DEL)

The DEL derives its legislative mandate from the Constitution, particularly the Bill of Rights, which is given effect through a number of acts that regulate labour matters in South Africa.

The most important of these are the Labour Relations Act of 1995, the Basic Conditions of Employment Act of 1997, the Employment Equity Act of 1998, the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1993, and the Employment Services Act of 2014.

The department is mandated to regulate the labour market through policies and programmes developed in consultation with social partners. These aim to:

- improve economic efficiency and productivity;
- facilitate the creation of decent employment;
- promote labour standards and fundamental rights at work;
- provide adequate social safety nets to protect vulnerable workers;
- promote and enforce sound labour relations;
- promote equity in the workplace;
- eliminate inequality and unfair discrimination in the workplace;
- enhance occupational health and safety awareness and compliance in the workplace; and
- give value to social dialogue in the formulation of sound and responsive legislation and policies to attain labour market flexibility for the competitiveness

of enterprises, balanced with the promotion of decent employment.

Over the medium term, the department was expected to focus on providing support to work seekers, increasing safety and fairness in the workplace, and regulating the workplace to establish minimum working conditions and fair labour practices.

Providing support to work seekers

Over the medium term, the DEL planned to collaborate with relevant stakeholders to develop legislation to regulate the employment of foreign nationals in South Africa; and improving the placement of work seekers in registered employment opportunities.

Increasing safety and fairness in the workplace

Over the period ahead, the DEL planned to introduce updates to the case management system in 2021/22 to ensure that business processing is modernised in line with developments in IT, conducting employment law inspections and improving compliance rates for various sectors while formulating the most appropriate service offering for the informal and small, medium and micro enterprises sectors.

Regulating the workplace

The National Minimum Wage (NMW) was introduced in 2019 to protect the most vulnerable, benefiting some six million workers. The NMW Commission and the DEL review the quantum of the NMW annually, which was increased by 4.5% to R21, 69 per hour, with effect from the 1 March 2021.

The department planned to develop monitoring mechanisms to measure the impact of the NMW on the economy, collective bargaining and the reduction of income differentials; and to gauge the proposed adjustment to the NMW.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

THE PRESIDENCY

THE PRESIDENCY

The mandate of The Presidency is to ensure that the President of South Africa can execute their constitutional responsibilities in leading and galvanising government and society to implement the electoral mandate. Broadly, The Presidency oversees the implementation of the electoral mandate, the National Development Plan (NDP) and government's 2019-2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF). The Presidency is situated in the Union Buildings, Pretoria, and has another subsidiary office in Tuynhuys, Cape Town.

The main focus of The Presidency is to give meaning and substance to cooperative and integrated government and unleashing all the capabilities to be found both in the state and through building partnerships across society to build a capable and developmental state.

The department supports the President and Deputy President of South Africa in advancing South Africa's national interest and foreign policy through strategic bilateral and multilateral meetings, state visits and other international obligations.

Over the medium term, The Presidency was expected to focus on providing leadership and support on the implementation of the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (ERRP), and advancing South Africa's regional and global interests. The ERRP is underpinned by a dedicated focus on key economic reforms, particularly in network industries like energy, water, ports and rail, and telecommunications.

The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has caused severe damage to global economies, affecting trade, investment, international travel and global supply chains. In South Africa alone, it has created myriad socio-economic challenges and threatened millions of jobs and livelihoods, especially those of the most vulnerable.

In response, government has – in consultation with social partners, labour, businesses and community organisations – developed the ERRP to restore and grow the economy. In guiding the implementation of the plan, The Presidency focuses on coordinating and facilitating various priorities and interventions.

These include stimulus packages to create jobs and support livelihoods; support the reindustrialisation of the economy with a focus on advancing the development of small enterprises in townships and rural areas; and accelerate economic reforms aimed at unlocking investment and growing the economy.

Presidential Employment Stimulus

The Presidential Employment Stimulus, which was launched in 2020, is the largest and fastest scale-up of public employment in South Africa's history. By mid-2021, the Presidential Employment Stimulus had supported nearly 700 000 job opportunities.

Of these, 422 000 were jobs that had been created or retained, 110 000 were awards issued for livelihoods support, and a further 162 000 were opportunities where awards were underway. Since its inception, this programme has been making a difference in the lives of many South Africans. The stimulus has played a crucial role in supporting vulnerable households to keep working and earning an income, while at the same time benefitting the communities in which they work.

As part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus:

- more than 300 000 education assistants were placed in over 20 000 schools across South Africa. Funding has also been provided to protect vulnerable teaching posts.
- income support is being provided to more than 100 000 workers in the Early Childhood Development sector.
- more than 50 000 opportunities were being created in public employment programmes in the environment sector, including in natural resource management, fire prevention and the war on waste.
- the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure has hired almost 2 000 artisans have been hired by to support water and energy efficiency, facilities management and the Welisizwe Rural Bridges Programme.
- The expansion of the Global Business Services Incentive has enabled the creation of more than 8 000 new jobs in the sector since October 2021.
- More than 100 000 small-scale and subsistence farmers are being provided with input vouchers to expand production.

Project Management Office (PMO)

The PMO supports the delivery of key strategic priorities from the centre of government. It works across government to ensure effective coordination where multiple departments and agencies are involved and provides implementation support where required.

In addition to the Presidential Employment Stimulus, the PMO has been integral to the development of the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention, which was developed before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The backbone of this intervention is a national Pathway Management Network, which brings together a wide range of partners from within and beyond government to provide young people with opportunities for learning and earning.

Young people can join the network through a dedicated mobi-site which has been zero-rated by all mobile networks or by visiting a labour centre or offices of the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) in all nine provinces. Once they have joined the network, they will be able to view and access opportunities and receive active support to participate in the economy. Among other things, the intervention will support new models of skills training linked to employment in fastgrowing sectors, to ensure that our skills development system is closely matched to demand in the economy.

Presidential Economic Advisory Council (PEAC)

The PEAC, which was established in 2019, comprises leading local and international economists. Its role is to identify, analyse and make recommendations to the President on key economic issues facing South Africa.

Through formal meetings, bilateral engagements with Ministers and their departments, and open workshops, the advisory council has brought insight and expertise to pressing economic policy challenges such as energy reform and fiscal consolidation.

The interactions have been informed by extensive research and have provided constructive criticism and encouragement for government's economic policy positions.

The PEAC has six workstreams to align with government's economic priorities, namely macro-economic dynamics and public investment; poverty, inequality and jobs; agriculture, trade and industrial policy; state capacity and political economy; energy transition and growth; and South Africa' growth narrative.

Investment and Infrastructure Office

A central pillar of South Africa's economic recovery is a massive infrastructure investment programme. The work of this office, which is driving a coordinated government approach to both investment and infrastructure development, supported the operationalisation of the Infrastructure Fund in August 2020.

It has also supported the establishment and work of Infrastructure SA, which will enable an integrated approach to the identification, preparation, financing and implementation of major infrastructure projects.

Following the inaugural Sustainable Infrastructure Development Symposium held at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on 23 June 2020, a pipeline of 88 projects to the value of more than R2.3 trillion were identified. The interest raised by investors in specific projects led to the gazetting of 50 strategic integrated projects in human settlements, student accommodation, transport, water and sanitation, energy, agriculture and agro-processing, and digital.

They include the Redstone renewable energy project that, once operational, will supply stable electricity to more than 200 000 homes.

By mid-2021, the Investment and Infrastructure Office was working with the private sector to develop the requisite skills in relation to financial and technical engineering. This will enable us to prepare and package projects that can attract funding and financing.

Professionals and experts in project finance, financial structuring of complex infrastructure projects, programme management and infrastructure planning have been seconded to work with the Investment and Infrastructure Office.

This massive infrastructure development effort complements the ambitious investment drive launched in 2018, with a view to attract at least R1.2 trillion in new investment over five years.

In support of this drive, government hosted three South Africa Investment conferences in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively, which together raised over R750 billion in investment commitments by mid-2021.

This is a significant achievement, especially since the Third Investment Conference at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg was held in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and the global economic slowdown.

Operation Vulindlela

To accelerate the policy reform trajectory embarked upon before the pandemic, The Presidency inaugurated Operation Vulindlela in 2020 to unlock key economic reforms.

A dedicated team has been set up in The Presidency and National Treasury to drive this initiative. The Vulindlela team is working daily with implementing departments to drive the delivery of priority reforms and build momentum in the reform agenda.

The focus is on a limited number of high-impact reforms in key economic sectors such as energy, water, telecommunications, ports and rail and immigration.

Operation Vulindlela represents a new determination to forge ahead with economic reforms to improve South Africa's global competitiveness, lower costs and barriers to entry, attract investment and create jobs.

It recognises that the only way to place South Africa on a fundamentally different growth trajectory is to implement structural reforms and by mid-2021, intensive work was underway in a number of areas.

In 2020/21, South Africa assumed chairship of the African Union and the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change. It also chairs the Presidential Infrastructure Championship Initiative and the African Peer Review Mechanism. These are strategic positions to consolidate the African Agenda and speed up the implementation of flagship programmes.

Minister in The Presidency

The Minister is responsible for the:

- Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME)
- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA);

- Government Communication and Information System (GCIS);
- Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA); and
- Brand South Africa (Brand SA).

Minister in The Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

The Minister is responsible for the:
- Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD); and
- NYDA.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The DPME is mandated to:
- support the National Planning Commission;
- facilitate the implementation of the NDP through the development of sector-specific and outcome-specific medium-term plans and delivery agreements, and monitor and evaluate their implementation;
- ensure the alignment of departmental strategic and annual plans and budget allocations with government's MTSF;
- monitor the performance of individual national and provincial government departments and municipalities, and facilitate targeted intervention programmes;
- monitor frontline service delivery and manage the presidential hotline;
- develop and implement the annual national evaluations plan, and support the national evaluations system; and
- promote good planning, monitoring and evaluation practices in government.

The NDP was adopted as a guide to achieving South Africa's goals, broadly in terms of socio-economic development, and specifically in terms of eliminating poverty, creating jobs and reducing inequality by 2030.

Over the medium term, the DPME planned to focus on strengthening its planning and budgeting functions to support government priorities, and on strengthening the production of evidence-based reports to create robust planning, monitoring and evaluation systems.

Evidence-based planning, monitoring and evaluation is integral to the department's efforts to facilitate the achievement of government's plans and priorities. Towards this end, the department will develop and monitor the implementation of a national evaluation plan, and conduct evaluations and research to support planning and monitoring activities.

Over the medium term, the department planned to continue monitoring the implementation of government's 2019-2024 MTSF and other key priorities set forth in the ERRP.

STATISTICS SOUTH AFRICA

Stats SA is a national department accountable to the Minister in The Presidency. The department's activities are regulated by the Statistics Act of 1999, which mandates the department to advance the production, dissemination, use and coordination of official and other statistics to assist organs of state, businesses, other organisations and the public in planning, monitoring, policy development and decision-making.

The Act also requires that the department coordinates statistical production among organs of state, in line with the purpose of official statistics and statistical principles.

Over the medium term, Stats SA was expected to focus on modernising its operating model, strengthening statistical reform and conducting the 2021 national population census. To improve the quality of statistics and turnaround times for releasing them, and to reduce costs, the department has embarked on a process to modernise and automate the statistical value chain through computer-assisted, personal, telephonic and web interviewing technologies.

The Statistician-General aimed to drive reform by setting statistical frameworks, standards and classifications for statistical production in the national statistics system as a basis to certify statistics as official.

The implementation of the District Development Model (DDM) was expected to create new demand for statistical information to inform planning, monitoring and evaluation, and decision-making. This helps the department to unlock and harness the power of statistics in the data ecosystem. Stats SA was expected to undertake a population and housing census, Census 2022, from 2 February 2022.

GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM

The mandate of the GCIS is derived from Section 195(g) of the Constitution, which stipulates that the public should be provided with information that is timely, accurate and accessible. This is in support of the constitutional principles of freedom of expression, and transparent and open governance. The department is responsible for providing strategic leadership and coordinating government communication to ensure that the public are informed, and have access to government programmes and policies that benefit them.

Over the medium term, the GCIS planned to continue focusing on providing and facilitating strategic government communication, and encouraging active citizen participation. It supports all government departments in conceptualising cohesive campaigns, developing communications strategies and content, disseminating information and engaging stakeholders.

The department enhances delivery of these core services by harnessing various communications structures, such as social media, to reach and provide information to more South Africans.

The GCIS keeps communities and stakeholders abreast of government's progress with the implementation of the DDM, which aims to improve the coherence and impact of development in 44 districts and eight metropolitan municipalities across the country. It holds community and stakeholder liaison visits and development communication projects.

The department's outreach programme us talk shows on community radio and television stations, activations at taxi ranks and malls, commuter train blitzes, *izimbizo* and door-to-door campaigns. These activities allow the department to interact with communities, and often provide an early warning for any societal issues or discontent.

To make the public aware of the opportunities created by government, in line with its key priorities, the GCIS planned to publish 15.3 million copies of the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper per year over the medium term.

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*, *Official Guide to South Africa* (formerly *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 Thusong Service Centre Programme 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. The GCIS also gathers public opinion, research and analysis of media coverage to understand the communications environment and to inform government messages.

The department provides media bulk-buying services, which are designed to reduce the cost to government on advertising; facilitate a rapid response mechanism to hasten government's response to issues arising in the media; and provide media production services to support other government departments.

Providing and facilitating strategic government communications

One of the key functions of the GCIS is to provide the public with information about government policies, plans, programmes and activities. The department uses its *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper and weekly newsletter, *My District Today*, to disseminate information that empowers South African communities to participate in government programmes.

Information published in *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper, which is also made available in Braille, focuses on key government priorities such as service delivery and rural development projects, and publishes advertisements for vacant government posts.

The department provides guidance and assistance to government communicators on how to develop communications strategies and better understand the broader communications environment. In support of deepening its relations with the media, the department also drives a proactive and reactive media liaison strategy by hosting cluster and Cabinet media briefings, and communicating with the public through activities such as door-to-door visits, and community workshops and gatherings, in all provinces.

The department aimed to reduce government's cost of advertising in the media over the medium term while maintaining the visibility of its communications campaigns.

This entails providing bulk-buying services to other government departments for media advertising; media production services such as photographic and video products and services; and live radio products and services such as advertisements, the hosting of talk shows and the compilation of voice-overs.

The department manages the interface between government and commercial and community media, and provides support to Cabinet through regular media briefings in which the decisions of the executive are communicated to the public.

The GCIS has embraced the move towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution by adopting new technology to deliver government's messages to citizens in more creative and interactive ways, such as the use of more communications content on government websites and social media platforms.

Facilitating active citizen participation

The GCIS is committed to aligning provincial and local communications strategies with the national communication strategy framework. This entails providing information on government services directly to communities through outreach campaigns in high-traffic areas such as taxi ranks, shopping malls and commuter trains, as well as talk shows on community radio and television stations.

The department planned to continue the Imbizo programme, which facilitates interactions between political principals and the public, and develops content for print and electronic products, including leaflets during the State of the Nation Address.

Media Development and Diversity Agency

The core activities of the MDDA are to provide financial and non-financial support to community broadcast and small commercial media projects, with an emphasis on promoting indigenous languages and contributing to community development and the alleviation of poverty and inequality.

Over the medium term, the agency aimed to intensify its focus on serving communities that are typically sidelined by the mainstream media, and addressing pressing societal issues.

To ensure the sustainability of the community media sector, the MDDA planned to ensure that the initiatives in which it invests support skills development and social upliftment.

The agency was expected to also invest in three research projects per year over the medium term to develop a sustainability model for community and small commercial media projects.

Brand South Africa

Brand South Africa works to improve South Africa's global competitiveness index ranking, boost business confidence in the country, and improve the country's reputation in the region and the world.

Over the medium term, the entity planned to intensify its efforts to promote South Africa as an investment destination of choice by showcasing the range of investment opportunities on offer.

The entity aimed to conduct four marketing campaigns per year over the period ahead that illustrate the attractiveness of investing in the nation brand to domestic audiences.

Investments in international media partnerships are expected to ensure the dissemination of this message through the global market programme, which will be implemented in key African and global strategic markets.

To provide stakeholders with a better understanding of the nation brand, the entity will continue to commission and subscribe to key research indexes, which provide insights on both domestic and global investor perceptions.

DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN, YOUTH AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The DWYPD derives its mandate from Section 9(3) of the Constitution. The department is required to champion socio-economic transformation and the empowerment and participation of women, youth and people with disabilities through mainstreaming, advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation.

Over the medium term, the DWYPD will continue to focus on reducing the incidence of gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF) and strengthening the national response to it; and promoting the inclusion of women, youth and people with disabilities in the economy and society more broadly.

Addressing GBV and supporting empowerment

In its efforts to mitigate and prevent violence against women and children, the DWYPD planned to launch the National Council on GBVF in 2021 to lead and guide the national response. The council's work will complement programmes undertaken by the department, the Commission for Gender Equality and the DPME.

The department continues to advocate and assess the gender-responsiveness of government programmes by analysing other departments' plans and performance against priority indicators and targets for gender development.

The DWYPD has also partnered with the Department of Social Development, United Nations (UN) Population Fund and WaterAid to ensure Menstrual Hygiene Management is accessible to vulnerable women and girls.

Promoting the rights of people with disabilities

Over the medium-term period, the department aimed to develop the National Disability Rights Bill, and finalise frameworks for awareness campaigns on disability rights, the self-representation of persons with disabilities, the professionalisation and coordination of disability rights in the public sector, universal access and reasonable accommodation support.

These initiatives are in line with the recommendations of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

National Youth Development Agency

The NYDA's role is to initiate, implement, facilitate and monitor development interventions aimed at facilitating the participation of young people in the economy, empowering them, and promoting social cohesion. It derives its mandate from the NYDA Act of 2008.

Over the medium-term period, the agency planned to focus on providing comprehensive interventions to support decent employment, skills development and entrepreneurship for young people.

This will include partnering with different sectors to provide training in technical and vocational skills through sector education and training authorities, providing grants to young people for enterprise development and coordinating the national youth service programmes.

NYDA projects include enhancing the participation of young people in the economy; ensuring that they serve their communities to build the spirit of patriotism, solidarity, social cohesion and unity in diversity; and to help them find employment through jobs programmes.

The agency was expected to provide support services to enable young people to gain direct access to markets and relevant entrepreneurial skills, and provide financial and non-financial support.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The mandate of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) includes developing agricultural value chains, providing agricultural inputs, and monitoring production and consumption in the agriculture sector, as well as facilitating comprehensive rural development.

Over the medium term, the department planned to focus on improving agricultural production and revitalising essential agricultural infrastructure through the implementation of the Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan (AAMP), accelerating land reform by implementing the comprehensive land agrarian strategy and finalising land restitution claims, and mitigating and preventing the outbreak of diseases among livestock and products within the agricultural value chain.

In 2021, the outlook on agriculture was positive and the DALRRD expected the sector to show strong growth figures and create employment. This optimism was supported by good weather, expansion in area plantings, and improving business confidence in the agriculture and agribusiness sectors. Effective public-private partnerships and transparency in policy-making partly underpin the positive business confidence in the sector.

Improving agricultural production and revitalising infrastructure

The AAMP aims to expand production and food security through agricultural production schemes; provide comprehensive post-settlement support, extension services and farmer training; and facilitate the revitalisation of essential infrastructure and equitable access to critical factors of production.

The following infrastructure revitalisation projects will be prioritised over the period ahead: five irrigation schemes to make crop production schemes functional in rural areas and 21 fresh produce markets across the country.

The department continues to provide comprehensive post-settlement support and farmer training. It planned to reduce the ratio of extension officers to farmers from 1:850 to 1:250 by recruiting approximately 10 000 extension officers across the country as part of its extension recovery services.

Accelerating land reform

The DALRRD's comprehensive land agrarian strategy seeks effective land reform and administration.

Mitigating and preventing outbreaks

The department has allocated funds over the medium term in the Agricultural to mitigate and prevent the outbreak of diseases. This will be achieved through increasing capacity for research and development, expanding South Africa's biosecurity measures to improve safety and the quality of agricultural products, and working with the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) and Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP) to strengthen the policy and legislative framework.

Blended Finance Scheme (BFS)

The DALRRD relaunched the BFS in March 2021 to leverage private funding to support investments that will unlock and enhance agricultural production, agro-processing and comprehensive land acquisition by black producers through deliberate, targeted and well-defined financial and non-financial interventions.

This approach will enable the department to collaborate with development financial institutions, private financial institutions and commodity organizations to mainstream the participation of black producers along the agricultural value chains.

Master plans:

Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan

After recognising different challenges constraining the growth and development of commercial and emerging farmers in the country, the AAMP had recommended the adoption of a "Theory of Change" to train farmers and grow the agricultural sector in an inclusive manner.

The theory advocates for a co-existence of commercial and emerging farmers to promote the agricultural and food sectors on a new growth trajectory that can ultimately contribute to taking South Africa's economy out of the "Middle Income" trap. This AAMP is complementary to the Poultry and Sugar Master plans.

Cannabis Master Plan

The legalisation and commercialisation of cannabis have been at the forefront of public debate and on top of the agenda of policymakers globally. An inter-departmental team comprising representatives from various departments was established to guide the development of the National Cannabis Master Plan with the DALRRD as the convener.

The department was expected to start, begin issuing and monitoring permits for the production of hemp in South Africa from October 2021.

Role players

Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa

As a development finance institution, the mandate of the Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa is to address agricultural and rural development in South Africa. The bank operates in the primary agriculture and agribusiness sectors, and is regulated by the Land and Agricultural Development Bank Act of 2002 and the Public Finance Management Act of 1999.

The bank plays a pivotal role in advancing agriculture and rural development. Due to liquidity constraints, over the medium term, the bank will focus on maintaining a healthy loan book, securing funding for liabilities and reducing the number of non-performing loans against the gross loan book.

Over the same period, the bank will ensure financial sustainability by increasing the development loan book to become a predominant portfolio in its total loan book.

Agricultural Research Council

The ARC was established by the Agricultural Research Act of 1990, which mandates the council to conduct research and development, and effect the transfer of technology in the agriculture sector; contribute to a better quality of life; and facilitate and ensure natural resource conservation.

KwaZulu-Natal Ingonyama Trust Board

The KwaZulu-Natal Ingonyama Trust Act of 1994 provides for approximately 2.8 million hectares of land spread across KwaZulu-Natal to be held in trust by the Ingonyama Trust on behalf of communities. The affairs of the Ingonyama Trust and trust land are administered by the KwaZulu-Natal Ingonyama Trust Board, which was established in terms of the Act.

The board is responsible for providing land tenure rights to an estimated 4.5 million people living on trust land under the jurisdiction of 241 traditional councils. The board's focus over the period ahead will be on improving land tenure administration, protecting land from illegal occupants, and providing appropriate spatial planning for integrated development.

National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC)

The NAMC is a statutory organisation of the DALLRD. It derives its mandate from the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act of 1996, which provides for the authorisation, establishment and enforcement of regulatory measures to intervene in the marketing of agricultural products, including the introduction of statutory measures on agricultural products.

The council was expected to continue to coordinate the work of agricultural industry trusts; undertake thorough research aimed at advising the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development and affected groups on marketing matters; and work directly with farmers to address their marketing matters.

Office of the Valuer-General (OVG)

The Property Valuation Act of 2014 prescribes that the OVG must be impartial in exercising its powers and performing its functions, and be accountable to the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.

The Act states that the office must value all land to be acquired for the purpose of land reform in accordance with a defined set of criteria based on Section 25(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

Onderstepoort Biological Products

OBP was established as a public company in terms of the OBP Incorporation Act of 1999. Its mandate is to prevent and control animal diseases that impact food security, human health and livelihoods. This is achieved through the continued development and efficient manufacturing of innovative pharmaceutical products, including vaccines and related products.

Over the medium term, the entity planned to continue focusing on developing and manufacturing vaccines and other related products to prevent and control animal diseases that impact on food security and animal health; and maintaining a reserve stock of vaccines for government, to be used in the event of an outbreak of animal diseases.

The company will also make vaccines more accessible to smallholder farmers by conducting various research projects on animal vaccines, and other research and development programmes over the medium term.

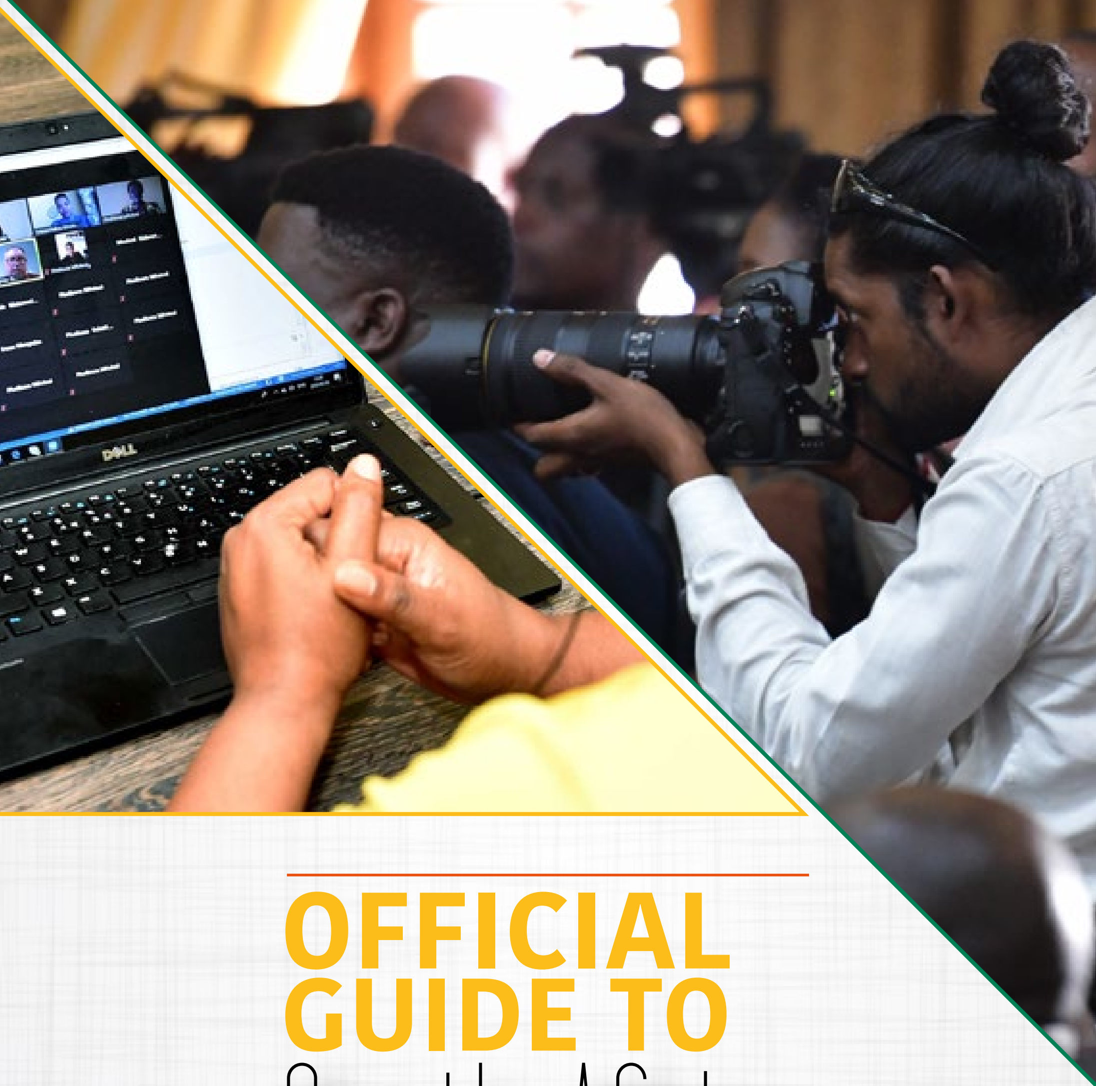
Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB)

The PPECB is an independent service provider for quality assurance, food safety and cold chain management services for producers and exporters of perishable food products.

It is mandated by government in terms of the following legislation: the Perishable Products Export Control Act of 1983, which broadly requires the board to ensure the orderly export of perishables and monitor the proper maintenance of a continuous cold chain for exports; and the Agricultural Products Standards Act of 1990, which broadly requires the board to monitor the minimum quality standards of perishable exports as required by government and bilateral agreements with importing countries.

Registration of Deeds Trading Account

The Deeds Registries Act of 1937 provides for the administration of the land registration system and the registration of rights to land. The main goal of the trading account is to contribute to effective land planning, administration and property registration. Over the medium term, the entity planned to implement a secure, scalable and cost-effective electronic deeds registration that provides accurate and reliable land administration and information in South Africa. The entity mainly generates its revenue by selling deeds information and registering properties.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

COMMUNICATIONS

Department of Communications and Digital Technologies (DCDT)

To encourage digital inclusion and economic growth, the DCDT is mandated to facilitate South Africa's digital transformation by creating an enabling policy and regulatory environment.

The department implements the provisions of the 2016 *National Integrated Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Policy White Paper*, particularly the participation of multiple stakeholders for inclusive digital transformation; interventions to reinforce competition and facilitate innovation across the value chain; measures to address issues raised by ICT and convergence; and the establishment of a new national postal policy framework.

It also provides for policies to address the digital divide and affordable access, supply-side issues and infrastructure roll-out, and demand-side issues to facilitate inclusivity.

Over the medium term, the department planned to focus on rolling out broadband to government buildings through the South Africa Connect project, implementing the broadcasting digital migration policy to release digital spectrum, and submitting legislation to Parliament to enable digital transformation.

The department's vision is to see all South Africans digitally empowered to create and participate in tech-enabled opportunities that drive inclusiveness, employment and economic transformation across our cities, towns and provinces.

By mid-2021, the department had finalised a Digital Economy Master Plan and was engaging various stakeholders in the development of the implementation plan. The department has since developed the National Digital and Future Skills Strategy whose objective is to establish an education and skills development ecosystem that provides all South Africans with the required skills to create and participate in the digital economy.

Digital migration

The implementation of broadcasting digital migration includes the provision of vouchers to poor households for devices that will allow analogue televisions (TVs) to receive digital signals, and compensation to the South African Post Office (SAPO) for the costs of administering the voucher and distribution systems. The department will coordinate and monitor the distribution of these vouchers in 2021/22.

The Analogue Switch-off process which commenced in March 2021 is targeting to release the much-needed 700 MHz and 800 MHZ digital dividend spectrum. The spectrum was expected to be released in a phased provincial manner across the country by the end of March 2022. This process combined with the Digital-to-Digital migration will make available a total of 168 MHz spectrum in each of the provinces.

Broadband connectivity

The DCDT was expected to monitor and maintain the provision of broadband services to 970 government buildings that have already been connected. It was also expected to finalise the feasibility study for Phase 2 of the roll-out by 2021/22, and use this study to secure funding to roll out broadband connections to identified facilities from 2022/23.

As part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus initiative, the department had by mid-2021, in collaboration with The Presidency, submitted a bid for funding to support digital access for low-income households and stimulate job creation and economic growth through household broadband connectivity and public WiFi access.

Enabling digital transformation

To achieve digital inclusion and economic growth, the department planned to implement a number of digital transformation policies over the medium term, including the Digital Economy Master Plan; the Presidential Commission on the Fourth Industrial Revolution report; and the revised ICT development strategy for small, medium and micro enterprises.

Entities

Sentech

Sentech was established in terms of the Sentech Act of 1996, and is responsible for providing broadcasting signal distribution services to licensed TV and radio broadcasters.

Over the medium term, the entity was expected to continue focusing on providing customers with satellite services, analogue and digital TV and radio services, and streaming services. This will enable the entity to ensure that it provides digital TV coverage to 85% of households per year, and that digital terrestrial TV is available for 99.9% of households each year.

It will also continue to work towards switching off the analogue signal as part of the broadcasting digital migration project, and will assist the Universal Service and Access Fund with the installation of set-top boxes.

The entity derives its revenue through TV, radio and streaming services rendered to customers, and the remainder through transfers from the department through project-specific funding for dual illumination, which is the operation of analogue and digital signals.

South African Broadcasting Corporation

The SABC derives its mandate from the Broadcasting Act of 1999. It is mandated to provide broadcasting and information services through a wide range of programming that displays South African talent in educational and entertainment programmes; offer diverse views through a variety of news, information and analysis; and advance national and public interests through popular sports, for example.

Over the medium term, the corporation will continue to focus on implementing its turnaround plan to ensure financial sustainability. This entails improving the collection of licence fees, and creating new and compelling content to increase audience share and advertising revenue. To support operations that ensure sustainability, the corporation relies on legislative, policy and regulatory changes by the department.

Among these are the repeal of legislation that mandates pay-TV networks to carry the corporation's channels for which adequate compensation has not been finalised; and policy and regulatory support that makes it obligatory for pay-TV service providers to oblige their subscribers to have valid TV licences.

The corporation is enacting other commercial strategies to increase revenue, audience share and operational efficiencies. As such, the corporation will enhance its focus on new and compelling content.

South African Post Office

The SAPO is a government business enterprise established to provide postal and related services to the public, and derives its mandate from the Postal Services Act of 1998 and the SAPO SOC Ltd Act of 2011.

The Postal Services Act of 1998 grants the post office an exclusive mandate to conduct postal services in the reserved sector for items such as letters, postcards and parcels less than one kilogram. This Act provides for the regulation of postal services and the operational functions of the postal company, including universal service obligations.

Over the medium term, the post office was expected to continue focusing on providing universal access to postal and related services, stabilising its financial position, optimising its personnel to ensure operational effectiveness, and distributing social grants on behalf of the South African Social Security Agency. The SAPO generates revenue through the provision of postal and courier services.

State Information Technology Agency

The SITA was established through the SITA Act of 1998 and is mandated to provide IT, information systems and related services to and on behalf of government departments and organs of state.

This includes the provision and maintenance of transversal information and data-processing systems and their associated services, the maintenance of secure information systems, and the execution of its functions according to approved policies and standards.

Over the medium term, the agency planned to focus on creating partnerships with research institutions to ensure that innovative digital solutions are developed and implemented in government; ensuring that the skills of agency personnel keep pace with the evolving technological landscape; and ensuring that the State and its citizens are able to transact, communicate and interface in a secure and safe environment.

Broadband Infraco

Broadband Infraco's legislative mandate, as set out in the Broadband Infraco Act of 2007, is to provide ICT infrastructure and broadband capacity in South Africa. Its main objectives are to expand the availability and affordability of access to electronic communications, including but not limited to underdeveloped and underserviced areas; ensure that the bandwidth requirements for specific projects of national interests are met; and enable the State to provide affordable access to electronic communications networks and services.

Over the medium term, the entity aimed to focus on implementing the South Africa Connect broadband policy, and on expanding and maintaining its long-haul network to support client needs.

This will also include monitoring the performance of the undersea West Africa cable system, which enables connectivity between Europe and Africa. The entity facilitates the connection of 713 government sites to broadband, and aims to maintain the time taken to restore faults on the core network at 7.5 hours.

Film and Publication Board (FPB)

The FPB was established in terms of the Films and Publications Act of 1996, as amended. Its mandate is to regulate the creation, production, possession and distribution of certain publications and films by classifying them; imposing age restrictions on content; and rendering the exploitative use of children in pornographic publications, films or online material punishable.

Over the medium term, the FPB aimed to focus on improving and automating the registration process for distributors; conducting a targeted 20 000 inspections to ensure compliance with relevant legislation; and reviewing classification guidelines to take into account societal norms, standards and values.

Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA)

ICASA was established by the ICASA Act of 2000 to regulate the South African communications, broadcasting and postal services sectors. As a Chapter 9 institution in terms of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, it derives its mandate from the Electronic Communications Act of 2005 to license and regulate electronic communications and broadcasting services, and the Postal Services Act of 1998 to license and regulate the postal services sector.

The authority is empowered to monitor licensee compliance with licence terms and conditions, develop regulations for the three sectors, plan and manage the radio frequency spectrum, and protect consumers in relation to these services.

Over the medium term, the authority aimed to focus on increasing internet access, specifically to wireless broadband services, by licensing the international mobile telecommunications spectrum; protecting consumers against unfair practices by service providers; increasing competition in the telecommunications and broadcasting sectors through various services and projects; developing a framework for dynamic spectrum management; and monitoring the quality of the services it provides by implementing a system to manage network performance.

National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa (NEMISA)

NEMISA was established as a non-profit institute for education in terms of the Companies Act of 2008. Its programmes were initially structured to enhance the market readiness of students in broadcasting, but its mandate has been expanded to include the development of South Africans' e-skills capacity.

The institute is also responsible for the implementation of e-skills programmes in collaboration with its partners. Over the medium term, the institute aimed to focus on implementing its operating model and e-skills agenda in collaboration with government, education, business and civil society.

Identified e-skills priority areas include government e-enablement, creative new media industries, e-inclusion and social innovation.

Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa (USAASA)

USAASA was established in terms of section 80 of the Electronic Communications Act of 2005. Its sole mandate is to promote universal service and access to electronic communications and broadcasting services.

Communication platforms

Radio

The SABC's national radio network of 18 radio stations reach over 28 million South Africans. The top five most listened to radio stations in the country are Ukhozi FM, Umhlobo Wenene FM, Lesedi FM, Thobela FM and Metro FM.

Commercial radio stations

Commercial radio stations in South Africa include:

- Algoa FM
- Classic FM
- Kaya FM
- YFM
- Highveld Stereo

- 702 Talk Radio
- Metro FM
- 5FM
- Good Hope FM
- Jacaranda FM
- OFM
- East Coast Radio
- Cape Talk 567
- Radio 2000
- Capricorn FM
- Power FM
- Radio KFM
- Tru FM.

Community radio

In terms of Section 7 of the Electronic Communications Act of 2005, it is unlawful to provide or operate a broadcasting service without a licence. There are more than 165 licensed community stations in South Africa, which broadcast in a number of languages.

Television

SABC TV consists of three free-to air (FTA) channels namely, SABC1, SABC2 and SABC3 as well as two channels carried on a subscription digital satellite network, SABC Encore and the 24-hour news channel (Channel 404), SABC News. SABC News offers breaking news and continuous news updates in 51 African countries.

SABC1, SABC2 and SABC3 attract on average 28 million South African viewers a month, as they deliver top quality local and international content. SABC Encore, a retro channel which showcases programming from the 1980s, is an integral part of the SABC's strategy moving into a multichannel environment.

Community TV

There are at least 12 community TV stations operational in different parts of South Africa, including Soweto TV; GauTV; 1KZN; Cape Town TV; Tshwane TV; Mpuma Kapa TV and Onse TV.

FTA TV

e.tv is South Africa's first private and largest English-medium channel. The channel 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.

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. The SABC has a 24-hour news channel on DStv (Channel 404). Newzroom Afrika is a 24-hour TV news station on DStv channel 405.

Internet

Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) General Household Survey (GHS) of 2019 shows that 63,3% of South African households had at least one member who had access to, or used the Internet either at home, work, place of study, internet cafés or at public hotspots.

Access to the Internet using all available means was highest in Gauteng (74,8%), Western Cape (74,3%) and Mpumalanga (67,4%), and lowest in Limpopo (43,2%) and Eastern Cape (52,5%). Less than one-tenth (9,1%) of South African households had access to the Internet at home. Access to the Internet at home was highest among households in Western Cape (21,7%) and Gauteng (14,9%), and lowest in Limpopo (1,6%) and North West (2,3%).

Household access to the Internet at home was highest in Western Cape (21,7%) and Gauteng (14,9%) and lowest in Limpopo (1,6%). While 15,4% of households in metropolitan areas had access to the Internet at home, this was true for only 1,2% of rural households in general and less than one per cent of rural households in Eastern Cape (0,3%), Limpopo (0,7%) and Mpumalanga (0,9%).

Households were generally more likely to have access to the Internet at work than at home or at Internet cafés or at educational institutions. Households in Gauteng (28,0%) and Western Cape (25,4%) were most likely to access the Internet at work while those in Limpopo (7,2%) were least likely to do so.

Using mobile devices to access the Internet includes access on cellular telephones or using mobile access devices such as 3G cards. It is clear that mobile access to the Internet has made it much more accessible to households in rural areas.

Nationally, Internet access using mobile devices (58,7%) was much more common than access at home (9,1%), at work (18,6%) and elsewhere (10,7%). Although the use of mobile Internet access devices in rural areas (44,0%) still lags behind its use in metros (67,8%) and urban areas (59,5%), it is much more common in rural areas than any of the alternative methods.

Social media
About 40% of South Africa's population, some 22.89 million people out of an estimated population of over 57 million, are active social media users.

Telecommunications
South Africa has four major mobile operators, namely Cell C, MTN, Vodacom and Telkom Mobile. According to Stats SA's GHS of 2019, nationally, only 3,8% of households did not have access to either landlines or cellular phones in 2019. Households without access to these communication media were most common in Eastern Cape (9,3%) and Northern Cape (8,7%). Only 0,1% of South African households only used landlines. By comparison, 87,8% of South African households exclusively use cellular phones.

The exclusive use of cellular phones was most common in Mpumalanga (95,3%), Limpopo (94,4%) and North West (91,9%). Households that had higher usage of both cellular phones and landlines were most common in the more prosperous provinces, namely Western Cape (18,4%) and Gauteng (9,9%).

Households without access to landlines or cellular phones were most common in Buffalo City (6,6%) and Nelson Mandela Bay (6,2%), Only 0,1% of South African households living in metropolitan areas exclusively used landlines, compared to 85,3% that exclusively used cellular phones.

The exclusive use of cellular phones was most common in City of Tshwane (91,7%) and Ekurhuleni (90,0%). Almost one-fifth (19,9%) of households in Cape Town used both landlines and cellular phones compared to 3,8% in Buffalo City and 5,2% in Mangaung.

The media
South Africa has a vibrant and independent media, with print, broadcast and online offerings.

Print
Newspapers
Most South African newspapers and magazines are organised into several major publishing houses. These include Media24 (part of Naspers), Independent Media, Caxton Publishers & Printers and Tiso Blackstar Group. Other important media players include M&G Media; the Natal Witness Printing & Publishing Company; Primedia Publishing; Highbury Media and Kagiso Media.

Magazines
According to figures released by the Audit Bureau of Circulations of South Africa, there has been a steady decline in magazine circulation in South Africa over the

past months, with only a handful of commercial magazines achieving a steady increase in circulation.

Media organisations and role players

The **Publishers Support Services (PSS)** is an umbrella body incorporating print and digital media. It is a natural progression from the long-established Print Media South Africa and illustrates its commitment as an interactive organisation to keeping pace with the fast-changing media world of the 21st Century.

An evolving and vibrant association, its express purpose is to represent and promote all aspects concerning the industry and its members. PSS is a non-profit, voluntary association. Its membership includes more than 500 newspapers and magazine titles that cater for four different language groups.

The **South African National Editors' Forum** promotes excellence in journalism through fighting for media freedom, writing policy submissions, research, education and training programmes.

The **Forum of Journalists for Transformation** addresses issues that directly affect its members. The **Press Council**, the **Press Ombud** and the **Appeals Panel** are an independent co-regulatory mechanism set up by the print and online media to provide impartial, expeditious and cost-effective adjudication to settle disputes between newspapers, magazines and online publications, on the one hand, and members of the public, on the other, over the editorial content of publications.

The **Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI)** was formed to defend freedom of expression, to oppose censorship, to promote access to information and knowledge, and to promote media diversity. The FXI is the leading organisation on issues of freedom of expression and access to information as enshrined in the Bill of Rights in Section 16 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

The **Forum of Community Journalists** is an independent, non-profit, non-racial and voluntary organisation striving to promote and express the interests of all journalists employed on a permanent or freelance basis at regional community newspapers, magazines and online community publications in South Africa.

The **Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa** 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** 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

Local and international news agencies based in South Africa include:

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

Media awards

Some of South Africa's media awards include the:

- Mondi Shanduka Newspaper Awards
- Vodacom Journalist of the Year Awards
- South African Breweries (SAB) Environmental Media and Environmentalist of the Year Awards
- SAB Sports Media Awards
- Sanlam Financial Journalist of the Year Award
- CNN MultiChoice African Journalist Awards
- Discovery Health Journalism Awards
- Nat Nakasa Award
- Local Media Excellence Awards
- Liberty Radio Awards
- Isu Elihle Awards
- Sikuvile Journalism Awards
- MDDA/Sanlam Local Media Awards
- New Generation (Social & Digital Media) Awards.

Marketing and advertising awards

South Africa has a vibrant and dynamic marketing and advertising industry. Some of the awards include: Loeries; Assegai Awards; Creative Circle Annual Awards; Effie Awards; FM AdFocus Awards and Marketing Achievement Awards.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

ECONOMY AND FINANCE

NATIONAL TREASURY

National Treasury's legislative mandate is based on Section 216(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, which calls for the establishment of a national treasury to ensure transparency, accountability and sound financial controls in the management of the country's public finances.

This role is further elaborated in the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) of 1999. The department is mandated to:

- promote national government's fiscal policy and the coordination of macroeconomic policy;
- ensure the stability and soundness of the financial system and financial services;
- coordinate intergovernmental financial and fiscal relations;
- manage the budget preparation process; and
- enforce transparency and effective management of national revenue and expenditure, assets and liabilities, public entities, and constitutional institutions.

Entities under National Treasury

National Treasury is responsible for the following entities:

- The **Development Bank of Southern Africa** is a development finance institution with the primary purpose of promoting economic development and growth. The bank also promotes human resources development and building institutional capacity by mobilising financial and other resources from the national and international private and public sectors for sustainable development projects and programmes in South Africa and regions in the rest of Southern Africa. The bank continues to support infrastructure development in municipalities aimed at addressing backlogs, and expediting the delivery of essential social services in support of sustainable living conditions and improved quality of life within communities.
- The **Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa** is a development finance institution mandated to address agricultural and rural development in South Africa. The bank operates in the primary agriculture and agribusiness sectors, and is regulated by the Land and Agricultural Development Bank Act of 2002 and the PFMA of 1999. Accordingly, the bank is expected to play a pivotal role in advancing agriculture and rural development.
- The **South African Revenue Service (SARS)** is, in terms of the SARS Act of 1997, mandated to collect all revenue due to the State and administer trade to support government in meeting its key developmental objectives for growth. This involves facilitating legitimate trade, protecting South Africa's ports of entry, and eliminating illegal trade and tax evasion. As its principal contribution to South

Africa's economic and social development, the revenue service's focus over the medium term will continue to be on providing government with more than 90% of the revenue it requires to meet its policy and delivery priorities. It aims to do this by modernising its information and communications technology systems to encourage eFiling, improving taxpayers' experience, monitoring compliance, and making tax collection more efficient. The revenue service's focus over the medium-term period is to achieve voluntary compliance through making taxpayers and traders aware of their tax obligations, making it reasonably easy and less costly to meet these obligations, and instituting a credible threat of detection and consequences for those who do not comply with their obligations.

- The **Accounting Standards Board** develops uniform standards of generally recognised accounting practice for all spheres of government. It also promotes transparency in and the effective management of revenue, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the entities to which the standards apply.
- The **Cooperative Banks Development Agency** provides for the registration and supervision of deposit-taking financial services cooperatives, and savings and credit cooperatives, collectively referred to as cooperative financial institutions. The agency also facilitates, promotes and funds the education and training of these institutions.
- The **Financial and Fiscal Commission** advises the relevant legislative authorities on the financial and fiscal requirements for the national, provincial and local spheres of government.
- The **Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC)**, among other things, identifies the proceeds of unlawful activities, combat money-laundering activities, combat the financing of terrorist and related activities, exchange information with law-enforcement and other local and international agencies.
- The **Financial Services Board** is an independent institution established by statute to oversee the South African non-banking financial services industry in the public interest.
- The **Government Pensions Administration Agency** provides pensions administration services to the Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF).
- The **Government Technical Advisory Centre** assists organs of state in building their capacity for efficient, effective and transparent financial management.
- The **Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors** develops and maintains auditing and ethical standards that are internationally comparable, provides an appropriate framework for the education and training of properly qualified auditors, inspects and reviews the work of registered auditors, and investigates and takes appropriate action against registered auditors who do not comply with standards and are guilty of improper conduct.
- The **Office of the Ombud for Financial Services Providers** considers

and disposes of complaints against financial services providers, primarily intermediaries selling investment products.

- The **Office of the Pension Funds Adjudicator** investigates and determines complaints lodged in terms of the Pension Funds Act of 1956. The office ensures a procedurally fair, economical and expeditious resolution of complaints in terms of the Act.
- The **Public Investment Corporation** is one of the largest investment managers in Africa, managing more than R2 trillion worth of assets in a well-diversified portfolio of investment. It manages the assets of the GEPF, social security funds and other smaller funds.
- The **South African Special Risks Insurance Association** is mandated to support the insurance industry by providing cover for special risks such as riots, strikes, political unrest, terrorist attacks, civil commotion, public disorder and labour disturbances.

South African Reserve Bank (SARB)

The primary mandate of the SARB is to protect the value of the currency in the interest of balanced and sustainable economic growth. In addition to this, the SARB has a statutory mandate to enhance and protect financial stability in South Africa.

The SARB is also responsible for:

- issuing and destroying banknotes and coin;
- regulating and supervising financial institutions;
- managing the official gold and foreign reserves of the country;
- managing the national payments system;
- administering the country's remaining exchange rate control systems;
- acting as the banker to government; and
- acting as lender of last resort to provide liquidity assistance in exceptional cases.

The independence and autonomy of the SARB are entrenched in the Constitution. The SARB has the independence to use any of the monetary policy instruments at its disposal to achieve its monetary policy goal. However, the selection of a monetary policy goal is the responsibility of government.

The Governor of the SARB holds regular discussions with the Minister of Finance and meets periodically with members of the Parliamentary Portfolio and Select Committees on Finance.

In terms of Section 32 of the SARB Act of 1989, the Bank publishes a monthly statement of its assets and liabilities and submits its annual report to Parliament. The Bank is therefore ultimately accountable to Parliament.

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.

The Office of the Tax Ombud is intended to provide taxpayers with an impartial and low-cost mechanism to address 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, subject to relief under Double Taxation Agreements. Foreign taxes are credited against South African tax payable on foreign income.

Personal Income Tax

PIT is one of government's main sources of income. Income tax is levied on residents' worldwide income, with appropriate relief to avoid double taxation. Non-residents are taxed on their income from a South African source.

Tax is levied on taxable income that, in essence, consists of gross income less exemptions and allowable deductions. (Taxable capital gains also form part of taxable income).

Individuals generally receive most of their income as salary/wages, pension/retirement payments and investment income (interest and dividends). Some individuals may also have business income which is taxable as personal income (for example, sole proprietors and partners).

Corporate Income Tax (CIT)

CIT is a tax imposed on companies resident in South Africa, which are incorporated under the laws of, or which are effectively managed in, the country, and which derive income from within or outside the country. Non-resident companies which operate through a branch or which have a permanent establishment within South Africa are subject to tax on all income from a source within the country.

Dividends Tax (DT)

DT is a tax on shareholders (beneficial owners) when dividends are paid to them, and, under normal circumstances, is withheld from their dividend payment by a withholding agent (either the company paying the dividend or, where a regulated intermediary is involved, by the latter).

A dividend is in essence any payment by a company to a shareholder in respect of a share held in that company, excluding the return of contributed tax capital (i.e. consideration received by a company for the issue of shares). It is triggered by the payment of a dividend by any South African tax resident company or foreign company whose shares are listed on a South African Exchange.

Air Passenger Tax (APT)

In 2000 the Minister of Finance announced that an APT was to be instituted on chargeable passengers on a chargeable aircraft departing from an airport in South Africa to a destination outside the country. This is also applicable to charter companies.

The tax is not applicable to domestic flights. It is only applicable to chargeable passengers leaving on an international flight. Operators (airline), registered agents (those acting on behalf of an operator) or charter companies will be liable for the payment of the APT to SARS monthly after reconciliation of the passenger manifests. Non carrying passenger airlines (cargo) are required to register for APT purposes but are not liable for APT payments.

Capital Gains Tax (CGT)

CGT is not a separate tax but forms part of income tax. A capital gain arises when you dispose of an asset on or after 1 October 2001 for proceeds that exceed its base cost.

The relevant legislation is contained in the Eighth Schedule to the Income Tax of 1962. Capital gains are taxed at a lower effective tax rate than ordinary income. Pre-1 October 2001 CGT capital gains and losses are not taken into account. Not all assets attract CGT and certain capital gains and losses are disregarded.

A withholding tax applies to non-resident sellers of immovable property (Section 35A). The amount withheld by the buyer serves as an advance payment towards the seller's final income tax liability.

CGT applies to individuals, trusts and companies. A resident, as defined in the Income Tax Act 58 of 1962, is liable for CGT on assets located both in and outside South Africa.

A non-resident is liable to CGT only on immovable property in South Africa or assets of a "permanent establishment" (branch) in the country. Certain indirect interests in immovable property such as shares in a property company are deemed to be immovable property. Some persons such as retirement funds are fully exempt from CGT. Public benefit organisations (PBOs) may be fully or partially exempt.

Diamond Export Levy

The Diamond Export Levy on unpolished diamonds exported from South Africa was introduced on 1 November 2008. SARS is mandated to administer and collect this levy in terms of the Diamond Export Levy Act of 2007.

All producers, dealers, beneficiators and holders of permits must pay this levy when exporting such diamonds.

The aim of the Diamond Export Levy is, among others, to promote the development of the local economy by encouraging the local diamond industry to process diamonds locally, develop skills and create employment.

Skills Development Levy (SDL)

The SDL is a levy imposed to encourage learning and development in South Africa and is determined by an employer's salary bill. The funds are to be used to develop and improve skills of employees. Employers paying annual remuneration of less than R500 000 are exempt from the payment of this levy.

The following employers are exempt from paying SDL:

- Any public service employer in the national or provincial sphere of government. (These employers must budget for an amount equal to the levies due for training and education of their employees).
- Any national or provincial public entity, if 80% or more of its expenditure is paid directly or indirectly from funds voted by Parliament. (These employers must budget for an amount equal to the due for training and education of their employees).
- Any PBO, exempt from paying Income Tax in terms of Section 10(1) (cN) of the Income Tax Act of 1962, which only carries on certain educational, welfare, humanitarian, healthcare, religion, belief or philosophy public benefit activities

or only provides funds to these PBOs and to whom a letter of exemption has been issued by the Tax Exemption Unit.
- Any municipality to which a certificate of exemption is issued by the Minister of Higher Education and Training.
- Any employer whose total remuneration subject to SDL (leviable amount) paid/due to all its employees over the next 12 month period won't exceed R500 000. If this is the reason for exemption, these types of employers are not required to register to pay SDL.

Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF)

The UIF gives short-term relief to workers when they become unemployed or are unable to work because of maternity, adoption and parental leave or illness. It also provides relief to the dependants of a deceased contributor.

All employees, as well as their employers, are responsible for contributions to the UIF. However, an employee is excluded from contributing to the UIF if he or she is:
- employed by the employer for less than 24 hours a month;
- employed as an officer or employee in the national or provincial sphere of government;
- the President, Deputy President, a Minister, Deputy Minister, a member of the National Assembly, a permanent delegate to the National Council of Provinces, a Premier, a member of an Executive Council or a member of a provincial legislature; or
- a member of a municipal council, a traditional leader, a member of a provincial House of Traditional Leaders and a member of the Council of Traditional Leaders.

Donations tax

A donation is any gratuitous (free or at no charge) disposal of property including any gratuitous waiver or renunciation of a right. If the person (donee) receiving the donation gives anything in return, it is not a donation.

A donation takes effect when all legal formalities for a valid donation have been complied with. Donations tax is levied at a rate of 20% on the aggregated value of property donated not exceeding R30 million, and at a rate of 25% on the value exceeding R30 million.

Donations tax applies to any person (for example: individual, company or trust) that is a resident and non-residents are not liable for donations tax. The person making the donation (donor) is liable to pay the donations tax, however if the donor fails to pay the tax within the payment period the donor and donee are jointly and severally liable.

Estate Duty

When a natural person (taxpayer) dies, that person is called a 'deceased person' and all his or her assets on date of death will be placed in an estate. This estate is called an estate of a deceased person (commonly known as a 'deceased estate').

Assets in a deceased estate can amongst other things include immovable property (house), movable property (car, furniture, etc), cash in the bank, etc. The person who administers a deceased estate is called an 'Executor'. Once the Executor has finalised all the administration in the deceased estate, the remaining assets (after paying all the debts) will be distributed to the beneficiaries.

A beneficiary can consist of either heirs and/or legatees. A legatee is a person who receives a specific asset from the deceased estate. An heir is a person who receives the balance of the estate (that is, after all disposals to a legatee are finalised).

Estate Duty is levied on the worldwide property and deemed property of a natural person who is ordinarily resident in South Africa and on South African property of non-residents. Various deductions under Section 4 of the Estate Duty Act of 1955 are allowed to determine the net value of the estate.

An abatement of R3.5 million is allowed against the net value of the estate to determine the dutiable value of the estate. The Estate Duty is levied on the dutiable value of an estate at a rate of 20% on the first R30 million and at a rate of 25% on the dutiable value of the estate above R30 million.

Securities Transfer Tax (STT)

STT is levied at the rate of 0,25% on every transfer of a security, which means any share or depository in a company or member's interest in a close corporation, and any reallocation of securities from a member's bank restricted stock account or a member's unrestricted and security restricted stock account to a member's general restricted stock account.

Transfer Duty

Transfer Duty is a tax levied on the value of any property acquired by any person by way of a transaction or in any other way. For the purpose of Transfer Duty, property means land and fixtures and includes real rights in land, rights to minerals, a share or interest in a "residential property company" or a share in a share-block company. All conveyancers are requested to register with SARS.

Value-Added Tax (VAT)

VAT is an indirect tax on the consumption of goods and services in the economy. Revenue is raised for government by requiring a business, that carries on an enterprise to register for VAT. In doing so, the business will charge VAT on supplies of goods and services made by it, on the importation of goods and on imported services (subject to certain conditions).

The business will also be entitled to deduct any VAT charged to it, or under limited circumstances from a business that is not registered for VAT, in respect of a supply made to it. VAT is therefore non-cumulative, meaning that a credit/deduction is allowed for VAT paid in previous stages, within the production and distribution chain.

The business is required to pay the difference between the VAT charged by it and the VAT charged to it, or claim a VAT refund where the VAT charged to it exceeds the VAT charged by it.

VAT is therefore, charged at each stage of the production and distribution process and it is proportional to the price charged for the goods and services.

It is compulsory for a person to register for VAT if the value of taxable supplies made or to be made, is in excess of R1 million in any consecutive 12 month period.

The standard rate of VAT is 15%, and there is a limited range of goods and services which are subject to VAT at the zero rate or are exempt from VAT.

Fuel taxes

The basic fuel price is related to the costs of purchasing petroleum products from international markets, and the costs related to shipping these products to South Africa. This cost is largely influenced by the international price of crude oil and the R/$ exchange rate.

Environmental levies

The South African Government has responded to the serious global challenge of environmental pollution and climate change by introducing several environmental taxes that are intended to modify behaviour of the country's citizens for sustainable development of the economy.

Plastic Bag Levy

The Plastic Bag Levy was introduced to reduce litter and encourage plastic bag reuse. It is charged at 25 cents per bag as from 1 April 2020.

Electricity Generation Levy

The electricity generation levy was Introduced to encourage sustainable electricity generation and use. The levy is applied to electricity generated from non-renewable sources and costs 3.5 cents per kWh.

Incandescent Bulb Levy
The electric filament lamp levy was introduced to promote energy efficiency by discouraging the use of incandescent light bulbs. It is charged at R10 a bulb from 1 April 2020.

CO2 Motor Vehicle Emissions Levy
The CO2 motor vehicle emissions levy on passenger and double- cab vehicles was introduced to encourage the manufacture and purchase of more energy efficient motor vehicles. It is charged at R120 for every gram above 95gCO2/km for passenger vehicles and R160 for every gram above 175gCO2/km for double cab vehicles.

Tyre Levy
The tyre levy on new pneumatic tyres was introduced to encourage efficient tyre use. Although the tyre levy is not earmarked, it indirectly supports the responsible recycling of obsolete tyres. The levy was implemented in 2017 and the current rate is R2.30/kg.

Health Promotion Levy
The Sugary Beverages Levy took effect on 1 April 2018 and the current rate is 2.21 cent/ gram of the sugar content that exceeds 4g/100 ml. The levy applies to specific sugary drinks and concentrates used in the manufacture of sugary drinks to combat obesity and promote healthier consumer beverage choices.

Diamond Export Levy
A Diamond Export Levy on unpolished diamonds exported from South Africa was introduced, effective from 1 November 2008 at a rate of 5% of the value of such diamonds.

Southern African Customs Union
SACU consists of Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Eswatini. The SACU Secretariat is located in Windhoek, Namibia. SACU was established in 1910, making it the world's oldest Customs Union. Negotiations to reform the 1969 Agreement started in 1994, and a new agreement was signed in 2002.

The member states form a single customs territory in which tariffs and other barriers are eliminated on substantially all the trade between the member states for products originating in these countries; and there is a common external tariff that applies to non-members of SACU.

Excise duties

Excise duties are levied on certain locally manufactured goods and their imported equivalents. Specific excise duties are levied on tobacco and liquor products. Ad valorem excise duties are levied on products such as motor vehicles, cellular telephones, electronics and cosmetics.

Customs duty

Customs duties are imposed by the Customs and Excise Act of 1964. Ordinary customs duty is a tax levied on imported goods and is usually calculated on the value of goods imported and collected by the customs unit within SARS.

Customs duty rates in Part 1 of Schedule No. 1 and trade remedies relating to the importation of goods such as anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard duty are set out in Schedule No. 2 of the Schedules to the Act and are determined through trade policy in terms of the International Trade Administration Act of 2002 administered by the International Trade Administration Commission.

Other taxes

Rates on property

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

Payment channels

The majority of taxpayers are now using electronic payment platforms which significantly improve turnaround times. Cash collections at branches have been reduced as have the risks associated with them. From 1 May 2020, cheque payments in South Africa may not be in excess of R50 000.

Payment methods other than branch payments are:

- eFiling: this required a taxpayer to register as an eFiling client in order to make electronic payments using this channel; and
- Payments at banks: taxpayers can make either an internet banking transfer or an over the-counter deposit.

Voluntary Disclosure Programme (VDP)

A permanent VDP was introduced in terms of the Tax Administration Act of 2011, from 1 October 2012. The permanent VDP is part of a package of compliance measures aimed at encouraging non-compliant taxpayers to regularise their tax affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DPE)

The DPE is government's shareholder representative for the state-owned companies (SOCs) in its portfolio. The department's mandate is to fulfil oversight responsibilities at these companies to ensure that they contribute to the realisation of government's strategic objectives, as articulated in the National Development Plan, government's 2019-2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework and the reimagined industrial strategy. SOCs are crucial to driving the state's strategic objectives of creating jobs, and enhancing equity and transformation.

The department does not directly execute programmes but seeks to use state ownership in the economy to support the achievement of these objectives.

The DPE oversees the following seven SOCs, which are key drivers of economic growth:

- **Alexkor** – It was established in terms of the Alexkor Limited Act of 1992 to mine marine and land diamonds in Alexander Bay, Northern Cape. Over the medium term, the company planned to focus on normalising operations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Denel** – It was incorporated as a private company in 1992 in terms of the Companies Act of 1973, with the South African Government as its sole shareholder. It operates in the military aerospace and landward defence environment, and provides strategic defence equipment. The company's broad focus over the medium term will be on restructuring, which entails optimising its cost structure and reviewing its business model to improve its global competitiveness. Emphasis will also be placed on the company's internal cost structure, efficiency, effectiveness, disposal of non-core businesses, improved supply chain policies, and alignment of IT infrastructure with its new organisational structure. The company commenced with its restructuring process in 2019/20 and is in the process of identifying strategic equity partners.
- **Eskom** – Eskom is governed by the Eskom Conversion Act of 2001 and is mandated to generate, transmit and distribute electricity to industrial, mining, commercial, agricultural and residential customers and redistributors. In response to the company's persistent financial, operational and structural challenges, in 2019 it was announced that Eskom will be unbundled into three subsidiaries (generation, transmission and distribution) under a holding company, Eskom Holdings. This announcement led to the drafting and adoption of the 2019 roadmap for Eskom in a reformed electricity supply industry. The roadmap outlines actions to overcome challenges, defines key steps in transforming the electricity supply system, addresses steps to restore the company's finances, identifies measures to reduce the company's cost structure, and details the restructuring process. Although some progress has been made, Eskom's operational performance remains inadequate, with persistent technical and plant

faults. The company aims to address supply constraints through interventions set out in the Nine-Point Plan to improve generation, which are short-term, medium-term and long-term in nature.These interventions primarily involve repairing new plant defects, reducing trips and full load losses, accelerating the return of serviced units on long-term forced outages, repairing partial load losses and boiler tube leaks, rebuilding coal stockpiles, increasing diesel stocks, and recruiting critical staff for the generation division.

- **South African Forestry Company** – It was established in 1992 in terms of the Management of State Forests Act of 1992. It is mandated to ensure the sustainable management of plantation forests, increase downstream timber processing, and play a catalytic role in rural economic development and transformation. Over the medium term, the company planned to continue fulfilling its commitments to communities near its operations, and diversify its product offering by increasing its production of timber for public facilities, poles for the electricity distribution sector, and furniture.
- **South African Airways (SAA)** – It operates a full-service network in the international, regional and domestic markets. The airline is responsible for promoting air links with South Africa's key business, trading and tourism markets across the world and contributing to key domestic air linkages. Over the medium term, the SAA planned to focus on operationalising the restructured airline to enable interconnectivity within South Africa and the Southern African Development Community, including the expansion of regional air services capability.
- **Transnet** – It provides and operates freight transportation services and infrastructure. The company's current operating model is geared towards lowering the cost of doing business in South Africa. By mid-2021, the DPE continues was investigating viable options to corporatise the National Ports Authority, as required by the National Ports Act of 2005. Initial studies have indicated adverse ramifications for the South African economy and the company's operating divisions. As a result, the department will continue to investigate possible options without compromising the economic competitiveness of South Africa's transport sector.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION (THE DTIC)

The dtic (formerly the Department of Trade and Industry) works to promote industrialisation and transformation, and responds to unemployment, poverty and inequality. The department will continue with the development and implementation of various sectoral master plans as part of the reimagined industrial strategy.

In addition, as part of its role in implementing key interventions of the South African Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (ERRP) in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, over the medium term, the department will focus on providing industrial finance, developing industrial infrastructure, and enhancing competition oversight.

Providing industrial finance

In support of the ERRP, some of the initiatives are aimed at growing sustainable and competitive enterprises through providing direct or indirect access to industrial finance. Initiatives include the economic distress programme and economic recovery support, which consists of loans administered by the Industrial Development Corporation and the National Empowerment Fund, and manufacturing development incentive grants.

Over the period ahead, the department will continue to implement the automotive incentive scheme, the black industrialist programme, the agro-processing support scheme, the strategic partnership programme and the aquaculture development enhancement programme.

DEPARTMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (DSBD)

The DSBD is tasked with the responsibility of leading an integrated approach to the promotion and development of small businesses and cooperatives by focusing on economic and legislative drivers that stimulate entrepreneurship to contribute to radical economic transformation. The realisation of this mandate will lead to increased employment, poverty reduction and reduced inequality.

Key elements of the NDP emphasise the importance of the contribution of small, medium and micro enteprises (SMMEs) and cooperatives to inclusive economic growth and employment. This is given expression by Priority 1 (economic transformation and job creation) of government's 2019-2024 MTSF, with which the work of the DSBD is directly aligned. Accordingly, over the medium term the department plans to focus on increasing support for small enterprises and developing cooperatives.

Increasing support for small businesses and developing cooperatives

The department provides direct and indirect support to small businesses through the Small Enterprise Development Agency, and support programmes such as the Black Business Supplier Development Programme and the National Informal Business Upliftment Scheme. Accordingly, over the medium term, the DSBD aimed to focus on establishing a one-stop SMME platform for businesses to access financial and non-financial support; and improving access to finance by implementing the blended finance model in the Township Entrepreneurship Fund, and extending blended finance to SMMEs and cooperatives.

Applying the model entails the mixture of grants and loans that ultimately lower the cost of capital for borrowers, and ensuring access to finance for SMMEs and cooperatives.

In terms of developing cooperatives, over the medium term the department planned to oversee the implementation and monitoring of the integrated cooperatives strategy, which is intended to ensure the successful establishment of sustainable cooperatives through funding, training and providing access to markets.

Developing the Small Enterprise Development Master Plan

To ensure the development of an enabling policy, legal and regulatory environment for small enterprises the department planned to develop the Small Enterprise Development Master Plan which will enable small enterprises to realise their full potential.

The master plan aims tos ensure the delivery of an integrated, targeted and effected support interventions aimed at promoting entrepreneurship as well as providing financial and non-financial support to qualifying small enterprises, using the life-cycle approach.

Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE)

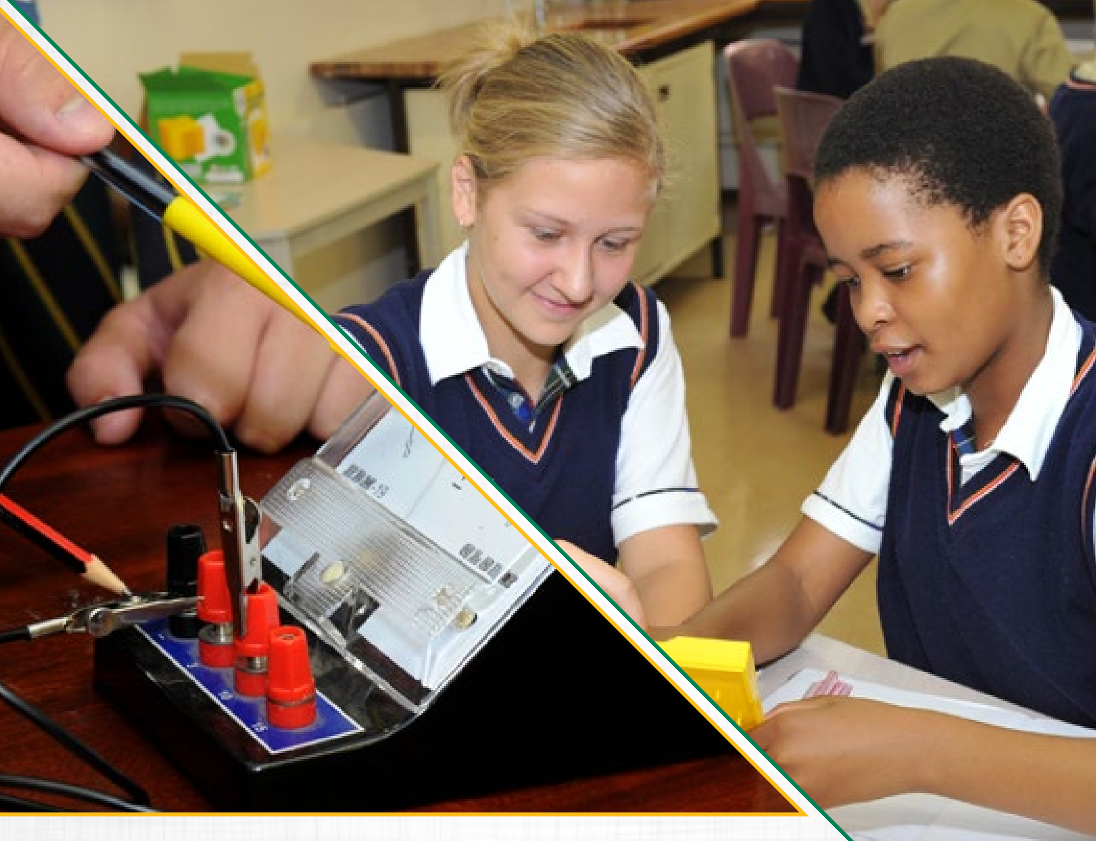
The JSE is the largest exchange on the African continent and the 19th largest in the world. In keeping with international practice, the JSE regulates its members and ensures that markets operate in a transparent way, ensuring investor protection. The JSE roles include regulating applications for listing and ensuring that listed companies continue to meet their obligations.

South African Anti-Money Laundering Integrated Task Force (SAMLIT)

SAMLIT was established in 2019 by the FIC, as a public-private partnership between the banking sector and sector regulatory authorities. SAMLIT provides a platform for members to centralise information sharing, with a view to ensuring that necessary steps be taken to prevent, detect, investigate, and prosecute priority crimes in the financial sector.

SAMLIT is aimed at enhancing collaboration and coordination in combating financial crime, money laundering and terrorist financing.

Across the globe, these types of partnerships have increasingly been hailed as the best suited response to address financial crimes.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

EDUCATION

Basic education

The mandate of the Department of Basic Education (DBE) is to monitor the standards of the provision, delivery and performance of education annually or at other specified intervals throughout South Africa, with the objective of assessing compliance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 and with national education policy.

The department derives its mandate from the:
- National Education Policy Act of 1996, which inscribes into law the policies, legislative and monitoring responsibilities of the Minister of Basic Education, and the formal relations between national and provincial authorities.
- South African Schools Act of 1996, which promotes access to education, promotes quality and democratic governance in the schooling system, and makes schooling compulsory for children aged seven to 15 to ensure that all learners have access to quality education without discrimination.
- Employment of Educators Act of 1998, which regulates the professional, moral and ethical responsibilities of educators, and competency requirements for teachers.

School attendance

According to Statistics South Africa's General Household Survey (GHS) of 2019, there were approximately 14,6 million learners at school in 2019. The largest percentage of these learners attended schools in KwaZulu-Natal (21,8%) and Gauteng (19,7%). Although only 6,5% of learners attended private schools, there were large variations between provinces.

While 13,6% of learners in Gauteng and 8,2% of learners in Western Cape attended private schools, only 3,5% of learners in KwaZulu-Natal and 3,8% in Eastern Cape attended such institutions. Large variations were also observed in terms of transport used to travel to school. Almost two-thirds (65,9%) of learners walked to school while 13,9% used private vehicles. Another 5,2% travelled to school by taxi or minibus taxi.

The survey revealed that about 85,8% of learners needed 30 minutes or less to get to school. In addition, it seemed that most learners (84,1%) preferred to attend the nearest institution of its kind to their place of residence.

Participation in education institutions was virtually universal (96,6%) by the age of 15 years (the last compulsory school age). Approximately two-thirds (64,3%) of learners were still in school by the age of 18 which usually represents the age at which learners exit Grade 12.

A notable percentage of learners, however, remained in primary and secondary schools long after they should have exited those institutions. Almost one-quarter

(24,3%) of 20-year olds were, for instance, still attending secondary school. While the percentage of learners who have achieved Grade 12 has been increasing, the survey shows that the percentage of individuals who attended post-school education has remained relatively low for youth aged 19 to 22 years of age.

The percentage of students attending universities, technical and vocational colleges remain very similar throughout the reference period. The percentage of learners that attended no-fee schools increased from 21,4% in 2007 to 66,2% by 2019. More than one-fifth (21,6%) of learners who have dropped out of school before the age of 18 years, however, put forward a lack of money ('no money for fees') as the main reason. Other reasons included poor academic performance (22,6%), family commitments (8,6%) and a feeling that education is useless (8,0%).

The percentage of individuals aged 20 years and older who did not have any education decreased from 11,4% in 2002 to 3,7% in 2019, while those with at least a Grade 12 qualification increased from 30,5% to 46,2% over the same period. Inter-generational functional literacy has also decreased markedly. While 38,2% of South Africans over the age of 60 years did not at least complete a Grade 7 qualification, this figure dropped to only 4,5% for those aged 20 to 39 years of age.

In 2019, 32,4% of individuals aged five years and older attended an educational institution, according to the GHS of 2019. Nationally, 85,9% of individuals aged five years and older and who attended educational institutions, attended school, while a further 5,8% attended tertiary institutions. By comparison, only 2,8% of individuals attended Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges.

While the percentage of individuals aged five years and older and who attended school was particularly high in Eastern Cape (92,0%), much lower figures were noted in Gauteng (75,7%) and Western Cape (83,1%). Attendance of higher education institutions was most common in Gauteng (11,3%) and Western Cape (7,4%). This is reflecting the higher number of post school educational institutions, such as universities, in those provinces.

The highest percentage of learners aged seven to 24 years who attended educational institutions by metropolitan area was observed in Buffalo City (80,2%), followed by Mangaung (79,2%). The lowest attendance was observed in Cape Town (69,8%) and eThekwini (71,1%).

More than one-fifth (21,6%) of males and females in the age group 7–18 years cited a lack of money as the main reason for not attending an educational institution while 22,6% reportedly fell out due to poor academic performance. Although 8,6% of individuals left their studies as a result of family commitments, such as getting married, minding children and pregnancy), it is noticeable that females were much more likely to offer these as reasons than males (17,1%

compared to 0,3%). Approximately 8,0% of individuals felt that education was useless. A higher percentage of males (9,8%) than females (6,1%) believed education was useless.

Although inadequate access to money to pay for fees remains a major hurdle for learners, attendance of no-fee schools has increased sharply over the past decade and a half. Provincially, 89,0% of learners in Limpopo and 76,9% of learners in Eastern Cape attended no-fee schools, compared to 48,7% of learners in Western Cape and 50,9% in Gauteng.

Individuals without any formal education were most common in Limpopo (7,1%), North West (6,6%) and Mpumalanga (6,1%), and least common in Western Cape (1,2%) and Gauteng (1,3%). The figure shows that 24.5% of people aged 20 years or older have attained some academic qualifications that are equivalent to or less than Grade 9. Grade 9 is the final year of the senior phase andlearners are allowed to leave school on its completion or when they turn 15 years old, whichever comes first. Individuals with lower secondary qualifications or less were most common in Eastern Cape (41,4%) and Northern Cape (38,8%).

Nationally, three-tenths (30,8%) of persons aged 20 years and older have attained Grade 12 while 15,4% have attained some post-school qualifications. Post-school qualifications were most common in Gauteng (21,8%) and Western Cape (17,5%) and least common in Northern Cape (9,2%) and North West (10,7%).

Literacy levels

Functional illiteracy refers to individuals who have either received no schooling or who have not completed Grade 7 yet. According to the GHS of 2019, the percentage of individuals over the age of 20 years who could be regarded as functionally illiterate was 12,1% in 2019.

Individuals over the age of 60 years have consistently remained most likely to be functionally illiterate, followed by individuals in the age groups 40–59 and 20–39. Improved access to schooling has led to a significant decline in the percentage of functionally illiterate individuals in the 20–39 age group.

Role players

Provincial departments of basic education

The DBE 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.

South African Council for Educators (SACE)

The SACE is mandated by the SACE Act of 2000 to enhance the status of the teaching profession by providing for the professional registration of all educators, promoting the continuing professional development of educators, and maintaining ethical and professional standards in the teaching profession.

Umalusi Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training

Umalusi derives its mandate from the National Qualifications Framework Act of 2008 and the General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Act of 2001. As an external and independent quality assurance body, the council's mandate is to set and maintain standards in general and further education and training through the development and management of the general and further education and training qualifications sub-framework.

Programmes and projects

Thutong 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's key focus is on creating strong and vibrant online communities of practice to facilitate discussion and sharing of information and ideas amongst peer networks, and in an effort to encourage South African educators to develop and improve education by sharing the country's common intellectual capital.

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 is limited to the schools that have been declared no-fee schools.

The names of the no-fee schools, which are determine based on the economic level of the community around the school, are published in a provincial gazette.

Higher education and training

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) derives its mandate from the:

- Continuing Education and Training Act of 2006, which provides for the regulation of continuing education and training, the establishment of governance structures for and the funding of public TVET colleges and community education and training (CET) colleges, the registration of private colleges, and the promotion of quality in continuing education and training.
- Higher Education Act of 1997, which provides for a unified national system of higher education.
- National Qualifications Framework Act of 2008, which provides for the national qualifications framework, the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), and quality councils for the issuing and quality assurance of qualifications required by the sub-frameworks of the national qualifications framework.
- National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) Act of 1999, which provides for the granting of loans and bursaries to eligible students attending public higher education and training institutions, and the subsequent administration of such loans and bursaries.
- Skills Development Amendment Act of 2008, which enables the creation of the National Skills Authority (NSA); sector education and training authorities (SETAs); the establishment of the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO); and the regulation of apprenticeships, learnerships and other matters relating to skills development.
- Skills Development Levies Act of 1999, which provides for the imposition of skills development levies.

Over the medium term, the department was expected focus on expanding access to higher education institutions by implementing a five-year plan for the enrolment of students at higher education institutions, and updating guidelines for the implementation of its bursary scheme for students from poor and working-class backgrounds.

As part of its focus on improving performance in higher education institutions, the department will seek to implement university capacity development plans, eradicate the certification backlog in TVET colleges, and conduct advocacy campaigns on the use of open-access learning and teaching support materials in CET colleges.

According to the GHS of 2019, the survey estimates that 978 784 students were enrolled at higher education institutions (universities and universities of technology) in 2019. Just under three-quarters (72,9%) of these students were black African, while 14,8% were white, 6,8% were coloured and 5,5% were Indian/Asian. There are relatively few institutions of higher education across the country and the institutions also tend to be clustered in specific provinces and geographic areas.

Even though most students were black African, the education participation rate of this population group remained proportionally low in comparison with the Indian/Asian and white population groups. The survey found that 84,6% of students in the 18 to 29 year age cohort were enrolled at public higher education institutions and that 7,6% of all persons aged 18 to 29 in metropolitan areas were enrolled at a higher education institution.

The highest enrolment rates were reported in Mangaung (17,8%) and the City of Tshwane (13,0%) and the least in Nelson Mandela Bay (4,2%) and Buffalo City (5,2%).

Institutions of higher learning

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.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training

The DHET is mandated to provide quality skills programmes that address the need in the labour market for intermediate skills accompanied by practical training. 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

The SAQA is a statutory body established in terms of the SAQA Act of 1995 and exists under the National Qualifications Framework Act of 2008, as amended. Its mandate and goals are to advance the objectives of the national qualifications framework, coordinate the higher education qualifications and occupational qualifications sub-frameworks, and oversee the further development and implementation of the national qualifications framework.

Council on Higher Education (CHE)

The CHE is a statutory body established in terms of the Higher Education Act of 1997, as amended. The council is mandated to advise the minister responsible for higher education on all matters pertaining to higher education; develop and manage the higher education qualifications sub-framework; and develop and implement a suite of policies and criteria to facilitate the implementation of the framework and sub-framework, and protect their integrity. Its main outputs are research, quality assurance, knowledge and advisory services, and monitoring and evaluation.

Quality Council for Trades and Occupations

The QCTO was established through the Skills Development Act of 1998. It is mandated to oversee the development and maintenance of the occupational qualifications sub-framework in the national qualifications framework, and advise the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation on all policy matters concerning occupational standards and qualifications.

The council's quality assurance role and its management of the occupational qualifications sub-framework contribute to the post-school sector's broader imperative of providing access to education and training of the highest quality that leads to significantly improved learning outcomes.

Sector education and training authorities

The Skills Development Act of 1998 mandates SETAs to fund skills development; implement national, sector and workplace strategies to develop and improve skills in the South African workforce; and provide learnerships that lead to recognised occupational qualifications.

Over the medium term, SETAs were expected to continue to focus on providing workplace placement for unemployed graduates and internships for students; providing full bursaries to students from poor families to cover tuition, learning materials, accommodation and living allowances; and collaborating with TVET colleges to strengthen their capacity to deliver specific programmes. SETAs support artisan development through skills development centres, which aim to address skills shortages identified by occupational teams working on strategic infrastructure projects.

National Skills Authority

The NSA is a statutory body that was first established in 1999 in terms of Chapter 2 of the Skills Development Act of 1998. Its functions involves:

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

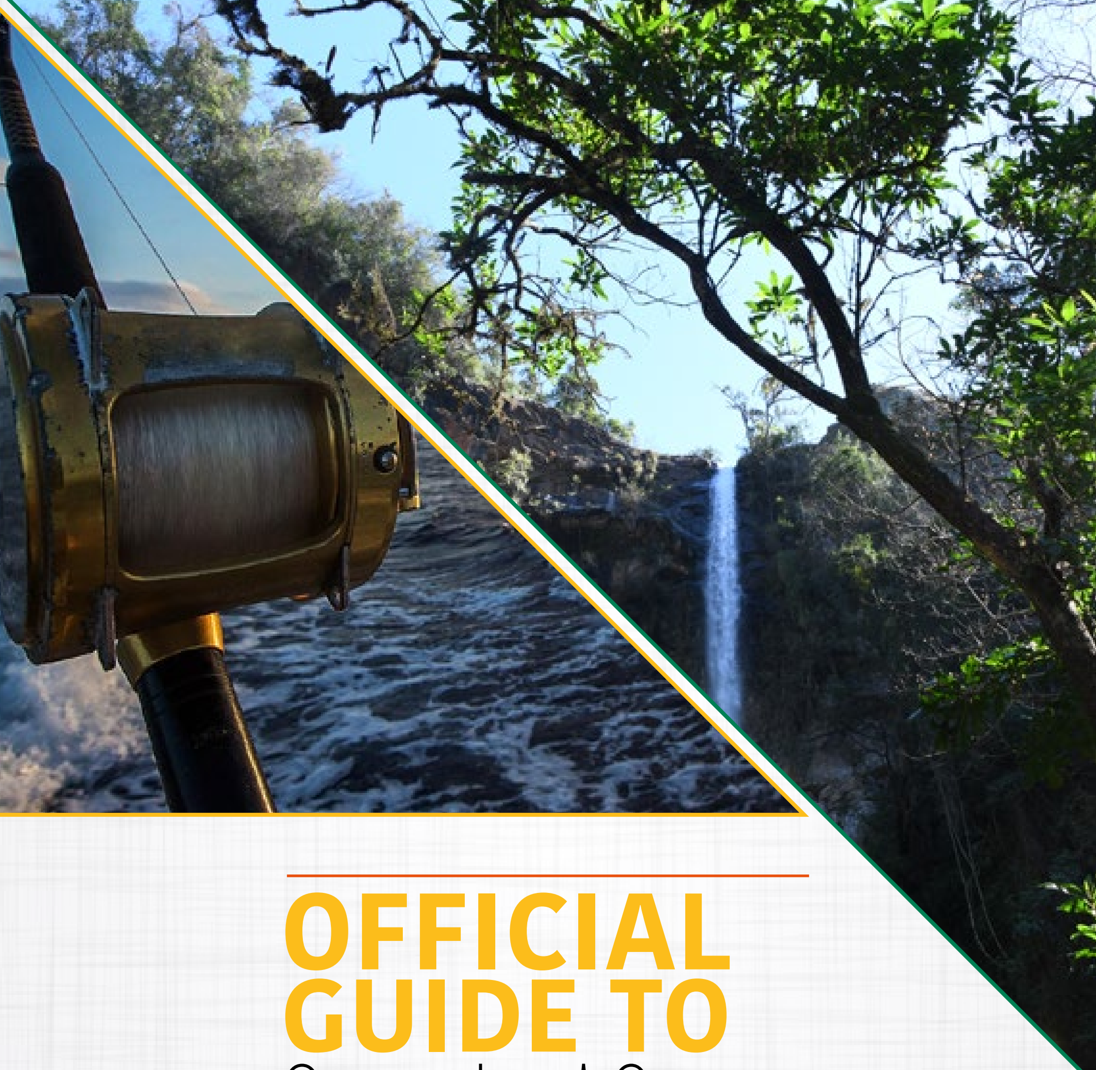
National Student Financial Aid Scheme

The NSFAS was established in terms of the NSFAS Act of 1999, as amended. The scheme is responsible for:

- providing bursaries and loans to students;
- developing criteria and conditions for the granting of loans and bursaries to eligible students in consultation with the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation;
- raising funds;
- recovering past loans from debtors;
- maintaining and analysing a database of funded students;

- undertaking research to improve the use of financial resources;
- advising the Minister on matters relating to student financial aid; and
- undertaking other functions assigned to it by the act or by the Minister.

To qualify, students must be from households with a combined annual income of less than R350 000, and less than R600 000 for students with disabilities. Bursaries cover tuition fees, prescribed study materials, meals, accommodation and transport costs.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) 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 towards sustainability in environmental management, conservation and protection for the benefit of South Africans and the global community.

Over the medium term, the department planned to continue focusing on supporting an equitable transition to a low-carbon economy and a climate-resilient society; creating an enabling environment for South Africa's transition to a circular economy; supporting the fishing sector through the implementation of an effective and enabling regulatory framework for the management and development of marine and freshwater living resources; and creating work opportunities and jobs through public employment programmes.

The Green Stimulus Recovery Programme, which forms part of the post Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) recovery programme, aims to protect natural resources while contributing to equitable economic growth, providing employment to marginalised communities and growing economic sectors reliant on the environment without destroying it.

Supporting an equitable transition to a low-carbon economy and a climate-resilient society

The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and National Climate Change Bill aim to serve as an overarching legislative framework for adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change, supported by the implementation of the low-emissions development and growth strategy for South Africa.

The Bill and strategy recognise the DFFE's pivotal role in ensuring that South Africa is equipped to manage and mitigate the effects of climate change. The Presidential Climate Change Coordination Commission was expected to advise government on an ambitious and just transition to a low-carbon economy .

It was also expected to spearhead the development of sector jobs resilience plans in the coal, agriculture, tourism, petrol-based transport and metals sectors, as these are considered particularly vulnerable to climate change; and support provinces and municipalities with the development and implementation of climate adaptation plans.

Improved waste management towards a circular economy

Over the medium term, the department planned to focus on creating an enabling environment to support the transition to a circular economy, which entails transitioning from the current wasteful economy to a more regenerative, inclusive and equitable one. As such, the circular economy model seeks to decouple economic development from the consumption of finite resources. By reviewing and strengthening the extended producer responsibility policy framework and regulations over the medium-term period, the department aimed to ensure that priority waste streams such as plastics and packaging, lighting, and electrical and electronics were minimised, and that the industry adopts a culture of reusing and recycling.

Over the medium term, the department planned to finalise the Waste Economy Master Plan to implement work streams for bulk industrial waste, municipal waste, and product design and waste minimisation; and introduce a tyre industry waste management plan in partnership with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, and the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition.

To strengthen capacity and improve waste management in municipalities, the department was expected to support the development of integrated waste management plans; collection and diversion from landfills; the integration of waste pickers into formal economic activity; and the implementation of clean-up campaigns and public awareness programmes such as War on Waste.

Managing and developing marine and freshwater living resources

Over the medium term, the department aimed to provide ongoing support to the fishing sector through the implementation of an effective and enabling regulatory framework for the management and development of marine and freshwater living resources. In doing so, it ensures a well-managed fisheries and aquaculture sector that sustains and improves economic growth, particularly for fishing communities.

The department aimed to create work opportunities in the commercial fishing sector by implementing projects such as conserving fish stocks, constructing and maintaining aquaculture production systems, and cleaning coastal areas. The department also intended to fast-track the process of issuing fishing rights.

Public employment programmes

Over the medium term, the department aimed to create part-time and permanent job opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme in roles such as restoring and rehabilitating degraded ecosystems (environmental protection and infrastructure programme); expanding the conservation estate (Working for Ecosystems); protecting, restoring and rehabilitating wetlands (Working for Wetlands); protecting water resources (Working for Water); managing land use sustainably (Working for Ecosystems); and sustaining production, growth and transformation in the forestry sector (Working for Forests).

Role players

South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)

SANBI contributes to South Africa's sustainable development by facilitating access to biodiversity data, generating information and knowledge, building capacity, providing policy advice, showcasing and conserving biodiversity in its national botanical and zoological gardens.

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. South Africa is one of the 30 driest countries in the world. This phenomenon has been intensified by a prolonged drought.

A critical programme aimed at improving the water security is the control of invasive plants in the catchments and wetlands. Recent research estimates that protection and clearing of river catchments can increase South Africa's water supply by as much as one sixth, at a fraction of the cost of projects such as desalination.

By mid-2021, work was being done to secure strategic water sources and wetlands given that South Africa is a water scarce country. These areas supply water that sustains 60% of the country's population, more than 90% of urban water users, 67% of national economic activity and 70% of irrigated agriculture.

The DFFE continues to work with relevant government departments and other sectors responsible for mining, human settlements, agriculture and water affairs to protect strategic water sources from potential undesirable environmental impacts.

Invasive species are major contributors to biodiversity loss and water scarcity. Through the Working for Water programme, the department not only realised conservation outcomes, but also created much-needed jobs for youth and women in rural areas to clear alien invasive species and rehabilitate wetlands.

South African National Parks

As a leading conservation authority, SANParks is a public entity under the jurisdiction of the DFFE where inclusive conservation as opposed to previous policies of exclusion are central to advancing the policies in line with the National Development Framework for Sustainable Development and the National Development Plan.

SANParks manages a system of 20 functional national parks in seven of the nine provinces of South Africa with a total area of just over four million hectares (ha) comprising 67% of the protected areas under state management.

SANParks is recognised as a world leader in conservation and protected area management, and the biggest tourism product owner in the country, with a total of 6 787 formal beds and 8 643 camping beds throughout the national parks.

In the last two decades, seven new national parks have been established, totalling over 700 000 ha, with much of this being in the under-conserved biomes such as the Succulent Karoo and Fynbos.

The National Environmental Management Protected Areas Act of 2003 mandates SANParks to create destinations for nature-based tourism in a manner that is not harmful to the environment.

SANParks generates 80% of its operating budget from its ecotourism business, therefore fulfilment of its conservations mandate is heavily reliant on thriving and sustainable tourism operations.

The organisation plays a significant role in the promotion of South Africa's nature-based tourism or ecotourism business, targeted at both international and domestic tourism markets. To increase the relevance of the national parks, particularly to young people and to communities living adjacent to the parks, SANParks continues to provide South Africans with free access to its parks during the annual National Parks Week in September.

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
- Meerkat National Park.

SANParks is the leading conservation authority in all national parks around South Africa and responsible for protected land in 19 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:

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

Awelani Community Conservation Area (CCA)

The Awelani CCA is a 1 800 hectare area set aside for conservation by the Mutele Community in Limpopo, including the development of tourism infrastructure.

In 2021, the DFFE opened and handed over the Awelani Eco-Tourism Lodge and Community Conservation Area in Vhembe District Municipality in Limpopo.

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 hotspots; 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 different plant species, some 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 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in terms of the Man and Biosphere Programme.

Areas of conservation

Protected areas

In 2020, Cabinet approved the reviewed National Protected Areas Expansion Strategy for implementation. The strategy aims to achieve cost effective protected areas expansion for improved ecosystem representation, ecological sustainability and resilience to climate change while safeguarding more than 418 000 biodiversity-based jobs.

The new strategy, which extends to freshwater and marine components, is framed to ensure that the country contributes to its international obligations on the protection of conservation estates.

South Africa is home to more than nine million ha of protected areas network, which includes national parks, nature reserves and world heritage sites.

These protected areas, among other things, serve as sites for conserving the country's ecosystems, protection of high biodiversity value and provision of ecosystem services. Most of these protected areas are geographically located in rural areas, forming an integral system with rural communities whose livelihoods and cultures are closely dependent on.

Scientific reserves

Scientific reserves are sensitive and undisturbed areas managed for research, monitoring and the maintenance of genetic sources. These include Marion Island and the Prince Edward Islands near Antarctica. Access is limited to researchers and staff. The quality of South African and international weather forecasts relies on the availability of data inputs from the Gough Island region.

Gough Island is a volcanic island rising from the South Atlantic Ocean to heights of over 900 metres above sea level with an area of 91 km².

Wilderness areas

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

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

Biomes

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 10 World Heritage sites proclaimed by UNESCO, namely:

- **Robben Island (Western Cape**). Robben Island was used at various times between the 17th and 20th centuries as a prison, a hospital for socially unacceptable groups and a military base. Its buildings, particularly those of the late 20th century such as the maximum security prison for political prisoners, witness the triumph of democracy and freedom over oppression and racism. It is most famous for the incarceration of political prisoners, including former President Nelson Mandela, who was imprisoned for 18 of his 27 years in jail.
- **iSimangaliso Wetlands Park (KwaZulu-Natal)**. It was formerly called the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park. The ongoing fluvial, mparine and aeolian processes in the site have produced a variety of landforms, including coral reefs, long sandy beaches, coastal dunes, lake systems, swamps, and extensive reed and papyrus wetlands. The interplay of the park's environmental heterogeneity with major floods and coastal storms and a transitional geographic location between subtropical and tropical Africa has resulted in exceptional species diversity and ongoing speciation. The mosaic of landforms and habitat types creates breathtaking scenic vistas. The site contains critical habitats for a range of species from Africa's marine, wetland and savannah environments.
- **Cradle of Humankind (Gauteng)**. The Taung Skull Fossil Site, part of the extensionto the site inscribed in 1999, is the place where in 1924 the celebrated Taung Skull – a specimen of the species Australopithecus africanus – was found. Makapan Valley, also in the site, features in its many archaeological

caves traces of human occupation and evolution dating back some 3.3 million years. The area contains essential elements that define the origin and evolution of humanity. Fossils found there have enabled the identification of several specimens of early hominids, more particularly of Paranthropus, dating back between 4.5 million and 2.5 million years, as well as evidence of the domestication of fire 1.8 million to one million years ago. It includes the hominid fossil sites at Swartkrans, Sterkfontein and Kromdraai.

- **Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg Park (KwaZulu-Natal)**. The park has outstanding natural beauty, Africa's highest mountain range south of Kilimanjaro, and the largest and most concentrated series of rock art paintings in Africa. The site harbours endangered species such as the Cape vulture (Gyps coprotheres) and the bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*).
- **Mapungubwe Heritage Site (Limpopo)**. Mapungubwe is an open, expansive savannah landscape at the confluence of the Limpopo and Shashe rivers. Mapungubwe developed into the largest kingdom in the sub-continent before it was abandoned in the 14th century. What survives are the almost untouched remains of the palace sites and also the entire settlement area dependent upon them, as well as two earlier capital sites, the whole presenting an unrivalled picture of the development of social and political structures over some 400 years.
- **Cape Floral Kingdom (Western Cape)**. It is one of the world's great centres of terrestrial biodiversity. The extended property includes national parks, nature reserves, wilderness areas, State forests and mountain catchment areas. These elements add a significant number of endemic species associated with the Fynbos vegetation, a fineleaved sclerophyllic shrubland adapted to both a Mediterranean climate and periodic fires, which is unique to the Cape Floral Region.
- **Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape (Northern Cape)**. The 160 000 ha of dramatic mountainous desert constitutes a cultural landscape.
- **Vredefort Dome (Gauteng)**. This is a representative part of a larger meteorite impact structure or astrobleme. Dating back to over two million years, it is the oldest astrobleme yet found on Earth. With a radius of 190 km, it is also the largest and the most deeply eroded. Vredefort Dome bears witness to the world's greatest known single energy release event, which had devastating global effects including, according to some scientists, major evolutionary changes. It provides critical evidence of the Earth's geological history and is crucial to understanding of the evolution of the planet. Despite the importance of impact sites to the planet's history, geological activity on the Earth's surface has led to the disappearance of evidence from most of them, and Vredefort is the only example to provide a full geological profile of an astrobleme below the crater floor.

- **‡Khomani Cultural Landscape**. (Located at the border with Botswana and Namibia in the northern part of the country, coinciding with the Kalahari Gemsbok National). The large expanse of sand contains evidence of human occupation from the Stone Age to the present and is associated with the culture of the formerly nomadic ‡Khomani San people and the strategies that allowed them to adapt to harsh desert conditions. They developed a specific ethnobotanical knowledge, cultural practices and a worldview related to the geographical features of their environment. The ‡Khomani Cultural Landscape bears testimony to the way of life that prevailed in the region and shaped the site over thousands of years.
- **Makhonjwa Mountains, also known as the Barberton Greenstone Belt (Mpumalanga)**. One of the world's oldest geological structures, the Makhonjwa Mountains in Barberton, Mpumalanga represent the best-preserved succession of volcanic and sedimentary rock dating back 3.6 to 3.25 billion years, when the first continents were starting to form on the primitive Earth. It features meteor-impact fallback breccias resulting from the impact of meteorites formed just after the Great Bombardment (over 4.6 to 3.8 billion years ago).

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. South Africa had listed the following properties on its tentative list:
- 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
- Turtle beaches and coral reefs of Tongaland
- Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg Park
- Verlorenvlei Nature Reserve
- Wilderness Lakes
- Dyer, Geyser and Dassen islands
- Kgaswane Mountain Reserve.

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, also known as the Pretoria Zoo, is the largest zoo in the country and the only one with national status. It is home to approximately 5 000 different mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates, comprising around 600 species and subspecies.

One of its unique features is that it has the largest inland aquarium in Africa, which also has a marine fish component. It is also the only zoo in South Africa that is home to Koalas, Okapi, Komodo Dragons and Forest buffalo, to name but a few.

Some of the government and private venues include the following:

- Joburg Zoo in Johannesburg, which was founded in 1904, covers 55 ha of land and houses over 320 species of animals.
- Mitchell Park Zoo in Durban, which was named after Sir Charles Bullen Hugh Mitchell, is the country's second oldest zoo after the NZG in Pretoria.
- East London Zoo is located in the Queens Park Zoological Gardens in East London, Eastern Cape. It is financed and managed by the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality. Apart from the animals, the zoo and gardens contain a treasure trove of flora and fauna, some of which is only found in the Eastern Cape.
- Birds of Eden is the world's largest free flight aviary and bird sanctuary, located near Plettenberg Bay in the Western Cape, South Africa. Its unique two-hectare dome (the world's largest) spans over a gorge of indigenous forest. It is home to over 3 500 birds from over 220 species, with the main focus being African birds.
- Umgeni River Bird Park in Durban, in KwaZulu-Natal, is situated in 3.5 ha of lush tropical landscaping and houses an ever-increasing collection of more than 800 birds from 200 species.
- World of Birds is the largest bird park in Africa and one of the few large bird parks in the world. Over 3 000 birds (and small animals) of 400 different species are uniquely presented in more than 100 spacious landscaped walk through aviaries, allowing you the most intimate closeness with nature.
- The Bushbabies and Monkey Sanctuary, situated in Hartbeesport Dam provides an environment where monkeys (primates) can be given their freedom in a natural environment. The sanctuary situated in one of the many Kloofs (Gorges) of the Magaliesberg mountain range provides the perfect environment for Monkeys from around the world.

Conservation centres

The NZG of South Africa is responsible for the management of the Mokopane Biodiversity ConservationCentre (MBCC), covering 1 394 ha.

The MBCC is home to an abundance of exotic and indigenous fauna such as lemur, the rare tsessebe, roan antelope and black rhino. In 2007, it was proclaimed as a protected area as a Fossil Hominid Site of South Africa: Mokopan Valley.

The Ann van Dyk Cheetah Centre, formerly known as the De Wildt Cheetah Centre, is a breeding sanctuary for cheetahs and other endangered animals situated in Hartbeespoort. Other creatures being housed at the centre include African wild dogs, brown hyenas, servals, suni antelopes, riverine rabbits and a population of vultures.

The Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) in Limpopo focuses on the breeding and conservation of a variety of animal species, including African wild cat, ground hornbill, sable antelope, lion, cheetah and rhino. The HESC works closely with advisory committees of the Pretoria Zoo and the University of Pretoria.

Aquariums and oceanariums

There are aquariums in Pretoria, Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth), Cape Town, Durban and East London. The Aquarium and Reptile Park of the NZG of South Africa in Pretoria is the largest inland aquarium in Africa.

The Gqeberha 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.

Officially opened on 2 December 1931, the East London Aquarium is the oldest public aquarium in Southern Africa. 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 seawater species.

Snake and reptile parks

The Bayworld Snake Park in Gqeberha is home to a wide variety of South African and foreign reptiles. The Aquarium and Reptile Park at the NZG in Pretoria also houses a wide variety of 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 primarily aims to conserve and breed endangered reptiles. Located outside Hoedspruit, it offers a close-up look at many local as well as exotic snakes, crocodiles and lizards.

The Croc City Crocodile and Reptile Park breeds crocodiles on a farm in Nietgedacht, Chartwell and other resident reptiles.

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.

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%).

Poaching

Fighting poaching, particularly rhino poaching in the Kruger National Park and abalone poaching in Western Cape, remains a top priority.

Strategies to combat wildlife crime involve the technological improvement of early warning systems and risk assessments, better coordination with law-enforcement agencies, and the deployment of additional rangers.

Recycling

The Waste Management Bureau, which was established in 2016 in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Management Act of 2014, is tasked with promoting and facilitating the minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery of waste by providing specialist advice and support for the development of integrated waste management plans for industry and municipalities.

The bureau is also tasked with monitoring the implementation of industry waste management plans, and managing the disbursement of revenue generated from charges for waste management. The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications also receives funding to implement compulsory specifications for plastic bags.

In May 2021, the DFFE published the new requirements for plastic carrier bags, which require all to contain 50% recycled content from 2023, increasing to 100% by 2027. This will not only ensure circularity but will also see product design taking the environment into consideration.

By mid-2021, the DFFE was finalising norms and standards for organic waste treatment that would enable biogas generation and assist with organic waste diversion from municipal landfills.

To begin to ensure manufacturers and importers of products are responsible for the impact their products have on the environment, Extended Producer Responsibility plans were required for the paper and packaging, electrical and electronic equipment and lighting sectors in 2021.

This will divert these waste streams from landfills and increase recycling and up-cycling. In the 2021/22 financial year, the scope of products was being broadened to include pesticides, lubricant oils and batteries.

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 the country. 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.

As part of the Presidential Economic Stimulus, the DFFE has revitalised the Good Green Deeds Programme to support cleaning up dumping hotspots across all district and metro municipalities, which will provide work opportunities ot unemployed youth across the country.

Climate change

The year 2020 also marked the coming into force of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. By mid-2020, the department was reviewing contributions to reducing emissions and building resilience to the impacts of climate change, through it Nationally Determined Contributions.

As the country moved to a "nature-positive future", the department called for public comment on three more Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZ), namely Emalahleni in Mpumalanga, Klerksdorp in North West and Beaufort West in the Western Cape. This will bring to 11 the number of REDZ in the country. The declaration of these zones will fast-track the development of renewable energy projects in line with the Integrated Resource Plan.

Green economy

Through South Africa's Green Economy Strategy, the DFFE 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.

Forestry

Forestry is one of the sectors that have a huge potential in job creation whilst ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources. The forestry, timber, pulp, paper and furniture sector not only has the potential to create more jobs and growth in marginalised areas of South Africa.

As part of the Government Greening Programme, the DFFE will coordinate and facilitate the planting of two million trees annually, for the next five years.

The Forestry Master Plan is a formal implementation plan to ensure the creation and sustainability of decent employment, long-term investment, and the transfer of skills and expertise to the next generation.

According to Forestry South Africa, forestry is estimated to contribute about 150 000 jobs, predominantly in rural areas where there are high levels of unemployment. This translates to about 11.5% of job losses in the sector due to factors of production affecting profitability throughout the value chain. The contribution to the economy is estimated at R45.5 billion.

This translates to 7.7% of manufacturing gross domestic product (GDP) and 25.5% of Agricultural GDP, including Pulp and Paper. It is through commercial plantations that timber is produced for construction, mining, furniture, paper production and other beneficial timber related enterprises.

National Arbor Week and Month

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. National Arbor Month in 2021 was coordinated under the theme: "Forest Restoration: A path to recovery and well-being".

The theme is adopted from the United Nations Collaborative Partnership on Forests and is congruent to President Cyril Ramaphosa's call for the planting of 10 million trees, for the next five years in South Africa.

As highlighted by the Paris Climate Agreement in 2015, forests and trees play a crucial role in reducing the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Acting as carbon sinks, they absorb the equivalent of roughly two billion tonnes of carbon dioxide each year.

Effective forest management can strengthen resilience and adaptive capacities to climate-related natural disasters, underscoring the importance of integrating forest-based measures into national disaster risk reduction strategies. For 2021 the following three tree species were selected as trees of the year:

- *Vachellia karoo* (Sweet Thorn) – This tree falls under the common tree category.
- *Portulacaria afra* (Pork Bush) – This tree falls under the tree for promotion category.
- *Warburgia salutaris* (Pepperbark Tree) – This tree falls under the tree for appreciation category.

Woodlands

Woodlands include those types ranging from wooded grasslands (between 5% and 10% tree canopy cover) to dense thickets (areas with over 75% tree canopy cover but which do not meet the other criteria required to be defined as natural forest).

The woodland, 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. The wood processing sector comprises board manufacturers and manufacturers of wood-based products.

Fisheries

The fishing sector remains a significant contributor to food security and the economy. Stabilising the sub-sector through the allocation of longer-term fishing rights is critical to attracting investment into the industry.

The fisheries sector is worth around R8 billion a year and the commercial sector directly employs approximately 28 000 people with many thousands more people depending on fisheries resources to meet basic needs in the small-scale and recreational sectors.

The transformation of the South African fishing industry is a constitutional and legislative imperative. The Fishing Rights Allocation Process (FRAP) and the management of commercial fishing rights are an important site for industry transformation. Twelve sectors were due for reallocation of fishing rights in 2021.

As part of the FRAP 2020/21 process, the DFFE will be reviewing the General Policy on the Allocation of Commercial Fishing rights; the 12 sector-specific policies; the Policy on the Transfer of Commercial Fishing Rights and the Policy on Fish Processing Establishments. The department will also be reviewing all our fees for applications, licences and permits.

The FRAP 2021 implementation process aims to be clean, transparent, accountable, transformative and legally defensible. A total of 110 Small-Scale Fishing cooperatives were allocated 15-year fishing rights in the Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal prior to lockdown in March 2020.

In December 2021, the Consultative Advisory Forum appointed to advise on the West Coast Rock Lobster (WCRL) fishery recommended that the Total Allowable Catch be increased for the 2021/22 season to 700 tons from the present 600 tons given the dire socio-economic conditions of fishers reliant on WCRL for their livelihood. The WCRL fishery has been experiencing challenges of declining stocks in recent years.

Besides the sector being faced with increasing demand from fishing communities and the broader public for access to the resource, illegal fishing and the effects of climate change have also contributed to the vulnerability of the species.

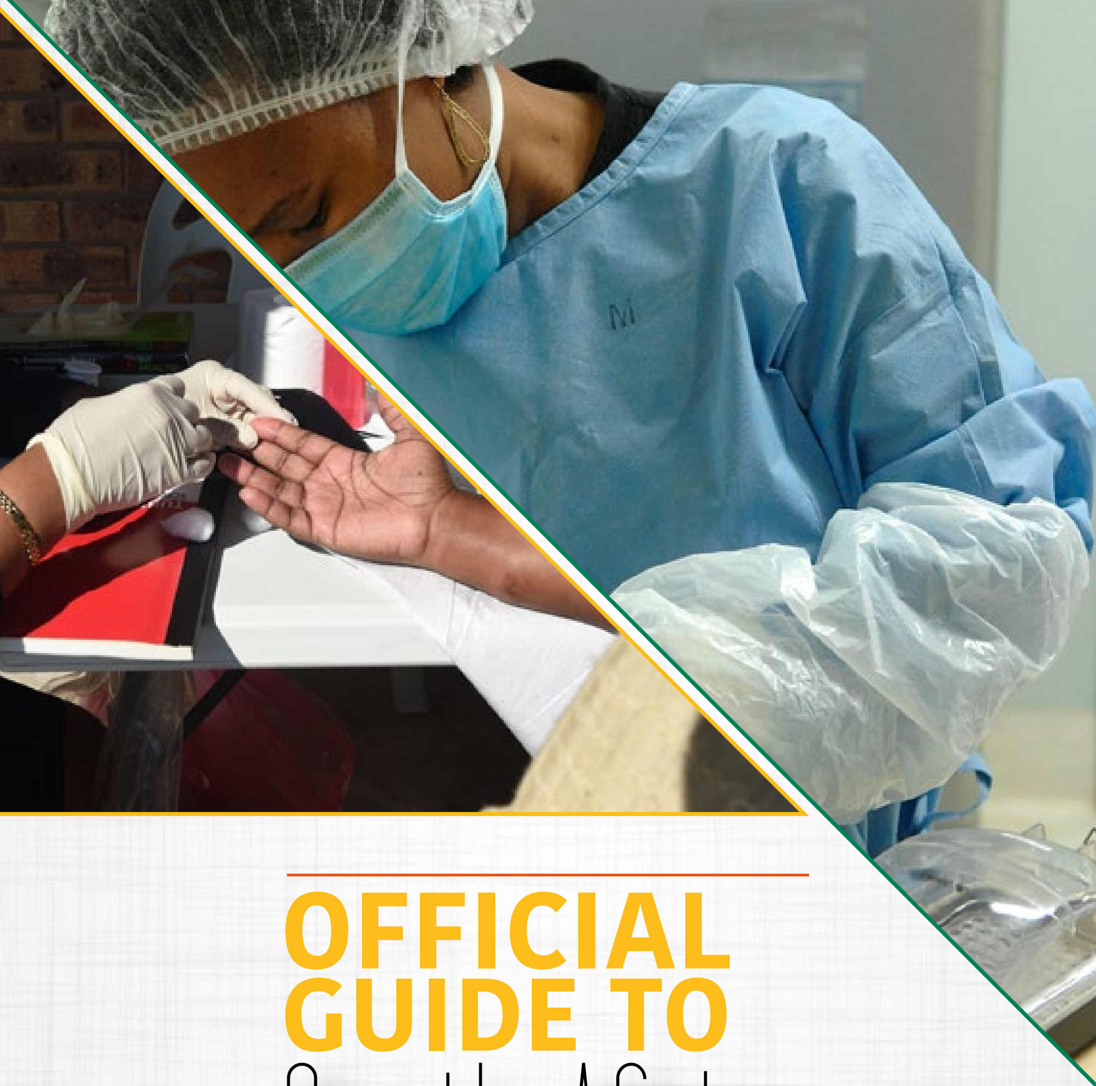
Aquaculture

South Africa is a maritime nation with jurisdiction over one of the largest exclusive economic zones in the world. Its oceans represent a significant asset for current and future generations, with enormous economic potential, in aquaculture, bioprospecting, marine ecotourism, extractive industries, and less obvious benefits of healthy ecosystem services such as climate regulation, carbon storage and waste absorption.

The growing ocean economy had by mid-2021 contributed R41 billion to South Africa's gross domestic product, creating jobs in six focus areas including marine transport and manufacturing, offshore oil and gas exploration, aquaculture; small harbours development, coastal and marine tourism, marine protection services and ocean governance.

By mid-2021, consultations on the Aquaculture Development Bill were being finalised to be tabled in Parliament. The National Freshwater (inland) Wild Capture Fisheries Policy was also developed.

The Oceans Economy Programme includes a specific focus on marine protection and ocean governance while the Marine Spatial Planning Act of 2018 provides for the development and implementation of a shared marine spatial planning system to facilitate responsible use of the oceans, and to conserve the oceans for present and future generations.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

HEALTH

The Department of Health (DoH) derives its mandate from the National Health Act of 2003, which requires that the department provides a framework for a structured and uniform health system for South Africa. The Act sets out the responsibilities of the three levels of government in the provision of health services.

The DoH contributes directly to the realisation of Priority 3 (education, skills and health) of government's 2019-2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework, and the vision articulated in Chapter 10 of the National Development Plan.

Over the medium term, the department's most urgent focus was responding to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including rolling out government's vaccination strategy. Ongoing focus areas include implementing National Health Insurance (NHI) in phases, preventing and treating communicable and non-communicable diseases, investing in health infrastructure, and supporting tertiary healthcare services.

Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

Since the beginning of the global pandemic, South Africa has experienced three waves of COVID-19 infections, placing significant pressure on the country's health system in terms of budget and service delivery. Over the medium term, the DoH planned to focus on managing the COVID-19 pandemic by preventing the spread of the disease through non-pharmaceutical interventions and mass vaccination.

Phased implementation of the NHI

Establishing the NHI Fund as a public entity is a key priority in the department's plans to roll out NHI. Until the fund is established, the bulk of allocations for activities related to the NHI are channelled through the NHI indirect grant.

Preventing and treating communicable and non-communicable diseases

The HIV, Tuberculosis (TB), malaria and community outreach grant is the main vehicle for funding disease-specific programmes in the sector.

The grant has eight components, the largest of which is the HIV and AIDS component which funds government's antiretroviral treatment programme that aims to reach over 6.7 million people by 2023/24, as well as provide a range of HIV-prevention services.

The grant's community outreach services component was introduced in 2018/19 to ensure better resourcing and management of the community health worker programme. The grant also has components for TB, mental health, oncology, the human papillomavirus vaccine and COVID-19.

Life expectancy

Life expectancy at birth for 2021 was estimated at 59,3 years for males and 64,6 years for females, according to the 2021 Mid-year population estimates. The infant mortality rate for 2021 was estimated at 24,1 per 1 000 live births.

The estimated overall HIV prevalence rate is approximately 13,7% among the South African population. The total number of people living with HIV is estimated at approximately 8,2 million in 2021. For adults aged 15-49 years, an estimated 19,5% of the population is HIV positive.

There is a reduction in international migration, which is indicative of the COVID-19 travel restrictions and subsequent impact on migratory patterns since March 2020. Migration is an important demographic process, as it shapes the age structure and distribution of the provincial population. For the period 2016 to 2021, Gauteng and Western Cape were estimated to experience the largest inflow of migrants of approximately, 1 564 861 and 470 657 respectively.

Gauteng still comprises the largest share of the South African population, with approximately 15,81 million people (26,3%) living in this province. KwaZulu-Natal is the province with the second largest population, with an estimated 11,5 million people (19,1%) living in this province. With a population of approximately 1,30 million people (2,2%), Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population.

About 28,3% of the population is aged younger than 15 years (17,04 million) and approximately 9,2% (5,51 million) is 60 years or older. Of those younger than 15 years of age, the majority reside in Gauteng (21,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (21,2%). The proportion of elderly persons aged 60 years and older in South Africa is increasing over time and as such policies and programs to care for the needs of this growing population should be prioritised.

National Health Insurance

The NHI aims to ensure that all citizens and residents of South Africa, irrespective of socio economic status, have access to good-quality health services provided by both the public and private sectors, thereby eradicating financial barriers to healthcare access. The NDP envisions a health system that works for everyone, produces positive health outcomes and is accessible to all.

By 2030, the NDP expects 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 IMR of less than 20 deaths per thousand live births, including an U5MR of less than 30 per thousand; achieved a significant shift in equity, efficiency and quality of health service provision.

Potential benefits from the NHI Fund would include:

- treatment for schoolchildren with physical barriers to learning such as eyesight, hearing, speech and oral health;
- free ante-natal care in the form of eight visits to a doctor to each of the 1,2 million women who fall pregnant annually. Family planning, breast and cervical cancer screening and where appropriate, treatment, will be provided;
- better services for mental health users, such as screening;
- assistive devices for the elderly like spectacles, hearing aids and wheelchairs.

Medical schemes

By August 2021, there were over 80 medical schemes in South Africa, with over eight million beneficiaries.

Health entities:

- The **National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS)** was established in terms of the National Health Laboratory Service Act of 2000. The entity operates more than 230 laboratories in nine provinces and is the sole provider of training for pathologists and medical scientists, provides comprehensive and affordable pathology services to more than 80% of the South African population, and plays a significant role in the diagnosis and monitoring of HIV and TB.

  Over the medium term, the entity will continue to focus on providing laboratory testing services to healthcare providers mainly in the public sector, and expanding its provisions in response to increased demand for its services in priority programmes such as

  HIV and TB care. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on overall testing in that fewer patients sought care at health facilities during lockdown, resulting in a 12% decrease in tests conducted from 2019/20 to 2020/21. However, as at 20 January 2021, the entity had conducted an estimated 3.3 million COVID-19 tests. The number of tests conducted, excluding those for COVID-19, is expected to increase at an average annual rate of 1%, from 89 million in 2020/21 to 93 million in 2023/24.

  The NHLS also houses the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), which is internationally renowned for its role in the surveillance and monitoring of communicable diseases. It provides expertise to southern African countries on outbreaks such as Ebola, listeriosis and, most recently, COVID-19. Over the medium-term period, the NICD planned to continue playing a critical role in the surveillance of COVID 19, focusing on providing services such as mobile testing, community outreach, hotline services, testing at all border posts, and necessary support to provinces in their responses to COVID-19.

- The **South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC)** conducts and funds health research and medical innovation in terms of the amended SAMRC Act of 1991. The council is mandated to contribute to improved health and quality of life for the South African population by providing evidence-based recommendations to various policy-makers through health research, development, technology transfer and capacity development.

  Over the medium term, the council aimed to focus on funding and conducting core health research, developing innovations and technology, and building research capacity. It will pay particular attention to risk factors associated with TB, HIV and AIDS, cardiovascular diseases, non-communicable diseases, gender, and alcohol and other drug abuse.

- The **Compensation Commissioner for Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works** was established in terms of the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Act of 1973. The act gives the commissioner the mandate to collect levies from controlled mines and works; compensate workers, former workers and the dependants of deceased workers in controlled mines and works that have developed occupational diseases in their cardiorespiratory organs; and reimburse workers for any loss of earnings while being treated for TB.

  Over the medium term, the commissioner was expected focus on improving access to services provided to current and former mineworkers, increasing the number for claims paid, and fast-tracking the claims management process. The payment of claims is funded through levies collected from controlled mines and works on behalf of their employees. These funds are used to compensate current and former mineworkers for diseases for which they are entitled to receive compensation.

- The **Council for Medical Schemes** is a regulatory authority designated in terms of the Medical Schemes Act of 1998 to oversee the medical schemes industry. The Act sets out the functions of the council, which include protecting the interests of beneficiaries, controlling and coordinating the functions of medical schemes, collecting and distributing information about private healthcare, and advising the Minister of Health on matters concerning medical schemes. Over the medium term, the council was expected to ensure the efficient and effective regulation of the medical schemes industry, and support the department in its efforts to achieve universal health coverage for all South Africans through national health insurance. The council aimed to achieve this by developing and implementing the guidance framework for low-cost benefit options, and finalising proposals for the Medical Schemes Amendment Bill and the health market inquiry.

- The **Office of Health Standards Compliance** was established in terms of the National Health Amendment Act of 2013 to protect and promote the health and safety of users of health services by ensuring that private and public health facilities comply with prescribed norms and standards.

  This includes inspecting heath facilities for compliance with norms and standards, investigating complaints made by the public, and initiating enforcement actions against facilities where there is persistent non-compliance. Over the medium term, the entity was expected to focus on conducting inspections in public and private health establishments to enhance and enforce compliance with norms and standards.

- The **South African Health Products Regulatory Authority** derives its mandate from the National Health Act of 2003 and the Medicines and Related Substances Act of 1965. The authority is responsible for regulating medicines intended for human and animal use; licensing manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of medicines, medical devices, radiation-emitting devices and radioactive nuclides; and conducting trials.

  Over the medium term, the authority was expected to focus on accelerating the licensing of its backlog of medicine products. This entails revising its operational models and reviewing its business processes to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and delays, with the aim of clearing the backlog by 2022/23.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 enshrines the right of everyone to have access to adequate housing; and makes it incumbent upon the State to take reasonable legislative and other measures within its available resources to achieve progressive realisation of this right.

The Department of Human Settlements (DHS) is mandated to establish and facilitate a sustainable process of housing development in collaboration with provinces and municipalities. This mandate is derived from Section 3 of the Housing Act of 1997.

The department's core responsibilities are to: determine national policy and national norms and standards for housing and human settlements development, set broad national housing delivery goals, provide funding resources to provinces and metropolitan municipalities, and monitor the financial and non-financial performance of provinces and municipalities against these goals. In executing these roles and responsibilities, the department also builds capacity for provinces and municipalities, and promotes consultation with all stakeholders in the housing delivery chain.

Over the medium term, the DHS planned to continue focusing on four priorities: facilitating the development of integrated human settlements, upgrading informal settlements, providing affordable rental housing, and providing affordable housing finance.

The DHS intends to promote local enterprises and to create job opportunities within the areas of building material manufacturing and supply, to support local small and medium business enterprises in the sector. Towards this end, the department will focus on the development and accreditation of building material manufacturers and suppliers. Through this process, the department will make use of unemployed graduates, especially those trained through the Human Settlements programme.

According to Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) General Household Survey of 2019, 81,9% of all households resided in formal dwellings in 2019. Although the percentage of households that have received some kind of government subsidy to access housing has increased from 5,6% in 2002 to 13,7% by 2019, 12,7% of households still lived in informal dwellings. This could be attributed to the fact that rapid household growth and population relocation is making it very difficult to address existing backlogs in the face of fresh demands.

Slightly more than eight-tenths (81,9%) of South African households lived in formal dwellings in 2019, followed by 12,7% in informal dwellings, and 5,1% in traditional dwellings. Households that that lived in formal dwellings were most common in Limpopo (95,2%) and Mpumalanga (89,6%). Approximately one-fifth of households lived in informal dwellings in Gauteng and Western Cape (both 18,7%) and North West (18,4%). Traditional dwellings were most common in Eastern Cape (23,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (13,1%).

About 81,9% of households in metropolitan areas lived in formal dwellings, while 16,8% lived in informal dwellings. Informal dwellings were most common in the City of Cape Town (19,6%), Johannesburg (19,1%) and Ekurhuleni (18,4%), and least common in Nelson Mandela Bay (7,1%).

Facilitating the development of integrated human settlements

For the period ahead, the DHS will continue to review housing legislation and related policies to secure tenure, improve access to the housing market, transform spatial housing patterns, and create inclusive and mixed-use urban living spaces.

Investment will be redirected to support the creation of inclusive communities in 94 declared priority development areas, as informed by 75 integrated implementation plans that are set to be developed over the medium term.

In collaboration with provinces and municipalities, the department was also expected to deliver 270 000 subsidy housing units.

Upgrading informal settlements

In response to rapid urban migration and an increase in the number of informal settlements across South Africa, the department has created a dedicated Upgrading of Informal Settlements Grant Funding Framework exclusively set-up to address adequately the upgrading of informal settlement challenges in the country.

In 2021, the DHS planned to upgrade 679 informal settlements and metropolitan municipalities will target 344 informal settlements for upgrading.

Over the next few years an amount of about R10 billion has been ring-fenced to accelerate the upgrading of informal settlements. The rapid growth of informal settlements in all major cities and towns necessitated a review of funding frameworks.

The UN Habitat III Pretoria Declaration on Informal Settlement Upgrading, signed in South Africa in 2016, recognises that informal settlements challenge must be tackled through an integrated approach to sustainable urban development - taking into account the national policy frameworks, legal, financial resources and spatial issues.

Through an inclusive process, South Africa has made tremendous progress in implementing this policy by, among others:

- identifying and verifying informal settlements in the country by gathering real-time data and monitoring the growth patterns to have a better understanding for planning purposes. According to Stats SA, there are an estimated over 2 600 informal settlements in South Africa accommodating about 1.4 million households.

- establishing Provincial Forums on Upgrading of Informal Settlements in all nine provinces. The forums facilitate alignment of upgrading processes with all municipalities and monitor progress in implementation and knowledge exchange with various stakeholders in each province.
- entrenching an understanding of informal settlement upgrading among practitioners and public representatives through a 13-module course called Introduction to Informal Settlement Upgrading that unpacks the critical processes required for undertaking informal settlement upgrading.
- rolling out an intensive capacity development programme to all provinces, municipalities, civic organisations and communities.
- enusring that the majority of informal settlements have access to municipal services such as water and waste removal.
- implementing various methods for security of tenure, such as a Letter of Occupation to informal settlement dwellers. This affords the dweller the opportunity to engage in economic activity and entrenches government's commitment to dignity for all South Africans.
- establishing Community of Practice to engage with civic organisations and academia to share good practice, exchange knowledge and disseminate information.

Govevernment strives to establish viable, socially and economically integrated communities, situated in areas that allow convenient access to economic opportunities, health, education and social amenities, and to which all South Africa's people will have access on a progressive basis.

Providing affordable rental housing

To improve the functioning of the rental housing market, the department expects to provide 18 000 affordable rental units and 7 200 community residential units.

Despite budgetary reductions, the Social Housing Regulatory Authority (SHRA) will continue to invest in the affordable rental housing market by providing capital subsidies over the medium term through the Consolidated Capital Grant, and operational support grants through the Institutional Investment Grant.

Providing affordable housing finance

The DHS provides housing finance for households that earn too much to qualify for a full housing subsidy but too little to qualify for a mortgage loan. The department will provide a targeted 12 000 subsidies that serve as lump-sum deposits to lower monthly mortgage repayments for qualifying beneficiaries.

Housing entities

The DHS's housing entities include the:

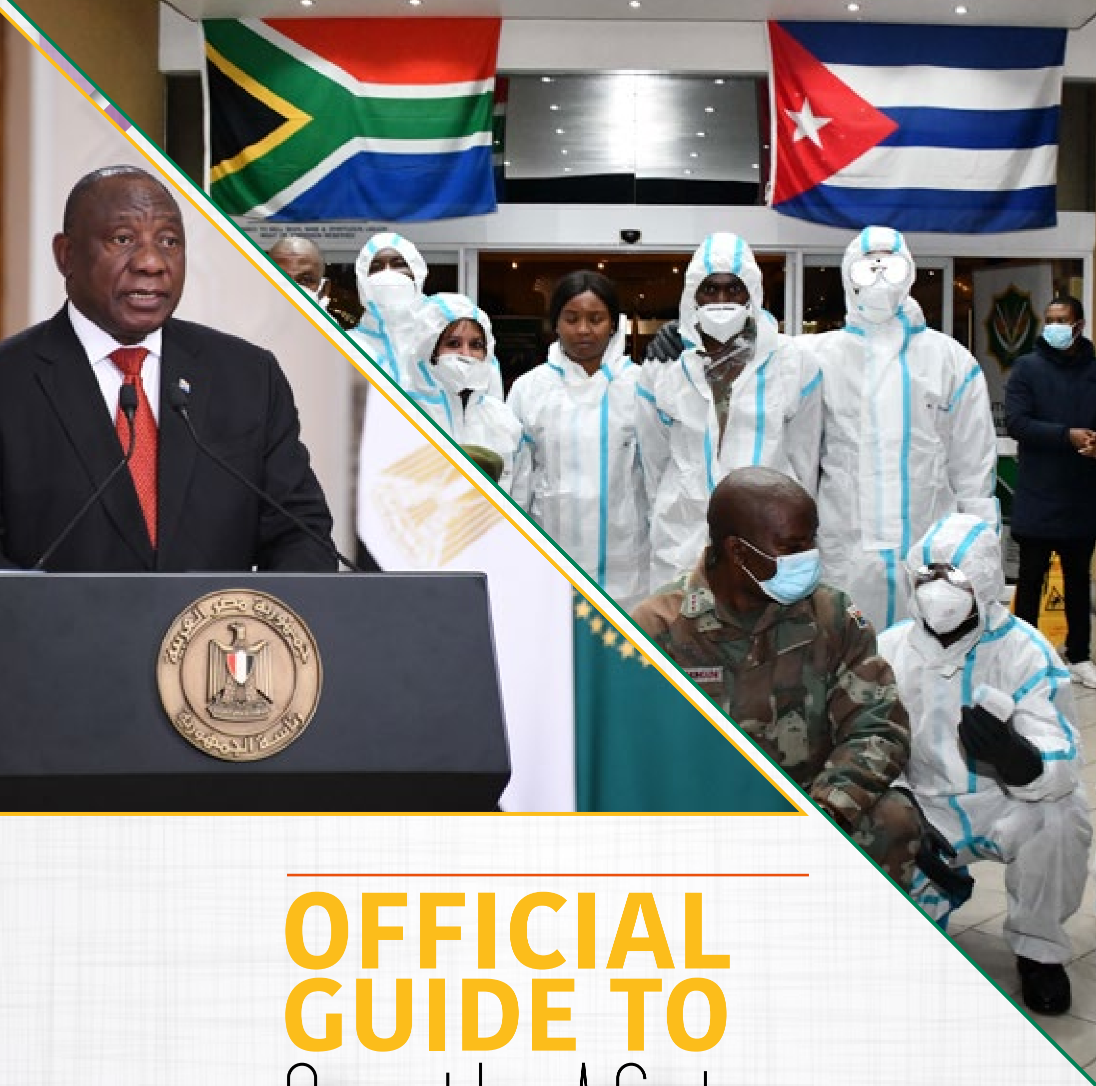
- **National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC)**, which was established as a development finance institution in 1996 and is mandated to provide access to affordable housing finance for low-income and middle-income households by leveraging private sector funding to finance housing developments and create affordable housing stock. In the affordable housing sector, the NHFC plays a multiple role as an innovator, financier and facilitator by ensuring viable housing finance solutions; sustainable human settlement growth and engagement of relevant partnerships. The NHFC has been tasked to administer, and facilitate delivery and access to the Finance-Linked Individual Subsidy Programme (FLISP) which provides poor and low to middle-income households with access to adequate housing. Qualifying households for this subsidy are those that in the gap market; those that do not qualify for a fully subsidised house and at the same time they do not qualify for mortgage loan from the banks.

  To be considered for a FLISP subsidy, you must:
  - have pre-approved home loan from a South African lender;
  - have a monthly household income of between R3 501 and R22 000 (single/joint);
  - never have benefitted from a government housing subsidy scheme before;
  - be a South African citizen or legal permanent resident with a South African barcoded ID;
  - be at least 18 years old and competent to legally contract;
  - married/divorced/co-habiting/single with financial dependants; and
  - be a first-time property owner.

- **National Home Builders Registration Council**, which was established in terms of the Housing Consumers Protection Measures Act of 1998 and is mandated to represent the interests of housing consumers by providing warranty protection against defined defects in new homes, and to regulate the home-building industry. It also provides training and capacity building to promote and ensure compliance with technical standards for building homes.

- **Estate Agency Affairs Board**, which was established in terms of the Estate Agency Affairs Act of 1976 and is mandated to regulate, maintain and promote the conduct of estate agents, issue fidelity fund certificates, and prescribe the standard of education and training for estate agents. The board manages and controls the Estate Agents Fidelity Fund, and investigates complaints lodged against estate agents. In line with its aim to encourage individuals at the lower end of the property market to enter into formal property transactions and use immovable property as a store of wealth, the board was expected to also provide technical support to reduce the cost of transacting for estate agents and agencies who buy and sell properties in the affordable housing market.

- **Housing Development Agency (HDA)**, which was established in terms of the HDA Act of 2008 and is mandated to identify, acquire, hold, develop and release state-owned and privately owned land for residential and community purposes; and manage housing development projects for the creation of sustainable human settlements. The agency also provides provinces and municipalities with project, technical and land geospatial services related to housing developments.
- **SHRA**, which was established in terms of the Social Housing Act of 2008 and is mandated to regulate the social housing sector, and subsidise affordable rental housing units for low-income to middle-income households. The SHRA aims to achieve 30 000 housing units by the end of 2024.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

According to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, the President is ultimately responsible for the foreign policy and international relations of South Africa. It is the President's prerogative to appoint heads of mission, to receive foreign heads of mission, to conduct state-to-state relations, and to negotiate and sign all international agreements.

International agreements that are not of a technical, administrative or executive nature bind the country only after being approved by Parliament, which also approves the country's ratification of or accession to multilateral agreements. All international agreements must be tabled in Parliament for information purposes.

Over the medium term, the Department of International Relations and Cooperation's (DIRCO) will focus on: strengthening the African Agenda; active participation in the United Nations (UN); and developing and managing state-owned properties in foreign missions.

During the 2021/22 financial year, the DIRCO aimed to focus on the following objectives, in line with the government's 2019-2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework:

- Increase Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into South Africa and Africa;
- Improve South African access to foreign markets;
- contribute to increased tourism arrivals to South Africa; and
- Improve investor confidence.

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 overall mandate is to work for the realisation of South Africa's foreign policy objectives by:

- coordinating and aligning South Africa's international relations;
- monitoring developments in the international environment;
- communicating government's policy positions;
- developing and advising government on policy options, and creating mechanisms and avenues for achieving objectives;
- protecting South Africa's sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- contributing to the creation of an enabling international environment for South African businesses;
- sourcing developmental assistance; and
- assisting South African citizens abroad.

The DIRCO'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; and
- provide a world-class and uniquely South African state protocol service.

The department's five-year strategic plan strives towards:
- a united and politically cohesive continent that works towards shared prosperity and sustainable development;
- enhanced regional integration with increased and balanced trade within Southern African Development Community (SADC) and on the continent by supporting the creation of the African Continental Free Trade Area;
- promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent; and
- using South Africa's membership and engagements in various international forums to advance the African Agenda.

The DIRCO is committed to multilateralism as enshrined in the UN Charter, and is active in multilateral institutions, including the Group of Twenty (G20), the G77+China, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) and the Non-Alignment Movement (NAM).

South Africa's National Interest displays a people-centred, progressive and developmental outlook evidenced in its foreign policy, particularly as this has been expressed in the post-liberation canon of promoting pan-Africanism, South-South solidarity and cooperation, North-South cooperation and multilateral cooperation.

Strengthening the African Agenda

Africa remains the focal point of South Africa's foreign policy. Accordingly, the department will continue to play an active role in the structures and processes of the African Union (AU) to advance peace, security and conflict prevention in Africa.

In 2020, South Africa assumed the chair of the AU with the clear purpose of making a difference on the continent by ensuring that linkages exist between development, good governance, peace and stability.

The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has forced South Africa, in its capacity as chair, to take a different approach in ensuring that the threats and challenges posed by the disease are dealt with in a multifaceted way.

This includes establishing the COVID-19 Response Fund, which is aimed at raising additional funds for the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention; and lobbying for a comprehensive and robust economic stimulus package for

Africa to alleviate the economic impact of the pandemic. South Africa continues to be one of the largest contributors to the AU's budget through its membership fees.

Active participation in the UN

With its near-universal membership and vast agenda, the UN remains the most important multilateral institution and global governance centre. As such, engagements with the UN, and active participation in its processes, are of vital importance to South Africa and the advancement of the country's foreign policy priorities. Over the period ahead, South Africa continues to honour its membership fee obligation to the UN.

Developing and managing infrastructure projects and properties

Over the period ahead, the DIRCO planned to continue managing its international property portfolio, which comprises 127 state-owned properties and more than 1 000 rented properties. To reduce its rental portfolio and the associated operational costs, the department will focus on developing state-owned vacant land and the renovation and maintenance of the portfolio to extend its lifespan.

Property renovations, repairs and maintenance will continue to be informed by annual property condition assessments. Over the medium term, the department planned to commence with building four properties on state-owned land (two in Luanda, Angola; one in New Delhi, India; and one in Gaborone, Botswana).

The DIRCO also planned to conduct condition assessments of all state-owned properties over the medium term, beginning with those in Europe, followed by those in Africa, then those in the Americas and Asia. The outcome of these assessments will inform the need for accelerated maintenance and repairs to each property.

State-owned properties in Mbabane (Eswatini), the Hague (Netherlands), Windhoek and Walvis Bay (Namibia), and Brasilia (Brazil) will be renovated for state use. Professional condition assessments of properties in London (United Kingdom), Paris (France), Vienna (Austria), Rome (Italy), Brussels (Belgium), Madrid (Spain) and Copenhagen (Denmark) will be undertaken to inform decisions on future holding and use.

Reduction of missions

Cabinet has endorsed the DIRCO's decision to close 10 out of 122 diplomatic missions abroad in an effort to reduce costs, in response to the country's fiscal constraints, exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The missions, which include embassies, high commissions and consulates, were being closed systematically during the 2021/22 financial year. The following missions were earmarked for closure: Minsk, Belarus; Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago; The Holy See, The Vatican; Helsinki, Finland; Milan, Italy (consulate); Muscat, Oman; Suva, Fiji; Bucharest, Romania; Lima, Peru and Chicago, USA (consulate).

International relations

The DIRCO aims to strengthen political, economic and social relations through structured bilateral agreements and high-level engagements to advance South Africa's national priorities, the African Agenda and South-South cooperation on an ongoing basis.

- **Africa** embraces relevant national priorities by strengthening bilateral cooperation with countries in Africa, particularly through focusing on increasing exports of South African goods and services, FDI with technology transfers into value-added industries and mineral beneficiation, and inbound tourism and skills enhancement. South Africa has foreign representation in 47 diplomatic missions in Africa. A better Africa continues to be the key foreign policy focus of South Africa.
- **Asia and Middle East** embraces relevant national priorities by strengthening bilateral cooperation with countries in Asia and the Middle East, particularly through focusing on increasing exports of South African goods and services, FDI with technology transfers into value-added industries and mineral beneficiation, and inbound tourism and skills enhancement. South Africa has foreign representation in 32 diplomatic missions in Asia and the Middle East.
- **Americas and Caribbean** embraces relevant national priorities by strengthening bilateral cooperation with countries in the Americas and the Caribbean, particularly through focusing on increasing exports of South African goods and services, FDI with technology transfers into value-added industries and mineral beneficiation, and inbound tourism and skills enhancement. South Africa has foreign representation in 16 diplomatic missions in the Americas and the Caribbean.
- **Europe** embraces relevant national priorities by strengthening bilateral cooperation with countries in Europe, particularly through focusing on increasing exports of South African goods and services, FDI with technology transfers into value-added industries and mineral beneficiation, and inbound tourism and skills enhancement. South Africa has foreign representation in 28 diplomatic missions in Europe.

African Union

The AU is a continental body consisting of the 55 member states that make up the countries of the African Continent. It was officially launched in Durban in 2002 as a successor to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Africa Day

Africa Day is celebrated annually on 25 May within the African continent to mark the formation of the OAU on 25 May 1963 and the AU in 2002, as well as chart the progress made by the continent since then to advance democracy, peace, stability and socio-economic development.

The day is an opportunity to promote African unity, deepen regional integration and recommit Africa to a common destiny.

South Africa marked Africa Month 2021 under the theme: "Year for Arts, Culture and Heritage in the Year of Charlotte Maxeke". The 2021 Africa Month programme, among other objectives, sought to promote regional integration by strengthening people-to-people contact and harmonise policies, and share skills and expertise.

International bodies

Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

BRICS is an association of five major emerging countries, which together represent about 42% of the global population, 23% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), 30% of the territory and 18% of the global trade.

South Africa's membership of BRICS enables the country to employ additional and powerful tools in its fight to address the triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality through increased trade, investment, tourism, capacity building, skills and technology transfers.

India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA)

The IBSA Dialogue Forum brings together three large pluralistic, multicultural and multiracial societies from three continents as a purely South-South grouping of like-minded countries committed to inclusive sustainable development, in pursuit of the well-being of their peoples and those of the developing world.

The principles, norms and values underpinning the IBSA Dialogue Forum are participatory democracy, respect for human rights, the rule of law and the strengthening of multilateralism.

The realisation of the trilateral alliance between IBSA stems from three commonalities between the three countries, namely: all three countries are vibrant democracies, they share common views on various global issues and are substantial emerging economies within their sub-regions.

UN General Assembly (UNGA)

Established in 1945 under the Charter of the UN, the UNGA occupies a central position as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN.

Comprised of all 193 members of the UN, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter. It also plays a significant role in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law. The UNGA meets from September to December each year.

UN Security Council (UNSC)

The UNSC has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. It has 15 members, and each member has one vote. Under the Charter of the UN, all member states are obligated to comply with UNSC decisions.

The UNSC takes the lead in determining the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression. It calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle it by peaceful means and recommends methods of adjustment or terms of settlement.

In some cases, the UNSC can resort to imposing sanctions or even authorise the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security. The year 2021 was the third year as a non-permanent member of the UNSC.

Commonwealth

The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 53 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.

Non-Aligned Movement

The NAM, consisting of 120 members, is the largest political grouping of countries outside the UN, making it an important lobby group of developing countries in global affairs.

South Africa formally joined the movement in 1994 and has played a leading role in NAM deliberations and meetings ever since.

Group of Twenty

South Africa has been a permanent member of the G20 since its inception in 1999 following the Asian financial crises. The G20 was established to increase multilateral cooperation for the recovery of the global economy, to bring stability to the global financial system, to promote long-term sustainable growth and to strengthen global economic governance.

The G20 economies account for 85% of the global GDP, 80% of world trade and two-thirds of the world's population. South Africa also works together closely with the following international bodies and organisations to ensure that it benefits from trade, investment, industrialisation and innovation to address the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment, as espoused in the National Development Plan:

- World Trade Organisation.
- World Economic Forum.
- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.
- International Labour Organisation.
- World Intellectual Property Organisation.

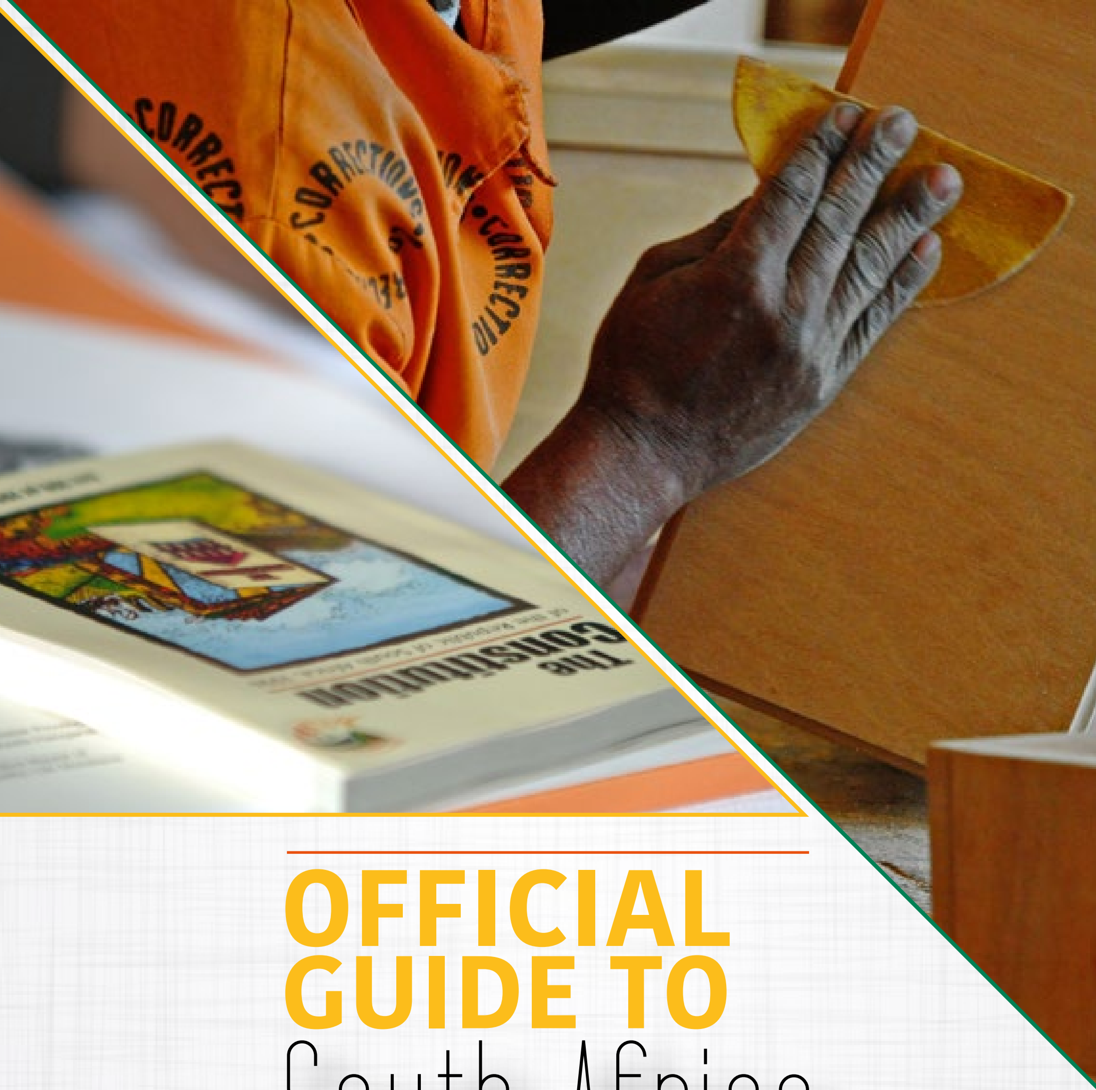
World Health Organisation (WHO)

South Africa is one of the 194 member states that constitute the WHO. The country takes part in the annual World Health Assembly (WHA), which is the WHO's supreme decisionmaking body.

South Africa also participates in the WHO's annual Regional Committee for Africa, which reflects on the decisions taken at the WHA, particularly those relevant to the continent.

New Development Bank (NDB)

The NDB was established in 2014 to strengthen cooperation among the BRICS group of countries, and complements the efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global development.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DOJ&CD)

The DoJ&CD derives its mandate from a number of Acts, in addition to the mandate it derives from the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996. These Acts and the constitutional framework assign functions to the department, such as the:

- establishment of magistrate's courts, and the appointment of magistrates and other judicial officers;
- appointment of judges and other judicial officers, their conditions of service, discipline and training;
- establishment and functioning of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA);
- conducting of criminal proceedings; the prosecution of organised crime and corruption, and the forfeiture of assets obtained through illicit means;
- provision of witness protection to vulnerable and intimidated witnesses and their related persons in judicial proceedings;
- establishment and functioning of bodies responsible for legal aid, law reform and rule- making;
- appointment of masters of the high courts;
- management of third-party funds;
- administration of the Guardian's Fund and deceased and insolvent estates;
- regulation and provision of legal advisory services to government departments;
- management of state litigation;
- promotion, protection and enforcement of human rights; and
- protection of vulnerable groups; and the provision of support to Chapter 9 institutions.

Over the medium term, the DoJ&CD planned to focus on improving access to justice services by digitising and automating processes; creating a criminal justice system (CJS) that is focused on gender equality by designating 99 additional courts as sexual offences courts and increasing the number of Thuthuzela Care centres (TCCs) from 58 to 61; enhancing the fight against corruption and serious economic crimes by rolling out five new specialised commercial crime courts to have one in each province by 2022/23; and creating capacity for the Information Regulator by appointing 54 new staff.

Eradicating gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF)

In March 2020, Cabinet approved the National Strategic Plan (NSP) on GBVF, which requires large-scale changes in the CJS. The NSP on GBVF is based on the following six pillars:

- Accountability, Leadership and Coordination;

- Prevention and Restoration of Social Fabric;
- Protection, Safety and Justice;
- Response, Care, Support and Healing;
- Economic Empowerment; and
- Research and Information systems.

In contributing to building a victim-centric CJS, the NPA was expected to increase the number of TCCs from 55 in 2019/20 to 60 in 2022/23. The Gender-Based Violence Command Centre (GBVCC), which operates 24-h/7days-a-week Call Centre facility under the Department of Social Development, employs social workers who are responsible for call-taking and call referrals.

The GBVCC operates an Emergency Line number – 0800 428 428. This is supported by a USSD, "please call me" facility: *120*7867#. A Skype Line 'Helpme GBV' for members of the deaf community also exists. (Add 'Helpme GBV' to your Skype contacts).

An SMS-based line 31531 for persons with disabilities (SMS 'help' to 31531) also exists. The centre is able to refer calls directly to SAPS (10111) and field social workers who respond to victims of GBV.)

Office of the Chief Justice (OCJ) and Judicial Administration

The OCJ is mandated to render support to the Chief Justice as the head of the judiciary, as provided for in Section 165 (6) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, read with the Superior Courts Act of 2013. The department is also required to:

- provide and coordinate legal and administrative support to the Chief Justice; provide communication and relationship management services; provide internal and intergovernmental coordination;
- develop administration policies, and norms and standards for courts; support the development of judicial policy, and norms and standards;
- support the judicial function of the Constitutional Court;
- and support the Judicial Service Commission and South African Judicial Education Institute in the execution of their mandates.

Over the medium term, the OCJ was expected to focus on improving access to justice and the services of the superior courts, increasing access to judicial education courses, and implementing initiatives to address the impact of COVID-19.

The courts

Constitutional Court

The Constitutional Court as the highest court in the land and its decisions cannot be changed by any other court.

The Constitutional Court, based at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg, is presided over by 11 judges who stand guard over the Constitution and protect everyone's human rights.

When a person, an organisation or a company is not satisfied with any decision of the High Court on any matter; they can approach the Constitutional Court for a review of that decision. Normal appeal matters are however dealt with at the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA).

Supreme Court of Appeal

The SCA, situated in Bloemfontein in the Free State, has Jurisdiction to hear and determine an appeal any decision of a High Court. Except for the Constitutional Court, no other court can change a decision of the SCA. Only the SCA can change one of its own decisions. The SCA consists of a President, Deputy President and 23 permanently appointed judges.

High courts

The High Court handles any case which exceeds the jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Court or when a person or organisation goes to the court to change a decision of a Magistrates' Court, which means appealing a case. Cases of the High Court are listened to by one Judge, meaning a person with many years of practical experience.

However, if it is a case on appeal, then at least two Judges must hear the case. Sometimes if the case is about a very serious crime then a Judge and two experienced people in law who are usually advocates or Magistrates who have retired, will listen to the case.

The two people are called assessors. The assessors usually help the Judge to make a decision. The High Court divisions have "jurisdiction" – the right to hear a case – over defined provincial areas in which they are situated, and the decisions of the High Court are binding on Magistrates' courts within their areas of jurisdiction.

They usually only hear civil matters involving more than R100 000, and serious criminal cases. They also hear any appeals or reviews from lower courts (Magistrates' courts) which fall in their geographical jurisdiction. The High Court usually hears any matter involving a person's status such as adoption and insolvency.

There are 14 high courts: the Eastern Cape High courts in Grahamstown, Gqeberha, 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 and Mpumalanga High Court in Mbombela.

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.

Magistrates' courts

Magistrates' courts are the lower courts which deal with less serious criminal and civil cases. They are divided into Regional courts and District courts. In Criminal courts, the State prosecutes people for breaking the law. Criminal courts can be divided into two groups: Regional Magistrates' Courts and Ordinary Magistrates' Courts (also called District Courts). Currently, Regional Magistrates' Courts only deal with criminal cases whereas the District Magistrates' Courts deal with criminal and civil cases.

The Magistrate makes the decisions in a Magistrates' Court; sometimes with the support of lay assessors. Magistrates' Courts can be divided into either criminal courts or civil courts. The Regional Magistrates' Courts deal with more serious cases than the ordinary Magistrates' Courts such as murder, rape, armed robbery and serious assault.

In terms of the Criminal Law (Sentencing) Amendment Act of 2007, a Regional

Magistrates' Court can sentence a person who has been found guilty of offences that include murder or rape to imprisonment for life. The court can also sentence people who have been found guilty of certain offences such as armed robbery or stealing a motor vehicle to prison for a period up to 20 years. A Regional Magistrates' Court can impose a maximum fine of R300 000.

Regional courts now have civil jurisdiction to the extent that divorce matters can now be heard there. District courts try the less serious cases. They cannot try cases of murder, treason, rape, terrorism or sabotage.

They can sentence a person to a maximum of three years in prison or a maximum fine of R100 000. Ordinary Magistrates' Courts can hear civil cases when the claims are for less than R100 000. They cannot deal with certain matters such as divorces, arguments about a person's will and matters where it is asked if a person is mentally sane or not.

Small Claims courts

Small Claims courts offer members of the public a quicker and easier way of resolving disputes that involve amounts limited to R15 000 and they can do so without the need for a legal representative.

Equality courts

Equality courts are courts designed to deal with matters covered by the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act of 2000, also known as the Equality Act. Members of the public bring to the court matters such as unfair discrimination, harassment, hate speech and the publication of information that discriminates unfairly.

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.

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.

National Child Protection Register (NCPR)

In terms of Section 126 of the Children's Act of 2005, employers offering services which allow for access to children must, before employing a person, establish from the Registrar of the NCPR whether or not the potential employee's name is on Part B of the NCPR. If the potential employee's name appears on the register, he or she will not be allowed to work in an environment which allows for access to children, since persons whose names appear on the register have been found unsuitable to work with children by the court.

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

Domestic violence means any physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional, verbal and psychological abuse, economic abuse, intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to property, trespassing where the parties do not share the same residence or any other controlling or abusive behaviour towards a complainant, where such conduct harms or may cause imminent harm to the safety, health or well-being of the complainant.

To curb gender-based violence (GBV), government has adopted a zero-tolerance towards rape, violation of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender 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 DoJ&CD 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* (also known as *woonga* or *wunga*) 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. Legal Aid SA has introduced a "Please Call Me" service through which members of the public send a "Please Call Me" text message and a legal advisor returns the call at no cost to the sender. The institution has also established a social media presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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.

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.

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

The 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 GBV is the establishment of TCCs.

The TCC concept is recognised by the United Nations 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.

Family violence, child protection and sexual offences units (FCS)

The FCS units operate in all 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 PP 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 PP's services are free and available to everyone. Complainants' names are kept confidential as far as possible. The President appoints the PP on recommendation of the National Assembly and in terms of the Constitution, for a non-renewable period of seven years. The PP is subject only to the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996b 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 PP. The PP has the power to report a matter to Parliament, which will debate it and ensure that the PP's recommendations are followed.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (DCS)

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 reoffending.

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; and
- 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.

To curb the spread of COVID-19 in overcrowded correctional facilities, the DCS implemented the 2020 COVID-19 Special Parole Dispensation (SPD) for selected low risk offenders who had served their Minimum Detention Period (MDP) and those who were approaching their MDP in the next five years.

Offenders who benefitted from the SPD were placed out as from 20 May 2020, in controllable groups as per identified category and sentence group. At the end of the 2020/21 financial year, the implementation of the 2020 COVID-19 SPD resulted in a significant decrease in overcrowding levels.

The department is committed to increasing offender access to rehabilitation programmes so that, by the time offenders leave our custody or supervision, the skills they have gained will enable them to lead productive, crime-free lives.

To adapt to the socio-economic challenges presented by the COVID-19 epidemic, the DCS has developed a Strategic Framework on Self Sufficiency and Sustainability to ensure it becomes self-sufficient by producing its own food and other commodities, reducing the reliance on government funds for food and by generating revenue from own production.

Offenders gain practical trade skills, formal qualifications and relevant experience in the process, which enhance their employability once released. Offenders also contributed to the fight against the spread of COVID-19 by manufacturing cloth face masks.

Social Reintegration Framework

The Social Reintergration Framework, which was approved during the 2020/21 financial year, is intended to reposition the core functions of social reintegration to create an environment conducive to the successful reintegration of offenders by keeping individuals in the community and offering supervision, interventions and services that are responsive to their risks and needs.

Most offenders face significant social adaptation issues such as being stigmatised and ostracised by their families and communities, difficulty in finding jobs or housing, and returning to formal education.

Their efforts to build or rebuild individual and social capital is severely hampered and without help, they risk getting caught up in a vicious cycle of failed social reintegration, reoffending, reconviction and social rejection.

The DCS is striving to ensure that parolees and probationers are successfully reintegrated into society as law-abiding citizens through the provision of rehabilitation and social reintegration programmes.

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 Criminal Procedure Act (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. Correctional Supervision and Parole 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.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

MINERAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY

The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) is mandated to ensure the transparent and efficient regulation of South Africa's mineral resources and minerals industry, and the secure and sustainable provision of energy in support of socioeconomic development.

The DMRE will continue to focus on transforming mining and energy resources, rehabilitating mines and the environment, extending access to electricity, enhancing energy efficiency, and managing nuclear energy in accordance with international commitments.

The department's labour-intensive work requires inspections to ensure that mining companies comply with legislative requirements, and for electricity connections through the integrated national electrification programme to be verified.

Transforming mining and energy resources

As the department seeks to accelerate transformation within the mining and energy sectors, it aims to monitor and enforce compliance with the Mining Charter.

This is expected to be done by conducting social and labour plan verification inspections, and economic verification audits on mines. The DMRE will continue to enforce compliance with regulatory standards and transformation objectives in the petroleum sector by inspecting targeted petroleum retail sites and issuing mining rights or permits to a targeted historically disadvantaged South Africans over the period ahead.

Rehabilitating mines and the environment

To promote the health and safety of mine employees and people in surrounding communities, the department will continue to rehabilitate dangerous, derelict and ownerless mining sites.

Extending access to electricity

Over the period ahead, the department is expected to enable over 600 000 households to be connected to the grid and 45 000 households to be connected through non-grid technology. The bulk of these households are in sparsely populated rural areas (mostly in KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Limpopo) and high-density informal settlements.

Extending access to electricity

To realise a target of 1.5 terawatt hours of energy savings over the medium term, municipalities are expected to undertake initiatives to upgrade municipal infrastructure that is not energy efficient, such as replacing street and traffic lights with greener technology.

Role players:

- **Mine Health and Safety Council:** It was established in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act of 1996, and is listed as a schedule 3A public entity in terms of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) of 1999. It is mandated to advise the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy on occupational health and safety at mines, develop legislation, conduct research, and liaise with other statutory bodies.

  The council was expected to continue focusing on improving the safety of mineworkers by offering programmes to promote safety awareness, and improve occupational health and safety for workers.
- **Council for Mineral Technology Research (Mintek):** Mintek's mandate, as set out in the Mineral Technology Act of 1989, is to maximise the value derived from South Africa's mineral resources through, among other things, research and development, technology transfer, and the creation of an enabling environment for the establishment and expansion of mineral industries. To this end, Mintek develops appropriate, innovative technology for transfer to industry, and provides the industry with test work, consultancy, analytical and mineralogical services.

  Over the medium term, Mintek aimed to focus on developing technical solutions through research and development and innovation that can be transferred to the minerals sector in support of the development and expansion of South African minerals-based industries.
- **Council for Geoscience (CGS):** The CGS was established in terms of the Geoscience Act of 1993 to promote the search for and exploitation of any mineral in South Africa. It is mandated to generate, compile, curate and publish world-class geoscience knowledge products, provide geoscience-related services to the South African public and industry, and render advisory services related to geohazards and geo-environmental pollution.

  Over the medium term, the council aimed to continue focusing on the geoscience national mapping programme, the data migration and digitisation programme, the procurement of key geoscientific equipment and infrastructure, and the improvement of high-quality research and analysis.
- **South African State Diamond and Precious Minerals Regulator (SADPMR):** The SADPMR was established to administer the Diamonds Act of 1986 (as amended) and the Precious Metals Act of 2005.

  The Diamond Exchange and Export Centre (DEEC) was established by the SADPMR in terms of Section 59(b) of the Diamonds Second Amendment Act of 2005 and started operating on 14 January 2008. One of the core functions of the SADPMR is to facilitate the buying, selling, exporting and importing of diamonds through its DEEC, which is a secure and controlled environment where goods are offered to other licensees.

It plays a vital role in ensuring that unpolished diamond tenders are facilitated fairly to the local market.

- **State Diamond Trader (SDT):** The mandate of the SDT, as defined in the Diamonds Amendment Act of 2005, is to buy and sell rough diamonds, and to promote equitable access to and beneficiation of the country's diamond resources. It is listed as a schedule 3B public entity in terms of the PFMA of 1999.
  The trader is mandated to conduct research, develop a client base, contribute to the growth of the local diamond beneficiation industry, and develop efficient means of marketing diamonds not suitable for local beneficiation. Over the medium term, the trader aimed to continue growing the local diamond beneficiation industry and increase the sale of rough diamonds to historically disadvantaged South Africans. The trader generates revenue from the sale of rough diamonds.
- **Sasol:** The international integrated chemicals and energy company develops and commercialises technologies, and builds and operates world-scale facilities to produce a range of high-value product streams, including liquid fuels, chemicals and low-carbon electricity.
- **Eskom:** Its generates about 95% of the electricity used in South Africa and about 45% of the electricity used in Africa. It generates, transmits and distributes electricity to industrial, mining, commercial, agricultural and residential customers.
- **iGas:** It is the official state agency for the development of the hydrocarbon gas industry in southern Africa.
- **Petroleum Agency South Africa (PASA):** It promotes exploration for onshore and offshore oil and gas resources, and their optimal development.
- **Petronet:** It owns, operates, manages and maintains a network of 3 000 km of high pressure petroleum and gas pipelines, on behalf of government.
- **National Energy Regulator of South Africa:** It is the regulatory authority for electricity, piped gas and petroleum pipelines.
- **National Nuclear Regulator (NNR):** It is responsible for safety standards and regulatory practices for the protection of people, property and the environment against nuclear damage.
- **Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa (NECSA):** It 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 cooperating with other institutions, locally and abroad, on nuclear and related matters.
- **South African National Energy Development Institute:** It 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.

- **Central Energy Fund (CEF):** It is governed by the CEF Act of 1977 and the Companies Act of 2008. Its mandate is to research, finance, develop and exploit appropriate energy solutions to contribute to South Africa's security of energy supply.

  Through its subsidiaries, the fund is also mandated to finance and promote the acquisition of coal; exploit coal deposits; manufacture liquid fuel, oil and other products from coal; market these products; and acquire, generate, manufacture, market, distribute or research any other form of energy.

  The fund's subsidiaries are: the Petroleum Oil and Gas Corporation of South Africa (PetroSA); South African Gas Development Company; PASA; Oil Pollution Control South Africa; the Strategic Fuel Fund; African Exploration Mining Finance Corporation; ETA Energy; and CCE Solutions.

  Over the medium term, the fund will continue to focus on consolidating three subsidiaries, improving its liquidity and solvency through new business development and expansions for revenue growth, and optimising feedstock for the gas-to-liquid facility.
- **PetroSA:** It is a wholly state-owned company of the Government of South Africa and registered as a commercial entity under the South African law. It is a subsidiary of the CEF.
- **National Radioactive Waste Disposal Institute (NRWDI):** It was established in terms of the NRWDI Act of 2008 to manage the disposal of radioactive waste at the national level. The institute is responsible for the long-term care and disposal of radioactive waste in a safe, technically sound, socially acceptable, environmentally responsible and economically feasible manner.

  Over the medium term, the institute planned to focus on finalising the transfer of the Vaalputs low-level waste disposal function from NECSA, and the allocation of the nuclear installation licence from the NNR. This will allow the institute to become the licence holder and thereby generate its own revenue by providing waste disposal and related services to waste generators.

  In its efforts to safely dispose of the national inventory of radioactive waste, the institute will continue to prepare for the establishment of a centralised storage facility for the long-term storage of spent nuclear fuel.

Mining Qualifications Authority (MQA)

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.

The MQA 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.

Reserves

Gold

The Witwatersrand Basin remains the world's largest gold resource and South African gold only accounts for 4.2% of global gold production, according to the Minerals Council South Africa. The large-scale gold mines operating in South Africa include the record setting TauTona Gold Mine, which extends 3,9 km underground. TauTona means "great lion" in Setswana.

Coal

South Africa derives over 70% of its energy requirement (electricity and liquid fuels) from coal. According to the Minerals Council South Africa, South Africa has coal reserves sufficient to satisfy its needs for more than a century.

However the locus of production is gradually shifting away from the traditional Witbank or Emalahleni coalfield as collieries approach the end of their productive lives. Emphasis is being placed on exploring and developing the Waterberg coalfield as well as others in Limpopo.

Platinum group metals (PGMs)

PGMs include platinum, palladium, rhodium, iridium, osmium and ruthenium. These metals are extremely resistant to corrosion, hence they are used in a number of industrial processes, technologies and commercial applications.

Consumer and industrial products made with platinum and other PGMs include flat-panel monitors, glass fibre, medical tools, computer hard drives, nylon and razors.

South Africa's Bushveld Complex hosts approximately 80% of PGM-bearing ore. In medical applications, PGMs are used in the manufacture of anti-cancer drugs, cardiac treatment, implants and dental applications.

Platinum

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.

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.

Chrome ore

According to the US Geological Survey of 2018, South Africa and Kazakhstan host 95% of the world's chromium reserves (shipping grade), at 200 000 tonnes and 230 000 tonnes, respectively. South Africa has 72% of the world's chrome resources.

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. Useful by-product metals and minerals include zirconium chemicals, magnetite and nickel sulphate as well as small quantities of gold, silver and platinum.

Substitutes for copper include aluminium which is used in power cables, electrical equipment, automobile radiators, and cooling and refrigeration tubing. Titanium and steel are also substitutes used in heat exchangers.

Optical fibre substitutes for copper are used in telecommunications applications, and plastics substitutes for copper are used in water pipe, drainpipe and plumbing fixtures. The Ga-Ramokoka Carbonatite Complex in North West hosts numerous minerals that span an estimated tonnage of Rare Earth Elements at 470 thousand tonnes, phosphates at 300 thousand tonnes and copper 30 thousand tonnes. The potential value of a suite of minerals in the carbonatite is estimated at R1.4 billion.

Manganese

South Africa hosts the largest known deposit of manganese and the country is a leading producer of manganese globally. According to the Minerals Council South Africa, the sector produced 17 million tonnes of manganese representing in 2019, a 14% increase on the prior year.

According to the Minerals Council South Africa, manganese prices have been under pressure because of a strong increase in supply coupled with subdued demand out of China which is the core market for South African producers.

Diamonds

According to the Minerals Council South Africa, the country ranks among the top 10 diamond producers globally, producing 10% of the world's diamonds.
In 2019, about 7.2 million carats of diamonds were produced locally.

Industrial minerals

South Africa boasts a substantial industrial mineral endowment. This category of minerals generally does not get a lot of attention despite its notable size and potential. According to the Minerals Council South Africa, in 2019 industrial mineral sales amounted to R17.9 billion. Domestic sales of the minerals constituted 79% or R14.3 billion, while export sales contributed R3.5 billion or 19.5%.

Geology

South Africa has a long and complex geological history dating back to many 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.

Energy

South Africa continues to pursue an energy mix as espoused in the country's energy blueprint, the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). Even though South Africa and the rest of the world are increasingly under pressure to mitigate against climate change, South Africa's energy capacity is largely dependent on fossil fuels such as coal and petroleum.

Although the country has vast reserves of coal and petroleum resources that it continues to exploit, it has begun investing in clean technologies to ensure transition from a high to low carbon economy, while ensuring security of energy supply.

National Strategic Fuels Stock Policy

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 Mineral Resources and 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. As part of the gas industrialisation, the DMRE has embarked on the LPG Expansion Initiative.

LPG is considered the safest, cleanest, sustainable and most efficient form of energy for cooking, space heating as well as water heating. The department planned to set a target to double consumption of LPG in South Africa over the next five years to alleviate pressure on the Eskom power supply.

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.

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 hydropower potential in the countries to the north, notably the Congo River (Inga Falls).

Electricity

In 2020, government committed to interventions to deal with electricity supply shortages and undertook to rapidly increase energy generation capacity outside of Eskom. The interventions include:

- The connection of 1 200 megawatts (MW) to the grid from projects signed under bid window 4 of the Independent Power Producers (IPP) Programme, with the remaining 1 000 MW planned to connect by not later than December 2021.
- The approved preferred bidders were expected to deliver additional MW of power into the grid within the next 12 to 18 months.
- Eskom procuring 200 MW from IPPs under the Short-Term Power Purchase Programme.

Government has amended the Electricity Regulations on New Generation Capacity and clarified the requirements for municipalities when undertaking the process to develop or buy power from IPPs.

It has also amended and gazetted Schedule 2 of the Electricity Regulation Act of 2006 to increase the threshold for registering embedded generation from 1 to 10 MW.

Biofuel

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 agriculture, 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 hydroelectricity stations and pumped-water storage schemes.

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.

Solar energy is used to power equipment such as watches, calculators, cookers, water heaters, lighting, water pumping, communication, transportation, power generation, and many more.

Solar energy, like all other renewable energies, is very safe and environmentally friendly. There are no emissions as the source of fuel is the sun, unlike coal-powered stations.

Wind power

Wind energy, like solar energy, is a free and sustainable renewable energy source that is being used to generate electricity. The amount of energy that can be extracted from the wind depends on its speed.

The higher the wind speed, the more energy can be harnessed to generate electricity on a large scale. South Africa has fair wind potential, especially along the coastal areas of the Western Cape and Eastern Cape.

Hybrid systems

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

Nuclear

Government has committed, through the Nuclear Energy Policy and 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.

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. The Koeberg Nuclear Power Plant units will reach the end of life in July 2024 and plans are underway to extend the life of this plant by an additional 20 years.

Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP)

The REIPPPP, established in 2010, has become one of the world's most progressive and successful alternative energy programmes. Ever since the introduction of these renewable energy technology programmes (solar, wind, biomass, small hydro and landfill gas power), plants have been going up across the country, feeding additional, clean energy into the national grid.

The REIPPPP represents the country's most comprehensive strategy to date in achieving the transition to a greener economy. The programme has been designed to contribute to the development of a local green industry and the creation of green jobs.

The programme 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, government 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.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

POLICE, DEFENCE AND INTELLIGENCE

POLICE

The Department of Police is responsible for law-enforcement services, policy determination, direction and overall execution of the department's mandate in relation to relevant legislation. The Minister of Police is responsible for determining national policing policy (Section 206 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996) and the overall execution of the department's mandate, in relation to the key pieces of legislation.

Over the medium term, the Department of Police was expected to focus on enhancing community safety, reducing violence against women and children, improving perceptions on and increasing the conviction rate of fraud and corruption in the public and private sectors, and mitigating the impact of budget reductions on service delivery.

The number of personnel was expected to decrease from 181 344 in 2020/21 to 162 945 in 2023/24, due to natural attrition. Given the significant impact of the reductions on compensation of employees, non-critical vacant posts will not be filled.

Enhancing community safety

The department has recognised community safety as integral to creating a safe and secure environment that is conducive to social and economic stability, and supporting a better life for all. To achieve these goals, the department will implement initiatives such as the "community-in-blue" concept, the safer cities framework and the integrated schools safety programme; and ensure that community policing forums are functioning and effective.

Reducing violence against women and children

Over the medium term, the department planned to target detection rates of 75% and 70% for crimes against women and children, respectively. To achieve this, the department will enhance its detective capacity, improve forensic support and optimise the implementation of the integrated criminal justice strategy. Other areas of activity include reducing the levels of contact crimes against women and children by 6.9% and 6.7% respectively, by 2023/24.

To realise these targets, the department will roll out its Gender-based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) Action Plan, which primarily seeks to: ensure that police officers and stations have the capacity to provide victim-friendly support services to survivors; and support the implementation and monitoring of key policies on police duties related to domestic violence and sexual offences.

In response to capacitate the SAPS members to deal with GBVF, 1 763 members across all provinces were trained on GBVF-related courses during

2020/21 financial year.

Targeting fraud and corruption

An improvement in perceptions of fraud and corruption in the public and private sectors is enabled by responsive investigation, and is facilitated through specialised cybercrime investigative capabilities.

Over the period ahead, the department aimed to maintain a conviction rate of 70% per year for cases relating to serious fraud and corruption in the public and private sectors.

Due to the complex nature of these cases, the duration of investigations cannot be predicted, hence targets remain constant over the period ahead.

Mitigating the impact of baseline reductions

In an effort to mitigate the impact of budget reductions on service delivery, the department planned to explore alternatives to how it renders services in communities. In doing so, it will focus on: increasing the capacity of police stations, particularly those 30 stations with the highest contact crimes reported; redirecting resources towards increasing police visibility; improving access to policing services; and enhancing frontline service delivery.

This will involve recruiting entry-level officers and redeploying senior officers to stabilise areas with high levels of crime or those that have been identified as hot spots due to the prevalence of specific crime-related threats.

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)
- Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA)
- South African Police Service (SAPS).

Civilian Secretariat for Police

The Civilian Secretariat for the Police Service was established in terms of the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service Act of 2011 and Section 208 of the Constitution, which provides for the establishment of a civilian secretariat for the police service to function under the direction of the Minister of Police.

In terms of the Act, the secretariat's mandate is to conduct civilian oversight of the police service and provide policy and strategic support to the Minister, including administrative support in relation to his international obligations.

The Act also mandates responsibility on the secretariat to monitor the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act of 1998 by the SAPS.

The Civilian Secretariat is mandated to perform, amongst others, the following:

- Providing the Minister with policy advice and research support;
- Developing departmental policy through qualitative and evidence-based research;
- Providing civilian oversight of the Police Service through monitoring and evaluating overall police performance;
- Mobilising role-players, stakeholders and partners outside the department through engagements on crime prevention and other policing matters; and
- Providing other support services to the Minister in pursuit of achieving his/her mandate.

Independent Police Investigative Directorate

The IPID exercises its functions in accordance with the IPID Act of 2011. The Act gives effect to the provisions of Section 206(6) of the Constitution, which provides for the establishment of an independent police complaints body that must investigate any alleged misconduct of, or offence committed by, a member of the police service. The thrust of the directorate's work is to investigate serious and priority crimes allegedly committed by members of the SAPS and the Municipal Police services.

The IPID Act of 2011, which came into effect on 1 April 2012, grants the directorate an extended mandate and changes the focus of the directorate's work from a complaints-driven organisation to one that prioritises the investigative function. The Act also places stringent obligations on the SAPS and the Municipal Police services to report matters that must be investigated by the directorate, and ensures the implementation of disciplinary recommendations made by the directorate.

Over the medium term, the IPID planned to focus on strengthening its investigative capacity and refining processes to improve the quality of investigations. As a result of COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdown restrictions, the directorate encountered several limitations in conducting and finalising investigations amid an increase in the number of reported cases.

The directorate aimed to prioritise its backlog and investigate cases of alleged police brutality, rape, torture and assault. In light of the surge in the number of reported cases of GBVF, particular attention will be given to cases in which the alleged victims are women, children or people living with disabilities.

Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority

The PSIRA was established in terms of Section 2 of the Private Security Industry Regulation Act of 2001, which replaced the Security Officers Act of 1987. The authority is mandated to regulate the private security industry, and exercise control over the practice of the occupation of security service providers in the public and national interest, as well as in the interest of the private security industry itself.

Over the medium term, the authority aimed to focus on implementing its digital transformation strategy and establishing a financial stability guarantee fund. The digital transformation strategy involves the automation of registration processes that will result in the reduction in the turnaround time for registrations of security businesses and security officers from eight days (security businesses) and 14 days (security officers) in 2020/21 to three days for both in 2023/24.

The process will also include self-assessment inspections by security businesses, resulting in a reduction in the number of inspections conducted by the authority for security officers.

South African Police Service

The SAPS derives its powers and functions from section 205 of the Constitution and from the South African Police Service Act of 1995. This legislation regulates the police service in terms of its core functions, which are to prevent, investigate and combat crime; maintain public order; protect and secure the inhabitants of South Africa and their property; and uphold and enforce the law.

The National Commissioner is the Accounting Officer of the SAPS. Deputy National Commissioners (under whom the divisions and components of the SAPS fall) and provincial commissioners (under whom the cluster and station commanders 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; and
- 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; and
- participate in efforts to address the root causes of crime.

Resources

During the 2020/21 financial year, the COVID-19 restrictions still persisted, however the SAPS was able to enlist 2 511 current serving reservists as permanent members. The reservists were trained in the Reservist Training Programme and were able to immediately be deployed to stations for operational duties and resulted in the capacitation of the police stations.

In addition, the re-enlistment of about 500 previously employed police officials commenced during 2020 to strengthen capacity where specialised skills in the detection environment were identified. The 4 000 could unfortunately not be enlisted due to the COVID-19 restrictions which resulted in the suspension of all training interventions.

DEFENCE

The Department of Defence (DOD) derives its mandate from Section 200 of the Constitution; the Defence Act of 2002, as amended by the Defence Amendment Act of 2010; the 1996 *White Paper on Defence*; and the 2015 South African Defence Review. The department is required to provide, manage, prepare and employ defence capabilities that are commensurate with the needs of South Africa.

Over the medium term, the department was expected to prioritise maintaining South Africa's defence capabilities, expanding and maintaining its infrastructure, safeguarding its borders and territorial integrity, participating in peace support operations, and institutionalising its cybersecurity policy in line with that of government.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY VETERANS (DMV)

The DMV derives its mandate from the Military Veterans Act of 2011, which requires

it to provide national policy and standards on socioeconomic support to military veterans and their dependants, including benefits and entitlements to help realise a dignified, unified, empowered and self-sufficient community of military veterans.

Acknowledging the contribution of military veterans in the creation of a democratic South Africa has the potential to deepen social cohesion and national unity, and provide some redress for the inequities of the past. As such, the DMV planned, over the medium term, to continue to focus on delivering key benefits such as healthcare, housing, education, training and skills development programmes to military veterans and their dependants.

Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armscor)

Armscor is the acquisition agency for the DOD. Renowned for its acquisition expertise, Armscor has enhanced and expanded its service offering to the DOD as well as to stakeholders across the African Continent in line with its vision to be the premier defence technology and acquisition service provider for the South

African Government and our allies on the African continent and the world.

To maintain competitiveness, the corporation aims to acquire capital assets such as armoured vehicles and helicopters in an economically viable manner. Over the medium term, the Armscor will focus on meeting the department's requirements in terms of defence matériel as well as those related to defence technology, research, development analysis, tests and evaluation. The corporation will also focus on providing support to the local defence industry, ensuring that the SANDF receives quality equipment to fulfil its mandate.

Denel

Denel operates in the military aerospace and landward defence environment, and provides strategic defence equipment. The company's broad focus over the medium term will be on restructuring, which entails optimising its cost structure and reviewing its business model to improve its global competitiveness.

Emphasis will also be placed on the company's internal cost structure, efficiency, effectiveness, disposal of non-core businesses, improved supply chain policies, and alignment of IT infrastructure with its new organisational structure.

Castle Control Board

The Castle Control Board primarily derives its mandate from the Castle Management Act of 1993, which requires the board to preserve and protect the military and cultural heritage of the Castle of Good Hope, and to optimise its tourism potential and public accessibility. Aspects of the board's mandate are also derived from the Defence Endowment Property and Account Act of 1922, and the National Heritage Resources Act of 1999.

Over the medium term, the board aimed to fulfil its mandate by implementing the revenue optimisation strategy to, among other things, provide a comprehensive range of visitor services, host better curated events, and upgrade the site's security system and visitor centre. All of the board's revenue is self-generated. D

Intelligence services

The State Security Agency (SSA) aims to develop a more effective and efficient intelligence architecture for South Africa. In terms of Section 209 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, the President appoints a member of the Executive or a Cabinet Minister to assume political responsibility for the control and direction of the Civilian Intelligence Service.

On 5 August 2021, President Cyril Ramaphosa reconstituted the Cabinet and placed the SSA in The Presidency. This had an effect that the agency no longer had a member of the Executive or a Cabinet Minister as a political head responsible for the control and direction of the civilian intelligence service. Instead, the President of the Republic designated a Deputy Minister to oversee the responsibilities of the agency.

The mandate of the SSA is to provide government with intelligence on domestic and foreign threats or potential threats to national stability, the constitutional order, and the safety and well-being of the people of South Africa.

This allows the government to implement policies to deal with potential threats and to better understand existing threats and thus improve their policies.

The agency focuses on matters of national interest including terrorism, sabotage, subversion, espionage and organised crime.

It also conducts vetting for all government departments in line with its counter-intelligence mandate to ensure secure conditions to enable departments and key state entities to do their work.

The SSA comprises the:

- Domestic Branch (formerly the NIA)
- Foreign Branch (formerly the SASS)
- South African National Academy of Intelligence
- National Communications Centre
- Office for Interception Centres
- Electronic Communications Security (Pty) Ltd.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

PROVINCES

South Africa has nine provinces, which vary considerably in size. The smallest is tiny and crowded Gauteng, a highly urbanised region, and the largest the vast, arid and empty Northern Cape, which takes up almost a third of South Africa's total land area.

Each province has its own Legislature, Premier and Executive Council. The country has common boundaries with Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, while Mozambique and Eswatini lie to the north-east.

Completely enclosed by South African territory in the south-east is the mountain kingdom of Lesotho. South Africa has three capitals:

- **Cape Town**, in the City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality, Western Cape, is the legislative capital and is where the country's Parliament is found.
- **Bloemfontein**, in Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, Free State, is the judicial capital and home to the Supreme Court of Appeal.
- **Pretoria**, in the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng, is the administrative capital, and the ultimate capital of the country. It is home to the Union Buildings and a large proportion of the Public Service.

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 Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth), East London, Mthatha and Bhisho.

Capital: Bhisho

Principal languages:

isiXhosa	82,7%
Afrikaans	10,3%
English	3,9%

Population: 6 676 590

Percentage share of the total population: 11,1%

Area: 168 966 km^2

Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

Free State

The Free State , a province of wide horizons and blue skies, farmland, mountains, goldfields and widely dispersed towns, lies in the heart of South Africa.

Between the Vaal River in the north and the Orange River in the south, this immense rolling prairie stretches as far as the eye can see. Mining, particularly gold, is the biggest employer, followed by manufacturing.

The Free State also produces high-quality diamonds from its kimberlite pipes and fissures, and the country's largest deposit of bentonite is found in the Koppies district.

The National Development Plan has intensified the mining potential that still exists in the goldfields region of Matjhabeng in the Lejweleputswa District as a job intervention zone.

The capital, Bloemfontein, houses the Supreme Court of Appeal, a leading university and some top schools. Important towns include Welkom, Sasolburg, Odendaalsrus, Kroonstad, Parys, Phuthaditjhaba, Bethlehem. The charming village of Clarens situated in the rolling foothills of the Maluti Mountains. Some of South Africa's most valued San rock art can be found in the Free State.

Other key tourist attractions in the province include the majestic Golden Gate National Park, the annual air show in Bethlehem, the Cherry Festival in Ficksburg, and the Fauresmith International Endurance Ride equestrian event. The annual Mangaung African Cultural Festival, known as Macufe, is hosted in partnership with the Tourism Authority and the Performing Arts Centre of the Free State. The Vredefort Dome, 10 km in diameter, is on the United Nations' (UN) World Heritage Site List.

Capital: Bloemfontein

Principal languages:

Sesotho	71,9%
Afrikaans	10,9%
isiXhosa	5,7%

Population: 2 932 441

Percentage share of the total population: 4,9%

Area: 129 825 km²

Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

Gauteng

Gauteng is the smallest of South Africa's nine provinces but 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 sub-regional areas, namely the Vaal Triangle; the East, West and Central Rand, and Pretoria. Johannesburg houses the Johannesburg Stock Exchange Limited, the largest securities exchange in Africa. Most overseas visitors enter South Africa via OR Tambo International Airport. Pretoria is the administrative capital of South Africa and home to the Union Buildings.

Capital: Johannesburg

Principal languages:
IsiZulu 23,0%
Afrikaans 10,1%
Sesotho 12,7%
English 11,3%
Population: 15 810 388 7
Percentage share of the total population: 26,3%
Area: 18 178 km^2

Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

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. A vast sweep of basalt summits and buttresses was formally granted World Heritage status in November 2000 and 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, including the University of KwaZulu-Natal, University of Zululand, Mangosuthu University of Technology and Durban University of Technology. KwaZulu-Natal is the only province with a monarchy specifically provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

Capital: Pietermaritzburg

Principal languages:
isiZulu 82,5%
English 12,5%
Afrikaans 1,0%
Population: 11 513 575
Percentage share of the total population: 19,1%
Area: 94 361 km²

Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

Limpopo

Limpopo, South Africa's northernmost province, borders onto Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana, making it the ideal entrance to Africa. Named after the Limpopo River that flows along its northern border, the province is rich in wildlife, spectacular scenery and a wealth of historical and cultural treasures.

This province is in the Savanna Biome, an area of mixed grassland and trees, which is generally known as bushveld. The province's natural resources include more than 50 provincial reserves, as well as several private game reserves. The largest section of the Kruger National Park is situated along the eastern boundary of Limpopo with Mozambique.

Capital: Polokwane

Principal languages:
Sepedi 56,0%
Tshivenda 17,1%
Xitsonga 16,6%
Population: 5 926 724
Percentage share of the total population: 9,9%
Area: 125 755 km²

Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga means Place where the sun rises. Owing to its spectacular scenic beauty and abundance of wildlife, the province is one of South Africa's major tourist destinations.

Mpumalanga falls mainly within the Grassland Biome. The escarpment and the Lowveld form a transitional zone between this grassland area and the Savanna Biome.

The area has a network of excellent roads and railway connections, making it highly accessible. Mpumalanga is also served by a number of small airports, such as the Kruger

Mpumalanga International Airport. Mbombela is the capital of the province and the administrative and business centre of the Lowveld. Other important towns are eMalahleni, Standerton, Piet Retief, Malalane, Ermelo, Barberton and Sabie.

Large-scale manufacturing occurs especially in the northern Highveld area, particularly chrome-alloy and steel manufacturing. The Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains were added to the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's prestigious World Heritage List in July 2018, becoming the 10th World Heritage Site for South Africa.

The site comprises 40% of the Barberton Greenstone Belt, one of the world's oldest geological structures. The Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains represent the best-preserved succession of volcanic and sedimentary rock dating back 3,25 to 3,6 billion years.

Capital: Mbombela

Principal languages:

Siswati	29,1%
isiZulu	28,8%
Xitsonga	9,6%
isiNdebele	10,1%
Population:	4 743 584

Percentage share of the total population: 7,9%

Area: 76 495 km^2

Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

Northern Cape

The Northern Cape is the largest province in South Africa. However, it 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, 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.

Capital: Kimberley

Principal languages:
Afrikaans 56,8%
Setswana 33,4%
Population: 1 303 047
Percentage share of the total population: 2,2%
Area: 372 889 km^2


Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

North West

North West lies in the north of South Africa, on the Botswana border, fringed by the Kalahari desert in the west, Gauteng to the east, and the Free State to the south. Sun City, the Pilanesberg National Park, the Madikwe Game Reserve, the Cradle of Humankind Site, the Taung Heritage Site, the De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust and the Lesedi Cultural Village are some of the tourist attractions.

Some of the largest cattle herds in the world are found at Stellaland near Vryburg, which explains why this area is often referred to as the Texas of South Africa. Marico is also cattle country. North West is South Africa's major producer of white maize. Mining contributes immensely to North West's economy and 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.

Capital: Mahikeng

Principal languages:

Setswana	71,5%
Afrikaans	8,96%
isiXhosa	5,51%

Population: 4 122 854

Percentage share of the total population: 6,9%

Area: 104 882 km^2


Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

Western Cape

Situated on the south-western tip of Africa, the Western Cape with its wide beaches and breath-taking scenery, complemented by a rich variety of cultures, historical landmarks, world-class restaurants and entertainment, is a world-famous tourist destination. Table Mountain, the Cape winelands, Robben Island and the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens are among the province's most popular tourist attractions.

Capital: Cape Town

Principal languages:

Afrikaans	46,6%
isiXhosa	31,1%
English	19,6%

Population: 7 113 776

Percentage share of the total population: 11,8%

Area: 129 462 km^2


Source: Stats SA's Mid-year population estimates of 2021 and Community Survey of 2016.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

The Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) derives its mandate from the 1996 *White Paper on Science and Technology*, which introduced the concept of the national system of innovation, a set of interacting organisations and policies through which South Africa creates, acquires, diffuses and puts into practice new knowledge to help achieve individual and collective goals.

Over the medium term, the department planned to focus on producing new knowledge; generating and exploiting knowledge and innovation for inclusive economic development; healthcare innovation; developing human capital; developing infrastructure, and championing innovation in the energy sector.

The national integrated cyberinfrastructure system is expected to enable the successful and sustainable implementation of national projects such as MeerKAT and the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), as well as other large research infrastructure that is dependent on the presence of robust cyberinfrastructure. The MeerKAT telescope was expected to add 20 antennae in 2021/22 to its current array of 64 at a cost of about R800 million.

The MeerKAT telescope was expected to be further integrated into SKA Phase 1 with an additional 133 antennas in the Karoo up to 80 km from the core to make it a 197-dish array mid-frequency telescope. This expansion is a partnership between South Africa, Germany and Italy.

The national space strategy is intended to ensure that South Africa captures a reasonable share of the global space market. This involves engaging in economic activities related to manufacturing components that go into earth's orbit or beyond.

To intensify South Africa's intellectual property portfolio, the department also aims to produce 180 innovation products such as patents, prototypes, and technology demonstrators and transfer packages. These activities will be carried out by the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA).

In response to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID 19) pandemic, the DSI developed a strategy to drive a multipronged national vaccine production and development strategy to secure the country's long-term pandemic preparedness.

It also established an indigenous knowledge-based research team that was investigating seven mono-herbal and two multi-herbal medicine formulations with potential relevance to COVID-19.

Entities

Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

The ASSAf was established in terms of the ASSAf Act of 2001, as amended, to promote outstanding achievements in all fields of scientific inquiry, recognise excellence, and provide evidence-based scientific advice to government and other stakeholders.

Over the medium term, the academy aimed to achieve enhanced national capacity to produce and publish research, provide evidence-based policy advice to government, and increase the quality and visibility of South African research publications.

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

The CSIR was established in 1945 and is governed in terms of the Scientific Research Council Act of 1988. The council's overarching and continuous focus area is to foster industrial and scientific development in the national interest.

This is achieved through conducting multidisciplinary research and providing technological innovation to improve the ability of the state to deliver basic services with the broader objective of reducing inequality.

Over the medium term, the council aimed to focus on conducting high-quality and relevant research, pursuing technological innovation to foster industrial and scientific development, and building on industrial development opportunities.

The council's ability to generate its own revenue is directly related to its ability to attract and retain the requisite expertise and skills to deliver favourable research outcomes.

Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

The HSRC was established in 1968 to undertake, promote and coordinate research in the human and social sciences. The council is mandated to initiate, undertake and foster strategic, basic and applied research in human sciences; and address developmental challenges by gathering, analysing and publishing relevant data, especially through projects linked to collaborative programmes oriented towards the public sector.

The council's research outputs are widely disseminated to support policy development at all levels of government. As such, over the medium term, the council aimed to continue focusing on producing research that serves the public; contributing to good governance and public service delivery; helping to address the challenges of poverty, inequality and inclusive development, and building the capacity of scholars and researchers.

National Research Foundation (NRF)

The NRF was established in terms of the NRF Act of 1998, as amended. In terms of this legislation, the foundation is mandated to support research through funding, the development of human resources, and the provision of research facilities to enable knowledge creation, innovation and development in all fields of science and technology. It is also mandated to promote indigenous knowledge.

The NRF supports approximately research-productive and internationally recognised researchers. The productivity and quality of the knowledge produced by researchers who are funded by the foundation has been significant over the past five years.

In this regard, over the medium term, the NRF planned to continue driving excellence underpinned by the strength of the South African science system with a strong emphasis on transformation, innovation and sustainability.

South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)

The SACNASP is the legislated regulatory body for natural science practitioners in South Africa. The natural sciences encompass a wide range of scientific fields covering all of the basic sciences and many of their applied derivatives. Its mission is to establish, direct, sustain and ensure a high level of professionalism and ethical conscience amongst its scientists.

South African National Space Agency (SANSA)

The SANSA was established in terms of the South African National Space Agency Act of 2008, as amended, to promote the peaceful use of space, foster international cooperation in space-related activities, and facilitate the creation of an environment conducive to space technology and industrial development.

In addition to continuing its focus on these priorities, over the medium term, the agency aimed to focus on broadening the suite of products and services available in the space sector, and contributing to promoting socio-economic development across Africa. Currently, more than 30 government departments and entities use national geospatial data for planning, monitoring and decision-making.

South Africa, through SANSA, has been selected as one of two International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) designated Regional Space Weather Centres.

By 2024, the country is expected to ensure a fully operational space weather capability that meets the ICAO requirements as well as advance research capabilities in the space weather field.

Technology Innovation Agency

The TIA Act of 2008, as amended, mandates the agency to serve as a key institutional intervention to bridge the innovation gap between research and development outcomes from higher education institutions, science councils, public entities, and private companies.

This with the purpose of intensifying the effect of technological innovation in the economy. Over the medium term, the agency aimed to continue focusing on bridging the innovation gap between research and development goals, and supporting technologies within the national system of innovation.

Research and science bodies

South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)

The SABS was established as a statutory body in terms of the Standards Act of 2008 and is part of South Africa's standardisation, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology technical infrastructure institutions.

The bureau is mandated to develop, promote and maintain South African national standards; render conformity assessment services; and promote the quality of commodities, products and services.

Its overarching objective is to protect the integrity of the South African market, protect consumers, create a competitive advantage, and facilitate access by South Africans to local and international markets.

Over the medium term, the bureau aimed to focus on revitalising testing operations and facilities in key targeted sectors. The bureau also plans to roll out a local content verification programme for key sectors designated for local procurement.

National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO)

The NIPMO is mandated to ensure that intellectual property from publicly financed research and development is identified, protected, utilised and commercialised for the benefit of the people of South Africa, whether it be for social, economic, military or any other benefit.

Agricultural Research Council (ARC)

The ARC was established by the Agricultural Research Act of 1990, which mandates the council to: conduct research and development, and effect the transfer of technology in the agriculture sector; contribute to a better quality of life; and facilitate and ensure natural resource conservation.

Mintek

Mintek's mandate, as set out in the Mineral Technology Act of 1989, is to maximise the value derived from South Africa's mineral resources through, among other things, research and development, technology transfer, and the creation of an enabling environment for the establishment and expansion of mineral industries.

To this end, Mintek develops appropriate, innovative technology for transfer to industry, and provides the industry with test work, consultancy, analytical and mineralogical services.

Council for Geoscience (CGS)

The CGS was established in terms of the Geoscience Act of 1993 to promote the search for and exploitation of any mineral in South Africa. It is mandated to generate, compile, curate and publish world-class geoscience knowledge products, provide geoscience-related services to the South African public and industry, and render advisory services related to geohazards and geo-environmental pollution.

Over the medium term, the council was expected to continue focusing on the geoscience national mapping programme, the data migration and digitisation programme, the procurement of key geoscientific equipment and infrastructure, and the improvement of high-quality research and analysis.

The high-quality geoscience data provided by geological mapping for exploration and mining is expected to increase exploration activities, resulting in economic growth. This information is also required to assess the environmental impact of mining activities and shale gas development.

South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC)

The SAMRC conducts and funds health research and medical innovation in terms of the amended SAMRC Act of 1991. The council is mandated to contribute to improved health and quality of life for the South African population by providing evidence-based recommendations to various policy-makers through health research, development, technology transfer and capacity development.

Over the medium term, the council was expected to focus on funding and conducting core health research, developing innovations and technology, and building research capacity. It will pay particular attention to risk factors associated with TB, HIV and AIDS, cardiovascular diseases, non-communicable diseases, gender, and alcohol and other drug abuse.

National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS)

The NHLS was established in terms of the National Health Laboratory Service Act of 2000. The entity operates more than 230 laboratories in nine provinces and is the sole provider of training for pathologists and medical scientists, provides comprehensive and affordable pathology services to more than 80% of the South African population, and plays a significant role in the diagnosis and monitoring of HIV and TB.

The entity also houses the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), which is internationally renowned for its role in the surveillance and monitoring of communicable diseases. It provides expertise to southern African countries on outbreaks such as Ebola, listeriosis and, most recently, COVID-19.

Over the medium term, the NICD planned to continue playing a critical role in the surveillance of COVID-19, focusing on providing services such as mobile testing, community outreach, hotline services, testing at all border posts, and necessary support to provinces in their responses to COVID-19.

Over the medium term, the NHLS was expected to focus on providing laboratory testing services to health care providers mainly in the public sector, and expanding its provisions in response to increased demand for its services in priority programmes such as HIV and TB care.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on overall testing in that fewer patients sought care at health facilities during national lockdown, resulting in a 12% decrease in tests conducted from 2019/20 to 2020/21.

However, as at 20 January 2021, the entity had conducted an estimated 3.3 million COVID-19 tests. The number of tests conducted, excluding those for COVID-19, is expected to increase at an average annual rate of 1%, from 89 million in 2020/21 to 93 million in 2023/24.

South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI)

The SANEDI was established in terms of the National Energy Act of 2008, and is listed as a schedule 3A public entity in terms of the Public Finance Management Act of 1999). Its mandate is to direct, monitor and conduct applied energy research and development, and demonstrate and deploy specific measures to promote the uptake of green energy and energy efficiency in South Africa.

Over the medium term, the institute planned to continue focusing on projects that support energy efficiency, including green, sustainable and renewable energy technologies, and smart grids.

It also aimed to commercialise its energy solutions to create jobs, particularly for women, young people and people living with disabilities, in line with national priorities and the strategic intentions of the 2019 *White Paper on Science, Technology and Innovation*. This will entail assessing 12 energy solutions for smart grids.

Water Research Commission (WRC)

The WRC was established in terms of the Water Research Act of 1971. It is mandated to conduct research in the water sector by determining needs and priorities for research; promoting coordination, cooperation and communication in the area of water research development; stimulating and funding water research; promoting the effective transfer of information and technology, and enhancing knowledge and building capacity in the water sector.

Over the medium term, the commission planned to continue driving research and enhancing knowledge within the water sector.

South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON)

The 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.

South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO)

Founded in 1820, the SAAO is the national centre for optical and infrared astronomy in South Africa. Its primary role is to conduct fundamental research in astronomy and astrophysics by providing a world-class facility to scientists.

The SAAO also promotes astronomy and astrophysics in southern Africa, by sharing research findings and discoveries, and participating in outreach activities to enthuse citizens about physics and astronomy.

The SAAO is a facility of the NRF, which operates under the DSI. Its headquarters are in the eponymous suburb of Observatory in Cape Town, and has a dedicated research and observation station with several working telescopes, including Southern African Large Telescope, outside the Karoo town of Sutherland in the Northern Cape.

To achieve the best possible observing conditions, all of the current astronomy operations occur in Sutherland. Historical telescopes in Cape Town are still regularly used for outreach and public events.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Social Development (DSD) provides social protection services and leads government's efforts to forge partnerships through which vulnerable individuals, groups and communities become capable and active participants in the development of themselves and society.

Several pieces of legislation determine the department's mandate, a number of which are under review, are the:

- **Children's Act of 2005**, which sets out principles relating to the care and protection of children, and defines parental rights and responsibilities. It deals with Early Childhood Development (ECD), drop-in centres and early intervention, children in alternative care such as foster care, child and youth care centres, and the adoption of children.
- **Nonprofit Organisations Act of 1997**, which establishes an administrative and regulatory framework within which non-profit organisations (NPOs) can conduct their affairs, and provides for their registration by the department.
- **Older Persons Act of 2006**, which establishes a framework for empowering and protecting the elderly, and promoting and maintaining their status, rights, well-being, safety and security. It provides for older people to enjoy high-quality social services while staying with their families and in their communities for as long as possible. It also makes provision for older people to live in residential care facilities the Prevention of and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act of 2008 regulates treatment services and facilities for substance abuse.
- **Social Assistance Act of 2004**, which provides a legislative framework for the provision of social assistance. The Act and its regulations set out the different types of grants payable, including social relief, and their qualifying criteria.
- ***1998 White Paper on Population Policy for South Africa***, which is aimed at promoting the sustainable development of all South Africans by integrating population issues with development planning in all spheres of government and all sectors of society
- ***1997 White Paper for Social Welfare***, which sets out the principles, guidelines, policies and programmes for developmental social welfare in South Africa. It provides the foundation for social welfare in democratic South Africa.

Over the medium term, the department aimed to increase the provision of social income support to poor and vulnerable people to improve their quality of life; develop policies, frameworks, and norms and standards to create a functional, efficient and integrated social development sector; and address social ills to empower individuals, families and communities. The department was expected to improve policy and legislation governing the social development sector, and ensure that it is consistently applied across all provinces.

Social income support to the poor and vulnerable

The social assistance programme is an important lever in government's strategy to tackle poverty and inequality. Over the medium term, the department planned to continue using this lever to provide direct income support to the elderly, children, war veterans and people with disabilities.

The DSD is working towards the ultimate goal of universal access to quality ECD and by mid-2021, work was underway to facilitate the transfer of the ECD function to the Department of Basic Education by 1 April 2022.

By mid-2021, the department was planning to complete and table extensive policy proposals on social security reform over the medium period, such as augmenting the Child Support Grant benefit for orphaned children living with relatives; expanding social assistance coverage; and designing an institutional structure for a coherent, efficient and sustainable social security system.

In collaboration with other government departments and social partners, the department also planned to assess the feasibility of a basic income grant.

Developing policies, frameworks, and norms and standards for an enhanced social development sector

The transformation and standardisation of social welfare services will continue to be a priority over the period ahead through the development and coordination of overarching policies, legislative frameworks, and norms and standards that promote defined, integrated, quality-driven, professional and accountable service delivery.

This includes finalising a second amendment to the Children's Act of 2005 to enable government social workers to render adoption services; drafting a Bill for social service practitioners to ensure the delivery of professional and accountable social services through the effective regulation of social service practice; revising the 1997 *White Paper on Social Welfare*, which is expected to lead to the development of a draft Social Development Bill and the National Community Development Policy Framework; and implementing the social development sector funding policy and accompanying guidelines to streamline the prioritisation and funding of welfare services across provinces, including for services delivered by NPOs.

Addressing social ills such as gender-based violence, and HIV and AIDS

The work of the Welfare Services Policy Development and Implementation Support programme aims to build the capacity of social service practitioners to enable them to provide psychosocial support in areas such as HIV and AIDS prevention, and the fight against gender-based violence.

Provincial departments provide additional measures such as psychosocial support through social workers and support to shelters, and funds for food relief and for HIV and AIDS and behaviour change NGOs were shifted to provinces from 2020/21.

National Youth Policy (NYP)

The NYP 2020-2030, also referred to as the NYP 2030, is a cross-sectoral policy aimed at affecting positive youth development outcomes for young people at local, provincial and national levels in South Africa.

Developed by the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, in collaboration with multiple stakeholders and young people, the policy was developed to redress the wrongs and injustices of the past and to deal decisively with the persistent as well as new and emerging challenges they are facing. The NYP 2030 defines young people as those aged between 14 and 35.

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.

It equips blind people with the skills they need to fully and independently participate in society. This includes support in living without assistance, getting about, using technology, reading, working and socialising. All this is made possible through advocacy, our Education Committee, Braille Services, orientation and mobility services and our employment programme. It is through this, and the support of our donors, that we connect South African's who are blind or visually impaired with the world they live in.

South African Braille Authority (SABA)

SABA is the standard setting body for and promotes and advocates for Braille and Braille-related matters in South Africa. The non-profit organisation advocates, promotes, monitors and evaluates for the ubiquitous use of Braille through literacy and the various facets and applications.

South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB)

The SANCB is a registered non-profit and public benefit organisation established in 1929 with the core objectives of advocacy and promoting the rights of persons with visual impairments, prevention, inclusion and support.

As a South African national representative body for the blind, it offers a supportive, rights driven function to its nearly 80 member member-organisations.

The presence of its community work is felt throughout its nine provincial structures in South Africa.

The SANCB also lays emphasis on the prevention of blindness and in 1944 the Bureau for the Prevention of Blindness was established.

Support for the hearing impaired

The South African National Deaf Association (SANDA) is dedicated to providing quality services, ensuring public accessibility and increasing awareness of issues affecting Deaf people at all levels in South Africa. The mandate of SANDA is to:

- build capacity in the Deaf sector;
- influence public policies;
- set the agenda for meaningful inclusive development; and
- provide comprehensive human development services that benefit Deaf people at all levels of society.

Older people

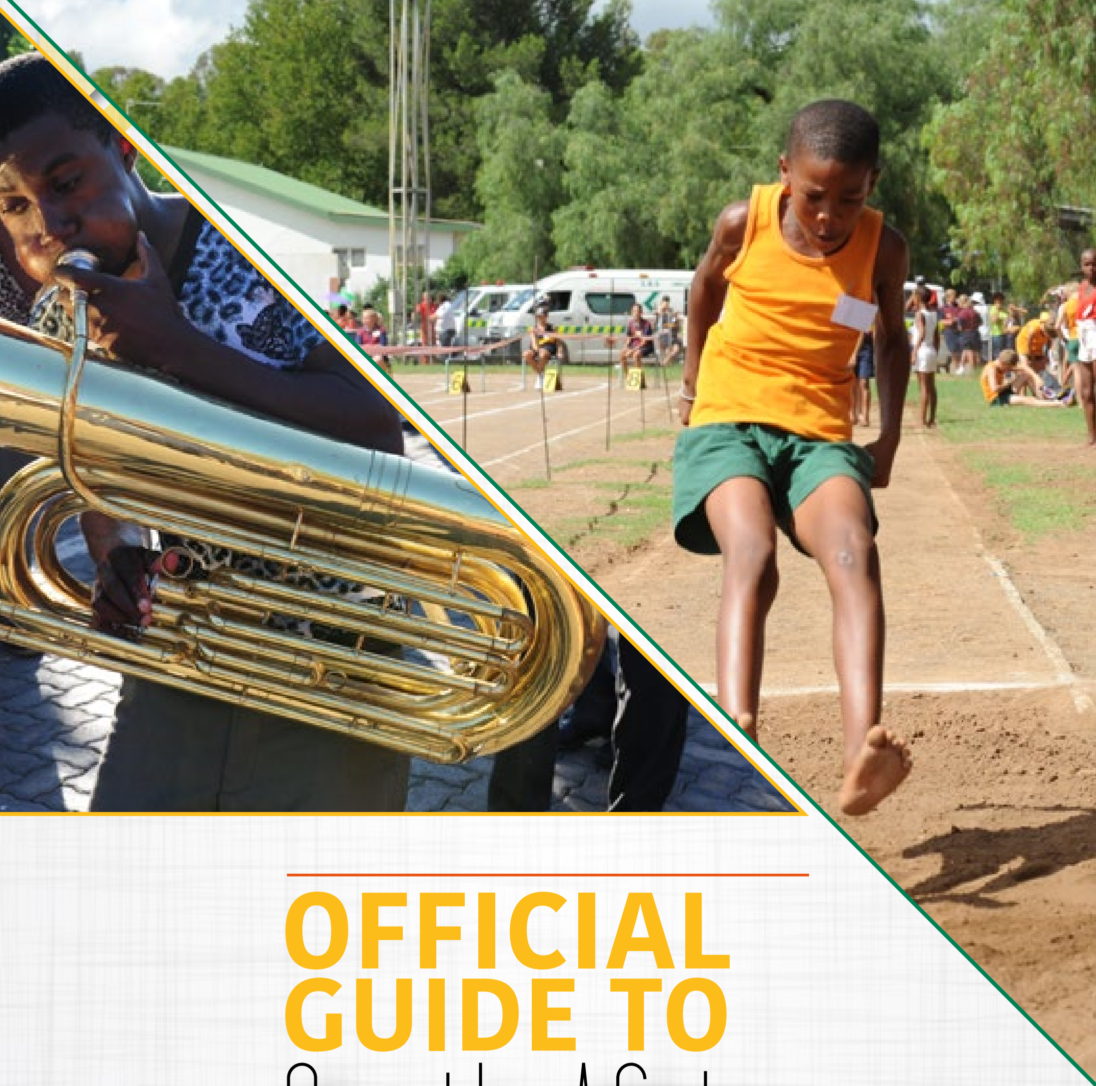
According Statistics South Africa's Mid-year population estimates of 2021, about 9,2% (5,51 million) of the population is 60 years or older. South Africa's Older Persons Act of 2006, which came into operation in 2010, recognises the importance of older persons in the country's democracy and development.

The Active Ageing Programme was introduced by the DSD in partnership with the South African Older Persons Forum to uphold the human rights of older persons and to respond to their developmental needs in South Africa as directed by the Older Persons Act of 2006 and the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing.

Its goal is to improve the quality of life of older persons by amongst others, promoting independence, participation in various social, cultural and sporting initiatives that seek to prevent and reduce old-age related burden of diseases.

This is part of the DSD's effort to build a caring society that promotes and protects the human rights of people of all ages.

Golden Games, which are part of the Active Ageing Programme, encourage senior citizens to be active and promote longer life for the aged. They participate in different sporting activities like soccer, athletics and a fun walk.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE

SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) is mandated to provide leadership to the sport, arts and culture sector to accelerate its transformation; oversee the development and management of sport, arts and culture in South Africa; legislate on sports participation, sports infrastructure and safety; improve South Africa's international ranking in selected sports through a partnership with the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee (SASCOC); preserve, develop, protect and promote the cultural, heritage, linguistic diversity and legacy of South Africa; lead nation-building and social cohesion through social transformation; enhance archives and records management structures and systems; and promote access to information.

Over the medium term, the department planned to focus on creating job opportunities in the sport, and cultural and creative industries sectors; promoting a diverse and socially cohesive society with a common national identity; enabling a transformed, capable and professional sport, arts and culture sector; providing integrated and accessible sports, arts and culture infrastructure and information; and supporting youth development.

In addition to encouraging the development of young people through sport and enable them to showcase their skills at events such as the national school sport championship, the department planned to build new libraries, upgrade community libraries and produce library materials over the medium term.

Role players

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.

Netball South Africa (NSA)

The NSA is the peak governing body for the sport of netball in South Africa, which is responsible for overseeing the practice of the sport across the country. Additionally, the NSA is the managing body for the National Netball Team – the Spar Proteas. The NSA will host the Netball World Cup in Cape Town in 2023. This is a historic first for the sport in Africa.

Tennis South Africa (TSA)

The TSA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in South Africa created to standardise rules and regulations and to promote and develop the growth of tennis in South Africa. The not-for-profit organisation invests its proceeds to promote and develop the growth of tennis, from the grass-roots to the professional levels, and to raise funds for and on behalf of tennis players and the game of tennis within South Africa. The TSA is affiliated to both the International Tennis Federation and Confederation of African Tennis.

GolfRSA

GolfRSA is the unified body of the South African Golf Association and Women's Golf South Africa, administering, operating and providing service to amateur golf in South Africa.

GolfRSA's role is to look after the interests of more than 460 golf clubs and 139 000 men, women, boy and girl club members, produce champion golfers and provide the opportunity for everyone in South Africa to experience the game of golf.

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.

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 looks 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 Africa is also represented on the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa and on the Confederation of Southern African National Olympic Committees.

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

The WADA was established in 1999 as an international independent agency composed and funded equally by the sport movement and governments of the world. Its key activities include scientific research, education, development of anti-doping capacities and monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code – the document harmonising anti-doping policies in all sports and all countries.

Athletics South Africa (ASA)

ASA, which reports to the SASCOC, is the national governing body for the sport of athletics in South Africa that is recognised by World Athletics and is also a member of Confederation of African Athletics.

Major events

Big Walk

The Big Walk is staged on the first Sunday of October to encourage participation in physical activity. The annual Big Walk takes place in October. It is aligned with The Association for International Sport for All World Walking Day, which encourages and lobbies countries to walk by creating advocacy and awareness during October.

Annual National Recreation Day

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 wellbeing.

National Indigenous Games

The National Indigenous Games festival forms part of South Africa's annual heritage celebrations and brings people from culturally diverse backgrounds together. The popularity of the festival in recent years has contributed to an increase in the number of active participants in sport and recreation events.

The games played included khokho, intonga, ncuva, morabaraba, diketo, drie stokkies, kgati, dibeke and juskei, all of which are indigenous to South Africa.

Major sporting activities

Sporting codes

Major sporting codes in South Africa include: 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.

Services rendered by the DSAC

Some of the services rendered by the department include the:

- **National Archives**, which makes archival material available to the public.

Although actual access to archival documentation is free of charge, the public is charged for the reproduction of material for further use, either on film or paper. Publications are also sold, and the public is charged for the transfer of data by magnetic means.

- **Video and Sound Archives** which collects, preserves and provides access to audiovisual records created both by government and private bodies or individuals.
- **Bureau for Heraldry**, which registers the heraldic representations, names, special names and uniforms of individuals, associations and institutions. It also renders advice on heraldic and related matters and provides financial assistance to institutions, boards, committees or other public bodies or persons in order to promote the functional objectives of the Bureau of Heraldry.
- **National Language Service**, which provides a translating and editing service to all government departments. It also provides policy development support relating to official language development, particularly related to the Use of Official Languages Act of 2012.

Promoting and preserving heritage infrastructure

The department's infrastructure development initiatives aim to achieve redress for South Africa's historical imbalances and contribute to social transformation by establishing and maintaining world-class heritage sites to boost tourism and create job opportunities, particularly in historically disadvantaged areas.

Community library services

In addition to building and upgrading libraries, the department, in collaboration with the Department of Basic Education (DBE), the DSAC also plans to build 70 dual library service points to support school curricula and enhance learning outcomes.

Cultural and creative industries

The Mzansi Golden Economy (MGE) seeks to create economic and job opportunities in the arts, culture and heritage sector by supporting programmes designed to develop audiences, stimulate demand, increase market access, and develop skills.

New names of towns

The names of towns that have been changed in the post-democratic dispensation include the following:

- **Limpopo:** Bela-Bela (Warmbaths); Lephalale (Ellisras); Modimolle (Nylstroom); Mokopane (Potgietersrus); Musina (Messina); Polokwane (Pietersburg); Senwabarana (Bochum); Mogwadi (Dendron); Morebeng (Soekmekaar); Modjadjiskloof (Duiwelskloof) and Mookgophong (Naboomspruit).
- **Mpumalanga:** eMalahleni (Witbank); eManzana (Badplaas); KwaDukuza (Stanger); Mashishing (Lydenburg); Makhazeni (Belfast); Emgwenya (Waterval Boven); eNtokozweni (Machadodorp); Mbombela; (Nelspruit); eMkhondo (Piet Retief) and Thuli Fakude (Leandra).
- **Free State:** Mamafubedu (Petrus Steyn), Hlohlolwane (Clocolan) and Intabazwe (Harrismith).
- **Eastern Cape:** Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth); James Calata (Jamestown); Maletswai (Aliwal North); Cacadu (Lady Frere); Komani (Queenstown); Khowa (Elliot); KwaBhaca (Mount Frere); MaXesibeni (Mount Ayliff); Dikeni (Alice) and Makhanda (Grahamstown).
- **KwaZulu-Natal:** eMthonjaneni (Melmoth) and KwaDukuza (Stanger).
- **Gauteng:** Sophiatown (Triomf).
- **Western Cape:** Bo-Kaap (Schotchekloof).

New names of airports

- King Phalo Airport (East London Airport).
- Mthatha Airport (KD Matanzima Airport).
- Chief Dawid Stuurman International Airport (Port Elizabeth International Airport).

Cultural Development

National Art Bank of South Africa (NABSA)

The NABSA is a national programme of the then DAC, as part of the MGE Strategy implementation. The vision of the NABSA is to promote, foster and stimulate a vibrant market for the collection of South African contemporary visual art.

It is tasked with purchasing artworks from South African artists, particularly that of emerging artists in order to lease and sell the artworks to South African Government departments, private companies and private individuals.

Young Patriots Programme

The Young Patriots Programme was launched in 2016 to encourage young people to participate actively in building the capacity of the arts, culture and heritage sector, and gain meaningful skills through service delivery improvement and moral regeneration initiatives, and the youth social cohesion advocates programme.

National heritage

As part of efforts in recognising the work of South Africa's Living Human Treasures, the department has produced two books on women artists who have made a unique contribution to the living heritage. The first two books are about Noria Mabasa, a world-renowned (ceramic and wood) sculptor from Tshino Village in the Vuwani area in Limpopo and Esther Mahlangu, world-famous for her large-scale paintings referencing her Ndebele heritage.

Languages

South Africa is a multilingual country. The Constitution of the Republic of South of 1996 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, Shona, Telegu and Urdu. South Africa has various structures and institutions that support the preservation and development of languages.

Arts and culture organisations

Some of the organisations which are playing an active role in upholding the mandate of the DSAC include the following:

- The **National Heritage Council** engages heritage stakeholders in public and private institutions, including the various organs of civil society, mobilises debates and builds awareness about heritage.
- The **South African Heritage Resources Agency** is the national administrative management body for the protection of South Africa's cultural heritage.
- The **National Arts Council of South Africa** (NAC) facilitates opportunities for people to practice and appreciate the arts.
- The **National Film and Video Foundation** develops and promotes the film and video industry in South Africa.
- The **Pan South African Language Board** is a constitutional institution that promotes an awareness of multilingualism as a national resource and supports previously marginalised languages.
- The **South African Geographical Names Council** is an advisory body that facilitates name changes by consulting with communities to advise the Minister of Arts and Culture.
- Arts institutions include 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.

- Heritage institutions include Die Afrikaanse Taalmuseum en monument, Paarl; Ditsong Museums of South Africa, Pretoria; Iziko Museums, Cape Town; KwaZulu-Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg; National Museum, Bloemfontein; National English Literary Museum, Grahamstown; Robben Island Museum, Cape Town; Voortrekker Museum, Pietermaritzburg; War Museum of the Boer Republics, Bloemfontein; William Humphreys Art Gallery, Kimberley; Luthuli Museum, Stanger; Nelson Mandela Museum, Mthatha; Freedom Park and the Engelenburg House Art Collection.

Festivals

Some of the different arts and cultural festivals in South Africa include the following:

- The **Aardklop National Arts Festival** is held annually in October in Potchefstroom, North West. Although it is inherently Afrikaans, it is universal in character.
- **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 **Grahamstown National Arts Festival** at the end of July is the biggest annual celebration of the arts on the African continent and consists of drama, dance, theatre, comedy, opera, music, jazz, visual art exhibitions, film, lectures, a craft fair and workshops, as well as a children's arts festival.
- The **Kirkwood Wildlife Festival** attracts visitors to see the game animal auction, agricultural 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.
- The **Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees**, a vibrant festival for the performing arts, is held annually in Oudtshoorn and presentations include drama, cabaret, and contemporary and classical music.
- The **Moretele Park Tribute Concert** is an annual festival which is held at Moretele Park in Mamelodi, Pretoria.
- The **Cape Town Minstrel Festival** sees the minstrels taking over the streets of Cape Town (Mother City) annually on 2 January for a parade that dates back to the mid-19th century. Minstrels in troupes parade throughout the city centre in their colourful garb.
- The **Mangaung African Cultural Festival** in Bloemfontein is one of the biggest

cultural tourism events in southern Africa. This 10-day festival in October 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.
- 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 held in February 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.
- **503 Music Festival** takes place twice a year in KwaMashu, KwaZulu-Natal. It is all about celebrating and thanking icons who were born and raised in the area, also bringing other national icons to the township.

Other festivals that attract both national and international visitors 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.

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
There are over 100 active venues across the country offering everything from indigenous drama, music, dance, cabaret and satire to classical opera and ballet.

Performing arts
Performing arts institutions are schedule 3A public entities established in terms of the Cultural Institutions Act of 1998. They are mandated to advance, promote and preserve the performing arts in South Africa; enhance the contribution of arts and culture to the economy; and create job opportunities and initiatives that further nation-building.

The following arts institutions receive annual transfers from the DSAC: Artscape (Cape Town); The Playhouse Company (Durban); The Market Theatre (Johannesburg); Performing Arts Centre of the Free State (Bloemfontein); and the South African State Theatre, (Pretoria).

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 DBE, and the Moshito Music Conference and Exhibition.

The Taking South African Music to the World Programme is aimed at improving export opportunities for South African music. Government funds a number of musical ensembles directly and indirectly, through the NAC. 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 40s and 50s, 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 27th edition of the annual SAMAs was broadcast live on SABC 1 on 31 July 2021 and held virtually due to the effects of COVID-19 lockdowns. The nominees were announced on 19 May 2021.

For the first time in the history of the SAMAs, the public was invited to vote for the Artist of the Year, a new category introduced in SAMA27.

The Artist of the Year honours the musician, group or band that entertained the public in the past year as voted for by the public.

The winners of the 27th SAMAs were:

- **Artist of the Year:** Blaq Diamond.
- **Record of the Year:** *Keep it Together* – Matthew Mole.
- **Music Video of the Year:** *Price to Pay* – Miss Pru featuring Blaq Diamond and Malome Vector.
- **Album of the Year:** *Once Upon A Time In Lockdown* – Kabza De Small and DJ Maphorisa (Scorpion Kings).
- **Duo or Group of the Year:** Kabza De Small and DJ Maphorisa (Scorpion Kings) – *Once Upon A Time In Lockdown*.
- **Sofnfree Female Artist of the Year:** Sho Madjozi – *What A Life*.
- **Male Artist of the Year:** Kabza De Small – *I Am The King of Amapiano: Sweet & Dust*.
- **White Star Newcomer of the Year:** Bucy Radebe – *Spiritual Encounter*.
- **Best Rock Album:** Orange Sunshine – *Yum Yuck*.
- **Best Pop Album:** *Tribes & Angels* – Locnville.
- **Beste Pop Album:** *Twentig 20* – Brendan Peyper.
- **Best Adult Contemporary Album:** *Rise* – Ndlovu Youth Choir.
- **Beste Kontemporêre Musiek Album:** *Herverbeel* – Die Heuwels Fantasties.
- **Best African Adult Contemporary Album:** *Amakhaya* – Max Hoba.
- **Best Alternative Music Album:** *Iimini* – Bongeziwe Mabandla.
- **Best R&B/Soul Album:** *Uhambo* – Soul Kulture.
- **Best Hip-Hop Album:** *Zulu Man With Some Power* – Nasty C.
- **Best Kwaito Album:** *Ama Roto EP* – Reece Madlisa and Zuma.
- **Best Dance Album:** *The Healers: The Last Chapter* – Black Motion.
- **Best Traditional Faith Album:** *Spiritual Encounter* – Bucy Radebe.
- **Best Contemporary Faith Album:** *Your Kingdom on Earth* – Hle.
- **Best African Indigenous Faith Album:** *Izwi Lakho* – Mandlethu Gospel Singers.
- **Rest of Africa Artist:** *Songs in the Key of Love* – Berita.
- **Best Traditional Album:** *What a Life* – Sho Madjozi.
- **Best Maskandi Album:** *kaMakhelwane* – Abafana Baka Mgqumeni.
- **Best Jazz Album:** *Modes of Communication: Letters from the Underworld* – Nduduzo Makhathini.
- **Best Classical/Instrumental Album:** *We've Known All Times* – Wouter Kellerman.
- **Best Afropop Album:** *Ngumama* – Vusi Nova.
- **Best Live Audio Visual Recording:** *Journey to the World and Beyond* – Sun-El Musician.
- **Best Collaboration:** *Mali Eningi* – Big Zulu, featuring Riky Rick and Intaba yase Dubai.

- **Best Produced Music Video:** *Hosh* by Prince Kaybee feat Sir Trill – Ofentse.
- **Best Produced Album of the Year:** *Umsebenzi* by Sjava – Delaydem, Ruff, Webmoms, Zadok and Vuyo Manyike.
- **Best Engineered Album of the Year:** *Inganekwane* by Zoe Modiga – Papi Diretsi and Songo Oyama.
- **Remix of the Year:** *Yehla Moya* – Da Capo.
- **Best Reggae Album:** *Persistence* – Bongo Riot.
- **Best Amapiano Album:** *Once Upon A Time in Lockdown* – Kabza De Small and DJ Maphorisa (Scorpion Kings).
- **Best Gqom Album:** *Inzalo Yekwaito* – Zinaro.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Lebo M, Dr Lindelani Mkhize, PJ Powers.
- **International Achievement Award:** Master KG.
- **Best Selling Artist:** Mlindo the Vocalist – *Emakhaya*.
- **Most Streamed Song:** *You're the One* – Elaine.
- **SAMRO Composer Highest Airplay:** Kgaugelo Moagi (Master KG) and Nomcebo Zikode – *Jerusalema*.

South African Traditional Music Achievement (SATMA) Awards

The 16th annual SATMA Awards were held in Mbombela on 27 November 2021 and the winners were:

- **Best Male Artist/Group:** 100%Ncobela.
- **Best Female Artist/Group:** Qtwins.
- **Best Afro Soul Song:** Mc Records KZN.
- **Best African Jazz Artist/Group:** Austebza.
- **Best Raggae Artist/Group:** Chomza.
- **Best Traditional Praise Singer:** Ntombhi Ya Mutsonga.
- **Best Indigenous Poet:** Kwazi Nsele.
- **Best Upcoming Artist/Group:** Menzi Mabizela.
- **Best Traditional Accapella Music Song:** KA-SHIMA.
- **Best Traditional Music Community Radio Presenter:** Silulami Dumza Dumezweni.
- **Best Department of Art & Culture:** Limpopo.
- **Best Department of Cultural Affairs Chief Director:** Bokone Bophirima (North West).
- **Best Traditional Producer:** Deejay Avesh.
- **Best Traditional House Music Song:** NKR.
- **Best Sepedi Artist/Group:** Tau Sebata.
- **Best Venda Artist/Group:** Nnae.
- **Best Xitsonga Artist/Group:** Misskay Chardnah.

- **Best Ndebele Artist/Group:** Ngezekakaramba.
- **Best IsiXhosa Artist/Group:** Us'hlangu Semfene.
- **Best Setswana Artist/Group:** Legora la Mmino.
- **Best Siswati Artist/Group:** Licathazi Lika Mamzomba.
- **Best Sesotho Artist/Group:** Morusu.
- **Best Boeremusiek Artist/Group:** Die Teelepeltjies.
- **Best Indian Artist/Group:** Praven Moodley.
- **Best Maskandi Artist/Group (Traditional/Digital):** Sgwebo Sethambo.
- **Best Traditional Collaboration:** Qtwins, featuringt Dj Tira & Ntencane.
- **Best Traditional Music Artist/Group of the Year:** Nomtiti.
- **Best Traditional Outfit (Fashion Kulture):** Rshiks – Limpopo.
- **Founders Award (Honoraries):** Khuzani Mpongose.
- **Founders Award (Honoraries):** Qhuzulini Sithole.

Orchestras

The NAC 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 Gqeberha 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 matchboxes.

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.

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. South Africa commemorates the annual National Book Week (NBW) in September. It is an initiative of the South African Book Development Council, in collaboration with the DSAC.

The NBW is an important initiative in encouraging the nation to value reading as a funand pleasurable activity and to showcase how reading can easily be incorporated intoone's daily lifestyle. The commemoration coincides with International Literacy Day on 8 September. The NBW was celebrated from 6 to 12 September 2021.

South African Literary Awards (SALA) 2021

The 16th SALA ceremony was held virtually on International African Writers' Day, 7 November 2021. The winners were:

- **Children's Literature Award:** Andre Trantraal, *Keegan & Samier: Die Sokkerfiasko.*
- **Youth Literature Award (English):** Pamela Newham, *The Boy and the Poacher's Moon*.
- **Youth Literature Award (Sepedi):** Kobate John Sekele, *Mararankodi mafelelo.*
- **Youth Literature Award (isiXhosa):** Sipho R Kekezwa, *Ubomi, ungancama!*.
- **First-time Published Author Award (Afrikaans):** Lynthia Julius, *Uit die kroes*.
- **First-time Published Author Award (English):** Reŝoketŝwe Manenzhe, *Scatterlings*.
- **K Sello Duiker Memorial Award (Afrikaans):** Brian Fredricks, *As die Cape Flats kon praat*.
- **K Sello Duiker Memorial Award (English):** Karen Jennings, *An Island*.
- **K Sello Duiker Memorial Award (isiXhosa):** Lihle Sokapase, *Yapatyalaka ibhobhile*.
- **Poetry Award (Afrikaans):** Johann de Lange, *Die meeste sterre is lankal dood*.
- **Poetry Award (English):** Ayanda Billie, *KwaNobuhle Overcast*.
- **Poetry Award (isiXhosa):** Babalwa Fatyi, *Hlahl'indlela Nohombile*.
- **Poetry Award (Setswana):** Kgwadi Kgwadi, *Ithuteng Mogolokwane*.
- **Poetry Award (Tshivenda):** Nndanduleni Mulaudzi, *Khonadzeo*.
- **Poetry Award (Sepedi):** Tshepiso Makgoloane, *Tša maAfrika*.
- **Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award (English):** Nankanjani Sibiya, *The Reluctant Storyteller: A Collection of Stories*.
- **Nadine Gordimer Short Story Award (isiXhosa):** Madoda Ndlakuse, *Mhla Latsh'ibhayi*.

- **Creative Non-Fiction Literary Award (isiXhosa):** Mzoli Mavimbela, *Masibuyel'embo Konakele Phi Na?*
- **Creative Non-Fiction Literary Award (English):** Sabata-mpho Mokae and Brian Willan, *Sol Plaatje: A Life in Letters.*
- **Literary Translators Award (isiXhosa):** Jeff Opland and Peter T. Mtuze, *Iimbali Zamandulo (1838-1910)*.
- **Novel Award (isiXhosa):** Ezra Mcebisi Nkohla, *Zajik' izinto*.
- **Novel Award (isiXhosa):** Fred Khumalo, *Ngenxa yeMendi*.
- **Literary Journalism Award:** Jean Meiring (Body of Work).
- **Chairperson's Literary Awards:** Ntogela Masilela (Body of Work).
- **The Lifetime Achievement Literary Award:** Lefifi Tlali (Body of Work).
- **The Regional Poet Laureate Prize (Afrikaans):** Ronelda Kamfer (Body of Work).
- **The Regional Poet Laureate Prize (Xitsonga):** Themba Patrick Magaisa (Body of Work).

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 subprogramme 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 has more than 300 museums ranging from museums of geology, history, the biological sciences and the arts, to mining, agriculture, forestry and many other disciplines. The Nelson Mandela Museum in Soweto, Johannesburg had signed a partnership with Google to launch the Google Expedition that would provide a virtual tour of the museum.

National Library of South Africa (NLSA)

The NLSA was established in terms of the NLSA Act of 1998, which requires it to contribute to socio-economic, cultural, educational, scientific and innovative development by collating, recording, preserving and making available the national documentary heritage, and to promote awareness and appreciation of the national documentary heritage.

It provides services to community libraries. These include, in partnership with provincial library services, ICT support; training in preservation and resource development; and marketing and exhibition services. Over the period ahead, the National Library of South Africa plans to catalogue 129 000 items and conserve 57 000 books.

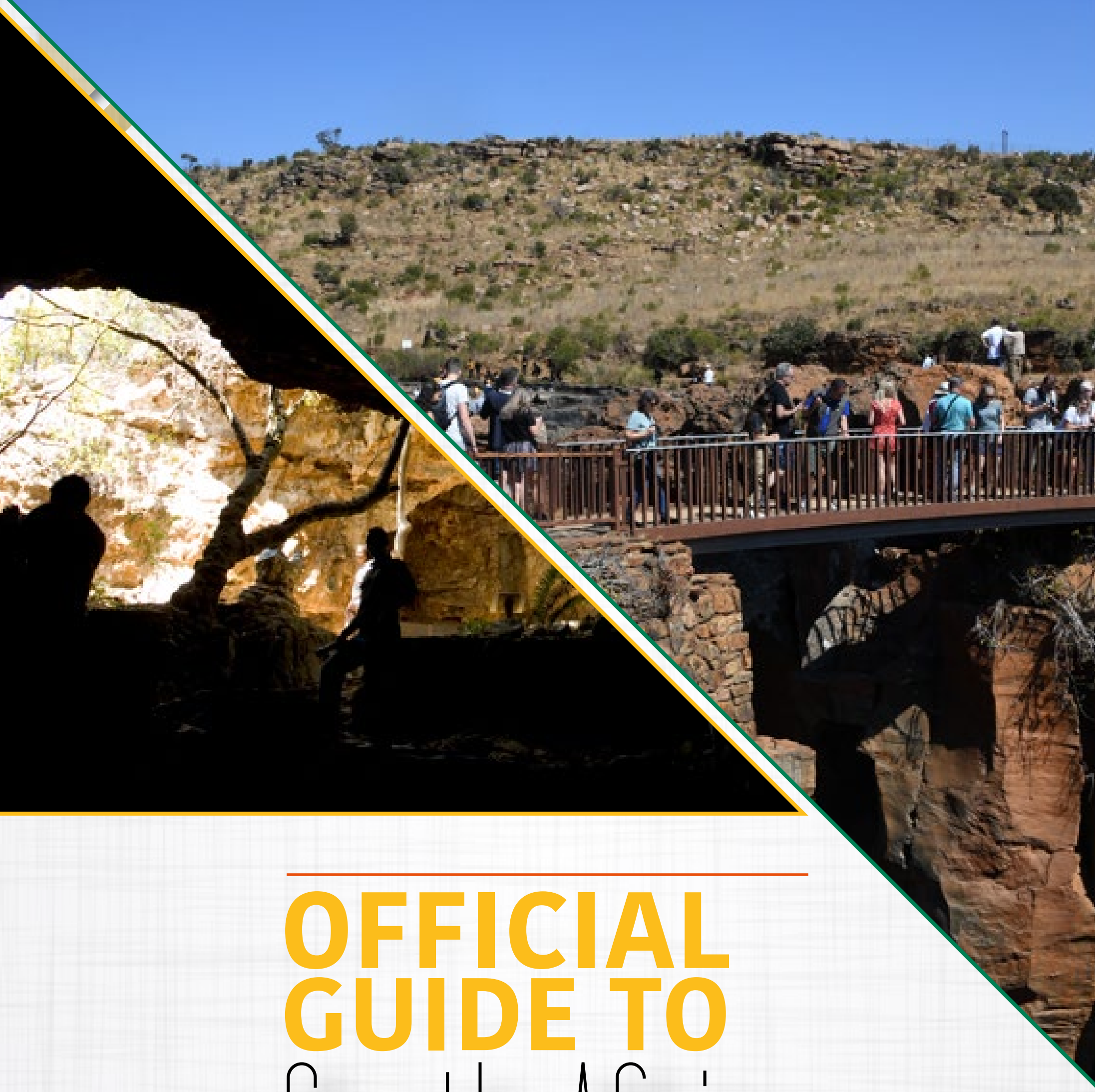
South African Library for the Blind (SALB)

The SALB was established in terms of the South African Library for the Blind Act of 1998, and is mandated to provide a national library and information service to blind and print-handicapped readers in South Africa. The SALB receives an operational subsidy from the DSAC.

Over the medium term, the library was expected to maintain its objective of reviving and strengthening services to blind and print-handicapped readers. It plans to produce reading material in audio and Braille formats, and set standards for the production of such documents; research production methods and technology in the appropriate fields; and procure and distribute reading equipment for new members.

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. It equips blind people with the skills they need to fully and independently participate in society. This includes support in living without assistance, getting about, using technology, reading, working and socialising.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

TOURISM

TOURISM

South Africa is geopolitically distinctive and possesses natural and cultural diversity that supports a globally compelling tourism proposition. The country's tourism base is significant and it is one of the world's most popular long-haul destinations.

The mandate of the Department of Tourism (DT), as outlined in the Tourism Act of 2014, is to promote the growth and development of the tourism sector; promote quality tourism products and services; provide for the effective marketing of South Africa as a domestic and international tourist destination; enhance cooperation and coordination between all spheres of government in developing and managing tourism; and promote responsible tourism for the benefit of South Africa, and for the enjoyment of all its residents and foreign visitors.

In recognition of tourism as a national priority with the potential to contribute significantly to economic development, the 1996 *White Paper on the Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa* provides for the promotion of domestic and international tourism. The National Tourism Sector Strategy provides a blueprint for the sector to meet the growth targets contained in the National Development Plan.

Over the medium term, the DT planned to focus on the rejuvenation of the industry as part of the National Tourism Recovery Plan. This will involve intensive work, in partnership with the police and other relevant stakeholders, to enhance tourism safety by introducing national norms and standards for safe tourism operations based on globally recognised biosecurity protocols. This is expected to enable safe travel and rebuild traveller confidence.

In addition, the department aimed to stimulate domestic demand; introduce the e-visa programme for priority markets; and promote collaborative investment in the sector through measures such as ensuring the effectiveness of market-entry facilitation programmes. Examples of these include the Wine Service Training Programme and the Hospitality Youth Programme, which aim to provide young people with essential tourism skills that enhance the experience of visitors.

Tourism Sector Recovery Plan (TSRP)

The tourism sector is one of the critical intervention areas that have been identified in the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan as a key driver of the economic recovery in the country. The DT together with the private sector and other stakeholders collaborated to develop the TSRP.

The plan is anchored on three interlinked pillars or strategic themes: protecting and rejuvenating supply, reigniting demand and strengthening enabling capability for long term sustainability.

The TSRP outlines a set of actions, timelines of implementation of each action and the allocation of each action to an implementation agent. The main focus of the programmes will be on the implementation of the TSRP.

Destination Development Programme

During the medium term, the Destination Development Programme will continue with the implementation of a tourism infrastructure maintenance programme of state-owned assets to protect and rejuvenate tourism supply.

The focus of this work is on improving and upgrading sites of heritage significance including liberation heritage, national parks, botanical gardens as well as rural and township precincts.

Green Tourism Incentive Programme (GTIP)

The GTIP is a resource efficiency incentive programme of the DT whose objective is to encourage private sector tourism enterprises to move towards the sustainable management of water and energy resources whilst adhering to responsible tourism practices.

Through grant funding, the GTIP assists private sector tourism enterprises in reducing the cost of investing in more energy and water efficient operations, while increasing their competitiveness, profitability and operational sustainability in the long term. The GTIP broadly offers the following to qualifying tourism enterprises:

- 90% of the cost for a new resource efficiency audit or the full cost for reviewing an existing resource efficiency audit conducted by the National Cleaner Production Centre of South Africa; and
- Grant funding to qualifying small and micro enterprises on a sliding scale from 30% to 90% of the total cost of implementing qualifying resource efficiency interventions, which is capped at R1 million.

The Industrial Development Corporation manages the programme on behalf of the department.

South African Tourism (SAT)

The Tourism Act of 2014 mandates SAT to market South Africa internationally and domestically as a preferred tourism and business events destination, ensure that tourist facilities and services are of the highest standard, and monitor and evaluate the performance of the tourism sector.

Over the medium term, the entity planned to focus on responding to the National Tourism Recovery Strategy. Primary activities will include revitalising South Africa's reputation as a premier travel destination; and protecting, defending and entrenching current markets while growing new strategically identified markets to drive domestic business travel and meet the rising demand for domestic leisure travel. The South Africa National Convention Bureau (SANCB) is a 'one-stop solution' for independent information and assistance, giving neutral advice on all aspects of hosting and organising any business event in South Africa.

TOURISM IN THE PROVINCES

Western Cape

The Western Cape, which lies bordered by two oceans – the Indian Ocean to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the west – is South Africa's most developed tourism region.

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 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 popular in Cape Town, ranging from traditional blues to African jazz. The top jazz event in the Western Cape is the annual Cape Town International Jazz Festival, affectionately referred to as "Africa's Grandest Gathering".

Garden Route

The Garden Route features the pont at Malgas, which is one of the two remaining points 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.
- 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.

The Karoo

The Karoo is distinctively divided into the Great Karoo and the Little Karoo by the Swartberg Mountain Range, which runs east-west, parallel to the southern coastline, but is separated from the sea by another east-west range called the Outeniqua–Langeberg Mountains. The Great Karoo lies to the north of the Swartberg range; the Little Karoo is to the south of it.

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 Ladysmith 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 Northern Cape is an excellent sandboarding destination and a number of local operators offer sandboarding lessons and tours. The dunes near Kakamas and Witsand are very popular and expert boarders and novices are more than welcome – boards can be rented on arrival.

Adventure-tour companies specialising in dune boarding in South Africa advise you to bring: a camera to record the inevitable antics, lots of sunscreen and a sense of humour.

Some of the more enterprising companies turn it into a fun day, complete with children's dune boarding and picnics. This is a fun sport that will satisfy most peoples' need for speed.

Key attractions

- 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.
- 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.
- Mattanu Private Game Reserve offers the ultimate Kalahari game experience

– there are roan, sable, buffalo, golden oryx, golden gnu and many other types of antelope and wild animals. One can view the animals on a quad bike, safari vehicle or even by helicopter.

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. The Gariep Dam Nature Reserve lies between the dam and Bethulie.
- 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 Eastern Cape boasts a magnificent coastline that is complemented by 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

- Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth) has some beautiful parks with well-landscaped gardens, including St George's Park, which covers 73 ha.
- To the north-west of Graaff-Reinet lies the Valley of Desolation, which is a national monument within the Karoo Nature Reserve that was 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.
- The Camdeboo National Park, near Graaff-Reinet, was proclaimed as South Africa's 22nd National Park.

Limpopo

The Limpopo landscape is made up of dramatic contrasts characterised by hot savanna plains and mist-clad mountains, age-old indigenous forests and cycads alongside modern plantations, and ancient mountain fortresses and the luxury of contemporary infrastructure and modern-day facilities.

Key attractions

- The Marakele National Park is home to some rare yellowwood and cedar trees and the world's largest colony of Cape vultures. It is also a leader in the conservation of the black rhino.
- Polokwane is considered the premier game-hunting destination in South Africa.
- The Mapungubwe Archaeological Site, about 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 Asfrica'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 (African lion, African elephant, Cape buffalo, African leopard and black rhinoceros).

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.
- San rock engravings, Stone Age implements and structures are found on farms such as Witpoort, Gestoptefontein, Driekuil and Korannafontein.

Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga means "the place where the sun rises" in the Nguni languages. 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.

- At the Montrose Falls in Schoemanskloof, the Crocodile River cascades into a series of rock pools.
- 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 a Sesotho word meaning "place of gold". It is the smallest province of South Africa and also the most populous and urbanized. It 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
- 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 Eswatini and Mozambique to the north.

Key attractions

- The Durban area has a significant number of reserves, developed parks and specialised gardens, the most renowned being the Municipal Botanical Garden.
- 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 and the Durban July Handicap horse race.
- 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 comprise 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 art studios, potters and painters, to herb gardens and cheese makers.
- Midmar Dam is zoned for yachting and power-boating while 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 Pieterson 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.

Traveller's Guide:

What do you need to declare?

Any person travelling in or out of South Africa should unreservedly declare:

- All goods (including goods of another person) upon his person or in his possession which were purchased or otherwise acquired abroad or on any ship, vehicle or in any shop selling goods on which duty has not been paid; were remodelled, processed or repaired abroad, on arrival.
- Goods that are prohibited, restricted or controlled under any law.
- Goods that were required to be declared before leaving South Africa.

Before leaving, all goods which a traveller is taking with them beyond the borders of South Africa, including goods which are:

- carried on behalf of another person
- intended for remodel, process or repair abroad
- prohibited, restricted or controlled under any law
- goods that a person, who temporarily entered South Africa, was required to declare upon entering South Africa.

Travellers must, upon request by a Customs Officer, provide full particulars related to the goods such as invoices, transport documents, proof of payment to supplier, letter of authority and any permits applicable to such goods. Travellers must also answer fully and truthfully all questions put to him by such officer, and produce and open such goods for inspection, and shall pay the duty and taxes, if any.

What are your Duty Free allowances?

The duty free allowance only apply to goods for personal use or to dispose of as gifts in accompanied travellers' baggage declared by returning residents and non-residents visiting South Africa.

The following imported goods declared by travellers in their accompanied baggage may be exempted from paying any import duties and Value Added Tax (VAT):

- New or used goods of a total value not exceeding R5 000 per person.
- Wine not exceeding two litres per person.
- Spirituous and other alcoholic beverages, a total quantity not exceeding 1 litre per person.
- Cigarettes not exceeding 200 and cigars not exceeding 20 per person.
- 250 g cigarette or pipe tobacco per person.
- Perfumery not exceeding 50 ml and eau de toilette not exceeding 250 ml per person.

Wine, spirituous and other alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and perfumery imported in excess of the quantities specified must be cleared at the rates of duty specified in Schedule No.1 ("Tariff") to the Customs and Excise Act No.91 of 1964.

The aforementioned goods are commonly referred to as consumables or luxury goods and the rate of duty can be considerably high if travellers exceed the above quantities and must clear those excess quantities and pay the import duties at the rates of duty specified in the tariff. Even if goods are bought at an inbound duty free shop, the duty free allowance still applies upon arrival.

Note: The duty free allowance applicable to new or used goods to the value of R5 000 person, is applicable in addition to the duty free allowance applicable to consumable goods.

What is your flat-rate assessment allowance?

- If you have goods in excess ofthe R5 000 duty free allowance but not exceeding R20 000, you may elect to pay customs duty at a rate of full duty less 20% (flat-rate) with VAT exempted instead of clearing the goods at the rates of duty specified in Schedule No. 1 ("tariff") to the Customs and Excise Act of 1964.
- Goods in excess of the R20 000 flat-rate assessment threshold, pay import duties and VAT in accordance with the Harmonised System description and originating status of goods.

Conditions for duty free allowances:

- The duty free allowances related to new or used goods is only allowed once per person during a period of 30 days, following an absence of not less than 48 hours from South Africa.
- The flat rate assessment allowance is only allowed during a period of 30 days and shall not apply to goods imported by persons returning after an absence of less than 48 hours.
- The duty free allowances related to wine, spirituous and other alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and perfumery is only allowed once per person during a period of 30 days, following an absence of not less than 48 hours from South Africa.
- The goods must be carried as accompanied baggage.
- The tobacco or alcoholic beverage allowance is not applicable to persons under the age of 18 years.

What about handmade articles?

- Travellers can import handmade articles of leather, wood, plastic, stone or glass of up to 25kg for commercial purposes without paying duties or taxes.

What about goods coming in temporarily?

- You may be required to lodge a cash deposit as security to cover potential import duty or VAT on certain articles imported temporarily. Your refund will be paid after confirmation that the goods have left the country.

Prohibited and restricted goods

- South African Revenue Service (SARS) administers certain prohibitions and restrictions on behalf of a number of government departments, institutions and bodies.
- Prohibited means the goods are not allowed to enter or exit South Africa.
- Restricted means goods are allowed to enter or exit South Africa under certain conditions e.g. permit or certificate is required.

To access a list of “Prohibited and restricted goods, visit the Customs page on the SARS website *www.sars.gov.za*.

Note: Traders and Travellers must be aware of the Counterfeit Goods Act of 1997, which states that goods of inferior quality made or sold under another brand, without the brand owners authorisation, is an infringement upon which civil and/or criminal proceedings may be taken against the offender.

Cash restrictions:
- A traveller is allowed to declare and carry a maximum of R25 000/unlimited foreign currency, whether leaving or entering.
- A traveller shall declare whether or not he has with him any banknotes, gold, securities or foreign currency; and produce any bank notes, gold, securities or foreign currency which he has with him.
- The South African bank notes is unlimited if the traveller is going to/coming from a country within the Common Monetary Area.
- Travellers are advised to contact the South African Reserve Bank to obtain approval prior to taking cash across the borders of South Africa.
- Although there is technically no legal limit on how much money you can carry on a plane, if you are traveling internationally you must declare amounts of more than US$10 000 on your customs form, and be prepared for possible interviews with customs or law-enforcement officers to explain the amount of money you have with you.

Southern African Customs Union (SACU)

The countries that fall under the SACU are Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Botswana and Eswatini. Travellers from SACU member countries do not pay customs import duties and are entitled to a VAT exemption on goods up to a value of R5 000.

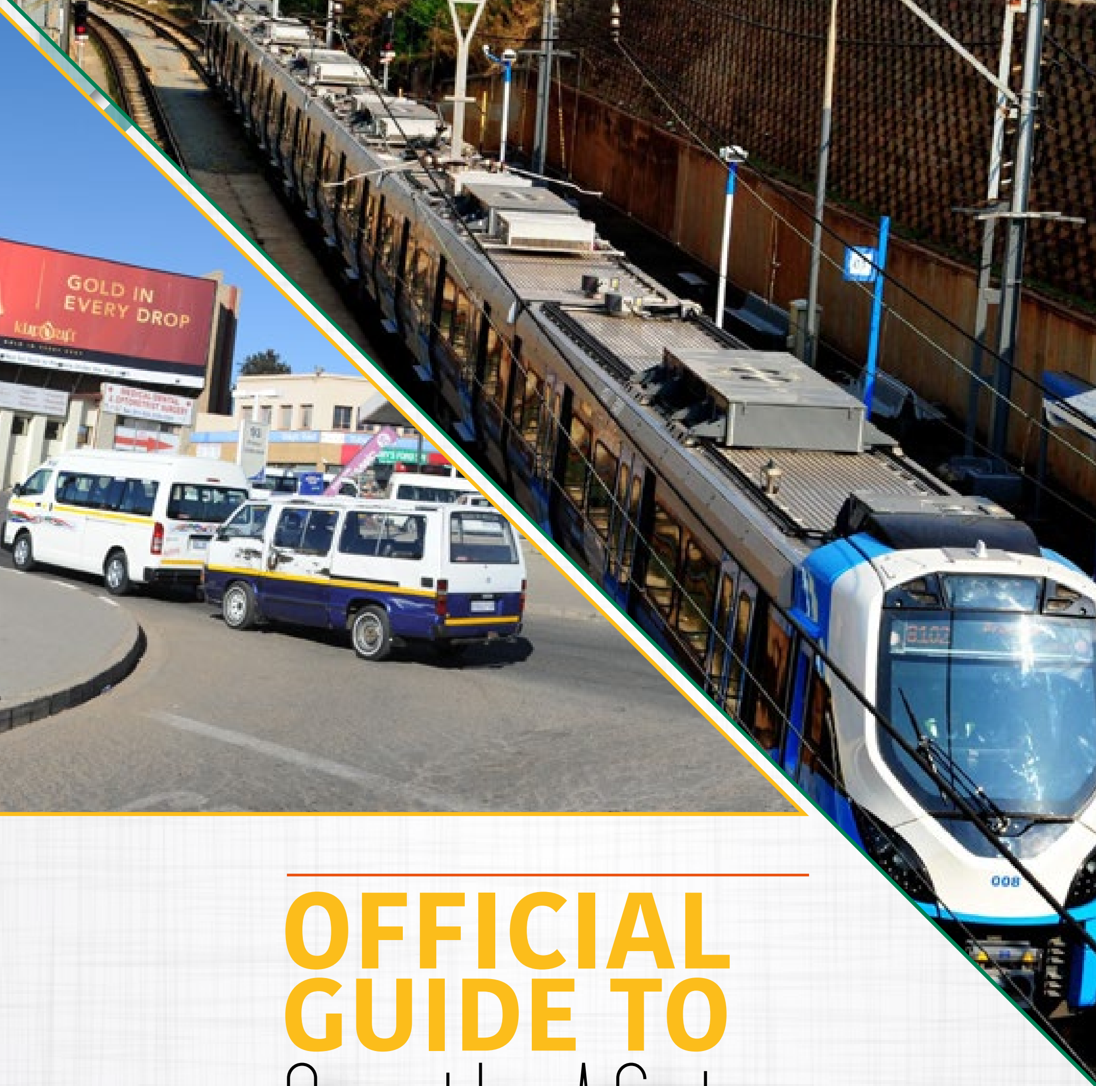
When do I register for a customs code?
- Before goods can be imported or exported, SARS may require a person or entity to formally license or register prior to conducting any activity regulated by the Act.
- A person, including a traveller, who imports or exports goods of which the total value required to be declared is less than R150 000 during any calendar year is excluded from formal registration requirements.
- Persons excluded from formal registration requirements may make use of the registration code 70707070 subject to the following conditions:
- He/she is a natural person;
- Enters the goods for home consumption, temporary export or export;
- Reflects in the field provided on the bill of entry or declaration form his or her:
- SARS taxpayer reference number or South African identity document number, in the case of a South African citizen or a permanent resident of South Africa or passport document number in the case of a person who is not a South African citizen nor a permanent resident.

Refund of tax on a visitor's purchases

VAT at a rate of 15% is levied on the purchase of most goods in South Africa. Tourists and foreign visitors to South Africa may make application at departure points for a refund of the VAT paid. The tax invoices/proof of payment for the purchases and the goods must be presented for inspection at the port of exit.

What happens if I have not complied with customs requirements?

SARS endeavours to educate and inform traders of their tax/duty obligations through various interventions, to help you to keep your tax affairs in order. Traders who are found to be non-compliant will be subjected to the Penal Provisions of the Customs and Excise Act of 1964, which includes a fine or criminal prosecution.



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

TRANSPORT

The Department of Transport (DoT) is responsible for legislation and policies for rail, pipelines, roads, airports, harbours, and the intermodal operations of public transport and freight. As such, it is responsible for conducting sector research, formulating legislation and policy to set the strategic direction of subsectors, assigning responsibilities to public entities, regulating through setting norms and standards, and monitoring implementation.

Over the medium term, the department planned to give effect to policies that focus on maintaining national and provincial road networks, addressing passenger rail challenges, and facilitating the provision of integrated public transport networks.

The substantial share of the department's expenditure is directed towards rail infrastructure, maintenance, operations and inventories, with the balance reserved for the South African National Roads Agency (SANRAL) for the upgrading and maintenance of the national road network; and provinces and municipalities for the construction, operations and maintenance of transport infrastructure and services.

The Gibela factory in Ekurhuleni continues to ramp up its production capacity as new trains roll off the assembly line every month. Despite the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) disruptions, as at March 2021, 25 new trains had been provisionally accepted for delivery, bringing the total number of new trains delivered by mid-2021 to 61. As at end of February 2021, a total of 878 jobs were created in the Rolling Stock Fleet Renewal Programme.

The DoT is committed to reducing the carnage on the roads by 25% by March 2024. In addition to encouraging responsible driver behaviour, the department planned to change traffic policing from a regular job to one that is undertaken 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

By mid-2021, the DoT was intensifying its efforts towards the implementation of the movement from road to rail with regard to both passengers and freight. The two passenger corridors identified for concessioning are the Thabanchu-Botshabelo to Bloemfontein in the Free State and Pienaarsriver-Hammanskraal to Pretoria line in Gauteng.

According to the Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) General Household Survey (GHS) of 2019, under two-thirds (62,1%) of the learners walked to school, while a further 9,6% travelled by private car, and 7,5% used taxis. The most commonly used mode of transport to travel to work was a private car (33,1%), followed by taxis (26,3%) and walking (21,5%). The survey found that 9,8% of the working population worked from home and that they therefore had no need for transport.

Roll-out of the Integrated Fare System

The DoT was expected to gazette final amendments to the Integrated Fare System Regulations in 2021, which would enable the introduction of an integrated single ticketing system for public transport. The system will operate on the Transaction Clearing House of SANRAL, which will be the back-end platform for all transactions. The first roll-out of the integrated single ticket was expected to unfold during 2021 in several cities.

Maintaining South Africa's road network

SANRAL plays a crucial role in programmes related to upgrading, maintaining and strengthening national toll and non-toll roads. It was expected to focus on the R573 (Moloto Road) development corridor.

Addressing passenger rail challenges

The Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA) has struggled for many years to roll out its modernisation programme, which is meant to improve the reliability of services and increase the number of passengers. The modernisation programme entails focused spending on repairs and maintenance as part of the agency's rolling stock fleet renewal programme, as well as improved security.

Delays in the rolling stock fleet renewal programme, along with poor spending on rail infrastructure and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically lockdown restrictions, necessitated the reprioritisation of funds to support other entities in the transport sector.

Entities:

The 12 public entities under the Ministry of Transport are the Airports Company South Africa (ACSA); PRASA; SANRAL; Ports Regulator of South Africa; Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS); Cross-Border Road Transport Agency (CBRTA); Railway Safety Regulator; Road Accident Fund (RAF); Road Traffic Infringement Agency (RTIA); Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC); South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) and South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA).

Airports Company South Africa

ACSA was established in terms of the Airports Company Act of 1993. The company owns and operates nine principal South African airports, including OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, Cape Town International Airport and King Shaka International Airport in Durban. Over the medium term, the company will continue to focus on airport infrastructure and asset management, airport safety and security, and airport management.

Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa

PRASA was established in terms of the Legal Succession to the South African Transport Services Amendment Act of 2008, with the primary mandate of providing rail commuter services within, to and from South Africa in the public interest. The agency also provides long-haul passenger rail and bus services within, to and from South Africa.

South African National Roads Agency Limited

The SANRAL was established in terms of the SANRAL and National Roads Act of 1998. The agency is responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation, management, control, maintenance and rehabilitation of the South African national road network, including the financing of these functions.

This includes toll and non-toll roads. Over the medium term, the agency will continue to focus on the construction, maintenance and overall preservation of the national road network. The agency derives its revenue mainly through transfers from the department, toll fees and rental income.

Ports Regulator of South Africa

The Ports Regulator of South Africa was established in terms of Section 29 of the National Ports Act of 2005. It is tasked with regulating South Africa's commercial ports by considering tariff increases of the National Ports Authority and regulating the provision of adequate, affordable and efficient port services and facilities.

This includes hearing complaints and appeals aimed at ensuring fairness, transparency and competitive practices in the ports system. Over the medium term, the regulator planned to continue developing and reviewing policy, strategy and research for an effective regulatory framework for the economic regulation of ports.

Air Traffic and Navigation Services

The ATNS Company was established in terms of the ATNS Act of 1993. The company is mandated to provide safe, orderly and efficient air traffic navigational and associated services to the air traffic management community, and in accordance with the standards set out by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Over the medium term, the company planned to provide air traffic management solutions that are responsive to regional, continental and global demands, trends and technological advancements.

Cross Border Road Transport Agency

The CBRTA was established in terms of the CBRTA Act of 1998 to improve the cross-border flow of passenger and freight transport operators, and regulate market access.

Over the medium term, the agency will continue to improve efficiencies in cross-border road transport and improve cross-border operations by implementing a risk-based accreditation scheme to ensure the seamless movement of compliant operators across borders.

Railway Safety Regulator

The Railway Safety Regulator was instituted in terms of the National Railway Safety Regulator Act of 2002 to oversee and promote safe railway operations by providing an enabling national regulatory framework, while monitoring and enforcing compliance in the rail sector.

Its legislative mandate covers all railway operators in South Africa and those of neighbouring countries whose rail operations enter South Africa. Over the medium term, the regulator will continue to focus on improving railway safety and providing an independent regulatory function that focuses particularly on high-risk areas to ensure minimal rail incidents.

Road Accident Fund

The RAF Act of 1996 provides for the establishment of the RAF, which is mandated to compensate South African road users for losses or damages caused by motor vehicle accidents within the borders of South Africa. The fund receives its revenue from the road accident fund levy in terms of the Customs and Excise Act of 1964.

Road Traffic Infringement Agency

The RTIA was established in terms of the Administrative Adjudication of Road Traffic Offences Act of 1998. It is mandated to administer procedures that discourage the contravention of road traffic laws by enforcing penalties and providing community awareness programmes.

Over the medium term, the agency plans to discourage and penalise the contravention of road traffic laws, and develop efficient adjudication processes in line with the Act.

Road Traffic Management Corporation

The RTMC is a public entity established in terms of the Road Traffic Management Corporation Act of 1999 to provide national road traffic strategic planning and law enforcement, and pool public sector resources for the provision of road traffic management.

Over the medium term, the corporation will promote road traffic safety through education and awareness campaigns, manage road traffic information, coordinate road traffic law enforcement, and improve transparency and accountability in the road traffic management sector to prevent fraud and corruption.

South African Civil Aviation Authority

The SACAA was established in terms of the South African Civil Aviation Authority Act of 1998 to enforce safety standards in the civil aviation industry. Over the medium term, the authority will continue to focus on improving compliance and adherence to the standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

South African Maritime Safety Authority

The SAMSA was established in terms of the SAMSA Act of 1998 to advance South Africa's maritime interests, which include ensuring the safety of life and property at sea, and preventing and combating pollution of the marine environment. Over the medium term, the authority will continue to focus on building on its maritime safety and environmental protection capabilities.

National Transport Master Plan (NAPMAP)

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. The NATMAP recognises that efficient, affordable and reliable transport systems are critical components of national economic development.

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 major airports include:

- OR Tambo International in Gauteng
- Cape Town International in the Western Cape
- King Shaka International in KwaZulu-Natal
- Bram Fischer 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
- Polokwane International Airport in Limpopo
- Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport in Mpumalanga.

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.

The DoT continues to make a difference in the lives of many learners in rural and farmland areas through the Shova Kalula initiative, which supplies learners with non-motorised mobility in the form of bicycles.

Taxi and bus industries

The taxi industry remains the most important part of South Africa's public transport system. Taxis 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.

The DoT is committed to scrapping 63 000 taxis by 2024 as part of the Revised Taxi Recapitalisation Programme, which is key to efforts by government to transform public transport.

According to the Stats SA's GHS of 2019, about 37,8% of South African households had at least one household member who used a minibus taxi/sedan taxi/bakkie taxi during the week preceding the survey. Provinces with the highest levels of minibus taxi use were: Gauteng (45,7%), Mpumalanga (38,3%), and KwaZulu-Natal (38,2%).

By comparison, 5,6% of South African households used a bus during the preceding week. It is notable that 15,5% of households in Mpumalanga used the bus. The use of trains was most common in Western Cape (4,2%) and Gauteng (3,7%).

Integrated public transport networks

Bus Rapid Transport (BRT)

An integrated public transport network is central to the functioning of hubs of economic activity as they provide sustainable, affordable and functional transport solutions to urban commuters. The DoT aims to increase operating hours for BRT to 20 hours a day by 2024.

The rapid public transport networks in South Africa include:

- MyCiTi in Cape Town, Western Cape.
- Rea Vaya in Johannesburg, Gauteng.
- A Re Yeng (Let's go) in Pretoria, Gauteng.
- Go George in George, Western Cape.
- Harambee in Ekurhuleni, Gauteng.
- Yarona in Rustenburg, North West.
- GO!Durban in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.
- Libhongolethu in Nelson Mandela Bay, Eastern Cape.

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.

The Gautrain offers two distinct train services: An Airport Service linking Sandton and Marlboro to the OR Tambo International Airport and a Commuter Service linking Rhodesfield, Marlboro, and Sandton (east-west link) and Park, Rosebank, Sandton, Midrand, Centurion, Pretoria Central and Hatfield (north-south link). All stations with the exception of the Airport Station have integrated car parking facilities.

Maritime

South African's length of the coastline is estimated to be approximately 3 000 km. The Maritime Transport Policy aims to enhance certainty in the transport sector and the logistics market.

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.

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO South Africa 2020/21

WATER AND SANITATION

WATER AND SANITATION

South Africa remains a water-scarce country and is facing a challenge in the delivery of water and sanitation services caused by among other factors, insufficient water infrastructure maintenance and investment; recurrent droughts driven by climatic variation; inequities in access to water and sanitation; deteriorating water quality; and a lack of skilled water engineers, scientists, hydrologists, geo-hydrologists and resource economist.

The provision of quality water to all communities is essential for human health and well-being, economic development and the realisation of the constitutional rights of all South Africans.

The mandate of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), as set out in the National Water Act of 1998 and the Water Services Act of 1997, is 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.

This is done in accordance with the requirements of water-related policies and legislation that are critical in delivering on people's right to have sufficient food and water, growing the economy and eradicating poverty.

The combination of a semi-arid country with a growing population and industrialisation, heavily skewed population migration towards the cities and peri-urban areas, and the unavoidable impact of climate change, make long-term planning for security of water supply difficult. It is a precarious balancing act between water provision for industry, agriculture and mining almost at the opposite end of provision for domestic use.

The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has tested the resiliency of South Africa's water supply systems in unprecedented and unanticipated ways. It has concentrated the focus of the DWS on the provision of water security and access to dignified sanitation services.

To mitigate against the spread of COVID-19, the DWS had to ensure that proper hygiene protocols could be followed and this heightened the pressure to respond swiftly to existing water supply security challenges within the shortest possible time.

The department responded by dispatching thousands of water tanks and water tankers, including to the most inaccessible parts of the country, to assist the most vulnerable communities. This mammoth task was coordinated by the National Water and Sanitation Command Centre in close partnership with the nine water boards throughout the country.

Regulating and managing water resources

Over the medium term, the DWS planned to continue conducting technical regulatory assessments on the provision of water services. These valuations measure the level of compliance with the Green and Blue Drop regulatory standards.

In continuing to improve equitable access to water resources, the department aims to process 80% of the water use licence applications it receives within 120 days in each year over the medium term.

The DWS is implementing of the Water and Sanitation Master Plan, which details the requirements for appropriate investment into water resources and services, and sets targets for adequate water conservation and demand management.

Projects include acid mine drainage operations in Gauteng, phase 2D of the Olifants River water resources development project, the Mokolo-Crocodile River water augmentation project, the raising of the Tzaneen and Hazelmere dams, and the Umdloti River development project.

Providing integrated water services, management, infrastructure planning and development.

One of the department's key priorities is to support the sustainable provision of water services. It was expected to implement three mega and 20 large regional bulk infrastructure projects, and 352 small regional bulk and water services infrastructure projects.

By mid-2021, the National Water Resources Infrastructure Agency was being established to improve the management of bulk water resources. The application process for issuing single use water licences was being fast-tracked to meet the 90-day target by March 2022.

Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP)

The LHWP is a multi-phased joint water resource development project and is very important for both Lesotho and South Africa's social and economic well-being. Phases 1A&B of the LHWP – which comprises Katse and Mohale Dams, transfer and delivery tunnels from Lesotho Highlands to the Vaal Dam in South Africa, and Muela Hydropower Station – continue to deliver measurable and tangible benefits to both parties.

South Africa receives about 780 million cubic meters of water per year from Lesotho into its Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS), which supplies water to Gauteng and the surrounding areas. The IVRS is expected to be augmented to be able to cope with the increasing water requirements.

Phase II of the LHWP comprises the construction of Polihali Dam, which will provide an additional 465 million cubic meters of water per year, bringing the total to about 1 245 million cubic meters of water per year into the IVRS from Lesotho.

Entities:

Consolidated water boards

Water boards are established in terms of the Water Services Act of 1997. The water boards' main role is to provide bulk potable and wastewater to water service institutions within their respective service areas.

The water boards vary in size, activities, customer mix, revenue base and capacity. Some water boards provide retail water and sanitation services on behalf of municipalities. Rand Water and Umgeni Water serve largely urban areas. The rest of the water boards operate largely in the rural areas.

Rand Water

Rand Water was established in terms of the Water Services Act of 1997 and is mandated to supply quality bulk potable water within its area of supply. The water board's distribution network includes more than 3 056 kilometres of large diameter pipelines, feeding 58 strategically located service reservoirs, with customers including metropolitan municipalities, local municipalities, and mines and industries in and around Gauteng, supplying, on average, 3.7 million litres of water daily.

Umgeni Water

Umgeni Water was established in terms of the Water Services Act of 1997 to provide water and sanitation services in its service area, which comprises mostly rural areas in KwaZulu-Natal and the eThekwini metropolitan area.

The water board supplies water to approximately six million consumers. Its ongoing objective is to support.

Magalies Water

Magalies Water provides quality bulk water and secondary services directly to municipalities, mines and other industries which in turn helps to grow the economy and improve the lives of communities.

Raw water is drawn from the rivers which flow into dams that are owned by the DWS and Magalies Water buys the water from the Department. Water from the dams is channelled to Magalies Water's four water-treatment plants where the water is treated and made safe for public consumption.

Municipalities draw the water provided by Magalies Water through the reservoir and provide it to consumers for household use.

Bloem Water

Bloem Water (formery Bloem Area Water Board) was established in 1991 with the aim to operate the Caledon/Bloemfontein Government Water Scheme as well as supplying water to the municipal areas of Bloemfontein, Bainsvlei, Bloemspruit, Botshabelo and Dewetsdorp.

Amatola Water

Amatola Water was established in 1998 to provide bulk-water services in the Eastern Cape. It is committed to ensuring that the Eastern Cape communities have access to basic water services as this is a right enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

Mhlathuze Water (MW)

MW was established in 1980 and predominantly operates in the uMkhanyakude, King Cetshwayo and Zululand district municipalities but has plans to expand beyond these districts.

MW is supplied by three dominant water sources namely: Mhlathuze River, Lake Mzingazi and Lake Nsezi. The organization's business activities include raw (untreated), clarified (partially treated) and purified water supply; disposal of industrial and domestic waste water and scientific services.

Lepelle Northern Water (LNW)

The mandate of LNW is to provide bulk-water services to water services authorities and industries within Limpopo. It is actively involved in schemes serving more than three million people as well as some major industrial users.

LNW will continue to partner with the DWS in implementing Water Conservation and Demand Management as well as groundwater exploration to augment the surface water.

Overberg Water

Overberg Water came into being in 1993 when the former Duivenhoks and Rûensveld water boards amalgamated. It distributes water to the surrounding and rural areas of Cape Agulhas, Theewaterskloof and Swellendam.

It has three water-treatment schemes with 22 reservoirs which are strategically located across the Overberg region.

The water board derives its revenue from the sale of bulk potable water to its main customers, namely municipalities, as well as retail sales to the agricultural sector/industry in the region. The organisation supplies and distributes approximately four million cubic metres of water per year.

The region currently supplied covers approximately 6 000 square kilometres with a pipeline network estimated at 1 450 kilometres.

Sedibeng Water

Sedibeng Water was established on 1 June 1979. It initially serviced the Free State Goldfields and parts of the former Western Transvaal. In 1996, Sedibeng Water extended its operational area to North West. It has since grown to include the Vaal Gamagara Water Scheme in the Northern Cape.

Sedibeng Water is now serving the Nama Khoi Local Municipality (Steinkopf, Okiep, Concordia, Carolusberg, Nababeep and Springbok) as well as mines in the arid north-western part of the Northern Cape. Sedibeng Water has also incorporated Pelladrift and Botshelo water boards into its operations.

The organisation currently services an operational area spanning across three provinces: Free State, North West and Northern Cape, which makes it one of the largest water utilities in the country.

Other entities:

- The **Breede-Gouritz Catchment Management Agency** was established in terms of the National Water Act of 1998. The agency plays an important role in protecting, using, developing, conserving, managing and controlling water resources in a cooperative manner within the boundaries of the Breede-Gouritz catchment area. Over the medium term, the agency planned to continue providing water resources management activities to support economic development and social well-being. To achieve this, the agency planned to continue conserving and maintaining ecosystems, promoting tourism and encouraging residential developments within its water management area.
- The **Inkomati-Usuthu Catchment Management Agency** was established in 2004 in terms of the National Water Act of 1998. The agency plays a key role in the use, protection and development of water resources in the Inkomati-Usuthu water management area, and aims to ensure that water is used and managed to support equitable and sustainable socio-economic transformation and development. Over the medium term, the agency aimed to meet water demand for the domestic, agriculture and commercial sectors by processing water-use licence applications and ensuring that the area's quality of water resources remains high.
- The **Water Research Commission** was established in terms of the Water Research Act of 1971. It is mandated to conduct research in the water sector by determining needs and priorities for research; promoting coordination, cooperation and communication in the area of water-research development;

stimulating and funding water research; promoting the effective transfer of information and technology; and enhancing knowledge and building capacity in the water sector. Over the medium term, the commission planned to continue driving research and enhancing knowledge within the water sector.

- The **Water Trading Entity** was established in 1983 and was converted into a trading entity in terms of the Public Finance Management Act of 1999 in 2008. The entity's primary role is to manage water infrastructure and resources, and the sale of raw water. Over the medium term, the entity planned to continue focusing on maintaining existing water resource infrastructure, supporting the long-term sustainability of water resources, and supplying bulk water to strategic users such as large industrial companies to stimulate and support economic development.
- The **Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA)** was established in 1986 as a specialised liability management entity, deriving its mandate from the National Water Act of 1998. It is responsible for financing and implementing the development of bulk raw water infrastructure and providing treasury management services to the DWS. The authority plays an important role in providing: financial advisory services such as structuring and raising project finance, managing debt and setting tariffs; project implementation services; and other technical support to the department and water boards. Over the medium term, the authority planned to continue planning and implementing phase 2 of the LHWP phase 2A of the Mokolo-Crocodile River water augmentation project and providing a short-term solution to acid mine drainage in Gauteng.