

### The last five years has been a time of recovery and rebuilding.

From the outset, this administration has worked to address the immediate challenges facing South Africans and put in place the foundations for sustainable, inclusive growth and job creation into the future.

It has taken far-reaching actions to rebuild the economy, firstly in the wake of state capture and more than a decade of poor economic performance, secondly from a devastating global pandemic, and thirdly from a debilitating electricity crisis.

There has been significant progress on measures to grow the economy, create jobs, reduce poverty, tackle corruption and fight crime. Some of these measures have already had an impact on people's lives, while the benefits of others will take a longer time to be felt.

We have come a long way in the last five years. We have built on the achievements of the last 25 years and we have taken decisive steps to deal with difficult challenges.

But our journey is not yet complete. There is still much work to be done to rebuild our economy, reduce poverty and ensure that all South Africans experience an everimproving quality of life.

This report provides an overview of the progress that has been made over the last five years.

More information is available on the **State of the Nation website**: stateofthenation.gov.za









## **CONTENTS**

GROWING THE ECONOMY AND JOBS	
Driving investment, growth and employment	
Promoting public employment and youth empowerment	
Introducing far-reaching economic reforms	
Ensuring security of energy supply	
FIGHTING CORRUPTION	
Ending state capture and corruption	1
BUILDING BETTER LIVES	1:
Tackling poverty	1
Building human capital	1
Quality health care for all	1
Responding to the COVID pandemic	1
Leading Africa's COVID response	1
MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER	18
Fighting crime, violence and instability	1
Eradicating gender-based violence and femicide	2
■ INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE	2:



# **GROWING THE ECONOMY AND JOBS**

### GROWING THE ECONOMY AND JOBS

## RIVING INVESTMENT, GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT

### Successful investment drive

Over **R1.5 trillion in new investment** commitments was pledged through five **SA Investment Conferences.** 

Of these commitments, **over R500 billion has already flowed into the economy**.

Master plans have been finalised in eight industries – clothing, poultry, sugar, automotive, furniture, steel, tourism and forestry – with projects worth **R43 billion** completed and projects worth **R87 billion** under construction.



### Infrastructure for growth

The **Infrastructure Fund has been established** as a blended finance facility for infrastructure.

**Infrastructure SA** has been set up to coordinate a massive public infrastructure build.

The **value of projects** currently in construction is over **R230 billion,** including energy, water infrastructure and rural roads projects.

The government-guaranteed bounce-back loan scheme was introduced and the eligibility criteria expanded to provide additional funding to small businesses.



Operations were **restored on 26 out of 40 commuter rail corridors** following disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Africa Free Trade Area launched

As Chairperson of the African Union, **President Ramaphosa** oversaw the **launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)**, which is currently the largest free trade area in the world. AfCFTA will boost trade and economic growth on the continent.



Approximately R15 billion has been invested in Black industrialist businesses.

### GROWING THE ECONOMY AND JOBS

## ROMOTING PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



The Youth Employment Service
(YES) was established together
with private-sector partners.
YES has created over 100 000
work experiences for young
people to date.



The **SA Youth Mobi platform** was launched, which provides pathways for young people to employment, learning and youth enterprise.

To date, **over 4.8 million young people have registered** on the platform and more than one million have been placed in earning opportunities.



PRESIDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT STIMULUS

Over **1.7 million work and livelihood opportunities** for unemployed South Africans have been created through the **Presidential Employment Stimulus**.

Of the participants, 83% are youth and 66% are women. Key programmes in the stimulus include:

- **Employing 1.1 million** education and general assistants in **23 000 schools.**
- Providing production input vouchers to **180 000 small-scale farmers.**
- Providing 29 000 opportunities in environmental management and rehabilitation.
- **Employing 107 000** people across **6 500 worksites** through the Social Employment Fund



The **National Youth Service** has been revitalised to offer young people opportunities to undertake work that builds the community and provides them with skills, self-confidence and work experience.

Over **47 000 participants were placed** in the first phase of the National Youth Service. Applications for **20 000 placements** in the second phase opened in November 2023.

NTRODUCING FAR-REACHING ECONOMIC REFORMS

Operation Vulindlela was established as an initiative between the Presidency and National Treasury to drive an ambitious economic reform agenda to accelerate growth, investment and job creation.



#### ON WATER:

The water-use licence backlog was cleared and turnaround times significantly improved.

The *Blue, Green and No Drop reports* were published for the first time since 2014 to ensure better monitoring of water and wastewater treatment quality, enabling stronger interventions in failing municipalities.

#### **ON ATTRACTING SKILLS:**

A revised Critical Skills List was published which reflects current skills shortages. The work visa system is being overhauled to attract skilled immigration and investment.

#### **ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS:**

The auction of high-demand broadband spectrum was finalised and all analogue services above 694 MHz switched off, freeing up the spectrum for other telecommunications uses, enabling lower data costs and a significant expansion of broadband access.



### **ON PORTS AND RAIL:**

A Freight Logistics Roadmap to increase efficiency and competitiveness is being implemented together with

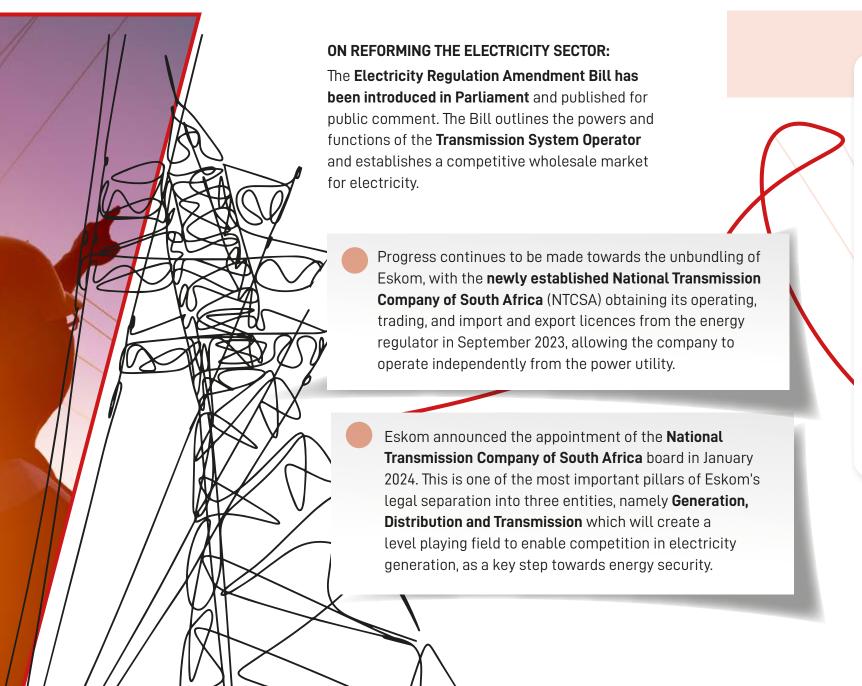
industry partners.

Reforms at Transnet have **opened the market** to other rail operators while rail infrastructure remains in state hands.

A private-sector partner was identified to invest in and manage a container terminal at the Durban ports.

## 6

## NTRODUCING FAR-REACHING ECONOMIC REFORMS (Continued)



### ON EMBEDDED GENERATION:

The licencing threshold for private investment in electricity production was removed. This key reform has enabled massive private investment in electricity generation for the first time, helping to reduce load shedding.

More than 100 projects, representing over 12 000 MW of new generation capacity, are now at various stages of development.

### GROWING THE ECONOMY AND JOBS

## NSURING SECURITY OF ENERGY SUPPLY



### Surge in renewable energy connected to the grid

The renewable energy procurement programme was revived in 2018 to increase generation capacity and diversify our energy supply.

Since then, around 2 500 MW of solar and wind power has been connected to the grid.

A further 1600 MW of projects are in construction.

### Procure power independently

Regulations have been changed to allow municipalities to procure power independently. Five municipalities are in various stages of procurement process.

### Unlock 1800 MW new capacity

Land has been made available next to Eskom power stations in Mpumalanga for renewable energy projects, which will unlock 1800 MW of new capacity.



### Tax incentives for rooftop solar

The amount of installed rooftop solar has more than doubled to around 5 000 MW in the last year, due to the provision of tax incentives for homes and businesses, and the creation of an energy bounceback scheme to provide financing to SMMEs to install solar panels.

### GROWING THE ECONOMY AND JOBS

## NSURING SECURITY OF ENERGY SUPPLY (Continued)



The **Presidential Climate Commission** has been established to oversee and facilitate a **just and equitable transition** towards a lowemissions and climate-resilient economy.



### Powering South Africa's future

A Minister of Electricity in the Presidency has been appointed and the National Energy Crisis Committee (NECOM) established, working in partnership with business and other social partners to deal with the energy crisis by fixing Eskom and adding new sources of power.

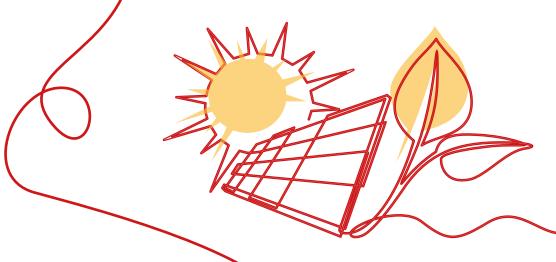
As a result of this work, there has been a steady decline in the severity of load shedding.



South Africa's Just Energy Transition
Investment Plan (JET-IP) was launched, setting
out a plan for R1.5 trillion in investment over
five years to support our just transition to a
low-carbon and climate-resilient economy.

Close to \$12 billion in international financing pledges have been secured through the Just Energy Transition Partnership.

We are undertaking this transition at a pace, scale and cost that our country can afford and in a manner that ensures **energy security for all our people,** while supporting the creation of new industries, new economic opportunities and sustainable jobs.







## ENDING STATE CAPTURE AND CORRUPTION



### Hawks rebuild credibility

**New leadership** has been appointed at **the Hawks**, which has restored credibility and stability and led to action against corruption.

### Appointed **new National Director**



A new National Director of Public Prosecutions was appointed on the recommendations of an independent panel following a transparent public process.

### **Established Investigating Directorate**

The National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) Investigating Directorate was established to prosecute state capture and other significant corruption cases.

To date, the Investigating Directorate has **taken 34 state capture and corruption cases** to court, involving 203 accused persons and 65 accused entities.

The NPA has also secured the conviction of **over 500 government officials** and nearly **800 in the private sector** on offences related to corruption since 2019.

### FIGHTING CORRUPTION

### Expedite civil claims

A **SIU Special Tribunal has been appointed** to expedite civil claims against corrupt individuals and the recovery of stolen funds. Since its establishment, it has **recovered over R8.6 billion**.



**Freezing orders of R14 billion** for state capture-related cases were granted to the NPA's Asset Forfeiture Unit (AFU). To date, **around R5.4 billion has been recovered** and returned to the state.



### New leadership at the **SSA**

This administration undertook measures to **end corruption and politicisation** at the **State Security Agency (SSA)**, including the appointment of new leadership and implementation of recommendations of a Highlevel Panel in the SSA.

### New leadership growing trust



**New leadership** has been appointed at the **SA Revenue Services (SARS)** leading to the rebuilding of the institution following state capture and to improvements in revenue collection, compliance trends and trade facilitation.



## ENDING STATE CAPTURE AND CORRUPTION (Continued)

### Sharing of **information** and **resources**

The **State Capture Commission regulations** were amended to enable sharing of information and resources with NPA on state capture cases.

### Published procurement contracts online

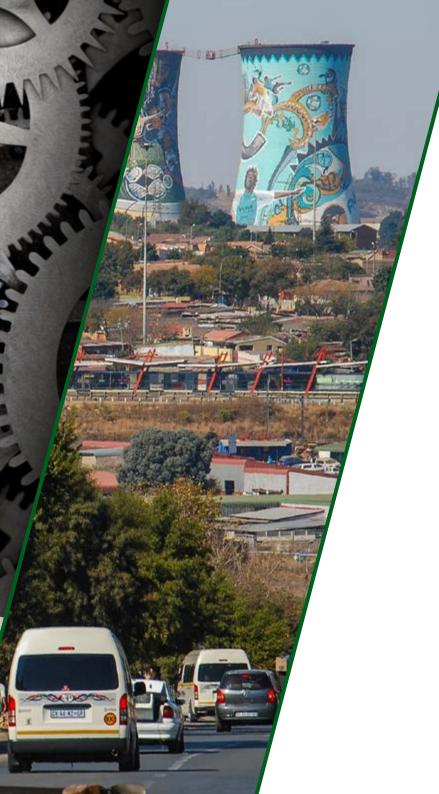
Details of all COVIDrelated and flood disaster procurement contracts have been published online, setting a precedent for transparency in public procurement.

### **Recommendations** of the Commission

The administration acted on recommendations by the State Capture Commission and is putting in place laws, institutions and practices that reduce the potential for corruption. These include nine new laws introduced in Parliament on areas such as public procurement, the involvement of politicians in administrative matters, the conduct of public servants, the intelligence services, money laundering and electoral reforms.

Further research is being done on some of the recommendations of the Commission, such as making the abuse of political power a criminal offence.





## BUILDING BETTER LIVES

## ES

## ACKLING POVERTY







### Investment in social infrastructure

Municipalities have invested more than R67 billion in social infrastructure over the past five years, providing water services to an extra 270 000 poor households and sanitation services to nearly 240 000 poor households.

Nearly **5 000kms of road infrastructure** in poor communities has been improved.

## Launched military veterans pension benefit

Government launched the **Military Veterans pension benefit** for former Non-Statutory Forces.

To date, over **18 000 applications** have been received for the pension benefit of military veterans.

## BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL

### Mobilised funds to replace pit toilets

The **SAFE Sanitation for Schools initiative** was launched to mobilise public and private funds to replace pit toilets. Unsafe toilets have been replaced in **87% of schools** needing safe toilets. The remaining **430 schools** are scheduled for completion in **2024**.

## Increase in no-fee schools

There has been an increase in the percentage of **school learners not required to pay fees** from 71% in 2018 to 75% in 2021.

Matric pass rate steadily increases

The latest matric pass rate, at 82.9%, is the highest ever, up from 78% ten years ago. Learners from no-fee paying schools accounted for more than 65% of the total bachelor passes obtained.

Fewer learners are dropping out of school. The percentage of learners who **completed 12 years** of education rose from 45% in 2008 to **62% in 2022.** 



National Student Financial Aid Schem

### Increased funding for students

The **National Student Financial Aid Scheme** (NSFAS) funding for poor and working-class students in universities and TVET colleges was increased from R21 billion in 2018 to nearly **R50 billion** in 2023.

The **total** number of students funded increased from 580 000 in 2018 to **1.1 million** in the 2023 academic year.

### New loan scheme for the missing middle

BUILDING BETTER LI

A **new loan scheme** was launched to fund the so-called 'missing middle' starting this year benefitting a further **30 000 students**.

## QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR ALL



### Progress towards NHI

Introduced in 2019, the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill was passed by Parliament last year. It will provide **free health care** at the point of care for all South Africans.

In preparation for the NHI, **Health Patient Registration Systems have been installed in over 3 200 facilities.** 



The number of maternal and infant deaths has dropped dramatically.

The ratio of maternal deaths per 100 000 live births **decreased** from 106 in 2019 to 88 in 2020.

**Infant mortality declined** from 46 per 1 000 live births in 1994 to 24 in 2022.



### Public health system **RECRUITMENT**

More than **56 000 additional health workers** have been recruited and more than **46 000 community health** workers integrated into the public health system.



As of November 2023, **95%** of persons diagnosed with HIV **know their status**, 79% of these receive antiretroviral treatment, and **93%** of these are **virally suppressed**.

New **HIV** infections have declined among young people. In 2022, there were 73% fewer infections among adolescent males and 61% among adolescent females than in 2010.

 $oldsymbol{R}$ ESPONDING TO THE COVID PANDEMIC $^{-}$ Government implemented a nationwide lockdown Allocated to slow COVID-19 infections to help prepare the **R40 BILLION** health system moderate the surge of infections. in relief funds More than 18 000 additional beds were built, and 55 000 additional healthcare personnel hired to As part of the relief package, an additional strengthen the health care system. **R20** billion was allocated for the health response to the pandemic; and **R20 billion** was allocated for municipalities for the provision of emergency water, food and shelter for the homeless. **Increased** grants and social support A historic social and economic relief package was Massive COVID vaccine drive **implemented** to support vulnerable businesses. workers and households affected by the pandemic. Thirty-nine million doses of COVID-19 vaccines were administered, reaching more than half of all adults and A total of 18 million people received additional grant ensuring 65% of everyone over 50 were fully vaccinated. payments, more than 5.7 million workers received wage support through the special UIF scheme, over **R70 billion in tax relief** was extended to businesses in distress, and around 13 000 businesses were helped through a loan guarantee scheme. The **Solidarity Fund was** established, together with the private sector, which raised **Solidarity R3.4 billion** for South Africa's Stronger as one response to COVID-19 and the health, humanitarian and social consequences.



### Led the COVID-19 continental response

As AU Chair in 2020, **President Ramaphosa led the continental response to the COVID-19 pandemic**, overseeing a continent-wide strategy, setting up innovative online platforms to provide access for all countries to essential medical supplies, mobilising international funding and securing vaccines.

Over 500 million COVID-19 vaccine doses were secured for the continent.

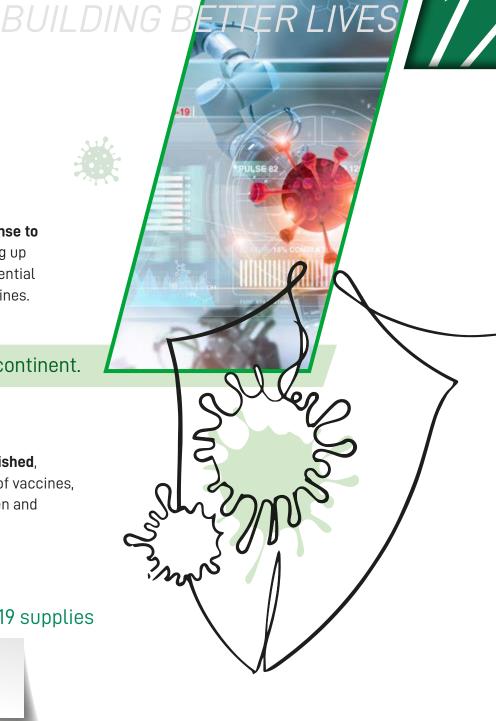
### Mobilised \$137 million for vaccines and supplies



The African Pandemic Response Fund was established, which mobilised \$137 million for local production of vaccines, diagnostics, personal protective equipment, oxygen and critical medicines.

Ensured **continent-wide** access to COVID-19 supplies

The Africa Medical Supplies Platform was launched, ensuring access for all African countries to vital COVID-19 supplies.





## MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER



## MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

## IGHTING CRIME, VIOLENCE AND INSTABILITY

**New leadership** was put in place in the SAPS, Hawks, NPA and State Security Agency to ensure the stability, integrity and capability of these **key crime-fighting bodies**.









### Increased police recruitment

This administration has increased numbers of police personnel, including the recruitment of:

- 20 000 police trainees
- an additional 4 000 publicorder policing members during 2022 and 2023.

### Tackling illegal mining, extortion, cable theft and vandalism

Twenty specialised SAPS Economic
Infrastructure Task Teams have
been established to work with
business, private security and
state-owned enterprises to tackle
illegal mining, construction site
extortion, cable theft and vandalism

of economic infrastructure. By November 2023, the task teams had made over 4 000 arrests for damage of critical infrastructure, 70 arrests for extortion at construction sites and over 3 000 arrests for illegal mining, and confiscated significant quantities of copper cable, rail tracks and other metals.



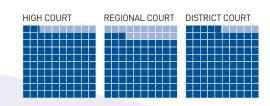
### SECURING our borders

The **Border Management Authority was launched** as South Africa's third armed force to manage and secure our borders, providing a vital link in government's efforts to harness the benefits of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

### Conviction rate since 2019

Under new leadership in the NPA, an average **conviction rate**:

- 91.% in high courts,
- -82% in regional courts and
- 95% in the district courts since 2019.





MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

RADICATING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE

The **National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence** was developed, together with civil society, as a society-wide response to this national emergency.

Around **R21 billion has been dedicated** over the medium term to the implementation of the six pillars of the plan, including the **economic empowerment of women**.





**63** Thuthuzela Care Centres



**Eight new Thuthuzela Care Centres** have been established (TCCs) since 2018, bringing the total number of centres to 63. TCCs provide a one-stop service to survivors of sexual offences and domestic violence.

### 83 Sexual offender courts

**Forty-two new Sexual Offences Courts** have been established since 2018, bringing the total number of these specialised courts to 83 as at July 2023.

### **1 159** Victim-friendly rooms

**Victim-friendly rooms** were established at **1159 police stations** across the country.

**Three new laws** were introduced to strengthen the response of the criminal justice system to GBV in order to:

- tighten bail and increase minimum sentences for perpetrators of GBV;
- criminalise sexual intimidation and incest;
- extend the register of sexual offenders to include particulars of all convicted sex offenders, irrespective of the age and the mental status of the sex crime victim; and
- improve protections against domestic violence.

## MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

## RADICATING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE (Continued)



Reduced the **DNA processing backlog** 

1.5 million DNA kits and reduced the backlog in DNA processing from 210 000 exhibits in April 2021 to around 58 000 in February 2022, with a further 281 110 DNA reports processed between

60 000 illegal liquor outlets were closed.



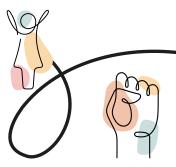


The NPA has achieved an average conviction rate of 94% in femicide prosecutions and 75% in sexual offences prosecutions since 2019.





The GBVF Response Fund 1 was launched, which raised R200 million from the private sector for community-based organisations combating GBV. In the first year of the Fund's operation, 53 CBOs were funded, reaching 280 000 participants.

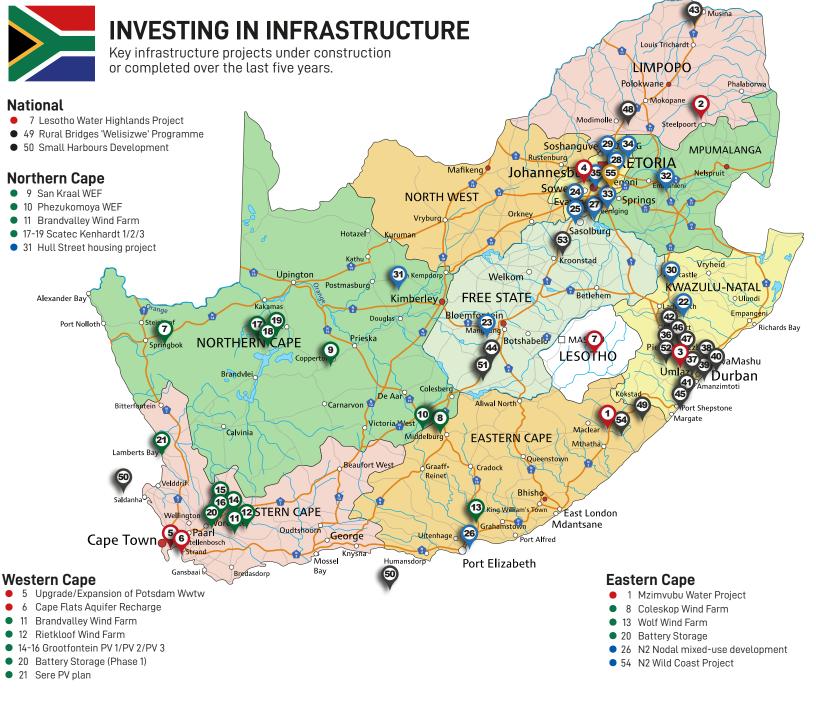


### **Empowering women** is a priority



Government has committed to direct 40% of government's procurement towards women-owned enterprises to promote women's empowerment. Close to 6 000 women-owned businesses. were trained in essential business skills to apply for government tenders.

Trained 6 000 women



#### Limpopo

- 2 Olifants River Water Resources Development Project - Phase 2 OMM
- 43 Musina Ring Road
- 48 Polokwane Eastern Bypass Phase 2 of the N1 Improvements

#### Mpumalanga

32 Kwandokuhle social housing

#### Gautena

- 4 Joburg Water: Northern Wwtw
- 24 Lufhereng urban development
- 25 Malibongwe Ridge housing development
- 27 Greencreek estate
- 28 Mooikloof Mega City
- 29 Fochville Ext 11 social housing
- 33 Sondela Phase 2 residential units
- 34 Joe's Place social housing
- 35 Jeppestown Unity House social housing
- 55 Salvokop Precinct Project

#### KwaZulu-Natal

- 3 uMkhomazi Water Project
- 20 Battery Storage
- 22 Greater Cornubia mixed-use development
- 30 New Castle Hospital Street social housing
- 36 Cloete and approaches on N2 and N3
- 37 N3 Ashburton Interchange to Murray Road
- 38 N3 Cato Ridge to Dardanelles
- 39 N3 Dardenelles to Lynnfield Park
- 40 N3 Lynnfield Park to Ashburton
- 41 N3 Murray Road to New England
- 42 N3 from Key Ridge to Hammarsdale
- 45 National Route 2 between Mtunzini Toll Plaza
- and Empangeni T-Junction Upgrade
- 46 N3 Paradise Valley to Mariannhill Toll Plaza
- 47 N3 from Westville Viaduct to Paradise Valley Interchange
- 52 Pietermarizburg Ring Road, Msunduzi, Westville Viaduct to Paradise Valley Interchange

#### Free State

- 23 Vista Park II and III
- 44 National Route 1 Section 17 from Ventersburg to Kroonstad Upgrade
- 51 Windburg Interchange to Windburg Station Upgrade
- 53 N3 De Beers Pass











