

SOUTH AFRICA YEARBOOK 2024/25

FOREWORD



The South Africa Yearbook (SAYB) tells the story of a nation united in diversity. This repository of information highlights our country's achievements and showcases various destinations across our beautiful land.

The formation of a Government of National Unity after the 2024 General Elections, comprising different political parties, gave expression to our ongoing commitment to democracy and the call of our people to work together to build a nation that serves all.

We have adopted a Medium-Term Development Plan for 2025 – 2030 to drive inclusive growth, create jobs, tackle poverty and build a capable developmental state.

Through the District Development Model, we are mobilising resources from business, labour and civil society to advance development and improved service delivery at local level. This level of government is the closest to the people and is responsible for ensuring that the delivery of water, electricity, sanitation and other vital municipal services reaches citizens.

A particular area of focus has been the empowerment of young people through the provision of quality education, support for entrepreneurship and youth initiatives that enable them to transform their lives in meaningful ways.

We are investing in the economic empowerment of women. This is vital to inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and improved community well-being. We are working together across society to combat violence against women, improving the criminal justice system, protecting the vulnerable and working to change the attitudes and practices that enable such crimes.

While there is still much to be done within the country's borders, South Africa's international standing places us in a strong position to contribute meaningfully to resolving the many issues facing the African continent and beyond.

We have used our participation in the BRICS+ group of countries and our G20 Presidency in 2025 to advance our vision of a fair, peaceful and just global order; while also using the opportunity to showcase our country to the world. This edition of the SAYB includes a special chapter on the G20 and its meaning for South Africa and its people.

Our involvement in global affairs extends far beyond politics and diplomacy. South Africa has been granted the rights to host the 2027 Cricket World Cup, and work is underway. This is yet another affirmation of South Africa's international standing as a premier host nation and a home

of sport and entertainment. Just like the Rugby World Cup of 1995, the African Cup of Nations of 1996 and the FIFA World Cup of 2010, the 2027 ICC Cricket World Cup will contribute to South Africa's economic development through infrastructure upgrades and tourism growth.

As a multi-cultural society, we pride ourselves in fostering social cohesion through cultural promotion programmes and entertainment. The adoption of South African Sign Language as an official language, is testament to a country in which everyone has a place. Our most vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, must be included in all our successes. This is a generational mission that we are all striving towards as we build a prosperous country.

The 2024/25 SAYB is the chronicle of a nation of great diversity, vibrancy and hope. It tells the story of a nation that works for all and in which no one is left behind.

Mr Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa
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However, any person requiring formal confirmation of any data in the SAYB or more detailed specific information, should contact the responsible government institution. Additional information is also available on Government Online (www.gov.za).

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