

South Africa's National Anthem

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

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

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

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

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

Pocket Guide to South Africa 2014/15

Twelfth (12th) edition

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

ISBN: 978-0-9922078-7-8

Editor: Elias Tibane

Editorial support: Malphia Honwane and Antonia Vermeulen

Support services: Carel Mojela

Picture coordinator: Elizabeth Mpila

Images supplied by: GCIS

Cover design: Rachel Sekhu

Design and layout: Ntombenkosie Malgas

Printed and bound in the Republic of South Africa by CTP.

Compiled, edited and published by the GCIS.

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

Unless otherwise specified, information contained in this *Pocket Guide to South Africa* was the latest available as at September 2015.

Contents

Foreword by President Jacob Zuma	iv
South Africa at a glance	vi
History	1
South Africa's people	11
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	13
Arts and culture	21
Communications	35
Economy and finance	49
Education	55
Energy and water	63
Environment	75
Government systems	85
Health	95
Human settlements	101
International relations	105
Justice and correctional services	115
Mineral resources	125
Police	131
Provinces	137
Rural development	145
Science and technology	153
Social development	165
Sport and recreation	175
Tourism	193
Transport	205
Reference list	213



FOREWORD

This edition of the *Pocket Guide to South Africa 2014/15* bears testimony to some of the notable achievements of our democratic country.

Not only does it highlight the progress made over the past year by the various government departments and entities, but it also chronicles some of the tangible milestones.

Government continues to deal decisively with the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment. It has implemented far-reaching measures to improve the lives of the people. At the same time, we are resolute in our endeavour to foster nation-building and social cohesion, which serve as the foundations of building a united, non-sexist and non-racial society.

FOREWORD

South Africa celebrated 20 Years of Freedom with pomp and ceremony in 2014, which coincided with the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Women's Charter. This historic occasion preceded the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Freedom Charter in 2015.

Another milestone was the successful national elections in May 2014, which ushered in the fifth administration.

After South Africa attained freedom in 1994, the democratic government identified infrastructure development as one of its key job drivers. This involved multibillion-rand projects to refurbish and build schools, clinics, hospitals and power stations, as well as improve rail, roads and broadband infrastructure, which all form part of the country's developmental agenda.

Other job-intensive projects that contribute to boosting economic growth include tourism, manufacturing, mining and beneficiation.

Our health system continues to respond favourably to the medical needs of the people of our country, especially the poor, with life expectancy increasing and HIV-infection rates being reduced considerably.

Our meaningful contribution to peaceful coexistence and mutual cooperation in Africa and the rest of the world has distinguished our country as a key role-player in promoting socio-economic and political stability as a catalyst for development.

As a peace-loving nation, we have for many years been living together in peace and harmony with foreign nationals, hence government fosters an inclusive society. Government has also given prominence to the rights of the most vulnerable – the elderly, women and children. The total emancipation of women, who were previously discriminated against by both the apartheid government and a patriarchal society, is fast gaining momentum.

Meanwhile, as the country prepares to hold the local government elections in 2016, our democracy is being taken another step forward towards strengthening the mandate and capacity of our municipalities to provide better services to our people.

This edition of the *Pocket Guide to South Africa* will undoubtedly serve as a formal source of reference to the progress that government has achieved in the past year.

It tells a good story of the individual and collective efforts being made to move South Africa forward.



His Excellency Jacob G. Zuma
President of the Republic of South Africa
September 2015