



Official Guide to SOUTH AFRICA 2021/22



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Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





Official Guide to **SOUTH AFRICA** 2021/22

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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.

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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 2022.

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FOREWORD

The 2021/22 edition of the *Official Guide to South Africa* coincides with a time of renewed hope and restoration in our country, as we gradually recover from the impact of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic that has dealt a harsh blow to our already ailing economy.

Although government had moved swiftly to deal with the pandemic by safeguarding lives and livelihoods, limited economic activity during the national lockdown resulted in job losses and increased poverty.

COVID-19 has hampered our efforts to tackle the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment through higher rates of economic growth, the creation of more jobs and the provision of better services to the people of South Africa.

As part of our economic recovery process, the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan primarily focuses on growing the economy, promoting foreign investment and creating much-needed jobs.

Infrastructure development is one of the ways identified as crucial to the growth of the economy and creation of jobs. Substantial funds have been allocated for catalytic infrastructure projects over the next few years. This will, among others, support the upgrading of roads, bridges, water and sewer, transport, schools, hospitals and clinics.

In addition to fighting the pandemic, government has also been waging an intensive and sustained war against the ‘second pandemic’, gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF), which is destroying the fabric of our society. We have since unveiled legislation that deals harshly with perpetrators of GBVF – the Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Act, 2021 (Act 12 of 2021), Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2021 (Act 13 of 2021) and Domestic Violence Amendment Act, 2021 (Act 14 of 2021).

Our fight against the scourge of corruption, which undermines the gains of our democracy, is gaining momentum. Government is doing all in its power to ensure that perpetrators of corruption and related malfeasance are held accountable and face the full might of the law. This intervention will ensure that South Africans have confidence in public institutions and promote a capable state.

Through ongoing support, government has enabled small businesses to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Employment Tax Incentive encourages employers to hire more young and less experienced work seekers. Other important interventions include the Presidential Employment Stimulus, which aims to create jobs and strengthen livelihoods, and the Social Relief of Distress (SRD) Grant, which provides temporary assistance to unemployed persons. The SRD Grant has been extended until the end of March 2023.

To create a conducive environment and encourage businesses to operate in South Africa, government has created a dedicated red tape team in The Presidency. The team will identify priority reforms for the year ahead, including mechanisms to ensure government departments pay suppliers within the required 30 days. It will also support current initiatives to simplify processes relating to property registration, cross-border trade and construction permits.

South Africa remains committed to developing the African economy through the African Continental Free Trade Area, which promotes investment and tourism within the continent, accelerates industrialisation, and drives green growth and low-carbon development.

To address migration issues orderly, government has formulated the National Labour Migration Policy that will provide a framework and legal basis to regulate the extent to which employers can hire foreign nationals while also protecting the rights of migrants.

The chapters of the *Official Guide to South Africa* provide more information on these and other government programmes, plans and projects.



His Excellency Cyril M. Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa
October 2022