

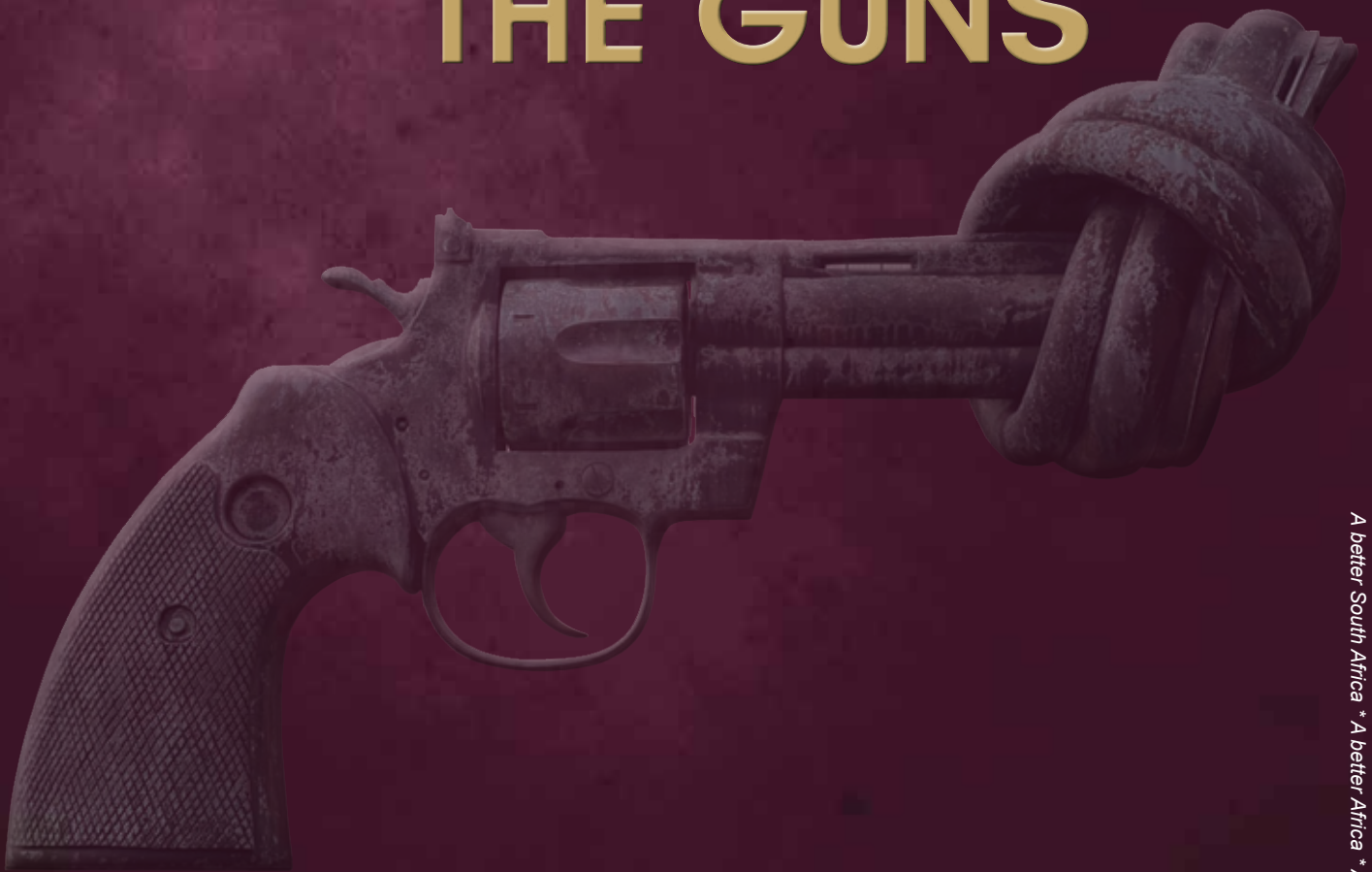
UBUNTU

Issue 20

South Africa's Public Diplomacy in action 

20th Edition

SILENCING THE GUNS



A better South Africa * A better Africa * A better world

Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development



The African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

In the spirit of Ubuntu



credits

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UBUNTU

a Nguni word meaning humanity
The Department of International Relations
and Cooperation's quarterly magazine



ON THE COVER

The 33rd African Union (AU) Summit was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in February 2020 under the theme: "Silencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development".

South Africa as Chair of the AU for the year 2020 will work tirelessly towards peace and security on the continent. In this regard, the country believes that both the African leadership and ordinary people must be the architects of their own peace and stability.

To make real the commitment of "Silencing the Guns in Africa in 2020", South Africa will collaborate with sister countries on the continent, focussing on the root causes of conflicts so that we are able to create an environment for permanent peace and security in Africa.



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& cooperation

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LETTER FROM THE MINISTER



South Africa assumed the Chairship of the African Union (AU) at the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 8 and 9 February 2020.

This is a significant responsibility for South Africa to assume, particularly given the challenging times confronting the world of nations. Our Chairship implies great obligations to the Global South and means we must actively pursue the tasks related to concretely silencing the guns, enhancing inclusion and equality and responding to climate change and the wide variety of risks and opportunities confronting Africa.

Additionally, South Africa will concurrently chair the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and the AU Committee of Heads of State on Climate Change.

As if this is not demanding enough scope of work, 2020 is the final year of South Africa's non-permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Our non-permanent membership of the UNSC has allowed us to leverage all opportunities to

make the most of our membership of this strategic platform.

The first year of our membership was beset by tectonic shifts in global affairs. The challenges to multilateralism, while evident for many years, became a dominant reality that altered global realities and relations fundamentally.

South Africa has showed firm resolve in its foreign policy, fairness, justice, equality and respect for practices by focussing on its core values of human dignity. These can only find expression in globally fair trade and inclusive economic prosperity, even-handed global governance and the entrenchment of the principle of multilateralism.

It is now clear that these principles enjoy inadequate global support right now, not because they are irrelevant but due to the fact that the global community has increasingly felt compelled to focus on self-preservation rather than the good of all.

As a result of growing global social inequality and the deteriorating living conditions of many across the world, as well as the baneful practice of unilateralism and its concomitant war baiting, the world is seemingly highly

unstable, unsafe and in a precarious space or being made to feel that way.

For many of our friends worldwide, South Africa is viewed as a powerful progressive alternative able to articulate the concerns and interest of the marginalised and vulnerable while upholding the agreed progressive universal principles of the UN Charter.

All these imposing international challenges and responsibilities will exact a toll on South Africa's leadership capacity, and indeed capabilities, at a time when we face a myriad of country challenges.

It is no exaggeration to say politically, economically and on the governance front, South Africa is probably facing the sternest test since the dawn of the democratic dispensation in April 1994.

We are fighting off the possibility of a credit rating downgrade but also, we have the duty to revive a sluggish economy even as we push back a high unemployment rate in the face of continued private-sector job shedding.

A credit rating downgrade would compound matters for us by further weakening our capacity to address our structural socio-economic imbalances, addressing social

inequality and creating conditions that nurture social cohesion, nation-building and a democratic citizenship.

Our electricity supply challenges as well as the need to repair the state-owned enterprises and restore investor confidence in our country's economy are pressing matters for which continued engagement by government and the President in particular is a top priority. Much is being done through the leadership of our President and government but much more hard work lies ahead for all of us.

Against this national and global background, South Africa is among African nations playing host to thousands of African migrants often violently uprooted from their home countries by civil strife, war, poverty and political or ethnic persecution.

The intermittent attacks on foreign nationals who are often accused of social crime and "stealing South African jobs" have become par for the course, earning our country the criticism of several countries in Africa and some civil-society organisations.

That said, I have no doubt in my mind that we are equal to the task at hand. We have, over the last 26 years of democracy, accumulated the necessary experience to execute our responsibilities effectively.

Of course, Africa itself is in a very different condition since the launch of the AU in Durban in 2002. Our continent has made much progress while also being impacted by global challenges and our own African problems.

The key focus of South Africa's Chairship of the AU during this term is themed: "Silencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development". Both our Cabinet and the AU have approved this theme. The underlying rationale is there cannot be development without peace.

Continentially, South Africa assumes the Chairship of the AU under conditions in which Africa's economic growth has continued to be positive, with gross domestic product projected to rise to 4% in 2020, up from 3.5% in 2019. However, this excludes the large economies of Angola, Nigeria and South Africa, which have a low average growth of 2.5%.

At the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2020, much was made of the fact that some of the world's fastest-growing economies are on the continent and have had a growth rate of 5% over a five-year period, higher than the global average of 3.6%. These countries include Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Senegal, Benin, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

However, the positive growth outlook is dampened by downside risks, specifically rising levels of government debt and concerns

about debt sustainability. Fourteen countries have been marked as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress. Rising debt levels have stemmed from declining commodity processes, a glaring infrastructure financing gap and budgetary increases for security in countries affected by terror threats.

Debt accumulation raises questions about debt sustainability, particularly with regard to commercial debt sources such as Eurobond and Chinese loans, with policy implications for tax-revenue collection and risk-mitigation mechanisms such as blended finance and public-private partnerships.

The agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), which is scheduled to come into effect by 1 July 2020, has raised high expectations as an "economic game changer" with the potential to raise intra-African trade by 25% – or between US\$50 billion and US\$70 billion – by 2040.

In spite of its laudable prospects for trade and investment, there remains a number of sticky issues that will need to be resolved for the agreement to move from aspirations to tangibles. These issues include: configuring most-favoured-nation deals between all countries; ironing out issues around rules of origin; delayed introduction of continent-wide trade facilitation measures; and gaps in buy-in from governments, African business and citizens.

Politically, the continent has seen some progress being registered with the wave of democracy continuing to grow with more African countries holding peaceful elections. However, the conflicts and political instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya and South Sudan continue unabated. The continent also welcomed the resolution of the border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea in 2019.

Trends in conflict and violent events during 2019 have indicated an increase in the number of conflict actors and the transnational nature of threats and vulnerabilities. Data sets and analyses point to the proliferation of rebel and extremist groups, bolder linkages between transnational organised crime and violent extremists in Africa and the Middle East, and a rise in the frequency and scale of riots and protests.

Attacks by militants affiliated with the Islamic State (IS) and Daesh in the northern Mozambique province of Cabo Delgado have raised concerns about an IS presence in new territories where it has drawn allegiance from local militant groups.

We should be worried, given that the attacks on Mozambique point to the presence of IS in the Southern African Development Community region. History has shown that poorer regions are most vulnerable to violent

external incursions as material incentives are easily disbursed to attract young people to these negative activities.

Globally, the ongoing United States (US)-China trade dispute continues to negatively affect global economic growth and the United Kingdom has increased trade uncertainty regarding the unknown consequences of a withdrawal from the European Union (BREXIT).

The rise of populism, trade protectionism and the disregard for multilateralism continue to be observed through actions of some developed countries, e.g. the US withdrawal from the Paris Climate Change Agreement. Furthermore, rising nationalism, impatient populations and seeming unresponsiveness of governments pose further threats.

While there are promising prospects for level-headed engagement between the US and the People's Republic of China, Africa has to be on alert against unforeseen global turbulences as our weak structural orientation renders us vulnerable to negative external currents, as it did during the 2009 global financial crisis.

At the same time, Africa may be in a position to take advantage of some of these developments as is apparent in the context of BREXIT.

This is all the more plausible given the perception that Africa is "the last frontier of growth", which also continues to raise and receive geopolitical interest from other parts of the world. Unfortunately, this can also be observed through increased military presence on the continent of countries such as France, US, China, Russia and Turkey.

We expect all of the abovementioned dynamics as well as emerging and complex challenges such as the Coronavirus, to impact South Africa's Chairship of the AU in some way or other, hence, the need for focussed strategic deliberations to develop appropriate approaches.

South Africa's diplomatic missions on the continent and the Permanent Mission to the UN are key to supporting, facilitating and communicating the mandate of our chairing the AU.

We hope that in addition to the understanding of the inter-connections and complex interplay between the national, continental and global processes, our country will, on the strength of such penetrating comprehension, provide the necessary political leadership, which will help transfigure current unsatisfactory global relations into a focus on creating an irreversibly fair, just and human world. ☺

**By Dr GNM Pandor
Minister of International Relations and
Cooperation**



Zuma ascending to the position of Chair of the African Union (AU) Commission. As coincidence will have it, our 20th issue is published at a time when South Africa is serving as Chair of the AU for the year 2020.

Also, in 2012, when we published our first issue, South Africa was serving as an elected member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Eight years later, South Africa is again in the UNSC as an elected member, serving its second and last year in one of the UN's most important organs.

The magazine has documented significant milestones in South Africa's foreign policy, including chairing the fifth and 10th Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) summits in 2013 and 2018, respectively. The former took place in eThekweni while the latter was held in Johannesburg.

As the only African country within BRICS, South Africa has found ways to bring other African voices to the fore of one of the world's most significant groupings of the Global South. With our first Summit in 2013, we invited fellow African states representing the AU's five regional economic communities to an informal outreach with BRICS leaders.

The practice of an outreach with regional leaders has since been emulated by subsequent chairs, with the result that BRICS does not assume for itself the spokesperson of the developing world, but rather that it provides

a platform for the developing world to articulate a vision and a programme of action for itself.

As our magazine continues to grow in readership and diversify its content contributions continue to stream in not only from government leaders, but also academics as well as business and civil-society leaders. The magazine is also a useful research tool for scholars, particularly those interested in foreign policy, politics and international trade.

In 2017 and 2018, *Ubuntu Magazine* accompanied you, our readers, on a journey of tracing the footsteps of two of our greatest diplomats, Oliver Reginald Tambo and Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, the longest-serving President of the African National Congress and the first democratically elected President of South Africa, respectively.

Tambo and Mandela's teachings are at the core of South Africa's foreign policy work, from their commitment to international solidarity and the peaceful resolution of conflicts. These teachings remain relevant today as we continue to grapple with the difficult situations in the Saharawi Republic and Palestine.

Looking ahead to the next 20 issues of *Ubuntu Magazine*, it is clear that, at a continental level, South Africa will remain at the forefront of efforts to bring about lasting peace and stability to Africa and, globally, will continue to amplify calls for the reform of the global political and economic architecture. ☸

U *ubuntu Magazine* marks a significant milestone with the publication of this, our 20th issue. The first issue rolled off the printing press and hit the shelves in August 2012. Since then, the magazine has been a reliable vehicle through which we share important information about South Africa's foreign policy endeavours.

The lead article in the first issue of *Ubuntu Magazine* was about Dr Nkosazana Dlamini

African Union

PEACE IS COSTLY BUT IT IS WORTH THE EXPENSE

African Proverb

2020 | **SILENCING THE GUNS:** Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development

A Flagship Project of **Agenda 2063** The Africa we Want

#SilencingTheGuns
www.au.int



Celebrating
20 editions



The African Union (AU) Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, was designed to be an icon of the AU's progression, symbolising the stabilisation, rejuvenation and peace of the united continent. The Grand Conference Hall's ellipsoidal volume was placed in the centre of the complex as a prominent feature, emphasising the importance of inclusion and communication.

In January 2020, South Africa took over the Chairship of the AU.



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NELSON MANDELA
PLENARY HALL



NELSON MANDELA

PLENARY HALL

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Ubuntu Awards celebrate excellence in diplomacy

The purpose of the Ubuntu Awards is to recognise South African citizens for their distinguished service and contribution to promoting South Africa's national interests and values across the world.

President Cyril Ramaphosa on Saturday, 15 February 2020, delivered the keynote address at the annual Ubuntu Awards, hosted by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

The purpose of the Ubuntu Awards is to recognise South African citizens for their distinguished service and contribution to

promoting South Africa's national interests and values across the world.

The event takes place traditionally after the Opening of Parliament and brings together captains of industry, civil-society leaders, members of Cabinet and other eminent persons in addition to ambassadors and high commissioners accredited to South Africa.

Among the 2020 winners were *The Daily Show* host and Grammy Award nominee, Trevor Noah, who was awarded the Ubuntu

Arts and Cultural Diplomacy Award in the Youth Category for flying the South African flag high in his field of work.

World-celebrated musician Vusi Mahlasela, who is a SA Music Awards Lifetime Achievement recipient, was also a recipient of the Arts and Cultural Diplomacy Award in the Veterans' Category.

Springboks assistant coach, Mzwandile Stick, received the Sports Diplomacy Award on behalf of the team. This after their Rugby



WINNERS: 2020 UBUNTU AWARDS

Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy Award (Africa): ABSA

ABSA is a truly African brand, inspired by the people they serve and determined to always be brave, passionate and ready to make Africa proud. ABSA Group Limited is listed on the JSE and is one of Africa's largest diversified financial services groups with a presence in 12 countries across the continent and around 42 000 employees.

Ubuntu Economic Diplomacy Award (Global): Bidvest

Bidvest operates in the areas of consumer and industrial products, electrical products, financial services, freight management, office and print solutions, outsourced hard and soft services, travel and aviation services and automotive retailing. Bidvest Bank has a footprint in Africa, Europe, United Kingdom (UK) and Australia.

Ubuntu Youth Diplomacy Award: Michelle Nkamankeng

At the age of 11 years, Michelle is South Africa and Africa's youngest author. The first of her four books was published at the age of seven. She is among the youngest writers in the world and has been recognised by the United Nations Children's Fund. Michelle promotes the culture of reading and is a child activist across nations.

Ubuntu Arts and Cultural Award (Youth): Trevor Noah

Trevor Noah is a comedian, writer, producer, political commentator, actor and television host of *The Daily Show* in the United States of America. The show received three 2018 Primetime Emmy nominations while Trevor has written, produced and starred in nine comedy specials. The latest stand-up special, *Trevor Noah: Son of Patricia*, was nominated for a Grammy in the Best Comedy Album Category.

Ubuntu Arts and Cultural Award (Veteran): Vusi Mahlasela

Vusi Mahlasela is internationally celebrated for his distinct, powerful voice and his poetic, optimistic lyrics. His songs of hope connect apartheid-scarred South Africa with its promise for a better future. Vusi has toured globally and shared the stage with the Dave Matthews Band, Sting, Paul Simon and Josh Groban, among others

Ubuntu Sports Diplomacy Award: The Springboks

In 2019, the Springboks won both the Rugby Championship and Rugby World Cup titles.

It was the first time that a Black South African rugby captain got to lift the Webb Ellis Cup. The Springboks' most transformed team to date, they matched the All Blacks for the most Rugby World Cup wins. It was a massively symbolic win for South Africa, which united the country. ►►

World Cup triumph in Japan last year and for uniting the country behind the slogan "Stronger Together".

The Ubuntu Lifetime Achievement Award went to Dr Brigalia Bam, a prominent gender activist.

"What we are doing here this evening – celebrating excellence in diplomacy – aligns with our broader efforts to achieve these objectives, because conflict occurs only when diplomacy has collapsed.

"The various categories of these prestigious awards are indicative of the fact that successful diplomacy is an integrated effort, and one that draws together different activities, qualities and capabilities," President Ramaphosa said.

President Ramaphosa thanked all the award winners and nominees for representing the country".

"I would like to say thank you for flying the South African flag high. You have assumed the task, as you fly this flag high, you have taken into your hands the task of elevating what I would call 'Brand South Africa' in the community of nations."



**Ubuntu Social Responsibility Award:
Dr Hany El Banna**

Dr Hany El Banna has founded several charities, including The Humanitarian Forum, Islamic Relief and the Muslim Charities Forum. He has visited over 60 of the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries on behalf of these organisations. Among his many achievements, he has been awarded the Order of the British Empire, the Ibn Khaldun Award for Excellence in Promoting Understanding between Global Cultures and Faiths UK and the UK Muslim Power 100 Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Ubuntu OR Tambo Lifetime Achiever:
Dr Brigalia Bam**

Dr Brigalia Bam is a prominent gender activist and brings her passion for the upliftment of young women. She is the Chancellor of Walter Sisulu University, a former Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission and former General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches. She was recently awarded the prestigious Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Peace and Reconciliation.

"The various categories of these prestigious awards are indicative of the fact that successful diplomacy is an integrated effort, and one that draws together different activities, qualities and capabilities," President Ramaphosa said.





From the State of the Nation Address:

Tapping into the international market

South African businesswomen are set to benefit from a government platform that will assist in taking their ventures to global markets.

“We are introducing the SheTradesZA platform to assist women-owned businesses to participate in global value chains and markets,” President Cyril Ramaphosa said.

Delivering his State of the Nation Address on Thursday, 13 February 2020, to a joint sitting of Parliament, the President said over the next five years, the Industrial Development Corporation was targeting R10 billion of its own and partner funding for women-empowered businesses.

“The empowerment of women is critical to inclusive economic growth,” the President said.

In addition, government plans to designate 1 000 locally produced products that must be procured from small, medium, and micro enterprises in an effort to create a larger market for small businesses.

The President said the Procurement Bill would soon be presented to Parliament as part of an effort to empower black and emerging businesses and advance radical economic transformation.

“This year, we intensify our investment drive with the establishment of an integrated investment promotion and facilitation capability coordinated from The Presidency,” President Ramaphosa said.

Government will hold its third South Africa Investment Conference in November to review the implementation of previous commitments and to generate new investment into the economy.

“At the second South Africa Investment Conference last year, over 70 companies made investment commitments of R364 billion in industries as diverse as advanced manufacturing, agro-processing, infrastructure, mining, services, tourism and hospitality.

“In the first two years of our ambitious investment drive, we have raised a total of R664 billion in investment commitments, which is more than half of our five-year target of R1.2 trillion,” he said.

The President said these investments were having a real impact.

“Already, projects with an investment value of R9 billion have been completed and 27 projects worth just over R250 billion are in implementation phase, with more coming on-stream this year,” he said.

Made in Africa

“This year, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will come into effect. This is our moment, as the people of the continent, to give effect to the dreams of the founding fathers of African unity.

“South Africa will host an Extraordinary African Union (AU) Summit later this year to finalise the modalities of the Free Trade Agreement before its implementation on 1 July 2020.

“Here, we will finalise the rules that define what is a ‘Made in Africa’ product, the tariff lines that will be reduced to zero over the next five years and the services sectors that will be opened up across the continent.”

President Ramaphosa congratulated Wamkele Mene, who was elected as the first Secretary-General of the AfCFTA, and assured him of the country’s full support as he assumed this historic and challenging responsibility.

“South Africa has, therefore, prioritised the economic empowerment of Africa’s women during its term as AU Chair, working with all member states on measures to promote financial inclusion, preferential procurement and preferential trade arrangements for women.

“The AU heads of state have pledged their support for measures to end gender-based violence on the continent and will work towards the adoption of an AU Convention on Violence against Women during the course of this year.

“Through the African Peer Review Mechanism, South Africa will work with other countries to advance good governance and democracy.

“We will use all the means at our disposal – including our membership of the United Nations Security Council – to promote peace and security on the continent.” 🇺🇹



OLDMUTUAL



COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE CHANGE

Every conversation held at the World Economic Forum’s annual meeting represents an opportunity for stakeholders to recommit to working together to solve pressing global challenges.

As we start a new decade, the imperative to align on common issues like poverty, inequality, inclusion and the environment is more urgent than ever. With just a decade

to go to the deadline for achieving both the Sustainable Development Goals and South Africa’s National Development Plan, greater collaboration between stakeholders to achieve actual outcomes that result in real change is critical.

“At Old Mutual, we’re figuring out how to scale-up the work we are already doing with a wide range of stakeholders, so that it creates



DO GREAT THINGS EVERY DAY

growth for our business, while at the same time helping to solve the socio-economic challenges we face as a continent,” says Iain Williamson, Interim CEO.

Old Mutual strengthened its focus on Africa during mid-2018, a move that signalled a renewed confidence in the growth opportunities the continent holds. To unlock its full potential, the business is committed to working more closely with key stakeholders to better deliver shared value and growth.

The Group has already committed US \$ 8,3 billion towards creating inclusive and sustainable economies on behalf of its clients and is working with its stakeholders across the continent to achieve SMART objectives. Partnerships that are enhancing the lives of not only its customers, but also the communities across the 14 countries in which it operates, include:

US \$ 92,3 million committed to providing access to quality education in conjunction with National, Provincial and Local Departments of Education. The Group’s Education Flagship Project in South Africa, for example, forged strong partnerships with local education authorities across four provinces over seven years to improve maths and science skills among matric learners. It also ran an extensive school leadership programme for teachers and principals which has further helped to improve performance in these pilot schools.

US \$ 845 million committed to affordable housing projects across Africa, in conjunction with a range of partners, including government. A core aspect of this approach is gap housing, which seeks to address the

challenge of those considered “too rich” to receive free-government subsidised houses, yet “too poor” to fall within the normal mortgage lending stream with financial institutions.

US \$ 2,4 billion has been committed to clean energy projects across Africa, enough to sustainably power more than 800 000 homes.

US \$ 35 million committed to enterprise and supplier development projects that support small, medium, youth, women and black-owned business. Working in conjunction with key stakeholders in both government and business, the core focus is to create access to funding, markets, as well as the technical support necessary for these businesses to succeed.

Despite persistent challenges, alignment between stakeholders around common goals makes it significantly easier to achieve progress.

“We are as invested in driving change as all our partners are. We’re thinking about tomorrow by acting today and our stakeholders play an integral part in this journey. We are inspired by the African proverb that says: If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together,” concludes Iain.

Over the next decade, the Old Mutual Group will be demonstrating its strengthened resolve to activate actual outcomes to ensure our commitments bear fruit. Working with stakeholders to achieve this remains a priority!

More at www.oldmutual.com



Deepening economic integration at the top of SA's agenda

As the Chair, South Africa is determined to take the project of continental unity, integration and development further, guided by our foreign policy priorities and the continent's aspirations as espoused in Agenda 2063.

By President Cyril Ramaphosa

South Africa officially assumed the Chairship of the African Union (AU) for 2020 at the 33rd Ordinary Summit of the continental organisation held in February in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

South Africa previously had the honour to hold the AU Chairship in 2002, at the seminal session that officially launched the AU.

It was also there that we inaugurated the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), established the Peace and Security

Council (PSC) and adopted the declaration on the Common African Defence and Security Policy.

The Chairship in 2002 presented South Africa with an opportunity to build a lasting legacy for the continent and our country.

The 2020 Chairship should also present us with opportunities, albeit at a challenging time for both our country, and the continent.

In some countries, political and civil instability persist. Violent conflict continues to hamper our efforts to achieve continental peace development. As a result, certain events

on the continent have attracted world attention. Some of these occurrences need the intervention of those who are able to assist African countries to find solutions.

But in some cases, these interventions seem to be driven by ulterior motives. This seems to be case at least with Libya and South Sudan.

Africa's youthful population is impatient for change and the creation of more economic opportunities.

At the same time, we are presented with unprecedented opportunities for development, most notably the implementation of



the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement.

This is a momentous event in the decades-long effort to integrate the economies of the African continent.

It will make Africa the largest common market in the world, with a population of more than a billion people and a combined gross domestic product of over US\$3 trillion.

The AfCFTA will boost intra-Africa trade, reignite industrialisation and pave the way for the meaningful integration of Africa into global value chains and the global economy in general.

Africa is diversifying its international partnerships and broadening the scope of cooperation with various international bodies and countries.

As the Chair, South Africa is determined to take the project of continental unity, integration and development further, guided by our foreign policy priorities and the continent's aspirations as espoused in Agenda 2063.

Our domestic priorities, including economic transformation, job creation and the consolidation of the social wage through reliable and quality basic services, depend on a politically stable and economically growing Africa.

Our Chairship of the AU will have an impact on all of South Africa's missions – especially multilateral missions – since our ambassadors will need to promote not only South Africa and its positions, but also the positions of the AU.

Concurrently, South Africa also assumed the chairships of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change.

Both of these areas of responsibility align with our responsibilities and priorities as Chair of the AU.

At the top of our agenda as Chair must be the deepening of economic integration.

This is a historic moment that we must seize.

Together with our fellow African countries, we must implement the AfCFTA Agreement with purpose and determination. We must undertake the detailed work, extensive consultation and complex negotiations required to give life to this agreement.

In this regard, South Africa will work with President Mahamadou Issoufou of Niger, who is the AU Champion on Continental Economic Integration.

This work is directed towards the social and economic development of the continent, and the realisation of a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development.

South Africa will need to be proactive and assertive in seeking common approaches on issues such as tariff lines, rules of origin, custom controls, trade in services and new generation issues like competition and intellectual property.

We will also need to address issues like the ease of doing business in different African countries.

We know that the AfCFTA will only become a reality if the infrastructure between African countries is developed. Infrastructure is at the core of Africa's social, economic and political challenges.

It is crucial for sustainable development and inclusive growth, and for diversification through industrialisation and value addition.

As the Champion of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) under NEPAD, South Africa has a critical role to play – and must act on the opportunity presented – in profiling infrastructure development in support of the AfCFTA.

The PICI aims to promote priority projects for high-impact results.

The initiative works with the Programme for Infrastructure Development for Africa that was adopted during the January 2012 AU Summit.

The overall goal of the programme is to promote socio-economic development and poverty reduction in Africa through improved access to integrated regional and continental infrastructure networks and services.

In this role, South Africa can also develop linkages between the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan and the PICI.

On this basis, it is proposed that South Africa hosts a High-Level Forum on Infrastructure during its term as AU Chair.

Empowerment of women

Another pillar of South Africa's agenda as AU Chair is the empowerment of women, with a specific emphasis on promoting financial and economic inclusion and combatting gender-based violence. ►►



On women's financial and economic inclusion, South Africa will work with the AU's Women, Gender and Development Directorate, which is responsible for leading, guiding, defending and coordinating the AU's efforts on gender equality and development.

We will work closely with the AU Leader on Gender and Development, President Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana, who has already launched the Gender and Development Initiative for Africa in 2017 as his flagship programme.

The United Nation's (UN) 2009 *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* notes that women's equal access to financial and economic resources is critical for the achievement of gender equality and sustainable economic growth and development.

In undertaking this work, we must look beyond "micro-finance solutions" to financing that will grow the businesses of women.

The goal is to ensure that women and women-led businesses have access to and are able to use multiple financial services as tools to develop their financial autonomy, allow them to contribute to economic growth and

to enhance their capacity to take advantage of the opportunities that the future of work will bring.

The extent and persistence of violence against women remain a major cause for concern in almost all the countries on the continent.

In 2009, only 28% of sub-Saharan African countries had laws on domestic violence.

By 2018, that figure had increased to 55%, which means that half of the countries still do not have laws that specifically address the most prevalent form of violence against women.

During this year, we need to mobilise African countries to focus on the prevention of violence against women and girls through, among other things, addressing the harmful social norms that contribute to and perpetuate such violence.

Harmful notions of masculinity and social attitudes that accept violence need to be challenged and be replaced by norms that promote gender equality, respect and non-violence. We also need to address discriminatory laws in African countries

that disadvantage women and look to international instruments such as the International Labour Organisation Convention on Violence and Harassment as means to combat sexual harassment and violence.

Promotion of good governance

The promotion of economic integration and respect for human rights depend in large measure on the promotion of good governance.

As the Chair of the APRM in 2020, South Africa will be primarily responsible for driving the APRM's good governance agenda.

The delivery of good governance through democratic practice and economic growth reduces political tensions in countries with social divisions.

Importantly, the APRM is now an autonomous entity within the AU's structures and has expanded its mandate to cover tracking and monitoring implementation of Agenda 2063 and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



It has also developed an early warning system for conflict prevention on the continent, in the context of harmony and synergy between the APRM, the African Peace and Security Architecture and the African Governance Architecture.

The three main priorities for South Africa's Chairship – economic integration, women's empowerment and good governance – must be underpinned by the promotion of a peaceful and secure Africa.

Silencing the Guns in 2020

As South Africa's Chairship will coincide with the end of the AU's aspiration of "Silencing the Guns in 2020", it will be important to take stock of the achievements and challenges.

This is particularly important for us as South Africa is the AU-appointed champion on AU-UN cooperation on peace operations.

Specific focus will need to be given to two intractable conflicts on the continent – in Libya and South Sudan – where South Africa is already actively involved in seeking solutions.

In South Sudan, we are engaged both bilaterally and multilaterally, in particular as Chair of the High-Level Ad Hoc Committee on South Sudan, known as the C5.

South Africa is a member of the AU High-Level Committee on Libya.

Our efforts will aim at affirming South Africa's commitment to peace, security and stability on the continent and ending the humanitarian catastrophe and displacement of people in those countries.

Since the Chairship also coincides with South Africa's third tenure as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council (SC), South Africa should promote cooperation between the three African members of the UNSC and the AUPSC.

In summary, South Africa's strategic objectives during its Chairship of the AU are to:

- promote South Africa's values, interests and continental and domestic objectives
- support integration, economic development, trade and investment on the continent

- drive the implementation of the PICI in support of the AfCFTA
- advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and combat violence against women and girls
- strengthen cooperation between the AU and UN
- promote peace and security and advance the effort to silence the guns.

If we remain focussed on these objectives, if we pursue them with diligence and determination, and if we mobilise our fellow African countries in pursuing them, I am certain that our Chairship of the AU can be meaningful, effective and impactful. 🇺🇦

Our Chairship of the African Union (AU) will have an impact on all of South Africa's missions – especially multilateral missions – since our ambassadors will need to promote not only South Africa and its positions, but also the positions of the AU.



African Union 

2020 

SILENCING THE GUNS:
Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development

10 REASONS

WHY YOU SHOULD INVEST IN SOUTH AFRICA



1.

VIBRANT EMERGING MARKET

Growing middle class, affluent consumer base, excellent returns on investment.



2.

MOST DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY IN AFRICA

South Africa (SA) has the most industrialised economy in Africa. It is the region's principal manufacturing hub and a leading services destination.



3.

LARGEST PRESENCE OF MULTINATIONALS ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

SA is the location of choice for multinationals in Africa. Global corporates reap the benefits of doing business in SA, which has a supportive and growing ecosystem as a hub for innovation, technology and fintech.



4.

PROGRESSIVE CONSTITUTION & INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY

SA has a progressive Constitution and an independent judiciary. The country has a mature and accessible legal system, providing certainty and respect for the rule of law.



5.

FAVOURABLE ACCESS TO GLOBAL MARKETS

The African Continental Free Trade Area will boost intra-African trade and create a market of around 1.3-billion people with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) of USD2.3-trillion that will unlock industrial development. SA has several trade agreements in place, creating an export platform into global markets.



6.

ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES

SA is endowed with an abundance of natural resources. It is the leading producer of platinum-group metals (PGMs) globally. Numerous listed mining companies operate in SA, which also has world-renowned underground mining expertise.



7.

ADVANCED FINANCIAL SERVICES & BANKING SECTOR

SA has a sophisticated banking sector with a major footprint in Africa. It is the continent's financial hub, with the JSE being Africa's largest stock exchange by market capitalisation.



8.

WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE & LOGISTICS

A massive governmental investment programme in infrastructure development has been under way for several years. SA has the largest air- and sea-ports, as well as logistics networks in Africa, and is ranked number one in Africa in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index.



9.

YOUNG, EAGER LABOUR FORCE

SA has a number of world-class universities and colleges producing a skilled, talented and capable workforce. The country boasts a diversified skills set, emerging talent, a large pool of prospective workers and government support for training and skills development.



10.

EXCELLENT QUALITY OF LIFE

SA offers a favourable cost of living, with a diversified cultural, cuisine and sports offering, generally superb weather all year round and a world-renowned hospitality sector.



THE CASE FOR INVESTING IN SOUTH AFRICA EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ACCELERATING ECONOMIC GROWTH BY BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS



**SOUTH AFRICA
INVESTMENT CONFERENCE**
Accelerating Economic Growth by Building Partnerships



A better Africa and a better world



Our Cabinet and the African Union member states are fully aware of the complexity underpinning the theme of South Africa's tenure as Chair. It is an important theme reinforcing the nexus between peace and economic inclusion, development and ending war and conflict.

By Dr GNM Pandor
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa assumed the Chairship of the African Union (AU) in February 2020 at a time of increased hope and aspiration. Of course, as with millions throughout the world, we are faced with challenges but there are visible signals of triumph over despair on our continent. Africa has been struggling to fully throw off the shackles of colonialism and enslavement for over 400 years. Time is fast running out and we as South Africa have to utilise the Chairship to intensify efforts directed at succeeding in development and to build on the momentum set in motion by previous chairs of our union.

The deliberations and key decisions of the summit in February suggested Africa is ready. The agreement that we should address illicit financial flows, corruption, human development and infrastructure and practical action on the massive agenda set by the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) point to a genuine

On the multilateral front, South Africa must continue the work it is doing within the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to ensure a focus on its core role of peace and security, and to actively promote the fundamental structure and composition of the UNSC.

desire to place the continent on a different trajectory. South Africa will and must play a key role in ensuring that this new determination to implement Agenda 2063 succeeds.

The South African Government has selected five priority areas as our focus for this year. The response from the AU membership has been one of overwhelming support, particularly for the objective of silencing the guns as part of our path for the heightened development of Africa. We will focus on peace and security; the financial inclusion of women and creating conditions for their genuine empowerment; promoting accountability and transparency in governance through implementation of the African Peer Review Mechanism; advancing Africa's climate change responses by attending to green economy opportunities; and ensuring firm and consistent support for sustainable and successful implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement. We have also undertaken to act decisively on building the AU institution we have the privilege to host, the Pan-African Parliament.

Our Cabinet and the AU member states are fully aware of the complexity underpinning the theme of South Africa's tenure as Chair. It is an important theme reinforcing the nexus between peace and economic inclusion, development and ending war and conflict. We will strive to address the root causes of conflict such as poverty, inequality, democracy deficits and the negative role played by foreign interests that benefit from instability in resource-rich African countries.

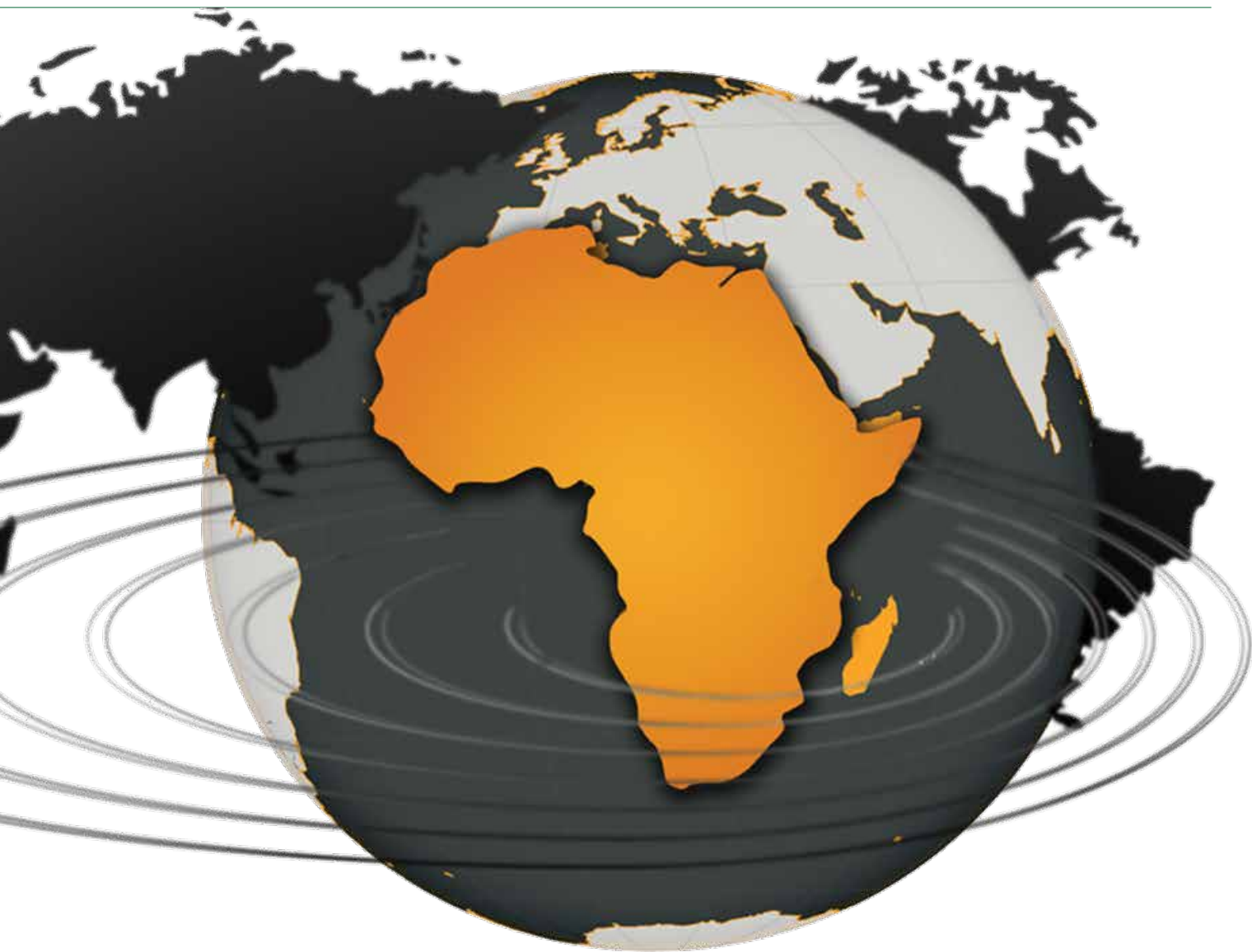
We are fully alert to the fact that these positive aims for Africa do not come

accompanied by many friends.

The global geopolitical environment is one that has become increasingly hostile to Africa's interests and ambitions. Rather than experiencing an increasingly progressive world concerned about development of the most vulnerable, we are facing increased nationalism, self-interest and greedily voracious interest in Africa's rich resources. Our continent, as evidenced by Libya, has become the site for proxy international conflicts, the host of increased extremist groups and terrible devastation of helpless communities. We need to intensify the training and development of our African security and intelligence agencies and work closely together to successfully fight terrorism and all its manifestations.

On the multilateral front, South Africa must continue the work it is doing within the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to ensure a focus on its core role of peace and security, and to actively promote the fundamental structure and composition of the UNSC.

While focussing on Africa's key priorities, we will not desert our friends and the struggle for freedom in Palestine and in Saharawi. We firmly believe that the people of Palestine must be the ones who shape the outcome of their struggle and that no one can ever impose half a freedom on freedom-loving nations. We will continue to urge Morocco to act in honour of UN resolutions and the AU to ensure that the struggle remains on its agenda.



We have noted visible signs of Africa addressing its infrastructure and other challenges. Five strategic initiatives deserve mention, namely the:

- Kinshasa-Brazzaville Bridge and Rail Project, which has secured funding
- Lamu Port Southern Sudan Ethiopia Transport Corridor, which has registered good progress with berth one completed and berth two to be ready by the end of this year
- ICT One Network Africa Broadband and Optic Fibre projects linking neighbouring states in east Africa
- Lesotho Highlands Project phase two
- Trans Africa Highway Project with nine highways eventually connecting about 500 million people as it passes 41 cities in sub-Saharan Africa and linking 56 683 km – a significant future contributor to the trade connection of Africa.

These and many other infrastructure initiatives indicate our continent's determination to succeed.

This year also marks our second year as a non-permanent member of the UNSC. We will continue our efforts to encourage dialogue as a means of resolving conflict

and will firmly advocate for efforts to reform the UNSC to make it more representative, democratic and inclusive. South Africa has been a strong voice for democracy, peace and a renewed commitment to multilateralism in order to advance progressive institutionalism and solidarity as the basis for building a just international order.

We are convinced that as Chair of the AU, South Africa will contribute towards Africa's progress and its vision, which is rooted in durable stability, growth and development. 🇺🇦

We will focus on peace and security; the financial inclusion of women and creating conditions for their genuine empowerment; promoting accountability and transparency in governance through implementation of the African Peer Review Mechanism; advancing Africa's climate change responses by attending to green economy opportunities; and ensuring firm consistent support for sustainable and successful implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement.



Building the Africa We Want: Strategies for South Africa's successful Chair of the African Union in 2020

South Africa is once again strategically placed to exercise both international and continental leadership. It is simultaneously one of three African countries in the United Nations Security Council; a member of G20 and Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); Chair of the AU; Chair of the APRM; and Chair of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change.

By Professor Cheryl Hendricks

Executive Director, Africa Institute of South Africa, Human Sciences Research Council

President Cyril Ramaphosa assumed the position of Chairperson of the African Union (AU), on behalf of South Africa, at the 33rd AU Summit on 9 February 2020. President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi of Egypt held the Chair in 2019.

The last time South Africa chaired the AU was in 2002 – a key period in the formation of the AU itself. South Africa played a pivotal role in norm- and agenda-setting of the AU as well as in the development of the key organs of the AU, e.g. New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).

South Africa's Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma was elected as the AU Commission's (AUC) Chairperson in 2012 and she occupied this position for one term. She was then succeeded by the current Chairperson, Moussa Faki Mahamat of Chad. It was during her term (the first woman to occupy this position) that Agenda 2063 was adopted and that the gender parity principle was implemented at the commission.

South Africa is once again strategically placed to exercise both international and continental leadership. It is simultaneously one of three African countries in the United Nations Security Council; a member of G20 and Brazil,

Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS); Chair of the AU; Chair of the APRM; and Chair of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change.

South Africa occupies these positions in a period where the global, regional, local as well as the AU, as institution, are facing key challenges. Globally, multilateral institutions are increasingly under threat with the return of realpolitik and where major countries begin to revert to unilateral actions, which weaken the institutions, and new trade wars have emerged; democracies are deemed "ill" by the *2019 Global State of Democracy Index*; there is a decline in the peacefulness of our states;

wars continue to produce high numbers of fatalities of citizens and a deluge of refugees and internally displaced persons; and the dominant conflict-management approaches are leading to the remilitarisation of our societies.

Africa is still on the quest for achieving the goals that ushered in the Organisation of African Unity and its successor the AU: the promotion of continental unity, solidarity, and cooperation; defending our sovereignty and territorial integrity; accelerating political and economic integration; and promoting, peace, security, democracy and development. Africa has yet to alleviate poverty and inequality and to meaningfully increase intra-Africa trade, which is only at 17% five decades later.

Africa has to deal with the new challenges posed by climate change, rapid unplanned urbanisation and population growth, which will double by 2050. The AU planned to silence the guns by 2020 but these weapons still echo loudly in the many varied conflicts across the continent, i.e. farmers and herders, militia against militia, warlords against governments, citizens protesting against their governments, and in the rise in violent extremism. The silence is broken in countries such as Libya, Somalia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central Africa Republic, and others. We cannot keep administering the same antidote to these conflicts when the prescription is not having the desired cure. We have to develop new conflict-management approaches and be more bold and innovative in confronting these and other emerging conflicts. South Africa should once again show leadership in this regard.

Within the AUC, the challenges of effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and its connectivity to the broader African citizenry were the drives behind AU reforms. These reforms are still in the process of being implemented and continuity in this regard is important.

President Ramaphosa has outlined South Africa's priority areas for its tenure as Chair of the AU. They are:

- The implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCTA), which was signed in March 2018.
- Advancing inclusive and green economic growth and sustainable development.
- Harnessing the potential of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and establishing an African Artificial Intelligence Forum.
- Advancing women's economic and financial inclusion and reducing gender-based violence. The adoption of an AU Convention on Violence Against Women is being proposed.
- Promoting good governance through encouraging member states to sign up to the APRM.

- Silencing the guns with a focus on Libya and South Sudan.
- Strengthening AU-UNSC cooperation.

These are sound focus areas though they may need further realignment for greater efficacy. If implemented successfully, the AfCFTA could be the largest free trading area in the world. It will promote intra-Africa trade in manufactured goods, investments, infrastructure development and, therefore, growth and prosperity of the continent. Implementing regional integration through the reduction of tariffs is, however, not that easy as the non-implementation of the Lagos and Abuja treaties attest to. Much will need to be done in the year so that the CFTA can be realisable.

Inclusive sustainable development is also a huge challenge for the continent where we simultaneously have some of the fastest-growing economies in the world as well as some of the poorest, and where there is an inverse relationship between economic growth and equality. Two of Africa's biggest economies, South Africa and Nigeria, are ailing and remain with high levels of poverty and unemployment.

The APRM, which is located in South Africa, has made notable progress in signing up member states for review and in conducting the peer reviews. The emphasis on renewal and reinvigorating the APRM has paid off. It has also been given an expanded mandate to track progress on Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals. Africa's governance challenges, however, remain acute where we note that there are 11 non-democracies and 18 hybrid democracies (*Global State of Democracy 2019*) and where democratisation has not led to a decrease in corruption as well as the many service delivery challenges. The continued strengthening of the APRM is a must. Moreover, ensuring that member states implement the recommendations of their reviews is a necessity. There should therefore be an emphasis on accountability mechanisms.

The AU theme for the year is "Silencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development". As Chair of the AU, South Africa must be seen to be at the forefront of championing this theme. South Africa is a member of the AU High-Level Committee on Libya and has been engaged with the South Sudan peace processes in both bilateral and multilateral forums. Notwithstanding the roadmap for effective resolution of the Libyan crises emanating out of talks in Brazzaville and the announcements to form a unity government in South Sudan, the challenges for peacebuilding in these countries are numerous. How will South Africa lead the AU in ensuring that roadmaps are implemented and peace agreements adhered to so that the cycle

of "repeat mediations" can begin to cease? What needs to change in the way in which these peace agreements and/or unity governments are forged and implemented? South Africa has vast experience with peace and security on the continent. How can we ensure not just the production of peace agreements but the sustainability of peace? How, as part of the AU, can we show transformative leadership on this front?

Towards the end of Egypt's Chairship, it started an Aswan forum, envisaged as a continental platform for discussion, dialogue and exchange of experiences. The focus in 2019 was on post-conflict reconstruction, education and sustainable development. Egypt also opened an AU Centre for Post-Conflict Reconstruction, which it will host. South Africa's draft National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security speaks to the need for a peace centre that will give attention to innovation in all the spheres of conflict management (conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding), nationally, continentally and internationally and that will ensure that women are included in peace processes. This concept should be further explored. It also needs to pay attention to new ways of dealing with violent extremism that threatens large areas of the continent.

South Africa is part of a collective at the AU. Its priorities therefore have to coincide with what the AU's priorities are. It also leads as part of a troika and a bureau and in close cooperation with the AUC. South Africa therefore continues from where the previous Chair left off as will the next incoming Chair. Indeed, implementation of its outlined priorities are dependent on the AUC and the member states. South Africa must therefore see that it continuously has the support of the collective and that it continues to support the AUC to stay on course with the implementation of the reforms. Only a strengthened and more efficient AUC can deliver on the aspirations set out in the Constitutive Act, frameworks and agendas of the AU.

In conclusion, South Africa chairs the AU in a year when the organisation kicks into election mode. This will itself impact upon the delivery of programmes. South Africa should strengthen and draw on the support of its Embassy in Addis Ababa, its think-tanks which have been working on these issues for many years, its top officials and some of its former officials who sit with a wealth of experience.

South Africa's greatest challenge is its own legitimacy and/or credibility that hinges on whether or not there is another wave of attacks on other Africans, and our ability to show vision and leadership on the key issues, providing new innovative approaches to move the continent forward. The capacity is there, utilising it to its optimum is what is required. 🇺🇦

The Nelson Mandela Square in Sandton boasts a towering sculpture of South Africa's favourite son. One of the largest open public spaces in the country, this European-styled piazza commemorates heritage and celebrates international style with the warmth of African hospitality. It draws a cosmopolitan society to its sidewalk cafes, some of the finest restaurants in South Africa and over 88 exclusive stores. The square serves as a stage for a host of local and international prestigious events.







South Africa and the Indian Ocean Rim Association

As the association grows and expands, it is important that we take stock of what it has achieved since its inception and how member states could further chart the way forward.

By Ambassador Anil Sooklal
Deputy Director-General, Branch: Asia and Middle East
Department of International Relations and Cooperation

March 2020 marked 23 years since the establishment of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC), now known as the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), in 1997.

As the association grows and expands, it is important that we take stock of what it has achieved since its inception and how member states could further chart the way forward.

As part of this organisation's many milestones, South Africa recently completed two years of chairing IORA from October 2017 to November 2019, when Minister Naledi Pandor handed over the Chairship of the association to the Government of the United Arab Emirates in Abu Dhabi in November 2019.

Many people would ask the question; what is IORA and why is this issue important to South Africa?

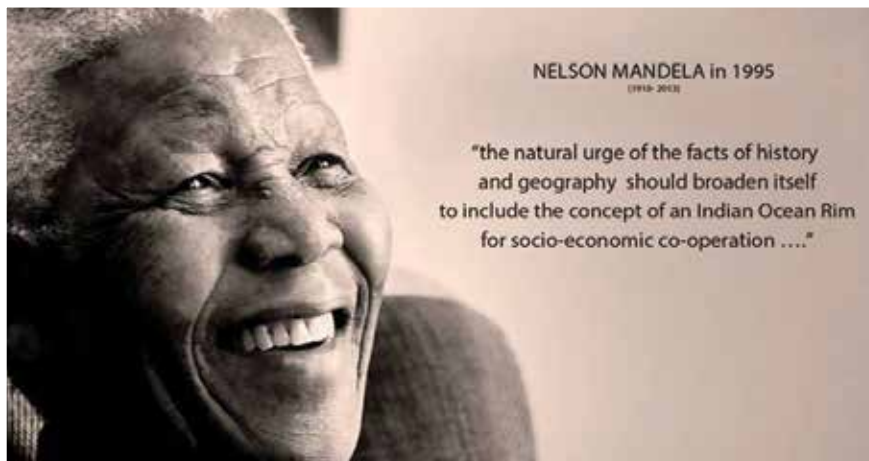
The answer is very simple: IORA is the foremost organisation in the Indian Ocean, an ocean that provides critical sea trade routes connecting the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Australasia; through which half of the world's container ships, one-third of the world's bulk cargo traffic and two-thirds of the world's oil shipments pass. It contains heavy mineral deposits and is rich in energy reserves, producing nearly 40% of the world's offshore petroleum; a valuable resource and a main driver for the Indian Ocean Rim economies. It holds great potential for innovation, job creation and sustainable socio-economic development.

The Indian Ocean is the "inheritance" of these countries and IORA is perceived as the

"custodian of this inheritance", with a focus on bettering the lives of all the people of the region, based on the principle of the Indian Ocean being characterised as a region of peace and stability for sustainable development.

IORA was an initiative of the late President Nelson Mandela when, during an Official Visit to India in 1995, he said: "The natural urge of the facts of history and geography should broaden itself to include the concept of an Indian Ocean Rim for socio-economic cooperation ..."

This has resulted in the late President of South Africa being regarded as the "founding father" of IORA. In this way, he secured a leading role for South Africa in IORA, from its establishment in Mauritius in 1997 to date. As a result, South Africa held the IORA Chairship for the period 2017 to 2019. The current Secretary-General, Ambassador Nomvuyo Nokwe, is a South African citizen.



The Indian Ocean region is one of the most diverse regions in the world, with a heterogeneous mix of developed countries (such as Australia), developing countries (such as Sri Lanka), small island states (such as the Comoros) and least developed countries (such as Yemen). With the exception of Australia, all IORA member states are members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Today, IORA boasts 22 member states, namely: Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen, and with 10 dialogue partners: China, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Turkey, South Korea and Italy.

IORA is essentially an economic cooperative community of littoral and island states whose shores are washed by the Indian Ocean. It is a charter-based regional multilateral organisation that is collegial in nature. It seeks to build and expand understanding and mutually beneficial cooperation through a consensus-based, evolutionary and non-intrusive approach. The cooperation is based on the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, and political independence, non-interference in internal affairs, peaceful coexistence and mutual benefit.

The South African Chairship of IORA was guided by an overarching theme: "IORA – Uniting the Peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through Enhanced Cooperation for Peace, Stability

and Sustainable Development". It prioritised the strengthening of trade and investment cooperation to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth; stressed the importance of the empowerment of women and the youth; and the development of small and medium enterprises. This resulted in the signing of an IORA Memorandum of Understanding on the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises in the Indian Ocean region.

South Africa focussed on the maximisation of commonalities and opportunities arising from South Africa's Operation Phakisa: Oceans Economy programme and IORA's Blue Economy strategic outlook, promoted the advancement of women's economic empowerment and gender equality within IORA and secured the establishment of the IORA Working Group on Women's Economic Empowerment within IORA.

Considering the importance of tourism, South Africa prioritised the establishment of a Core Group on Tourism as a formal mechanism for IORA member countries to develop the tourism sector in the Indian Ocean region. Under South Africa's guidance, the importance of water and the management of water were recognised as a crucial resource for economic development in the Indian Ocean region. The Water Research Commission (WRC) was identified as a potential IORA Centre of Excellence in advancing this important theme within the Indian Ocean region.

Under South Africa's guidance, IORA supported United Nations Resolution 2832 on the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, established the IORA Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security and, through the IORA Academic Group, secured a proactive research and innovation agenda to support the work programme of IORA.

At the conclusion of the South African IORA Chairship in 2019 and to commemorate the lasting influence of President Mandela on IORA, a Special Declaration was adopted to not only commemorate President Mandela's Centenary, but also to enhance his legacy as the Father of IORA by establishing the

IORA Nelson Mandela "Be the Legacy" Internship Programme at the IORA Secretariat in Mauritius. The Internship Programme is aimed at empowering and capacitating the youth of the Indian Ocean region to ensure the continued priority being placed on the protection of our inheritance through IORA as the foremost organisation in the Indian Ocean.

The future of IORA is inextricably linked to the commitment of the IORA member states in ensuring that this important organisation becomes a global voice for peaceful and sustainable development; and that its principles are premised on advancing multilateralism, particularly in the context of the current global environment, which is characterised by the rise of populism and nationalism.

South Africa views IORA as an important platform for the articulation of its foreign policy, which upholds the importance of multilateralism and global collaboration in resolving the intricate challenges facing the World. 🌍

Under South Africa's guidance, IORA supported United Nations Resolution 2832 on the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, established the IORA Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security and, through the IORA Academic Group, secured a proactive research and innovation agenda to support the work programme of IORA.



South Africa is ready to respond to the Coronavirus

While we may instinctively want to take cover and wait for the crisis to be over, this may, however, be just the time to explore collaborations and partnerships to put in place the mechanisms for Africa to become not just an alternative, but a first choice for the global travel and tourism market.

By Sisa Ntshona
CEO of SA Tourism

South African Tourism (SAT) recently launched a new brand campaign centred around the message: “Let’s Visit each other and Welcome the World”. As the current outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) continues to spread, this message may now raise an important question: how do we welcome the world?

There is no doubt that the economic impact of the Coronavirus will be felt across most sectors, and tourism is no different. It is expected that this outbreak will affect tourism numbers from China and from other parts of the world. Travel restrictions and the cancellation of many planned visits, flights, and business, political, sports and leisure events are also impacting negatively on many service sectors. This is likely to persist for some time and the true effect may only be accurately calculated much later.

The outbreak is also already impacting negatively on global tourism described by the World Economic Forum as a “huge global business that accounts for 10.4% of global gross domestic product (GDP) and 10% of global employment”. Based on the consistent growth of the sector, the United Nations World Tourism Organisation further predicted “growth of 3 – 4% in international tourist arrivals for 2020, with international departures worldwide particularly strong in the first quarter of this year [2020]”. According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, tourism contributed US\$8.8 trillion to the world economy in 2018.

Worldwide, Chinese tourists account for around one-tenth of all cross-border visitors. Looking at the potential of the Chinese market to contribute to South Africa’s national target of attracting 21 million visitor arrivals by 2030, China has been identified as a priority market for inbound tourist arrivals by SAT.

According to estimates by the Economist Intelligence Unit, Chinese outbound tourism

will not recover to pre-Coronavirus levels until the second quarter of 2021, and will cause a global loss of about US\$80 billion.

The World Travel and Tourism Council is further estimating that the Covid-19 epidemic could be the biggest drag on global economic growth since the financial crisis, with airlines alone expected to lose an estimated US\$29 billion in revenues this year. This is not adding the impact on the hotel, conference and other areas of the tourism value chain.

South Africa needs to ensure that we maintain our robust health systems for the control of infectious diseases together with greater awareness, combined with coordination, collaboration and additional time to prepare.

The current diagnoses concur with a study published in *The Lancet* medical journal on the “Preparedness and Vulnerability of African Countries against the Importation of Covid-19”, where an international team of scientists identified Algeria, Egypt and South Africa as



the most likely to import new Coronavirus cases into Africa despite having the best prepared health systems on the continent.

The South African Government is exercising vigilance and has been implementing a formal, inter-sectoral plan to ensure our readiness, optimisation of resources and capability to deal with the positive diagnosis of Covid-19. This includes a countrywide network of health facilities, the National Health Laboratory Service, which is able to perform diagnostic testing and the National Institute for Communicable Diseases with its highly qualified staff, extensive sophisticated laboratory systems and emergency operations centre. As a legacy of the Soccer World Cup in 2010, South Africa has a sophisticated screening infrastructure at ports of entry, which has been activated.

Ironically, the international view is that Africa's knowledge and competence in dealing with outbreaks of the Ebola virus has actually helped our preparedness.

Yet, the impact of this disease cannot be underestimated. With the epicentre of the outbreak being in China, it is predicted to significantly disrupt global supply chains to the extent that the global economic outlook will be reduced. Several major global conferences such as the Mobile World Congress and Europe's largest travel trade show, ITB Berlin, have already been cancelled. The Olympics has been postponed with airlines grounded and travel limited except for essential services.

As SAT, we too have looked at our own global platforms (meetings, incentives, conferences and events) and made important decisions to ensure the well-being of our citizens and all visitors.

There is always an opportunity in a crisis. So, the more important question here is, does

the Covid-19 outbreak present opportunities for other markets to up their game in respect of travel and tourism? Will Africa be ready to welcome the world should travellers want to move away from the Far East in the immediate aftermath of the outbreak? We cannot continue to cite the numbers in terms of how tourism can contribute to job creation and economic growth without developing the infrastructure, systems and processes to take advantage of this "huge global business".

While we may instinctively want to take cover and wait for the crisis to be over, this may, however, be just the time to explore collaborations and partnerships to put in place the mechanisms for Africa to become not just an alternative, but a first choice for the global travel and tourism market. SAT is looking ahead to when the crisis has passed and is putting in place marketing campaigns and programmes to attract Chinese tourists to South Africa. We are currently also assisting tourists with domestic travel operators to finalise cancellations and waivers.

The modifications being witnessed in business and leisure travel behaviour against the backdrop of the global outbreak of the virus, afford us an opportunity to remodel how travel trade shows are delivered. By leveraging the power of digital technologies, we can deliver digitally enabled meaningful trade experiences for buyers and delegates and unlock Africa's opportunity to lead in digital trade show hosting.

Similarly, we can leverage the same digital capability to empower South African tourism players to be "at" international travel and trade shows and continue to showcase South Africa as a destination, when they are unable to travel to such events.

While a drop in international tourists and outbound travellers is a serious concern,

it presents an opportunity for creating sustainable incentives to help boost the domestic market and encouraging South Africans to travel to regional tourist destinations around the country. Price-sensitive local travellers will be looking for add-on packages and exclusive experiences that will make their rands stretch further.

The global impact of Covid-19 will be felt for a long time and international and domestic cooperation is definitely crucial in times of crisis. SAT is committed to working together with all tourism industry stakeholders to prevent, mitigate and respond to the impact of the virus on our industry. 🇿🇦

Similarly, we can leverage the same digital capability to empower South African tourism players to be "at" international travel and trade shows and continue to showcase South Africa as a destination, when they are unable to travel to such events.

Remembering Mandela and his international links

The South African Government will continue to promote the values that Mandela taught us, particularly his commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

By Alvin Botes
Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation



In December 2019, we marked seven years since the passing of former President, Nelson Mandela, an international icon and a symbol of hope for the oppressed and marginalised people across the globe. He passed away on 5 December 2013 at the age of 95.

In the work that we do internationally, particularly in multilateral forums such as the United Nations (UN) and the Non-Alignment Movement (NAM), South Africa benefits from the goodwill that Mandela and his comrades cultivated over the years.

The international community has not forgotten that Mandela dedicated his life in service of humanity and contributed immensely to the promotion of a culture of peace throughout the world. He worked tirelessly in the struggle for democracy and for the promotion and protection of human rights internationally.

The South African Government will continue to promote the values that Mandela taught us, particularly his commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes. That is why the theme for South Africa's UN Security Council membership is "Continuing the Legacy: Working for a Just and Peaceful World" – "the legacy" being that of Mandela's commitment to international peace and security.

Mandela forged partnerships with numerous personalities who were sympathetic to the anti-apartheid cause, including Cuba's

Fidel Castro. Mandela was inspired by the Cuban Revolution. After his release from jail in 1990, Mandela travelled to Cuba the following year. There, he revealed that the writings of Che Guevara – the Argentine-born hero of the Cuban Revolution – had inspired him throughout his imprisonment. "In all my years in prison," said Mandela, "Cuba was an inspiration and Fidel Castro a tower of strength."

Cuba's relations with African liberation movements began in 1963, soon after the struggle's triumph over the Batista dictatorship in Cuba. On 11 May 1994, Cuba and South Africa established full diplomatic relations. In 1994, Mandela stated that, in accordance with South Africa's policy towards countries with which it has normal diplomatic relations, it would endeavour to foster trade and economic, cultural and sporting links with Cuba that would be mutually beneficial.

Castro paid a State Visit to South Africa and also attended the NAM Summit in Durban in September 1998. Castro was given an opportunity to address Parliament's Joint Sitting of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces. In his address, Castro said the "dreadful legacy [of apartheid] cannot be changed overnight". He said under Mandela's leadership, "the new South Africa would never be built on foundations of hatred and revenge".

Diplomatic relations between South Africa and Cuba have resulted in the establishment of the successful medical collaboration programme. This began in 1994. Cuba's training of South African students began as a result of a bilateral agreement between Mandela and Castro. South Africa continues to benefit from this programme, and new opportunities for collaboration in other sectors are being explored.

The Cuban Government and people revere Mandela. In November 2019, a bust of the late former President was unveiled in the Cuban capital, Havana, to commemorate the historic ties between the two countries. Mandela lauded the Cuban revolution as an "inspiration to all freedom-loving people" and was a supporter of former President Castro. Together with the Minister of Employment and Labour, Thulas Nxesi, I was privileged to attend the prestigious ceremony of the unveiling of the bust of our late former President.

During his lifetime, Mandela was bestowed with numerous awards and honours, including the Nobel Peace Prize. At the initiative of the South African Government and the Nelson Mandela Foundation, the UN General Assembly in 2010 proclaimed 18 July, his birthday, as Nelson Mandela International Day, to be observed annually. Nelson Mandela International Day not only celebrates Nelson Mandela's life, but it is also a global call to action for people to recognise their ability to have a positive effect on others around them. ☰

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Brand South Africa



Inspiring new ways

Hout Bay, a 20-minute drive from Cape Town's city centre, is situated almost halfway between Cape Town and Cape Point. Houtbaai, named by Dutch explorers, literally translated means Wood Bay. Once a small fishing village, Hout Bay has become very popular as a seaside resort town. It is recognised as one of South Africa's leading destinations for local tourists and has become a sought-after place for international tourists to base their South African holiday. A growing bed and breakfast industry supports the demand from holidaymakers.







Inaugural naval exercise held in South Africa

The exercise took place off the southern Cape coast over the period 25 to 30 November 2019. According to the South African Navy, the exercise was primarily focussed on maritime economic security, interoperability and maintaining the good relations between the participating navies.

After six months of planning, warships from Russia and China arrived in Cape Town at the end of November 2019 for the inaugural Exercise Mosi, a multinational maritime exercise hosted by South Africa.

The exercise took place off the southern Cape coast over the period 25 to 30 November. According to the South African Navy (SAN), the exercise was primarily focussed on maritime economic security, interoperability and maintaining the good relations between the participating navies.

Arrival day for the foreign warships was Sunday, 24 November, with Russian fleet

tanker *Vjazma* and rescue tug *SB406* berthing inside Table Bay Harbour, joining SAN fleet support vessel *SAS Drakensberg* and hydrographic survey vessel *SAS Protea* inside the commercial port.

At 13:45, a 21-gun salute was exchanged between the Russian Navy Slava-class missile cruiser *Marshal Ustinov* and the South African Navy battery on Lion's Head, which overlooks the harbour. A 21-gun salute is an international naval tradition and stems from the days of sail and wooden ships. As the ships' guns were loaded with gunpowder and only had one projectile, the ship would fire its guns when entering a friendly harbour, in order to harmlessly expend the gunpowder, indicating

the ship was not a threat. The gun battery ashore would then also harmlessly fire its guns to indicate that their guns had been rendered ineffective. This would indicate the ship was welcome to enter the harbour. This tradition evolved through the years and now the 21-gun salute is adopted by most navies worldwide.

Thereafter, *Marshal Ustinov* and the Chinese Peoples' Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) Type 054A frigate *Weifang* berthed at V&A Waterfront Jetty 2, joining the SAN frigate *SAS Amatola*, which arrived the previous day.

The vessels were greeted by SAN Flag Officer Fleet Rear Admiral Bulele Mhlana, PLAN Rear Admiral Zongcheng Liu and



with naval exercises of this nature, you start off small and then you develop, as we've done with Exercises Atlasur, Good Hope and Ibsamar."

"(They) also started off small and we got to very complex exercises, firing guns and missiles and doing complex anti-air warfare and anti-submarine exercises. And I'm sure, in time, if we're given an opportunity, we will develop into that."

A major component of the exercise was disaster control, whereby SAS *Protea* was the designated ship in distress for which a set of scenarios were scripted, including simulated fires, floods and medical emergencies.

The second major exercise involved a non-compliant piracy type scenario, leading to a combined boarding with the three nations and seizing back control of the ship.

With naval helicopters being an organic component of a modern warship, the South Africans took full advantage of the cross-deck opportunities offered by the exercise.

Rear Admiral Mhlana noted "how privileged we are as the South African Navy, to have our guests come all the way to our seas for this exercise".

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A major component of the exercise was disaster control, whereby SAS *Protea* was the designated ship in distress for which a set of scenarios were scripted, including simulated fires, floods and medical emergencies.

Russian Rear Admiral Vladimir Ivanovich Zemskov.

Exercise Mosi was conducted over five days, with the first three days alongside phase and the last two days with the execution of a sea programme.

The theme of the exercise was: "The Promotion of Safe Navigation and Maritime Economic Security", with the following strategic and operational objectives:

- developing Chinese, Russian and South African relations through the reinforcement of multinational exercises between the three nations
- training a multinational task organisation to counter security threats at sea
- demonstrating a multinational willingness to ensure regional maritime peace, security and stability.

The alongside phase focussed on the finalisation of planning and sea programmes as well as military social and cultural activities, among others.

The sea phase, on 28 and 29 November, focussed on surface gunnery exercises, helicopter cross-deck landings, boarding operations and disaster-control exercises.

Captain (SAN) Mike Boucher was appointed Commander of the seven-vessel Task Force

344, comprising Russian Navy Slava-class missile cruiser *Marshal Ustinov*, fleet tanker *Vjazma* and rescue tug *SB406*, PLAN Type 054A frigate *Weifang* and South African Navy frigate *SAS Amatola*, navy fleet support vessel *SAS Drakensberg* and hydrographic survey vessel *SAS Protea*.

Speaking to defenceWeb, Captian Boucher explained that the Task Force would comprise three task groups, representing each of the participating countries.

As Task Force Commander, he provided and set the aims and objectives from an operational and strategic point of view, but allowed each Task Group Commander to execute the serials.

South Africa has mostly exercised with Western navies who operate to a very similar doctrine and standard. This exercise was the first time that the SAN exercised with Eastern Bloc nations and presented new challenges, particularly language, and thus the serials were being kept simple.

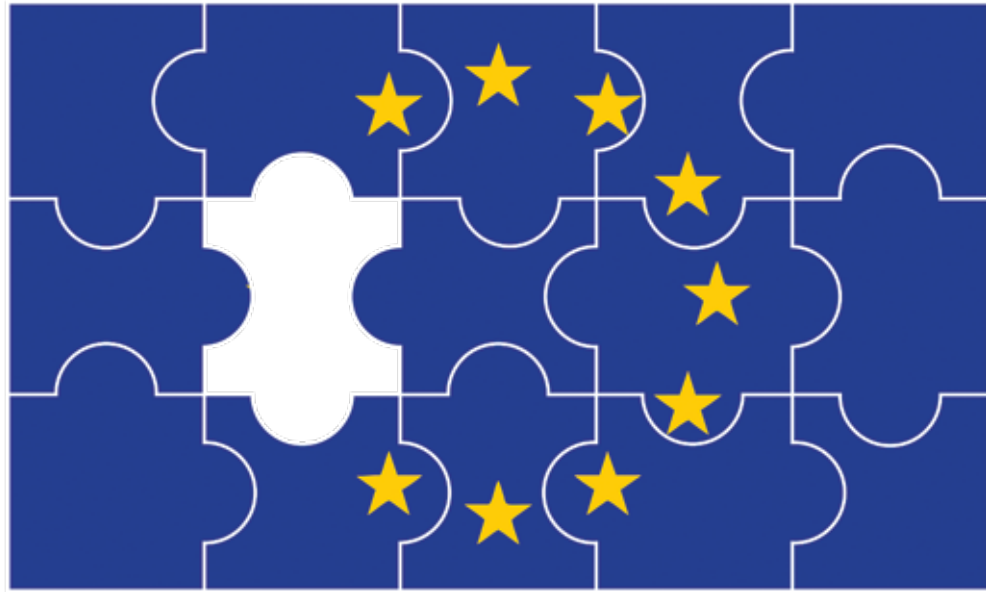
Said SAN Flag Officer Fleet, Rear Admiral Mhlana: "There is an issue of language out at sea as we struggle to communicate with each other. However, the maritime language is common and we have these few days to better the understanding between the foreign navy crews."

"Languages is a barrier, but we are working through it," Captain Boucher explained, "As





SA relations unchanged with UK amid BREXIT



The United Kingdom is South Africa's fourth-largest market for exports, behind China, Germany and the United States, and it is the seventh-largest supplier of imported goods.

The Department of Trade and Industry (dti) says South Africa's trade relationship with the United Kingdom (UK) continues unchanged after the UK left the European Union (EU).

"South Africa has been notified by the EU that in terms of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded and ratified between the EU and the UK, during the transitional period, the UK will be treated as a Member State of the Union for the purposes of international agreements concluded by the Union, or by Member States acting on behalf of the Union, or by the Union and its Member States jointly," said the dti.

The UK left the EU on 31 October 2019 in what is widely known as Brexit (British exit from the EU).

The transitional period is set to end on 31 December 2020, but can be extended on agreement between the EU and UK.

South Africa's trade with the UK currently takes place under the terms of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

The EPA between the SADC EPA member states and the EU entered into force on 10 October 2016.

Trade and Industry Minister, Ebrahim Patel, said during the transitional period provided

for in the UK Withdrawal Agreement, that trade between South Africa and the UK would continue unchanged under the SADC-EU EPA.

"South African exporters can plan ahead with confidence in the period ahead. Their legal and regulatory arrangements remain stable and in place, as it was during the period that the UK was part of the EU.

"The UK remains one of South Africa's key trading partners. In 2018, the UK was the fourth-largest destination for South African exports, with bilateral trade between the two countries amounting to more than R140 billion," said Minister Patel.

To avoid disruption to South Africa's exports, once the UK exits the EU and the SADC-EU EPA does not apply to the UK any longer, South Africa and five other countries, namely: Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and eSwatini as well as Mozambique, engaged with the UK over a two-year period following the announcement of the UK's intention to leave the EU.

SACUM-UK EPA

A new agreement, which is known as the SACUM (South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and eSwatini, as well as Mozambique)-UK EPA, was agreed between the parties in September 2019.

The SACUM-UK EPA effectively retains the terms of trade present in the existing SADC-EU EPA, and will govern the bilateral trading relationship between each of the SACUM countries and the UK in the event that the SADC-EU EPA no longer applies to the UK after December 2020.

Minister Patel said the SACUM-UK EPA would enable South African businesses to continue to export their products to the UK market and protect South African jobs once the SADC-EU EPA ceases to apply to the UK.

"The preferential market access contained in the SADC-EU EPA was transposed into SACUM-UK EPA. However, additional market access was agreed for South Africa in regard to 13 agricultural products, including wine and sugar, in the form of new volumes in relation to the tariff rate quotas contained in the EPA with the EU," said Minister Patel.

The UK is South Africa's fourth-largest market for exports, behind China, Germany and the United States, and it is the seventh-largest supplier of imported goods.

It is estimated that South Africa's exports to the UK support 56 500 direct jobs and a further 117 500 indirect jobs, bringing the total number of jobs supported by exports to the UK to nearly 175 000. ¹

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Africa woos UK investors

In a statement released after the summit, the United Kingdom (UK) Government said that the UK-Africa Investment Summit laid the foundations for new partnerships between the UK and African nations based on trade, investment, shared values and mutual interest.

African leaders at the United Kingdom (UK)-Africa Investment Summit urged UK businesses to explore the vast investment opportunities that exist on the continent.

The summit, held on 20 January 2020, was attended by dignitaries and delegates from 16 African countries.

In a statement, the African Development Bank (AfDB) said British Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, made the case for bigger investments

in Africa and called for increased and renewed partnership between the UK and Africa.

Referring to Africa as a booming continent with “staggering levels of growth”, Prime Minister Johnson said: “Look around the world today and you will swiftly see that the UK is not only the obvious partner of choice, we’re also very much the partner of today, tomorrow and decades to come.”

The UK-Africa Investment Summit, the first of its kind hosted by the UK Government, was attended by the Foreign Secretary,

Dominic Raab, the International Development Secretary, Alok Sharma, and Prince Harry.

The presidents of Ghana, Nana Akufo Addo; Kenya, Uhuru Kenyatta; and Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Cheikh el Ghazouani; were also in attendance. Finance Minister, Tito Mboweni, and International Relations and Cooperation Minister, Dr GNM Pandor, represented South Africa at the summit in London.

AfDB President, Akinwumi Adesina, announced a new US\$80-million AfDB-Department for International Development infrastructure financing partnership.



During the summit, businesses highlighted Africa's huge economic potential. Leaders were clear that Africa's success was necessary for a secure and prosperous world. The summit heard about the extraordinary dynamism and innovation coming from African firms: eight of the 15 fastest-growing economies are expected to be in Africa, and by 2050 over one in four global consumers will be African. The summit demonstrated the breadth of opportunities for new investment and business partnerships.

The UK, African governments and partners launched a package of new initiatives, funding, commercial deals and partnerships to deliver this ambition, and:

- increase trade between the UK and Africa
- support African countries to transform their economies, including by empowering women and young people
- mobilise sustainable finance for Africa, including a step-change in work on infrastructure financing, and a new partnership with the City of London
- enable Africa's clean energy potential.

The summit delivered results that will benefit people and businesses across Africa and the UK. This was reflected in commercial deals between UK companies and African partners announced at the summit worth over £6.5 billion, spanning sectors such as infrastructure, energy, retail and tech. These include agreements with well-known British firms such as Rolls Royce, GSK and Diageo. In addition, deals worth billions more were made during the day of the summit. The UK Government also announced over £1.5 billion of UK aid-funded initiatives that are expected to create hundreds of thousands of jobs and mobilise over £2.4 billion of additional private investment for the continent.

The UK is open for trade with Africa. The UK is a key trading partner for African nations: UK-Africa trade increased 7.5% last year to £36 billion. As it leaves the European Union, the UK has ensured that businesses from 46 African countries can continue to export to the UK and pay reduced or zero tariff rates. This includes signed trade agreements with 11 African countries and having legislated for a trade preferences scheme with a further 35 African countries. The UK is working with the remaining countries to finalise continuity agreements by the end of 2020. In the future, the UK will aim to deepen these agreements to make them even better for business, ensuring they reflect the ambitions of African partners to increase trade with the UK in high-value services, harnessing the Internet and new



"The issue of risk in Africa is exaggerated. The risk of loss is lower than Latin America. Yet, funds are not being channelled into Africa. There are US\$8 trillion of assets under management in London, but only 1% is invested in Africa," said Adesina.

He urged investors to look to Africa and recalled the achievements of the Africa Investment Forum – a game-changing initiative led by the AfDB and key partners to accelerate investment in the continent.

The unique multi-sector platform is designed to advance bankable deals to financial closure. At the 2019 forum, which took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, deals valued at US\$40.1 billion secured investment interest.

In his concluding remarks, the UK's Sharma expressed confidence in Africa, saying the continent "has a fabulous future".

Sharma announced five partnerships to mobilise private-sector investment in quality infrastructure on the continent.

"The City of London can play a role in mobilising resources for Africa," Sharma said.

In a statement released after the summit, the UK Government said that the UK-Africa Investment Summit laid the foundations for new partnerships between the UK and African nations based on trade, investment, shared values and mutual interest. Billions of pounds of new commercial deals were announced, highlighting the strength of the UK's offer and existing relationship with Africa. The UK also announced new initiatives and funding which will strengthen the joint trading relationship, support African countries in their ambition to transform their economies, launch a major new partnership with the City of London, turbo-charge infrastructure financing and enable Africa's clean energy potential.

"Taken together, this will help to realise the UK's ambition to be the investment partner of choice for Africa, create hundreds of thousands of jobs and ensure the mutual prosperity of all our nations."

technologies. The UK also has a world-leading export finance offer: UK Export Finance has provided financial support worth over £1.8 billion in the last two years to generate contracts for UK firms in Africa, and now offers financing to over 40 countries across the continent. The UK will continue to support a rules-based international trade system – with the World Trade Organisation at its heart – that is inclusive and delivers for its African partners.

The summit demonstrated that the UK would go further to generate business-to-business links between the UK and Africa, capitalising on the exciting potential of the African Continental Free Trade Area, which when ratified, will create the world's largest free trade area, with a population of 1.2 billion. The UK committed to over £397 million of new programmes to boost further trade and investment links between the UK and Africa; and the UK will:

- assist southern Africa to increase intra-African trade flows, reduce barriers to trade and increase investment (funding of up to £200 million over seven years)
- launch a new Africa Investors Group to drive future growth and investment
- establish an import promotion service, Trade Connect, to support African businesses to increase their presence in international markets, as well as support UK firms to source quality products from Africa (funding of £20 million)
- establish a Growth Gateway, available immediately to support all businesses,

including from Africa and the UK, to trade with and invest across Africa (funding of £37 million)

- new country-specific programmes, including a new programme in Malawi to support its shift into high-value sectors for exports (funding of £95 million), and a new programme in Ethiopia to support the private sector, foreign direct investment, industrial parks and investment climate (funding of £45 million).

The UK committed to support African countries to transform their economies, particularly in growth sectors that could create quality jobs at scale.

The country committed to increase its work to support African nations to increase growth. Among others, the UK will deliver

new partnerships with investment promotion agencies in Nigeria and South Africa (funding of £25 million). It will also deliver a new Digital Access Programme in Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa (£45 million of funding) to increase connectivity and digital skills of marginalised communities, build cybersecurity capacity and establish tech hubs to grow the local digital economy and empower start-ups with the skills needed to expand globally.

The UK reinforced its commitment to the AfDB. It will remain the top donor to the African Development Fund, which stimulates economic growth across the continent, and will establish a new Africa Infrastructure Partnership to increase the bank's capacity to lead infrastructure development and financing in Africa. 🇬🇧





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 - A peaceful and secure Africa
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- An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential offered by African People, particularly its women and youth, and with well cared for children
 - Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner

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SANDF to assist in supporting continental peace and security

"We count on the South African National Defence Force as an organ mandated by the African Union and the United Nations respectively to discharge the important responsibility of promoting peace," President Ramaphosa said.

President Cyril Ramaphosa says South Africa is proud of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), which is an enduring symbol of the country's rainbow nation, and that includes in its ranks both men and women from all race groups.

Speaking at this year's Armed Forces Day event held in Polokwane, Limpopo, on Friday, 21 February 2020, President Ramaphosa said South Africa looked to the SANDF to assist in meeting the country's obligations with regard to supporting continental peace and security.

"As a continent, we have set milestones towards the attainment of a better and safer continent for all Africans, but our progress remains mixed. Conflict continues in several African countries, undermining our collective efforts to achieve peace and security.

"In our quest to silence the guns, we acknowledge the enduring challenges of armed conflict in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, in North Africa, in the Sahel, in the Horn of Africa and in the Great Lakes region.

"We count on the SANDF as an organ mandated by the AU and the UN respectively to discharge the important responsibility of promoting peace," President Ramaphosa said.

He commended the SANDF soldiers for staying true despite the many challenges they face.

"These men and women do remarkable work in safeguarding our borders and in assisting the South African Police Service with crime prevention. We commend them, knowing that the vast stretch of our border requires far more resources on the ground.

"As a nation, we owe a great debt of appreciation to our National Defence Force for being not just a fighting force, but a developmental force. Across our country, we have seen the SANDF render essential

services through the deployment of health professionals at public health facilities that are in crisis,” President Ramaphosa said.

He said he was pleased that the programme for the 2020 Armed Forces Day included a military careers showcase for young people.

“I hope that young people who wish to develop themselves and grow South Africa will embrace these opportunities through which they will make an important contribution to the security and sustainability of our nation,” the President said.

He commenced the day with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Polokwane Municipal Gardens in memory of the sinking of the *SS Mendi*.

Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day seeks to expand public understanding of the role of the SANDF in the life of the nation and to demonstrate through live simulations of military action the capability of the Army, Navy, Air Force and South African Medical Health Service.

The activities took place at various locations around Polokwane from 14 to 19 February 2020 and included static displays of military equipment, a career village for prospective recruits, arena events, sports events, including sports clinics and a fun run.

The celebration of Armed Forces Day included a capabilities demonstration as well as a night shoot and military parade.

Armed Forces Day is held annually on 21 February in commemoration of the sinking of the *SS Mendi* steamship on 21 February 1917, one of South African’s worst tragedies of the First World War (1914 –1918).

A total of 616 black South African troops died when the *SS Mendi* steamship sank on its way to France.

Other activities over the weekend saw a 5-km and 10-km fun walk and run on 15 February and an inter-faith service on Sunday, 16 February.

The weeklong programme featured career exhibitions where young people had the opportunity to explore various careers in the SANDF. 🇿🇦

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Armed Forces Day seeks to expand public understanding of the role of the SANDF in the life of the nation and to demonstrate through live simulations of military action the capability of the Army, Navy, Air Force and South African Medical Health Service.



South Africa-Ireland relations strengthened through mutual cooperation



South Africa values its partnership with Ireland, which is founded on the common struggle against colonialism and oppression and also because of Ireland's support for South Africa's economic and development agenda.

By Alvin Botes
Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation

South Africa continues to foster close cooperation with countries in the European Union (EU) with a view to create opportunities for South African citizens and businesses as we strive to attract investment, grow our economy and create much-needed jobs. One of those countries is Ireland, known fondly among South Africans as an active and leading participant in the anti-apartheid struggle.

South Africa-Ireland relations have been cordial since 2004 and have been managed through the biennial meetings of the South Africa-Ireland Partnership Forum (PF). The most recent PF between South Africa and Ireland was held in October 2017 in Pretoria during which a wide range of bilateral political and economic relations were expressed on the progress achieved in various areas of cooperation since the previous PF of 2015 and agreement was reached to further explore other areas of cooperation over the coming years, including agriculture and education.

South Africa and Ireland demonstrated their commitment to intensify cooperation by signing the Joint Declaration of Cooperation (JDC), which created a Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) between South Africa and Ireland. The inaugural session of the South Africa-Ireland JCC was held in November 2019 in, Dublin, Ireland.

The two countries have a rich history that stirs from the early 1930s. The opening of bilateral relations was strongly considered by both governments in the 1930s and 1940s, following a successful State Visit by South African Prime Minister, General JBM Hertzog, to Dublin in 1930. At that time, connections between the two "restless dominions" were particularly cordial, based also on an earlier Irish

nationalist identification with the Boer cause during the South African War of 1899 – 1902, but cost concerns prevented an exchange of high commissioners. Nevertheless, there were regular private visits by South Africa's London-based high commissioners, most notably Charles te Water in the 1930s, and Dr AL Geyer, who was a guest of Taoiseach Éamon de Valera in 1952.

From the early 1960s, Ireland vehemently opposed apartheid in South Africa.

While purely financial considerations had prevented the mutual exchange of ambassadors, by the 1960s, a principled stand against apartheid came to prevent such an upgrading of relations. As a result, Ireland was the only EU country that did not have full diplomatic relations with South Africa until 1993. An exchange of ambassadors was agreed with the De Klerk administration in anticipation of the ending of apartheid, despite forceful protests from the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM), led by Kader and Louise Asmal, which regarded such relations as premature. South African Nelson Mandela, then a dissident, later President, was awarded the Freedom of the City of Dublin in 1988 while a political prisoner and he collected the award upon his release in 1990.

The Irish Embassy opened in Pretoria in 1994. The JCC between South Africa and Ireland underlines the close ties of friendship between the people of Ireland and South Africa and the common interests and values that the two countries share.

South Africa values its partnership with Ireland, which is founded on the common struggle against colonialism and oppression and also because of Ireland's support for South Africa's economic and development agenda, and in particular for South Africa's

national priorities contained in the National Development Plan. In this regard, there is still great appreciation in South Africa for the sterling work done by the Irish AAM under the leadership of the late Kader Asmal and the successes achieved was in no small measure as a result of the support from the Irish Government and the Irish people.

The Department of Higher Education and Training has, in partnership with the Irish Government, set up the Kader Asmal Fellowship Programme, which receives support from both governments. Since 2013, a total of 81 students have received an award to study at Master's level in a range of subjects, including Law, Business, Engineering and Agriculture, and a Kader Asmal Alumni Association has been established.

During the inaugural session of the JCC, the two parties discussed a range of bilateral and multilateral issues and exchanged views on key developments in Europe and in Africa. Representatives from relevant government ministries in both countries reported significant progress in bilateral cooperation on political, economic and social development since the last bilateral consultations took place in Pretoria in 2017, and identified several areas in which cooperation could be further strengthened in the coming months and years.

The signature of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Research and Development in Science and Technology, which took place on the margins of the Mid-Term Review of the PF in Dublin in 2018, was welcomed. Both sides committed to explore opportunities to progress implementation of the MoU.

Developments and ongoing cooperation in a range of other sectors, including immigration, tourism, arts and culture, and agriculture were also discussed. 🇮🇪



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The role of civil society in advancing human security

Civil society and governments need to develop new means of interacting with communities and educating them about the benefits that would be secured with greater attention to sustainable practices and greater care for the environment.

By Dr GNM Pandor
Minister of International Relations and Cooperation



Many researchers and social commentators have increasingly asserted the significant role that civil-society organisations can play in addressing human security in South Africa and in many developing countries.

The concept of human security was utilised in the early part of this century to refer to the need to address all aspects of social, economic and humanitarian needs that confront communities from time to time. There are many diverse examples of inadequate human security and all of them need to be addressed.

The concept of human security was utilised in the early part of this century to refer to the need to address all aspects of social, economic and humanitarian needs that confront communities from time to time.

Consider the insecurity posed by climate change and unsustainable uses of the environment. Communities living in rural settings often lack the security of a secure and reliable source of energy. They turn to the environment for a response. They chop down trees, buy cheap coal and utilise paraffin and diesel. All these sources of much-needed energy security increase harm, impact on health and affect already vulnerable women and girls as the main gatherers of these energy sources. Community-based organisations and not-for-profit organisations are known to take the lead in alerting government and society to the urgency of climate change.

At times, this is done without the presentation of a viable alternative to the destructive practices of communities desperate for energy security. Civil society and governments need to develop new means of interacting with communities and educating them about the benefits that would be secured with greater attention to sustainable practices and greater care for the environment. This a role organisations must still devote attention to.

Consider the human insecurity of inadequate education, gender-based violence and conflict on our continent.

We have made great progress with respect to education access in South Africa. This is an

important gain for our democracy as we now have millions of young people completing at least 10 years of compulsory education. Given the poor provision of compulsory education on our continent and in many developing countries, one would imagine South Africa has achieved increased human security through education.

Yet, we are all aware that poor literacy and numeracy outcomes detract from the progress we have achieved. Various organs of civil society play a leading role in ensuring we have more positive outcomes. Initiatives such as the maths and science community initiative in Khayelitsha, Cape Town, give families hope and achievement in a critical subject. Also at the post-school level, it is rural-based community organisations that seek out talent in the most rural villages and give bright young people the lift of an engineering or medical school bursary and a place in the future.

It is these civil-society organisations that support young students in education workshops, community tutorials and community libraries. Civil-society groups address a wide variety of challenges and often do so without reward or struggling for resources. Their origins and the spaces in which they work often mean they are trusted interlocutors by communities or individuals in distress.

For millions of women living in fear and insecurity, it is civil society that provides hope and relief. Organisations of women lawyers provide aid in securing protection orders. Hundreds of women in a multiplicity of organisations offer community members help, support and transformed human security.

In a report on human security published in 2000, the United Nations (UN) illustrated the insecurity of conflict and wars very starkly. The victims of this insecurity are often women and children who are displaced and abused and suffer the breaches of neglect of international humanitarian law. Once more civil society and non-government organisations (NGOs) are working hard at providing critical relief to displaced women, children and the elderly. Conflicts in Sudan and South Sudan show that women are neglected as victims of war and the focus tends to be on the parties in conflict and not on the survivors. Once more, support should be given to locally based organisations so that they provide the much-needed help.

We need to recognise the important role of civil-society organisations by offering

them our support and helping them to grow into organisations that are able to determine adequate responses to the complex challenges of human security. In South Africa, we are fortunate to have committed and capable NGOs that make vital contributions to human development. Advancing human security and addressing the full meaning of this concept require us to organise interventions and forms of cooperation that take us beyond existing models.

That may mean that beyond providing humanitarian relief, organisations would empower communities to develop the ability to sustainably enhance their development status or their recovery from natural disasters or internal conflict. For communities experiencing food insecurity, they could be assisted to develop cooperative agriculture that could grow to sustainable local trade through food enterprises. Communities affected by conflict could be supported to regroup, rebuild their lives and create a foundation for security and peace. I have been made starkly aware of the human insecurity experienced by millions in recent months. Lives of communities, especially

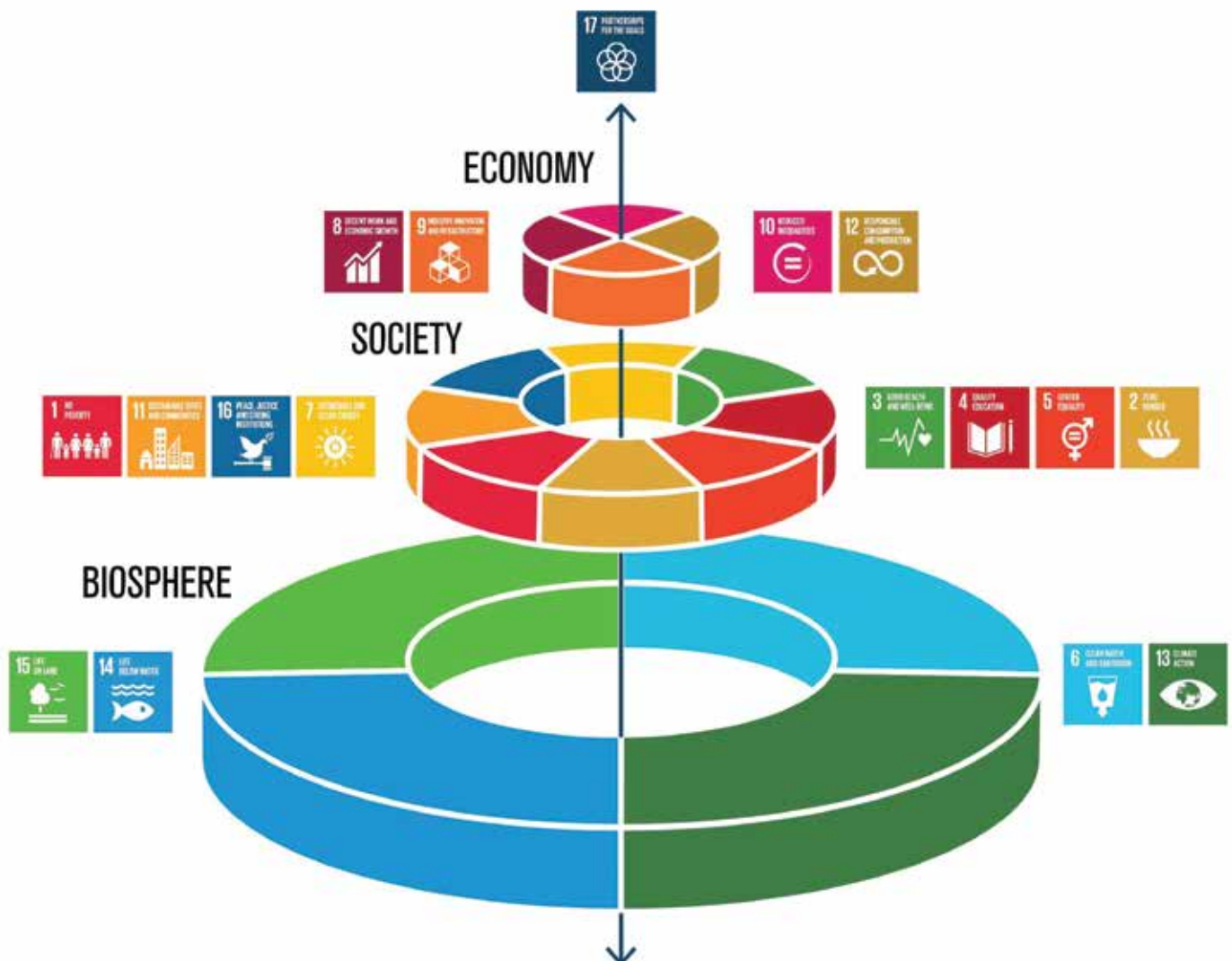
women and girls, are severely disrupted, at times in hours, not even days.

The premier global organisation for peace, the UN, is sorely stretched and challenged in the stressful unipolar environment. It is the most significant multilateral organisation addressing the misdeeds of unthinking men.

We do not often pay attention to the role they play in deploying peacekeepers who volunteer their lives, or funding refugee camps and emergency hospitals in the face of resistance from the wealthiest nations who withdraw funds if not politically attached to a needy community or nation.

The UN has no choice but to respond. It and great organisations, such as Islamic Relief, are playing such a vital role in the lives of so many, yet we do not fully show appreciation of their immense contribution as organs of civil society, not in a political cause, but in the pursuit of increased human security and the creation of sustainable and empowered communities.

It is my firm belief that the transformative impact of civil-society organisations deserves our support and encouragement. ☸



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an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture



Freedom Park

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The message that Freedom Park sends to every South African is this: look at where we come from, look what we have lived through – if we can do that and survive then our future must hold infinite possibilities. Let Freedom Park open your mind to these possibilities.

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Freedom Park is a one-stop heritage destination because we narrate the history, heritage, culture, spirituality and indigenous knowledge systems of our nation.

Freedom Park honours those who took a stand and sacrificed for a better South Africa. We want our youth to know that there is a place that recognises such heroes and heroines. Our youth's contributions mattered so much in the history of our nation. It is, however, time for today's youth to take their lead from those who have gone before and take a stand to build this nation even further."

EDUCATING OUR NATION'S YOUTH

We have a fully-equipped education unit that arranges activities that bring together youth from diverse backgrounds to talk about culture and heritage. We also have specific programmes for basic and tertiary education and a special Youth out of School programme that teaches young people about where they come from and assists them to develop a sense of pride in their own identity. We teach young people about tolerance and acceptance, and to understand and respect each other. We believe that racism and intolerance often result from ignorance and misconceptions about who you are.'

Freedom Park also focuses on school tours but is aware that accessibility becomes an acute challenge; hence the outreach programmes that aim to take Freedom Park to the people.

Our visiting hours are 08:00 – 16:30, Monday through to Sunday. We offer scheduled guided tours 09:00, 12:00 and 15:00.

For a tour please contact us on 012 336 4020. Our prices: Adults R60, children R40 and international tourists R150.

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Besides visiting Freedom Park for a tour, or to spend time learning, reflecting and praying, it is also the perfect location for corporate functions and retreats, picnics, and even concerts. This beautiful and inspiring venue offers state-of-the-art technology and facilities, as well as a peaceful space for walking, hiking and bird watching. 'When you're at Freedom Park you'll forget that you're in the city centre. Last year, Freedom Park was voted among the top 10 architecturally outstanding museums in the world and Pretoria's best heritage destination. We believe these are testaments to the beauty and uniqueness of Freedom Park.

This December sees us celebrating the Day of Reconciliation with an Interfaith and Dialogue (16 December) Mandela Peace Walk (5 December), A three day festival celebrating the Pan African Cultural Experience (11-13 December).

Please visit us on www.freedompark.co.za

Constitution Hill is a living museum that tells the story of South Africa's journey to democracy. The site is a former prison and military fort that bears testament to South Africa's turbulent past and, today, is home to the country's Constitutional Court, which endorses the rights of all citizens.







Liberation Heritage: *Joseph Shabalala*

Suddenly, as their song *Homeless* from the *Graceland* album prayerfully intimated, every black life in South Africa's struggle was a real, human life, one whose loss ought to be prevented.

By David Coplan
Professor Emeritus, Social Anthropology, University of the Witwatersrand

When Joseph Bekhizizwe Shabalala passed away, I stopped in my tracks and just let the sadness pull me down. And then inspiration from his beacon of a life lifted me back up.

Shabalala's own response to the devastating murder of his wife Nellie in 2002 was the transcendently uplifting album by his ensemble, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, called *Raise Your Spirit Higher*. It won a Grammy in 2003.

What is our response to the great artistic and spiritual hole his loss has left in South Africa? The journalistic tributes have poured in from all over, both at home and abroad. This saves me the labour of reviewing the innumerable highlights of Shabalala's extraordinary shooting star of a life and career. What does remain for us academic tortoises waddling after the journalist hares is to meditate on the quality and character of his unique personhood and achievement, and their meaning for South Africa and indeed the world.

Directed by dreams

To begin at the beginning, Shabalala's parents were not simply tenant farmers in the district of Ladysmith, KwaZulu-Natal, but more significantly Zulu spiritual diviners and herbal doctors. The religious approach of physical and psychological healing as a single unified medical system was inculcated from birth, along with the intense outpouring of singing, drumming and dancing such treatment requires.

This is important when we consider the role of dreams in Shabalala's creative

autobiography. Dreams are a vital source of inspiration and communication from the netherworld in indigenous southern African religion.

Their power carries over into African Christianity, which Shabalala took up devoutly after the early success of Ladysmith Black Mambazo in the 1970s. "The Church of Christ the Dreamer" as playwright and author Athol Fugard called it in his novel *Tsotsi*.

Shabalala's dream of a choir of children singing "in perfect harmony" proved formative in his ensemble's career. For the rest of his life, he dreamt of new songs, new arrangements, techniques and disciplines that the group developed and performed on stage. Directed by dreams, he was a formidable, uncompromising taskmaster in rehearsal.

This submission to the spirit of musical harmony in dreams helps to explain the secret of Ladysmith Black Mambazo's success. Regardless of their highly localised genre, they were just so good, and the global audience was absolutely enchanted. I recall listening to them at New York's cavernous Carnegie Hall in 1988. For three uninterrupted hours, using only their voices and synchronous choreography, they kept the audience spellbound at the edge of their seats in awed, worshipful silence.

A bridge with the West

The Africanisation of Christianity, audible in the group's isicathamiya genre, produced a blend of Christian hymnody and isiZulu male polyphonic vocal traditions. This deep synthesis provided a bridge between Zulu and Western music that Shabalala crossed and re-crossed repeatedly by a variety of routes.

This explains in part the naturalness of his ability to collaborate with an astonishing range of American vocalists and composers, from Paul Simon to Stevie Wonder to Dolly Parton. Another part of the explanation was Shabalala's overwhelming humanism and dedication to social as well as musical harmony, that touched everyone he encountered.

Shaped by migration

A second foundational theme in the life and work of Shabalala was the necessity of labour migration, which he was forced to undertake at a young age following the early death of his father. The hardships of the migrant labour system, which formed the economic foundation of racial capitalism and apartheid, later became a staple of his lyrical composition and landscape of feeling.

The title song of the group's album *Isitimela* (Train) thus laments:

"Here is the train; it has gone, Oh father it is going to Pietermaritzburg They will weep, they will remain behind, sorrowful over us ... The

heavens are trembling. If you marry a lady, she will remain behind weeping They will remain behind, sad over us"

These hymns of the hardships of migrant labour – like the rock/maskanda of Johnny Clegg and Sipho Mchunu of Juluka who appeared with them on Ladysmith Black Mambazo's first overseas tour in 1981 – mounted an implicit political challenge to the white minority government. It transgressed the boundaries of apartheid cultural ideology.

The face of black South Africa

Just as importantly, Ladysmith Black Mambazo helped to humanise oppressed black South Africans to a mass audience overseas. The success of Paul Simon's *Graceland* album and tours in the mid-1980s led to a successful international touring and recording career for Ladysmith Black Mambazo in their own right.

American audiences who enjoyed the stunning beauty and exotic perfection of Ladysmith Black Mambazo's intricate vocal harmonies could hardly believe that these were the same sort of people as the unarmed protesters that brutal South African police were shown beating, shooting and teargassing on the evening news.

Suddenly, as their song *Homeless* from the *Graceland* album prayerfully intimated, every black life in South Africa's struggle was a real, human life, one whose loss ought to be prevented.

Of course, in reply to those English-speaking critics who believed they looked in vain for political consciousness in Ladysmith's songs, Shabalala rightly pointed out that in isiZulu there were subtleties of reference that did not survive translation. And that during the struggle, virtually all popular music was held to have a political valence in black communities because politics had become the implicit ground of social discourse.

Finally, Ladysmith's appropriations of African-American hymnody and gospel are

part of a tradition of "Black Atlantic" political cross-fertilisation and aspiration. This receives perhaps its most notable expression in *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*, the anthem of the African National Congress that has become the first verse of the national anthem of South Africa.

A musical Mandela

Finally, we should pause to consider Shabalala as a kind of musical Nelson Mandela, at once a great talent and a great soul, who humanised South Africans, their troubles and their aspirations, for the world.

Yet, he was above all a perfectionist, setting a standard by which our performing artists will continue to be judged by the world audience for a very long time.

Phumula ngokuthula, lala ngoxolo mfowethu Bekhizizwe (Rest in peace Bhekizizwe). Because of you, the rest of us have work to do. ☸

Some passages are adapted from David B Coplan's book, *In Township Tonight!* This article was first published on *The Conversation*.

American audiences who enjoyed the stunning beauty and exotic perfection of Ladysmith Black Mambazo's intricate vocal harmonies could hardly believe that these were the same sort of people as the unarmed protesters that brutal South African police were shown beating, shooting and teargassing on the evening news.





How the fall of the Berlin Wall 31 years ago resonated across Africa

What defines the civic nationalism of South Africa is not a dominant faction's common roots, but a diversity of identities that share allegiance to the rule of law. It boasts a government of, by and for the people, as Abraham Lincoln tried to redefine America in 1863.

By John J Stremlau
Honorary Professor of International Relations, University of the Witwatersrand

When the Berlin Wall was pierced on 9 November 1989, world attention was on Europe. But the collapse of the Soviet Union that followed resonated across Africa and globally. The 30th anniversary offered an opportunity to reflect on these forces and their implications for Africa's politics and foreign relations.

The way forward for Africa in the aftermath of the Cold War – the decades-long struggle for supremacy between the communist Soviet Union and capitalist United States (US) –

was uncertain. Suddenly, there were new opportunities for African agency. Since then, the record has been mixed, but several broad trends are evident and hard to imagine had communism not collapsed.

During the first three decades of post-colonial independence, many countries had settled for the constraints of being allied to either the Soviets and China, or Western states (often their former colonial masters)

By the late 1980s, the increasing likelihood of liberation fuelled South Africa's black majority's hopes for freedom. The country was freed from white rule in 1994.

Salim Ahmed Salim, then Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), describes his recollection of that time in the book, *The Thabo Mbeki I Know* (69-79):

"The end of the Cold War meant that Africa could assert itself. The mandate of the OAU insofar as liberation was concerned was coming to an end because South Africa was about to become free. In reality, the whole of Africa became free when South Africa attained its liberation. Now that we were free, and our countries no longer had to deal with the question of liberation, what next?"

Delineating the impact that the end of the Cold War has had during the ensuing three

decades is almost as difficult as speculating where Africa would be today had this not happened. Changes in global alignment affected each of its now 55 diverse nations differently.

But marking the end of the bipolar era does offer the chance to reflect on both the changes and continuities in African politics and global relations since 1989. It's also opportune to ponder where Africa might be heading.

South Africa's dividend

The first decade of the 1990s now seems unrealistically optimistic. Democratic rhetoric prevailed, and innumerable democratic reforms were tried. The legacies of colonialism and the Cold War client dependencies persisted. Weak institutions and ethnic diversity bred strong leaders who, once elected, became entrenched. Many countries succumbed to electoral authoritarianism.

But the political benefits to South Africa from the end of the Cold War were immediate and critical. The long, hard anti-apartheid struggle had been gaining momentum nationally and globally. But suddenly, the global isolation of the white minority regime was sealed. And local resistance solidified as ideological differences and modest Soviet military assistance for the freedom struggle also disappeared.

The time had come to deal with the most basic demand for political rights and equality for all South Africans. Hence the negotiated settlement process to end apartheid started in earnest in 1991.

South Africa's transition was exceptional. Centuries of brutal colonial oppression and decades of apartheid had divided and emasculated communities into so-called homelands. These were the 10 mainly rural impoverished areas where black South Africans were required to live, along ethnic group lines, with false trappings of sovereignty.

One unintended consequence of this was the emergence of a popular opposition committed to non-sectarian, inclusive self-rule. Proclaimed in the 1955 Freedom Charter, the blueprint for a free and prosperous South Africa, it was finally institutionalised in the country's 1996 Constitution, arguably the world's most carefully designed and ambitious modern democratic experiment.

Unlike most of the world, South Africa's nationalism is no longer rooted in one "race" or ethnic group. It has become a leading example of civic nationalism. Historian James McPherson explains that most countries are variants of ethnic nationalism: people in a defined territory who share common characteristics of language, custom, religion and over time genetic characteristics.

What defines the civic nationalism of South Africa is not a dominant faction's common roots,

but a diversity of identities that share allegiance to the rule of law. It boasts a government of, by and for the people, as Abraham Lincoln tried to redefine America in 1863. These words were appropriately repeated in a unanimous 2017 decision by South Africa's Constitutional Court in a case that tested the limits of parliamentary and presidential authorities.

New Pan-African norms

The second decade after the Cold War marked a flourishing of Pan-Africanism. It responded to Salim's challenge by replacing the OAU with the African Union (AU) in July 2002, in Durban, South Africa.

With the continent liberated but still vulnerable to local conflicts and foreign meddling, several leaders mounted an effective diplomatic offensive to transform the OAU into a more effective regional body for preventing and resolving conflicts.

The AU's Constitutive Act featured stronger commitments to good governance, mutual oversight and shared commitments to collective security and cooperation.

Complementary instruments, notably the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, obliged all AU members to hold periodic elections and to invite the AU to monitor them.

Greater cooperation was also evident within the eight AU affiliated regional economic communities. And there was fruitful experimentation with supplementary bodies, notably the African Peer Review Mechanism and the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

South Africa played a leading role in these efforts to build capacity and advance African agency and self-reliance across the continent and globally, with the strong support of then President Thabo Mbeki (1999 – 2008).

Democracy drift

The third post-1989 decade has been marked by many democratic setbacks, within and among African countries. Democratic

reversals, including in South Africa, have been exacerbated by autocratic behaviours globally and escalating big power rivalries.

There are always risks for Africa when dealing with any major power. In December 2018, for example, then US national security adviser John Bolton outlined the Trump administration's "New Africa Strategy" in terms evocative of the Cold War. Its goal is countering Russia's and China's growing influence on the continent.

Russia is no exception. Less than a week after the Russia-Africa Summit attended by dozens of African leaders in Sochi, Russia has been exposed for targeting African politics and elections using social media.

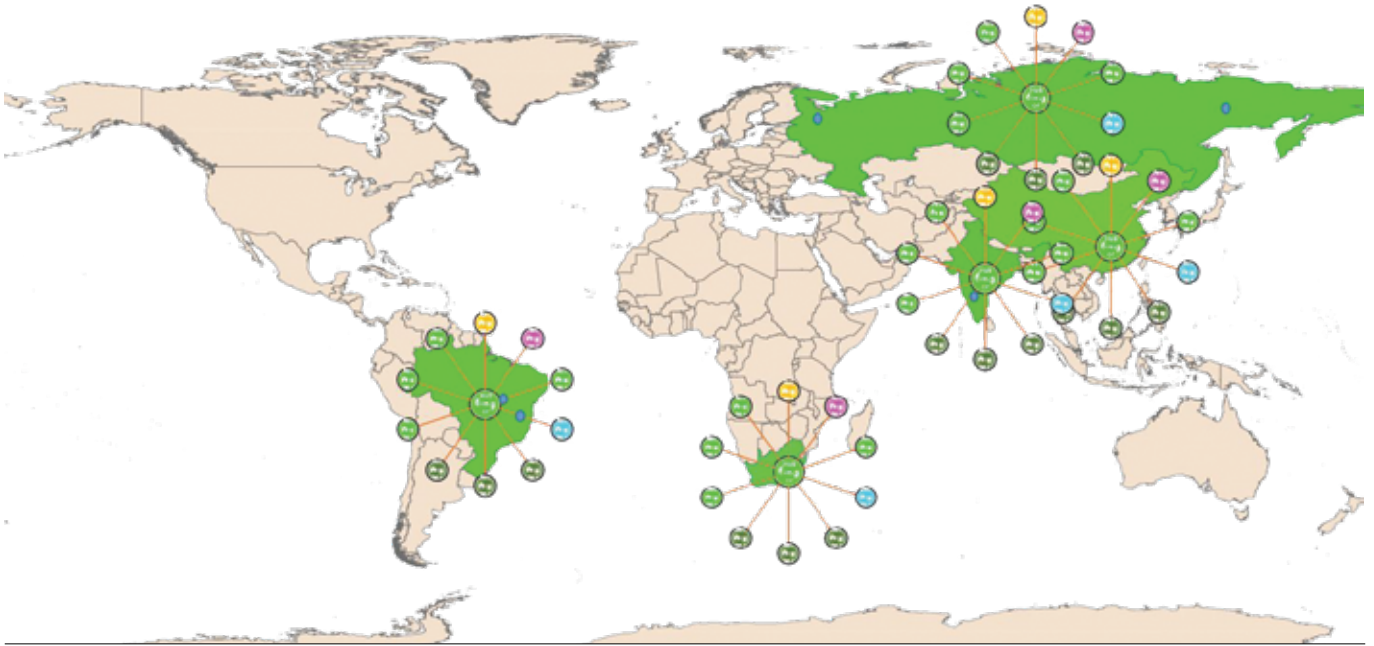
Internet abuse is a global problem. But African countries are especially vulnerable to the negative political impact of new information technologies, especially social media. The dangers of fake news in fuelling greater polarisation, hate speech, government surveillance and control are well known.

The full impact of the new technologies on Africa's politics and economics needs much more study and analysis to develop balanced and fair policies as well as safeguards.

These new technologies are vital for Africa's political, economic and social well-being. But they are also vulnerable to foreign manipulation. By 2029, we could even decide that digitisation lies at the heart of the fourth post-Cold War decade of the struggle between democratic and autocratic politics in Africa. 🗣️

The full impact of the new technologies on Africa's politics and economics needs much more study and analysis to develop balanced and fair policies as well as safeguards.





BRICS scientists could help stem the tide of invasive species

Emerging economies, such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) are responsible for donating many of the world's invasive species that have the potential to reach nearly all terrestrial biomes.

By John Measey

Senior Researcher at the Centre for Invasion Biology based in the Department of Botany and Zoology, Stellenbosch University

Developed countries are producing policies to reduce the flow of invasive species and control or eradicate existing invasions. But most developing countries are underresourced to tackle either aspect without help.

Emerging economies, such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) are responsible for donating many of the world's invasive species that have the potential to reach nearly all terrestrial biomes. These are natural areas defined by the communities of plants and animals present. Countries must urgently implement a proactive "facilitated network" to build capacity and stimulate effective, appropriate invasion science in BRICS nations.

In a recent paper, we explored why the world needed BRICS countries to build capacity to manage invasive species. We chose the BRICS set of countries because

they have a very real potential to be the source of the 21st century's new invasions.

This is because they make a sizeable contribution to world trade. The link between the quantity of trade and the introduction of invasive species has been well established. Trade results in many more unintentional movements, from toads that sneak into containers of furniture to organisms that attach themselves to the outside of ships which move the goods around.

It also involves the intentional movement of plants and animals in the horticulture and pet industry. Once established in new environments, a proportion of these become invasive.

The other reason we focussed on BRICS countries is that they are home to a large proportion of the world's biodiversity: the Brazilian Amazon, Cerrado and Atlantic Forest; Russia's Caucasus and Far East; Indian Western Ghats, Himalayas;

Southwestern China; and South Africa's Cape Floristic Region, Succulent Karoo and Maputo-Pondoland-Albany.

To protect these, and to manage the growing threat to biodiversity from anthropogenic drivers – that is action by humans – we argue for a global network of scientists who specialise in invasions within and between the BRICS countries. The aim would be to train the next generation of invasion scientists in order to continue to provide evidence-based recommendations for policy-makers.

Current and future BRICS invasions

BRICS countries are already plagued with some of the world's worst invasive species. These include:

- the Harlequin Ladybird is native to Central and East Asia, but has been introduced all over the world, including Brazil and South Africa



- Rainbow Trout are native to North America, but are now present in Brazil, Russia (which also has native populations), India, China and South Africa
- Black Wattle is native to Australia, but is now invasive in Brazil, India, China and South Africa
- Castor Oil Plants from northeastern Africa, which have been introduced around the world, becoming invasive in Brazil, India, China and South Africa.

BRICS countries are also the sources of some invasive species with the highest impact. These include:

- the Tree of Heaven, native to China but invasive in India and South Africa
- Strawberry Guava, native to Brazil but invasive in India, China and South Africa
- the House Crow, native to India and China but invasive in South Africa
- the African Clawed Frog, native in South Africa but invasive in China.

Two important factors in alien species becoming established, and subsequently becoming invasive, are how many arrive and whether there's a matching climate. The fact that all five BRICS countries are growing their global trade presence means that the number of alien species arriving in foreign climes is likely to rise.

As far as the matching climate factor is concerned, our analysis by researchers from all of the BRICS countries found that the climatic areas found in each of the countries matched all but the very coldest places on earth. This means that species originating from BRICS countries are very likely to find suitable climatic space elsewhere in the world.

The good news is that there's a solution, and it's relatively cheap.

The recommendation that we set out is much cheaper than removing invasive species, which is estimated to have cost the United Kingdom alone US\$1.7 billion in 2010.

BRICS countries are already on the same page: all have signed up to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It's aimed at preserving global biodiversity. This includes eliminating the threat from invasive species.

The solution

South Africa has established the world's first Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology by linking the country's existing invasion scientists in a facilitated network. This could be replicated by the other BRICS countries.

Achievements of the Centre for Invasion Biology include:

- approximately 20 graduates annually (including at Master's and PhD level)
- of the 340 alumni, 33% continue in academia, 17% move into governmental and implementing agencies, 5% work in non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other graduates work in sectors relating to their fields of study
- nearly 10% of references cited in Aichi Target 9, an agreed target of the Convention on Biological Diversity, were published by the centre
- it produced the world's first report on biological invasions and their management, and the world's first framework of indicators for reporting on biological invasions at a country level.

The centre's model of a facilitated network of invasion biologists is reproducible in the other

BRICS countries. Each country already has excellent invasion scientists, but they aren't linked into a network.

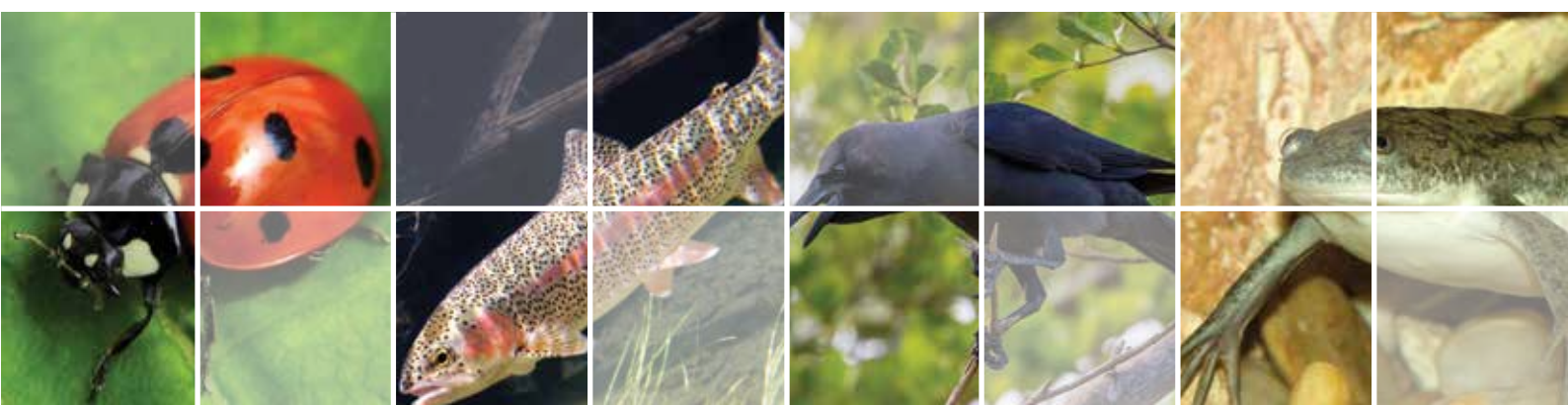
The facilitated network approach is different to traditional research institutes. This is because it gains strength from having its members distributed across the different biomes within each country. This means that they can offer biogeographic, cultural and institutional insights from local invasions within their working context.

In addition, capacity built by new networks can quickly be taken up by governmental and NGOs, providing the know-how to tackle existing and emerging problems with invasive species.

Investing in facilitated networks in all of the BRICS countries would also result in a global network of invasion scientists that would benefit all countries that trade with these emerging economies, allowing economic growth without the future threat. ☺

This article was first published on The Conversation.

BRICS countries are already on the same page: all have signed up to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It's aimed at preserving global biodiversity. This includes eliminating the threat from invasive species.





How international trade can unlock the potential of the cultural economy in developing countries

Cultural trade can be seen as the nexus between creativity and globalisation. The equal distribution of creativity can provide a way for emerging market economies to benefit from both.

By Jen Snowball
Professor of Economics, Rhodes University

There is growing interest in the creative economy in emerging markets in terms of its impact on employment and economic growth, as well as social and cultural impacts.

In South Africa, for example, a recent study by the South African Cultural Observatory, found that the country's creative economy contributed 1.7% to the economy in 2016. And that the creative sector grew faster than South Africa's overall economy – by 4.9% between 2011 and 2016 compared with 1.6% for whole economy.

An important contributor to this growth is international trade in cultural goods and services. Cultural trade offers developing countries an opportunity to take advantage of the growing interest globally in cultural goods and services.

A recent report on the outlook for the creative economy shows that the global market for creative goods more than doubled between 2002 and 2015. Its growth averaged more than 7% globally. In developing countries, growth

was even faster at 9%. The reports also shows that South-South trade in cultural goods and services is rising.

In South Africa, the export of cultural goods grew by 10.3% between 2015 and 2017. Since 2011, cultural goods exports grew more quickly than total commodity exports.

For Africa, there will be even greater opportunities if all 55 countries join the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). This would create one of world's largest single markets – US\$3 trillion in spending and investment – offering great opportunities for mutually beneficial cultural trade.

Building on a recent meeting hosted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva, this article outlines some of the trends and challenges in growing international cultural trade.

Potential benefits

Cultural trade can be seen as the nexus between creativity and globalisation. The equal distribution of creativity can provide a way

for emerging market economies to benefit from both.

The cultural economy is also a source of innovation in both products and processes. These can spill over into other industries, increasing their competitiveness and productivity. For example, a study of nine South American countries showed that a rise in some creative industries exports (design, media and graphic arts) increased exports in non-creative sectors in following years.

Cultural trade also has non-market values associated with it. For example in *The Creative Wealth of Nations*, Patrick Kabanda argues that international trade in cultural goods can have a direct economic impact, as well as help build country brand or image. This, in turn, can have a positive effect on investment and trade in other sectors.

The important point, for the purposes of trade in the arts, is that one mode (of supply) can lead to another, in a self-reinforcing cycle that can create jobs, spur investment, boost growth, strengthen the bonds among people and cultures and promote the arts.

But the potential positive impacts won't necessarily be achieved automatically. Emerging economies need realistic, evidence-based policies that are built on their specific "cultural economy" for the benefits to materialise.

Challenges and trends

Research in both developed and developing countries shows that the vast majority of cultural or creative industry firms are micro enterprises employing fewer than 10 people. In sub-Saharan Africa, there is also a high level of informality, with an International Labour Organisation report estimating that the informal sector accounts for 66% of employment in the region.

Small, informal firms face particular difficulties in the cultural economy of the developing world. This affects their ability to benefit from international trade.

One of the key factors affecting the ability of these firms to thrive is their access to e-commerce, according to a UNCTAD report. A recent PWC report on the entertainment and media outlook in South Africa, Kenya, Ghana and Tanzania underscores this. It points to the rising proportion of digital revenue in the sector.

Yet, African small and medium-sized enterprises have low adoption rates of e-commerce technologies like mobile-money. This means that they risk being excluded from the digital economy that increasingly facilitates trade. This also translates into a generally low proportion of cultural and creative industry firms which have access to international markets, as shown by some South African research.

Another area that affects companies in the sector are the terms of intellectual property countries trade under. For example, research has found that trade agreements with an intellectual property clause increase implementation time. But, on the positive end of the scale, intellectual property provisions can increase trade flows from developing to developed countries.



This suggests that intellectual property legislation can help to make trade between the Global North and Global South more even. However, some authors argue that, for cultural content that can be shared online across borders, traditional trade barriers (like quotas and intellectual property legislation) cannot be enforced and will not be effective.

In South Africa, the value of payment for intellectual property imports still far exceeds the value of intellectual property exports.

Precariousness of cultural employment

Another challenge that needs to be addressed is the precariousness of jobs in cultural employment, especially for young people and women. Encouraging and supporting structures, such as industry associations and co-working spaces, are important in improving working conditions for cultural sector workers.

An additional challenge is the startlingly low proportion of young women in cultural occupations compared to young men in countries like South Africa.

This is an important moment for emerging markets to capitalise on the globalisation and culture nexus. New trading partners with emerging markets, as well as with traditional, developed economies, are growing.

There is clear potential for cultural trade to contribute to sustainable development. But this is not an automatically positive relationship, and specific policies to manage challenges, especially for micro enterprises, will be needed. ☺

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Esther Mahlangu

Disrupting Patterns

Many experts feel that no important Pan-African art collection can be considered complete without one of Dr Mahlangu's artworks.



Dr Esther Mahlangu, the acclaimed South African artist and much-loved cultural ambassador, visited Cape Town in February 2020 to attend a programme of exciting exhibition openings and the unveiling of the "Mahlangu" Rolls-Royce Phantom.

A disruptor and visionary from an early age, Dr Mahlangu was the first person to reimagine Ndebele design on contemporary mediums and has painted anything from planes, cars, motorbikes and bicycles to skateboard decks,

war-helmets, canvases and walls in her illustrious career that spans seven decades.

Her practice has seen her collaborating with many of the world's leading museums, curators, art fairs, celebrities and global brands. She is considered a national treasure, is a positive role model and inspiration to Africa and has achieved almost pop icon status of her own although remaining firmly grounded in her traditional Ndebele custom.

Demand for Dr Mahlangu's works is at an all-time high and has been fuelled by the increase in interest in African contemporary art,

Dr Mahlangu's global profile, several exciting collaborations and acquisitions by leading collectors and global brands in 2018 and 2019 and rumours of her upcoming *Retrospective* Exhibition. The Melrose Gallery, her gallerist, is managing the long waiting list for her artworks as demand outperforms supply.

"Pan-African collectors would be well advised to consider acquiring a work by Dr Esther Mahlangu, who is still considered to be extremely under-priced considering her age and reputation and we expect this to realign to more realistic levels in the run-up to her

Retrospective Exhibition", says Craig Mark, Director of The Melrose Gallery.

Many experts feel that no important Pan-African art collection can be considered complete without one of Dr Mahlangu's artworks.

Unveiling of the Mahlangu Rolls-Royce Phantom

At 84 years of age, Dr Mahlangu achieved another impressive milestone by becoming the first South African to be commissioned to paint an artwork for a Rolls-Royce Phantom.

Each Phantom is designed with a "Gallery", a glass box inserted into the dash board, which allows the owner to personalise their vehicle.

The "Mahlangu" was unveiled to the media and a VIP crowd on 12 February 2020 at The Melrose Gallery, Cape Town.

ICTAF 2020

The Melrose Gallery presented Dr Mahlangu in the Past/ Modern Section at the Investec Cape Town Art Fair 2020. The stand, curated by Ruzy Rusike, was called *Abstractions of a Culture: Towards a Retrospective ...* and presented a timeline of Dr Mahlangu's impressive achievements and valuable contribution to contemporary art over many decades.

The exhibition included an intimate film interview with Dr Mahlangu, a rare panel painting similar to the one recently commissioned by Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys for the Dean Collection that is 3,6-m wide by 2,4-m high and an installation piece made up of more than 50 A4 paintings exploring different symbols that Dr Mahlangu has used in her practice.

This exhibition is considered the beginning of the journey towards the curation of her much deserved and anticipated *Retrospective Exhibition*.

Announcing the *Retrospective*

Nontobeko Ntombela and Nkule Mabasa have been appointed to curate Dr Mahlangu's

Retrospective Exhibition, which is set to launch in South Africa in 2022 before it begins a tour of respected international museums from 2023.

The exhibition will narrate Dr Mahlangu's fascinating life story and will explore her practice and valuable contribution to contemporary art.

Solo exhibition – *Disrupting Patterns*

Esther Mahlangu – Disrupting Patterns was a captivating solo exhibition showcasing a strong selection of paintings that explore the bold, geometric and abstract patterns for which she has become so globally acclaimed.

The exhibition opened on 12 February and ran until 31 March 2020.

Norval Museum

A unique artwork created by Dr Mahlangu's painting on a war-helmet is included in the exhibition *Collector's Focus V – Courage is as Contagious as Fear: Selected Works from the Hoosein Mahomed Collection*, which is running at the Norval Museum from 8 February until 21 April 2020.

Dr Mahlangu was born in 1935 and has been painting for 74 years. Inheriting the passion for house painting and beading from her mother and grandmother, as is the case in traditional Ndebele custom, she showed considerable talent from an early age.

Although already well respected in South Africa, she broke onto the international stage for the first time in 1989 when she was invited to participate in *Les Magiciens de la Terre*, which took place at the Pompidou in Paris, France. For this exhibition, Dr Mahlangu recreated a model of her home, which she painted and displayed within the museum.

In 1991, she became the first lady and first African to be invited to participate in the BMW Art Car Collection with other notables of the likes of Andy Warhol, David Hockney, Roy Lichtenstein and Frank Stella. She painted a BMW 5 Series, which has travelled the world ever since, and has been viewed by massive global audiences.

While Dr Mahlangu is firmly grounded in her traditional Ndebele custom and chooses to live at her homestead in rural Mpumalanga, she has spent considerable time visiting and working in many of the world's largest cities.

These travels have seen her collaborating with many leading museums, curators, art fairs, celebrities and global brands. She has painted two murals at the Smithsonian, completed a residency at the Virginia Museum, launched her 7 Series BMW at Frieze Art Fair and her BMW 5 Series graced the front cover of the *SA Art of a Nation* catalogue at the British Museum in 2016.

In the same year, she collaborated with John Legend and Belvedere Vodka to raise funds for the fight against HIV in Africa and was honoured with a mural in Tribeca in New York in 2017. In 2018, she was awarded with two honorary doctorates from the University of Johannesburg and Durban University of Technology and in 2019, she was appointed Officer of Arts and Letters, the highest recognition awarded by France for contributions to the arts.

She has collaborated with British Airways, South African Airways, BMW, Rolls-Royce, Fiat, Eytys Sneakers and Freshpak Rooibos, among numerous others. These high-profile collaborations, her unstinting dedication to and passion for her Ndebele culture and her art have made her a much-admired and loved visual artist and cultural ambassador.

She has developed a very strong following among the global celebrity crowd, almost achieving a type of pop icon status of her own. Her works grace the collections of Jean Pigozzi, Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys for the Dean Collection, Usher, John Legend, Oprah Winfrey, Trevor Noah, Black Coffee and Charles Dutton and leading institutions such as the Smithsonian Museum, Sovereign Art Foundation, Virginia Museum, Museum Bochum, World Bank, *Musee des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie*, SA Rappongi Hills Art Museum in Japan, the National Museum of Woman in the Arts in Washington DC and many others. 🇺🇸



Tourism creates one in five jobs – SA can't afford not to be competitive

Significantly, the World Travel and Tourism Council recognises that travel and tourism have created one in every five new jobs in 2017, outperforming traditional sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, retail and wholesale, forestry and fisheries and financial services.

By Sisa Ntshona
CEO of SA Tourism

Competitiveness has become a key word or concept when looking at business strategy and the ability to compete in a sector. This concept equally impacts the global tourism sector since we collectively compete for share of attention, voice and ultimately spend of potential tourists – both domestically and internationally.

Understanding what motivates individuals to travel to certain destinations has inspired the study of tourism competitiveness. The biennial World Economic Forum's Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index (WEF TTCI) is one tool that serves to help us understand travel choices and the strategies that will influence these choices positively.

Tourism is one of the country's strongest performing sectors. And yet, our own behaviours, attitudes and actions are now threatening our ability to attract tourists – domestic and international – with all the resulting benefits.

It is important to articulate why countries compete for the share of the global tourism market. The World Bank in its report, *Tourism in Africa: Harnessing Tourism for Growth and Improved Livelihoods*, describes tourism's main comparative advantage over other sectors as a "flow-through" or "catalytic effect across the economy in terms of production and employment creation". This means that the sector is able to create jobs and development at every stage, bringing with it an improvement in gross domestic product (GDP), living standards and ultimately a country's ability to meet its social contract with its people.

Significantly, the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) recognises that travel and tourism have created one in every five new jobs in 2017, outperforming traditional sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, retail and wholesale, forestry and fisheries and financial services.

Against this background, we must begin to deeply interrogate South Africa's competitiveness as a tourism destination.

South Africa ranked 61 of 140 countries in the 2019 WEF TTCI and we have managed to hold our position in the index, performing ahead of our African peers in previous years. According to the WEF, we currently account for "approximately 70% of southern Africa's T&T [travel and tourism] GDP and is the subregion's highest scorer on the TTCI".

South Africa's performance in the WEF TTCI, however, comes amid the background

of an Africa that is rising and taking its place among the global community of nations. To this end, Mauritius outranked us in the 2019 index. Although this has implications for South Africa and its national objectives, we equally celebrate the fact that the continent as a whole is becoming more competitive as a tourism destination. According to the WEF TTCI, the region continues to outpace the global average in international tourism arrivals and anticipates that "African economies covered by this year's TTCI to have the second-highest rate of growth in T&T GDP in the 10 years from 2019 to 2029".

Importantly, various studies looking at tourism competitiveness indicate overwhelmingly that there is no single determining factor of tourism attraction, rather a range of factors influence tourism competitiveness.

In terms of South Africa's tourism brand, the WEF TTCI observes that the country has "the largest T&T industry in sub-Saharan Africa ranking second regionally and 61st globally on the index". According to the index, our significant advantages relate to a "combination of natural (15th) and cultural resources (23rd). While not optimal, the country also boasts a decent business environment (57th) and beats regional benchmarks regarding human resources and labour (81st), ICT readiness (75th) and overall infrastructure (60th)".

What's holding us back

Tourism has – and continues to – contribute positively to South Africa's economic targets

and while the sector is strong, we are aware we have a few challenges that will impact negatively on our tourism brand going forward if not firmly arrested.

This is also recognised by the WEF TTCI, which says that “South Africa has several critical issues undermining its overall competitiveness”, including one of the worst safety and security environments (132nd), high homicide rates (135th), a significant impact of crime on business (131st), increasing fears of terrorism and poor health and hygiene conditions (113th). This “diminishes South Africa’s attractiveness for visitors and investors alike”. We also score lowly on the Environmental Sustainability pillar (124th), which is characterised by significant deforestation (124th) and declining environmental enforcement and regulatory stringency (46th to 66th), posing a risk to South Africa’s natural resource advantage.

We can see without any doubt that many of our national issues are increasingly affecting our international profile and positive reputation. Tourism is one of six elements of a country’s nation brand according to Simon Anholt and refers to the level of interest in visiting a country. This sector provides the most tangible face, and experience, of a country.

In light of the challenges highlighted above by the WEF TTCI, we should be concerned about South Africa’s developing country image and its implications for our national priorities. Tourism is one of the country’s strongest performing sectors. And yet, our own behaviours, attitudes and actions are now threatening our ability to attract tourists – domestic and international – with all the resulting benefits.

No amount of public relations is able to dispel these perceptions unless we begin to act, and do things, differently as citizens of the country at all levels, including policy formulation and implementation. Benjamin Franklin said, “It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation, and only one bad one to lose it”.

South Africa has worked very hard to recover from the challenges of its past. We have become a beacon in the international community and has inspired the global community. Our recent performance in the WEF TCCI should serve as a wakeup call – not just in terms of our tourism brand but more broadly, in terms of our overall nation brand image. We have this opportunity to do the right things to recover. Let us not miss the opportunity. 🇷🇵

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Tourism has – and continues to – contribute positively to South Africa’s economic targets and while the sector is strong, we are aware we have a few challenges that will impact negatively on our tourism brand going forward if not firmly arrested.

8 incredible South African innovations of 2019

During 2019, the country witnessed many success stories as South Africans innovated new ways to better their own lives and those around them.

South Africa is filled with innovative thinkers, all of whom are coming up with ways to change the world and create jobs for fellow South Africans. During 2019, the country witnessed many success stories as South Africans innovated new ways to better their own lives and those around them. Here are eight incredible innovations from South Africans.

1 “Smart glove” to translate sign language into sound

Limpopo-born Lucky Netshidzati was born to two deaf parents, and as a way to communicate more effectively with them, he innovated a smart glove that has sensors which turn sign language into sound.

Netshidzati demonstrated his invention at expos in 2019 and his wearable glove concept captured the imagination. The glove makes use of sensors that can translate sign language into text and voice.

The gloves were designed using virtual-reality gesture controls to assist deaf people and can be used to carry out everyday activities that would otherwise be difficult for those with hearing impediments. The glove converts sign language into voice and texts for the people who can't understand sign language, so that they can have a proper conversation.

The gloves' sensors work with a mobile app. The idea to design a glove that can “speak” to others has been with him since 2015. In 2018, he met an IT engineer, Tebogo Mthombeni, and the concept started taking shape. Mthombeni is the owner of a company called BIFI Technologies. The prototype that the two inventors built made use of a variety of sensors to detect finger movements.

Netshidzati established his own company, Ruzambulu Holdings, with the aim of developing telecom systems that cater for persons with disabilities. He also wants to bridge the communication barrier between hearing people and people with hearing impairments.

2 Charity makes owl boxes by turning recycled plastic into useable planks

The Owl Rescue Centre, a non-profit company, dedicated to the protection of owls, rescuing owls that are in danger and releasing them back into their natural environment, started collecting plastic in January 2018. It aimed for just 200 tonnes at the time to start recycling and converting it into owl shelters, bat houses and bee hotels.

The organisation has a number of useful machines, which work to convert plastic into planks and which are then used to create a number of structures. The owl houses are made from 100% recycled plastic as a solution to combat plastic waste.

The Owl Rescue Centre provides safe breeding sites for owls, by erecting owl houses in which certain owl species will nest, as a solution to the loss of natural habitat and nesting spots in urban development.

3 BabyTurtle, a mobile solar kiosk that can be used in rural, off-grid areas

In April 2019, the South African National Energy Development Institute (Sanedi), the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and community empowerment solar photovoltaic (PV) product developer, SolarTurtle, signed a contract to develop the next-generation SolarTurtle solar energy kiosk, called the BabyTurtle.

“This contract will see the design and implementation of three new solar kiosk designs of various portable sizes. They will all follow the SolarTurtle's fold-away designs, but now our software will also be upgraded,” SolarTurtle CEO, Lungelwa Tyali, said in a statement.

Sanedi, with support from the DST, has pledged a significant amount of money for the development of community-owned green businesses that help to eradicate energy poverty and create grassroots, green economy jobs, the statement said.

“A new, integrated battery-charging station technology coupled with a software platform for the operators, customers and donors will allow



these energy kiosks to provide immediate relief to people who struggle to keep their phones and lights powered.”

The SolarTurtle concept is to deploy containerised PV kiosks that serve as micro-utility franchises in rural and informal settlements to make a tangible difference to the lives of people.

4 Umgibe, risen vegetable gardens, protecting vegetables from rouge farm animals

It was a cancer diagnosis and hungry chickens that led Nonhlanhla Joye to devise an ingenious vegetable growing solution, which now feeds over 10 000 people.

Joye developed a system using plastic packets. In 2014, Ma’Joye, as she’s fondly known, needed to find a way to support her family after being diagnosed with cancer. The KwaZulu-Natal woman decided to plant vegetables in her backyard, but those were promptly eaten by chickens. Not to be defeated, Ma’Joye created growing bags by suspending plastic bags destined for the landfill, on wooden frames. This provided protection from the chickens, saved water and fed her family.

By December 2019, she was employing 28 people, teaching as many people as possible to grow vegetables using this method.

5 Kusini Water uses the by-product of macadamia farming to create safe drinking water

Entrepreneur Murendeni Mafumo uses macadamia nut shells to purify water and hopes that his innovation will mean safe drinking water for thousands of South Africans. South Africa is the largest macadamia producer in the world and Mafumo uses locally-sourced shells to make an activated carbon filter with a nanofiber membrane. The filters can be made in different sizes to be used on most water sources.

The device purifies at least 1 000 litres of water a day. It uses the nut shells, not so much for their chemical properties, but their strength.

They also work to harness the use of nanotechnology fibres to separate various bacteria from the water.

The nut shells, which would have been discarded, are sourced from a small-scale farmer in Venda, Limpopo.

6 Technotherm innovated to reduce landfills and address an energy crisis

Technotherm’s pyrolysis machine can be used to reduce the need for landfill sites, and at the same time contribute energy to South Africa’s strained power grid. The pyrolysis units use high temperatures to decompose organic waste (such as sugar cane or bamboo), plastic or sewage, in an oxygen-free environment, without producing harmful emissions. The gases created by the process can be used to power turbines to create electricity, and bio-oils can be used as diesel and fertiliser.

7 Student creates a medical diagnostic algorithm to detect illness sooner

Camps Bay High School student, Storm Rhoda from Hout Bay, has won multiple awards for his science project, “Leveraging Machine Learning to Improve Medical Diagnosis”.

Rhoda’s project, which features an algorithm that yields faster results when testing for illnesses like pneumonia, received some of the top awards and high acclaim at the International Science Fair.

He was presented with the HATCH Hendrik van der Bijl Special Award for the most outstanding project showing insight and understanding of current and future technologies and offering an innovative solution. The award came with an R7 000 prize.

Rhoda also received a Special Award from The Technology Innovation Agency – a division of the DST – for one of the best, most innovative projects presented at the Expo. The award came with a support award valued at R200 000 to change the project into a viable business.

His work was also recognised for originality, receiving the Siemens Ingenuity for Life Award for which he also received training to enhance his engineering skills with Siemens Industry Training at its training centre in Midrand.

Overall, Rhoda’s project was awarded a silver medal at the Eskom Expo for Young

Scientists International Science Fair, and he is shortlisted (pending interviews with the selection committee) to represent South Africa on the international team at various science fairs worldwide in 2020.

8 PATCH innovates way to remove plastic from wound care

PATCH Strips SA recently won an environmental award for innovating woundcare in South Africa. Their model focussed on removing plastic from plasters. The bamboo plasters are the world’s first organic, hypoallergenic and biodegradable woundcare solution.

PATCH was born when James Dutton (the founder of Nutricare) noticed that while trying to protect his son’s adventure wounds, his skin was in fact reacting badly to a common wound covering and making the wound worse.

Ultimately, the wish for a woundcare product that wouldn’t cause nasty skin reactions and serve as a way to help heal the wounds was the real reason for PATCH. Biodegradable Patch Strips are made with organic bamboo fibre and a natural mineral adhesive.

These people are Playing their Part for South Africa! Play Your Part is a nationwide movement created to inspire, empower and celebrate active citizenship in South Africa. Its objective is to lift the spirit of our nation by inspiring all South Africans to contribute to positive change, become involved and start doing – because a nation of people who care deeply for one another and the environment in which they live is good for everyone. The campaign is driven by Brand South Africa. Play Your Part is aimed at all South Africans – from corporates to individuals, NGOs to government, churches to schools, and the young to not so young. It aims to encourage South Africans to use some of their time, money, skills or goods to contribute to a better future for all. There are numerous opportunities, big and small, for each and every South African to make a positive difference in the communities in which they live and operate. Play Your Part encourages them to act on these opportunities. 🇿🇦

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Originally used only by hunters, the term “Big Five” refers to five of Africa’s greatest wild animals: lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino. These legends of the wilderness have become synonymous with Africa. Recently, the African elephant has been divided into two separate species: the more common African bush elephant (*loxodonta africana*) and the African forest elephant (*loxodonta cyclotis*), which is smaller and found in the rainforests of Central Africa.







In a **rare sighting** astronomers observe burst of activity as a massive star forms

After the first detection of an accretion burst, in 2016, astronomers from around the world agreed in 2017 to coordinate their efforts to observe more.

By James Okwe Chibueze
Associate Professor, North-West University

Here on Earth, we pay quite a lot of attention to the sun. It's visible to us, after all, and central to our lives. But it is only one of the billions of stars in our galaxy, the Milky Way. It's also quite small compared to other stars – many are at least eight times more massive.

These massive stars influence the structure, shape and chemical content of a galaxy. And when they have exhausted their hydrogen

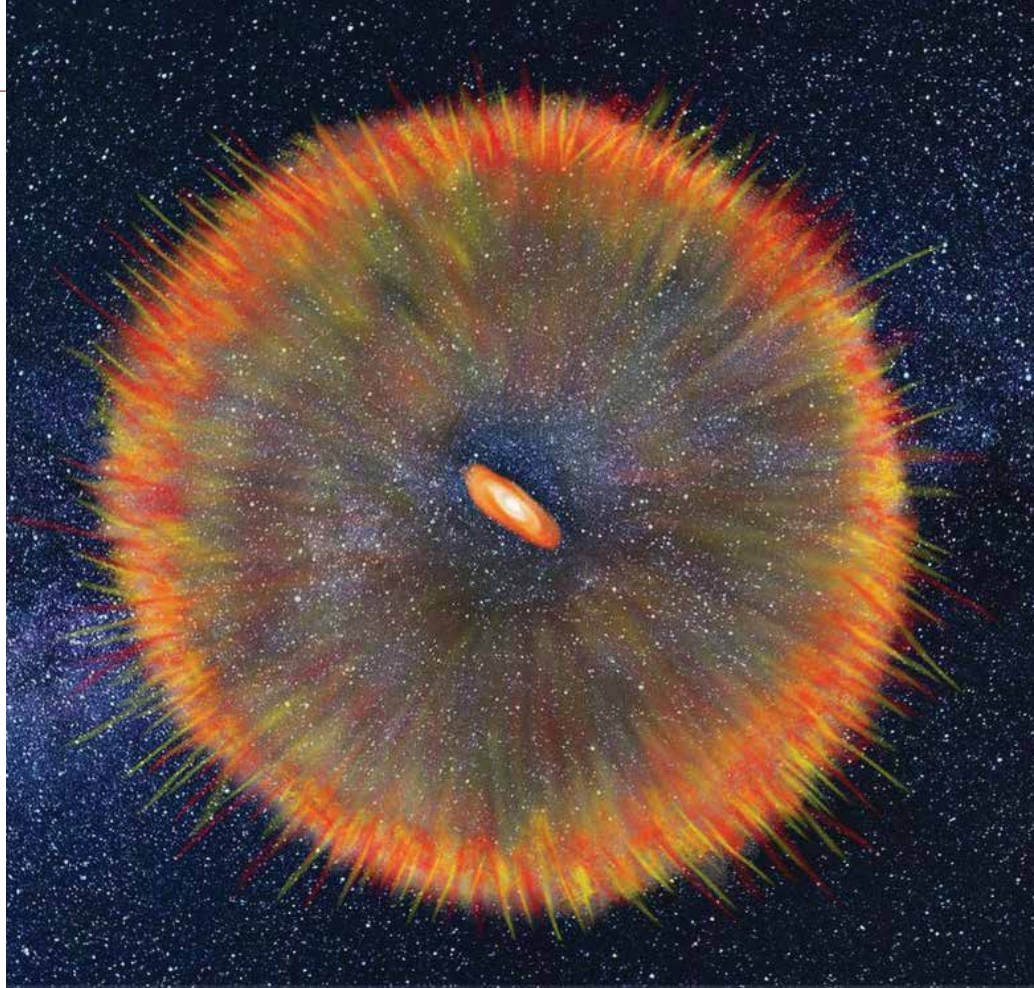
gas fuel and die, they do so in an explosive event called a supernova. This explosion is sometimes so strong that it triggers the formation of new stars out of materials in the dead star's surroundings.

But there's an important gap in our knowledge: astronomers don't yet fully understand how those original massive stars themselves are initially formed. So far, observations have only yielded some pieces of the puzzle. This is because nearly all the

known massive stars in our galaxy are located very far away from our solar system. They also form in close proximity to other massive stars, making it difficult to study the environment where they take shape.

One theory, though, is that a rotating disc of gas and dust funnels materials into the growing star.

Astronomers have recently found that the funnelling of matter into a forming star happens at different rates over time. Sometimes, the



forming star swallows up a huge amount of matter, resulting in a burst of activities in the massive star. This is called an accretion burst event. It is incredibly rare: only three such events have been observed, out of all the billions of massive stars in the Milky Way.

This is why astronomers are so excited about a recent observation of the phenomenon. I was part of the team that recorded this observation. Now, our team and other astronomers will be able to develop and test theories to explain how high-mass stars gain their mass.

A global collaboration

After the first detection of an accretion burst, in 2016, astronomers from around the world agreed in 2017 to coordinate their efforts to observe more. Reported bursts have to be validated and followed up with more observations, and this takes a joint, global effort – which led to the formation of the Maser Monitoring Organisation (M2O).

A maser is the microwave (radio frequency) equivalent of laser. The word stands for “microwave amplification by stimulated emission of radiation”. Masers are observed using radio telescopes and most of them are observed at centimetre wavelength: they are very compact.

A maser flare can be a sign of an extraordinary event such as the formation of a star. Since 2017, radio telescopes in Japan, Poland, Italy, China, Russia, Australia,

New Zealand and South Africa (HartRAO, in the country's Gauteng province) have been working together to detect a flare stimulated by a burst in the funnelling of materials into a massive star.

In January 2019, astronomers at Ibaraki University in Japan noticed that one such massive protostar, G358-MM1, showed signs of new activity. The masers associated with the object brightened significantly over a short period of time. The theory is that masers brighten when excited by an accretion burst.

Follow-up observations with the Australian Long Baseline Array revealed something astronomers are witnessing for the first time – a blast of heat-wave coming from the source and travelling through the surroundings of the forming big star. Blasts can last for about two weeks to a few months.

Burst of energy

Blasts like this were not observed in the previous two accretion bursts in massive stars. This may imply that it's a different kind of accretion burst. There may even be a “zoo” of accretion burst types – a whole range of different types, which act in different ways that may depend on the mass and evolutionary stage of the young star.

Although the burst activity has died down, the masers are still a lot brighter than they were before the burst. Astronomers are watching with interest to see whether a similar burst will occur again, and at what scale.

This experience shows how valuable it is to have lots of eyes on the sky, from different corners of the globe. Collaboration in astronomy is crucial for new, important discoveries. 🇺🇸

This article was first published on The Conversation.

A maser flare can be a sign of an extraordinary event such as the formation of a star. Since 2017, radio telescopes in Japan, Poland, Italy, China, Russia, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa (HartRAO, in the country's Gauteng province) have been working together to detect a flare stimulated by a burst in the funnelling of materials into a massive star.



Miss Universe comes home

Tunzi's win is South Africa's third Miss Universe crown; she is the first black woman to win the Miss Universe title since Leila Lopes was crowned Miss Universe 2011.

In February 2020, Brand South Africa, Miss SA Pageant and other government and business stakeholders collaborated for the official homecoming of Miss Universe, Zozibini Tunzi, since being crowned Miss Universe in December 2019.

Tunzi's win is South Africa's third Miss Universe crown; she is the first black woman to win the Miss Universe title since Leila Lopes was crowned Miss Universe 2011; and has also been lauded for being the first to compete with her natural afro-textured hair.

Her official homecoming saw thousands of South Africans welcoming her back on African soil. She received an emotional welcome at OR Tambo in Johannesburg on Saturday, 8 February. When the 26-year-old PR graduate stepped through the arrival gates, she was met with singing and loud cheers by family, friends and supporters.

Other proud citizens around the country and the African continent took to social media to share welcome messages under the hashtag #ZozComesHome.

Addressing the crowds at the airport, Tunzi thanked South Africans for their overwhelming support.

"I have been feeling the love of South Africans since I got crowned Miss South Africa, even before going to Miss Universe," she said. "Because of that, while I was walking on the Miss Universe stage, I knew that I was there as one body, but as I stood on that stage, I stood as millions of South Africans," she said.

Brand South Africa's Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Thandi Tobias-Pokolo, shared words of encouragement and delight: "You have made the entire African continent proud! Our African child, you have affirmed to

the world the authentic beauty that lies in our continent. The crown is home! Miss Universe Zozibini Tunzi, siyabulela ntokazi!

"You've inspired excellence for every young girl to take up space and embrace their authentic selves. We are here to say THANK YOU! South Africans are socially diverse, yet are united by their love for their country and Nation Brand enablers like yourself", she added further.

Tunzi later made her way to her hometown in the Eastern Cape where she stood proud on top of her homecoming float, waving to her adoring fans.

An emotional Miss Universe praised her maternal grandmother, Cynthia Lawukazi Nadophu from Dayimane village in Dutywa, Eastern Cape, for giving her her first book and bestowing upon her a love of reading.

She also met Nelson Mandela's grandson Ndaba Mandela and visited the Walter Sisulu University in Mthatha where thousands turned out to meet her.

Jubilant erupted from the crowds lining the streets when Tunzi returned to the school she credits for her success, Canaan Academy in Dutywa. Tunzi's biggest surprise was when her old classmates and friends she had not seen for years gave her a standing ovation, moving her to tears. Weeks of preparation included a song composed especially for her and sung by the school choir and the recital of a poem written for her.

The streets of Johannesburg came alive on Thursday, 13 February, as she made her way through town on an open double-decker bus. "I've been away for such a while, and I could feel the support of South Africans, obviously, on social media. But feeling it in person is so much better."

She added: "I'm feeling very excited to be home. I think I've been homesick for quite a while. People have been commenting on my social media saying that I'm glowing differently now that I'm home. Because my heart is in South Africa. My heart will always be in South Africa."

Tunzi attended the State of the Nation Address on 13 February 2020 as one of President Cyril Ramaphosa's guests together with Sprinbok captain, Siya Kolisi.

Day six of her homecoming tour saw her seated on the Cape Town Carnival's colourful "Sunrise" float alongside dancers, wearing costumes inspired by the South African flag.

Tunzi began her pageantry career in 2017 when she was accepted as one of the top 26 semifinalists of Miss South Africa 2017, although she was not selected as one of the 12 finalists. She returned to pageantry to compete in the Miss South Africa 2019 competition. 🇿🇦



The crowning

Zozibini was crowned Miss Universe 2019 at the 68th edition of the Miss Universe competition in Atlanta, United States of America. The 26-year-old beauty queen beat 89 other contestants.

The initial 90 contestants were narrowed down to 20 semifinalists during a closed-door competition before the three-hour live TV event. Following a series of traditional pageant-style events – including the ever-popular swimsuit and evening gown rounds – this year's Top 10 was revealed: Colombia, France, Iceland, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Thailand and the United States.

Tunzi was finally crowned as Miss Universe after excelling through all the rounds of the night and questions on social issues and one final chance to explain why she was the right choice. The talented South African earned cheers during her closing speech, a new segment of the competition, in which she talked about wanting to empower young women to feel confident.

"I grew up in a world where a woman who looks like me – with my kind of skin and my kind of hair – was never considered to be beautiful," she said in her last response.

"I think it is time that that stops today. I want children to look at me and see my face, and I want them to see their faces reflected in mine."

As part of the Miss Universe 2019 competition, Tunzi vocalised what she saw as the most important thing we should teach young girls today: "I think the most important thing we should be teaching young girls today is leadership. It's something that has been lacking in young girls and women for a very long time, not because we don't want to but because of what society has labelled women to be. I think we are the most powerful beings in the world and that we should be given every opportunity and that is what we should be teaching these young girls, to take up space, nothing is as important as taking up space in society and cementing yourself, thank you."

These were the words that saw her fit for the crown and affirming that her work in battling the scourge of femicide and gender-based violence will not go unnoticed. President Cyril Ramaphosa has also praised Tunzi for her work and elected her an ambassador for the African continent. goodthingsguy.co.za / channel24.co.za / Brand SA



The *most beautiful* object in South Africa 2020

Forming part of the Design Indaba Festival programme, Most Beautiful Object in South Africa is made up of 10 objects/projects, each nominated by a local industry leader and personality, from artists and performers to fashion designers and film directors.



- Thebe Magugu's *Dawning* installation, launched at Somerset House during London Fashion Week, designed to represent South Africa and its Constitution (nominated by performer and creative director of ArteBOTANICA, Manthe Ribane).
- Rich Mnisi's *Nwa-Mulamula Chaise*, a tribute to the designer's late great-grandmother (nominated by fashion designer Lukhanyo Mdingi).
- Photographs from Tiaan Nagel's 19/20 *Remember Who You Are* Campaign, inspired by a piece of writing by Ntokozo Mbokazi (nominated by South African-born actress Jodi Balfour).
- A plaster version of William Kentridge's bronze *Open* sculpture, which formed part of the sculpture exhibition at the Norval Foundation (nominated by CEO of the Norval Foundation and former Director of Institutional Development and External Affairs at Zeitz MOCAA, Elana Brundyn).
- *Robinson the Raffia Dog* by local brand Chommies, designed to display Chommies' hand-crafted designs (nominated by *House and Leisure* Editor, Charl Edwards).
- Self-portrait by Trevor Stuurman. "The image shows a creative king, someone who represents the progress African artists have made on the world stage," says film director Sunu Gonera, who nominated the image.
- Githan Coopoo's sculpted earrings, handmade jewellery that crosses the boundaries between fashion and art (nominated by textile designer and ethical manufacturer Sindiso Khumalo). 🇺🇲

<https://visi.co.za>

Izandla Zethu, a non-profit community project based in Walmer in Port Elizabeth, prides itself on designing sustainable African jewellery and creating employment and skills development programmes for young people.



The winner of 2020's Most Beautiful Object in South Africa was announced on the final day of the Design Indaba Conference in Cape Town on 28 February.

Forming part of the Design Indaba Festival programme, Most Beautiful Object in South Africa is made up of 10 objects/projects, each nominated by a local industry leader and personality, from artists and performers to fashion designers and film directors.

This year's accolade went to Izandla Zethu African Jewellery's *Delicate Bracelet*. Nominated by artist and activist Blessing Ngobeni, the bracelet is handmade from recycled corrugated iron.

"I like the fact that it's made from corrugated iron sheet, a piece of material South Africans are very familiar with," says Ngobeni.

"The material got me thinking about the meaning of beauty, and how art should be honest and truthful. I like the fact that this piece

has been handmade from recycled material. 'Izandla Zethu' means 'our hands' in isiXhosa, and the object inspires young people to open their eyes to existing opportunities in their immediate environment, and use their skills to help combat youth unemployment."

Izandla Zethu, a non-profit community project based in Walmer in Port Elizabeth, prides itself on designing sustainable African jewellery and creating employment and skills development programmes for young people.

Other nominees and nominators included:

- *Zenande* from Zizipho Poswa's Magodi series, a ceramic sculpture inspired by traditional African hairstyles (nominated by creative director and GQ's Best Dressed Man 2018, Seth Shezi).
- The hanging Soroban installation at FYN restaurant, a design collaboration between Tristan du Plessis and Christof Karl, inspired by the Japanese abacus (nominated by urban strategist and founder and director of Our Future Cities, Rashiq Fataar).

The *oldest places* in *South Africa*

While we might not have the preserved history of places like Europe and the Middle East, South Africa has a few sites that can stake a claim in the history books. *Traveller24* recently listed the oldest iconic sites in the country.

Oldest mountain

Makhonjwa Barberton Mountains

Place: Barberton, Mpumalanga

Age: More than 3.6 billion years old

The area was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 2018 – a geological marvel that’s one of the oldest natural structures in the world and the remnants of a massive meteor impact.



Oldest ruins

Adam’s Calendar

Place: Kaapsche Hoop, Mpumalanga

Age: Estimated 75 000 years old

Sometimes dubbed as the “African Stonehenge”, this monolithic structure aligns with astronomical alignments and might be one of the oldest man-made structures in the world.



Oldest rock painting

Blombos Cave

Place: Blomboschfontein Nature Reserve, Western Cape

Age: More than 73 000 years old

This cave has produced many invaluable artefacts from the Stone Age, including a cross-hatched pattern drawn with an ochre crayon.



Oldest city

Cape Town

Place: Western Cape:

Age: 368 years old

The Mother City was established when Jan van Riebeeck first landed on South Africa’s shores, becoming the country’s first city.



Oldest surviving structure

The Castle of Good Hope

Place: Cape Town, Western Cape

Age: 341 years old

Built by Dutch settlers at the start of the city's history, the fort has gone through many transformations to make the history it tells more inclusive.



Oldest wine farm

Groot Constantia

Place: Cape Town, Western Cape

Age: 335 years old

Groot Constantia was the first wine farm to be established in South Africa and its wine was beloved by royalty like Frederick the Great and King Louis Phillipe.



Oldest hotel

Houw Hoek Hotel

Place: Grabouw, Western Cape

Age: 241 years old

The historic hotel has been welcoming visitors since 1779 and is today nestled in the heart of the Kogelberg Nature Reserve.



Oldest church

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Place: Cape Town, Western Cape

Age: 228 years old

It took the Lutherans of Cape Town decades to finally establish a congregation for themselves with permission from the local government.



Oldest mosque

Auwal Mosque

Place: Cape Town, Western Cape

Age: 226 years old

This first mosque in South Africa is today an important hub for religious prayer in the city's Bo-Kaap neighbourhood.



Oldest museum

The South African Museum

Place: Cape Town, Western Cape

Age: 195 years old

Part of Iziko Museums, it was founded in 1825 within the Company's Gardens and has a vast scientific and cultural collection that tells the history of South Africa.



Oldest stone bridge

Jan Joubert's Gat

Place: Franschhoek Pass, Western Cape

Age: 195 years old

The 1825-bridge is still in use today. The kloof Jan Joubert's Gat, was named after the frontiersman who died in an accident when the wagons draught pole broke off his wagon.



Oldest theatre

Port Elizabeth Opera House

Place: Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape

Age: 128 years old

This establishment is the longest-running theatre in Africa and when it was first opened, candles were used to light the stage.



Oldest hiking trail

Otter Trail

Place: Garden Route, Western Cape

Age: 52 years

A big bucket list item for many avid hikers, the Otter Trail spans from Tsitsikamma's Storms River mouth into Nature's Valley.

www.traveller24.com





Igniting Connections

Discover

South Africa's unique history and heritage. **Explore** Iziko Museums of South Africa, and **connect** with a rich tapestry of diverse narratives.

Visit any of our 11 national museums in Cape Town, and **be inspired** by exciting exhibitions, objects, artefacts and artworks.

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museums of
South Africa

an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture



Cipla

Caring for life

“Our work is not just about making medicines. It is about making a difference.”

- Dr YK Hamied, Cipla chairman

Purpose Inspired

We pride ourselves on a strong legacy of crusading care. Cipla played a pioneering role in HIV/AIDS treatment globally as the first company to reduce the cost of ARVs to less than one dollar a day, thereby improving the lives of millions of patients. We strive to find solutions that deliver on our ethos of “Caring for Life”.

Excellence focussed

Cipla believes everyone has the right to world-class medication at affordable prices. Our unique formulations enable us to produce medicines of superior quality across a diverse range of therapeutic categories.

Innovation Driven

As part of our commitment to manufacturing in Africa for Africa, Cipla is expanding our local manufacturing footprint. Our state-of-the-art factories in Uganda and South Africa, along with other manufacturing facilities worldwide, have the stamps of approval from all the main regulators and enable us to advance healthcare for all.



Social responsibility has been at the core of Cipla, since inception. It mirrors Cipla's relentless commitment to improve lives and aims to build access and affordability for the most vulnerable groups in society. The Cipla Foundation has initiatives spanning healthcare, education and enterprise development with its aim to improve life for all South Africans.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.ciplafoundation.co.za



milesforsmiles

Miles for Smiles creates awareness and raises funds for Operation Smile to facilitate corrective surgery on children born with cleft lip and cleft palates.

2,500 smiles

R8.7 million
raised since 2006

ajuga

Ajuga creates a safe environment where young children can learn, grow and thrive.

5 ECDs
3 crèches
since 2012



Sha'p Left is a nurse-driven primary healthcare service that treats people close to home in their communities.

8 urban nurse surgeries

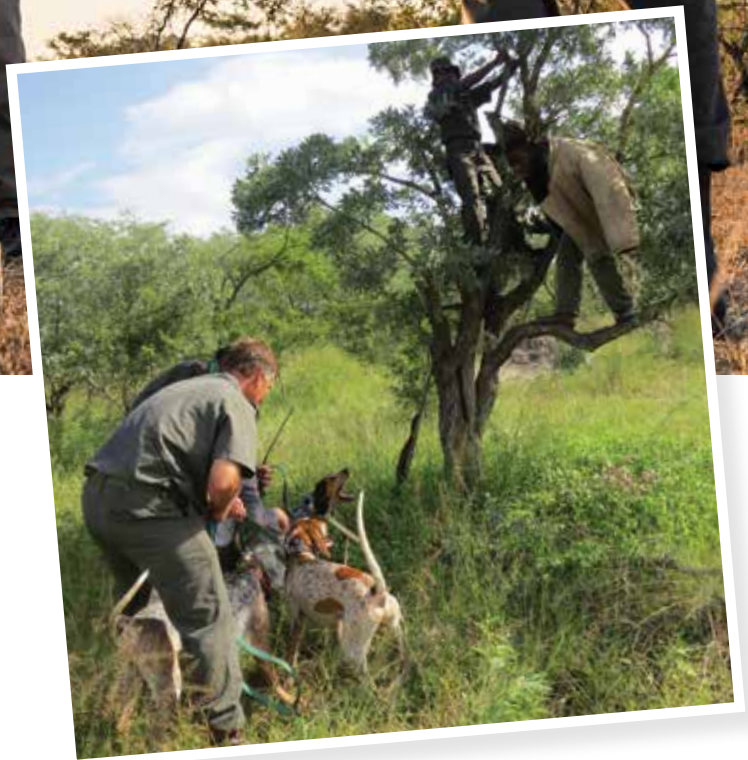
3 rural nurse surgeries
since 2014

owethu

Owethu focuses on providing access to a broad range of primary healthcare services to communities most in need.

2 clinics
since 2014

Meet the **dogs** being trained to **combat poaching** in South Africa



The dogs are proving to be extremely effective, and the team is considered the best anti-poaching unit on the continent.

By Brent Lindeque
Editor in Chief, Good Things Guy

In March 2020 on *Inside Africa*, CNN International met the dedicated canine unit on the frontlines of the fight to protect wildlife. Kruger National Park (KNP), South Africa's biggest and best-known game park, has been the epicentre of rhino poaching for decades. New technologies are constantly being unleashed to combat poaching, but using hunting dogs, a method thousands of years old, is also proving effective.

Theresa Sowry, CEO of the Southern African Wildlife College, speaks about the role of dogs in preventing poaching today, "We have to develop and design new tools and what is nice about a dog is that it's an old

tool, it's just been applied in a new sense, and they really are having a fantastic impact on poaching today."

These dogs have become the foot soldiers in the fight against poaching. Anne Kruger, who works in the K9 Conservation Unit, describes how the dogs react positively to their work.

"They find great joy out of doing what they are born and meant to do, which is hunting. And they love having that bond with a handler as well, they need to have a purpose."

The dogs are proving to be extremely effective, and the team is considered the best anti-poaching unit on the continent.

Ike Phaahla, the Communications and Marketing Manager at KNP, stresses the effectiveness of the hunting dogs. "Over 90% of the arrests that have been effected thus far in the Kruger National Park since 2011 have been through the assistance of the canine unit."

Special training facilities have now been established around the country to equip canines with the skills they need to help the conservation effort.

Eric Ichikowitz, Senior Vice President of the Paramount Group, explains the wide-reach of his company's training facility in Rustenburg, "Our canine training facility has deployed dogs



right throughout the African continent, both in law enforcement as well as anti-poaching operations. We've deployed dogs as far afield as Malaysia, so our footprint is quite wide and diverse."

The story of dogs in what is now KNP goes back almost 150 years to "Jock", perhaps the most famous dog in southern Africa. His true story was immortalised in the book *Jock of the Bushveld* by South African author Sir James "Percy" Fitzgerald who told of his travels with the dog in the late 1800s.

Lazarus Mkhonto, Manager of the Jock Safari Lodge, talks about the book's legacy, "The dog became the main character with its braveness, and it saved Fitzpatrick on so many numerous occasions out here. Jock Safari Lodge is the actual location where they used to stop."

As the battles continue in the war on poaching, the dog handlers are optimistic about the project's chances, with one telling CNN, "The issue of predicting that this war will end, I don't know. But we are one step, I think we are 10 steps even, ahead of the poachers now, I think we are winning." 🐾

Special training facilities have now been established around the country to equip canines with the skills they need to help the conservation effort.

SA sees decline in rhino poaching

South Africa is making progress in the fight against rhino poaching with figures showing a steady decline for the fourth consecutive year.

During 2019, 594 rhino were poached in South Africa, down from 769 rhino killed during the previous year.

The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries noted this progress as the country joined the international community in commemorating World Wildlife Day 2020, which was celebrated under the theme: "Sustaining all Life on Earth".

"The decline in the number of rhino poached is an indication that the initiatives being implemented by government and with the support of partners, are working, but we cannot rest on our laurels.

"Plans to combat wildlife crime are constantly being updated and adapted to meet the incessant and ever-present threat. We are also making greater use of innovative ideas and new technologies as government in order to address the relentless onslaught against our natural resources and ecosystems," Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Minister, Barbara Creecy, said in a statement on Tuesday, 4 March 2020.

Entities such as the South African National Parks, South African National Biodiversity Institute, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, iSimanagaliso and provincial conservation agencies work together to ensure that the plant and animal life is preserved and conserved for current and future generations.

"We do this with the understanding that threats to wildlife have multiple and undesirable ecological, economic and social effects," Minister Creecy said.

The Minister said South Africa was making a concerted effort to combat wildlife crime, particularly poaching of iconic species and associated illicit trade affecting diverse species, including iconic species of rhino, elephant, lion, pangolin, cycads and many other species of mammals, plants, reptiles and amphibians.

"Our country, supported by its people, partners and in cooperation with other countries, will continue with these efforts in an integrated manner until this war is won," the department said.

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The Basotho Cultural Village in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park in the Free State is a unique South African cultural village where visitors are invited to experience authentic hospitality and learn about traditional arts, crafts and ways of life of the Basotho people.



The story of the pharma giant and the African yam

The concept of medicine (muthi) is very different to the dominant pharmaceutical paradigm. Rather than a single drug to “cure” a single disease, ill-health and treatment are understood in a more holistic way.

Professor William Beinart
University of Oxford

It was a drug produced in Nottingham in the United Kingdom that led us on a journey to South Africa to visit muthi markets, archives, herbariums and nature reserves.

We spoke with traders, healers, scholars and conservationists to learn more about *Dioscorea sylvatica*.

Dioscorea is a wild yam. Its name in different languages connects to its appearance – its rough skin resembles a tortoise shell. It's known as “Elephant's Foot” in English, in isiZulu “ingwevu”, meaning grey/old or “ifudu”, meaning tortoise; in Sepedi the name is “Kgato” – “to stamp”.

In the 1950s, the yam was heavily exploited by the British pharmaceutical firm Boots for the production of cortisone. But provincial

conservation officials in South Africa fought back against the plundering of a wild plant that they recognised was in danger of being exploited to extinction.

A factory in Johannesburg

In 1949, scientists in the United States (US) announced the dramatic effects of a new drug, cortisone. It could be used to treat a variety of ailments, from arthritis to allergies to lupus and skin conditions. They found that cortisone could be made cheaply from diosgenin, extracted from Mexican wild yam species, and began a global search for supplementary plants.

By the early 1950s, South African botanists had identified *Dioscorea sylvatica* as promising. Boots was keen to develop a source of diosgenin to manufacture

corticosteroid medicines and started a factory in Johannesburg in 1955 for the initial stages of processing the plant.

Systematic extraction began in the eastern and northeastern part of the country, plundering a plant used by traditional healers for muthi (traditional medicine).

These actions weren't a direct case of “biopiracy” – in the sense of an obvious and deliberate theft of indigenous knowledge for profit. Nevertheless, the exploitation of this plant took place against the backdrop of the history of plant collection and export from South Africa. Bioprospecting was facilitated by a longer process that involved drawing on a range of local knowledge in collection and scientific classification.

Indigenous knowledge

The conversations we had with South African traditional healers in muthi markets in Johannesburg and in Acornhoek, a rural area of Mpumalanga, brought up important questions on knowledge, ownership, plant exploitation, systems of thinking about disease and healing, and conservation.

The concept of medicine (muthi) is very different to the dominant pharmaceutical paradigm. Rather than a single drug to “cure” a single disease, ill-health and treatment are understood in a more holistic way.

When we went to meet healers, we took along a piece of the yam bought from a muthi market in Johannesburg, as well as the 1950s Boots advert that had started us off on this research.

Most of the healers we met were familiar with the plant. Those who knew it described it as powerful with both topical and ritualistic uses for cleansing and protection.

The local knowledge that led to an interest in the plant from botanists and scientists is rarely recorded in any detail in archives. We were interested in how Boots in Nottingham came across a wild South African yam as a starting point for the manufacture of cortisone.

The United Kingdom connection

From our limited conversations with traditional healers and looking at botanical records, it is clear that medicinal yams were known and used across many different South African communities well before the steroid industry took an interest. However, interest in *Dioscorea* in the 1950s was triggered by US research on Mexican wild yams and a global search for similar plants.

A South African botanist recorded in the 1910s that the plant was used by African people for its saponins with medical properties. A wider range of uses were mentioned in *The Medicinal and Poisonous Plants of Southern Africa*, first published in 1932.

In a 1950s report on their collection for Boots' South African collaborators Biochemico, there is a brief reference to local knowledge:

“The actual digging was done by locals who need no more training than to be shown an ‘ingwevu’ plant (which the vast majority in that area know in any case) and the size of the tuber required.”

The digging referred to here is the extraction of about 6 000 tonnes of wild yams. This was only curtailed when the plant population became endangered and South African government conservationists stopped exploitation.

Natal Parks Boards officers were uneasy about mass exploitation of a wild plant and attempted to enforce strict conditions.

By 1960, they succeeded in terminating permits and Boots ceased production of South African diosgenin. This was a significant case for a fledgling provincial conservation authority. The protection of plants such as *D. sylvatica* attracted little public attention and it is not a well-known story, but this episode was important in developing institutions and strategies for plant protection and state conservation more generally.

Future protection

Healers in South Africa seem to be well aware of their position – carriers of traditional knowledge that could be lost, but also protectors of knowledge they fear will be exploited for profit with no benefit for them or their communities.

Some have worked with campaigners and legal teams to test and record the efficacy of traditional plant medicines, and to prove existing knowledge, to gain recognition that could lead to greater government protection.

A landmark case in 2003 saw the South African San Council sign a benefit-sharing agreement with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for the use of Hoodia as an appetite suppressant and diet drug. The legal struggle led by the San Council was eventually successful and influenced subsequent legislation on indigenous knowledge and benefit sharing.

For the Elephant's Foot yam, it's 70 years too late. But it has a lot of stories to tell. ☹️

Rebecca Beinart, an artist and researcher, accompanied the author – her father – and contributed to the research for this article.

This is the fifth article in a series on drug regimes in southern Africa. They are based on research done for a special edition for the South African Historical Journal.

This article was first published on The Conversation.

Healers in South Africa seem to be well aware of their position – carriers of traditional knowledge that could be lost, but also protectors of knowledge they fear will be exploited for profit with no benefit for them or their communities.





Flying the Flag

Springboks win Laureus World Team of the Year Award



The Springboks won the prestigious World Team of the Year Award at the 2020 Laureus Awards in Berlin in February 2020 with the academy stating that their "incredible Rugby World Cup triumph showed the unique power of sport to unite".

The 2019 Rugby World Cup champions were up against tough competition for the

award, including Jurgen Klopp's Champions League-winning Liverpool side, the US women's football team who won the Women's World Cup, six-time Formula One world champions Mercedes-AMG Petronas, the first Canadian team to win the NBA Championship, the Toronto Raptors, and two-time FIBA World Cup winners, Spain's men's basketball team.

Another South African up for an award, former Paralympian swimmer Natalie du Toit, was nominated in the Laureus Sporting Moment 2000 – 2020, which was won by Sachin Tendulkar and the 2011 Indian Cricket World Cup winning team.

The 2019 Rugby World Cup winners, South Africa, won their second Laureus World Team of the Year Award. The memory of Siya Kolisi, South Africa's historic first black Test rugby captain, lifting the Webb Ellis Trophy in Yokohama, was an iconic moment in sport and the audience in the Verti Halle in Berlin applauded the emotional moment when Kolisi led six of the team members on stage to receive the Laureus Statuette. The team's victory united communities back in South Africa and was proof of sport's ability to change the world.

www.goodthingsguy.com

Team SA wins International Moot Court Competition



In February 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa congratulated the team of South African Grade 11 learners, who won the Fifth International School Moot Court Competition in Gdynia, Poland.

President Ramaphosa said the learners' victory was an achievement to be celebrated by all South Africans.

"Team South Africa has made our country proud again and our learners' triumph demonstrates that when learners, educators and parents work together, we can achieve great things," said the President.

The human rights-centred contest saw Team South Africa defeat Team USA in the final round after earlier wins against competitors from Bulgaria, Romania, Mongolia, St Maarten and Venezuela.

The contest simulated litigation before an international tribunal under the moot fact: "Scene of Conflict over the Past Decade in Tabanath".

Since 2014, Team South Africa has won this competition on three occasions before the most recent victory.

Team members for 2020 were Sureshka Naidoo and Caitlin Schwarer of Eden College; Nondumiso Ntshangase and Nosipho Dube of Mathubeszwe High School in KwaZulu-Natal; Mhlahli Precious Stotile and Ondele Bede of Holy Cross; and Okhela Sigwela and Lizalise Dlomo of Hudson Park High School in the Eastern Cape.

Team South Africa was chosen from a great number of contestants who participated in the national schools moot court competition in September 2019. The contest produced a high level of research and public presentation by learners from a broad range of schools and backgrounds.

"This victory also tells us that our schools are effective in preparing young South Africans for life beyond the classroom and beyond the borders of our country.

"This should inspire all of us to work even harder to secure better education outcomes for all learners across our country," said the President.

SAnews.gov.za

These 5-Star SA hotels feature on *Forbes Travel Guide* Star Rating List



If you are looking for a 5-star hotel to book when you visit South Africa, these four chosen in *Forbes Travel Guide* Star Rating list may be your best bet. Cape Town and Johannesburg dominate the list.

Filip Boyen, CEO of *Forbes Travel Guide*, said it was their role at *Forbes Travel Guide* to establish their annual star ratings with independence and integrity, and champion those at the very top of their game.

"It's a privilege for *Forbes Travel Guide* to honour such magnificent hotels, restaurants and spas from all corners of the globe. Each deserving recipient excels at enriching people's lives through the power of exceptional service."

Here are some South African hotels that made the 5-star cut.

Delaire Graff Estate, fondly known as the Jewel of the Cape Winelands, is located in Stellenbosch. The world-leading destination is famed for its wine, art and hospitality offerings.

The estate has six lodge offerings. Each lodge has a private sundeck with a heated plunge pool. Delaire also prides itself in fine dining and wine experiences. Their focus is to produce beautifully crafted food that reflects the best seasonal, ethically locally sourced ingredients.

Werner Wentzel, General Hospitality Manager of Delaire Graff Estate, said in a statement: "My team and I at Delaire Graff Lodges & Spa are immensely proud to be part of the luxury international *Forbes Travel Guide* family. Being awarded five stars in the inaugural year of South Africa's inclusion makes for even more reason to celebrate."

While located in one of South Africa's busiest cities, Four Seasons Hotel The Westcliff feels like a retreat. Located high up the Witwatersrand surrounded by lush greenery, the hotel is tastefully decorated with chic furniture and art.

The hotel prides itself on personalisation as each of its 250 embroidered accent bed

pillows were hand-dyed and embroidered by local artisans.

One&Only Cape Town has built a reputation as being one of the city's most mesmerising luxury hotels. The accommodation exudes sophistication, and the views of Table Mountain or Marina are bound to leave you spellbound.

The hotel also tempts with its dining and range of activities. Philippe Zuber, Kerzner International, Chief Operations Officer, said: "We are delighted to receive this global industry recognition for One&Only Resorts.

"One&Only is conceived as a hallmark of excellence, and we are proud to add *Forbes Travel Guide* Star Ratings to our roster of awards to rank us among the best in the world."

Saxton Hotel, Villas and Spa, dubbed as being the "most exclusive private retreat" on its website, offers a sweeping feature staircase, chandeliers dangling from the ceiling, a piano and cigar lounge and a celebration of Africa through its decor.

Besides its spa facilities, the hotel has a vast number of dining experiences to cater for all types of travellers. In terms of suites, they offer luxury suites, presidential suites and the famous Nelson Mandela Platinum Suite. www.iol.co.za

South African solo rower finishes the World's Toughest Row



John Dempster of Watering The Mind finished the World's Toughest Row, the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge (TWAC) in February 2020.

Dempster completed the 3 000-mile Atlantic crossing from La Gomera in the

Canary Islands to Antigua in the Caribbean in 63 days, nine hours and 14 minutes.

The Proudly South African rower said it "felt good" to be back on land. He rowed – wearing a Superman T-shirt – with a huge smile on his face, which remained in place throughout the evening, as he

was welcomed to Antigua by his waiting girlfriend, mom and dad.

Dempster, who was the fourth solo rower to reach Antigua, said highlights included seeing an orca for three days, and watching a big albatross grab a fish out of the water.

He also loved all the sunrises and sunsets – over 60 of them each! He said it definitely took longer than he thought. (The first rowing team – not solo – to reach Antigua, arrived a month before on 13 January.)

Despite the long days and nights on the ocean alone, he said he couldn't wait to do it again – next time with a friend who had promised to do it with him.

The Atlantic Challenge is known as the safest and most successful ocean rowing race on the planet. At least 30 teams set off from the Canary Islands.

The next race begins in December 2020.

www.sapeople.com

Child AIDS activist Nkosi Johnson honoured with Google Doodle



Online search engine Google honoured the late South African child AIDS activist Nkosi Johnson with a Google doodle on 4 February 2020.

Johnson was born on 4 February 1989 and would have turned 31 this year. Johnson died of AIDS-related complications on 1 June 2001 at the age of 12.

At the time, he was South Africa's longest-surviving HIV-positive-born child.

Johnson is remembered as an AIDS activist who challenged the South African Government's AIDS policies at the time and

united millions of South Africans in the fight against the disease.

According to Nkosi's Haven, he was posthumously awarded the first KidsRights Foundation's International Children's Peace Prize in Rome in November 2001 for his efforts in support of the rights of children with HIV/AIDS, and his legacy continues to live on through Nkosi's Haven, which houses and supports HIV-positive mothers and children.

Johnson rose to international prominence in July 2000 when he delivered his self-written address, televised worldwide, to

10 000 delegates at the 13th International AIDS Conference in Durban.

"Hi, my name is Nkosi Johnson," he began. "I am 11 years old and I have full-blown AIDS. I was born HIV-positive.

"Care for us and accept us – we are all human beings", he said at the conclusion of his speech.

"We are normal. We have hands. We have feet. We can walk, we can talk, we have needs just like everyone else. Don't be afraid of us – we are all the same."

In October 2000, he took the same message to an AIDS conference in Atlanta, Georgia, in the United States.

Reacting to Johnson's death in 2001, former President Nelson Mandela said Nkosi was an example to people having to deal with a disease of this nature.

Google said: "Today's doodle honours the life and legacy of a voice of change heard by millions around the world.

"Audiences around the world heard his speeches, which helped destigmatise the global perspective on those affected by the disease."

www.news24.com

Cape Town voted Best City in the World



In December 2019, the Minister of Tourism, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, congratulated Cape Town for being voted Best City in the World for seven years in a row by *Telegraph* readers.

The award was decided by over 39 000 readers who voted as part of *The Telegraph* Travel Awards survey.

Cape Town won the top spot ahead of other mega tourist cities such as Vancouver, Kyoto, New York, Rome, Florence and many others. "The original Khoi inhabitants named the iconic flat-topped massif "Hoerikwaggo," Mountain of the Sea, and it is precisely this unique geography, towering mountains that drop, at times perpendicularly, into

the vast blue, that is so seductive," said *The Telegraph*.

In addition to appreciating the splendour of and climbing Table Mountain, tourists can also visit Boulder's penguins, take a trip to the Winelands for wine tasting surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscapes and century-old architecture, or go on a tour to Robben Island, one of South Africa's world heritage sites.

"Cape Town is one of the clear illustrations of what makes South Africa a destination of choice for tourists across the globe. The diversity of tourist attractions and the diverse cultures of the multiple population groups that make up the inhabitants of the city make Cape Town a unique tourist destination.

"It is these unique features of the city that provide visitors of the city the most authentic and memorable South African tourist experience," said Minister Kubayi-Ngubane.

SA conservationist accepted into prestigious Uk Geographical Society



Well-known KwaZulu-Natal conservationist Sheelagh Antrobus was accepted as a Fellow of the prestigious Royal Geographical Society, the professional body that advances geography and supports related fields of interest across the globe.

Over the past three years, the passionate South African conservationist has been part of the team that completed three world-first expeditions.

Antrobus, the founder of conservation organisation Project Rhino, is one of the

integral members of the Kingsley Holgate Foundation expedition team, which specialises in using geographic adventures to conduct humanitarian work and raise awareness about Africa's endangered wildlife. This South Africa-based foundation now boasts four Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society, including Ross Holgate, who heads up the foundation; Mike Nixon, the celebrated mountain biker who cycles the expeditions; and the legendary adventurer and humanitarian himself, Kingsley Holgate.

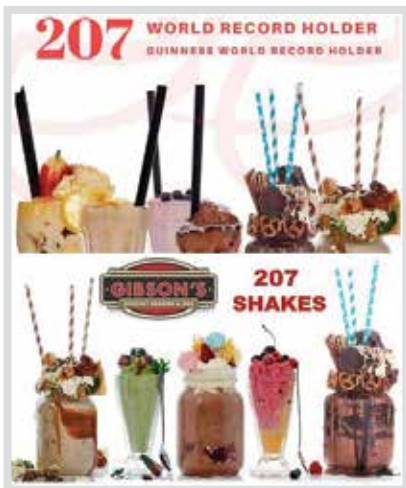
Over the past three years, Antrobus has been part of the team that completed three world-first expeditions in their Land Rover Discoverys. In 2017, they reached Africa's most easterly point in Somalia on the Horn of Africa; in 2018, a transcontinental journey took them from Cape Town to Kathmandu in Nepal and onto India; and more recently in 2019, their east-to-west Zambezi to Congo expedition included helping the Doctors for Life volunteer medical team to conduct life-changing eye operations.

Antrobus' love for wildlife led her to set up the award-winning, aerial anti-poaching unit, the Zululand Anti-Poaching Wing (ZAP-Wing) that supports more than 20 game reserves, collectively holding the second-largest remaining population of rhinos left in the world. In 2016, she received the prestigious Rhino Conservation Award from the Game Rangers Association of Africa. She is one of the founders of Rhino and Elephant Art, a youth conservation programme that uses educational school lessons and community football matches to engender a passion for wildlife among young people, as well as the World Youth Wildlife Summit series, which works towards building a new generation of conservation leaders across Africa and the world.

To be accepted as a Fellow of the 190-year-old Royal Geographical Society, a person must have sufficient involvement in geography or an allied subject through their training, profession, research and publications, or demonstrate expertise in related fields such as the environment, conservation and ecology.

www.godthingsguy.com

Cape restaurant breaks world record



Breaking a world record is no small feat, and a restaurant in the Mother City has made it into the Guinness World Records book as the official title holder of the "Most Varieties of Milkshakes Commercially Available".

Gibson's Gourmet Burgers & Ribs at the V&A Waterfront earned this title with their 207 decadent divine shakes on offer. This

eatery has a shake to satisfy everyone's taste buds.

To achieve this incredible record, the local eatery had to put in a year and a half of hard work to process their application and arrange the record attempt in order to meet the strict criteria.

On 17 October 2019, the big day arrived and Gibson's was able to carry out their application and officially make an attempt at the world record. The long process leading up to this moment, which had to be strictly followed, encompassed numerous certification forms, checking their menu, sales mix, recipes, ingredients, location and various other formalities.

During their attempt, key witnesses were needed, including well-known foodies Jenny Morris, Pete Goffe-Wood, Justin Bonello, Giorgio Nava and Clarice Gomes, who were all required to submit their credentials and curricula vitae to the Guinness World Records London Office and after due diligence and various correspondence, they were appointed as Guinness World Records judges for the record attempt.

Once the protocol had been met, the official attempt was confirmed. In terms of the Guinness World Records regulations, the judges were divided into two teams which were only allowed a four-hour time frame. Working in two shifts under the guidance of Goffe-Wood and according to strict criteria, the 207 milkshakes had to be counted, tasted and signed off by the judges. In addition, they had to audit the recipes and verify that the 207 shakes actually appeared on the menu.

Video footage of the entire attempt was required. Photographs of the individual milkshakes being made were mandatory. After making 207 milkshakes for the official attempt, the Gibson's team expected to finish between 12pm and 1pm but managed to knock the challenge out by 11.20am.

After a careful worldwide check the Guinness World Records London Office verified that Gibson's was in fact the world record holders for the "Most Varieties of Milkshakes Commercially Available".

www.capetownetc.com

South Africa's Kirsten and Taye become first women from Africa to finish Dakar on bike



South African bike riders Kirsten Landman and Taye Perry received heroes' welcomes as they returned to South Africa in January 2020, the first women from Africa to ever complete the challenging Dakar Rally, which was held in Saudi Arabia from 5 to 17 January 2020.

Ryobi Africa (who stepped up as one of Kirsten's main sponsors) said: "She's done it! Kirsten Landman has achieved her dream of crossing the Dakar Rally finish line, and becomes the first African woman to ever do so on a bike."

Kirsten's story is one of courage and determination, overcoming a major accident in 2013 (at the Desert 1000 race in Botswana) that almost killed her, and conquering her (natural) fears of endurance racing to not only enter the 2020 Dakar Rally, but participate with a mission to be the first female from Africa to cross that finishing line, and earn the coveted Dakar finisher's medal.

On the eve of finishing the famous race, the "Proudly South African" rider admitted: "This has been an emotional roller coaster. I can't wait to cross that finish line".

Cross it she did, making history. Her fans, some from back home in Bryanston, were elated. One summed up the feelings of most, saying: "Congrats, Kirsten! What a brilliant achievement! Courage, determination and pure guts! What an inspiration you are to all your proudly South African supporters!"

Fellow South African Taye Perry may not have crossed first, but she also won many hearts with her refusal to give up, despite being stranded for hours after suffering a knock and a fall ... and her bike experiencing electrical problems.

The 28-year-old from Rustenburg is being called South Africa's "Desert Rose" and the People's Champion; the "little girl" (1.58m) from South Africa who, against all odds, has just finished the Dakar Rally 2020 and who inspired everyone around the world to never... give... up!"

With just two days and 1 173 km to go of the Rally, after completing 10 days (and 6 666 km), lying third in the Ladies Bikes Category, and in the Top 10 of the Rookies Category disaster struck for Taye when she fell and her bike wouldn't start up again.

If she evacuated, the race would be over. So, she hung in there for hours, in a section of the desert called the "Empty Quarter" (as big as France with rows and rows of dunes) – until a Spaniard and Argentine car team rescued her, refusing to let her dream die, and towed her for hundreds of kilometres to a spot that they were allowed to take her to.

After that, she pushed her bike to the stage's finish line into the welcome arms of her team. Taye had just two hours to rest in her tent, while the team fixed her bike, before it was time to set off on the final day of the Rally.

Taye barely had 90 minutes' sleep. Her position in the final stage, Stage 12, was "dead last"... but she pressed ahead. "My general standings were no longer relevant. But, I was thankfully still in it," she wrote on Facebook. "And here I am – with a Dakar finisher's medal! ... still loving every moment, knowing I fought for it, and appreciated every struggle and challenge. I will be back and better. And I can't wait to get on my rally bike again ..."

Taye finished 77th, but the young South African finished first in the hearts of all those watching her grit and determination. Of the 144 who started the race, Taye was one of only 93 who finished it.

www.sapeople.com

Team SA cooks up a storm in Germany



Tourism Minister, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, has congratulated South Africa's Culinary Olympics Team, which showed-off their skills at the 25th IKA Culinary Olympics.

"South Africa's participation in this globally acclaimed culinary event has firmly placed the country on the culinary world stage, which should be celebrated by all South Africans.

"We congratulate them for a job well done and are proud of their achievements, as they showed off their culinary abilities and highest level of dedication in this renowned competition, under the auspices of the SA Chefs Association (SACA)," said Minister Kubayi-Ngubane on Friday, 21 February 2020.

The team participated in the international culinary arts competition in Stuttgart, Germany.

The Springbok squad, as they are affectionately known, competed in two categories, namely the Chef's Table and the Restaurant of Nations.

The Chef's Table entailed seven different dishes for 12 people, while the Restaurant of Nations entailed a three-course menu for 110 people.

The team scooped three bronze medals after competing with 2 000 chefs from 70 countries. SAnews.gov.za

World's longest wine route in South Africa features in top 15 Instagram road trips



South Africa's Route 62, the longest wine route in the world, has seen lots of Instagram love of late by being included in the world's most Instagrammed Road Trips.

The research, commissioned by Click4reg.co.uk, was done by collecting 15 of the best-known roads and journeys around the world and then judging which is the most Instagrammed by analysing the number of

hashtags for each road trip with #name and #name + road trip.

South Africa's famous Route 62 was found to be the most Instagrammed road trip with 1 708 620 hashtags, and it was closely followed by the Great Ocean Road in Australia which had 1 292 178 hashtags.

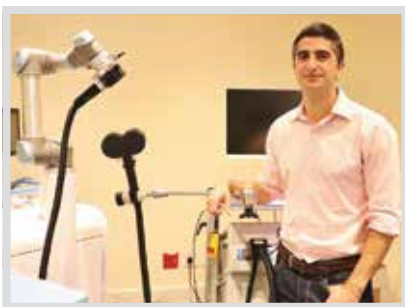
The top two were the only road trips to have over a million tags, while Pacific Coast Highway placed third in the list with 325 917 tags.

Europe has been revealed as the continent with the most Instagrammable road trips – it claims seven of the top 15 within the list. England's Snake Pass was the lowest tagged road trip with just 12 343 hashtags.

Road trips are an increasingly popular way of discovering and experiencing new countries, and how good your trip looks "on the gram" is very important in an age where everything has to be captured.

www.traveller24.com

Groundbreaking new magnetic brain procedure used for first time in SA to treat depression



A groundbreaking new non-invasive procedure, which uses a magnetic charge to stimulate targeted areas of the brain to treat conditions such as depression and anxiety, has been introduced for the first time on the African continent at Netcare Milpark Hospital in Johannesburg.

The first few patients have undergone the procedure, known in medical terms as transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), for the treatment of major depression, anxiety, neurological injury and tinnitus. This was done at the new treatment centre,

called Connectomix, which has been established at the hospital by neurosurgeon, Dr Christos Profyris.

The areas of the brain that are targeted for TMS treatment are determined using advanced brain mapping. Both the brain mapping and the TMS procedure are non-invasive, as neither of these involves surgery of any kind.

"By using functional magnetic resonance imaging [fMRI] technology with specially developed and highly advanced software, we are now able to observe brain activity in real-time and develop a sophisticated computer-generated brain function map for each individual. The brain function map enables us to understand the individual's brain physiology better, and we can, therefore, more precisely target the TMS treatment for each particular person," Dr Profyris explains.

"TMS is then used to stimulate specifically targeted areas of the brain using an electric current which is passed through a magnetic coil to create a high-intensity magnetic field.

Outstanding results have been achieved in relieving the symptoms of depression and anxiety in selected patients," says Dr Profyris, who has extensively researched and trained in brain mapping and the TMS procedure in Australia.

According to Dr Profyris, the development of brain mapping techniques, and tools such as fMRI, are "revolutionising our understanding of the brain and how it works" and enabling medical science to develop more tailored treatments for TMS.

Dr Profyris says brain mapping with TMS is furthermore showing immense promise for the treatment of certain brain injuries and other psychiatric conditions such as addiction, fibromyalgia and Alzheimer's disease.

"Netcare Milpark Hospital is delighted to have partnered with such a pioneering medical practitioner as Dr Profyris to bring this treatment to South Africa for the first time," concludes Marc van Heerden, General Manager of the hospital.

www.goodthingsguy.co.za



This eclectic beach-side suburb is a colourful mix of history, architecture, fantastic beaches and culture. Set in the heart of the southern suburbs of Cape Town, Muizenberg lies up against the mountain of the same name, en route from Lakeside to Kalk Bay. The colourful beach huts continue to be an Instagrammer's delight and a perfect backdrop and location for film and commercial shoots.





New study reveals that *Cape Town* is Africa's *leading art capital*

A rivalry between Cape Town and Joburg has raged for years, as more galleries, art fairs and events have been established in each over the last decade. An estimated 50 art platforms – from galleries, fairs and events – have been established in South Africa since 2007, according to the study. Around 70% of them are commercial galleries.

By Brent Lindeque
Editor in Chief, Good Things Guy

Art collectors, museum directors, curators and gallerists from Africa and Europe descended on Cape Town in February 2020 to soak up all the exhibitions, a new Triennale (in Stellenbosch) and two contemporary auctions all timed to coincide with Cape Town's annual art fair.

All this heightened activity implies that Cape Town has become a vital art capital. In fact, it is the leading art capital on the African continent, beating Johannesburg, Lagos and Marrakesh, according to a new study.

This is one of the many findings in *The South African Art Market: Pricing & Patterns*, an 88-page report mapping patterns in

South Africa's major art capitals. Produced by Corrigan & Co, a South African-based art research consultancy, the report offers an analysis of the gallery landscape and the pricing trends in the country. The results are based on intensive data gathering and analysis of 52 commercial art galleries, 198 exhibitions and art fair price lists pertaining to 194 artists and interviews with industry leaders.

A rivalry between Cape Town and Joburg has raged for years, as more galleries, art fairs and events have been established in each over the last decade. An estimated 50 art platforms – from galleries, fairs and events – have been established in South Africa since 2007, according to the study. Around 70% of them are commercial galleries.

This new study (temporarily) puts this battle between Cape Town and Joburg to rest, quantifying not only the number of art platforms or exhibitions in each city, but the institutional weight and influence they wield in the global art market. Joburg may boast more art fairs, corporate art museums and galleries.

However, there are a higher concentration of second, third and fourth-tier galleries in Cape Town than in Joburg.

The private art museums in Cape Town – such as the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary African Art and the Norval Foundation – were found to carry more institutional weight than those in Joburg. More contemporary (made after 1980) lots were offered by the major auction houses (Strauss & Co and Aspire Art



SOUTH AFRICAN ART MARKET
PRICING &
 PATTERNS

Auctions) in Cape Town in 2018. This figure is set to rise this year as both of these auction houses offered new (Aspire & Piasa) and larger (Strauss & Co) auctions in February to exploit the attention the art fair in this city was expected to generate.

Cape Town also boasts the largest art fair on the continent. Sixty galleries participated in the Investec Cape Town Art Fair this year, opposed to 24 in Latitudes (Joburg) in 2019 and a mere 20 in Art Joburg and Art X Lagos in 2019 and 1:54 Marrakesh. There is also strong participation in the Cape Town Art Fair by galleries based in Europe (41% in 2020), further implying that this city is the major art hub on the continent.

Much of the reason that the art platforms in Cape Town enjoy a higher status is that they are located in a tourist magnet. Some galleries say up to 70% of sales in this city are to foreign

visitors,” says Mary Corrigan, founder of Corrigan & Co.

Commenting on the study, Briony Brookes, PR and Communications Manager at Cape Town Tourism says, “In Cape Town, we are famed for our natural wonders; our beaches, winelands, and mountains. So, when you consider what our art community is competing with, it’s something visitors can perhaps be forgiven in overlooking. But while forgiveness is granted, excuses will not be accepted. That’s because the art scene in Cape Town can and should no longer be ignored. Art in Cape Town is alive, exciting and definitely on par with what’s on offer in major international cities around the world. The Mother City offers a collaborative, nurturing environment for artists working across mediums and engaging around a vast variety of topics, themes and issues. Artists, and creatives in general, are drawn to

Cape Town, and we’re proud to offer them a home, a platform and a stage.”

The study also offers pricing trends as relating to the status of galleries and artists in South Africa. 📊

The South African Art Market: Pricing & Patterns

The Mother City offers a collaborative, nurturing environment for artists working across mediums and engaging around a vast variety of topics, themes and issues. Artists, and creatives in general, are drawn to Cape Town, and we’re proud to offer them a home, a platform and a stage.”



From 14 to 16 February 2020, the eighth edition of the Investec Cape Town Art Fair (ICTAF) was held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. Positioned as the leading art fair in Africa, ICTAF 2020 included the foremost galleries from South Africa, the African continent and abroad.

ICTAF is the largest art fair on the African continent, showing cutting-edge contemporary art. The fair provides a platform for galleries, collectors, curators and artists from around the globe to engage in cultural and economic exchange. It offers an intimate experience of one of the world’s most unique art capitals. ICTAF is where the fast-growing African art market and the international art world meet.

The allure of ICTAF is its content and its placement on the African continent. The city’s geography is an integral part of the Art Fair’s success. Cape Town is a vibrant cultural hub, attracting international collectors with the novelty of diverse, cutting-edge art and a favourable exchange rate.

“With each year, the fair has gained considerable momentum that has generated respect and prestige for the City of Cape Town as a major contemporary art destination. This is an exciting moment for art, not just in South Africa but globally, as we seek to expand the impact and importance of Investec Cape Town Art Fair.” – Laura Vincenti, Director, Investec Cape Town Art Fair



San spirit shared



The !Kwa ttu San Culture and Education Centre is a hub of San culture and heritage that provides tailor-made training for young San women and men of southern Africa. It is a celebration of San culture – past, present and future.

On Heritage Day, 2018, the only heritage centre in the world dedicated to the San opened at !Kwa ttu on the West Coast near Yzerfontein.

It is a remarkable resource, with three interlinked elements – the Heritage Centre building at !Kwa ttu, community satellites and a digital archive.

The !Kwa ttu San Culture and Education Centre is a hub of San culture and heritage that provides tailor-made training for young San women and men of southern Africa. It is a celebration of San culture – past, present and future.

Through the Working Group of Indigenous Minorities in Southern Africa (WIMSA, the San's regional lobbying and advocacy non-governmental organisation), San communities throughout the region expressed the desire to learn more about their history, to practise their traditions and promote their culture and languages. Tourism is one of the fastest-growing industries in southern Africa and San communities have expressed their intention to participate in modern development. They wish to give their children the chance to revitalise the traditional life supported by tourism revenues, and get the necessary skills to enter the modern workforce and live in dignity.

In 1998, WIMSA was assisted by the South African San Institute – a San support organisation – in setting up a tourism and training project, focussing on education and training, income generation, culture and heritage.

In 1999, Irene Staehelin, a Swiss anthropologist, joined the initiative by purchasing the farm that became !Kwa ttu. She set up UBUNTU Foundation, a Swiss organisation that is fully dedicated to support !Kwa ttu in a joint venture with the San as presently represented by WIMSA. UBUNTU Foundation made available funds for the renovation of the entire site and has since generously supported the project. Several

South African institutions and overseas donors have so far supported with various aspects.

The objective of !Khwat tu is to boost the social and economic well-being of San communities in southern Africa through the development of successful and sustainable community and other tourism initiatives.

When the 850-hectare farm was purchased for the project in 1999, it was known as *Grootwater*, a wheat- and sheep-producing farm. The farm was renamed !Khwat tu, meaning “water-hole” in the language of the now extinct !Xam San, and the land has been allowed to recover. Alien vegetation has been removed, which was a huge fire hazard and threat to biodiversity, and indigenous wildlife has been reintroduced.

Today, !Khwat tu is based in several beautifully renovated old farmhouse buildings. The intention is to maintain these buildings and expand to accommodate the envisaged San Museum and more visitors.

The world-class !Khwat tu San Heritage Centre is dedicated to the history, livelihoods, challenges and successes of all San groups in southern Africa. The centre is the only one of its kind dedicated to the story of southern Africa’s first people.

The undertaking has involved years of community consultation. The co-curated exhibitions are all undertaken by a team of San consultants and community-based San pioneers working closely with a wider community of world leading academics and exhibition designers.

The centre’s exhibitions follow the San mandate of “telling our story in our own words,

past, present and future”. In two beautifully repurposed farm buildings, respectively named “First People” and “Encounters”, it presents themes ranging from storytelling to human origins, rock art, colonial encounters and current community initiatives.

In the third, eco-designed “Way of the San” building, cutting-edge immersive technology and innovative gallery design are used to introduce visitors to the realities of life as a San gatherer and hunter. Visitors can also join one of the guided tours and enjoy a first-hand account of San life and the sort of knowledge required to live well just from what nature provides.

Various other activities are available for the whole family. www.khwat tu.org

www.khwat tu.org

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Things to do at the **longest promenade** in **sub-Saharan Africa**

The Durban promenade is one of the city's most prized features. The new and improved promenade, hailed as the longest promenade in sub-Saharan Africa, is part of Durban's vision to become the tourism destination of choice.



The completion of the beachfront promenade extension in Durban, which is now the longest in Africa, is set to unlock the R35-billion Point Waterfront Development, which will be undertaken in three phases over the next 10 to 15 years.

The eight kilometers of the breathtaking promenade stretch from the Durban harbour mouth to Blue Lagoon. The promenade extension is wheelchair-friendly and boasts a first aid room, undercover parking bays and a lifeguard tower, all located between the harbour mouth and uShaka Marine World. It was officially opened to the public on 16 November 2019.

eThekweni Mayor, Councillor Mxolisi Kaunda, said the completion of the promenade, which commenced in March 2018 and stringently kept to the construction timeframes, had immensely contributed to President Cyril Ramaphosa's call of "Khwuleza", to move with speed in building a better life for all.

He said the launch of the promenade extension made a bold statement to spatial transformation by taking a beach node that was once exclusive and opening it up to the public. Mayor Kaunda said the development would soon fulfil its envisioned goal of attracting investment to boost local tourism. He was referring to the first phase of R3.5 billion of the total R35-billion Point Waterfront Development. This phase, earmarked to commence later in 2020, will include a hotel and retail mall. "The second phase will boast residential and commercial facilities with the third and final phase being a mixed-use development, including an iconic 55-storey building, which will change the skyline of Durban in the harbour mouth." Listing economic spinoffs from the promenade extension, Mayor Kaunda said he was very excited that the project delivered on radical economic transformation objectives. "Over 40% of sub-contracting opportunities of various sectors benefitted local businesses."

The entire Point Waterfront Development, once completed, is set to contribute in excess of R200 million in rates income, creating 11 000 temporary construction jobs and 6 750 permanent jobs. The first 1 100 jobs were created during the promenade expansion construction.

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The paved walkway links Blue Lagoon in the north to uShaka Marine World in the south, taking one past Suncoast Beach, Battery Beach, Snake Park, Bay of Plenty, North Beach, Dairy Beach, New Beach, South Beach, Addington Beach and uShaka Beach.

For the full walk, park at Blue Lagoon at the mouth of the Umgeni River, which is a popular fishing spot and the finish of the Dusi Canoe Marathon. The Durban Country Club golf course is across the road on your right as you walk south. The route passes the Suncoast Casino at Suncoast Beach and this is where you'll see the first of several piers stretching out to sea.

The Moses Mabhida Stadium stands up proudly on the right and boasts the Big Rush, the world's largest stadium swing.

Next up is Battery Beach, which got its name from the old Natal Command military base, and then the Heritage Forest. The 300-metre stretch of protected coastal dunes is a remnant of the range that once stretched all the way up the coast, and is the only place along the promenade from where you can't see the sea.

Mini Town, which has a number of Durban's landmarks at 1:25 scale, is fun for kids and further down is the North Beach Skatepark, where one can also hire bicycles to whizz along the bike-friendly promenade.

If you're looking for a good wave, then the Bay of Plenty is the place to go. Surfing legend Shaun Thomson (1977 world surfing champion and six-time winner of the Gunston 500) rates it as his favourite beach. The Rachael Finlayson salt-water pool has been retiled and divided into three slightly smaller pools, including an Olympic-sized 50-metre training pool.

Dairy Beach is a popular central beach with restaurants and a retail outlet. It also has a public piazza but the highlight is the interactive fountain that pops up as one passes. Then comes the Durban Fun Fair, where one can go for a hectic spin or catch a gentle ride on the cable car for an overview of the area.

Further down are the main paddling pools and jungle gyms that form part of the kid-friendly New Beach complex and South Beach. The promenade ends at Africa's largest marine theme park. uShaka Marine World, which spans more than 15 hectares of prime beachfront area. 🇿🇦

www.nightjartravel.com

The entire Point Waterfront Development, once completed, is set to contribute in excess of R200 million in rates income, creating 11 000 temporary construction jobs and 6 750 permanent jobs. The first 1 100 jobs were created during the promenade expansion construction.



The top-rated *SA experiences*

From hiking to relaxing in luxury to see South Africa's amazing marine life, there's something for everyone.

South Africans are spoilt for choice when it comes to unforgettable offerings and the winners of the Visitor Experiences Category of 2019's Lilizela Tourism Awards feature the best of the best.

The awards took place on Saturday, 10 November 2019, at the Sun Arena in Menlyn, Pretoria, and honoured the best of the best of South Africa's guides, accommodation, experiences, venues and other tourism drivers in the country.

From hiking to relaxing in luxury to see South Africa's amazing marine life, there's something for everyone.

Scenic Beauty

Kagga Kamma Nature Reserve is in the wilderness of the Swaruggens area, in the peaceful Southern Cederberg Mountains, in the Western Cape.

The reserve is renowned for its scenic beauty and dramatic rock formations typical of the Cederberg region.

With a rich and fascinating cultural heritage, this area offers spectacular scenery, ancient rock art sites, amazing indigenous fauna and flora, phenomenal night skies and some fascinating small critters that are scarcely seen in other parts of the country.

The San and Khoi people lived at Kagga Kamma many years ago and today, guests can see traces of their existence in the unique rock art that dates back 1200 to 6000 years.

Wildlife Encounters

Hayward's Grand Safari Company offers luxury camping that can be set up across southern Africa that focusses on exclusivity and fostering a close bond with the natural beauty that surrounds you.

For years, Hayward's Grand Safari Company has dazzled and delighted clients with tented safari experiences on a grand scale. A world-first and only, the company has racked up multiple awards over the years.

Beach Experience

The Chokka Trail has won this award four years in a row. Travellers hike through Oyster Bay, St Francis Bay and Cape St Francis via a rugged coastline, a tidal river, wetlands, dunes and protected fynbos – a great 62-kilometre hiking holiday.

Action and Adventure

The Baviaans Camino hiking trail stretches over four days and 93 kilometres through the Baviaanskloof Mountains and Wilderness Reserve, which can be done either on foot or by horse – a great expedition for the spirit and the body.



Roots and Culture

African Traditional Homestays (TAHS-SA) won a second year in a row for its authentic cultural experience where visitors interact with the community in a Venda village, trying their hand at the arts and crafts.

Culture and Lifestyle

The Workshop Ko Kasi won again – an African wellness retreat in the Northern Cape’s Kuruman that focusses on ecotourism, healing and food that help quiet the mind and reconnect with inner peace.

Lap of Luxury

Oceana Beach and Wildlife Reserve is nestled in the meeting point between bush and beach in Port Alfred. Luxury is the name of the game at this boutique hotel with its private 7-kilometre beach and morning game drives.

Marine Adventure

Raggy Charters is based in Port Elizabeth’s Algoa Bay and offers ocean cruises to see whales, penguins, dolphins and other marine life, as well as thrilling shark cage diving. 🇷🇺

Traveller24



Launched in May 2013, the Lilizela Tourism Awards aim to annually recognise and reward the highest levels of excellence in the tourism value chain. The name is derived from the Zulu word “Lilizela”, which means celebrating and praising by ululating when someone has done well. These awards are an initiative of the National Department of Tourism (NDT), spearheaded by South African Tourism and delivered by the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa.

The objectives of the Lilizela Tourism Awards are to:

- recognise and celebrate tourism excellence
- encourage key players to strive for excellence in order to grow global competitiveness in tourism
- reward the people who deliver excellence in tourism
- give the industry motivation to aspire to and give them a cause to celebrate
- give the public a voice that counts in terms of the feedback/reviews they give
- create an awareness about the value and importance of tourism towards growing South Africa’s economy.

In 1999, Erin Game Ranch was one of six farms awarded to the ǀKomani San community in compensation for land lost during colonisation. Today, Erin is a game-fenced farm of approximately 6 000 ha managed for the benefit of the community. The objective is to run Erin as a "prestige" game ranch, offering the tourist unique experiences with capable San tracker guides and cultural experts, in a typical and rustic Kalahari landscape. It lies some 60 km to the south of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, near Andriesvale.





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