

Govt makes progress in implementing Programme of Action



Government is on track in implementing the Programme of Action (PoA), which is making a difference to the lives of people, while also addressing challenges affecting service delivery. This report looks at the

progress made for the period April to June 2016. Implementation of the PoA, which has 14 priority outcomes, advances the objectives of the National Development Plan (NDP) which is South Africa's blueprint towards realising Vision 2030. This translates into specific targets set out in the Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), which is government's first five-year implementation plan of the NDP covering the period 2014 to 2019.

The MTSF sets out the actions government will take and targets to be reached. It also provides a framework for the other plans of national, provincial and local government. The MTSF 2014–2019 focuses on a number of areas, which include:

- Radical economic transformation, rapid economic growth and job creation
- Rural development, land and agrarian reform and food security
- Ensuring access to adequate human settlements and quality basic services
- Improving the quality of and expanding access to education and training
- Ensuring quality health care and social security for all citizens
- Fighting corruption and crime
- Social cohesion and nation building.

This progress update covers developments in the:

- Economic Sectors, Employment and Infrastructure Development Cluster
- Social Protection, Community and Human Development Cluster
- Governance and Administration Cluster.

Economic Sectors, Employment and Infrastructure Development Cluster

The cluster is responsible for:

Outcome 4: Decent employment through inclusive economic growth

Outcome 5: A skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path

Outcome 6: An efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network

Outcome 7: Comprehensive Rural Development

Outcome 10: Protect and Enhance our Environmental Assets and Natural Resources.



When outcomes are implemented with positive results the objectives of the Nine-Point Plan are attained. Every day of implementation takes the country a step closer towards realising the long-term goal of overcoming the triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality. Government is striving to create an environment that allows citizens to flourish, enter new jobs and benefit from new investments attracted in partnership with organised labour and business.

Economic context

The South African economy recovered strongly from April to June 2016, growing by 3.3 percent quarter-on-quarter. Although the global economic environment remains challenging, the strong growth seen in South Africa's mining and manufacturing sectors is heartening.

The better than expected GDP growth of 3.3 percent has raised expectations of full-year growth for South Africa. Consequently, the Reserve Bank now believes the economy will grow by about 0.4 percent this year. The productive sectors in which the Economic Cluster has been actively involved provided the main impetus for growth, with mining growing by 11.8 percent and manufacturing expanding by 8.1 percent. The severe drought in parts of the country has negatively affected the agricultural sector but the cluster is mindful that a number of domestic and global weather forecasters are predicting slightly better rainfall in the coming growing/planting season.

Employment has been fairly subdued. The economy has not been growing fast enough to absorb new entrants to the job market. The Economic Cluster is determined to use

the Nine-Point Plan to stimulate the domestic economy and advance our productive sectors.

The NDP provides interventions to mitigate the challenges in the short to medium term. These include attention to fiscal and monetary policy, protecting key sectors with long-term prospects, re-orientation of trade to emerging markets as well as strengthening the partnership with business, civil society and labour.

Government is concerned about the continuous socio-economic impact of drought and decrease in water levels in dams. Several water restrictions were gazetted, including provinces other than those hit hardest by the drought. The strict implementation of drought operating rules applies to all dams and includes restrictions from the larger supply systems. In addition, government is increasing the water mix, especially ground water use. Over 7 487 boreholes are now operational.



Update on progress:

Outcome 4: Decent employment through inclusive economic growth

Encouraging private sector investment

South Africa remains a sound investment destination that offers lucrative investment opportunities, advanced technologies and manufacturing capabilities and a stable and sound financial sector with a sophisticated services industry.

Government's incentives have leveraged substantial private-sector investments such as R15.4 billion from leading automotive assemblers such as Toyota and Ford and projects approved for the 12I Tax Allowance Incentive. The announced investments will create 4 675 new jobs. Similarly, government has identified 40 priority investment projects in critical sectors such as agro-processing and Agri-Parks, energy and infrastructure, manufacturing and services and the ability to crowd-in further investment. Government is accelerating the implementation of 10 of these to achieve job creation, skills development, better public infrastructure and economic opportunities.

The departments of Home Affairs and Tourism have been cooperating to ease regulations to support increased tourist arrivals. The Department of Home Affairs has introduced new technology such as biometrics at some ports of entry to ensure ease of passage for tourists. SA Tourism's efforts in key markets to market and promote South Africa have also contributed to increased tourist arrivals.

Stimulating labour-intensive sectors

The NDP requires the re-positioning of the South African economy to take full advantage of positive changes and opportunities in the world economy. The cluster is stimulating the country's labour-intensive sectors through various incentives that attract investors and businesses that will have a higher impact on jobs.

The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) approved R700 million to fund the job drivers; 441 jobs were created across the automotive and transport equipment; clothing and textiles; heavy manufacturing; and machinery and

FEEDBACK

equipment sectors.

The IDC's funding approvals for 2015/16 totalled R14.5 billion. Funding approvals for black empowered companies, including black industrialists, reached R 4.9 billion. In addition, R970 billion was approved

for youth-empowered enterprises. IDC funding supported 15 272 jobs in 2015/16.

The Black Industrialists Programme, which aims to create 100 black industrialists over the medium term, approved four applications valued at R500 million in the agro-processing, plastic and pharmaceuticals, electrical equipment and metals sector. Stakeholder campaigns have been rolled out to inform and assist potential applicants.

Measures were introduced to support the steel industry, including an increase in customs duties across a range of steel products. The rebate for applications for flat rolled steel for corrugated roofing and flat rolled steel for appliances is in progress. The Steel Committee, under the auspices of the International Trade Administration Commission, will implement and monitor the pricing methodology for flat steel.

Unlocking the potential of SMMEs, cooperatives, township and rural enterprises

To promote more inclusive growth government is creating an environment for small businesses to grow and flourish. The NDP prescribes interventions to help unlock the economic potential in under-developed areas. SMMEs, cooperatives, township and rural enterprises can all help increase economic growth.

Skills acquisition and start-up support went to 280 rural enterprises and 181 township enterprises while 147 existing SMMEs were assisted with skills and start-up support so that they can run their own businesses successfully. The Black Business Supplier Development Programme supported a further 130 SMMEs which in turn supported 2 116 jobs. The Small Enterprise Finance Agency, in partnership with Coca-Cola, has committed an additional R120 million to support SMMEs in townships.

The Cooperative Incentive Scheme helped 44 cooperatives



build their initial asset base and further supported 65 co-operatives through capacity building programmes.

Efforts to create decent employment opportunities include the renovation of industrial parks. The revitalisation of the Botshabelo Industrial Park was completed in June 2016. The first phase of the revitalisation of Seshego Industrial Park, which included security, fencing and electricity upgrades, has been completed and construction of the Makhado/Musina Industrial Park is underway. SMMEs and local communities will benefit from jobs, improved infrastructure and economic opportunities unlocked by these parks.

Recently, the value of innovative approaches concerning competition by the Economic Development Department was demonstrated through the Coca-Cola bottling plant merger and acquisition of SAB Miller by the world's largest brewer, AB InBev. The Ministry of Economic Development negotiated agreements with significant BEE components.

Between the two transactions, R1.8 billion will be set aside to promote economic activity by small-scale black farmers, black-owned retail outlets and other businesses. AB InBev will provide over R600 million to develop a local supply-chain that will include 800 new small-scale black farmers.

Coca-Cola has agreed to set aside 20 per cent of the equity in the Group for black South Africans and to ensure a similar percentage of shares is set aside for BEE partners in Appletiser. Spaza shop owners will be allowed to use 10 per cent of fridge and cooler space paid for by Coca-Cola to stock rival products particularly from small soft-drink bottlers, some of which black South Africans own. In the AB InBev deal, similarly, it will be permissible to stock the black-owned beer brand, Soweto Gold, in SAB Miller-owned fridges and display units at taverns.

In April 2016 Cabinet approved the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) which seeks to create resource-efficient cities and towns that are socially integrated, economically inclusive and globally competitive. Over 60 per cent of South Africans live in urban areas. This is projected to increase to 80 per cent by 2050 respectively.

The IUDF Implementation Plan seeks to strengthen municipalities' role as investment hubs while promoting an inclusive economic agenda. Strategic interventions will be implemented in 97 identified municipalities in the next 18 months.

Outcome 5: A skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path

Skills needed to grow the economy

The NDP requires that attention be given to occupationally-directed programmes in critical areas needed to grow the economy. Artisans have specialised skills that are sought after by industry and have the opportunity to become entrepreneurs.

Because skills are needed to grow the economy, 4 749 new artisans have been certified by the National Artisan

Moderation Body. A further 24 324 workplace-based learning opportunities were taken up.

To provide a continuous supply of artisans to the local economy, the Thabazimbi campus of the Waterberg TVET College opened on 30 June 2016. Another two campus sites are 60 per cent complete. Protocols for the secondment of sector specialists to work at TVET colleges have been developed and 329 lecturers have undergone workplace exposure to strengthen the quality of training.

Outcome 6: An efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network

Ensuring a reliable energy supply

The NDP requires that South Africa has a reliable energy supply to ensure energy security and enable economic growth.

The implementation of the Five-Point Plan to resolve the country's energy challenges has helped turn around the energy situation and avert load shedding in the foreseeable future. The country has not applied load shedding since August 2015.

A reliable energy supply requires infrastructure. Eskom accelerated the delivery of the build programme with Medupi Unit 6 and Ingula Units 2 and 4 reaching commercial operation. These have added 1 386 MW to the grid. Medupi Unit 5 and the remaining two Ingula units were successfully synchronised to the grid. All the units have been consistently providing electricity.

The additional capacity has allowed Eskom to carry out its maintenance programme whilst meeting electricity demands. Eskom recorded excess capacity of up to 14 000 MW during peak hours recently. South Africa is a primary electricity provider for the SADC region now. The rollout of the renewable energy projects through the Independent Power Producer Programme has helped diversify our energy mix.

Integrated Energy Centres are being built to provide products such as paraffin, diesel, petrol, gas and gas burner stoves that meet communities' energy needs. After being connected to grid, 49 314 additional households gained access to electricity, while 600 households were connected to off-grid technology in rural areas.

Logistics and transport infrastructure

Johannesburg, Tshwane, George and Cape Town have rolled out Integrated Rapid Public Transport Networks that are carrying 130 000 passenger trips. Five more cities are expected to commence services in 2017.

Through the S'hamba Sonke Programme government is work-

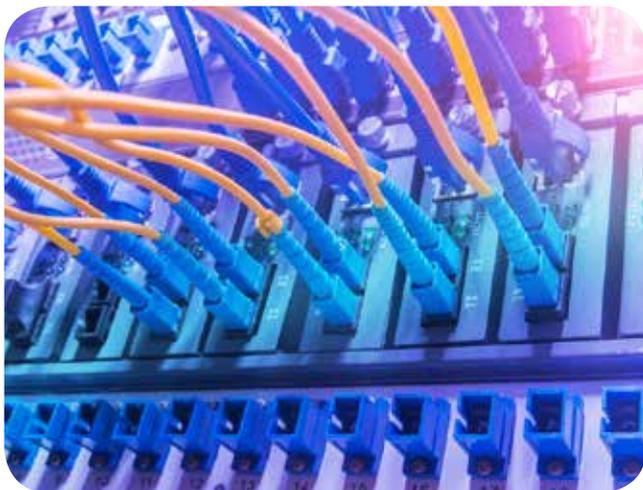


ing to maintaining the provincial road networks. Successful projects completed include 155 392 m² of pothole patching; 767 kilometres of re-sealed roads with 10 355 kilometres of roads re-gravelled and 76 350 kilometres bladed. The S'hamba Sonke Programme is improving access to socio-economic facilities and providing job opportunities to rural communities.

Information and communications infrastructure

State-owned companies and the private sector continue to invest, with R26 billion set to be spent in 2016 on upgrading telecommunications infrastructure and networks. Working with provincial departments of education, Vodacom, MTN and Cell C, an additional 456 rural schools have been connected to communication infrastructure including Wi-Fi. Investments by the private sector in rolling out 4G networks totalled R23.5 billion in 2015 with R26 billion to be spent in 2016.

The NDP vision for broadband is that by 2020 all citizens should have access to affordable broadband. In an



effort to supplement the initiatives of municipalities in the roll-out of broadband, funds were reprioritised to support free Wi-Fi programmes in six municipalities.

Investments in science and innovation

Investments in science and innovation have attracted significant international interest and foreign investment in research infrastructure. The United States' National Science Foundation's decision to declare Hydrogen Epoch of Reionisation Array

(HERA) a project of the Square Kilometre Array and to expand HERA through an investment of \$9.5 million is a welcome affirmation of South Africa's capabilities. The refurbished Kuntuse observatory dish in Ghana is now fully rotational due to the work of South African and Ghanaian engineers and scientists.

Bulk water resources



There has been progress in optimising institutional arrangements within the water sector to enhance efficiencies and drive investments. The consolidation of Regional Water Utilities has progressed and the establishment of Water Catchment Agencies for the Berg-Olifants, Orange and Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma has been gazetted. Public participation processes on the Water Pricing Strategy as well as the Norms and Standards for Water Pricing have been concluded. Over the quarter, there were 123 new water-use license applications; 76 were finalised within the targeted turnaround times. In the first quarter 24 000 households gained access to piped water, 11 Accelerated Community Water Infrastructure Projects were implemented and 223 rain harvesting tanks distributed.

The Pongolapoort Bulk Water Scheme in KwaZulu-Natal, the KSD waste water treatment works in the Eastern Cape and Kalarhari East to Mier pipeline in the Northern Cape have been completed. The replacement of bucket toilet systems with dignified and adequate sanitation benefited 2 154 households.

Outcome 7: Comprehensive rural development

Revitalising agriculture, the agro-processing value chain and land reform

Good progress has been made in increasing the number of smallholder farmers, bringing under-utilised land into production and rehabilitating land.

A total of 17 456 hectares of land was acquired and allocated and 44 588 hectares of land allocated to smallholder producers. Various initiatives supported 9 155 smallholder producers.

Production started on 1 134 hectares of underutilised land. Previously disadvantaged farm workers and farm dwellers have been empowered by giving them access to productive arable land so that they can earn an income.

The "One Household - One Hectare programme" has assisted 620 households to obtain security of tenure. A further 22 youth





cooperatives will benefit from the Fortune 40 Programme, which trains young people in agricultural activities across the value chain.

The Recapitalisation and Development Programme benefits 102 additional land reform farms. A further 13 sites have been approved for implementing the Strengthening of Relative Rights for People Working the Land (50/50) Programme.

Under the "Working for/on" Programmes 107 740 hectares of land are being rehabilitated, while 13 394 hectares of land have been rehabilitated in the Land Care Programme. The intention is for this land to be returned to production soon.

Support to agriculture extends to the revitalisation of 16 irrigation schemes to benefit 664 farmers, and helping 265 resource-poor farmers to access water for production, while 76 water use licenses were issued to previously disadvantaged individuals. A further 216 hectares of land were irrigated.

Two fully operational Agri-Parks in Ncora, Eastern Cape, and

Springbokpan, North West have been created. Six other Agri-Parks are under construction. Together with farmers and the private sector we will unlock markets and export opportunities for Agri-Parks.

Outcome 10: Protect and enhance our environmental assets and natural resources

Environmental protection

Government also drives public employment programmes to create work, build infrastructure and deliver services in communities. The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) created 189 150 work opportunities in all four EPWP sectors. The programme has also exceeded the target of employment of women with 68.3 percent of jobs being for women and 1.9 percent for people with disabilities.

The Economic Cluster's immediate priorities include:

- Expediting full implementation of the 30 percent set aside to unlock the potential of SMMEs, cooperatives, township and rural enterprises
- Fast tracking the implementation of ten of the 40 priority investment projects
- Coordinating the implementation of the quick win interventions that will be identified through the agriculture, land reform and rural development Phakisa
- Scaling-up successful oceans economy projects and expanding coastal and marine tourism to create more jobs
- Completing the Integrated Energy Plan to provide certainty on electricity pricing and investment in generation capacity
- Deploying locally developed technologies
- Prioritising water savings and putting measures in place to minimise water losses
- Continued support for labour-intensive sectors to create employment.

Social Protection, Community and Human Development Cluster

Over 20 Community Dialogues were conducted during the first quarter in various provinces. The Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) has been working on the Official Languages Act to promote indigenous languages for nation building and social cohesion.

Government departments have to set up language units to provide services in the three most commonly used languages in their respective provinces. Most national departments have adapted their language policies.

Poverty alleviation initiatives

The NDP has set a target to eradicate absolute poverty by going from 39 to zero percent of people living below the poverty line by 2030.

Government is continuing to improve the living conditions of poor, vulnerable and underprivileged South Africans, including unemployed South Africans and orphaned and vulnerable children living in child-headed households.

Through the Social Assistance Programme over 17 million deserving South Africans are receiving social grants from the South African Social Security Agency to the value of R10 billion per month.



Social security reform policy

The Social Cluster Cabinet Committee reviewed a proposal for amendments to the Social Assistance Act. These include changes to the administration of social grants that will improve the efficiency of the appeals process and the functioning of the inspectorate.

Government's target is to reduce the unemployment rate to six percent by creating 11 million more jobs by 2030.

The EPWP Social Sector plays a significant role in responding to the challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality, which the recently completed EPWP Social Sector 2014/15 Evaluation report by the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation confirmed. Over the past five years on



average 71 percent of participants were women and 51 percent were young people.

The EPWP Incentive Grant allocation has increased from R240 563 million in 2015/16 to R359 million to 40 departments in 2016/17 across all provinces.

Orphaned and vulnerable children in child-headed households

Government remains committed to providing care and support for orphaned and vulnerable children living in child- and youth-headed households through the Isibindi Programme. To date, the programme has trained child and youth care workers to render direct psycho-social support services to 10 472 children in their homes.

Government has developed a Child and Youth Headed Households Register to ensure that orphaned and vulnerable children are easily accessed by social workers on the ground.

Social crime prevention and substance abuse

Government is responding to the shortage of quality substance dependency treatment services in the country. There are seven substance abuse public treatment centres in the country which are not fairly accessible to all provinces.

Six additional treatment centres are being established so that at least each province has one public treatment facility. In the current financial year, government plans to open substance abuse public treatment centres in Eastern Cape, North West, Limpopo and Free State.

Higher education

The universities face serious funding challenges and many South Africans are finding it difficult to access post-school education because of financial challenges.

Government is aware of these and remains firmly committed to progressively realising free post-school education for the poor and working class, as called for by the Constitution, and to assist middle class families who are unable to pay fees.

The effects of last year's moratorium on fee adjustments and the extra costs associated with insourcing have added to these challenges.

The immediate and pressing task is to continue improving access to post-school education and to strengthen the quality of learning and teaching. Carefully considered and designed provisions to address these challenges have been made. A Presidential Commission is looking into the matter of fees.



A comprehensive national audit of all registered and unregistered treatment centres and halfway houses in the country has been accomplished. It enabled government to determine the country's capacity to treat people with substance abuse and challenges relating to the registration of unregistered treatment centres.

They are encouraged to comply with the minimum requirements for registration.

The NDP states that by 2030, people living in South Africa should have no fear of crime. "Women, children and those who are vulnerable should feel protected." As a result, gender-based violence has government's focused attention.

The 24-hour toll-free Gender Based Violence (GBV) Command Centre has been set up to provide a much needed telephonic counselling service to victims of GBV. South Africans can call the GBV on 0800 428 428 or dial *120*7867# on their cellphones to be contacted by a social worker.

Between January and August 2016 the Command Centre received more than 31 496 calls. They dealt with varied types of GBV-related cases such as domestic violence, rape, physical abuse, indecent assault, verbal abuse and intimidation as well as abandoned children.

Other cases included stalking, economic abuse, emotional abuse, sexual harassment, forced marriages, forced prostitution, forced abortion, human trafficking, exploitation of domestic workers, abuse of elderly people, incest and violence against foreign nationals. It is critical to emphasise that GBV can only be eradicated through collaborative efforts in all sectors of society.

Chapter 9 of the NDP is clear about what needs to be done in the education sector. It requires provision of good quality education for all.



Gangsterism in schools

There is concern about the growing number of incidents of gangsterism in schools. This is often coupled with the prevalence of drugs and violence. Gangsterism is affecting the education system negatively. Violence and drugs will not be tolerated, especially at schools. Schools must use the policy in place to carry out drug tests on learners.

There is also a protocol between the Department of Basic Education (DBE) and the South African Police Service which should be nurtured and used to maximum effect at school level.



Grade 12 final examination

There has been a steady increase in the overall matric pass rate which reached 71 percent in 2015. Government is ready and prepared to run the Grade 12 final examinations. There are 677 141 registered full-time and 150 183 part-time candidates for the 2016 examinations which is 9 000 more than in 2015. Kwa-Zulu-Natal and Gauteng have the largest enrolments with 169 769 and 112 069 respectively. Limpopo has 102 618 and in the Eastern Cape 89 740 candidates have registered for the 2016 Grade 12 exams.

The number of students doing pure mathematics as opposed to maths literacy has increased. This means that efforts to promote mathematics as a subject of choice are working.

Interventions to prevent examination papers from being leaked are in place. All storage points across the country will be audited to ensure that they meet minimum security standards. Storage points that do not comply will not be allowed to store examination papers.

Learner wellbeing

The psychosocial and economic realities of South Africa make schools valuable centres of support, with ever-increasing demands on educators. These include high rates of unemployment and poverty, high rates of HIV and tuberculosis infection, crime, orphans, violence and child abuse. Government has undertaken to review and strengthen psychosocial support to learners.

The Medical Research Council's 2013 Youth Risk Behaviour Survey indicates that 25 percent of pupils in the 15 to 19 years age group reported having experienced sadness or feelings of hopelessness. Out of these learners, 37 percent had to see a doctor or counsellor for treatment.

The DBE has developed a conceptual framework on the Care and Support for Teaching and Learning Programme to guide the response to the various barriers to learning.

Working in collaboration with universities and other government departments, final year psychology students have been placed in schools as school-based counsellors.

According to the 2012 Human Sciences Research Council HIV prevalence survey the infection rate amongst 15 to 19 year-olds is 3.2 percent (0.7 males



School infrastructure

Government is changing the education landscape and restoring dignity to learners through the delivery of school infrastructure across the country.

As part of the Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative (ASIDI) government unveiled state-of-the-art schools every week, built or refurbished at a cost of between R35 million and R50 million each in the last quarter.

Since its inception, the ASIDI initiative led to the completion of just over 170 schools out of a targeted 510 around the country, with 126 of them situated in the Eastern Cape.

The schools, which are mainly constructed in rural and underprivileged urban areas, come standard with a science lab, computer lab, media centre, rain water harvesting tanks, nutrition centre and fully functional administration block with offices and staff room.

A further 126 schools are at various stages of implementation, 54 of which will be completed in the course of the 2016/17 financial year.

All ASIDI schools meet the minimum norms and standards and, in some cases, exceed them. To this end, an additional 615 schools have been provided with water, 418 with decent sanitation and 307 with electricity. In schools where water supply remains a challenge, immediate interventions are being implementing, like harvesting rainwater and deploying mobile water tankers to ensure that learners have drinking water and are able to wash their hands.



and 5.6 percent females). The International Aids Conference held in Durban in July also revealed a high prevalence of HIV among learners, girls in particular.

Government is responding to the urgent need to massively improve sexual and reproductive health education and services for adolescents in South Africa. The HIV and AIDS Life Skills Programme has to be re-focused

To date, the DBE National Policy on HIV, STIs and TB was approved on 20 May 2016 and the Deputy President launched the Campaign for girls and young women in June 2016.

Major progress towards attaining the outcome of a long and healthy life for all South Africans has been made through the successful implementation of interventions to reduce maternal, child and infant mortality and successful management of the major communicable diseases.

According to Statistics South Africa's Midyear Population Estimates Report released in August 2016, the overall life expectancy at birth of South Africans is 62.4 years in 2016, compared to 56.4 years in 2009.

Major limitations in the performance of the health sector include the lack of progress towards all targets focusing on the improvement of quality of health care in the public sector.

This includes the inability to conduct patient satisfaction surveys, which assess their experiences of care in public sector health services; and slow progress in the prevention and management of TB.

Government will embark on a nationwide multi-pronged

health communication campaign called PHILA to assist in achieving set health targets as enshrined in the NDP document. This campaign seeks to communicate health issues holistically as opposed to concentrating on a single pandemic.

The Minister of Health will launch this campaign which aims to empower and encourage individuals to take specific steps to prevent, care for, or treat health issues that threaten South Africa's health in general.

The Social Cluster departments have, as of October, embarked on healthy and safer lifestyles awareness campaigns, for example:

- National recreation day will be used to raise awareness of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle
- The nutrition and obesity weeks
- Transport month which will focus on injury, violence and trauma, especially on our roads, and motor vehicle accidents
- Social development month will prioritise among other things anti-substance abuse issues.

Recently, Team South Africa carried the country's flag at the 2016 Olympic Games. Sport is central to nation building and South Africa is in awe of Team South Africa for uniting the country behind a shared love for sport.

Sports academies across South Africa supported 794 talented athletes and scientific sport programmes supported 68 elite athletes in preparation for the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The investment yielded results and united the nation behind



Team SA. Participation opportunities were provided to 20 250 community members at various sport and recreation events.

Drought and water restrictions

The country is still affected by drought, with the average dam levels decreasing week on week. A number of the country's river systems have very low water levels.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has gazetted a number of restrictions beyond the provinces that were hardest hit by the drought initially. The latest restrictions apply to the Vaal River System, as well as the Orange and Caledon River Systems.

All users are urged to work with government to ensure adherence to the restriction. The long-range forecast shows below normal expected rainfall and therefore little relief is anticipated in the coming months. From a water supply per-

spective, water security must therefore be viewed and assessed in relation to the users served by the large regional water supply schemes comprising the major dams and large bulk infrastructure networks.

As part of on-going measures, government has deployed 63 18 000 litre-motorised water tankers across the most adversely affected municipalities. Water conservation and measures for managing demand are being intensified with 16 000 water restrictors installed in a number of areas in the eThekweni, Ugu, Zululand and uMzinyathi Districts of KwaZulu-Natal.

The strict implementation of drought operating rules is underway at all dams. The rules include restrictions from the larger supply systems. In addition, the water mix is being increased, especially ground water utilisation. More than 7 487 boreholes established by various government departments and municipalities are now operational across the country.

Governance and Administration Cluster



Government launched Public Service Month programme on 2 September 2016 in the Northern Cape. Informed by the national theme of "Together Moving the Public Service Forward: "We Belong, We Care, We Serve", government is actively engaged in all service-delivery activities, with senior managers deployed to different service delivery points to promote good governance and public administration that enforces respect for human rights, particularly the dignity and integrity of all citizens by Putting them First.

The Thusong Service Centre Programme is now in its 17th year. It was observed from 19 to 23 September 2016. The main aim of the week is to highlight access to government information, services and opportunities available at the 197 Thusong Service Centres across the 126 local municipalities in the country.

Anti-corruption campaign

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 envisages a Public Service that, amongst others, maintains and promotes a high standard of professional ethics, promotes efficient, economic and effective use of resources, and is accountable for its actions. Regulation 11(a) of the Public Service Regulations, 2016 reminds public servants to adhere to the Constitution and other laws of the Republic.

The reviewed Public Service Regulations include clauses that prohibit public servants from accepting gifts when performing official duties, conducting business with any organ of state or

being a director of a public or private company that does business with an organ of state.

Public servants have to disclose their business activities involving any organ/s of state and should, by January 2017, decide whether to resign from the Public Service or relinquish their business activities.

The Persal system has also been configured to capture other remunerative work done by public servants.

The National Anti-Corruption Hotline (NACH) – 0800 701 701 - of the Public Service Commission allows whistle-blowers to report corruption without fear of victimisation. As at 31 August 2016, 18 076 cases had been referred to departments and feedback on 16 752 (93 percent) cases had been received.

Of all cases referred, 16 547 (92 percent) were closed. The closure rate underscores a commitment by departments to investigate allegations of corruption as reported through the NACH.

Since the inception of the NACH, 3 570 officials have been found guilty of misconduct related to corrupt activities reported through it.

The following are the types of sanctions against officials that were charged and found guilty of misconduct between 1 September 2004 and August 2016:

- a) 1 694 officials were dismissed from the Public Service
- b) 438 officials were fined (e.g. not receiving a salary for three months)
- c) 133 officials were demoted
- d) 913 officials were given final written warnings
- e) 392 officials were prosecuted.

The successful investigation of cases of alleged corruption reported to the NACH resulted in the recovery of R340 million from perpetrators.

All senior managers in the Public Service are expected to disclose all their financial interests by 30 April each year. The overall compliance rate of national and provincial public servants was 98 per cent in the 2015/16 financial year (82 percent in 2014/15). This is an increase of 16 percent.

The Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) continues to meet its obligations by paying member claims and other expenses in keeping with its statutory and contractual obligations. It is important to note that GEMS is financially sound and its cash assets at the end of July 2016 stood at R4.2 billion.

The National School of Government (NSG), working with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), has trained 312 officials who are responsible for capacitating councillors at local government level.



The NSG is implementing that Breaking Barriers programme aimed at capacitating graduates who do not have experience in the public sector. This programme aims to remove barriers that make it difficult for graduates to find employment in the Public Service. The total number of interns trained from April to August 2016 is 1 136.

The NSG is also implementing the Foresight, Innovation and Leadership Programme, which was developed in collaboration with the Institute for Leadership Development in Africa and the American University.

It is a master train-the-trainer programme aimed at promoting critical thinking, ability to communicate effectively and innovate, and solve problems by applying negotiation and collaboration strategies to achieve win-win outcomes.

After successful completion of the programme, master instructors will be eligible to teach the Foresight, Innovation and Leadership Programme and will become Adjunct Professors at the American University in the United States.

Centre for Public Service Innovation (CPSI)

The CPSI continues to find public-sector innovations that improve service delivery for replication. Through the 2016 Public Sector Innovation Awards Programme, a replication and mainstreaming of innovative projects such as Saving Blood, Saving Lives was shared with Edendale Hospital in KwaZulu-Natal. The hospital has saved about R16.14 million since 2013.

The CPSI successfully hosted the 10th Public Sector Innovation Conference in August 2016 which was attended by delegates from all three spheres of government and from as far away as Namibia and the People's Republic of China.

Numerous tried-and-tested innovative service delivery solutions were shared with the delegates. The CPSI, through the piloting of the Memeza household alarm in Diepsloot, has installed 600 alarms, leading to significant improvements in the South African Police Service's response times.





We Care!



- HOME
- REGISTER
- LOGON
- HOW TO
- FAQ
- CONTACT US

Easy to use, convenient, and just a click away

Welcome to the eHomeAffairs

The Department of Home Affairs is proud to present eHomeAffairs to enable you as a South African born citizen to apply your Smart ID Card and/or passport online.

eHomeAffairs allows the following:

- Submit applications online

The NDP Brand Identity was launched on 21 August 2016 to mobilise and actively engage citizens in the NDP, and also ensure a uniform communication approach across all spheres of government, implementing agencies and social partners championing the NDP.

To ensure an efficient, effective and development-oriented Public Service, the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) has undertaken monitoring visits to Frontline Service Delivery (FSD) points to monitor the delivery of services by government agencies.

The FSD is aimed at ensuring efficient, responsible and dignified service at the coalface of delivery.

The DPME launched the National Income Dynamic Study to provide empirical data on the changing dynamics of South African society. The study informs government about a comprehensive story on what is happening to all South Africans across the income-distribution spectrum, from rich to poor.

It provides government with empirical evidence of the unfolding story of the changes occurring in the lives of all South Africans.

The e-Home Affairs online system for the application of smart ID cards and passports became operational in May this year. As at 20 September 2016, 64 774 applications had been submitted comprising 45 165 ID cards and 19 609 passports. Of these, 21 530 Smart cards and 11 080 passports were issued representing a total percentage of 50.34.

The system is now open to all citizens who bank with the four participating banks: ABSA, First National Bank, Nedbank and Standard Bank. Currently, 12 branches of these banks are connected to the system in Gauteng, with one branch in Cape Town.

Plans are underway to enter into a public-private partnership with participating banks to increase the footprint in the provinces, thus allowing for more South Africans to access the online service.



Status of local government

During the period under review, the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Elections, under the leadership of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister Des van Rooyen, oversaw the successful hosting of the fourth democratic local government elections on 3 August 2016.

Overall, municipalities have been constituted, and councillors are settling in and now entrusted with the task of understanding their roles in order to deliver on their mandates.

The Integrated Councillors Induction Programme is being rolled out throughout South Africa to about 10 000 councillors at local government.

Municipalities have begun outlining their plans and are working with other role players like SALGA to ensure they consolidate rather than reverse service delivery and the socio-economic transformation the country needs.

South Africa requires public servants who are committed to professionalism and believe in ethical conduct and placing the needs of citizens first with the commitment to deliver quality services to all communities, especially at local government level.