



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO **SOUTH AFRICA** 2022/23



government
communications

Department:
Government Communication and Information System
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





CONTENTS AND FOREWORD



OFFICIAL GUIDE TO **SOUTH AFRICA**



2022/23

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.

Official Guide to South Africa 2022/23

Twentieth (20th) edition

Compiled, edited and published by:

Government Communications (GCIS)

Private Bag X745

Pretoria, 0001

Telephone: 012 473 0000

Website: www.gcis.gov.za

ISBN: 978-0-7961-0515-8

Editor: Mr Elias Tibane

Picture coordinator: Ms Busisiwe Malungwane

Images supplied by: GCIS Photography Unit

Design and layout: Ms Kamogelo Mbaxaza and Mr Trevor Baloyi

Compiled, edited and published by the GCIS.

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 December 2023.

For all enquiries, please contact the Editor on 012 473 0069 or elias@gcis.gov.za.

CONTENTS

- Foreword by President Cyril Ramaphosa
- South Africa at a Glance
- History
- People of South Africa
- Government
- The Presidency
- Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
- Communications
- Economy and Finance
- Education
- Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
- Health
- Human Settlements
- International Relations
- Justice and Correctional Services
- Mineral Resources and Energy
- Police, Defence and Intelligence
- Provinces
- Science and Innovation
- Social Development
- Sport, Arts and Culture
- Tourism
- Transport
- Water and Sanitation



FOREWORD

Our nation's celebration of 30 Years of Freedom places a spotlight on the progressive transformation of our society through the collective efforts of South Africans from all walks of life.

While we remain engaged in addressing the triple challenge of poverty, unemployment and inequality, no-one can deny that the South Africa of today bears little resemblance to the South Africa in which the majority of citizens were dispossessed and disadvantaged under apartheid.

Significant strides were made in the 2022/23 year in the transformation and renewal of our society as government, working with social partners, worked to advance change in our country and respond to immediate challenges.

This was a year in which we focused on and recorded achievements in reducing poverty and unemployment, tackling the electricity crisis, and intensifying the fight against crime and corruption.

This *Official Guide to South Africa* is a record of our work to rebuild our economy in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the success of our bold investment drive, supported by key economic reforms and the roll out of growth-enabling infrastructure.

This publication is also a record of how we created economic opportunities

for young South Africans – the largest cohort affected by unemployment – and deepened the economic empowerment of women. Government initiatives were supported through close cooperation with organised business and labour, as we worked together to ensure no-one was left behind.

As part of the effort to rid all sectors of our society and economy of corruption and state capture, we have been implementing our plan in response to the findings and recommendations of the State Capture Commission.

In the fight against crime, government added impetus to the national offensive against gender-based violence and femicide by introducing far-reaching legislation and embarking on campaigns to mobilise all sectors of society to stop the abuse of women and children.

In the year under review, we made progress towards the establishment of a National Health Insurance, which will give all South Africans quality healthcare at a public or private facility close to where they live or work. Our development as a nation needs a healthy population and a healthcare system that overcomes the disparities of our past.

Our approach to international relations and cooperation in 2022/23 reflected our determination to make our country and our world a better place. Our international work spanned our engagement in peacemaking and peacekeeping on our continent, the promotion of the African Continental Free Trade Area, participation in a number of important international fora and garnering support of international partners for our Just Energy Transition Investment Plan.

The overview provided in this *Official Guide to South Africa* represents the ideas and actions of South Africans from across society who are shaping our country for the better day by day and week by week.

From agriculture and food security to innovations in aerospace, from musical productions and visual arts to our triumphs in the arenas of sport, we are a nation of diverse interests and achievements.

This *Official Guide to South Africa* highlights the best of what we accomplished in the year under review. As we celebrate 30 Years of Freedom, we can be inspired by these achievements to take the transformation of South Africa to even greater heights.



His Excellency Cyril M. Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa
December 2023