



# SOUTH AFRICA YEARBOOK 2023/24

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The Presidency



## The Presidency

The Presidency is mandated to ensure that the President can execute his constitutional responsibilities in leading and galvanising government and society to implement the electoral mandate.

The department provides support to the President and Deputy President in the execution of their responsibilities as outlined in chapter 5 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996.

As such, over the period ahead, the department will focus on enhancing leadership and partnerships through stakeholder engagements to promote the country's social transformation agenda; strengthening governance, state capacity and service delivery through leadership and coordination; and coordinating government policies, legislation and programmes.

The department's total budget over the medium term is R1.9 billion, of which 87.1% (R1.7 billion) is in the Administration programme to provide technical and administrative support to the president, Deputy President and management. Compensation of employees accounts for an estimated 63.7% (R1.2 billion) of the department's budget over the period ahead.

### Enhancing leadership and partnerships

In partnership with the South African National AIDS Council, the office of the Deputy President has continued to lead nationwide initiatives targeted at improving South Africa's health results, particularly reducing the spread of HIV and AIDS, TB and sexually transmitted infections.

In March 2023, the Deputy President presented the 2023-2028 National Strategic Plan for HIV, TB and sexually transmitted infections. The department will oversee the implementation of the plan. Funding for these activities is within the Support Services to the Deputy President subprogramme's allocation of R183.8 million over the MTEF period.

The department will continue to promote national unity and accelerate social transformation through the commemoration of national days and days of significance such as Freedom Day, Day of Reconciliation and Human Rights Day. To achieve this, R285.1 million is allocated over the MTEF period in the Support Services to the President subprogramme in the Administration programme. Spending in the subprogramme is set to increase at an average annual rate of 5.6%, from R84.4 million in 2023/24 to R99.4 million in 2026/27.

### Strengthening governance, state capacity and service delivery

The department will continue to provide support to the National Prosecuting Authority's investigating directorate, the Special

Investigating Unit and its special tribunal, the anti-corruption task team's fusion centre and all state entities involved in fighting corruption. This includes the department's oversight of other departments' implementation of referrals by the Special Investigating Unit and recommendations of the state capture commission.

To carry out these activities, R1.2 billion is allocated over the period ahead in the Management subprogramme in the Administration programme. Spending in the subprogramme is expected to decrease at an average annual rate of 2.1%, from R445.6 million in 2023/24 to R418.5 million in 2026/27, due to a one-off additional allocation in 2023/24 for the appointment of a new Minister.

The District Development Model is a department initiative aimed at improving service delivery by enhancing coherence and integrated planning in South Africa's 44 districts and eight metros. To enhance coordination between the spheres of government, the department will continue to provide leadership and play a coordinating role through its oversight of the model and, through the presidential imbizo, oversee its implementation.

The department plans to produce two reports per year on annual oversight visits by the President. These activities are funded through the Support Services to the President subprogramme, which has a budget of R285.1 million over the period ahead.

### Coordinating government policies, legislation and programmes

To improve legislative and executive accountability, and to ensure that government business is dealt with and synchronised properly, the Deputy President is responsible for managing the affairs of the executive in Parliament, setting the agenda for parliamentary business initiated by the executive within the timeframe allocated, and performing any function provided for by the joint rules or resolutions adopted in the National Assembly or the National Council of Provinces (NCOP).

Over the medium term, the department planned to continue supporting the Deputy President in monitoring the implementation of the annual legislative and Cabinet programme.

This entails prioritising legislation in Parliament, including bills with Constitutional Court deadlines. Part of the department's coordination imperative also entails ensuring executive accountability to Parliament, building relations between the executive and leaders of opposition parties, and enhancing the electorate's participation in policy and law-making processes. These activities are carried out in the Support Services to the Deputy President subprogramme.

### Operation Vulindlela (OV)

OV is a joint initiative of The Presidency and National Treasury to accelerate the implementation of structural reforms and support economic recovery. OV aims to modernise and transform network industries, including electricity, water, transport and digital communications. These network industries are the bedrock of economic growth, and are essential to creating a globally competitive economy. In addition, reforms to the visa regime are being prioritised to attract skills and promote growth in tourism.

A total of 19 priority reforms have been identified in these focus areas, which together represent a bold and ambitious reform agenda to fundamentally change South Africa's economic trajectory. OV is not a new plan, but aims to ensure effective implementation of plans that already exist.

### Infrastructure and Investment Office (IIO)

The IIO was established by The President of South Africa to coordinate and align the work of various structures responsible for economic and social infrastructure development. As the demand for infrastructure in Africa continues to grow, the government will need to leverage public and private funds to marshal investments to bridge the infrastructure divide.

New approaches to delivering infrastructure are needed, and so is innovative technology and effective collaboration between policymakers, sector agencies, financiers, and investors to fund and deliver projects to yield financial and nonfinancial returns for all stakeholders.

A further key role of the IIO is its mandate to solve regulatory and other bottlenecks which are prohibitive to investment, as well as play a leading role in accelerating decision-making in order for high priority investments to be speedily and efficiently implemented.

### Legislative mandates

A number of Acts further expand the specific roles and functions of The Presidency and inform its approach to the implementation of its constitutional mandate. They include the:

- Independent Commission for the Remuneration of Public Office bearers Act, 1997 (Act 92 of 1997);
- Remuneration of Public Office-bearers Act, 1998 (Act 20 of 1998), as amended, provides a framework for determining the salaries, benefits and allowances of public office bearers, and the secretariat to the Independent Commission located within The Presidency;
- Executive Members Ethics Act, 1998 (Act 82 of 1998), including the Executive Ethics Code; and
- Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act, 2005 (Act 13 of 2005), which establishes a framework for national, provincial and local

governments to promote and facilitate intergovernmental relations, and to provide for mechanisms and procedures to facilitate the settlement of intergovernmental disputes. The Act further seeks to promote cooperative governance as espoused by Chapter 3 of the Constitution, and has informed the formation of the President's Coordinating Council, the Cabinet Cluster System, the Forum of South African DGs and the formation of inter-ministerial committees.

## Minister in The Presidency

The Minister is responsible for the:

- Statistics South Africa (Stats SA);
- Government Communication and Information System (GCIS)
- State Security Agency (SSA);
- Media Development and Diversity Agency (MDDA); and
- Brand South Africa (Brand SA).

## Statistics South Africa

Stats SA is a national department accountable to the Minister in The Presidency. The department's activities are regulated by the Statistics Act of 1999, which mandates it to advance the production, dissemination, use and coordination of official and other statistics to help organs of state, businesses, other organisations and the public in planning, monitoring, policy development and decision-making.

The Act also requires that the department coordinates statistical production among organs of state in line with the purpose of official statistics and statistical principles. Over the medium term, the department aimed to continue focusing on modernising its operating model, conducting the continuous population survey and implementing statistical reform.

## Modernising the operating model

To deliver better, faster and cost effective statistical products and services, the department will continue to modernise its operating model. This includes the implementation of the digital business transformation strategy and roadmap, which entails the roll-out of cloud infrastructure and tools that enable self-enumeration, the establishment of secure data-sharing platforms, and research on the adoption of innovative technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning.

Self-enumeration through web-based technology is intended to allow respondents to capture survey information on an online platform. The initiative will reduce fieldworker interaction in areas that are difficult to access. The establishment of secure data-sharing platforms is expected to make data easily accessible on various platforms to relevant stakeholders. This is intended to reduce duplication, and will facilitate the country's responses to national, continental and global reporting requirements on economic, social and developmental

issues. In response to the increasing demand for data and statistics, the department also plans to establish an interconnected statistical system over the medium term that facilitates data acquisition, integration, analysis and visualisation.

Following the success of this intervention in household surveys, capabilities to collect data digitally will be extended to the Economic Statistics programme over the medium term. To carry out these activities, R188.7 million is allocated over the MTEF period in the Business Modernisation subprogramme in the Statistical Support and Informatics programme.

## Conducting the continuous population survey

The continuous population survey is being reconceptualised to integrate several existing household surveys within the department's survey programme to produce frequent lower-level data. The department plans to create a geospatial multimodal framework as a sampling frame, as well as testing methods and processes for the survey in 2024/25, and to collect data from the first survey module in 2025/26.

The department has collected insightful data on household income and expenditure patterns, and therefore living conditions, through its income and expenditure survey. The results of the survey are scheduled to be released in 2024/25. Thereafter, the survey, along with the living conditions survey and general household survey, will be integrated into the continuous population survey.

To carry out activities related to the continuous population and income and expenditure surveys, R470 million is allocated over the medium term in the Poverty and Inequality Statistics subprogramme in the Population and Social Statistics programme.

## Strengthening statistical reform

The Statistics Amendment Bill was drafted in 2019/20 to drive statistical reform and was approved by the portfolio committee on planning, monitoring and evaluation in December 2023. It is expected to be enacted in 2024/25.

The bill makes provision for developing and implementing a national statistics system and strategy for the development of statistics, and for enhancing coordination and collaboration among producers of statistics, among other things. It also stipulates that the population census must be conducted every 10 years.

To carry out activities related to such legislative and statistical reforms, R144.7 million is allocated over the medium term in the South African National Statistics System programme.

## Government Communication and Information System

The GCIS was officially launched in May 1998. It was established in terms of Section 7 (Subsection 2 and 3) of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Act 103 of 1994), as amended. It was transferred from the then Department of Communications to The Presidency with effect from 1 April 2020. The mandate of the GCIS is derived from Section 195(g) of the Constitution, which stipulates that South African citizens should be provided with information that is timely, accurate and accessible. This is in support of the constitutional principles of freedom of expression, transparency and openness of government.

Over the period ahead, the department will focus on providing and facilitating strategic government communication, coordinating communication across government, and facilitating active citizen participation. The department has a total budget of R2.3 billion, increasing at an average annual rate of 2.6%, from R743.5 million in 2023/24 to R802.8 million in 2026/27.

As the department's work is mostly dependent on personnel, spending on compensation of employees accounts for an estimated 39.5% (R925.2 million) of its budget over the MTEF period, while transfers to entities account for an estimated 32.3% (R735.1 million).

## Providing and facilitating strategic government communication

The department aims to meet citizens' information needs through advertising government programmes, communicating government priorities and providing civic education. This will be achieved through using various media platforms, including community radio stations, social media, television, newspapers, and leaflets and flyers.

Key messages and information to be disseminated on these platforms include: the 2024 Presidential Inauguration, government's economic reconstruction and recovery plan, anti-corruption initiatives, awareness of gender-based violence, and civic education.

These activities have an allocation of R73.2 million over the medium term in the Content Processing and Dissemination programme. Although the *Vuk'uzenzele* newspaper has been an effective means of communicating and providing citizens with information on government's key priorities, as media consumption patterns have shifted towards digital platforms, from 2024/25, the newspaper will be produced and distributed only digitally (22 editions per year).

However, 13 200 Braille copies will still be produced at a projected cost of R1.6 million per year over the medium term. Digital distribution is expected not only to reduce costs, but also increase reach, with an emphasis on photography and audio-visual content creation. In addition, the department plans to repurpose R14 million of *Vuk'uzenzele*'s budget over the MTEF period to fund an over-the-top streaming service, which is expected to contain content previously



disseminated through the newspaper, as well as other government content. This expenditure is also in the Content Processing and Dissemination programme.

The department's social media platforms will be updated regularly to ensure that they effectively share government content. The intention is to create awareness about the challenges facing the country, provide information on how government plans to mitigate them, and suggest ways in which citizens can play a part in resolving them.

This will be carried out at an estimated cost of R2.9 million per year over the MTEF period in the Products and Platforms subprogramme in the Content Processing and Dissemination programme.

## Coordinating communication across government

Over the next three years, the department will focus on ensuring effective and coordinated communication between government departments. As such, it will provide support to all government departments in conceptualising campaigns, developing communication strategies and content, and facilitating the dissemination of information and stakeholder engagement.

Support for the district development model, which aims to improve coherence among all spheres of government, as well as the 44 districts and eight metros across the country, will be reinforced in an effort to enhance service delivery. The department's footprint at the provincial and municipal levels ensures the alignment and coherence of intergovernmental communication systems, processes and messages.

This is driven through the coordination of communication forums across government to harmonise the planning of communication campaigns, the alignment of government communication norms and standards, the sharing of best practices, the coherence of messaging, and engagement with domestic and international media. These activities are funded through the Intergovernmental Coordination and Stakeholder Management programme, which is allocated R417.1 million over the medium term.

## Facilitating active citizen participation

To encourage citizen participation, the department will initiate outreach programmes such as localised community dialogues, community radio talk shows, and campaign activations in taxi ranks, shopping centres and commuter trains.

A targeted 26 engagement sessions at the national level are planned with senior journalists and two engagements with government heads of communication, as well as forum meetings such as the government communicators' forum. Through media engagements, briefings and infographics, the department intends to keep citizens updated on energy-generation initiatives to overcome the energy crisis. This will be

carried out through the Media Engagement subprogramme, spending in which accounts for an estimated 12.7% (R53.4 million) of budget in the Intergovernmental Coordination and Stakeholder Management programme over the medium term.

## Entities

### Brand SA

Brand South Africa was established in 2002 to manage South Africa's nation brand with the aim of improving the country's global reputation and competitiveness. The entity's primary objective is to develop and implement proactive and coordinated reputation management, communications and marketing strategies for South Africa to attract investment, trade and tourism.

Globally, countries are facing unprecedented economic conditions characterised by high cost of living and inflation, energy crises and unemployment, among other things. This makes protecting South Africa's reputation even more pressing. Over the medium term, the entity will focus on implementing activities that contribute positively to shaping South Africa's image and reputation. This will be done through interventions such as assuring investors and profiling the country as an attractive and stable destination.

A nation brand encompasses all the attributes, strengths and innovations that a nation has to offer in all spheres of activity (business, arts, tourism, science and innovation, infrastructure, manufacturing and governance), and depends on much more than government activity, policy or leadership. Over the MTEF period, the entity plans to work on developing a central idea to encapsulate the country's identity and, with that, its unique selling proposition.

This entails developing messaging that shapes a positive narrative that resonates with citizens and how they see themselves. Some of these costs for this initiative will be contained using the entity's existing Play Your Part government messaging platform, through which ambassadors will be mobilised to positively influence the nation brand by sharing their inspiring stories on the entity's website.

To carry out these activities, expenditure is set to increase at an average annual rate of 0.9%, from R219.4 million in 2023/24 to R225.6 million in 2026/27. The slow growth is due to Cabinet-approved reductions amounting to R105.8 million over the medium term.

Although the entity plans to contain the impact of these reductions by collaborating with institutions with similar mandates, some performance targets, such as the number of activities that promote pride, active citizenry and social cohesion, will be revised. The entity is set to receive 97.2% (R613.9 million) of its revenue over the medium term through transfers from the department. Revenue is expected to increase in line with expenditure.

### Media Development and Diversity Agency

Over the medium term, the MDDA will continue to provide financial and

non-financial support to community and small commercial media, with an emphasis on promoting indigenous languages and contributing to community development.

The agency also plans to intensify its focus on ensuring the sustainability of media projects in communities that are underserved by mainstream media. As such, most of the agency's budget over the period ahead is directed at grant funding for 66 community broadcast projects, to help initiate new projects and strengthen existing ones; and 18 community and small commercial media print and digital projects.

Funding for these projects is set to amount to R166 million over the MTEF period. In line with the agency's plans to ensure the sustainability of community media, over the medium term, it plans to provide training in areas such as governance and social media to 120 community media projects through partnerships with stakeholders and training providers. The training will be supported by 16 media literacy initiatives that will be held across the country in areas with a strong community media presence.

Related activities, including eight research projects on key developments that affect the community media sector, are expected to cost R14 million over the medium term. Total expenditure is expected to amount to R321.5 million over the period ahead, decreasing at an average annual rate of 8.3%, from R137.8 million in 2023/24 to R106.1 million in 2026/27.

This takes into account an anticipated decrease in revenue generated from contributions from traditional media funders whose businesses have been affected by the growth in digital media. The agency is set to derive 56.6% (R181.8 million) of its revenue over the period ahead through the mainstream broadcast sector as donations deductible from the Universal Service and Access Fund levy, and 37.6% (R121 million) through transfers from the department.

## State Security Agency

The mandate of the SSA is to provide government with intelligence on domestic and foreign threats or potential threats to national stability, the constitutional order, and the safety and well-being of the people. Examples of such threats are terrorism, sabotage and subversion. This allows government to implement policies to deal with potential threats and to better understand existing threats and thus improve their policies.

Among the areas of focus of the SSA are the following matters of national interest:

- Terrorism, which refers to deliberate and premeditated attempts to create terror through symbolic acts involving the use or threats of lethal force for creating psychological effects that will influence a target group or individual and translate it into political or material results.
- Sabotage, which refers to activities or purposeful omissions

conducted or planned for purposes of endangering the safety, security or defence of vital public or private property, such as installations, structures, equipment or systems.

- Subversion, which includes activities directed towards undermining by convert unlawful acts or directed towards, or intended ultimately to lead to the destruction or overthrow by violence of the constitutionally established systems of government in South Africa.
- Espionage, which refers to unlawful or unauthorised activities conducted for acquiring information or assets relating to sensitive social, political, economic, scientific or military matters of South Africa or for their unauthorised communication to a foreign state.
- Organised Crime, which includes analysis of the origins and reasons behind organised crime, the identification of key role players, the nature and extent, as well as the modus operandi of organised crime syndicates.

## Minister in The Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Minister is responsible for the:

- Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME).

## Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The DPME is mandated to:

- support the National Planning Commission (NPC);
- facilitate the implementation of policies, legislation and regulation related to the National Development Plan (NDP) with the aim of optimising the national planning system, coordinating national medium-term plans and delivery agreements, and monitoring and evaluating their implementation;
- ensure the alignment of departmental strategic and annual plans with budget allocations and government's Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP);
- monitor the performance of individual national and provincial government departments and municipalities, and facilitate targeted intervention programmes;
- monitor frontline service delivery and manage the presidential hotline, develop and implement the annual National Evaluation Plan, and support the national evaluation system; and
- promote good planning, monitoring and evaluation practices in government.

Over the medium term, the department will focus on strengthening its planning, monitoring, research and evaluation programmes to support the implementation and achievement of government priorities.

This will be achieved through supporting the implementation of the NDP, coordinating and strengthening the national planning system, and monitoring and evaluating the implementation and achievement

of government programmes and priorities.

The department mainly relies on its personnel to drive its mandate. Accordingly, spending on compensation of employees accounts for an estimated 72.7% (R1.1 billion) of its total budget over the period ahead.

## Supporting the implementation of the NDP

The department is tasked with facilitating the implementation of the NDP. This is carried out by the NPC and its secretariat, which is mandated to provide an independent and critical view of the country's developmental trajectory, monitor its implementation, and provide feedback and guidance.

Over the MTEF period, the commission plans to participate in and initiate three research projects in support of the NDP's implementation while engaging all social partners and forging new partnerships. It also plans to facilitate one strategic engagement and partnership in each year over the medium term to develop cross-cutting views on specific issues to find sustainable and innovative solutions to obstacles that hinder the NDP's implementation.

This work will be facilitated through allocations to the NPC Secretariat subprogramme, which accounts for 51.5% (R119.4 million) of spending in the National Planning Coordination programme.

## Coordinating and strengthening the national planning system

The implementation of the NDP and improving the country's development outcomes will be supported by the 2024-2029 MTDP, which translates the NDP's objectives into strategic priorities, interventions and targets for the five-year period.

To this end, in 2024/25, the department plans to produce the 2024-2029 MTDP, which entails research and consultation with government and non-governmental organisations. In improving and strengthening integrated planning across government, the department convenes various planning forums that provide strategic leadership and enhance coherence across the spheres of government.

Key among these forums is the national steering committee on integrated planning, which is a platform for engagements, consultations and communication between the department, other national departments and provincial departments. Over the period ahead, the department plans to improve the systematic spatialisation of the planning system to ensure sustained spatial transformation in the country. As such, the department will support other departments in all spheres of government in analysing spatial trends and dynamics during their planning processes to ensure targeted government interventions and investment.

The department also plans to integrate the priorities of the national spatial development framework into the 2024-2029 MTDP and

develop guidelines for the spatialisation of strategic plans and annual performance plans.

These activities will be facilitated through the National Planning Coordination subprogramme in the National Planning Coordination programme, which accounts for a projected 45.4% (R107.6 million) of spending in the programme over the MTEF period.

## Monitoring and evaluating the implementation and achievement of government programmes and priorities

The department is tasked with monitoring frontline services to improve the overall quality of government services. Over the period ahead, this entails managing the presidential hotline and producing two reports on frontline service delivery per year.

These activities are carried out through the Outcomes Monitoring and Support subprogramme which accounts for an estimated 84.8% (R178.3 million) of spending in the Sector Monitoring Service programme over the MTEF period. Over the period ahead, the department will support the performance management of heads of departments and political principals.

These measures are complemented with the implementation of capacity development measures to improve planning, monitoring and evaluation within departments. Spending on these activities is in the Public Service Monitoring and Capacity Development subprogramme, which accounts for 95.3% (R239.9 million) of the Public Sector Monitoring and Capacity Development programme's allocation over the MTEF period.

In line with the NDP's vision to build a capable, ethical and developmental state, over the medium term, the department aims to produce 12 evaluation reports, which are intended to support evidence-based planning, monitoring and evaluation across government. This work will be done through the Evaluation, Research, Knowledge and Data Systems subprogramme, which accounts for 93.1% (R108.5 million) of the Evidence, Knowledge System programme's allocation over the period ahead.

The department will continue to develop the centralised data management system at a cost of R3.2 million over the MTEF period in the Evaluation, Research, Knowledge and Data Systems subprogramme. The system is expected to provide users, including government departments, members of the public and academics, with an improved interface for accessing, retrieving, analysing and reporting on government performance information. The system is envisaged to act as a knowledge hub to enable a greater understanding of the effectiveness of government interventions and their impact on society.



## Minister in The Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

The Minister is responsible for the:

- Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD); and
- National Youth Development Agency (NYDA).

## Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

The mandate of the DWYPD is to lead in socio-economic transformation for the empowerment and participation of women, youth and people with disabilities through mainstreaming, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation.

Over the MTEF period, the department will continue to focus on strengthening the coordination of the national response to gender-based violence; promoting responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation in government; protecting the rights of people with disabilities; and supporting the participation of young people in the economy.

An estimated 76.4% (R1.9 billion) of the department's budget over the medium term is earmarked for transfers and subsidies to the NYDA and CGE. Total expenditure is expected to decrease at an average rate of 6.6%, from R1 billion in 2023/24 to R821.7 million in 2026/27. This is mainly because of Cabinet-approved reductions to the department's budget amounting to R212.7 million over the MTEF period.

To accommodate the reductions, the department plans to moderate spending on consultants and travel and subsistence while the NYDA is expected to improve its efficiencies. The agency is set to receive an additional allocation of R250 million in 2024/25 for the continuation of the presidential youth employment initiative's national youth service programme.

## Addressing GBVF and supporting empowerment

By mid-2024, the National Council on GBVF Bill was under consideration by the NCOP. The interim GBVF secretariat continued to coordinate and oversee the national response.

The department will also conduct public awareness and advocacy events, and support and monitor the implementation of the economic empowerment of women. To achieve these targets, R25.1 million is allocated over the next three years in the Economic Empowerment of Women subprogramme in the Advocacy and Mainstreaming for the Rights of Women programme.

## Promoting gender responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation

Over the period ahead, the department will continue to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the gender-responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring, evaluation and auditing framework; and conduct research, monitoring and evaluation to inform policy planning and decision-making across government.

The department will also continue to assess the strategic and annual performance plans of other departments to ensure that they are responsive to policy priorities relating to women, young people and people with disabilities, and promote compliance with international commitments in support of these core constituents.

Accordingly, R23.9 million is allocated over the next three years in the Research and Knowledge Management subprogramme in the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Coordination programme.

The department plans to conduct 12 public participation initiatives and four community mobilisation events over the period ahead to raise awareness and advocate against issues that continue to hinder equality and these initiatives is budgeted for within an allocation of R59 million over the medium term in the International Relations, Stakeholder Management and Capacity Building subprogramme in the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Coordination programme.

## Promoting the rights of people with disabilities and supporting the empowerment of young people

The department will continue to advocate for and support policy reviews, work towards the finalisation of the Disability Rights Bill and frameworks to guide government in mainstreaming the inclusion of people with disabilities, strengthen the direct involvement of the disability sector, and enhance awareness programmes. Part of this includes hosting awareness events.

Expenditure for these initiatives is budgeted for within an allocation of R44.4 million over the MTEF period in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities programme. To advance the socioeconomic empowerment of young people, the department will continue to develop and review policies, legislation and frameworks to guide government and other stakeholders. Spending on these initiatives is within an allocation of R31.7 million over the medium term in the Rights of Youth programme.

## Entities

### Commission for Gender Equality

The CGE is an independent statutory body established in terms of Section 181 of the Constitution to promote respect for gender equality,

and the protection, development and attainment of gender equality. Its legislative mandate is laid out in Section 187 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996 and further prescribed in the amended CGE Act of 1996. Over the medium term, the commission will focus on promoting and attaining gender equality through activities that advance legislation, policies, investigations, monitoring and advocacy. It plans to do this by influencing legislation and policies through written submissions to Parliament and relevant stakeholders, conducting high-quality research and monitoring and evaluation, investigating complaints, sanctioning and endorsing appropriate remedies on issues that undermine the attainment of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The commission will continue to conduct advocacy and education initiatives through stakeholder engagements and outreach programmes to raise awareness on gender equality towards a society free from unlawful discrimination and harassment. Human capital is crucial in the commission's work.

As such, spending on compensation of employees accounts for an estimated 78.3% (R233.2 million) of its budget over the medium term, increasing at an average annual rate of 4.7%, from R70.8 million in 2023/24 to R81.2 million in 2026/27. The commission derives all of its revenue through transfers from the department, which amount to R292.8 million over the MTEF period.

### National Youth Development Agency

The founding legislation of the NYDA is the NYDA Act of 2008. The agency's role is to initiate, implement, facilitate and monitor youth development interventions aimed at promoting the empowerment of young people and their participation in economic activities. As such, over the MTEF period, the agency will continue to focus on implementing interventions to support skills development, entrepreneurship and the creation of employment for young people.

These include providing financial and non-financial enterprise support, and placing young people into jobs. Financial support will be provided through grants to youth-owned enterprises, while non-financial support will include the provision of business support services, market access and relevant skills needed to ensure that young people gain the most effective entrepreneurial applications within and across economic value chains.

Over the MTEF period, the agency plans to provide financial support and business development interventions to 9 000 enterprises owned by young people to benefit more than 90 000 young people through creating job opportunities.

An amount of R1 billion is allocated to carry out this intervention, accounting for an estimated 58.4% of the agency's total projected expenditure over the period ahead. An additional R179.2 million is allocated to provide more than 120 000 young people with skills to

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enter the job market and find decent and sustainable employment opportunities.

The National Youth Service Programme is allocated R309.6 million over the MTEF period for the implementation of the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative. This includes an additional allocation of R250 million in 2024/25. The agency expects to derive 85.9% (R1.7 billion) of its revenue over the medium term through transfers from the department and the remainder through funds sourced from other public and private sector organisations.

Revenue is expected to decrease from R831.3 million in 2023/24 to R591.3 million in 2026/27. This is due to Cabinet-approved budget reductions to the agency's budget amounting to R158.4 million over the period ahead, and allocations from the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative coming to an end in 2024/25.

### Minister in The Presidency responsible for Electricity

The Minister of Electricity and Energy is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the electricity crisis response, including the work of the National Energy Crisis Committee. This will provide a single point of command for government's efforts to close the shortfall in electricity supply.

The Minister works full-time with the Eskom Board and management to end load-shedding and ensure the implementation of the Energy Action Plan. Among other things, the Minister has the powers to direct the procurement of new generation capacity and ensure security of supply.