| Home | System&Structure | Presidency | Ministers | Deputy Ministers | National Departments | Doc

| Contacts | Key Issues | FAQs | Provincial Government | Local Government | SA: An Overview | Trave

Overview 10 years of freedom

Progress in the first decade

Reconstruction and development

Since 1994, in line with the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), government ha
out to dismantle apartheid social relations and create a democratic society based on equity, non
racialism and non-sexism. New policies and programmes have been put in place to dramatically
the quality of life of all South Africans.

The RDP, the core of all post-1994 policies, has as its objectives:

- meeting basic needs
- building the economy
- democratising the State and society
- developing human resources and nation-building.

What the democratic State inherited

Black people were denied the franchise, society was divided along racial lines, and the social ex
and neglect of the majority was a matter of State policy.

Economically, the country was isolated and the economy was in crisis. Growth declined to below
annum in the decade before 1994, and by the early 1990s had come to a standstill.

Public-sector debt was ballooning out of control.

The police and justice system violated most human and civil rights and was mainly used to defer
apartheid. The South African Defence Force was fighting a low-intensity war against the liberatic
movement. Until after the 1994 election, parts of the country lived under a state of war, and
assassinations and bombings of political opponents were rife.

Governance was largely defined by a national-security doctrine with little respect for the rule of la
State became more isolated, more corrupt and more dependent on extra-judicial measures to su
itself. By the late 1980s, the country had become ungovernable, the social fabric torn apart by a
and social conflict.

Ten-year review

Government has been assessing how far it has achieved its objectives in the past decade. It has
begun to assess the challenges of the next decade. This review is focused on government's
performance. It is expected that organisations in sport, arts and culture; universities; professiona
the intelligentsia; trade unions; and the private sector will make their own assessments. These, t
with government's review will help the nation evaluate itself in the first decade of freedom.

Broadening access to social services

From the Census 2001	1996	2001
Households with access to clean water	80,0%	85,0%
Households using electricity for lighting	57,6%	69,7%
People who have completed Grade 12 schooling	16,3%	20,4%
Households in formal housing	57,5%	63,8%
Households with chemical or flush toilets	50,5%	51,9%

The review is based on research by people inside and outside government. Departments were a
asked to assess their own performance. A detailed report is available at *South Africa Governme*
(www.gov.za).

Measuring change

In assessing the change, the review uses the best statistics available. But so great are the differe
between the apartheid State and the democratic State that direct comparisons are often impossi
official statistics of the past also underestimated the impact of apartheid on the majority of South
by excluding the so-called 'independent' *Bantustans*.

Output of government's social programmes

From department reports		1994 1998	1999 2002	Since 1994
Water	People gaining access via community programmes	3,0 million	5,4 million	8,4 millic
Electricity	Grid connections	2,3 million	1,5 million	3,8 millic
Housing	Subsidised houses built or under construction	0,74 million	0,72 million	1,4 millic
Land redistribution	Hectares distributed	0,44 million	1,36 million	1,8 millic
	Households in transfers	30 061	107 417	137 47
Land restitution	Claims lodged	68 878		68 87
	Claims settled	3 964	32 525	36 48
	Hectares restored	0,23 million	0,27 million	0,5 millic

Governance Cluster

The State has become a people-centred State

New **Constitution** and laws

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act 108 of 1996), and over 780 pieces of
legislation have created a framework for reshaping South Africa.

Transforming the Public Service

Bantustan and central government civil services have been integrated into a single public service
Representivity targets have almost been met Africans make up 72% of the Public Service but th
should be more women in senior positions and people with disabilities.

The Public Finance Management Act, 1999 [PDF] (Act 1 of 1999), and a medium-term budget cyc
improved accountability, budgeting and financial management.

Access to services is being improved by Multi-Purpose Community Centres (one per district by t
2004 and expanding to each municipality in the next decade), the introduction of Community
Development Workers and the e-Government *batho pele* (people first) Gateway.

Better service delivery

Policy and implementation are more integrated thanks to government's Cluster approach, provin ordination, Integrated Development Plans in local government and the recently introduced Natio Planning Framework. There are still serious capacity problems affecting especially provincial and service delivery and in central government middle management.

Fighting corruption

A Code of Conduct for the Public Service is now part of the regulations for every public servant. 1999 National Anti-Corruption Summit created a powerful platform for the National Campaign Ag Corruption and helped establish whistle-blowing mechanisms, special corruption courts and the Anti-Corruption Forum. New laws to fight corruption include the Promotion of Access to Informat 2000 [PDF] (Act 2 of 2000), and the recent Prevention of Corruption Bill [PDF].

The National Directorate of Public Prosecutions and South African Police Service (SAPS) have against corrupt officials and white-collar crime. About 80% of corruption cases in government re the media are discovered by government.

Social Cluster

Programmes to alleviate poverty have improved the lives of millions.

Boosting the income of the poor

Social grants, formerly allocated on a racial basis, have been equalised and extended to all who need and eligible. Beneficiaries have increased from 2,6 million in 1994 to 5,1 million in 2003. Th poorest 20% of households receive the largest amount from grants. However, the full impact will realised when all those who are eligible are registered.

Broadening access to social services

Programmes to broaden access to services have improved the lives of millions of South African

- Electricity, water and sanitation As the table shows, many more people have access to th basic services.
- Education Adult literacy is up from 83% in 1996 to 89% in 2001, and for 15- to 24-year-ol 83% to 96%. The matric pass rate rose from 54% in 1996 to 69% in 2002.
- Health
  - Primary healthcare has expanded, with free healthcare for women and children un Upgrading and building new clinics have resulted in 701 additional clinics.
  - The integrated nutrition programme, which reached 89% of the targeted learners i now reaches 94% or 4,58 million children.
  - Government's comprehensive response to HIV and AIDS has expanded rapidly. Expenditure increased tenfold from R30 million in 1994 to R342 million in 2001/02, set to increase tenfold again to R3,6 billion in 2005/06. HIV infection, after rapidly increasing in the 1990s, stabilised after 1999 22,4% in 1999, 24,5% in 2000, 24,8 2001 and 26,5 in 2002. For pregnant women under 20 years, the infection rate has decreased consistently for the last few years.
  - The tuberculosis-control programme increased treatment rates from 60% to 65% b 1996 and 1999, but treatment interruptions and transfers have kept cure rates belo targeted 85%.

Boosting ownership of assets and access to opportunities

Housing

Over 1,9 million subsidies have been approved for new houses, and 480 000 houses built in the apartheid era have been transferred to occupants under the discount benefit scheme.

Land reform

Between 1994 and 2002, some 0,5 million hectares (ha) were restored through land restitution w million ha were distributed.

Communications and culture

Access to means of communication has grown rapidly by 2001, 32% of households had cellpho 42% access to land lines, 73% had radios in the home, and 54% television sets. Plans are unde fully implement the Constitutional recognition of all 11 languages of South Africa as official langu

Addressing social exclusion

Discriminatory laws have been repealed. New measures to prevent social exclusion include tenu land reform; steps towards gender equality, including recognition of customary marriages; emplo equity; maternity benefits; recognition of surnames; attending to sexual harassment; and affirma action. Specially targeted programmes protect the elderly, people with disabilities and children, a as vulnerable workers such as domestic and farm workers.

Preserving the environment

Government has focused on fairer distribution of rights of access to natural resources and benef conservation areas.

Economy Cluster

Government's economic policies have turned around an economy that was in crisis. Almost cont growth since 1994 has created jobs, but not enough to keep up with the increasing number of pe looking for employment.

Performance of the economy

- Stability Government's policies have freed resources for social expenditure by reducing t interest it has to pay on debt. The Budget deficit fell from 9,5% in 1993 to 1% in 2002/03, public-sector debt fell from 60% to 50%.
- Investment Investment has been low (16 17% of Gross Domestic Product) compared wi successful developing countries, but has begun to improve in the last three years.
- Growth Negative per-capita growth in the decade before 1994 has changed to average g 2,8% a year since then. Real growth per person in South Africa has increased just over 1' year since 1994.
- Employment Between 1995 and 2002, the number of people employed grew by 1,6 millic 9,6 million to 11,2 million. However, the number of people unemployed also grew by 2,4 n because many more people were seeking work. While many unskilled workers are unemp there are also shortages of skilled workers in many sectors.
- Trade reform and industrial restructuring Government's industrial policy and efforts to pro international trade environment that favours development have improved the balance of tr brought a shift to higher valued-added exports.
- Labour legislation Great progress in labour relations laws has given employers and empl more certainty and security in their relationship. This is reflected in the huge fall in person days per year.

State-enterprise restructuring

Restructuring has focused mainly on telecommunications, energy, defence and transport. The ai
been to broaden access to services; reduce costs and raise revenue to reduce public debt, at the
time minimising the impact on employment; and promote Black Economic Empowerment. In the
R24 billion has been raised to reduce public debt, and share-ownership has been widened. Low
costs and improving service quality will require further improvement in the regulatory environmer

Expanding economic opportunities

Small-business development

Initiatives such as the Small Business Council, Khula Enterprise Finance Corporation and Ntsika
Enterprise Promotion Agency have made some impact, but not enough.

Skills development

Government has directed resources towards education and skills training and set up Sector Edu
and Training Authorities (SETAs) for each sector of the economy, financed by a skills levy on the
roll. Although the SETAs have been slow in meeting their objectives and employers slow to take
advantage of them, performance is improving.

Empowerment

Empowerment in the workplace is continuing, albeit slowly. Black people in top management gre
12% to 13% between 2000 and 2001; and in senior management, from 15% to 16%. Black owne
public companies was 9,4% in 2002 compared with 3,9% in 1997 (and was virtually non-existen
1994). The figures for women in the workplace are not much different.

Justice, crime prevention and security

Transformation and integration of a crime prevention system that once focused on shoring up ap
has helped to all but end political violence, deal with terrorism and stabilise crime. But better ser
delivery needs more capacity-building, citizen involvement and eradication of corruption. Moral
regeneration and nation-building are also essential for effective crime prevention.

National Crime Prevention Strategy (NCPS)

The NCPS has several elements:

- The National Crime Combating Strategy ('Operation Crackdown') is beginning to make an
  Serious crime levels in South Africa are continuing to come down or stabilise.
- Except for robbery and malicious damage to property, most of the 20 categories of seriou
  have either stabilised or decreased since 1994.
- Since 1994, murder has decreased by 30,7%.
- Though the trend of robberies has continued to increase, almost 50% of robberies now re
  cellphone theft or misplacement, with high reporting rates for insurance purposes.
- High-profile robberies (vehicle hijacking, hijacking of trucks, cash-in-transit robbery and b
  robbery) have come down significantly since they were first recorded in 1996.
- The Integrated Justice System has brought about shorter cases, better-quality dockets ar
  conviction rates (up from 78% in 1999 to 81% in 2002). The introduction of Saturday and
  additional courts has helped.
- Attacking the causes of crime is part of the national strategy requiring further implementat
  including the social crime-prevention initiatives that are part of Integrated Rural Developm
  Urban Renewal and Moral Regeneration.
- Community policing has made policing more effective. Community Police Forums and the
  partnership with Business Against Crime have reduced street crime by 80% in targeted ci
  centres.
- Prison overcrowding is being relieved by opening new prisons, alternative sentencing, cor

supervision, an awaiting-trial prisoner project, parole, and an improved rehabilitation prog
Escapes were reduced from 1 244 in 1996 to 325 in 2002.

High-priority crimes

Sexual-assault crimes

The incidence of rape increased by 10% after 1994, then stabilised for some years and in 1999
decline once more to 1994 levels.

Organised crime and corruption

Action against criminal syndicates helped to bring down vehicle hijacking by 33,7% and bank-rel
crimes by 52,2% since 1996 and white-collar crime by 24% since 1994. Over 200 syndicates we
neutralised out of the 300 that were identified and investigated.

Border control

The South African National Defence Force has assisted the SAPS in controlling borders, resultir
deportation of thousands of illegal immigrants and the confiscation of stolen vehicles and illegal t
New controls and upgrading of infrastructure at ports of entry will combat cross-border crime and
threats to national security.

Taxi violence

Violence in the taxi industry has been curbed by more effective regulation and prosecution of
perpetrators, though sporadic attacks and extortion of funds from members of taxi associations of

Illegal firearms

Over 80 000 illegal firearms have been destroyed. New measures include regulating ownership
firearms and reducing the number of illegal firearms.

Terrorism

Urban terrorism in the Western Cape was ended by co-ordinated operations and the conviction of
perpetrators, but socio-economic factors that sustain gangsterism and violence still need attentio
wing terrorist plans were uncovered in 2002, leading to the confiscation of weapons, prevention
assassination plans, and more than 20 prosecutions. The Government is implementing United N
(UN) resolutions relating to international terrorism.

International relations

South Africa's post-1994 success in defining its place in the world is remarkable given its size. T
required thoroughly revising the mission of national security and the principles underpinning the
international relations, as well as transforming South Africa's institutions to align them with the n
democracy.

Diplomatic normalisation

South Africa has normalised its relations with the world and is actively promoting its own interest
those of the South in all significant regional, continental and multilateral institutions.

The country has hosted many international conferences and events since 1994. These include th
Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit (1998), Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (1999
AIDS Conference (2000), UN World Conference Against Racism (2001), World Summit on Susta

Development (2002), and the African Union (AU) Summit (2002).

Marketing and branding South Africa

The Government has, since the late 1990s, been actively imaging, branding and marketing Sout
both directly and by supporting initiatives like Proudly South African, hosting hallmark events, an
creating the International Investment Council, International Marketing Council and International
Force on Information Society and Development.

Tourism has surged from 5,7 million international tourist arrivals in South Africa in 1998 to 6,4 m
2002.

International relations for growth and development

Trade

Trading networks and markets have been expanded and diversified through,among others, bilat
multilateral negotiations and expanding relations with South America, Asia and Africa.

Regional integration in southern Africa

A democratic South Africa has promoted regional integration in the context of the Southern Afric
Development Community (SADC) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).
restructuring of SADC will provide member states with a comprehensive development agenda.

Continental affairs

South Africa played an active role in reconstituting the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) into t
as a more effective continental body, and developing NEPAD as the AU's socioeconomic progra
The African Peer Review Mechanism has been established as a voluntary mechanism to ensure
policies and practices of participating states conform to the Declaration on Democracy, Political,
Economic and Corporate Governance.

Global affairs

Since 2001, South Africa has worked to keep Africa and the South on the G8 agenda, and enga
international financial institutions to promote a global financial system more favourable to develo
countries.

Science and technology (S&T)

Some 30 bilateral agreements have been signed for S&T in the past nine years. There are sever
S&T initiatives in South Africa with strong international participation, including the HIV/AIDS Vac
Initiative.

Promoting human rights, peace, security and stability

South Africa works with other African states and multilateral organisations like the UN, OAU/AU
SADC to promote international respect for human rights, democracy and good governance. Sou
has been part of regional and continental initiatives to assist the Zimbabwean people to resolve
problems, and has assisted with peace-keeping in Ethiopia/Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of t
Congo and Burundi.

Strengthening multilateralism and co-operation

In order to advance the interests of developing countries, South Africa has worked to promote a
bound international political and economic order; and to transform North-South relations through

dialogue while consolidating South-South collaboration by participation in groupings like the NAM
Nations Conference on Trade and Development, SADC and the AU.

Challenges of the next decade

The next decade's challenges arise from lessons learnt in the first decade of freedom and new
challenges created by the first stage of transformation.

Influence of the State

The record of implementation shows that government's successes have often, though not always
in areas in which it has had significant control and less so where its influence has been indirect:

- There has been considerable progress in building a new Constitutional order, three spher
  government and more integrated administration but many areas of service delivery requi
  improved performance by the Public Service.
- There has been great extension and deracialisation of social services, with striking impac
  women's rights. However, many people entitled to grants are still unregistered or poorly s
- Good progress in economic areas under government control (fiscal and monetary policy,
  trade and industrial policy) has not been matched where new agencies or partnerships ar
  involved small business, human resource development, restructuring of State-owned ent
  equity and empowerment. Government has had even less success in areas depending
  significantly on private-sector and civil-society investment and employment creation.
- National security has been enhanced, the rule of law established, and institutions transfor
  However, due to aspects of the social transition, insufficient civil-society involvement, and
  forms of organised crime, the gains in crime prevention could have been better.
- Internationally, government has made progress beyond its limited resources as the count
  reintegrated in the international arena.

The social transition

Four social trends in the first decade of freedom shape the challenges ahead.

- Households From 1996 to 2001, the South African population grew 11% from 40,4 millior
  million. The number of households grew by 30% from 9,7 million to 11,8 million, as house
  became smaller. 'Unbundling' of households, together with freedom and improvement in t
  quality of life, are resulting in fewer extended families.
- Economically active population The population grew by about 2% a year from 1995 to 20
  the economically active population grew by about 4% a year from 11,5 million to 15,4 mil
  number of jobs grew by 12% (after accounting for jobs lost) but the economically active po
  grew by 35%. New job seekers are not only young adults but also older people who in the
  order did not consider themselves part of the labour market, many of them African womer
  rural areas.
- Economy While all the main sectors grew between 1995 and 2002, there was a shift from
  services, construction and mining to financial and business-service sectors (where emplo
  doubled). This is consolidating 'two economies' in one country. One is advanced and skill
  becoming more globally competitive. The second is mainly informal, marginalised and uns
  Despite impressive gains in the first economy, the benefits have yet to reach the second
  economy, which could fall even further behind without decisive government intervention.
- Migration There has been a shift from rural to big urban areas. Twenty per cent of people
  main urban areas are new migrants. This adds pressure on urban service delivery and ec
  opportunities, and causes loss of people and opportunities in rural areas. It affects social
  and links to authority structures, reducing the potential for people to interact on a collectiv

The impact of these trends is likely to be compounded depending on what happens with HIV/AID
other demographic factors.

These social trends, added to the apartheid backlog, help to explain the scale of the past decade's challenges and some of the limitations in progress, for example in unemployment, poverty alleviation and combating crime. Nevertheless, there has been significant progress in dealing with these problems.

The global setting

As South Africans enter the second decade of freedom, the global environment is uncertain, with increasing tension, unilateralism and unresolved international trade issues. But despite this, there are also new opportunities for developing countries to assert their interests.

While many current developments contain seeds for Africa's marginalisation, there are opportunities for the continent to mobilise support for its plight and that of the other poor regions. Among governments and citizens of developed countries there is potential to focus attention on the common objectives of humanity contained in the UN Millennium Declaration. South Africa's history, its location, the size of its economy in the continent, and its current endeavours and outlook equip it to play a critical role in this regard.

Challenges and opportunities

The experience of a decade of reconstruction and development, social trends and the global context point to some major challenges as the country enters the second decade of freedom.

If South Africans are to make continued progress towards the fundamental objective of a united, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic society then they need a major intervention to reinforce the consolidation of democracy with measures aimed at integrating society into a growing economy which they can benefit. This requires:

- a framework defining a shared destiny, as a basis for social partnership
- better performance by the State
- addressing consequences of the social transition
- improving the southern African environment and implementing NEPAD.

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