

POCKET GUIDE TO SOUTH AFRICA



GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS

Pocket Guide to South Africa 2011/12 **GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS**

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

Government's outcomes approach to achieve its objectives is embedded in and a direct result of the electoral mandate.

Five priority areas were identified: decent work and sustainable livelihoods; education; health; rural development, food security and land reform; and the fight against crime and corruption. These translated into 12 outcomes to create a better life for all:

- better quality basic education
- a long and healthy life for all South Africans
- all South Africans should be safe and feel safe
- decent employment through inclusive growth
- a skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path
- an efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network
- vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities with food security for all
- sustainable human settlements and an improved quality of household life
- a responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government system
- environmental assets and natural resources that are well protected and enhanced
- a better Africa and a better world as a result of South Africa's contributions to global relations
- an efficient and development-oriented public service and an empowered, fair and inclusive citizenship.

President Jacob Zuma and Cabinet ministers signed performance agreements based on the outcomes and targets.

The service-delivery agreements and plans for realising them are available on the Government and Presidency websites (www.gov.za and www.thepresidency.gov.za). The outcomes are reviewed by Cabinet and open to public scrutiny, as part of government's commitment to the people of South Africa to be transparent and accountable for service delivery.

The Presidency, June 2012

President: Jacob Zuma

Deputy President: Kgalema Motlanthe

The Constitution

South Africa's Constitution is one of the most progressive in the world and enjoys high acclaim internationally. Human rights are given clear prominence in the Constitution.

The Constitution is the supreme law of the land.

The Preamble to the Constitution states that its aims are to:

- heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights
- improve the quality of life of all citizens and free the potential of each person
- lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people, and in which every citizen is equally protected by law
- build a united and democratic South Africa that is able to take its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.

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

National Council of Provinces

The NCOP consists of 54 permanent members and 36 special delegates, and aims to represent provincial interests in the national sphere of government.

The Presidency

The President is the head of state and leads the Cabinet. He or she is elected by the National Assembly from among its members, and leads the country in the interest of national unity, in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

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The Presidential Hotline, which was introduced in September 2009, enables citizens to escalate their queries and suggestions to the President's Office.



By February 2012, the hotline had received 111 751 valid queries. Of these, 84 700 were attended to and resolved.

The contact details are telephone: 17737, fax: 086 681 0987 and e-mail: president@po.gov.za. The service is toll-free.

There are two ministers in The Presidency, one responsible for the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the other for Performance Monitoring and Evaluation as well as Administration.

The NPC is responsible for strategic planning for the country to ensure one national plan to which all spheres of government would adhere.

The *National Development Plan: Vision for 2030* was released in October 2011. It 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 corruption
- uniting the nation.

A monitoring and evaluation competency in The Presidency was created to monitor and evaluate the performance of government in all three spheres.

Achievements of the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation as well as Administration included the following:

- developing a position paper to guide government in implementing the outcomes approach
- developing an implementation guide to translate the *Green Paper on National Strategic Planning* into action
- signing performance agreements between the President and ministers
- finalising delivery agreements between key stakeholders on achieving the outcomes
- initialising the terms of reference and guide for outcome implementation forums

| Premiers, as at June 2012 | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Province | Premier |
| Eastern Cape | Noxolo Kiviet |
| Free State | Sekgobelo Elias Magashule |
| Gauteng | Nomvula Mokonyane |
| KwaZulu-Natal | Dr Zweli Mkhize |
| Limpopo | Cassel Mathale |
| Mpumalanga | David Mabuza |
| Northern Cape | Hazel Jenkins |
| North West | Thandi Modise |
| Western Cape | Helen Zille |

- developing a management-performance assessment tool to enable objective performance assessments of departments and municipalities by involving departments and bodies across the sphere of government to deliver input
- improving frontline service delivery, where the public interfaces with government.

The Deputy President

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

Cabinet

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

Provincial government

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

Provinces may have legislative and executive powers concurrently with the national sphere, over:

- agriculture
- casinos, horse racing and gambling
- cultural affairs

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- education at all levels, except university and university of technology education
- environment and nature conservation
- health, housing and welfare
- language policy
- police services, public transport, traffic regulation and vehicle licensing
- regional planning and development and urban and rural development.

Provinces are also responsible for promoting trade, investment and tourism.

They have exclusive competency over:

- abattoirs
- ambulance services
- liquor licences
- museums other than national museums
- provincial planning
- provincial cultural matters
- provincial recreation
- provincial roads and traffic.

Traditional leadership

Chapter 11 of the Constitution states that the institution, status and roles of traditional leadership, according to customary law, are recognised, subject to the Constitution.

Government remains committed to strengthening the institution of traditional leadership and appreciates the role it plays in society.

The Department of Traditional Affairs was established in April 2010 to underline the critical focus on traditional leadership.

The department is working on a range of policies which, among other things, include unity and diversity, initiation, traditional healing, traditional leaders' protocol, family trees, involving the Khoisan people in the system of governance in South Africa, and the remuneration and benefits of traditional leaders based on uniform norms and standards.

Local government

Local governments are not merely instruments of service delivery, but are expected to act as key agents for economic development.

Cabinet ministers and deputy ministers, as at June 2012

| Portfolio | Minister | Deputy Minister |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | Tina Joemat-Pettersson | Pieter Mulder |
| Arts and Culture | Paul Mashatile | Dr Joe Phaahla |
| Basic Education | Angie Motshekga | Enver Surty |
| Communications | Dina Pule | Stella Ndabeni |
| Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs | Richard Baloyi | Yunus Carrim |
| Correctional Services | Sibusiso Ndebele | Ngoako Ramatlhodi |
| Defence and Military Veterans | Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula | Thabang Makwetla |
| Economic Development | Ebrahim Patel | Hlengiwe Mkhize |
| Energy | Dipuo Peters | Barbara Thompson |
| Finance | Pravin Gordhan | Nhlanhla Nene |
| Health | Aaron Motsoaledi | Gwen Ramokgopa |
| Higher Education and Training | Blade Nzimande | Mduduzi Manana |
| Home Affairs | Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma | Fatima Chohan |
| Human Settlements | Tokyo Sexwale | Zoliswa Kota-Fredericks |
| International Relations and Cooperation | Maite Nkoana-Mashabane | Marius Fransman Ebrahim Ebrahim |
| Justice and Constitutional Development | Jeff Radebe | Andries Nel |
| Labour | Mildred Oliphant | - |
| Mineral Resources | Susan Shabangu | Godfrey Oliphant |
| Police | Nathi Mthethwa | Makhotso Soty |
| Public Enterprises | Malusi Gigaba | Gratitude Magwanishe |
| Public Service and Administration | Lindiwe Sisulu | Ayanda Dlodlo |
| Public Works | Thembelani Nxesi | Jeremy Cronin |
| Rural Development and Land Reform | Gugile Nkwinti | Solomon Tsenoli |

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Cabinet ministers and deputy ministers, as at June 2012

| Portfolio | Minister | Deputy Minister |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Science and Technology | Naledi Pandor | Derek Hanekom |
| Social Development | Bathabile Dlamini | Maria Ntuli |
| Sport and Recreation | Fikile Mbalula | Gert Oosthuizen |
| State Security | Siyabonga Cwele | - |
| The Presidency National Planning Commission | Trevor Manuel | - |
| The Presidency Performance Monitoring and Evaluation and Administration | Collins Chabane | Obed Bapela |
| Tourism | Marthinus van Schalkwyk | Thokozile Xasa |
| Trade and Industry | Rob Davies | Elizabeth Thabethe Thandi Tobias-Pokolo |
| Transport | Benedict Martins | Sindisiwe Chikunga |
| Water and Environmental Affairs | Edna Molewa | Rejoice Mabudafhasi |
| Women, Children and People with Disabilities | Lulu Xingwana | Hendrietta Bogopane- Zulu |

Municipalities

There are 278 municipalities in South Africa, comprising eight metropolitan, 44 district and 226 local municipalities. They are focused on growing local economies and providing infrastructure and services.

South Africa's eight metropolitan municipalities are:

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

Municipalities enjoy significant powers to corporatise their services. Legislation provides for them to report on their

A key programme of the Local Government Turnaround Strategy is Operation Clean Audit 2014. Its main purpose is to address challenges faced by municipalities and provinces in managing audits, especially audit findings and queries from the Auditor-General. The campaign seeks to achieve clean audits in municipalities and provincial government departments by 2014.

In 2004/05, 61 municipalities received financially unqualified audits. This figure increased to 94 in 2007/08, 117 in 2008/09 and 127 in 2009/10.



performance, and for residents to compare this performance with that of other municipalities.

Local Government Turnaround Strategy (LGTAS)

In December 2009, Cabinet approved the LGTAS. This is expected to ensure that local government has the correct management, administrative and technical skills.

The aims of the LGTAS are to:

- restore the confidence of the majority of South Africans in municipalities as the primary delivery organ of the developmental state at local level.
- rebuild and improve the basic requirements for a functional, responsive, accountable, effective and efficient developmental local government.

By December 2011, 90% of municipalities had developed their own turnaround strategies, which had been incorporated into their integrated development plans. These turnaround strategies assess the root causes of poor financial management and service delivery within municipalities and identify appropriate measures to improve performance.

Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG)

The Department of Cooperative Governance is responsible for managing and transferring the MIG and provides support to provinces and municipalities in implementing the MIG. This conditional grant aims to accelerate the eradication of basic services backlogs in poor communities. Allocations for the MIG increases from R7,2 billion in 2008/09 to R15,8 billion in 2014/15, at an average annual rate of 14,6%. In 2011/12, 1,8 million people were provided with access to water services and 1,3 million given access to sanitation services. In terms of community infrastructure, 1,3 million households

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were reached through the extension of road access and 616 186 households benefited from community lighting.

Between 2008/09 and 2011/12, R43,3 billion was spent through the MIG on basic services infrastructure.

Over this period, an additional 7,25 million people were given access to water services, while 5,87 million received access to sanitation services.

Communicating with the people

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) is primarily responsible for facilitating communication between government and citizens. A high premium is placed on communication that emphasises direct dialogue, especially with people in disadvantaged areas.

GCIS has three branches: Communication and Content Management, Corporate Services, and Government and Stakeholder Engagement.

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

The GCIS leads or is involved in various communication partnerships. Provincial and Local Liaison provides development communication and extends government's information infrastructure through partnerships with provincial and local government. It coordinates government's Thusong Service Centre Programme. By February 2012, there were 171 such centres. They aim to bring government services closer to the people.

The GCIS publishes, among other things, the *South African Yearbook*, the *Pocket Guide to South Africa*, *Vuk'uzenzele* and *Public Sector Manager* magazine. It is also responsible for the government news agency BuaNews.

The Media Development and Diversity Agency reports to the GCIS.

The toll-free, 24-hour National Public Service Anti-Corruption Hotline facility (0800 701 701) was established for the reporting of fraud and corruption.



Brand South Africa

In 2011, the International Marketing Council of South Africa changed its name to Brand South Africa to shift the



focus to its core mandate, which is to strengthen, promote and market the South African brand's image to international audiences.

As the custodian of the brand, Brand South Africa does this through collaboration with partners in government, private sector and civil society; working together to market the country.

Brand South Africa reports to The Presidency.

The Public Service

By the end of October 2011, the Public Service had nearly 1,3 million people in its employ (including members of the South African National Defence Force). National government employed 391 922 people and the nine provincial governments 891 430 people.

The Department of Public Service and Administration is mandated to foster good governance and sound administration in the Public Service.

Batho Pele remains government's leading campaign to achieve the desired crucial transformation of the hearts and minds of public servants. This is a public-service culture reorientation programme that is aimed at aligning the behaviour and attitudes of public servants towards the practice of Batho Pele ethos.

The department has identified the following 10 key priorities over the medium term:

- service-delivery quality and access
- effective systems, structures and processes
- leveraging information and communications technology as a strategic resource
- effective employment entry into public service and human-resource development cadre development

On 27 April 2012, Freedom Day, at a ceremony at the Presidential Guest House in Pretoria, President Jacob Zuma bestowed national orders, the country's highest civilian honour, on 31 recipients for outstanding achievements and contributions to freedom and development in South Africa.



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The Department of Home Affairs-South African Banking Risk Identification Centre (Sabric) Online Fingerprint Verification System was launched in November 2011.



Sabric and the department entered into a cooperation agreement in 2007 to jointly address bank-related identity fraud. In terms of the initiative, the department will allow banks access to the Home Affairs National Identification System to enable the biometric identification of current and prospective clients. This will assist banks in curbing identity-related fraud and corruption.

- efficient human-resource management practices, norms and standards
- healthy, safe working environments for all public servants
- appropriate governance structures and decision-making
- citizen engagement and public participation
- addressing corruption effectively
- contributing towards improved public service and administration in Africa and the international arena.

Home affairs

The Department of Home Affairs is the custodian of the identity of all South African citizens, critical to which is the issuance of birth, marriage and death certificates; identity documents and passports; as well as citizenship; and naturalisation and permanent residency certificates. This goes beyond merely issuing documents and encompasses the safe maintenance and archiving of biometric and demographic records of citizens and residents of the country.

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

Public entities and other agencies falling under the department include the:

- Government Printing Works
- Electoral Commission
- Film and Publication Board.

Permanent residence

The department is responsible for admitting people suitable for immigration, such as skilled workers who are in short supply locally.

Applications are particularly encouraged from industrialists and other entrepreneurs who wish to relocate their existing concerns or establish new concerns in South Africa.

Those wishing to enter the country as work seekers or for study purposes must have the relevant permit, which is issued outside the country.

Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)

The IEC is a permanent body created by the Constitution to promote and safeguard democracy in South Africa. Although publicly funded and accountable to Parliament, the commission is independent of government. Its immediate task is the impartial management of free and fair elections at all levels of government.

Local government elections were held in May 2011. The highest-ever voter turnout in local elections since 2000 was recorded. The turnout was 57,54% of the estimated over 22,7 million eligible voters in the country. The number of councillors appointed from these elections increased by 12,3% and 8,5% from the 2000 and 2006 elections respectively.

Public Administration Leadership and Management Academy (Palama)

Palama (Sesotho for “ascend”), as the public-sector training academy, has a central role to play in building the capacity of the public sector to perform more effectively.

Palama’s offerings address the practical management competencies required for improved service delivery in all spheres of government.

Special courses are developed and customised to meet department-specific training needs.

