



Transport

A sound and solid transport infrastructure remains crucial to generating economic growth, alleviating poverty, reducing inequality and increasing domestic and international competitiveness. With these goals in mind, departmental spending in 2013 focused on maintaining road infrastructure, upgrading rail infrastructure and services, and constructing and operating transportation infrastructure.

The Department of Transport's (DoT) effort to make transport the heartbeat of the economy continues. The department was finalising the National Transport Master Plan (Natmap).

There are 12 public entities that report to the Minister of Transport, namely Airports Company South Africa, Air Traffic and Navigation Services, the Cross-Border Road Transport Agency (CBRTA), the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa), the Ports Regulator, the Railway Safety Regulator, the Road Accident Fund (RAF), the Road Traffic Infringement Agency, the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), the South African Maritime Safety Authority (Samsa) and the South African National Roads Agency Ltd (Sanral). Commercial role players include Transnet, South African Airways (SAA) and SA Express (SAX).

Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa

In July 2013, the Prasa board finalised the details of the 30% Black Economic Empowerment component of the Gibela consortium, which increased black economic participation in the contract to 41%. The consortium is led by Alstom, which in December won the first Prasa contract to manufacture new rolling stock. Prasa aims to spend R123,5 billion on its fleet renewal programme, to procure 7 224 coaches to replace its ageing fleet, through two 10-year contracts. For 2014/15 and 2015/16, R4 billion and R5,3 billion have been set aside respectively under Prasa's capital investment programme to fund new rolling stock.

Transnet Limited

In March 2013, Transnet and the China Development Bank signed a cooperation agreement, which will help finance the construction and upgrade of railway and port infrastructure.

Gautrain

Government had paid a monthly ridership guarantee to the operator of the Gautrain, the Bombela consortium, since June

2012, amounting to R831,4 million by the end of March 2013. The monthly patronage guarantee has been steadily dropping since 2012, because of an increasing number of people using the public transport system. Average weekday passenger trips on the train increased from 26 000 at the beginning of April 2012 to 42 000 at the end of March 2013.

In October 2013, the Gautrain Management Agency proposed the development of seven new rapid rail routes that would include a link from the existing Sandton station to Randburg; Ruimsig to the Samrand station; Samrand station to Tshwane East; Rhodesfield to the East Rand Mall; Naledi to Ruimsig; and Mamelodi to Tshwane East. The Gautrain transports 1,2 million people a year.

Road Safety and Road Accident Fund

With road safety being a daunting challenge, the DoT is working on education, engineering and awareness campaigns to reduce the carnage. Fatalities and critical injuries mean more claims against the RAF. By the end of March 2013, 15 communities and more than 8 000 customers had been assisted and settlement offers to the value of R102 million been made during the outreach campaigns.

Road Traffic Management Corporation

By May 2013, the RTMC had passed its target of stopping and checking a million vehicles a month. Its new target is 1,1 million vehicles a month.

South African Maritime Safety Authority

Samsa and the DoT are working on mobilising the maritime sector, organising its industries and drawing the attention towards what the sector can contribute to the achievement of government's social and economic goals.

South African National Roads Agency Limited

South Africa has a 750 000 km-long road network, of which Sanral manages 19 667 km of paved roads. The non-toll road network accounted for 83,1% of the national network funded by the fiscus.

National Transport Master Plan

The Natmap 2050 was finalised in 2013 in line with the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030. The long-term

vision of Natmap 50 will sustain South Africa's projected growth and focus on integrated transport planning to ensure that the different modes of transport complement each other. The transport sector is critical to realising the implementation of the NDP 2030 vision of advanced economic development, job creation, growth, and provision of equitable access to opportunities and services for all, while fostering an inclusive society and economy.

Toll roads

The Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Committee expressed full support for the N2 Wildcoast Project and indicated that substantial funding could be available in 2013/14. The Greenfields portion of the highway was implemented as a toll road using a hybrid funding model.

In September 2013, President Jacob Zuma signed the Transport Laws and Related Matters Amendment Bill into law. This development provides the necessary legal framework and paves the way for the implementation of the electronic tolling system on selected highways in Gauteng, covering at least 200 km of road network. The Transport Laws and Related matters Amendment Act, 2013 aims, among other things, to amend the CBRTA to collect toll on behalf of Sanral.

Non-toll projects

Under the non-toll projects, the construction of a new westbound carriageway turned the N2 into a dual carriageway. A new bridge over the Sunday's River was being constructed to accommodate the new westbound carriageway. The upgrade of the Mount Edgecombe Interchange connects Phoenix and Umhlanga with Durban and the North Coast via the N2. The Interchange will be upgraded to a four-level system that will provide free-flow movements in all directions.

The R61 between Mthatha and Ngqeleni entails the construction of a new dual carriageway between Mthatha and the turn-off to Ngqeleni. The new carriageway will require the construction of four new bridges, one over each of the and Corana rivers, one agricultural overpass and a new bridge at the Ngqeleni interchange. A fifth bridge is to be constructed over the Sidwadweni River on Bernard Schultz Avenue.

S'hamba Sonke Road Maintenance Project

The S'hamba Sonke (meaning "walking together") Programme through the Provincial Roads Maintenance Grant

consists of three budget components. The largest enables provinces to expand their maintenance activities. The other components allow provinces to repair roads damaged by floods and cover the cost of rehabilitation work created by coal haulage activities in Mpumalanga and Gauteng.

Future allocations of funds will depend on the satisfactory use of the road asset management systems from 2013/14.

The grant has an allocation of R27,6 billion over the Medium Term Expenditure Framework starting with R8 696 210 in 2013/14 rising to R9 126 190 in 2014/15, and reaching R9 773 920 in 2015/16.

The DoT, through the Rural Roads Asset Management Systems Grant, supports local government in improving the planning and budgeting of rural roads infrastructure. The grant funds the collection of accurate data on the condition and usage of rural roads in line with the Road Infrastructure Strategic Framework.

By 2013, 120 civil engineering graduates were being trained in the programme and later may be absorbed into the municipality's staff structure.

Rural Transport Strategy

Rural transport development ensures better mobility and access in rural areas. The national transport survey found that a higher percentage of the population cannot afford the high cost of transport. This limits their access to transport and therefore social and economic opportunities. This perpetuates underdevelopment and isolation from mainstream public transport system.

The National Land Transport Act of 2009 provides for different levels of government to be responsible for planning. In line with this, the DoT looked at ways to help six district municipalities develop their rural public transport network plans through various funding models in 2013.

The Rural Transport Strategy is expected to contribute to the formulation of the National Planning Guidelines for rural district municipalities' public transport network plans.

Aviation

Civil aviation serves as a major catalyst for global economic activities and is vital to trade and tourism. South Africa's airport network consists of 135 licensed airports, 19 military airports and up to 1 300 unlicensed aerodromes.

In June 2013, SAA and SAX launched the Pilot Cadet Training and Development Programme for those who had been previously disadvantaged.

By 2013, the programme had produced 246 cadet pilots, 166 of whom have successfully completed training and been absorbed within SAA and SAX. Through the launch of this programme, the three state-owned airlines – SAA, SAX and Mango – will strengthen their role as engines of economic growth in the developmental state, and as leaders in the transformation of the aviation sector.

In April 2013, SAA and Jet Airways, India's premier international airline, announced a code-share agreement that would enable seamless air travel connectivity to several business centres in India and South Africa.

Under the agreement, SAA, the only airline with non-stop flights between Johannesburg and Mumbai, will code-share on Jet Airways' operations between Mumbai and Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram. In turn, Jet Airways will code-share on SAA's flights between Mumbai and Johannesburg and to Cape Town and Durban.

Air Traffic and Navigation Services

South Africa is one of the 36 council members of the International Civil Aviation Organisation Council. South Africa is committed to regional aviation safety, security and environment issues.

Through the Southern African Development Community and African Civil Aviation Commission mechanism the department works to prevent an European Union (EU) blacklist of African states and unilateral imposition of the EU Emission Trading Scheme.

South African Civil Aviation Authority

SACAA is charged with promoting, regulating and enforcing civil aviation safety and security standards. It performs administrative and oversight control over 11 801 registered aircraft, 2 022 licensed aircraft maintenance engineers, 430 air maintenance organisations, 303 air operating certificate holders, 200 aviation training organisations and 16 755 aeroplane and helicopter pilots.

In November 2013, Cabinet gave the SACAA approval to host, together with the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the first African Aerospace Medicine conference in February 2014.

It brought together regulatory authorities and health practitioners in the aerospace environment to discuss challenges confronting the sector.

Hosting the event helped promote awareness and encouraged African States to share information regarding aircrew performance, the safety of aircrew and passengers in flight as well as safety management.

South African Airways

In April 2013, SAA submitted its long-term Turnaround Strategy to the Minister of Public Enterprises.

In March 2013, the airline topped the list of the most on-time airlines in the world according to the FlightStats On-Time Airline and Airport Performance Report, produced by FlightStats Inc. SAA was one of the only two major international carriers that delivered over 90% of their flights on time in that month. In April 2013, SAA's business class was also voted as the Best Business Class product among Star Alliance carriers, by FVW, Germany's leading travel trade magazine for tourism and business travel.

In June 2013, SAA became one of the first six airlines in the world to achieve International Air Transport Association Environmental Assessment Stage 1 status.

Public transport Scholar Transport

Learners have difficulty getting access to safe public transport to their educational institutions and transport infrastructure is inadequate particularly in rural areas.

The National Scholar Transport Policy provides a framework for safe and secure transport for learners through the cooperation of stakeholders and law-enforcement authorities.

The DoT developed the national operational guidelines to remedy operational challenges that provinces have in implementing the Scholar Transport Programme.

Integrated public transport networks Bus Rapid Transport (BRT)

In 2013/14 over R5,5 billion was spent in up to 13 cities on planning, building and operating integrated public transport networks. Both Johannesburg and Cape Town constructed over 20 km of dedicated bus lanes on which services are operated, supported by over 100 km of complementary, feeder and distributor services.

In the 2013/14 financial year, both Cape Town and Johannesburg expanded operations on My CiTi and Phase 1 Rea Vaya services to carry up to 100 000 passenger trips a day on each system. The City of Johannesburg's new Rea Vaya bus system route was operational in October 2013.

The new route runs from Soweto and passes through Noordegesig, New Canada, Pennyville, Bosmont, Coronationville, Newclare, Westbury, Westdene, Melville, Auckland Park and Parktown, and it links to the CBD. The faster, safer and cost-effective Rea Vaya bus service is exceeding its daily target of transporting 80 000 passengers daily.

The new services will be using 134 new buses, which have also been manufactured locally. Residents and students will be able to travel to universities and hospitals much easier with Rea Vaya.

The introduction of the Rea Vaya smart card is another innovation that commuters can use to pay for travel easily and safely.

Nelson Mandela municipality's Libhongo Lethu continued to run a pilot service on its upgraded network.

A feature of 2013/14 public transport network development was that construction commenced in four more cities, namely, Tshwane, eThekweni, Rustenburg and Mbombela.

George municipality was a new entrant to the public transport network development enterprise and during the course of 2013/14 George was expected to complete its full city-wide network on a more modest scale than the networks being constructed in the metropolitan areas.

Buffalo City, Ekurhuleni, Mangaung, Msunduzi and Polokwane completed their public transport network development planning and service contract designs during 2013/14 and were expected to commence with network development in 2014/15.

The Tshwane Rapid Transit (A Re Yeng) was due to operate in 2014.

All the South African BRT systems will expand in phases over the next decade.

- carries 95% of freight volumes via 30% of the core network
- has annual revenue of more than R14 billion
- will, over the next five years, invest R35 billion in capital
- has 25 347 employees system-wide.

Maritime

The South African Maritime Training Academy at Simon's Town in the Western Cape provides advanced training to the broader maritime sector, including the merchant navy, harbour-craft operations, the fishing industry and the South African Navy. The South African Merchant Navy Academy at Granger Bay, is integrated with the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, with a similar training facility at the Durban Institute of Technology.

As part of an initiative to reduce the vacancy rate of at least 45 000 jobs in the maritime industry, 12 Further Education and Training colleges across the country started to offer courses aimed at equipping young people for a career in the industry from 2013.

In June 2014, Africa's first-ever training vessel, the SA *Agulhas* will go to Ghana, Abidjan in the Ivory Coast, before docking in Canary Wharf in London.

Arrive Alive campaign

Government renewed its mission to curb the escalating rate of accidents throughout the country with the launch of the Arrive Alive Festive Season Campaign in the Free State in November 2013. The launch coincided with the World Remembrance Day for road traffic victims observed internationally on the third Sunday of November every year. The campaign emphasised that the reduction in road deaths was urgent and non-negotiable. The campaign will see government stepping up law enforcement operations focusing on responsible driving while arresting drunk, reckless and speeding drivers.

According to DoT statistics, about 40 people are killed on South African roads every day, costing the economy R306 billion annually. The RAF pays out about R15 billion to victims of road accidents every year.

Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020

South Africa is a signatory to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020. The resolution is co-sponsored by more than 90 countries.

A key aspect of the Integrated Road Safety Management Programme is increasing pedestrian safety. In planning and design, Sanral provides for interventions such as traffic calming, safe stopping areas for public transport, and pedestrian

bridges. The DoT also engages communities adjacent to national roads to find solutions to pedestrians' needs.

To contribute to safety on the roads, Sanral developed a database of projects that need to be implemented in areas that are hazardous to pedestrians. The solutions range from pedestrian bridges, pavements, road safety education and traffic calming measures.

When it comes to managing safety on freeways, Sanral's incident management system, supported by central coordination centres, embraces interaction between emergency services and law enforcement agencies on all declared national routes.

