



HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
CHANGING LIVES



INCREASING ACCESS TO
WATER AND SANITATION
SERVICES



OCEANS HOLD THE KEY
TO GREATER ECONOMIC
GROWTH

Local government hard at work

Supplied by: Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs

The past 15 years of democratic local government has resulted in the provision of a variety of services to South African citizens, says Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA) Minister Des Van Rooyen.

Delivering the department's Budget Vote recently, the Minister noted the progress made since the local government elections on 5 December 2000.

These include:

- The share of households accessing electricity went up from 69.7 percent in 2001 to 86 percent in 2014. About 5.8 million households have received electricity, with over two million indigent households benefitting from the provision of electricity through indigent support systems.
- The provision of water infrastructure rose from 61.3 percent to 90 percent.
- The provision of free basic water services rose from over seven million citizens in 2007 to over 11 million in 2013.
- Access to basic sanitation services increased from over 62 percent in 2002 to over 79 percent in 2014.

The Minister added that water and sanitation percentages have exceeded the targets set by the Millennium Development Goals.

"What this says is that local government has been successful in changing the lives of our



Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Minister Des Van Rooyen.

citizens for the better and a good story of excellent government performance," he said.



government
communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



“B2B is here to create long-term, meaningful change in our communities,” said the Minister.

BACK TO BASICS

Minister Van Rooyen said an assessment of the first phase of the Back to Basics Programme (B2B) confirmed that tackling development challenges created by many years of colonisation and apartheid systems was a mammoth assignment requiring long-term and sustainable solutions.

“B2B is here to create long-term, meaningful change in our communities,” said the Minister.

He added that the second phase involved the execution of the 10-Point Plan that government believes will vastly improve the state of local government. One of the key elements of the 10-Point Plan is fostering more positive community experiences.

“To this end, we are developing ward-based service delivery dashboards and implementing Ward Improvement Plans that ensure basic services, such as the cutting of grass, ensuring working streetlights and the timeous fixing of water leaks,” he said.

To strengthen B2B’s goal of public participation, government has developed a compliance framework to inform the establishment and operations of ward committees, which will come into effect after local government elections in August.

The Minister congratulated the Blouberg Municipality in Limpopo and Overstrand Municipality in the Western Cape for good practices in the implementation of the ward participatory model to strengthen community participation at local level.

Future plans include increasing public participation platforms so that councillors engage more regularly with their constituencies and providing constant feedback on progress made.

“We also intend institutionalising community complaints management systems and processes in municipalities,” he said.

Minister Van Rooyen said the efforts to improve public participation through the B2B programme had not gone unnoticed as the B2B programme was selected as an example of the Open Government Partnership commitment of mainstreaming citizen participation in the public sector.

He said the goal was working towards achieving an open government that is more responsive, accountable and transparent.

TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

Minister Van Rooyen said while South Africa is a constitutional democracy, it also recognises the value that traditional leaders bring to the smooth functioning of this democracy.

“Over the past year, we’ve worked with traditional authorities on a number of development-related issues,” he added.

Preparations for the upcoming initiation season have begun in earnest to ensure the safety of young men, he added.

The Minister said the Traditional and KhoiSan Leadership Bill was introduced in Parliament in September 2015.

“The Bill is intended to affirm and recognise our brothers and sisters, the descendants of the KhoiSan leaders, structures and communities.

“We are going to expend all effort in pursuit of providing support to the traditional councils, individually and collectively, to improve the level of functionality and strengthen their performance.

“Through these efforts we seek to position traditional leader-

ship as a key player in local governance, whilst contributing to the B2B programme," he said.

MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT AGENT

In the past year the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (MISA) supported 75 municipalities in the development of new infrastructure as well as the refurbishment of existing assets to improve the provision of services. MISA was also involved in the training of learners and technical officials in municipalities.

Minister Van Rooyen said that as a result of technical support from MISA, the Elundini Municipality completed a feasibility study that enabled it to secure funding through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) and donor funding from the Netherlands, amounting to R296 million, for new infrastructure development.

Once completed, this project will ultimately benefit 12 176 households in the area. The project also has the potential to create at least 2 000 temporary jobs and 107 permanent jobs.

In the coming year, MISA will implement the Regional Management Support Contracts to improve infrastructure delivery, management and operations, he added.

This project will assist municipalities put in place improved management systems and processes for infrastructure delivery and management of services provision.



DEALING WITH DROUGHT

Minister Van Rooyen noted that the past year has seen the continuation of an endemic drought that has not only hurt the economy, but also impacted on the lives of farmers and citizens who have had to bear the cost of rising food prices and water shortages.

He said an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Drought has ensured that government delivers a coordinated response to the drought. The National Disaster Management Centre has been at the centre of efforts to mitigate the effects of the drought.

Currently, affected provinces are receiving drought relief in the form of feeds for livestock, livestock water, and water for human consumption.

Boreholes have been drilled for both human and animal consumption. In those areas where boreholes are not feasible due to topography and lack of groundwater, amongst other things, water tankering services have been provided.

The National Joint Drought Coordination Committee has also established a task team to coordinate civil society involvement.

"I wish to thank civil society for the vital role they are playing in assisting water-stressed communities, through provision of water and drilling of boreholes, complementing government's efforts to address the situation," said the Minister.

He noted that Operation Hydrate had mobilised various sectors of society from learners at school to big business. Since January, the initiative distributed over 12 million litres of drinking water to five provinces.

"Their efforts have brought home the severity of the drought to those more fortunate and shown that tough times bring out the best in South Africans.

"When we say local government is in your hands, this is what we mean, this is what we expect, this is what we are striving for, placing local government in the hands of our citizens," the Minister said.

MUNICIPAL DEBT

Minister Van Rooyen also highlighted the issue of municipal debt and payments to national electricity provider Eskom, which initiated a debt collection process that could lead to municipal disconnections on bulk electricity supply in various provinces.

"This necessitated an intervention from the Ministers of CoGTA, Finance and Public Enterprises. We facilitated the development of new or revised agreements between the affected municipalities and Eskom, taking into consideration the financial circumstances of individual municipalities and other key creditors.

"Recovery plans were also proposed by identifying opportunities that will assist the municipalities to improve revenue collection and reduce non-revenue electricity," he said.

COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAMME

During his Budget Vote address, CoGTA Deputy Minister Andries Nel said that the Community Work Programme (CWP) was an important intervention to deal with poverty, unemployment and inequality.

"The International Labour Organisation (ILO) recognises it as one of the best in the world," he pointed out.

The CWP will receive close to R3.2 billion for the 2016/17

financial year with 95 percent going towards implementation and five percent on administration.

Of this, 70 percent or R2.1 billion will go into the pockets and on the tables of participants.

Deputy Minister Nel said that the CWP participants contribute by doing useful work identified by the community.

"For example, in Gauteng CWP participants cleaned almost 300 000 square metres of public spaces, rivers and canals, 1051 illegal dumping sites, and maintained 2076 community gardens. In addition, 81 000 square metres of cemeteries were cleaned, 10 800 children benefitted at crèches, 2 058 desks were refurbished and 34 000 learners benefitted from scholar patrols."

He said CoGTA was working with other departments, civil society and business to increase the reach and impact of the programme.

"CWP aims to provide participants with skills, both to do useful work in communities and to enhance their employability and ability to start their own ventures," the Deputy Minister added.

By the end of the 2015/16 financial year, 223 315 participants had benefitted from the programme.

"We can announce that an additional 21 423 participants and their families will benefit from the programme by 31 March 2017. In Gauteng, Limpopo and Mpumalanga all municipalities had a CWP site by the end of the financial year 2015/16."

All municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, North West, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape will have at least one CWP site established this year. In the Western Cape eight additional municipalities will have sites by the end of the financial year.

"A total of 36 additional municipalities will have CWP sites established by March 2017, bringing the total number of



**Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
Andries Nel.**

municipalities implementing the CWP to 234," he said.

URBANISATION

The Deputy Minister noted that the world was urbanising rapidly and according to the United Nations (UN), 54 percent of the world's population lives in urban areas. By 2050 this figure is expected to increase to 66 percent. In 1950 only three in 10 people lived in urban areas.

According to the UN, Africa is expected to be the fastest urbanising region between 2020 to 2050.

Sixty-three percent of South Africans already live in urban areas. This will rise to 71 percent by 2030. By 2050 eight in 10 South Africans will live in urban areas.

"We need to guide the growth and management of urban areas in ways that unleash the potential of our cities and towns and reverse the terrible legacy of apartheid spatial injustice. Last year we said we would finalise an Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) to do so. We have done so," he said.

Cabinet recently approved the IUDF that provides a roadmap to implement the NDP's vision for spatial transformation – creating liveable, inclusive and resilient towns and cities while reversing the apartheid spatial legacy, said Deputy Minister Nel.

"The IUDF provides key principles and policy levers for creating better urban spaces. We will strengthen rural-urban linkages, promote urban resilience, create safe urban spaces and ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable groups are addressed," he added.

The framework proposes that jobs, housing and transport should be used to promote urban restructuring as outlined in the NDP.



*Writer: Ndivhuwo Mabaya



Human settlements changing lives

The Department of Human Settlements, in partnership with private sector and communities, is gearing for the roll out of catalytic projects across all nine provinces.

These projects will provide massive settlements with amenities and most importantly, will be located close to areas of economic activity.

They will consist of more than 10 000 units each, with tenure options covering government fully-subsidised Breaking New Ground houses (BNG), bond houses, rental accommodation and serviced sites.

Scores of people are expected to benefit from the projects as they will deliver on a big scale and in so doing help address the country's housing backlog, which is currently estimated at 1.8 million.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

Aspects of the projects are based on the model of priority projects that have already been launched, such as N2 Gateway in Cape Town, Cosmo City in Johannesburg, Olieven-

Houtbosch in Tshwane, Zanemvula in Nelson Mandela Bay Metro and Cornubia in eThekweni. These housing projects were aimed at testing the efficacy and appropriateness of the BNG policy. At the recent UN Habitat III Thematic Meeting on Informal Settlements hosted in South Africa, delegates confirmed that the country's BNG policy was the best way to respond to urbanisation, to plan better and also develop affordable rental and social houses for young people and low income earners.

While providing an opportunity to address injustices of apartheid spatial planning, starting with the disinheritated communities of District 6, and also benefiting dislocated backyarders and informal settlers along the highway, the N2 Gateway also educated South Africans about the successes and challenges in the process of creating sustainable communities.

The project has so far delivered more than 13 000 units, providing shelter to more than 70 000 people, while R2 billion has already been spent on infrastructure and top structure.

The project is divided into the following areas:

- **New Rest:** Situated in Gugulethu township, 668 fully subsidised houses have been built in New Rest to date. The informal settlement upgrading process is still ongoing and includes the provision of roads, water and sewerage.
- **Delft 7-9 and Delft Symphony:** Delft 7-9 was completed in 2013 with almost 4 500 houses handed over to beneficiaries, while Delft Symphony is still under construction. To date, over 4 200 fully subsidised and 350 bonded houses have been completed.
- **Boystown:** Also situated in Gugulethu, Boystown is receiving housing and facilities upgrades, with 503 houses handed over to date.
- **Joe Slovo:** The Joe Slovo housing development is located in Langa township and the development of the rental, bonded and fully subsidised show village is now complete. The project is ongoing and 1044 of 2 639 double-storey units have been delivered so far.



“One of the most important aspects of the N2 Gateway housing project has been its ability to restore dignity to its beneficiaries by providing families with housing opportunities they never had before. This also comes with access to better services and amenities within walking distance of homes. The latter speaks directly to human settlements.”

RESTORING DIGNITY

One of the most important aspects of the N2 Gateway housing project has been its ability to restore dignity to its beneficiaries by providing families with housing opportunities they never had before. This also comes with access to better services and amenities within walking distance of homes. The latter speaks directly to human settlements.

Beneficiary, Rachel Manyi, speaking during the handover of the project by President Zuma last year said, there was no better feeling than sleeping under a “compact, real roof”.

“My dream came true when I stepped into my home. I like the sound of that – my home. I was born in a shack and I thought one day I would die in one, but my President made sure that didn’t happen,” she said.

As much as the project provided many with jobs, it has also tackled youth unemployment through the Youth Brigades Programme. With the creation of Youth Brigades the aim is to provide necessary construction skills like brick-laying, painting and plastering for the young people to be absorbed in the industry. Currently, there are 95 young people training as part of the project to gain experience in the sector. In addition, the youth also gain life skills and some of them become owners of construction companies and create employment themselves.

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

Some housing projects have been completed but the houses remain unoccupied as a result of mismanagement of waiting lists and the confusion over who should benefit. The N2 Gateway housing project has had its fair share of such problems,

but over the course of the project one of the lessons learnt is that community interaction is crucial to deal with misunderstandings during the allocation of houses.

This is done by holding regular community meetings and adhering to the department’s policy of prioritising the vulnerable groups such as the elderly, child-headed households, people living with disabilities and military veterans, while the rest are based on the needs assessments. This approach ensures that the indigents are prioritised.

N2 Gateway is a mixture of BNG houses and flats and this has enabled the project to accommodate old people and the young working class in the City of Cape Town. The model made it possible for the project to build more than 13 000 houses with bulk infrastructure using only 283 hectares of land. This is very important as the land adjacent to the City would have not accommodated the present 70 000 people living there if only BNG houses were constructed.

There is no doubt that the N2 Gateway housing project has contributed and is still contributing to the 4.3 million houses and opportunities provided since 1994. It also brought people closer to economic opportunities and amenities, integrated society, dealt with social inequalities, provided tenure options, managed land use, and most importantly, restored the dignity of people.

** Ndivhuwo Mabaya, Head of Communications at the Department of Human Settlements.*

Increasing access

to water and sanitation services

*Writer: Sputnik Ratau



The Constitutional mandate given to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is clear: ensure the security of water supply while also transforming the lives of the previously un-served through the provision of decent sanitation.

With the Constitution as the cornerstone, the National Water Act is the guiding document that directs the DWS in day-to-day efforts to achieve the ideals of the Constitution. The work of the department is further in support of the National Development Plan (NDP) with regard to forward strategic planning.

The drive towards improved delivery of service for all people is guided by the strategic priorities of water resource management, water infrastructure development, water and sanitation services, and water sector regulation and policy development.

South Africa can take pride in its achievements related to water and sanitation so far.

According to Statistics South Africa, 74 percent of South Africans have access to sanitation. Despite this achievement, the shortfall implies that there is still a long way to go towards ensuring universal access to services, irrespective of a household's geographic location. This could be either in the deep rural areas or within the urban cities and towns of South Africa.

While the ideal in terms of universal access is on the radar, it is essential to consider the estimated 2.2 million households that are serviced with a below basic level of sanitation. This includes the use of makeshift toilets in the form of pit latrines, the use of bucket toilets and septic tanks, among others.

The department's verification process has confirmed 57 000 bucket toilets predominantly in the Free State, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and North West.

ADDRESSING SANITATION BACKLOGS

With this in mind, a Task Team on Basic Services has been established. This team comprises the Departments of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Human Settlements and Water and Sanitation. The team will better



coordinate its efforts individually and collectively as it works towards accelerating and eradicating the sanitation backlogs by 90 percent by the year 2019.

Conventional sanitation provision places immense pressure on the capacity of existing infrastructure, more so when the aspirations of communities are for a higher level of service, which normally is full water-borne sanitation.

Sanitation solutions are location based. As such, a physical condition such as terrain or topography in some towns and villages does not lend itself towards the provision of conventional sanitation. This impacts on how much or how quickly the provision of services can be provided.

Sanitation is also critically about the promotion of good health and hygiene practices within households, communities and the environment. The department has set up a Health and Hygiene Programme, which is being mainstreamed in sanitation provision. The department sees and uses the formation of the Water and Sanitation Forums within communities as the best platform to highlight the mainstreaming of this critical programme.

The provision of decent sanitation and its effect on health and hygiene impacts greatly on the lives of the girl-child in particular. The fact that a lack of decent sanitation in schools leads to irregular school attendance is not a small matter.

The provision of sanitation is not just about bricks and mortar. It is also about ensuring adherence to the department's norms and standards for sanitation. The introduction of measures to regulate the cost of sanitation solutions is also essential. Provision of decent sanitation, being the critical and basic

service that it is, has to also be affordable ultimately for government.

Over and above this is the need for the department's role in overseeing institutional sanitation provision to be appreciated and taken seriously.

EQUIPPING MUNICIPALITIES

Working together with municipalities has shown that some municipalities have a serious lack of capacity to deliver on the issues surrounding the DWS mandate. As a result, the department has to intervene in these municipalities to fund the provision or maintenance of bulk infrastructure directly supporting the Bucket Eradication Programme.

Through the programme the department has managed to address the poor infrastructure network emanating from self-made cone house connections from households. The construction of new pump stations has helped avert raw sewage spillages into the Caledon River in the Ficksburg area. To date about 1 154 buckets were eradicated. This is one example among many of how the DWS is improving the quality of life of people across the country.

SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY

The provision of water supply is not an event, a onetime gush of

the resource. It is a reality to ensure the provision of a sustainable and holistic value chain of water supply.

South Africa is a water-scarce country that is negatively impacted by climate change and the current El Niño-driven drought.

The situation has led to the country looking at new ways of obtaining water for different uses.

These new ways include the exploitation of groundwater, the reduction of water for flushing and the re-use of grey water, among others.

South Africa's involvement in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocols, that govern cooperation with neighbouring countries with which it shares trans-boundary watercourses and how to use such waters, is paramount.

South Africa shares trans-boundary watercourses with Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Botswana and Namibia.

The different memoranda of understanding married to the SADC Protocol ensure all countries carry their responsibility accordingly.

The example of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project is a perfect example of how two countries can ensure mutual benefit from a project over the long-term.

On the home front, South Africa has a number of projects that collectively will assist the country to correctly address the issue of water availability for now and for generations to come.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

These include the finalisation of the De Hoop Dam and Mokolo-Crocodile projects in Limpopo, the raising of the Clanwilliam Dam wall in the Western Cape and the Hazelmere Dam wall in KwaZulu-Natal, the new Mzimvubu Dam and hydroelectric power generation project in the Eastern Cape, as well as the Vaal-Gamagara water supply project.

These projects will help ensure that once the drought is over and the rivers are flowing, the country can develop the necessary capacity to service the communities that must benefit from such infrastructure development.

While the department forges ahead with infrastructure development, the protection of infrastructure is paramount. This is necessary to ensure continued delivery of services. This is being emphasised through the department's continued engagements with society and through cooperation at provincial and local government, as well as the law enforcement agencies.

The protection of infrastructure is not just about preventing vandalism or theft; it is also about operations and maintenance to ensure a long life of such infrastructure.

The DWS is primarily responsible for bulk water supply, dams, reservoirs and pipelines. Such infrastructure is normally a multi-year, multi-million, even billion rand effort and requires ongoing operations and maintenance.

The department's National Water Resources Infrastructure branch is responsible for ensuring that this investment is in good hands.



Sputnik Ratau, Director: Media Liaison and Content Development at the Department of Water and Sanitation.

Oceans hold the key to greater economic growth

Writer: Cecilia de Vos Belgraver

One of South Africa's greatest and largely untapped resources is its 1.5 million square kilometres of ocean space and its 3 900km coastline that includes the sub-Antarctic islands such as Marion and Prince Edward Island. Unlocking this resource would yield economic growth and job creation.

South Africa's ocean space contributes R54 billion a year to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 316 000 jobs. With its potential to raise the GDP contribution to between R129 and R177 billion with over a million jobs being created by 2033, the ocean can help address the challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality.

About 30 000 sea-going vessels travel through South African waters each year and 13 000 vessels dock in South African ports. Foreign-owned vessels ship 300 million tonnes of cargo and 1.2 million tonnes of liquid fuel along South Africa's coast each year.

OPERATION PHAKISA: OCEANS ECONOMY

Simply put, South Africa has to expand its ocean's economy. This will contribute to growing the overall economy and to creating much-needed employment.

Growing the oceans economy is part of government's Operation Phakisa, which President Jacob Zuma launched in 2014.

Operation Phakisa is a results-driven approach to development involving such sectors as government, business, labour, academia, and civil society. Different sectors work together in collaborative laboratories to develop delivery action plans, set targets and do ongoing monitoring.

Operation Phakisa is part of South Africa's Nine-Point Plan to reignite growth and boost job creations," said the President during his State of the National Address in February 2016.

President Zuma said that the oceans laboratory phase focused on initiatives that are able to deliver significant impact within the next five years and beyond and to lay the groundwork for sustained longer-term growth, not only in priority areas, but also across the oceans economy as a whole.

Selected initial short-term target initiatives are designed to deliver results within 12 to 18 months.

Initial oceans economy collaborative labs identified projects for prioritisation and the major constraints and blockages hampering their development, such as legislative uncertainty, skills gaps, lengthy, bureaucratic authorisation, delayed funding and infrastructure challenges.

Access to the oceans economy is not exclusively the domain of big business. The small business sector is essential. This is why government

will keep facilitating opportunities in the oceans economy for small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs), women, youth and people with disabilities.

Minister of Environmental Affairs Edna Molewa, who is also leading the oceans economy segment of Operation Phakisa, said the implementation of South Africa's oceans economy strategy was on track.

"By far the greatest registered success of Operation Phakisa has been the introduction of a 'one-stop-shop' approach to inter-departmental cooperation, thereby reducing turnaround times and speeding up decision making and delivery."

The focus of the Operation Phakisa: Oceans Economy is on six sectors. Skills development and capacity building, led



by the Department of Higher Education and Training and complemented by the Department of Science and Technology's research technology and innovation initiatives, enable these prioritised sectors, namely:

- Marine transport and manufacturing, led by the Department of Transport.
- Offshore oil and gas, led by the Department of Mineral Resources.
- Aquaculture, led by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.
- Marine protection services and ocean governance, led by the Department of Environmental Affairs.
- Small harbours development, led by the Department of Public Works.
- Coastal and marine tourism, led by the Department of Tourism.

MARINE TRANSPORT AND MANUFACTURING

To benefit from the amount of traffic along its coastline it is critical that South Africa invest in port infrastructure. The Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has earmarked over R7 billion for this purpose. Already 200 new jobs have been created in new port facilities and in refurbishing and maintaining existing ones in the past year.

Minister Molewa said that in a country that has one of the smallest ship repair industries, despite being located along one of the world's busiest shipping routes, Operation Phakisa is steadily creating opportunities for manufacturers and shipbuilders.

Southern African Shipyards is currently building nine tugs for Transnet, due to be completed in 2018, which will be used at Saldanha Bay.

The South African Navy has also tendered for six patrol vessels to be delivered in the next few years under Project Biro, as well as a large specialist hydrographic survey vessel dubbed Project Hotel. Moreover, the navy's requirement for two new workboat ferries, worth about R23 million, has been put out to tender.

"As part of unblocking obstacles to major infrastructure development the rehabilitation, upgrade and redevelopment of several small harbours, such as dredging and the removal of sunken vessels, is underway," said the Minister.

Richards Bay will service ship repair and boat-building, the oil and gas industry, and create secondary industries for manufacturing. A procurement strategy is underway and expressions of interest will be identified by December. A kob farming aquaculture project complementing an existing fish processing facility has started.

Plenty is happening in Durban as well. The port's stature will increase when its naval station is upgraded to the status of fully-fledged naval base.

Southey Holdings, which operates from Durban, will invest R289.9 million in boat-building infrastructure and Nautic Africa, which operates from Cape Town, has committed R63.4 million for investment in boat-building infrastructure. Together these investments have created 355 jobs.

Equipment such as heavy duty forklift and welding equipment worth about R4 million has been procured for the Durban Dry Dock and contract work on the Durban Dry Dock Caisson worth about R43 million has been done. The caisson allows water to be pumped out of the dock and for work to be



done on vessels. The caisson was opened at the end of January 2016. This year, Durban and Cape Town will also receive new dock cranes and Durban will have a new TNPA floating dock.

In East London, a boat-building hub is envisaged and an electrical and civil upgrade is under way. The East London Industrial Development Zone is destined to have an Aquaculture Development Zone.

Further along the coast, a manganese terminal is going to be established in the Port of Ngqura where an oyster aquaculture facility is in production.

The nearby Port of Port Elizabeth's lead-in jetty has been upgraded and the port is set to become a catamaran-building hub with R1.25 billion in investment contracts with TAG Yachts over the next five years, creating 500 jobs. An abalone aquaculture project is also in production in the Port Elizabeth-Cape Recife area.

The Port of Cape Town has gained a fuel-storage facility that represents a R660 million investment and the creation of 150 construction jobs.

Thanks to an investment of R150 million and a partnership between two shipyards in Cape Town, two offshore mining vessels will be built.

Two bulk carriers registered on the South African Ships Register operate from Port Elizabeth and a third tanker operating from Cape Town has been registered.

A new harbour is planned for Port Nolloth on South Africa's West Coast, where an aquaculture initiative exists. Abalone ranching and hatching is under way, there are abalone aquaculture ranching, hatchery and production facilities in nearby Hondeklip Bay and there is an oyster-growing facility in Kleinzee.

The Port of Saldanha is set to serve as an oil and gas hub, with a total public-private investment of R9.2 billion envisaged over five years and work having started on the Offshore Supply Base that has created 30 initial jobs.

Saldanha Bay's aquaculture facilities are producing brown mussels, oysters and abalone.

AQUACULTURE

Globally, aquaculture supplies almost 50 percent of the world's fish and it is estimated that by 2030 the world will need an additional 50 tonnes of fish, which will come mainly from aquaculture.

This industry is an emerging one in South Africa, with production levels still low, but it does offer a way to diversify

fish production and satisfy local and national demand while contributing to food and nutritional security, stimulating rural development and livelihoods and creating opportunities for SMMEs, export trade and foreign direct investment.

"There has also been notable progress in the aquaculture sector, where we have focused in the short-term on regulatory reform, financing, skills development and access to markets," said Minister Molewa.

Government has invested over R106 million and the private sector over R338 million in aquaculture in South Africa, creating 521 jobs and empowering eight SMMEs.

Various aquaculture farms are in production but the highlights in this sector are Doring Bay, Abagold, Hondeklip Bay, Hamburg and Richards Bay. In the Eastern Cape the Hamburg aquaculture project has had a successful first harvest.

OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION

South Africa could also serve the oil and gas sector by extending the capacity for repairing and maintaining gas and oil rigs. At the moment only four rigs a year are serviced.

Saldanha Bay has been identified as a potential major oil and gas hub serving the South African and West African markets, as well as a destination for rig and offshore support vessel repairs and maintenance. Therefore, specialised infrastructure is being developed. Work has started on an offshore supply base in Saldanha Bay as part of a R9.2 billion public-private partnership model to develop an oil and gas service complex. Work on rig repair facilities and a PetroSA (MossGas) jetty extension are likely to start in 2018.

In addition, Minister of Science and Technology Naledi Pandor has signed a memorandum of understanding with the oil and gas industry to grow public sector research through private sector exploration. Fifteen exploration licenses have been issued to the oil and gas industry.

Minister Pandor has also launched the South African Marine Research and Exploration Forum - a critical partnership between the public and private sector extractive industries, represented by Offshore Petroleum South Africa - to exploit broader research opportunities presented by offshore oil and gas exploration to undertake research, using private sector vessels.

MARINE PROTECTION SERVICES AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE

Minister Molewa said the successes of Operation Phakisa's methodology in the area of marine protection services include the "commencement of pre-emergency planning in respect of oil spill emergency responses, and the establishment of hazard identification and Incident Management Organisation protocols".

In addition, operationalising the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (IOPC) is almost complete. The

IOPC Fund provides financial compensation for oil pollution damage that occurs in member states, resulting from spills of persistent oil from tankers. The fund is financed by contributions from entities that receive certain types of oil by sea transport.

SMALL HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

Small harbour development, coastal and marine tourism and aquaculture present significant potential for growing rural economies.

Minister Molewa said as part of unblocking obstacles to major infrastructure development, Operation Phakisa is currently working on the rehabilitation, upgrade and redevelopment of several small harbours, such as dredging and removal of sunken vessels. A roadmap has also been developed for the proclamation of new harbours in the Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

Harbour upgrades have started in Gansbaai, Saldanha Bay, Struisbaai, Gordons Bay and Lambert's Bay and the Port of Mossel Bay's slipway is being refurbished.

COASTAL AND MARINE TOURISM

The Department of Tourism intends launching the Blue Flag Ambassador Programme, which will be implemented through the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) framework. The Blue Flag Programme is a voluntary eco-label for beaches, marinas, whale-watching boats and boats in general. It has become a symbol of quality across the world.

It is designed to raise environmental awareness and increase sound environmental practises among tourists, local population and beach management. The aim is to achieve a safe, clean and healthy environment and attract a more steady flow of visitors.

For the next three financial years (2016 – 2019) the focus will be on South Africa's 50 existing Blue Flag beaches. The programme will employ 206 people: six in managing the project and 200 ambassadors. They will be employed from local communities to perform monitoring, education, tourism and awareness on Blue Flag beaches. The main fields the programme will cover include safety, environmental management, environmental education, tourism training and infrastructure maintenance.

For tourism to contribute to the oceans economy, the department will also give attention to the revitalisation of beach front precincts, boat-based whale-watching, shark-cage diving and recreational boats.

Operation Phakisa's goal is to accelerate the rate of change in South Africa. It was inspired by Malaysia's successful Big Fast Results Methodology. Phakisa means 'hurry up' in Sesotho and to date the oceans economy segment of Operation Phakisa has certainly been picking up speed and steadily yielding results.

