

Dear Sir / Madam,

Confederation of Indian Industry(CII) – CII India Business Forum, South Africa in partnership with Invest SA and Invest India are organizing a **virtual session on 'India-South Africa bilateral business opportunities' on 8 December, 2020 from 1400 – 1630 hrs (IST) / 1030 – 1300 hrs (SAST)**. The High Commissioners of India in South Africa and South Africa in India have kindly accepted to speak at the event.

The **key objectives** of the virtual session are:

- To showcase the several business opportunities that exist in South Africa and in India.
- To get an understanding of the current regulatory and business environment in South Africa and India.
- To showcase some Indian companies doing successful business in South Africa and vice versa.
- To virtually bring together businesses from both sides looking to explore or further their business interests.

Key speakers/presenters: The session will be multi-sectoral, thereby widening the canvas of doing business between the two countries. We have invited - Indian and South African Government officials, Investment authorities and companies representing multiple sectors to participate in the programme.

Why do business with South Africa?	Why do business with India?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economy: South Africa is the most industrialised, diversified and one of the largest economies in Africa. The country has an abundant supply of natural resources; well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, real estate and transport sectors; a stock exchange that is Africa's largest and among the top 20 in the world, as well as a young workforce. While mining is one of the forerunners of the South African economy, other sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, manufacturing, power and energy, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, ICT, financial services, defence, FMCG and green economy industries, among others are also expected to grow.• Market positive: Apart from being one of the most populous nations in Africa, South Africa has preferential trade links to the 280 million inhabitants of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) as one of the 14 member states. South Africa also belongs to SACU (55 million people) and is	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economy: India is the 3rd largest economy in terms of GDP and is poised to remain one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. It has a young population with an average age of around 29 years. India has a very enabling ecosystem with some of the largest road and rail networks and civil aviation markets in the world. Scope for doing business is in virtually all sectors including manufacturing, infrastructure, financial services, renewable energy, artificial intelligence, education, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, among others.• Market positive: India is the second-most populous nation in the world at 1.3 billion people, out of which 166 million(2018) are middle class and above households expected to grow to 329 million households by 2030. Adding to the vastness of this market size are India's bilateral and multilateral trade and economy partnership agreements with several countries of the world.

a signatory to the European Union-South African Trade and Development Cooperation Agreement. It has negotiated agreements with the European Free Trade Association and Mercosur. South Africa has also ratified the AFCFTA which entered into force in 2019 and whose operationalization is expected to commence from 1 January, 2021. This offers a plethora of opportunities for intra and inter-continental trade.

- Stability: South Africa is a young, relatively stable democracy, dominated by one political party.
- Government Initiatives: To tackle the impact of Covid-19, the South African government is in the midst of launching an ambitious program to unlock more than \$60bn investment in the country, over the next four years. This will provide huge opportunities for project development and multi-sectoral businesses across the board.
- India ties: Excellent bilateral ties, a large Indian community and the African country with one of the largest number of Indian companies operating successfully.

- Stability: India is the largest democracy in the world and has significant stability.
- Government Initiatives: India's regulatory environment for doing business has simplified over the past few years. India now ranks 77 at 'Ease of Doing Business' which is an improvement of 53 ranks in the past 2 years, the highest ever of any country since 2011. 100% FDI is allowed in nearly all manufacturing sectors under the automatic route. India attracted 51 % of global FDI flows in 2019 standing at the 9th most preferred destination in the world.
- South Africa ties: Excellent bilateral ties and several South African companies already doing successful business in India.

Come and explore what South Africa and India have to offer! Delegate participation is FREE.
Register before **20 November, 2020** by clicking on the link:

<https://ciionline.webex.com/ciionline/onstage/g.php?MTID=e17c4d9cf0f55866136d613b22d2fb699>



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