



# 2019 MANIFESTO REVIEW

## AN ANC DISCUSSION DOCUMENT FOR ENGAGEMENTS AND COMMENT



**The Year of Decisive Action**  
To Advance the People's Interests  
and Renew our Movement

# Table of Contents



Foreword by President Cyril Ramaphosa.....	4
The Journey Towards 30 Years Of Democracy.....	7
The ANC Vision and 2019 Manifesto.....	12
Highlights of Achievements and Progress.....	16
Lessons and Immediate Interventions.....	61

***Comments on the manifesto review can be send to  
[pmer@anc1912.org.za](mailto:pmer@anc1912.org.za)***

**© African National Congress, September 2023**

# **FOREWORD BY PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA**

The ANC is releasing this discussion document on the 2019 Manifesto Review to the people, accounting on the mandate we received from the electorate in the 2019 National and Provincial Elections (NPE).

2024 will be 30 years since the birth of our democracy. It should be an occasion for celebration as well as reflection, on the road we've travelled and obstacles faced and overcome since then. At the same time, we know that once we've reached one summit, many more lie ahead of us, on the journey to a truly united, non-racial, non-sexist, and prosperous South Africa.

Our account of the ANC's performance of the 6<sup>th</sup> administration from 2019 to date is therefore set against the backdrop that we have been the governing party since 1994.

Our account shows that South Africa today is a fundamental departure from the past. Although the challenges that we face today are deeply rooted in our past, over the last 30

years we have developed a Constitution, policies, laws and programmes, that seek to unite and build a better life for all South Africans, in our diversity.

We did this with a consistent clarion call, that building a better life for all is a matter of struggle. Building a better life for all can never be a responsibility of government alone and that together with the people, we must drive meaningful change. This is a struggle that takes place in government, communities, in the workplaces, in the economy, in sports and culture and in the international arena.

Despite an extremely challenging period, progress has been made to implement our 2019 Manifesto commitments. More work still needs to be done and will be done before the end of this term

The last five years have been particularly difficult, full of unexpected events. Key amongst these was of course the COVID-19 pandemic, which had such a profound impact on our world.

Shortly after emerging from the pandemic, we had the war in Ukraine, with some again wanting to divide the world into a Cold War-like Us and Them. We also saw the realities of climate change, in the frequent occurrences of extreme weather events in our country and elsewhere. All these impacted on our society, and on the cost of living and the economy.

As the 2019 elections unfolded, we also saw the start of the work of the Commission on State Capture, and we are pleased that the Commission completed its work during this term. We have started to implement some of the very comprehensive recommendations, but more needs to be done to untangle our state institutions from state capture, and build an ethical society. The increase in the number of hung councils after the 2021 Elections also saw the proliferation of coalitions and the instability they brought about.

# FORWARD

We present this 2019 Manifesto Review discussion document, mindful that things are very difficult for many families and households, and we must redouble efforts to address the concerns of unemployment, corruption, electricity, crime, GBVF and basic services.

We know from our experience since the dawn of our democracy, and the centuries of struggle, that without unity, without millions more people actively participating in our democracy, without much more ambitious structural economic transformation agenda, and above all, without struggle, the achievements of the past three-decades will be threatened; racial and national divisions will deepen; patriarchy and gender-based violence will flourish, and politics will become more fragmented and polarised. Those who refuse to accept transformation, non-racialism and non-sexism, will regroup, emboldened to reverse the gains of freedom.

This will leave a structural legacy of apartheid colonialism, persisting socio-economic crises – the unprecedented level of unemployment, poverty, inequality and rising social violence - affecting majority of our people largely intact.

**We therefore invite you to be part of this journey of review, of seeking answers to the questions we face, and to work together to build a better South Africa.**

## THE JOURNEY TOWARDS

# 30 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY

**A**fter 300 years of colonialism, apartheid and patriarchy, the people of our country changed the course of history, and ushered in a united, democratic, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa.

The decisive peoples mandate given to the ANC was based on their belief in the vision of a National Democratic Society that is people-centered and democratic, that is non-racial and non-sexist, that is prosperous and inclusive, and where the people govern and participate in their own development.

Since 1994 guided by our Constitution, together we have constructed a democratic state that represents all the people, and foregrounds the interests and representation of the poor and of women.

Our journey saw the unleashing of the talents of young South Africans, who were born without the shackles and indignity of apartheid. Their talents and creativity are seen in education and arts, in media and music, in literature and culture, science and innovation, in entrepreneurship and in sports.

# The Journey Towards 30 Years of Democracy

The lives of the majority of South Africans have improved:

- **Electricity:**

In the early 90's, only 36% of the population and only 12% of rural communities had access to electricity.

Today, eight out of ten people have electricity, and eight out of ten households use electricity or gas for cooking.

As part of our commitment to reduce greenhouse emissions, we are expanding our energy mix to include renewable energy, with subsidies for households.

- **Sanitation:**

Our Constitution enjoins us to advance the dignity of the people, and that is why today, two out of three South Africans have access to flush toilets, and 8 out of 10 have improved sanitary facilities.

We remain committed to eradicate the indignities of bucket toilets, with the number of municipal bucket toilets declining from over 230,000 in 2004 to around 43,000.

In 1994, only 6 out of 10 South Africans had access to clean drinking water. Today, that figure has increased to nearly 9 out of 10 South Africans.

- **Health**

Under apartheid, access to health services depended on the colour of your skin, with low life expectancy for the majority.

Today, 7 out of 10 households first call on public healthcare facilities when someone is ill, because our country prioritises free primary health care, and since 1994 built over 1,700 new clinics and 56 hospitals, mainly in disadvantaged and rural communities. We continue to maintain the largest HIV treatment programme in the world.

Our health system however remains unequal, and that is why we committed to a National Health Insurance, to ensure fair allocation of resources so as to achieve universal quality health care for all.

- **Education:**

Since 1994, we strive to open the doors of learning for all and to provide education and training from the cradle to the grave.

Fifteen years of compulsory education, along with free schooling for the poor, and a daily meal for over 9 million students, have seen near 100% attendance by South African children at educational institutions until at least the age of 15.

We have also introduced Grade R and support for Early Childhood Care, to give all children a better chance to reach their potential.

Through a vibrant and diverse post school education and training system, and by nearly tripling the allocations to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) from R15 billion in 2017 to over R40 billion this year, the foundations for a skills revolution have been laid.

- **Comprehensive social security:**

In order to broaden the social net, fight poverty, and address vulnerability the number of individuals receiving social grants increased from 3 million in 1994 to 18 million in 2019, benefiting children, the elderly, people with disabilities and veterans.

# The Journey Towards 30 Years of Democracy

During the COVID19 pandemic, we introduced the Social Relief Distress Grant for unemployed and working poor. The grant was extended until 2024, with 8.4 million recipients, and will form the foundation of a universal basic income grant policy.

We continue to improve working conditions for workers, through progressive labour and other laws. After long years of negotiations, The National Minimum Wage came into effect in 2019, raising the wages of over 6 million workers. This and the amendments to the Compensation for Injury on Duty Act provide further protection and benefits to domestic and farm workers. There is also legislation in the pipeline to allow workers to access a portion of their pensions.

- **Economy**

Since 1994, the size of the South African economy has tripled, and whereas at the start of our democracy an estimated 8 million people were in employment, this has grown to 16.4 million, after recovery from the COVID19 pandemic.

Unemployment remain a major challenge, and we have therefore prioritised industrialisation, investment in infrastructure, broadening ownership and grow small enterprises, cooperatives and township and village economies, to unlock the potential of the economy.

To tackle unemployment, we invested R32 billion in a Presidential Employment Stimulus, and this programme to create jobs, work experience and support livelihoods have benefited 1.2 million people, especially youth and women, since 2019.



- **Housing**

Between 1994 and 2019, we built 3.2 million free houses.

During the 6th administration, through the Integration Residential Development Programme, government has delivered more than 8 245 social housing units in identified restructuring zones; more than 19 000 affordable first home finance houses; more than 198 000 RDP houses and serviced more than 183 700 serviced sites. In addition, government handed over close to 100 000 title deeds to households and families.

- **Striving for Peace and Friendship**

From a pariah state, in 1994 democratic South Africa took its rightful place amongst the community of nations, and have been an active advocate for the African renaissance, for world peace, multilateralism and for self-determination and solidarity. The ANC continues to promote the AU Agenda 2063, and the silencing of the guns.

It advances these values in the United Nations and other multilateral forums, in the African Union and North-South relations, and in forums of the Global South like BRICS.

These issues have been priorities in our Manifesto since 1994, and found expression in our programmes in government.

# THE ANC VISION AND 2019 MANIFESTO

When the ANC was formed in 1912, our people, the black majority of South Africans, were second class citizens in their country of birth, denied political rights. Poverty and suffering were widespread. Our country was governed for the benefit of the minority.

It took a long and protracted struggle and sacrifices by many generations to gain freedom. In 1994, we held our first non-racial and non-sexist democratic elections and voted in an ANC government led by Tata Nelson Mandela.

27 April 1994, our Freedom Day, began a new era of an even more difficult struggle with a vision of a South Africa that is united, non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and more equal. It is vision statement that captures our historic and living document – the Freedom Charter.

During this near three decades of freedom, the people trusted and voted for the ANC to lead government and the transition from apartheid colonialism and patriarchy, and to lay the foundations for a better life for all.

We have come a long way since April 1994 and in 2024 we will celebrate and reflect on 30 years of democracy, a democracy that we must continue to advance, deepen and defend.



We say to our people, this is not a time to despair but to pick up the spear and unite around our common vision. More than ever, the unity of our people is paramount.

The 2019 electoral Manifesto is the latest plan in a series of consistent manifestos we developed and implemented since 1994 as the ANC, to overcome the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality in this country.

In all these years we were ready to highlight what we have achieved to address these challenges. We were ready to equally admit where we committed mistakes and show how we would correct them going forward. Our assessment of the past five years is no exception.

# THE ANC VISION AND 2019 MANIFESTO

# 2019 MANIFESTO

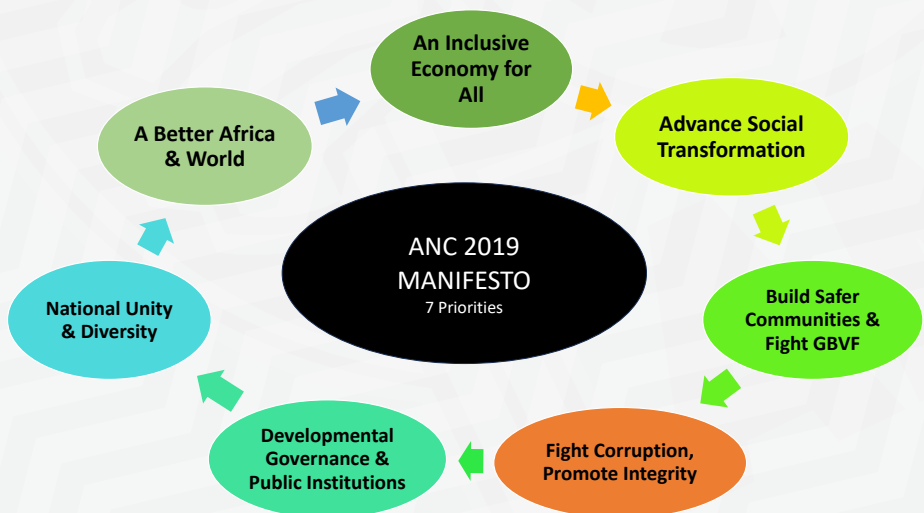
## PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Our 2019 Manifesto, under the theme LETS GROW SOUTH AFRICA TOGETHER is based on seven priorities focusing on:

- 1) **Transforming the economy to serve all people** through interventions that promote a developmental growth path that creates decent jobs;
- 2) **Advancing social transformation** that continues to make public service, especially our education, health and social security, our main priorities;
- 3) Stepping up **the fight against corruption** throughout society and safeguarding the **integrity of the state** and **ethical leadership**;
- 4) Building **safer communities**;
- 5) Building and renewing a capable and **developmental state**;
- 6) Advancing **nation-building and social cohesion**, by stepping up the fight against racism, sexism, and homophobia, as we united our diverse nation; and
- 7) Building **a better Africa and a better world**.

These priorities are illustrated below as follows:

Our manifesto contains at least 221 commitments based on the priority



areas noted above, under the theme, *Lets Grow South Africa Together*.

About 102 of these commitments (46% of total) are on the economy and jobs, followed by 51 (23%) commitments to advance social transformation, clearly indicating our major priorities.

	Priority Area	# of Commitments
1	Transform Economy to Serve the People (46%)	102
2	Advance Social Transformation (23%)	51
3	Build Safer Communities (9%)	20
4	Fight Corruption and Promote Integrity (3%)	6
5	Honest and Capable Governance (10%)	17
6	Build unity and Embrace Diversity (4%)	10
7	A better Africa, and a better World (4%)	10
Total Commitments		222

Government policies, legislation and programmes are been assessed to the extent in which they implemented all these commitments.

This account highlights key achievements and challenges since 2019, as well as areas of work that still needs to be done. We look forward to engage on all of these issues, and to continue to work Together to Grow South Africa.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

Over the past five years, the ANC government, working together with labour, business, and civil society, focused on addressing the long-term challenge of building and growing an economy that serves all South Africans and not just for a minority, an economy that protects and creates jobs, decent jobs, especially for young people and women.

Too many of our people are still without jobs, and our plan has been to put more South Africans, particularly the young people and women, into employment, training and self-employment.

### ***What have we have accomplished, since 2019?***

The difficult and extreme period of **COVID-19 pandemic** triggered the worst global economic crisis in a century. The pandemic exacerbated South Africa's pre-existing crises of poverty and unemployment, by hindering the growth of the economy and caused further massive job losses.

To address these challenges, the ANC government did the following:

- We not only saved many lives threatened by COVID-19 pandemic, but also helped **save and protect millions of jobs that would have disappeared without government intervening in the economy.**

These interventions included the following:

**Provision of income support measures for workers and the unemployed** through, respectively,

- **The Temporary Employment Relief Scheme (TERS)** which assisted workers who lost monthly income during COVID-19 pandemic, with 5,7 million workers in the private sector benefitting from wage subsidy of between R3,500 and R6, 730 per month, thereby minimising the impact of job losses and company closures; and
- **The Social Relief of Distress Grant ( SRD grant)** to the amount of **R350** per month, which benefitted nearly 10 million unemployed people, benefiting mainly the youth and women. We have listened to the popular call for this grant to continue beyond COVID-19 and we have extended SRD availability until 2024.

We have noted many concerns about many deserving South Africans who have been recently excluded from the grant – which now covers only 8.4 people – and the fact that the amount of the grant has not kept up with inflation. Going forward we will ensure that we address the matter of exclusions and improve the value of the grant.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

**Box #1.** How the ANC-government, working with partners, fought COVID-19 Pandemic

- We declared COVID-19 a State of National Disaster in March 2020 as a response of the global health crisis and curb the spread of coronavirus when it was first detected early in the country, in order prevent people from being severely ill and saved countless of lives.
- The State of National Disaster empowered the ANC government to take the measures that prevented many more people from becoming severely ill and saved countless lives. We initially restricted movement of people, closed borders, conducted a massive testing and vaccination campaigns based on our existing infrastructure in the public and private sectors.
- We brought all our country's great experience and expertise in the fight against HIV-AIDs pandemic, combined with global best practices and evidence.
- We also adopted "whatever it takes" and whole of government and society approach in our fight against COVID-19 pandemic.
- We regularly assessed the situation on the basis on scientific advice and scientific evidence, adjusted alert levels as the situation demands, and acted accordingly and without vacillation, to save lives, and
- Our President and Government regularly kept the nation informed on the progress in the fight against the pandemic and called on people to comply with public health campaign guidelines.
- Through these interventions, we not only responded directly to the devastating impact of the pandemic on public health but drew important lessons for the future in-

roduction of NHI.

- We also intervened to limit the impact of COVID on the well-being of people, the economy and jobs. Which is why the ANC government:
  - Introduced a monthly R350 Social Relief of Distress Grant, benefiting over 8 million people – especially the unemployed youth and women.
  - We established the COVID Temporary Employment Relief Scheme (TERS), which saved jobs and provided monthly wage subsidies to millions of workers in the private sector.
  - We responded to globally supply chain constraints not as a crisis but as an opportunity to produce our own masks, ventilators, medical equipment, vaccines, thereby creating jobs in the process.
  - We provided relief to small and co-operative enterprises, extended the validity of vehicle and drivers' licences, and managed of the pandemic in educational institutions.
  - We supported SMMEs across Government departments: in the Small Business development department, 1497 SMMES to the value of R535 million; the taxi relief program supported 88 580 taxi operators to an overall value of R1,135b; and the Tourism Relief fund 4000 SMMEs to the value of R200m.
  - In agriculture, we assisted 53 000 small holder farmers to the value of R2,65billion and R100m for commercial farmers through the Land Bank.
  - We joined Africa and the progressive world in calling for COVID-19 vaccines as public goods and against vaccine apartheid, and successfully called for changes in the World Trade Organisation rules to allow production of vaccines by countries of the South.
  - Those whose hands were allegedly found in cookie jars during COVID-19, the law enforcement agencies took drastic action, without fear or favour, and our movement-imposed step-aside measures. We applied zero tolerance to looters of public resources.
  - We supported SMMEs across Government departments: in the Small Business development department, 1497 SMMES to the value of R535 million; the taxi relief program supported 88 580 taxi operators to an overall value of R1,135b; and the Tourism Relief fund for 4000 SMMEs at the value of R200m
  - In agriculture, we assisted 53 000 small- holder farmers to the value of R2,65billion and R100m for commercial farmers through the Land Bank.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

### **Creating jobs, better jobs**

- The size of the economy is larger than it was during pre-pandemic levels. **The economy is providing 16,3 million jobs**, with nearly all jobs lost during COVID-19 pandemic recovered. While the number of people with jobs has been increasing since 2021, **there are still too many people without jobs – 8 to 10 million**, hitting hard on the youth and women. We must work hard to change the structure of the economy so that it creates jobs, and better jobs, for our people.
- **We have created many opportunities and helped put many young people and women into work, training and self-employment.**
  - In 2021, there were 5.7 million young people who were employed in the 15-34 age group. We have more work to reach out to the remaining young people (about 9 million) who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).
  - Amongst the 15-24 age group, 2.2 million are in the post school education and training or PSET sector (universities, TVETs, community colleges and SETA workplace learning programmes).
  - Today, in government, **work experience is longer a requirement for youth to be employed** at entry

levels.

- Many of the unemployed youth or leaving formal education now have chance to be placed in gainful employment, to continue their studies or undertake an apprenticeship or internship.
  - We have supported tens of thousands of small businesses and co-operatives, thanks largely to our government supporting and funding institutions, creating and sustaining nearly 400,000 jobs
  - The Jobs Fund, since its establishment in 2011, invested R9 billion in job creation initiatives and R13 billion in matched funding to support 294 000 jobs, internships, and training for nearly 293 000 job seekers.
- Government has invested R32 billion in a **Presidential Employment Stimulus initiative (PESI)**, which started in 2020 as a mass employment programme to create jobs, create work experience and support livelihoods. The programme benefitted 1,2 million people, especially women and youth. The examples include:
    - Nearly 600,000 young people who have been placed as assistants in schools across the country, supporting teachers in class-rooms and providing maintenance, food gardens, security, sporting activities, and after school care – **this is the largest youth employment programme in SA history.**
    - Supported civil society organisations through a **Social Employment Fund**, to create jobs, by building on the work they already do, to enable community-driven solutions to local problems such as taking care of children, combating gender-based violence, community-safety, river cleaning and much more. Together with the **National Youth Service**, more than 85,000 people have benefitted.
    - Over 150,000 small subsistence farmers, have received production input vouchers assisting them to resume and expand production after the disruptions of COVID-19 and strengthening food security.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

- 54,000 Early Childhood Development practitioners have received support to ensure the survival and reopening of ECD centres.
- The Social Employment Fund is supporting community-based organizations to initiate 'work that serves the common good' in their communities. Together with the National Youth Service, which applies a similar partnership model, it has already reached 85,000 participants.
- In the creative sector, over 32,000 people have been supported to produce movies, animations, books in indigenous languages, theatre productions, mural art and much more, supporting the sector in difficult times.
- The ANC government has capacity and determination to further expand the scale of this initiative to reach millions of our people. We must move faster to progressively realise the Freedom Charter call for **the Right to** when people need it.

## **Industrialisation and Localisation**

Our industrial plan for localisation and procurement of South African made products are showing great results. Our plan is in progress to achieve R40-billion increase in industrial production annually, bringing us closer to our five year target of R200 billion.

The ANC government's procurement measures were active until the Constitutional Court judgement which required a new public procurement legislation. We are now finalising a new procurement legislation.

Working together with organised labour, business and community structures, we have;

- Built industrial capacity to address the pandemic through production of locally produced goods, including medical supplies and equipment.
- Finalised and implemented plans for localisation and local procurement, to name few examples, in the
- Auto sector, where there is commitment to increase the local content of South African assembled motor vehicles from current 39% to 60% and provide direct financing and procurement to local enterprises in their supply value chain.
- Clothing/textile, where there is a commitment to increase the local made goods sold by South African retailers from 44% to 65%, including Foschini Group, Pick 'n Pay and Pep, amounting to billions of rands of support to local businesses in their supply value chain.
- Poultry, where there is commitment to expand poultry production and government implemented anti-dumping duties. Large poultry firms are obliged to support the emergence of new players in the market.
- Sugar; where is a commitment by large sugar mills and farmers to support small farmers with R200m a year; and large retailers and food companies buying local sugar.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

- We mobilised R1,5 trillion in new investment, exceeding our 2019 Manifesto target. A significant number of the projects where investments were pledged, have subsequently been fully implemented, with new production commencing in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, food production, auto manufacturing, mining and other sectors.
- A number of development funds were agreed with large companies, providing well over R15 billion in preferential procurement from black-owned enterprises; with additional direct funding of R4,5bn for locally made products.
- Assisted 1,000 black industrialists with funding, who now have access to markets in the country and abroad, with direct employment of 77,000. These black industrialists can now be found in a many industries, such as food, chemicals, automotive parts, space and satellite components, energy, clothing, steel, ICT services, and many others.
- A number of beneficiation projects have been supported by the state's Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) and were announced at the recent Mining Indaba. The included projects that will turn South Africa's natural mineral wealth into high-tech batteries that will power green technologies like solar power and electric vehicles.

## **Mining and Energy**

- The mining sector continued to be a vital pillar of South Africa's economy, accounting for 7.53% of the nation's output, contributing R493.8 billion to South Africa's Gross Domestic Product and 475,561 jobs. Between 2019 and 2023, a total of R671 billion investment was committed to mining (R434 bn) and Energy (R236bn).
- A number of beneficiation projects have been supported by the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), announced at the recent Mining Indaba. These included projects that will turn South Africa's natural mineral wealth into high-tech batteries that will power green technologies like solar power and electric vehicles.
- Government has also encouraged further exploration of gas and oil in the country. With new successful discoveries have been recorded in several parts of the country – making our country an investment destination of choice for oil and gas for investment destination.
- In the last 5 years huge reserves of gas were found in various parts of the country. TotalEnergies found gas on the Southern Cape, Renegen found world class helium gas in the Free State and just last month, Kinetiko discovered gas in Amersfoort in the Mpumalanga province.
- Mining safety has improved significantly since 1994, with fatalities reducing from 653 deaths in mines in 1993 to a record low of 49 fatalities in 2022, a reduction of over 90%. However, our goal remains zero harm to the mineworkers, and we will continue to mobilise all stakeholders to this end.
- To date, there are 75,000 women in the mining sector, representing 17% of labour and 20% in management positions.
- We are acting to address the proliferation of illegal mining in derelict and ownerless mines, fast-tracking programmes to seal such shafts. Law enforcement continues to deal with the criminal aspects of this phenomena.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

*And much more can be done. We have however not yet been able to reverse the trend of de-industrialisation, influenced largely by the fact that more and more financial resources in the hands of financial institutions are being directed away for building industries and real productive economy. This is called "financialisation", driven and dominated by few but big players in the financial sector at the expense of industrial development and support for small business development.*

*The ANC want to say it out and clear, the financial sector must serve the people and not the other way round.*

### **Broadening ownership**

It is now two decades since the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE) Act was passed. The ANC government remains resolute to support the broadening of ownership in the economy, as one of the building blocks for changing the economy to serve the people.

Our industrial, infrastructure, enterprise development, our procurement policies and other programmes, and through our social compacts with organised business, organised labour and community structures, we aim to grow an economy in which wealth is shared by all.

Over the past five years major progress have been observed in the following:

- **Black ownership** It is estimated that there

are about 2,5 million black-owned businesses in South Africa (as of 2021), accounting a growing share of the economy - between 28 and 35 percent of the economy. Of the 500 companies reporting under BBBEE, legislation, sectors like construction, property, information and communications technology, tourism and transport, black ownership have exceeded targets since 2017 to date.

- **Women and youth ownership.** Many opportunities have been created for women and black-owned businesses – with billions of rands in public procurement spending awarded to women and youth enterprises.
- **Worker-ownership.** More than 154 000 more workers obtained ownership of shares in the companies they work for since the last election. This brings the total worker ownership in companies to well over 550 000 workers. This in addition to majority of registered 209 co-operative enterprises, in sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, environmental services, fisheries, tourism, transport, majority of whom are worker owned – theirs is the story of success but also of struggle and survival which will continue to need our support and government.

While there has been significant progress over the last two decades, there are some areas where there has been regression. We have gone backwards when it comes to increasing black management control, upscaling skills development, entrenching enterprise development and broadening procurement to give opportunities to black women, youth, workers and communities. At the end of apartheid, black ownership of JSE-listed companies was less than 1%. This figure has not improved much in the past 29 years.

Broadening ownership is however more than being listed in Johannesburg Stock exchange. We must ensure that wealth is shared by all of the people, this remains our goal. It means we must address the income and wealth inequality in country, which is ranked as one of the most unequal society in world, and in which a small percentage of South Africans (about 10%) have more wealth than the entire majority of the population.

In the context of a mixed economy, broadening ownership include state or public ownership in the economy. It will continue to remain a pillar for our

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

2024 Manifesto.

### **Sustainable and radical land reform**

- **The New Expropriation Bill [2020] is currently undergoing Parliamentary processes** – it has been passed by National Assembly in 2022, and now in the National Council of Provinces. The Bill would grant the state the authority to expropriate land for public purposes or interests and establish that nil or zero-rand compensation can be deemed just and equitable in accordance with the law.
- The introduction of this Bill follows a failure of opposition parties to support the ANC vote to support amendment of Section 25 of the Constitution on land expropriation without compensation. The passing of this legislation will usher in a new era for a sustainable and radical land reform, to address the land question.
- The Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) was used to evaluate and measure the amount of underutilized land in former homelands and land reform farms, with the aim of bringing it into production. In 2021/2022, approximately 365,000 hectares of such land were successfully brought into pro-

duction by working with Traditional Leaders.

- **Over 700,000 hectares of underutilised or vacant state land was redistributed in the few years**, highlighting our commitment to accelerate land redistribution, address the historical injustice, bring more farmers into the sector and make land available for production. This has now added a total of 5,1 million hectares redistributed to black South Africans since 1994.
- Nearly 83,000 **land claims** lodged before the cut-off date of 30 December 1998 have been settled, with 3,2 million people benefiting from the 3,8 million hectares of land granted. Government will accelerate the process of finalizing the old land claims.
- There is a plan to bring an annual total of 480,000 hectares of underutilized or fallow land into production, subject to budget availability. This initiative aims to make more land productive and contribute to the agricultural sector's growth and development.

## **Small business, co-operatives, township and village economies**

- The ANC government has emphasised and prioritised the importance of various policies and **initiatives to support small enterprises, co-operatives, women and young entrepreneurs, and the informal sector in the townships and villages**, while also emphasising the importance of infrastructure development for growing an economy that benefits all.
- Over the past four years, we have implemented many of the 2019 Manifesto commitments to provide infrastructure, skills training, and provided many more opportunities to small businesses and cooperatives. We have identified and continue to work hard to address the four major constraints faced by small businesses and co-operatives including lack of access to finance, markets (including access to public and private procurement) skills, and the need to strengthen supportive institutions.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

- We have developed and implemented an integrated approach to address these challenges, including actively connecting small-scale entrepreneurs and the democratic government at all spheres - local, provincial and national government and its support agencies. This has ensured that many more people receive the skills they need for productive and enterprise organisation and management purposes.
- We have also connected small businesses and cooperatives to public procurement - and over 90% of what we spend as government on goods and services now goes to small enterprises and cooperatives .
- Our policy has **set aside the minimum percentage of women (up to 40%)** and also to black, youth, township and rural enterprises that can benefit from public procurement. We will reinforce this policy by the passing the delayed legislation on preferential procurement before the end of this term of government.
- We must also do more to ensure that the goods procured from small business and cooperatives are locally produced, thereby increasing the industrial production capacity of this country and create more employment.
- Over past four years, the relationships

we have fostered between large companies and small enterprises and co-operatives has been on the increase, benefitting black-owned enterprises, including those owned by women and youth. This can be seen, for example, in the retail sector, where many small-scale entrepreneurs such as those in farming, clothing, textile, footwear, are supplying goods and services to large companies like Pick n Pay, Checkers, and so on.

- Our competition authorities have ensured that during multi-billion merger deals or in cases of abuse of market domination by large companies binding conditions are attached in favour of small players' participation in the supply-value chains and private procurement.
- While these progress is encouraging, ANC says small businesses and co-operatives must be more ambitious and take advantage of opportunities opened up through these programmes, and where help is required to help to improve them. These include the area of technological development of their enterprises, especially in digital and green technologies.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

### **Cutting-red tape**

The ANC government has agreed with the business sector and cooperative community **when they say there is too much regulation, rules and formalities**- what is called “red-tape”- that hampers their development and growth. Red tape interferes with the ability to grow and sustain enterprise activity, and many rules and formalities have been designed with a big companies in mind, not the small company or a cooperative or a micro-enterprise in the informal sector - referring areas rules for acquiring mining rights, purism and transport licenses, crèches, co-operatives in the banking , informal sector and money.

The ANC Government is changing these:

- We established Cutting-Red Tape Unit in the Office of the President, as an effective and coordinate response to make it simpler to grow business in this country.
- Taken steps to ensure that suppliers are paid within 30 days.
- Reduce the weeks spent processing VAT refunds, from 15 weeks to 4 to 5 weeks.
- Almost halve the weeks spent on reducing corporate income tax, from 32 weeks to 17 weeks.
- Reviewing standards to address the problem of zoning and licensing permits and regulations at local, provincial and national government levels.

We say, it should be easier in this country to do business and help reconstruct an economy that creates jobs, eradicates poverty and creates wealth that is shared by all.

All these efforts also deliberately seeks to advance the formalization and productivity of township and rural economy.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 1: An Economy that serves all South Africans**

### **Box 2: Electricity and Loadshedding**

Loadshedding has resulted in major costs to the South African economy and her people. We have unveiled the Energy Action Plan (EAP) to comprehensively respond to the electricity crisis and guarantee energy security. The EAP has five outcomes:

1. Fix Eskom and improve availability of existing supply
2. Enable private investment in new generation capacity,
3. Accelerate procurement of new capacity from renewables, gas and battery storage.
4. Unleash investment in rooftop solar PV for business and households, and
5. Transform the electricity sector to achieve energy security.

Our intervention are beginning to bear fruits. We have now improved the performance of the ESKOM units from a historic low of 48% Energy Availability Factor (EAF) to an average of 60%. This has resulted in the reduction of the intensity of load shedding.

We provided R252bn in fiscal relief to ESKOM to invest in much needed maintenance which will further improve the EAF.

As part of our decarbonisation agenda, we have procured 11900 MW from independent power producers with over 6000 MW of this already operational. We will soon be ramping-up the renewable programme with a view of procuring 5000MW of solar and wind, 1200 MW in storage and 3000MW in gas.

We are finalising an investment plan to finance the expansion and strengthening of transmission to accommodate new generation and reconfigure the grid. We project that we should build over 14000KM of new lines in the next 10 years to enable accommodation of new generation capacity, renewable energy solutions in particular.

The Electricity Ministry will be implementing an accelerated programme, working with Eskom and municipalities to ensure the maintenance, refurbishment and protection of distribution infrastructure such as transformers and mini-substations.

We are determined to further industrialise the South African economy by localising the manufacturing of key components supporting the renewable energy agenda. A skills and employment placement programme will be implemented to create opportunities for the

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation**

### **Priority 2. Advancing Social Transformation**

Since the start of our democratic transition in 1994, advancing social transformation through the war on poverty, deprivation, and inequality remains a major and enduring priority of the ANC government.

The main interventions over the 30 years of democracy are therefore aimed at building human capabilities and dignity, so that citizens can take part in their own development and the building of the country.

These interventions include access to basic services and public goods such as electricity, water, and sanitation, education and health, sustainable human settlements and safe and affordable transport.

The South African population has undergone major demographic changes since 1994, with the population increasing to 60.6 million in 2022, from 40.6 million in 1996.

### **A Skills Revolution**

Apartheid and patriarchal education deliberately sought to reduce black people and women to hewers of wood and drawers of water. The democratic dispensation in the Reconstruction Development Programme therefore identified the development of our human resources as a key priority, making

education available from the cradle to the grave.

Youth and children under 25 years account for 44% of the population and educational expenditure heavily targets this segment of citizens, an investment in the future of the country.

## **Early Childhood Education**

- Early childhood education is critical to the future educational performance of learners, and in order to integrate the ECD sector into our education system, the function has been successfully shifted from Social development to the Department of Basic Education. This allows for expanding access, improving and strengthening the quality of ECD programmes and upskilling ECD practitioners.
- Grade R was introduced in 1998, as part of ensuring universal access to at least two years of pre-school education for all children by 2030. Access to Grade R has been above 95% over the past 10 years, and with the new legislation (the BELA Bill) we are making Grade R compulsory.

## **Basic Education**

- Around 13 million learners are in 23,000 odd schools across the country, with the overwhelming majority, 12+ million in public schools and just under 800,000 in private and independent schools.
- The number of learners who passed matric increased from 78% in 2019 to 80% in 2022, with none of the provinces performing below 70%. This was despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic and loadshedding. It is also notable that two-thirds of distinctions was achieved by female candidates and we recorded a 10% increase in the number of female candidates obtaining Bachelor passes.
- School retention remains a challenge, especially from ages 15 years, although there is some improvement with the number of learners reaching grade 12 increasing to 775,000 over the past four years.
- About 40% of the 23,000 public schools, in poor areas, are no-fee schools, catering for close to two thirds of the close to 12 million learners in school.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

- The National School Nutrition Programme, also introduced in 1994 by the ANC government, feed 9 million learners every day at school. The programme aims to improve the ability of children to learn by combatting malnutrition, reducing hunger and improving school attendance. It is funded by a conditional grant, meaning that the R7 billion budget is set aside for this programme.
- The child support grant makes positive impact on educational achievements, with more recipients of the social grants showing improvement in the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations over the last five years.
- In order to catch up with the backlogs in school infrastructure and a growing, fast urbanising population, the Accelerated School Infrastructure Delivery Initiative (ASIDI) was introduced in 2011, with the aim to “eradicate the Basic Safety Norms backlog in schools without water (1145), sanitation (939) and electricity (932) and to replace those schools constructed from inappropriate material (mud, plankie, asbestos - 483)”.
- Between 2011 and 2019, 229 new schools were built, and 834 sanitation, 957 water and 372 electricity projects were completed at schools in the department of basic education register of ‘inappropriate schools.’

- At the beginning of 2023, the 2021 Progress in International Reading and Literacy Study (PIRLS), a global study which assesses reading comprehension and monitors trends and indicators of growth in reading literacy at five-year intervals. On the African continent, only South Africa, Morocco and for the last study Egypt participated in the study. South Africa is the only country in the PIRLS that stratifies its sample among 11 official language groupings for Grade 4 learners, resulting in a high percentage of poor schools featuring in the study. All three participating African countries scored below the global mid-point, with our Grade 4 showing very low performance on ability to read for meaning, in any language. Grade 6 learners outperformed Egypt by a few score points. The implications of this have been studied and work is in progress on a comprehensive strategy to address.

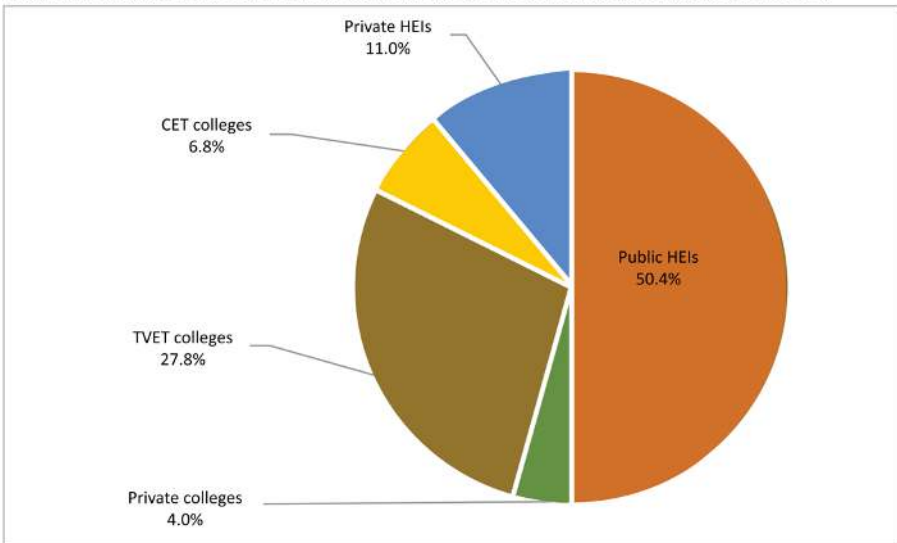
## **Post School Education and Training**

- In 2013, a White Paper for Post School Education and Training was adopted, to provide a medium term vision, aimed at developing a PSET system “that is made up of a diverse range of educational institutions and institutional types that will expand considerably over the next twenty years to cater for the millions of people – especially the youth, but also a large number of adults – who need its benefits.”
- Thus, by 2021 the sector consisted of 26 public universities (1 million students), 124 private higher education institutions (230,000), 50 public TVET colleges (589,000), 133 registered private colleges (85 787), and 9 Community education and training colleges (143 031). A further 130,000 learners participated in SETA learning programmes (skills development, learnership and internships).
- The public PSET sector accounted for more than 1.8 million enrolments (85.0%) while the private sector made up 15.0%. The total funding allocated to public HEIs, TVET colleges and CET colleges during the 2021/22 financial year was R56.6 billion.
- Funding for student from poor and working class background in both

universities and TVET colleges tripled from R15 billion in 2018 to over R45 billion in 2023, contributing to enrolment of students of close to 2 million. Government is working to finalise the Comprehensive Student Funding Model for higher education, particularly for students who fall outside current NSFAS criteria; reaching those who are known as the ‘missing middle’.

- As part of the ongoing expansion of higher education and address the country’s skills shortage, plans are in place to establish two new universities in Ekurhuleni and Hammanskraal, bringing to the total number of universities to 28. Feasibility study has been completed in 2022.

Figure 3.1: Percentage distribution of student enrolments in Post-School Education and Training Institutions, 2021



Note: Figure 3.1 reflects enrolment in both public and private institutions.

- Eight out of the ten accredited universities now offer TVET-related programmes to improve the qualification of TVET college lecturers.
- Sixteen new TVET colleges were planned arising from the PSET White Paper, and ten of these became operational from the beginning of 2023, in Thabazimbi, Umzimkhulu, Graaf-Reinet, Nongoma, Msinga, Aliwal North, Kwagqikazi, Ngqungqushu, Nkandla and Bhambanani . 16 of all TVET Colleges have 35 Trade Test Centres, a huge improve-

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

ment since the dawn of democracy, when there was only one trade test centre in the entire country (Olifantsfontein).

- Although we have made progress, we have not completely eradicated adult illiteracy, with the adult illiteracy rate standing at 10% (down from 18.6% in 2010), with an improvement of 2.1 percentage points since 2019. Illiteracy is more prevalent amongst black Africans and women than other race groups. It is noteworthy that by 2020, White adults were reported to be fully literate.
- The 2013 White Paper for Post-School Education and Training provides for the establishment of community education and training colleges that targets post-school youth and adults who wish to pursue further learning. Nine community colleges, one in each province, have been established and incorporated the 3,279 adult education and training centres. These community colleges are a new type of institution catering initially mainly for those who do not qualify for admission to TVET colleges or universities. Government has committed to increase youth and adult involvement in the community education and training to one million by 2030.
- The National Skills Fund and SETAs form an important institutional framework with the SETAs supporting workplace learning and developing skills pipelines

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

towards workplaces, and the NSF supporting skills development aligned to national priorities, including skills programmes for youth programmes, cooperatives and entrepreneurs and rural development.

- Over the period under review SETA has therefore developed and implemented eLearning courses start-ups, entrepreneurs, NPOs and cooperatives, working with the Small Enterprise Development Agency, municipalities and NYDA. By 2022, these courses reached about 988 individuals from cooperatives and entrepreneurs per year.
- The final National Apprenticeship and Artisan Development Strategy 2030 was published on 22 July 2022. Since COVID-19, an improvement is seen in the delivery of artisans found competent from over 15 000 to over 19 000. Funding paid to employers who are hosting apprentices is from R165 000 to R206 290.
- SETAs also developed and realigned at least 50 occupational qualifications (full and parttime), with 35 already approved by SAQA.
- Skills planning is a critical part of bringing about a skills revolution, and the development of a Master Skills Plan is in progress, following the finalisation of a tool to model.

## Social security

We are making progress towards achieving a comprehensive social security for our people.

- **Nearly 18.6 million South Africans - up from 2 million in 1999** - are receiving social grants, including 8.4 million receiving R350 monthly Social Relief Distress (SRD) grant introduced for unemployed and working poor during COVID-19 pandemic. We have extended SRD grant to 2024 and current coverage reached 8.4 million beneficiaries as of 31 May 2023. While there has been a popular support for this SRD grant, there are concerns that there are many deserving people who are excluded from the grant and that the value of SRD has not kept up with inflation.
- Over the next few months, the ANC government will tackle these exclusions and ensure that the value of the grant is reviewed and adjusted to inflation. Building on the SRD, we will move forward and create a firm foundation for the introduction of a universal basic income grant policy.
- The proportion of older persons have increased over time, and persons over 60 years accounting for 9.2% of the population (5.2 million people). Functional literacy amongst older persons have also increased, with 30% now with matric or post matric qualifications. Just over half of older persons (53%) live in extended families, and 73,0% of the older persons are beneficiaries of an old-age grants.
- People living with Disability represents 5.1% of the population. To advance their rights, they have access to social grants, there are programmes to ensure all public buildings are accessible, employment equity laws promote employment of people living with disability and the SA Human Rights Commission monitors the realisation of their rights. The sector is also organised in different sectors and national movements, and play an active role in advocacy, under the slogan nothing about us, without us.
- The National Minimum Wage came into effect in 2019 and has raised

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

the wages of 6 million workers, including farm workers and domestic workers.

- We released R64 billion from the Unemployment Insurance Fund to help 5.7 million workers during the COVID19 pandemic.
- Legislation in the pipeline to allow workers early access to their pension funds.
- The Compensation of Injury on Duty Amendment (COIDA) Act, which came into effect on 1 September 2023, now covers domestic workers, benefiting almost a million largely women workers who had been unconstitutionally excluded. The Act also provides for an expanded definition of workers' dependents and beneficiaries to include their spouse(s), children, siblings, parents, and grandparents, thus reflecting South Africa's cultural norms.

### Health

We remain committed to improve the state of hospitals and clinics and work to achieve universal health coverage by 2025:

- The overwhelming majority of South Africans continue to use the public health system as their first point of call. According to StatsSA 73% of household members in 2022 first consulted personnel at a Public Clinic or hospital, an increase from 44.5% in 2004 to 55.6% in 2012. To make this possible and through its focus on primary health care, the ANC-led government between 1994 and 2014 built 1600 clinics and 18 hospitals, and from 2014 to date

built 149 clinics and 38 hospitals.

- We made gains in life expectancy since our successful fight against HIV and AIDs pandemic continued to be recorded. Over the past four years our people are living longer, with average life expectancy increasing from 64 to 65 years today. South Africa falls in between the other African countries with the largest economies, with life expectancy for Nigeria standing at 53 years (World Bank, 2020) and Egypt at 70 years.
- Over 77% (5,7 million) of the nearly 8 million people living with HIV are on treatment, up from 4,5 million people in 2019. It remains the world's largest HIV treatment programme. Government is working with communities and civil society to ensure that those not on care receive care. Our country is also part of the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets for 2030: 95% of people with HIV know their status, 95% of those with a known status are on treatment, and 95% of those on treatment are virally suppressed (a blood test result that means ART is working effectively).
- Following wide consultations, National Health Insurance Bill was adopted by the National Assembly and is now before the NCOP. It will be concluded before the end of this year, paving the way for the start of implementation next year. This is a major and transformative social reform since 1994 that aims to overcome current two-tier unequal health care system – one for the rich (private sector) and other for poor (public system – and create a unified health system that we can all be proud of as South Africans, based on the principles of health as a public good, social solidarity, affordability and universality, among others.

## **Ghana - Towards Universal Health Care**

The country established its National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) in 2003, with a view to meet the national objective of universal access to health care. By 2014, it covered 10.5 million people or 40% of the population. Ghana's latest census indicated that by 2021 the percentage of the population with national health insurance rose to 68.6% in that year.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

### Basic Services

#### Sustainable Human Settlements and Housing

- Providing housing to the poor has been one of the enduring legacies of our first President cde Nelson Mandela, and the ANC government continue to work to ensure sustainable human settlements, so that we address the legacy of apartheid spatial planning, informal settlements, homelessness and structural underdevelopment. This spatial inequality, according to the High-Level Panel on the Assessment of Key Legislation and the Acceleration of Fundamental Change (2017), “traps disadvantaged communities in poverty and underdevelopment, creates inefficient cities, and robs poor, rural people of secure livelihoods.”
- In our 2019 Manifesto, we acknowledged the persistence of apartheid spatial geography, and committed to a coherent plan, working with all spheres of government, to transform human settlements. At the time, government just published the Draft National Spatial Development Plan (April 2019), the first of its kind in line with the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013. Consultations on the Plan were concluded during this term, amendments were made and the Plan approved by Cabinet, soon to be launched by the President.
- During the 6<sup>th</sup> administration, through the Integration Residential Development Programme, government has delivered more than 8 245 social housing units in

identified restructuring zones; more than 19 000 affordable first home finance houses; more than 198 000 RDP houses and serviced more than 183 700 serviced sites. In addition, government handed over close to 100 000 title deeds to households and families. This build on the foundation laid since the dawn of democracy, when between 1994 and 2019 3.2 million free houses were built.

- In line with the Draft National Spatial Development Plan, our 2019 Manifesto committed to the development of a completely new post-apartheid city.
- The Department is collaborating with COGTA on the Eastern Seaboard Development (ESD) towards the country's first smart city. The ESD has since been declared as a region in line with Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) and the Regional Spatial Framework has been prepared. The Framework is currently being consulted with stakeholders.
- A major challenge is the so-called missing middle, and we are working with the private sector to address this. Through the FLISP programme, now called First Home Finance and Subsidy Assistance, households who earn between R3 501 and R22 000 a month can qualify for a subsidy to buy a home. A total of 18 human settlement projects have been gazetted to date and these represent government's partnership with the private sector. First Home Finance (formerly FLISP) is being implemented across the nine provinces, and 22 220 individual first home owners have been financed as of July 2023.
- Other programmes such as the Social Housing Programme and rent-to-buy options are also implemented to make housing more affordable and accessible for working people.
- Over the period of the Manifesto review, government has thus invested more than 100 billion rands of grant funding in delivering housing and human settlements projects. Government has ring-fenced R11 billion of the human settlements budget for women in construction, in line with the 40% of set-aside committed.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

### Electricity

- In the early 90's, only 36% of the population and only 12% of the rural population had access to **electricity**. Thirty years into our democracy, electricity access to date is at 86.15 % with growth. The province with the highest access to electricity is Limpopo with 98.55 % and lowest is Eastern Cape with 82.00%.

### Water and Sanitation

- DWS is in the process of revising the national minimum norms and standards for water and sanitation services. This includes proposals for setting the minimum standard for water supply to a household connection in urban areas (as opposed to a communal standpipe). The existing policy for free basic water for indigent households remains in place.
- StatsSA<sup>1</sup> reported that “the number of consumer units using a municipal bucket toilet declined from 231 660 in 2004 to 42 434 in 2019. By 2020, Municipal bucket toilets were in use in 37 municipalities.” However, there was an increase by 4 696 of units with bucket toilets, mainly in the municipalities of Matjhabeng and Ngwathe (Free State) and Makanda (E Cape). In five other municipalities, progress was made with reducing bucket toilet uses, with Setsoto in Free State made the biggest dent in the national total, and the City of Cape Town eradicated munic-

<sup>1</sup> STATSSA (2022). “Bucket toilets increase in 2020.” <https://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=15574>

ipal serviced bucket toilets entirely, reducing the number from 84 in 2019 to zero in 2020.

- Following oversight visit by Parliament to the Free State province in March 2023<sup>2</sup>, the Department of Water and Sanitation reported that there are 12,202 units with bucket toilets still in the provinces, and that through the Bucket Eradication Project, they aim to eradicate these by the end of the 2023/2024 financial year.
- Large-scale infrastructure projects for water and sanitation have been carried out nationwide by the DWS since 2019, including more than 500 significant infrastructure projects, some already been finished and others in various stages of construction.
- Government has resuscitated the blue and green drop evaluations to continually test the quality of water. The recent tests indicate a decline in the quality of water, as a result of poor maintenance and functionality of water treatment plants, as well as pollution.

## Transport

- The 2019 Manifesto committed to integrate rail with other modes of transport and to grow it as the backbone of our public transport system. A new policy framework through the National Rail Policy has been adopted which sets out actions to modernize the rail network. The policy outlines government's plans to make rail a competitive mode of freight and commuter transport by opening up to private sector investment and effective economic regulation. Government is also developing a devolution strategy for the future of urban rail in South Africa in alignment with the Integrated Urban Development Framework, which will provide for the devolution of passenger rail to local government.
- A factory in Mpumalanga is now producing mainline railway lines for SA and other African countries, with an annual production value of R500m. Investments in rail infrastructure has increased exponentially since 2019/20 financial year. However, budget cuts mostly for capital expenditure have reduced investments from R16.5 billion in 2019/20 to R14.1 billion in 2025/26.
- The taxi industry and government continue to work together towards

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation

the formalization and capacitation of the sector. The taxi recapitalisation fund was increased, to date in excess of 80,000 old taxi vehicles have been scrapped and new vehicles acquired at a cost of at a cost of R5.4 billion, to ensure safe vehicles on the road. A budget allocation of a further R1.2 billion has been made available over the next 3 years. SANTACO recently launched a digital payment system pilot program.

- This formalization of the taxi industry also focuses on ensuring that taxis operate with valid licenses, encourage driver training, reporting of poor driving, and safety kits such as fire extinguishers and first aid kits in all taxis.
- The bus rapid transport system (BRT) is being rolled out in ten cities, funded through the Public Transport Network Grant (PTNG). Three cities were suspended from the grant and the relevant department is working with the city governments to get them to comply with the National Treasury requirements for re-admission. Work is in progress to ensure the completion of projects and the roll out to other cities.

### Quality of Basic Services

- The 2022 Macro Social Report<sup>3</sup> noted that “government has continued to provide substantial monetary support for

<sup>3</sup> MISTRA (2023). *Macro-Social Report 2022*. A research report produced by the President of South Africa, the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRA) and the University of Johannesburg.

basic services such as housing, water and electricity”, over the decade since the last report in 2012. “Households with access to government housing grants expanded from 5.6% in 2002 to 18.7% in 2019; ... connections to the national electricity grid increasing from 76.7% in 2002 to 85% in 2019... by 2020 90% of South African households were connected to the mains electricity ... the 2020 figure for household access to water stood at 89 percent and 83 percent of households had access to sanitation.”

- The data on the major social programmes... points to substantial progress in essential human development areas. (And) yet, there is still community discontent, and advocacy organised around grievances.” The Report highlights poor quality of service provision as the “primary cause for the discontent, which delegitimizes the improved access”, in addition to real and perceived corruption and patronage.
- The ANC addressed this matter in its 2021 Local Government Manifesto, and is actively taking steps to improve the quality of basic services, with greater focus on improving local governance, maintenance on infrastructure and tackling corruption and patronage.

## The War on Poverty

- This account on the social transformation that we made in our 2019 Manifesto shows that South Africa continues to invest significantly in a **social wage package** to reduce inequality and address the worst effects of poverty. This includes free basic services, education, nutrition support, health and social housing for the poor, as well as an extensive social security grants system.
- According to StatsSA<sup>4</sup>, “since 2001, there have been positive developments in terms of poverty reduction in South Africa. As indicated by the poverty head count, 7% of households in South Africa were multi-dimensionally poor in 2016 (down from 17,9% in 2001).” However, inequality has risen, and South Africa is still the most unequal society in the world.
- Food insecurity has declined from 22.8% of households recording vulnerability to hunger in 2002 to 9.7% in 2018. We have however not

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 2: Advancing Social Transformation**

ended hunger, and food insecurity remains a problem amongst a sector of the population, currently affecting about 2.5 million households. The COVID19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and rising food and energy prices are putting further strain on households and families and their food security.

- The main drivers of poverty remain unemployment, years of schooling, and the quality of basic services and therefore governance.
- Last but not least, as predicted in the Towards the Ten Year Review in 2004, and repeated in the 2022 Macro Social Report (op.cit), economic transformation is a sine qua non to address “longstanding inequalities, which impact on social trends and social cohesion in South Africa.”

### Priority 3: Build Safer Communities

We all need to feel safe in our homes, schools, workplaces, place of recreation and streets. Our 2019 Manifesto therefore committed to strengthen policing to help rid our communities of all forms of crime, drugs, gangsterism and violence against women.

We noted that gender-based violence has reached crisis proportions, affecting every community and touching the lives of most families. GBV and Femicide along with high levels of crime poses a serious threat to the freedom and dignity of South Africans. We argued that causes of crime are rooted in unemployed, inequality, poverty and patriarchy, and that a comprehensive response to crime is required.

#### Gender-based violence and Femicide

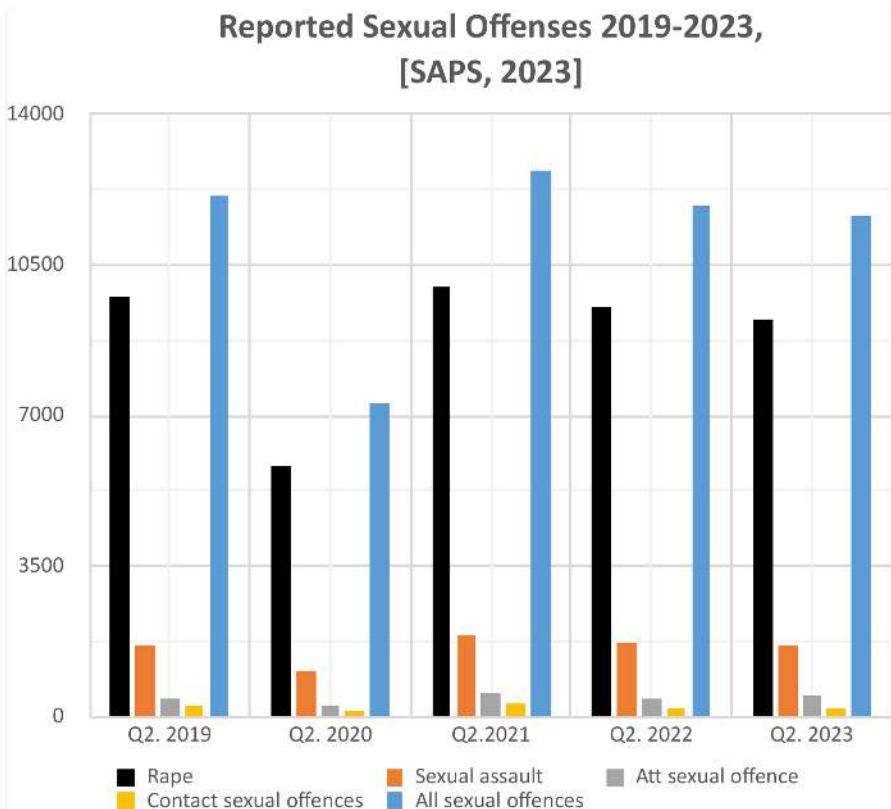
- Following the first Presidential Summit on GBFV held in 2018, a National Strategic Plan on Gender- Based Violence and Femicide (NSP GBVF) was developed with all stakeholders, and signed into effect by the President on 31 April 2020.
- In implementing the plan, government is working on
- Expanding victim care facilities in Doornpoort, Badplaas (MP), Phalaborwa (LP) and a facility in the Northern Cape and in Limpopo.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 3: Build Safer Communities**

- The development of the Online Web Portal for Applications for Domestic Violence Protection Orders, and a user-friendly dashboard which enables it to identify systemic issues within national laws and policies across all state departments. The Integrated Electronic Repository for Protection Orders and a National Strategy on Domestic Violence will be developed in the 2023 financial year to give full effect to the Domestic Violence Amendment Act.
- In November 2022, Cabinet approved the publishing of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Bill of 2022 regarding the decriminalization of sex work for public comments.
- Parliament passed the three GBV Acts in 2022. One of the salient changes introduced by the Amendment Acts is the recognition of nonverbal communications as oral evidence. A witness under the age of 18 years or any witness who suffers from a physical, psychological, mental or emotional condition, which inhibits their ability to give oral evidence, may use demonstrations, gestures or any non-verbal expression, including the use of communication devices when testifying.
- One of the provisions in the Judicial Matters Amendment Bill, currently before Parliament, amends section 55A of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act to enable the designation of specific Regional Court places of sitting as Sexual Offences Courts.

- Amended the Minimum Service Standards for the Strategy on Reasonable Accommodations and Measures to Access Justice for Courts Users with Disabilities in line with these legal developments, and some 70 courts were upgraded in line with standards. A total of 145 disability-centric courts have been established nationwide in the previous two financial years, and in this financial year, plans are in place to upgrade an additional 65 lower courts to offer these reasonable accommodations.
- Pursuant to the changes made by Parliament in the management of the National Register for Sex Offenders, in response to women’s march in 2018, this Register has since been amended to include particulars of all convicted sex offenders, irrespective of the age and the mental status of the sex crime victim.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 3: Build Safer Communities

- The National Prosecuting Authority has seen significant improvements in the expansion of its Thuthuzela Care Centres (TCCs) whilst maintaining high sexual offences conviction rates, with a current conviction rate of 76%. To date there are 63 operational TCCs located in rural, urban and peri-urban communities nationally (up from 55). To enhance access, the TCC are equipped with ramps. The NPA is also exploring private sector partnerships, such as the one with Mediclinic towards a TCC in an unused residence at the University of Stellenbosch.
- Establishment of Victim-friendly Rooms (VFRs): 1 023 out of 1,158 functional police stations reported that they had dedicated VFRs during the reporting period. The remaining 135 functional police stations will be done during the multi-year period ending in 2025/2026.
- Through the School and Campus Safety Strategy, SAPS and the Department of Higher education work together, including training of institutions management and student structures. SAPS will also establish safety structures and student care centres to support students who are victims of crime, especially Gender-Based Violence.
- The SAPS' Gender-based Violence and Sexual Offences Action Plan (GBV and SO) Action Plan with of six focus areas and 21 individual deliverables. This includes training of 11 265 SAPS members on Hu-

man Rights and Policing; Vulnerable Group Course and First Responder to Sexual Offences. A number of critical vacancies were also filled, in the Family Violence Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Units;

- The Portfolio Committee on Women youth and persons with disabilities is currently considering a National Council on GBV-F.
- Installed billboards creating awareness on GBV-F at the following hotspots Police Stations in the Free State: Bloemspruit; Thabong; Zamdela, and Phuthaditjhaba, Bloemspruit Police Station billboards which were unveiled during the 16 days of activism, and at the following Western Cape police Stations: Mannenburg, Caledon, Bredasdorp, Beaufort West, Laingsburg and Paarl.

## **Preventing Crime**

- Crime prevention is a national priority, involving all public institutions of justice and security, and promoting community mobilization and participation.
- Government continues to invest in the upgrading and building of police stations, as well as the purchasing and maintenance of vehicles. There is also a move towards greater use of technology for crime prevention, including surveillance cameras in public spaces and drones.
- During 2022/2023 a total of 10 358 new South African Police Service members were enlisted
- 99,82% (1,154 out of 1,156) of police stations have functional Community Policing Forums, from the total of 1 159 police stations, as at the end of 28 February 2023.
- The Serious Organised Crime Investigation registered 20 projects which saw 27 drug laboratories discovered and dismantled and 45 individuals arrested. They also registered five projects to deal with illegal mining where property worth R13 million was preserved.
- The Border Management Agency has been operationalized in law with the relevant new Act.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 4: Fight Corruption and Promote Integrity

### Priority 4: Fight Corruption and Promote Integrity

#### Corruption, state capture and public integrity

- The outcomes and Recommendations of the Zondo Commission on state are being welcomed and are in the process of being implemented. Law enforcement agencies have been legally empowered to use the Commission report to institute **criminal proceedings against those who looted public resources**, including ESKOM, Transnet, PRASA, National Lotteries Commission and more.
- ANC government has taken steps by amending sections of the Companies Act in order require the identity of shareholders of companies and address concerns about tax avoidance and illicit financial flows. This include actions taken against illegal imports and illicit cigarette sales.
- Up to **R4-billion** of stolen money from corruption has been recovered.
- The ANC as an organisation has **instituted step-aside measures** against those prosecuted for being involved in corruption related and other serious charges.
- We have **lifestyle audits** targeting all public officials in national and provincial departments – ensure that financial monitoring to curb corruption. The ANC Government has issued Guidelines on Conducting Lifestyle Audits and provincial departments are being technically assisted implement lifestyle audits and discipline management. The participation of provinces in conducting lifestyle audits improved drastically from 47 provincial departments to 89 out of 103 provincial departments from all nine provinces in March 2023.
- Other reforms are being developed in the public sector, including SOEs, based on recommendations of the State Capture Commission.

## **Priority 5: Capable Development State and Public Institutions**

We acknowledged in our 2019 Manifesto that the state has a critical role to play to lead transformation, but it cannot do it alone, without the participation of citizens.

We have therefore during this period, embarked on initiatives to strengthen the link between state institutions, in all spheres and arms of government with the people.

We have also introduced measures to tackle corruption and patronage in the state, including through oversight visits by Parliament and Legislatures, spot checks in departments, investigations by our Chapter 9 institutions, measures such as lifestyle audits of public servants and stopping public servants from doing business with government.

The drastic increase in hung councils after the 2021 local government elections have led to instability and interruptions in service delivery, and we have convened a National Dialogue with various stakeholders, to ensure that we take measures to ensure a better framework for coalitions.

We have also strengthened the monitoring and evaluation function in government, including strengthening performance agreements and monitoring with Ministers and Premiers, as well as the monitoring and evaluation function in the ANC.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 5: Capable Development State and Public Institutions**

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **Priority 5: Capable Development State and Public Institutions**

### **Local Government**

Local government is everybody's business and everyone has a stake in ensuring local government functions optimally and that we leave no one behind. Whilst we have made tangible progress to fulfil our Constitutional obligation to provide developmental and transformation local governance and service delivery, we admit there are challenges in ensuring our people's growing expectations are realised. Where there are failures, we are intervening in a systematic manner.

- COGTA continues to monitor the national interventions in terms of Section 139 (7) of the Constitution, in Lekwa Local Municipality (MP), Mangaung Metro (FS) and Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape. In fact, the Mangaung Metro is the first municipality where a coordinated support by national government was implemented.
- Since 2019, the financial support provided through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant, has provided capital finance to 217 municipalities for infrastructure projects to ensure basic service delivery to poor households, such as water, sanitation, roads and community facilities.
- Comparing the 2020/21 and 2021/22 MIG allocations, perennial non-perfor-

mance of the MIG (that is, municipalities that have spent less than 70% of their allocation over the last four years) has reduced from 39 to 36 municipalities, and we envisage that this will further reduce with support coordinated through the DDM, especially technical support provided by MISA, where required.

- Underperforming municipalities are supported to utilise the 5% set-aside for project management capabilities, to assist with scoping, expenditure tracking and quality management.
- We commend the 116 municipalities who spent above 90% of their cumulative allocations, over the past four years.
- Since 2019, we faced a number of disasters as a result of extreme weather events. This year alone, R3.3 billion was allocated to affected municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Western Cape, funds were transferred and work is in progress with reconstruction and rehabilitation of infrastructure.



**The Year of Decisive Action  
To Advance the People's Interests  
and Renew our Movement**

# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## Priority 6: Build a United and Diverse Nation

### Priority 6: Build a United and Diverse Nation

Given our history of racism, patriarchy, divide and rule and discrimination, working to unite all South Africans to overcome the divisions of the past and build a country in which all belong, remains a key priority of the ANC.

We committed to do this in our 2019 Manifesto, and to advance nation-building and social cohesion, by stepping up the fight against racism, sexism, and homophobia. Implementation of commitments in this regard included:

- Increasingly introducing **indigenous languages** in public schools, with over 2,400 targeted in this term of government. Furthermore, the BELA Bill will make provision to enable learners to have opportunities to learn indigenous languages other than Afrikaans and English. A similar language framework in higher education is being implemented by all public universities. For example UKZN since 2023 has introduced Sesotho, in addition to isiZulu.
- Sign language was adopted as our 12th official language
- **History is now compulsory** for Grade 10 learners this year and will be compulsory for Grade 12 in 2025.

- We continued to celebrate our arts and cultures, our sporting activities, and holidays to express our diversity in our nation-building process. We welcome the advances, despite extreme odds that are being made by women in sport, and support their demands for equal pay for equal work.
- **The Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill** was passed by the National Assembly and is now in the NCOP. It will empower the state to prosecute individuals involved in offences mentioned in the Bill, especially against racism, sexism and homophobia.
- Our Constitution recognises the human rights of the LGBTQI community, and outlaws discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Since 1994, the ANC government has progressively sought to give effect to these rights, including right to marriage. Through its LGBTQI desk, the ANC also advocates for representation of queer persons and against homophobia and hate crimes.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

## **PRIORITY 7: Building a Better Africa and World**

### **Priority 7: Building a Better Africa and World**

Our view of the world is based on the founding principles outlined in the Freedom Charter, a world in which there is respect for national sovereignty of all nations, the pursuit of world peace and friendship and not wars.

The leadership responsibilities in our quest a better Africa and better world has increased over the four years. To name a few:

- South African have occupied key leadership responsible in Africa during the global health crisis brought by COVID-19 pandemic.
- We play active part in the AfCFTA - that promote economic integration of Africa and for a continental free trade area.
- We lead peace making missions in response to the war in Ukraine by adopting a non-aligned stance on that conflict.
- We hosted a critical BRICS summit, to develop a common agenda that will strengthen our national agenda to build a better life to our people, and the people of Africa.
- We continue to fulfil our global climate responsibilities, taking in consideration our specific national conditions.
- Our global responsibilities requires that we live to the vision of the Freedom Charter for peace around the world, that is multi-polar and respect the national sovereignty of countries and nations and countries to choose their own path of development.

# LESSONS AND IMMEDIATE INTERVENTIONS

## Key lessons from COVID-19

The COVID19 pandemic, and how our nation and the world responded, hold a number of important lessons and possibilities for our development going forward. These include:

- Policy space broadened to advance for bolder and decisive actions
- The importance of a coordinated and integrated development agenda, with strong planning capacities within all spheres of the state.
- Macro-economic policy measures that actively support a developmental agenda.
- The Importance of strategic policy discipline and coherence in the implementation of national development plans.

## What should be done over the 9 months?

Suggestions include the following:

- Decisively deal with loadshedding, as well as community electricity black-outs
- Financial sector transformation, including macro-economic policy proposals be developed to support 2024 Manifesto commitments, by Alliance technical team
- Unblock the delays in the rollout of the public infrastructure programme, and review “blended-finance” approach
- Develop monitoring mechanism and report on maintenance or provision basic services in municipalities

- Decisive interventions in the 36 municipalities routinely failing to pay their employees
- Urgently intervene to rebuild and modernize Transnet and Metro Rail.
- Urgently intervene to prevent the collapse of the Post Office and the SABC.
- Ensure Parliament passes all outstanding Bills by November, e.g. the NHI, Pension reform, Public Procurement, Expropriation and Post Office Bills.
- Legislation be drafted on the implementation of non-trading holidays and extending voting hours for the 2024 elections.
- Government withdraws proposals that weaken labour laws in the NEDLAC talks.

## **A Call to Engage**

The ANC call on various sectors to engage with these proposals.

***Comments on the manifesto review can be send to  
[pmer@anc1912.org.za](mailto:pmer@anc1912.org.za)***

Notes



Issued by the African National Congress, ANC Headquarters,  
54 Pixley Seme Street, Johannesburg, 2001. [www.anc1912.org.za](http://www.anc1912.org.za)

© *African National Congress, September 2023*