



2024/25 EDITION

# NORTHERN CAPE BUSINESS

THE GUIDE TO BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT IN THE NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE



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# Destination Northern Cape

An extraordinary South African holiday experience.

**K**ayak on the Orange River, follow in the footsteps of dinosaurs in Fraserburg. Discover the dark skies sanctuary in Kgalagadi, be enchanted by the sky lore of the #Khomani San – or be fascinated by glimmering constellations at Sutherland. This is the Northern Cape where you can experience Real Culture, Real Nature and Real Adventure. Create your own “bucket list” experiences and make family memories to last a lifetime! Visit: [www.experiencenortherncape.com](http://www.experiencenortherncape.com)

**Six “must do” reasons to choose the Northern Cape as your family holiday destination:**

#### **Rewarding cultural adventures**

The distinct cultural groups that make up the Northern Cape are as rich as the country's history. Unlock the secrets of the African bush in the company of the oldest human inhabitants of the region, the #Khomani San near the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, our newest World Heritage Site. Swim in the hot pools of Riemvasmaak, discover the ancient wisdom of the Nama of

the Richtersveld, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore living villages, shop at craft markets, indulge in regional authentic cuisine at local eateries and be transported to the world of our ancestors through campfire storytelling and dancing. It's the best way to experience the heartbeat of the province and to take some of the soul of the Northern Cape with you on your return journey home.

#### **Adventure off the beaten track**

For the active, it's an ideal environment for exploration and adventure. We have an awe-inspiring setting for any enthusiast. Whether you are stargazing in Sutherland, hunting for fossils in the Karoo or searching for San rock art deep in the caves of the Diamond Fields, experiencing the world's richest floral offering in Namakwa, camping deep in the bush surrounded by wildlife and the famed black-maned lion of the Green Kalahari, or kayaking down the mighty Orange River, the Northern Cape is more than an adventure, it's an enriching life experience.



### Family adventure experiences

The Northern Cape has always been a family-friendly destination. Its mix of culture, adventure, wildlife and wide accommodation choices offers family fun that is both entertaining and educational. The province is home to six national parks and two of the country's largest rivers, which makes it perfect for fun activities the entire family can enjoy. These include game safaris, bird-watching, dune-surfing, leisure hikes and walks to winery tours, museum visits and archaeological discoveries.

### Natural beauty and wildlife adventures

The Northern Cape is arguably South Africa's most beautiful and naturally real province. Visitors are hard-pressed to choose between our two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, two Transfrontier Parks, the Kgalagadi and the !Ai-!Ais Richtersveld with its red and golden sand dunes or the Au-grabies Falls National Park with the mighty Au-grabies Falls thundering down an 18km abyss. Not to forget the Mokala National Park near Kimberley and Namaqua and Tankwa Karoo National Parks in the Namakwa region. Alternatively explore any one of the six Provincial Nature Reserves, Goegap, Witsand, Oorlogskloof or one of our many private game and nature reserves. Share the intimate bush knowledge of a Nama or San Bushman guide/tracker. The Northern Cape's natural beauty is enhanced by its enigmatic wildlife. From the small five to the big five, watching wild animals at close range is something truly unforgettable. There are walking, horseback, 4x4, little five, glamping and many more wildlife experiences to incorporate in your trip.

### A floral adventure

Each spring, the dormant and arid winter plains of the Northern Cape's Namakwa region are transformed into a kaleidoscope of colour with the arrival of the flower season. The wildflowers of the Namakwa are a remarkable natural phenomenon and best discovered on foot, which makes it ultimately appealing to hikers and outdoor enthusiasts. The best time to visit for the floral splendour is from end July to early October.





## Explore the Battlefields Route

The Battlefields Route allows visitors to relive the war between Great Britain and the Boer Republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State from 1899 to 1902. The Northern Cape played a decisive role in the war with the famous Kimberley siege and you can relive the siege, its victories and the setbacks suffered by both sides at the Magersfontein and McGregor Museums.



## Explore the routes of the Northern Cape Cape Namibia Route

The route meanders away from Cape Town along the N7 and includes small towns, each with its own local flavour and a story to tell. Visitors will encounter towns which capture the Nama heritage of the province. Slow down and appreciate the unique stories of the people of Garies, Kamieskroon, Springbok, Okiep, Steinkopf and Vioolsdrift. During spring time, this route takes visitors into the core of the floral kaleidoscope that is the Namakwa floral season. *Don't miss: River-rafting along the mighty Orange River.*



## Namaqua Coastal Route

The route includes hidden gems like Garies, Kamieskroon, Hondeklip Bay, Koiingnaas and Kleinsee. Dozens of adventure and leisure options are available: Namaqua National Park, nature reserves, some of the most remote hiking and 4x4 trails imaginable. Go succulent sleuthing with a botanical guide, hike the Springbok Klipkoppie for a dose of Anglo-Boer War history, explore the countless shipwrecks along the coastline. Breathtaking scenes of the Atlantic Ocean with sightings of dolphins and whales combined with great vistas of mountains and veld with endemic wildlife makes travelling in this area remarkable. *Don't miss: Slow-packing through the Namaqua National Park in early Spring (September) when the usually dusty plains are transformed into kaleidoscopic flower carpets of colour.*

## Richtersveld Route

The Richtersveld is South Africa's only mountain desert and the route travels along rugged gravel roads to quaint towns such as Eksteensfontein, Sendelingsdrift, Lekkersing, Kuboes and Sandrift. The Orange River presents a more leisurely pace with river-rafting and the best wilderness fly-fishing in South Africa, while the entire Richtersveld is a mountain biker's dream. *Don't miss: Learn about the lives of the nomads, be transported through dancing and storytelling.*

## Quiver Tree Route

Named after the indigenous quiver tree, the Quiver Tree Route stretches along the mighty Orange River. It features the quaint towns of Upington, Kakamas, Keimoes, Augrabies, Marchand, Kanoneiland, Kenhardt and Riemvasmaak. The route will appeal greatly to families, adventure and adrenaline seekers. Experience the hot springs at Riemvasmaak, river-rafting, fly-fishing, kayaking, river cruises, 4x4, hiking and MTB trails and excellent bird-watching. With the longest wine-producing area in the southern hemisphere there are many opportunities for world-class wine and brandy tasting along the route. *Don't miss: A visit to the Augrabies National Park and the world's sixth-largest waterfall.*





### Kalahari Red Dune Route

Discover the essence of the province in the heart of the Kalahari. Golden dunes, wide-open skies and flat-topped acacia trees epitomise the Kalahari Red Dune Route. Enjoy dune hikes at dawn, eagle-owl encounters, sand-duning and surfing in the red sand and close encounters with meerkats. Explore the Khomani San Cultural Landscape and join a guided walk with the #Khomani San to rediscover the wisdom, customs and folklore of this ancient tribe.

*Don't miss: In the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, magnificent oryx hold sway and you can discover the mighty Kalahari male lion. The largest conservation area within Africa, it is also one of only 10 Dark Skies sanctuaries in the world.*

### Go Ghaap Route

Explore famous archaeological sites, historic towns, amazing architecture and a selection of nature and game reserves. Visitors can trace the early geological history (from three-billion years ago) which created vast mineral wealth like iron, manganese, diamonds and limestone. Follow in the footsteps of the early explorers and missionaries such as David Livingstone, Henry Stanley and Richard Moffat. Relive the Anglo-Tswana and Anglo-Boer Wars, explore the Wonderwerk Caves between Kuruman and Danielskuil. Rediscover the Khoisan history in Wildebeest Kuil near Barkly West.

*Don't miss: Kuruman Eye is a natural spring delivering about 20-million litres of clean, clear water daily.*

### Karoo Oasis Route

The route traverses the towns of Warrenton, Kimberley, Hopetown, Britstown and Victoria West along the N12. It is the perfect stopover for travellers between Johannesburg and Cape Town. Trace the rich mining history of the region before stopping at one of the myriad national game and nature reserves for game drives and world-class birding. Anglo-Boer War enthusiasts can relive the tribulations of war at the McGregor and Magersfontein Museums and at Hopetown. Beautiful arts and crafts are for sale throughout the route and there are opportunities to meet local artists.

*Don't miss: Hanover has South Africa's largest privately owned Karoo nature reserve, the Karoo Gariep Nature Reserve. Olive Schreiner, the author of The Story of an African Farm, lived in Hanover and her house is a museum.*



### Karoo Highlands Route

Enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the Karoo with its wide-open plains. The area was named by the Khoi and San people, who left their legacy as art on the rocks. Explore many unique experiences such as dinosaur hunting in Richmond, the SKA radio telescopes in Carnarvon, Karoo architecture and corbelled houses, Anglo-Boer War sites, rock art, ancient Palaeo Surfaces, farm stays and great Karoo cuisine and hospitality. This route includes several charming small towns – the heart of the Great Karoo. Nieuwoudtville is your last stop before crossing the majestic Van Rhyns Pass en route to Cape Town.

*Don't miss: Sutherland is famous for snowy winters, excellent stargazing and dramatic landscapes. It is home to the South African Large Telescope, the largest single optical telescope in the southern hemisphere.*



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# CONTENTS

Northern Cape Business 2024/25 Edition

## Introduction

### Foreword

7

*The Northern Cape's unique guide to business and investment.*

## Special features

### Regional overview

8

*Investments in towns such as De Aar and Kuruman are indicators of a broader uptick in investment and growth in the Northern Cape, led by mining and renewable energy projects.*

### Education in the Northern Cape: modernising and growing

10

*The happy coincidence of the first years of a vibrant young university overlapping with the term of office of an education-focussed provincial premier has seen the Northern Cape's education sector thrive.*

### The pivotal importance of infrastructure

16

*Public and private investments in vital infrastructure are creating a platform for increased investment into the Northern Cape.*

### Namakwa Special Economic Zone

21

*An industrial hub for the West Coast and a catalyst for industrialising the western SADC area.*

### Upington Industrial Park

22

*Location is key.*

### Green hydrogen value chain

45

*Green hydrogen could contribute towards the development of new industries in the Northern Cape and enable the reindustrialisation of industries nationally.*

### Boegoeberg Special Economic Zone

46

*The Green Transformation: The GH2 hub of the Western SADC.*

### Kathu Industrial Park

49

*Driving local economic growth.*



# Northern Cape Business

A unique guide to business and investment in the Northern Cape.

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**T**he 2024/25 edition of *Northern Cape Business* is the 14th issue of this highly successful publication that has, since its launch in 2009, has established itself as the premier business and investment guide for the Northern Cape Province.

Officially supported and used by the Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDaT), *Northern Cape Business* is unique as a business and investment guide that focuses exclusively on the province.

Specific investment projects are outlined in detail by DEDaT in this journal, covering opportunities in energy and mining, together with reports on dedicated investment zones.

One of these new zones is on the Atlantic Ocean, a short distance north of Port Nolloth. The Northern Cape is almost uniquely qualified to play a lead role in the development of the country's green hydrogen economy, given its bountiful resources of land, wind and sun. The blending together of an earlier idea to develop a deepwater port at Boegoebaai with the creation of a Special Economic Zone devoted to green hydrogen production is particularly exciting.

With the year 2024 signalling the end of an election cycle, two special features in this edition focus on important elements of the brief of the public sector, namely education and infrastructure.

To complement the extensive local, national and international distribution of the print edition, the full content can also be viewed online at [www.globalafricanetwork.com](http://www.globalafricanetwork.com) under e-books. Updated information on the Northern Cape is also available through our monthly e-newsletter, which you can subscribe to online at [www.gan.co.za](http://www.gan.co.za), in addition to our complementary business-to-business titles that cover all nine provinces as well our flagship *South African Business* title. In 2020, the inaugural *The Journal of African Business* joined the Global African Network stable of publications. ■

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## Economic sectors

### Agriculture 32

*Karoo lamb is officially protected.*

### Grapes and wine 34

*Northern Capers no longer have to travel to study viticulture.*

### Mining 38

*Copper is shining brightly.*

### Energy 42

*Beefing up the electricity grid is a priority.*

### Engineering 52

*Students are studying in Vietnam.*

### Manufacturing 54

*Concrete products plant reopens in De Aar.*

### Banking and financial services 56

*Northern Cape miners are listing on the JSE.*

### ICT 57

*Broadband infrastructure is expanding.*

### Development finance and SMME support 58

*The IDC is involved in multiple projects, small and large.*

### Tourism 60

*Country Hotels is expanding via a franchise model.*

## References

### Key sector contents 30

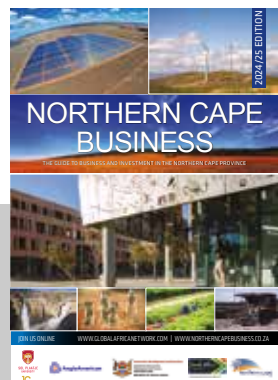
*Overviews of the main economic sectors of the Northern Cape.*

### Northern Cape Local Government 62

*A guide to district and local municipalities in the Northern Cape.*

### Northern Cape Provincial Government 64

*A guide to the provincial government departments of the Northern Cape.*



#### ABOUT THE COVER:

From the top, then left to right: The Droogfontein Solar Power project, 20km from Kimberley, started commercial operations in 2014 (Globeleq); one of South Africa's biggest wind projects, (Roggeveld Wind Farm); carpets of flowers (Northern Cape Tourism Authority); San rock engravings depicted on Moroka Hall at Sol Plaatje University (LihleEQ/ Wikimedia Commons). Augrabies Falls (NCTA); meerkat curiosity (NCTA); harvesting grapes (Raisins SA); giant truck at Kolomela Mine (Anglo American).

## ECONOMICS

### Gross Domestic Product

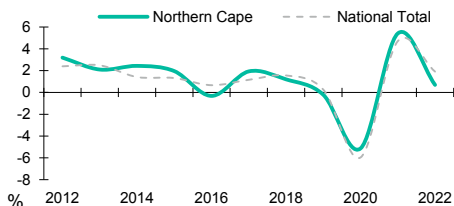
**R 152 bn**

Current prices

**2.2%**

of national GDP

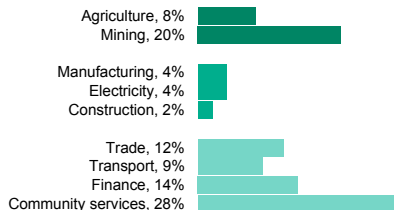
### Economic growth: 2013-2023



### Economic growth annual % change

	2022-2023	10 year avg.
Northern Cape	0.7%	0.8%
National Total	1.9%	0.7%

### Sector composition



### Top 10 sectors (GVA) - R billions

	2023
Mining of metal ores	25.16
Public administration and defence activities	14.41
Agriculture and hunting	10.32
Health and social work	9.65
Education	9.27
Finance and Insurance	8.54
Wholesale and commission trade	8.17
Other business activities	7.18
Post and telecommunication	5.76
Land and Water transport	5.43
All other smaller sectors	33.71

## LABOUR MARKET

### Employment

**347,000**

number of jobs

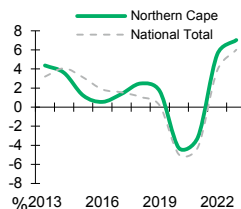
**2.1%**

of national employment

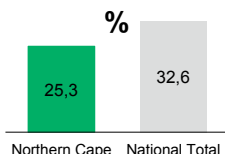
### Jobs

Primary			Created / lost since 2013
	2023 share		
Agriculture	13.7%		11 000
Mining	13.9%		
Secondary			3 140
Manufacturing	4.2%		
Electricity	0.4%		
Construction	6.8%		
Tertiary			7 260
Trade	16.2%		
Transport	3.4%		
Finance	10.3%		
Community	31.2%		

### Employment growth: 2013-2023



### Unemployment



### Informal employment 2023 - millions

	Employees	Informal	% informal
Northern Cape	0.35	0.03	9.2%
National Total	16.26	3.04	18.7%

### Employment growth Annual % change

Northern Cape	South Africa
<b>7.0%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>
2023	
1.5%	1.2%
10-year avg	



A REGIONAL OVERVIEW OF

# NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

*Railway sleepers are again being made in De Aar.*

Investments in towns such as De Aar and Kuruman are indicators of a broader uptick in investment and growth in the Northern Cape, led by mining and renewable energy projects.

By John Young

A wide range of investments across several sectors and by public and private entities is an indication that the Northern Cape is on a growth path.

In his 2024 State of the Province Address, Premier Zamani Saul noted significant employment increases in agriculture, energy and mining and said that the province's GDP had advanced in the five-year term of office of the provincial administration from R119-billion to R148-billion. The bulk of this growth was attributed to the mining sector, via strategic investments in renewable energy and generally good global commodity prices.

Renewable energy and mining are the two sectors that have been making highly visible and significant investments. These include the giant wind projects such as the Roggeveld Wind Farm (147MW) and the Loeriesfontein Wind Farm (140MW) and solar projects like the newly announced Mooi Plaats project near Noupoot.

The province's vast iron-ore mines continue to produce huge quantities of material, subject

only to the capacity of the rail network run by Transnet to deliver what is produced to the country's ports. Minerals Council South Africa, the industry's employer organisation, estimates that the opportunity cost to the minerals sector of bad transport logistics in 2022 was about R50-billion. Existing mining enterprises such as the iron-ore and manganese operations of Kumba Iron Ore and Assmang have been joined by Indian and Australian miners looking for zinc and copper, vital ingredients of the transition to a cleaner energy future. Vedanta Zinc International is investing heavily at Aggenenys (the Gamsberg project) while Copper 360 and Orion Minerals are mining between Springbok and Prieska. Afrimat has bought new Northern Cape mines as part of its expansion policy.

The other sectors where growth is easy to spot are public infrastructure, education and radio astronomy through the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio astronomy project. Infrastructure and education are the subject of separate articles in this journal and the SKA has for some years now



been steadily building towards full capacity. It is a globally significant scientific project that is already having an impact on lives in Carnarvon, where mathematics teachers are funded and through the Sol Plaatje University where data scientist students are dreaming dreams that were unheard of just a few years ago for residents of the Northern Cape.

But economic indicators at town level are perhaps the best illustrations of growth tendencies. The revival of a precast concrete factory in De Aar is important for the region's economic prospects, not just for the railway sleepers that Colossal Concrete is going to make there on contract, but for the potential that it holds for the province's builders and for renewable energy contractors and manufacturers.

Similarly, the fact that home-grown hotel group Country Hotels has three properties in each of the towns of Kuruman and Pofadder points to an economy where things are happening. With ten other hotels, inns and lodges in the province and with a focus on the corporate market, the hotel group's growing footprint counts as a good bellweather for the state of business in the Northern Cape.

## Resilience

The Northern Cape, as a dry province that relies heavily on agriculture, has adopted a Northern Cape Climate Change Adaptation Response Strategy. This allows for a framework to tackle climate change issues. Floods, droughts and fires are becoming more frequent and more severe; planning can at least mitigate the negative outcomes to some extent.

Farmers in the Northern Cape have learnt to be resilient over the years and there are certain niche products that thrive in the mostly dry landscape. One of these, rooibos, has not only secured an internationally recognised Geographical Indication (GI), but is also enhancing its international market share. Red espresso is now a "thing" in some of the trendy capitals of the world.

Another hot beverage made in the Northern Cape could follow rooibos onto the world stage. A variety of the mesquite tree apparently has seedpods that can produce something resembling coffee without the side effects of caffeine. This is according to an article on IOL by Sarene Kloren. Because the tree is an invasive alien, it would be in everyone's interests

if mesquite coffee became popular. The Coetzee brothers of Prieska have been making MannBrew's Mesquite Superfood Coffee since 2020 and they are harvesting between 50 and 60 tons annually. Pods are hand sorted by up to 1 000 seasonal workers and the Coetzees are hoping the health benefits of their brew will catch on.

Other support for agriculture will come in the form of infrastructure at the Upington Industrial Park, which will act as a services centre for road, rail and air transport, agriculture, agro-processing and manufacturing.

Farmers and agro-processors are increasingly drawing attention to the need for good roads for the delivery of their products to market and they will be hoping that parks like UIP will help to provide the necessary infrastructure.

One of the most important types of infrastructure in the Northern Cape is Special Economic Zones, each of which has its own focus sectors and each of which is being developed by a combination of public and private investment. At various stages of implementation and planning, the various SEZs are the Kathu Industrial Park, the Upington Industrial Park, the Namakwa SEZ in Aggeneys (intended as industrial cluster for mining and agriculture services, beneficiation and manufacturing with Vedanta Zinc International as the core tenant) and the Boegoebaai Port and Green Hydrogen Cluster. ■



***Astronomy is changing lives in the Northern Cape.***

# Education in the Northern Cape: modernising and growing

The happy coincidence of the first years of a vibrant young university overlapping with the term of office of an education-focussed provincial premier has seen the Northern Cape's education sector thrive.



**An ECD Centre is supported by Noupport Wind Farm.**

In 2023, Sol Plaatje University in Kimberley celebrated its 10th anniversary. The first student body was all of 124, but enrolment is now over 5 000 as the institution's offering and reputation has also grown.

Sol Plaatje University (SPU) is named after the great intellectual, writer and advocate for equal rights. One of Plaatje's books, *Native life in South Africa*, tells the story in harrowing detail of how black South Africans were thrown off their land as a consequence of the 1913 Land Act. He was also a novelist, a translator and one of the founding members and first Secretary-General of the South African Native National Congress (SANNC), which became the ANC.

With a brand-new university in the province, it was fitting that the Premier elected to lead the province after the elections of 2019 should be Dr Zamani Saul. Already the holder of a PhD in law, two Master's degrees and a BProc, Dr Saul is studying towards a second PhD. On his watch, education has been a key priority.

In his final State of the Province Address in 2024, Dr Saul reported that construction of 19 new schools began during his term of office, eight of which

have been completed. R274-million was spent on refurbishment, upgrades and maintenance and 74 schools received sanitation upgrades. Significantly, the Premier stated, "The proportion of persons aged 5-24 who attended an education institution increased from 64.2% to 70.3% in 2022 in the Northern Cape."

Dr Sauls also announced a skills-development and bursary programme to the value of R210-million in partnership with MERSETA. Since 2019, the provincial government's partnerships with SETAs have benefitted 14 800 young people.

Speaking in the context of bursaries, Dr Saul says, "At the heart of a modern, growing and successful province is education. We won't be able to modernise the province if we do not place emphasis on the education of our children."

Steps have been taken to modernise the sector, with tablets loaded with Edu-Kite software being distributed to Grade 12 students in 2023, a Coding and Robotics pilot to be rolled out at 173 schools and another pilot that will see five classrooms around the province converted into cyber labs with modern equipment.

Corporate social investment (CSI) programmes of big solar park and wind farm companies are improving the conditions of educational facilities and giving opportunities where none existed before.

## University

At the celebrations surrounding SPU's 10th anniversary, Kumba Iron Ore and De Beers Group, two of the biggest mining companies active in the province, donated R20-million and R5-million towards the university's Lesedi La Afrika Fund will support scholarships and social impact projects. The fund has set a target of R100-million.

Qondakele Sompondo, Director for Institutional Advancement at SPU, said the funding would make a significant impact on the lives of the youth of the Northern Cape.



***The architecture at Sol Plaatje University is striking.***

In 2024, representatives from Kolomela Mine, one of Kumba's properties, were investigating the possibility of SPU setting up a Learning Centre in the small town of Postmasburg. In addition to catering to existing SPU students, the centre will allow residents to attend SPU short-course offerings and participate in SPU's online Talent Pipeline Programme.

SPU has a staff complement where 60% of its academics have PhDs. The academic programme is housed in four schools: Education; Humanities; Natural and Applied Sciences; Economic and Management Sciences. Bachelor's degrees are offered in education, science, science in data, ICT, heritage studies, commerce and arts. A diploma in retail business management (three years) and a one-year higher certificate in heritage studies completes the prospectus.

**Skills and TVET colleges**

The Northern Cape Urban TVET College comprises three campuses in Kimberley: City Campus, Moremogolo Campus and Phatsimang Campus where teacher training is done. At City Campus, students have access to three departments: business studies, engineering studies and a business unit that organises short courses in partnership with various public and private partners.

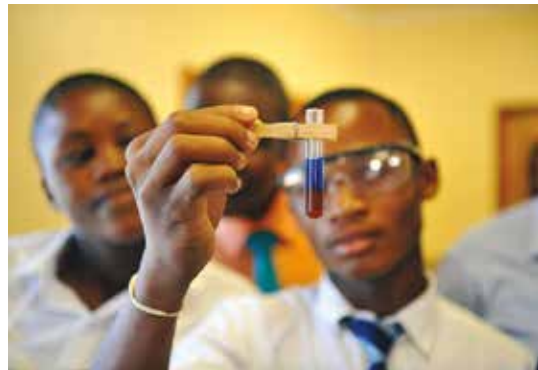
The Northern Cape Rural TVET College has campuses at Kathu, Upington, De Aar, Kuruman and Namakwaland. These colleges offer students courses in finance, economics and accounting; engineering; IT and computer science; management; hospitality; marketing; and tourism. NCR TVET College has a variety of part-time programmes and short skills programmes delivered in the form of learnerships, internships or apprenticeships. This enables adults and employed people to study after hours or to do enrichment courses.

The Provincial Government of the Northern Cape runs several skills programmes, including the Artisan Construction Programme, a three-year incubation programme aimed at young people, the Phakamile Mabija Apprenticeship (artisan incubation programme) and the S'hamba Sonke Contractor Development Programme.

Sol Plaatje University is teaching data analytical skills to undergraduates and many of them are moving into the financial sector on graduation. Another area where these skills are in great demand is radio astronomy. One of the world's great scientific ventures, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescope project, has been established near Carnarvon and the amount of data that it will generate is so great that it is difficult to comprehend. Many data analysts will be needed.

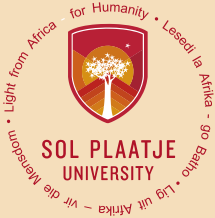
Artisan training has also benefitted from the presence of the SKA in Carnarvon. The new technical training centre has trained students as electricians, fitters and turners, in instrumentation, diesel mechanics, in IT and boilermaking, as well as in carpentry, plumbing, bricklaying and welding.

With support of the SKA, Carnarvon High School is the only school in the area offering mathematics and science. ■



***Kumba's iron-ore operations are supporting science education.***





## Centre for CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Recognising the need for a credible and accredited training and development partner in the Northern Cape, SPU established the Centre for Continued Professional Development (CCPD). The CCPD aims to become the training and development partner of choice for both public and private sector employers in the region, co-creating courses and programmes tailored to their needs. In line with this vision, we are excited to introduce cutting-edge courses through the CCPD.

The Centre provides short learning programmes taught by qualified academics, allowing you to benefit from our teaching and research excellence. Stay updated on the latest industry developments to enhance your expertise and employability.

These courses are designed as ongoing educational training and support for

working professionals, students and the general public.

All courses offered by the CCPD are subject to a rigorous internal quality assurance process at SPU and are fully certified by SPU.

# CCPD Short Courses

All CCPD courses cater for a range of critical workplace skills and can be customised and offered on an in-house basis to employers, taking into account their operational imperatives.

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individuals become more confident, more reflective, more innovative and more engaged as a means to advance their careers, their organisations and the outcomes of the populations served through a future-oriented lens.

## Sol Plaatje University offers the following short courses:

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- ▶ **BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE**
- ▶ **COMPUTER NETWORKS AND IT SUPPORT**
- ▶ **DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYTICS**
- ▶ **DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION**
- ▶ **E-GOVERNMENT**
- ▶ **FINANCE FOR NON-FINANCIAL MANAGERS**
- ▶ **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR SSME'S**
- ▶ **FUNDAMENTALS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT**
- ▶ **INTRODUCTION TO DATABASE MANAGEMENT**
- ▶ **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT ESSENTIALS**
- ▶ **PROJECT MANAGEMENT WITH AGILE DEVELOPMENT TECHNOLOGIES**
- ▶ **SOUTH AFRICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CONVERSATIONAL: BEGINNERS**
- ▶ **SOUTH AFRICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CONVERSATIONAL: INTERMEDIATE**
- ▶ **SOUTH AFRICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CONVERSATIONAL: ADVANCED**
- ▶ **SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING: MARKETING FOR SSME'S**
- ▶ **SPORTS MANAGEMENT**
- ▶ **WEB DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT**



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# The pivotal importance of infrastructure

Public and private investments in vital infrastructure are creating a platform for increased investment into the Northern Cape.



*The Sishen circle has been widened.*

Investments have been flowing steadily into the Northern Cape as mining and renewable energy projects pique the interest of domestic and international companies. To maintain and accelerate that flow, national, provincial and local government is pouring resources into constructing new infrastructure.

This includes digital infrastructure. The Northern Cape Provincial Government has been actively pursuing a digital strategy to expand access to the Internet. Examples of successful rollouts include free WiFi hotspots at all youth centres and 91% penetration of connectivity at the province's health facilities. Private companies are doing their bit too, as telecoms operators Vodacom and MTN redouble their efforts to extend the range and quality of their signals across South Africa's biggest province. More details appear in the ICT overview.

The decision by Colossal Concrete Products to bring the precast concrete factory in De Aar back to life is a significant boost for infrastructure in the province. As the company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Gwen Mahuma-Madida, said at the ribbon-cutting in October 2023, "Africa is rich in natural resources, but much-needed growth and progress are often hampered by lack of finance and the required infrastructure. Colossal Concrete Products understands the pivotal

importance of infrastructure development and the impact that this has on the economic development of any country."

With a brief from Transnet Freight Rail to make railway sleepers, Colossal Concrete Products will also be looking to expand into the renewable energy sector (wind towers) and the construction sector more broadly.

Presenting the provincial budget in 2024, Finance MEC Abraham Vosloo allocated R20-billion to health and R25-billion to education in a budget of R68-billion. These social services are the main responsibility of this level of government. Provincial priorities are health facilities, schools, roads, housing, energy, water and sanitation. As Northern Cape Premier Dr Zamani Saul says, "Infrastructure investment is the backbone of a thriving economy."

Two public infrastructure property projects that will be tackled in 2024 are a R30-million renovation of Mayibuye Centre and a R10-million upgrade for the AR Abbass stadium in Kimberley.

Municipalities can receive help in rolling out infrastructure through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) programme. A Public Infrastructure Unit Cost Guideline has been developed by the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (MISA) to help municipalities control expenditure of MIG money.

### Special Economic Zones

One of the most important types of infrastructure in the Northern Cape is Special Economic Zones. Generous incentives and rebates make investing in these SEZs attractive, as does the spinoff effect achieved from the clustering of companies in related fields.

The Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDaT) has supplied articles for this issue of *Northern Cape Business*, highlighting the special focus of each of the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (with Vedanta Zinc International as the core tenant), the Upington Industrial Park, the Kathu Industrial Park, the De Aar Logistics Hub and the Boegoebaai Special Economic Zone, deepwater port and Green Hydrogen Cluster.

The Northern Cape, as a dry province that relies heavily on agriculture, has adopted a Northern Cape Climate Change Adaptation Response Strategy. This allows for a framework to tackle climate change

issues. Floods, droughts and fires are becoming more frequent and more severe; planning can at least mitigate the negative outcomes to some extent.

Other support for agriculture will come in the form of infrastructure at the Upington Industrial Park, which will act as a services centre for road, rail and air transport, agriculture, agro-processing and manufacturing.

Farmers and agro-processors are increasingly drawing attention to the need for good roads for the delivery of their products to market and they will be hoping that these parks will help to provide the necessary infrastructure.

In a similar vein, the Namakwa SEZ in Aggeney's will become an industrial cluster for mining and agriculture services, beneficiation and manufacturing.

The Boegoebaai Port and Green Hydrogen Cluster has the potential to be transformative, especially as it might signal a real and significant step towards the establishment of a green hydrogen



**Water infrastructure is being installed where it is needed most. GIC engineers laying pipes in Kathu.**





### ***Colossal Concrete Products is making precast concrete at De Aar.***

market in South Africa, and therefore a step towards a cleaner, greener energy environment.

#### **Roads**

National roads agency SANRAL has taken over responsibility for several “strategic” roads that used to fall under the provincial government. This handover happened in 2023 and takes SANRAL’s responsibility in the province to 4 409km.

SANRAL announced a R14-billion three-year plan for the province’s roads in the same year, covering maintenance and improvements.

The N14 highway is an important element of the infrastructure of the province. Also known as the Industrial Development Corridor and passing through the Kathu Industrial Park, the N14 runs from Springbok to Pretoria, crossing the Orange River at Upington and providing the main connection between the various existing and proposed industrial parks and SEZs in the province.

SANRAL’s most recent work on the N14 involves a R60-million upgrading of three intersections between Olifantshoek and Kathu. This included increasing the size of roundabouts to allow for wider turning circles and improved traffic flow. This was in response to growing numbers of heavy vehicles passing through the Kathu South circle every day.

The following roads-related projects also serve to provide employment opportunities: Valazonke Projects, a labour-intensive programme to fix potholes; Welisizwe Programme, construction of rural bridges; S’hamba Sonke Projects, road maintenance on secondary and rural roads.

The Operation Vala Zonke programme had fixed 23 334 potholes at the time of the Premier’s State of the Province in February 2024. In addition, a pothole-

fixing programme forms part of the curriculum of the staff taken on by the newly established Northern Cape Construction Company. In the course of studying for a Road Construction Level 3 learnership offered by the Construction Education & Training Authority (CETA), the group’s pothole repairs made a difference to the state of the local roads.

#### **Water**

The Vaal Gamagara Water Supply Scheme (VGWSS) was originally built to supply water to the semi-arid areas of Kalagadi. It has been expanded to supply to the Dikgatlong, Tsantsabane, Gamagara and Joe Morolong municipalities and nearby mines and farmers.

The first phase of an upgrading and replacement project of a 75km between Roscoe and Blackrock has been completed, benefiting about 6 000 households, mines, municipalities, farmers and Transnet. However, the VGWSS has struggled to keep up with demand.

Minerals Council South Africa reports that more than 20 mining companies are paying a premium compared to other users for water in the scheme towards a capital-raising fee to pay for the second phase of the VGWSS. So far R268-million has been raised from the premium and it is ringfenced for the second phase of the pipeline upgrades, which includes upgrading the 260km pipeline between the Vaal River extraction point and Roscoe near Kathu.

The Northern Cape’s biggest town and provincial capital, Kimberley, has been facing infrastructure challenges for some time, particularly regarding water provision. National Treasury has approved funding of R2.5-billion through its Budget Facility for Infrastructure (BFI) for the Sol Plaatje Municipality to repair and upgrade water infrastructure and to improve water quality. ■



# THE ULTIMATE PORTS EXPERIENCE



The Ports of Walvis Bay and Lüderitz lies on the West Coast of Africa. The Namibian Ports Authority is a body corporate established by the Namibian Ports Authority Act, 1994 (Act 2 of 1994) as a state-owned enterprise. Namport's mandate is to exercise control and manage Namibia's ports, lighthouses and other navigational aids in Namibia and its territorial waters.

## OUR SERVICES & THE INDUSTRIES WE SERVE

The Port of Walvis Bay oversees container imports, exports, and transshipments, along with bulk and breakbulk cargo for various industries, including petroleum, mining, construction, and fishing. Additionally, it caters to the tourism sector through a dedicated cruise liner berth and terminal.

The Port of Lüderitz oversees the export of mining commodities from the southern region of Namibia and the Northern Cape of South Africa. Additionally, it supports the local fishing industry and operates as a supply base for the oil and gas drilling campaigns.

## TRADE ROUTES NAMPORT SERVES

Strategically located along the Namibian coastline, Walvis Bay provides direct access to principal shipping routes, making it a natural gateway for international trade. Its world-class infrastructure and equipment ensure reliable and safe cargo handling.

The favorable temperate weather conditions of the bay enable timely operations, thus facilitating Namibia's largest commercial port, the Port of Walvis Bay, to accommodate approximately 1,600 vessel calls annually, with a handling capacity of 10 million tons of cargo.

## GEARED FOR GROWTH

Namport focuses on being the best performing seaports in Africa. Therefore, Namport continues to invest in port infrastructure to ensure Namibia is not only compliant with the International Ship and Port Facility Security code (ISPS), but is also geared towards opportunities for future growth.

In 2019, a new container terminal worth N\$4.2 billion was brought into operation. It provides infrastructure and deployment of ship-to-shore gantry cranes for the first time in Namibian port history, firmly establishing a competitive position in relation to other ports for the critical hinterland markets. This raises the handling capacity to 750 000 TEUs, which is double the previous 350 000 TEU's.

## VISION:

To be the best performing seaports in Africa

## MISSION:

To provide excellent port services to all seaborne trade, creating sustainable value for all our stakeholders.

## NAMPORT ACTIVITIES



Vessel  
Traffic



Container  
Cargo



Import/  
Export



Vessel  
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# Building the Northern Cape as a premier destination for industrial investment



Address by the Premier of the Northern Cape, Dr Zamani Saul, at the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (NamSEZ) designation announcement.



It is with pride that I announce a major milestone for the Northern Cape: the designation of the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) on 21 May. This ground-breaking project marks the first SEZ in our province, signalling the dawn of a new era of industrial and economic prosperity.

The Namakwa SEZ, spanning an impressive 1 270 hectares, is a beacon of opportunity and a testament to the vision and hard work initiated by this Sixth Administration. This SEZ aligns seamlessly with the industrial policy direction

adopted by our country, underscoring our commitment to fostering economic growth, innovation and sustainable development.

The economic potential of the Namakwa SEZ is truly staggering, with a confirmed investment of R29.3-billion. This significant investment is led by our anchor investors, Vedanta Zinc International and Frontier Rare Earths. Their confidence in our province's potential speaks volumes about the strategic importance and the untapped opportunities within the Northern Cape.

This SEZ is more than just a geographical designation, it is the cornerstone of the Northern Cape Industrial Corridor. Our province, rich in natural endowments, is perfectly poised to leverage its vast resources and transform them into economic catalysts. The Namakwa SEZ will enable us to harness our mining throughput, facilitating both upstream and downstream integration and creating a robust, diversified economic ecosystem.

The establishment of the Namakwa SEZ is a critical step towards the green transformation of our industry, grid and mobility. This aligns perfectly with our Northern Cape Green Hydrogen Strategy, positioning us at the forefront of the global green economy. Through this SEZ, we will pioneer sustainable industrial pathways that not only boost our economic landscape but also contribute to global efforts in combating climate change.

Today, we lay the foundation for a brighter future. The Namakwa SEZ will be a catalyst for job creation, fostering small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) and stimulating

innovation across various sectors. We are dedicated to ensuring that this SEZ provides enhanced opportunities for our people, from direct employment to new business ventures within the ecosystem and value chains. The pathways we create here will open doors to unparalleled opportunities, making the Northern Cape a hub of economic activity and a beacon of growth.

As we hand over this legacy to the Seventh Administration, we do so with great optimism and anticipation. This SEZ is more than an economic project; it is a pledge to change the socio-economic landscape of our province. It sets us on a path towards a future where the Northern Cape is not just a place to visit, but a place to invest, innovate and thrive.

We offer this SEZ to investors as a brilliant opportunity, underpinned by world-class infrastructure and focused incentives as outlined in the SEZ Act and guidelines. This is our commitment to fostering an environment where businesses can flourish, and where the Northern Cape stands as a premier destination for industrial investment.

Let us embark on this journey together, harnessing the power of collaboration, innovation and sustainable development. The work starts here and the future is ours to shape. ■



# NAMAKWA

## SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

*Where you find Home, Work & Play*

### Vision

"To be the Catalyst for Economic Growth and Integration throughout Western SADC".

### Mission

"Create an industrial hub for the West Coast and a catalyst for industrializing the western SADC area".

The proposed Namakwa SEZ is located in the small mining town of Aggeneys. Aggeneys is in the Khai-Ma Local Municipality within the Namakwa District Municipality of the Northern Cape Province. Aggeneys is 66km from Pofadder (headquarters of the local municipality) and 110km from Springbok, where the office of the district municipality is located.

The value proposition of the Namakwa SEZ is based on the existence of the Gamsberg Zinc Mine and the proposed building of a smelter by Vedanta Zinc International. These would be the anchor tenants of the SEZ. It is proposed that a smelter be built to treat zinc concentrate produced at Gamsberg. The zinc concentrate produced at the existing concentrator plant will be treated in the smelter using the conventional roast-leach-electrowinning (R-L-E) process.

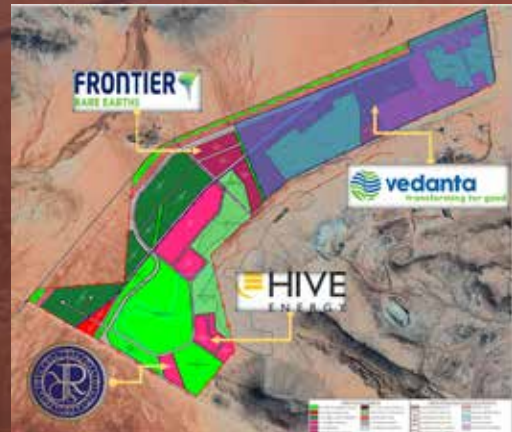
## SECTOR FOCUS



## ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROJECT



## SEZ SPATIAL LAYOUT



540,26Ha

OF INDUSTRIAL POSSIBILITIES





UPINGTON INDUSTRIAL PARK



SPACE AVAILABLE

lease



380 000 m2

## CAR MANUFACTURING SECTOR



The park is located in an area that enables the most suitable conditions to advance technologies in the automotive sector. Ideal for OEM's and Automotive industry production



STORAGE SPACE



RENEWABLE ENERGY HUB

Bespoke space that will cater for various storage requirements. All this in a secure, well maintained and symbiotic environment for industrial business

## LOCATION IS KEY - LOOK AND FEEL







# KEY BENEFITS

- Security infrastructure upgrades, top structures, critical utility infrastructure;
- Compliance to regulatory requirements, renewable energy and resource efficient operations;
- New infrastructure development;
- Capacity building, business expansion and investment promotion;
- Development of sustainable industrial park clusters.



## FUTURE INDUSTRIES THAT CAN LOCATE WITHIN THE PARK



# AGRI

## AGRO PROCESSING

# MRO

## MAINTENANCE REPAIRS & OVERHAULING





# Kumba connects communities through development

Sishen Mine highlights how road infrastructure is bringing freedom of movement to the Kuruman area.

For many rural communities, the challenge of freedom of movement between areas or travel to-and-from regional economic centre is a common issue. The lack of substantial infrastructure development is often the primary reason for communities becoming isolated and young people having to migrate to urban areas in search for better opportunities.

In order to address some of these challenges within its area of influence, Anglo American's Kumba Iron Ore Sishen Mine, has completed construction upgrades to the Klein Neira – Batlharos Road, situated in Kuruman.

The scope of work carried out on the Klein Neira – Batlharos passage included the upgrading of the road from a gravel to a double-sealed surface and installing

multiple stormwater management channels along the 6.4km route. This project is part of the broader work carried out in 2022 on the greater Churchill Road, which spans over 10km, at a cost of R44-million.

George Benjamin, Corporate Affairs and Social Performance Manager at Sishen Mine, outlines the motivation behind the upgrade: "Upgrading this road was a priority for us. We recognised how it would significantly contribute to the freedom of movement of the surrounding communities. As the proud project founder, our objective is to bring development to our communities and help them thrive. We are very pleased with how the project has turned out and the positive impact it will have on our people's lives".

During the construction period, a total of 54 temporary jobs were created as a result of the project.



Maletsatsi Manhe, Manager: Roads and Stormwater at Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality expressed positive sentiments about the importance of the project.

He said, "The access link road upgrade was identified as a priority by the community during the February 2014/15 IDP roadshow. The main objective is to link Joe Morolong (Churchill and Batlharos) for easy access to the mines, healthcare facilities and surrounding areas. Also, the goal is to improve road conditions as stated on the Roads and Stormwater Master plan.

"Kumba Iron Ore is one of the mining houses that has supported Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality through its Social and Labour Plan over the years. Such support assists the Municipality in reaching community target requests, as the equitable share and the grants are not sufficient to cover all the needs. We are thankful to Sishen Mine for supporting and partnering with us." ■



*George Benjamin with the Sishen Mine Corporate Affairs team.*



# Collaboration and collective action deliver Siyathemba Police Station

Anglo American Kumba Iron Ore celebrates a significant milestone in the journey of the Dingleton Resettlement Project.



Wednesday 8 May 2024 marked a significant milestone in the journey of the Dingleton Resettlement Project as Kumba Iron Ore proudly announced the official handover of the Siyathemba Police Station. This momentous occasion signified the culmination of years of hard work, collaboration and unwavering commitment to the well-being of the community.

The Siyathemba Police Station handover is a testament to the power of collaboration and collective action. Since the inception of the resettlement project in 2012, Kumba Iron Ore, together with the community of Dingleton, the Northern Cape Provincial Government and the

Gamagara Local Municipality, has been dedicated to ensuring the success of this endeavour.

"We are honoured to mark the official handover of the Siyathemba Police Station," said Praniil Ramchander, Executive Head of Corporate Affairs at Kumba Iron Ore. "This event represents a significant milestone in the journey of the Dingleton Resettlement Project, and it is a testament to the power of collaboration and collective action that brought us to this point today."

"The Siyathemba Police Station stands as a beacon of unity and progress, thanks to partnerships like these," noted Bernice Swarts, Deputy Minister of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure. "As we celebrate the handover of the Siyathemba Police Station, let us recognise Kumba Iron Ore's noble



contribution. Just as iron is forged into strength, their commitment to community safety is a testament to their dedication.”

The Siyathemba Police Station is not just a physical structure but a symbol of security and safety for the community it serves. With its increased size and modern amenities, the station is poised to safeguard the well-being of all residents and stakeholders.

“This milestone follows the recent handover of 10 of the 142 RDP houses in March, demonstrating Kumba Iron Ore’s commitment to ensuring safe and secure homes for former Dingleton residents,” Ramchander added.

“As a responsible company, Kumba will continue collaborating with relevant stakeholders including the Siyathemba leadership to ensure we fulfil and support the development of the Siyathemba community,” he continued.

Kumba Iron Ore recognises the remarkable commitment of its various stakeholders, including the Provincial SAPS, Gamagara Local Municipality, the Northern Cape Provincial Government, the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy and the Department of Public Works, each of whom has played a pivotal role in making this vision a reality.

Moving forward, the focus shifts towards utilising this facility for the continued safety and betterment of the community. Kumba Iron Ore invites all stakeholders to join hands in ensuring that the Siyathemba Police Station remains an example of what is possible when we unite in purpose and pursue a common goal. ■



## Building the South Africa of their dreams

Extracts from the speech of Bernice Swarts, Deputy Minister of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure:

- It is an absolute honour and joy to participate at this important handover of the Siyathemba Police Station in Gamagara Local Municipality under the John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality. May this police station live up to its name of Siyathemba, and indeed fulfil its promise of being a foundation for social cohesion, a cornerstone in the national effort of arresting crime and a pillar for community safety.
- This day is meant not only for celebrating successful infrastructure delivery. It is also a day of celebrating Public-Private Partnerships and the role of big business in the reconstruction and development of our country. It is a day of celebrating collaboration and cooperative governance which has ensured the successful delivery of this critical community asset.
- Each day, we see South Africans building, brick by brick, inch by inch, the South Africa of their dreams.
- Kumba Mine is at the forefront of reimagining mining to improve the lives of communities. We applaud it for being a partner in sustainable mining and an ally in building resilient, thriving communities.



# Uplifting communities through housing opportunities

Kumba contributes R27-million to housing project.



In a good example of a successful Public-Private Partnership, Kumba Iron Ore and the Northern Cape Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) and Gamagara Local Municipality will deliver 142 Breaking New Ground homes to the Siyathemba community in Gamagara Municipality once construction is complete.

Addressing stakeholders at the handover ceremony, Lorraine Scheepers, Principal of Mineral Rights and Permitting at Kumba Iron Ore, spoke of the value of the partnership. "This collaboration marks a significant milestone for community development and empowerment between the private and public sectors. We proudly stand here to witness the handing over of 10 of 142 BNG housing projects, a testament to our collective commitment to community development."

Built by CoGHSTA, the 10 homes were officially handed over to their new owners by the department's MEC, Bentley Vass, alongside Gamagara Municipality Mayor, Councillor Johannes Roman, and Kumba Iron Ore representatives. As a responsible corporate citizen, Kumba has contributed by donating the 142

serviced stands to the Gamagara Municipality and installing electrical infrastructure to the cumulative value of approximately R27-million.

In addition to the serviced stand, Kumba is donating the newly renovated Siyathemba Flats, comprising 104 units on approximately 2ha of land, to the Gamagara Municipality for rental housing. Adds Scheepers, "We're working with the municipality to convert the flats to a sectional title homeownership scheme, enabling occupants to obtain title deeds to the units."

Altogether, the partnership between Kumba Iron Ore and the government will unlock housing for over 200 families, ensuring that communities are uplifted and can be afforded the opportunity to play meaningful roles within society.

Speaking about the project, MEC Bentley Vass gave his view on the partnership: "We have a backlog of 84 000 units in the Northern Cape, which gives you an indication of the housing development challenges.

"We need partners like Kumba and the private sector to help the government improve our people's lives. My message for our beneficiaries is to look after your houses, plant trees and paint the walls. And to our partners, we appreciate the support you have given to our communities." ■



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# KEY SECTORS

Overviews of the main economic sectors of the Northern Cape

Agriculture	32
Grapes and wine	34
Mining	38
Energy	42
Engineering	52
Manufacturing	54
Banking and financial services	56
ICT	57
Development finance and SMME support	58
Tourism	60

*Country Hotels, having established 16 properties in a period of 13 years, announced in 2024 a further expansion through an owner-operated franchise model. The first hotel in the chain was established in the Western Cape town of Clanwilliam but the balance are all in the Northern Cape. Kuruman has three Country Hotels properties, including the Kuruman Hotel, pictured, which nestles near the Orange River in a vineyard. PHOTO: Alain Proust*

# Agriculture

Karoo lamb is officially protected.



In October 2023 Karoo lamb was officially registered as a South African Geographical Indication (GI) in law. Another of the Northern Cape's finest products, rooibos tea, won similar recognition from the EU in 2014 and in recent years South Africa has been working to protect its unique products. GI status allows for exclusivity and acts as an indication of quality.

In this 2024 State of the Province Address, Premier Dr Zamani Saul outlined what had been achieved in the Northern Cape in terms of restoring land, much of it agricultural, to citizens denied rights and access to land under apartheid. In addition, tenure rights have been secured for the communities of Leliefontein, Concordia and Richtersveld through the Transformation of Certain Rural Areas Act (TRANCRAA).

Speaking in February 2024, the Premier also reported that the most recent Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) released by StatsSA showed that agriculture was one of the sectors that created the most jobs, 5 000. The unemployment rate for the Northern Cape remained the second lowest (26.9%) in the country.

Occupying 36-million hectares, the Northern Cape is the largest province in the country, almost a third of South Africa's total land area. Although the province is a predominantly semi-arid region, agriculture is a major component of the regional economy and the province's farmers contribute 6.8% to South African agriculture.

The agricultural sector also plays a vital role in the broader economy of the Northern Cape, employing about 45 000 people. This represents about 16% of employment, a much higher figure than the national figure of 5.5%

Agricultural development takes place along defined corridors within the province. In the Orange River Valley, especially at Upington, Kakamas and Keimoes, grapes and fruit are cultivated intensively.

High-value horticultural products such as table grapes, sultanas

## SECTOR INSIGHT

Agriculture is creating jobs

and wine grapes, dates, nuts, cotton, fodder and cereal crops are grown along the Orange River. Wheat, fruit, groundnuts, maize and cotton are grown in the Vaalharts Irrigation Scheme in the vicinity of Hartswater and Jan Kempdorp. The Vaalharts Irrigation Scheme is one of the biggest systems of its kind in the world. Ranging over more than 30 000ha, it has transformed a semi-desert zone into a productive area that sustains cotton, wheat,

## LAND IN NUMBERS

Restitution and redistribution since 1994

200 000

BENEFICIARIES

R2.3-million

HECTARES

R4-billion

BUDGET

maize, lucerne, citrus, peanuts, fruit, grapes, olives and pecan nuts.

Vegetables and cereal crops are farmed at the confluence of the Vaal River and the Orange River in the vicinity of Douglas. Of the nearly 40-million 10kg bags of onions produced in South Africa (outside of linked production chains set up by supermarkets), about 10-million 10kg bags come from the Northern Cape.

Wool, mohair, karakul, Karoo lamb, venison, ostrich meat and leather are farmed throughout most of the province. The province is second only to the Eastern Cape in terms of the number of sheep farmed and it is the fourth-largest wool-producing province based on annual sale of producer lots. The Beefmaster abattoir in Kimberley is one of three abattoirs in South Africa to export frozen beef to China.

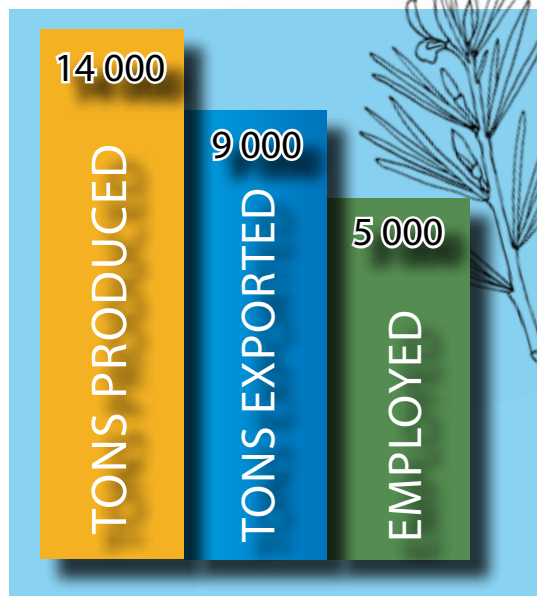
In 2024, the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform sought to give small-scale farmers better access to consumers through the creation of a Sol Plaatje Farmers Market. Held at the Galeshewe Circle, the aim was to bring backyard farmers together to create a platform for them to market and sell their agricultural produce. A variety of vegetables such as spinach, onions, chillies and seedlings (strawberries, green peppers) were on offer, while other entrepreneurs sold live chickens, eggs, raw honey and herbal products. An information sharing session was also run by department officials.

### Companies

KLK, a karakul-pelt specialist based in Upington, also runs 19 retail outlets, several petrol stations, four Build it franchises and a strong auction division. KLK runs three abattoirs in Calvinia, Carnarvon and Upington that slaughter lamb and beef carcasses. KLK Petworld operates in Kathu. KLK became the

### ONLINE RESOURCES

Agricultural Research Council: [www.arc.agric.za](http://www.arc.agric.za)  
 Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs,  
 Rural Development and Land Reform: [www.daelr.ncpg.gov.za](http://www.daelr.ncpg.gov.za)  
 South African Rooibos Council: [www.sarooibos.co.za](http://www.sarooibos.co.za)



*Rooibos tea statistics*

100% shareholder of Carpe Diem Raisins in 2023 and Senwes is now the majority shareholder in KLK.

Senwes is one of the country's biggest agri-companies and its Northern Cape area of operation is mostly around the Vaalharts irrigation area, which is close to the headquarters just over the provincial border in North West, at Klerksdorp. Storage and handling of grains and oilseeds are the speciality of Senwes.

SA Dorper manages the production and export of dorper skins and the production of cattle hides. GWK is another company with its headquarters in the Northern Cape, in this case the town of Douglas. OVK controls the large Gariep abattoir at Strydenburg, which has a daily capacity of 1 300 sheep, 100 cattle and either 250 ostriches or 750 small game animals. OVK also has trade branches, vehicle dealerships, a finance division and manufacturing facilities for maize meal and wheat meal. Kaap Agri, a Western Cape company, has a significant presence in the Northern Cape and Namibia. ■



# Grapes and wine

Northern Capers no longer have to travel to study viticulture.



**Learning the ropes. Training on the ground at the Vine Academy and Model Farm.**

**T**he Vine Academy and Model Farm officially opened in Kakamas in 2023, providing a significant boost for viticulture education and training in the Northern Cape.

The result of a partnership between the Northern Cape Provincial Government and Raisins SA with support from the private sector, the academy offers a national certificate in viticulture at NQF 4 level and a national diploma at NQF 5 level. In addition, there are a number of courses covering technical skills on offer relating to agrochemicals, farm planning, tractor maintenance, pruning, irrigation and soil science.

At NQF 6 level, five short courses are available which have been developed by Stellenbosch University, in collaboration with Raisins SA and the South African Table Grape Industry (SATI).

Kakamas is an appropriate setting for an educational institution of this sort as it was the ingenuity of early farmers in the Kakamas area who, through a sophisticated system of canals that drew water from the Orange River, ultimately created a thriving table grape export sector around the town. Raisins, dried fruit of many sorts, peaches, oranges and dates are also farmed and exported from the area to this day.

Other 2023 news was that in May KLK acquired the last 20% share in Carpe Diem Raisins and it now owns an 100% share. The multifaceted agricultural company Senwes is the majority shareholder of KLK.

## SECTOR INSIGHT

KLK is the 100% shareholder in Carpe Diem Raisins.

Dippenaar Choice Fruit, an Orange River region grape producer which is headquartered in Kakamas, exports to seven countries in South-East Asia and the Far East, including China and Singapore. Exports of South African grapes and wine to China have been on an upward trend for several years but South Africa's wine exports are still subject to tariffs on entering China, despite both countries being members of BRICS.

The region has 5 688ha of vines and the Orange River Producer Alliance represents its farmers. According to SATI, the grape industry in the Northern Cape employs 1 215 people permanently, with a further 12 415 people finding seasonal work. Harvesting happens from early November to early February.

Almost a third of South Africa's table grape crop is produced in this fertile region. The South African table grape industry has been investing in hardier varieties which produce a better yield.

The Northern Cape has just 3% of South Africa's vineyards but 18% of the nation's white wine grapes are cultivated along the Orange River. Within the region, about 64% of grapes are white seedless and about 21% are red seedless (SATI).





**The Vine Academy and Model Farm offers courses in viticulture and technical skills.**

The Orange River wine region accounts for 25.6% of South Africa's Colombard vines and 10% of Chenin Blanc. The focus is on Colombard and Hanepoot grapes. Orange River Cellars (ORC) is the region's biggest producer, sourcing its grapes from what is known as the Green Kalahari. The variety of soil from which ORC wines is drawn is extremely varied, allowing for the production of a wide selection of wines and brandies. The company has expanded significantly over the years and now encompasses logistics to deliver its wines (Orange River Tankers), an export division (Norweco) and Prosperitas Farm which produces export-quality raisins that include sultanas and several varieties of raisins. A solar system has been introduced at the company's bottling plant.

The Douglas Wine Cellar produces about 6 000 cases per year. Together with the Landzicht cellar (just over the border in the Free State), Douglas Wine Cellars is a GWK company. The Douglas cellar crushes 7 000 tons of grapes every year and produces 5.6-million litres of wine. Hartswater Wine Cellar is a part of the region's other big agricultural company, Senwes.

Two wine brands (Overvaal and Elements) are produced in the Hartswater irrigation area north of Kimberley. Vinpro represents 2 500 South African wine grape producers, wineries and wine-related businesses.

## Orange River Cellars

- 300km
- 160 producers
- Three subsidiaries

### ONLINE RESOURCES

SA Wine Industry Information & Systems: [www.sawis.co.za](http://www.sawis.co.za)  
 South African Table Grape Industry: [www.satgi.co.za](http://www.satgi.co.za)  
 Vine Academy and Model Farm: [www.vamf.co.za](http://www.vamf.co.za)

## Raisins

About a quarter of raisins exported by South Africa go to Germany, and in the 2022/23 season, extra attention was paid to that market in terms of the quality of fruit, with the aim being to produce fruit with few residues.

Industry body Raisins SA is leading efforts to improve farming practices with a view to improved products. Specific areas of focus include improved soil preparation, drying infrastructure and trellis systems and using water more efficiently.

The recent adoption of SA-GAP (derived from the Global Good Agricultural Practices) is helping to raise and maintain standards with the sector. SA-GAP Certification Programme is a set of practices that address environmental, economic and social sustainability for on-farm processes and result in safer and higher-quality food and non-food agricultural products. With certification, small growers and producers are more easily able to have access to international markets.

In the centenary year of the raisin sector in the Orange River region, 2019, a record 74 830 tons was harvested from 13 085ha (Western Cape and Northern Cape combined). Hopes of reaching more than 81 000 tons were dashed in 2020 by too much rain at the wrong time, but the industry is geared for growth. In 2022 the total marketable volume of raisins produced was 67 000 metric tons. The figure in 2023 was 60 231 tons but Raisins SA was predicting a very healthy 41% increase in 2024. ■

# Raisin producers are maintaining high standards

Raisins SA CEO, Dr Ferdie Botha, reports on how exacting audits are raising quality in the industry and is excited about the Vine Academy and Model Farm.



**Dr Ferdie Botha, Chief Executive Officer**

## BIOGRAPHY

*Dr Ferdie Botha is an experienced agricultural economist with 16 years' experience in the agri-sector. He joined the dried fruit industry in 2017 to concentrate on his career as agricultural economist and expand his skills set in a more focused business environment. Ferdie played an instrumental role in the restructuring of the dried fruit industry in South Africa over the past six years. Once this reform was successfully implemented, he was tasked to refocus the national raisin industry association, Raisins SA, setting a new vision and driving strategic priorities. Ferdie has passed his doctoral study, named: A Framework to Enhance the Sustainable Performance Levels of The South African Raisin Value Chain. The thesis and its results will bring a new dimension to the raisin industry and play an integral role in the sustainability thereof.*

### How is the project to improve quality progressing?

#### Are you able to record progress in an objective manner?

From Raisins South Africa's perspective, fruit quality and food safety start at farm-gate level. It is a priority for us to ensure that we collaborate as a collective industry (regulatory agencies, raisin growers and food processors) to ensure the safest possible food for our consumers. Regular testing, adherence to good agricultural practices and compliance with regulatory standards are crucial in managing and minimising food safety risks in raisins.

SA GAP audits have been put in place, and producers undergo these audits on a yearly, two-yearly or three-yearly basis, depending on the level of risk on each farm. SA GAP audits address the following aspects:

- traceability
- contamination
- hygiene
- chemical
- ethical

These audits have been implemented since 2017 and the buy-in from producers to adhere to these standards and year-on-year to improve their farming practices has been astounding.

### Who buys South African raisins?

South Africa is regarded as the best place in the world to grow





raisins. Hot, dry conditions, a lot of sunshine and ample availability of fresh river water create ideal growing conditions. The agronomy is world class and we have the ability to grow a substantial portion of the total crop with low-to-zero residues. The biggest market for South African raisins is Europe, where approximately 45%-50% of our product is exported to.

The next market our focus will shift to is the UK. It is the biggest importer of dried fruit and raisins internationally and with our naturally sundried, free-flowing, low-to-zero residue raisins with a 12-month shelf life, we can offer great value to the UK consumer.

**Please give an example of a successful enterprise development programme supported by Raisins SA.**

The Vine Academy and Model Farm is a strategic, industry-led initiative, which has been developed since 2021. The official opening took place on 6

June 2023. The Academy's second intake arrived on 15 January 2024. The Academy currently has a total of 36 students, receiving in-depth practical training incorporated into the learning programmes.

We are excited about the upskilling of the youth, especially in the viticulture industry. The main aim is to upskill them in such a manner that they are able to make an immediate and positive contribution to the working environment that they enter after receiving their diploma.

The Model Farm is fully functional and offers the facility for students to receive their practical training. Research and development for the industry is conducted here, giving us the edge to be able to conduct trials on the newest technologies, cultivars and drying methods. The results of the trials are shared with industry, which helps improve farming practices, leading to more efficient production and higher yields. ■



# Mining

Copper is shining brightly.



Copper 360 more than doubled its potential capacity when it bought Nama Copper from Mazule Resources in 2023. With the new facility, Copper 360 will be able by 2025 to have an annual output of very nearly 8 000 tons.

In 2024 an offtake agreement with Fujax UK, an international commodity trading company, replaced an earlier deal with Mazule Resources, which had signed an offtake deal as part of the sales agreement. Prepayments by Fujax over a three-month period will enable the mining company to increase production at the plant. Copper 360 has a mining right over 19 000ha to the north of the town of Springbok. Three new copper flotation plants are being built at a cost of R280-million. With 280 new employees over the last two years and plans to recruit a further 1 000 staff members in the next two years, global copper demand is good news for this sector and for the Northern Cape.

Batteries need copper, as do systems used to transmit energy from solar or wind sources so the future looks bright for copper.

Australian mining company Orion Minerals is also active in the Nababeep/Okiep area, with its flagship Okiep Copper Project, pictured, about 450km west of the company's flagship Prieska Copper Zinc Project, also in the Northern Cape. Orion is also listed on AltX and the JSE main board. The Prieska facility, which is being revived, produced a million tons of zinc and 430 000 tons of copper before it closed in 1991.

Another funder of the early development of the Prieska project is the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), one of the country's largest institutional investors. The IDC has identified key opportunities for the national economy on the path to zinc industrialisation including fertiliser phosphates, zinc-coated steel and battery storage. The New

## SECTOR INSIGHT

Industrialising zinc is a priority.

## Mining assets

The Northern Cape provides:

### SOUTH AFRICA

95%  
of diamond output

97.6%  
of alluvial diamond mining

93%  
of South Africa's lead  
production

100%  
of South Africa's tiger's eye

*Largest national production of sugilite*

Industries unit of the IDC has developed a strategy for zinc-bromide redox flow batteries. There is potential for a copper smelter plant in the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (NAMSEZ), which would further stimulate exploration and mining.

## Multiple assets

The biggest new mine in the country is a zinc mine at Aggeneys,



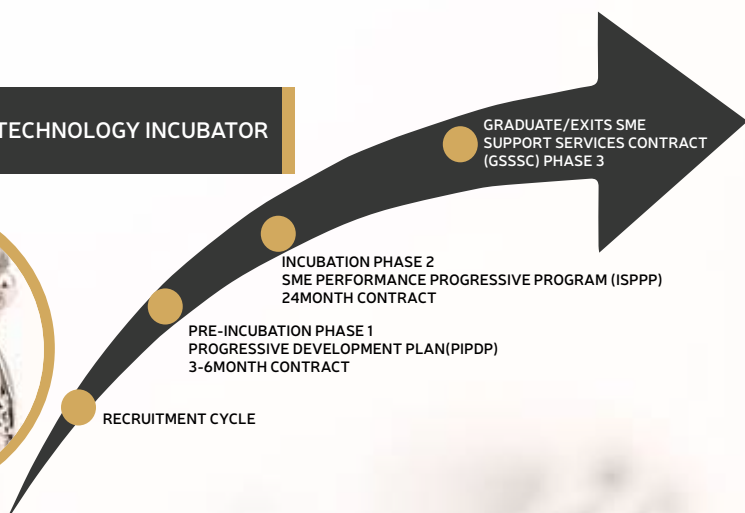
## Our Service Offerings

We service newly registered or existing companies (Small Medium Enterprises – SME's) with access to facilities, infrastructure, business and technology skills development, enterprise mentoring and coaching services and facilitation of linkages to markets dependent on Small Medium Enterprise phase.

Phase	Title	Timeline
1. Pre-Incubation	Progressive Development Program (PIPDP)	6 months development contract
2. Incubation	SME Performance Progressive Program (ISPPP)	24 months performance contract
3. Graduates/Exits	SME Support Services Contract (GSSSC)	Ad-Hoc contract



### CLIENT BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INCUBATOR MODEL



## Funding/Donations

For more information on how you can provide us with donations/funding/in-kind or volunteer services please email us on [info@kdji.org](mailto:info@kdji.org)

## Our Contact Information

📍 25 Villiers Street, Kimberley, 8301 ✉ [info@kdji.org](mailto:info@kdji.org) ☎ +27(0)53 831 1570





the Gamsberg project of Vedanta Zinc International, which will deliver 600 000 tons of zinc when phase three is complete. The provincial government is using the mine's location (and possible future smelter) as the basis for a new Namakwa Special Economic Zone. The SEZ forms part of a larger "multi-nodal" corridor envisaged for the province.

While copper and zinc are trending, iron ore and manganese continue to deliver huge volumes of material. The Kalahari Basin is home to between 70% and 80% of the world's manganese resource. The website Mindat.org refers to the Kalahari Manganese Field as "one of the geological and mineralogical wonders of the world".

Hotazel is at the centre of a manganese mining hub, with several companies operating mines nearby.

Nchwaning and Gloria mines are collectively known as Black Rock and they are owned by Assmang, a joint venture between Assore and African Rainbow Minerals. Several new manganese mines have opened in recent years, including Tshipi Borwa, UMK, Kalagadi and Kudumane. The company has two other iron-ore mines in the Northern Cape.

Everything about the Kolomela iron-ore mine near Postmasburg is large. Previously known as Sishen South, the mine produced 10.8-million tons in 2022. Together with its other mines, Kumba Iron Ore is the largest iron-ore producer in Africa. Kumba Iron Ore owns 76.3% in Sishen Iron Ore Company (SIOC) with the balance held by Exxaro and the SIOC Community Development Trust. Through the SIOC, Kumba Iron Ore owns three mines, one of which, Sishen, is also in the Northern Cape. The Sishen/Kolomela-Saldanha iron-ore export channel sees to it that vast amounts of iron ore are exported through the latter port. Trains weighing 34 200 tons leave the mines every nine hours, each train having five to six locomotives and 342 wagons.

Kimberley first came to be known to the world because of the fabulously rich store of diamonds in its soil. Oddly, the town was not named for the kimberlite pipes that made many people very rich after 1866, but rather its was named for the UK's then Secretary of State for the Colonies, John Wodehouse, 1st Earl of Kimberley. Diamonds are still mined in and near Kimberley and Petra Diamonds operates the Finsch Mine near Lime Acres and in the 2022 financial year generated revenue of \$15.7-million.

AfriSam quarries 15-million tons of limestone west of Delpoortshoop and produces one-million tons of cement there in addition to holding properties further south where it has acquired three mines from Coza Mining. KP Lime has bought PPC Lime's mines at Lime Acres.

Away from the underground kimberlite pipes and fissures, river and coastal deposits of diamonds are also present in the Northern Cape.

#### ONLINE RESOURCES

Kathu Industrial Park: [www.kathuindustrialpark.co.za](http://www.kathuindustrialpark.co.za)  
Minerals Council South Africa: [www.mineralscouncil.org.za](http://www.mineralscouncil.org.za)  
Northern Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism: [www.northern-cape.gov.za/dedat](http://www.northern-cape.gov.za/dedat)

## WORLD

- 13.4% of lead exports
- 70-80% of manganese resource at Aggeneys, Namaqualand region
- 25% of the manganese used in the world

Source: DEDAT

Diamonds have been recovered along the Orange, Buffels, Spoeg, Horees, Groen, Doom and Swart rivers in the province, while coastal deposits have been found from the mouth of the Orange River to Lamberts Bay. Trans Hex, which took over De Beers diamond mine in West Coast Resources, the Trans Hex subsidiary which bought De Beers' Namaqualand mine, has been in business rescue since 2019, but Trans Hex itself paid out a R128-million dividend, having delisted from the JSE in the same year. It has assets elsewhere in the Northern Cape, Namibia and Angola. ■



**Vast quantities of iron ore are mined and exported.**



# Copper 360 is revitalising mines

**Copper 360 has launched a School of Mining in the Northern Cape to complement its investment in the metal vital to the green energy revolution.**

**T**he Northern Cape will be the next mineral province of South Africa and Copper 360 has invested significantly towards realising this ideal. As the move towards a greener and more clean-energy conscious global economy continues to gather momentum, so too will the potential that the province holds to create opportunity for its citizens increase.

Copper 360 presently operates its ore and historical dump processing plant in Nababeep where it produces copper cathode and concentrate. The company's Rietberg mine will be the first in a series of mining projects where historical mines are being revitalised and copper extracted that will be coming into production during 2024 and 2025. In addition, the company also acquired Nama Copper in early 2024, which has further added to its production capacity.

Copper 360 is also investing in the people of the Northern Cape. In 2023 it launched the School of Mining, an educational institution that will ultimately offer accredited certification and degreed courses in partnership with other mining specialist schools internationally.

Presently, the School of Mining offers shorter, experiential courses in career-focused subjects like surface geology and other key skills relevant to the mining sector. The School is also in the process of rolling out a high school programme, whereby learners are exposed to the potential that a career in mining could hold.

Nababeep, where Copper 360 has its facility, is near Springbok where the first formal mineral discovery in South Africa was made by Simon van

der Stel in 1665. It is however known that the Khoi San tribes native to the area had made the discovery of copper long before the colonisation of the Cape. The Northern Cape developed from 1935 to 1980 into one of the major copper-producing districts in Africa and the world. However, a downturn in the copper price saw all activity in the district come to an end by 2005.

Now, nearly two decades, later the world has changed. Copper's exceptional conductivity properties and the growing role that it plays in the production of electric vehicles, for example, and the generation and distribution of renewable energy has seen global demand surge. It is expected to continue growing at an exponential rate. This upward trajectory holds significant promise for the Northern Cape, its people and its economy. ■



# Energy

Beefing up the electricity grid is a priority.



## SECTOR INSIGHT

The Northern Cape is integral to national energy plans

most recent round of the national Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) in December 2022 came up against the fact that the country's transmission grid can only cope with so much new capacity. As a result, only 860MW of solar capacity was awarded to projects in the North West and Free State provinces.

The first project to reach commercial operations from an earlier bid window, Round 4, was the Kangnas Wind Farm, a 140MW project near Springbok. Somewhat delayed by the Covid-19 lockdown, the project ultimately provided 550 jobs when construction work peaked and reached a local content level of 45%. This included the mega-transformer and the wind-turbine towers.

Approximately 60% of the projects so far allocated have been in the nation's sunniest province. Projects such as Kathu Solar Park, a concentrated solar power project, and the Roggeveld Wind Farm are indicative of the large scale of most of the energy generation that is being rolled out.

The Northern Cape is the natural home for the generation of solar power. Long-term annual

**Expanding the grid is critical for the future of renewable energy.**

**M**ore than 400 000 solar panel modules will be erected at Mooi Plaats near Noupoot in the south-eastern corner of the province in what Trina Solar, one of the project partners, describes as "the largest single PV power plant project in South Africa" with a total capacity of 283MWdc (in other words, at peak conditions).

The other two partners in the project, which was announced to the media at the beginning of April 2024, are China Energy International Group and China Gezhouba Group and the project is financed by EDF Renewables, in conjunction with South Africa's local financial institutions.

Power generated from the Mooi Plaats project will be connected to the Koruson substation, 12km away via a 132kV transmission line.

The 80MW Noupoot Wind Farm reached commercial operation status in 2016.

## Grid capacity

In less than a decade, an entirely new sector has been created through legislation that invited local and foreign investors to bid for and then build renewable energy generation plants. South Africa's National Development Plan (NDP) requires 20 000MW of renewable energy by 2030. However, the latest bid window (Round 6) for the





## Project Background

Quiver Green Group (Pty) Ltd is classified as an Ecosystem-based Adaptation business. As a bio-economy sector enterprise it ventures throughout the various value chains of the green economy in South Africa, with a primary focus on the Northern Cape province.

## BUSINESS FOCUSES ON HARVESTING BIOMASS



Firewood

Woodchips



Charcoal production

Bioenergy  
generation plant



## Investment value

**Phase 1 : R 50.000 Million**

**Phase 2: R 100.000 Million**

## Targeted sectors

**Primary: Green economy and Bioeconomy**

**Secondary: Includes cross cutting sectors through value adding, ie manufacturing, trade and energy sectors.**

### **Contact Details:**

Quiver Green Group (Pty) Ltd  
Contact Person: P du Toit  
Designation: Managing Director  
Mobile: 078 600 5156  
Email: polycarpd@gmail.com

direct normal irradiance (DNI) at Upington is 2 816kWh/m<sup>2</sup>, according to a survey done for Stellenbosch University by Slovakian company GeoModal Solar.

With 14 000km of new high-voltage powerlines needing to be installed in South Africa by 2032, the news that a new private company, the Green Transmission Company, is tackling a 1GW renewable energy connection project that stretches over more than 100km is good news indeed.

The Northern Cape has superb conditions for renewable energy generation but grid capacity is close to fully used up after several years of signing off on solar and wind projects. The entry of a private company into the market will likely increase the prospects of further investments.

Sol Plaatje Municipality is the site of a 120MW renewable energy project which Ekapa Mining is leading. The R2.4-billion project is expected to create about 400 work opportunities.

## Green hydrogen

The province has a Green Hydrogen Strategy, which was launched at COP26 in Glasgow in 2021 and a national programme, the Green Hydrogen National Programme (GHNP), has been gazetted. A series of projects located across the country are expected to attract investments of close to R600-billion. Of the nine projects identified by GHNP, four are located in the Northern Cape:

- Prieska Power Reserve
- Ubuntu Green Energy Hydrogen Project
- Upilanga Solar and Green H2 Park
- Boegoebaai Green Hydrogen Development Programme.

All of these projects have been registered with Infrastructure South Africa (ISA), the body within the national presidency which is keeping track of and promoting infrastructure development in the country.

Another project in the Northern Cape, the Enertrag Postmasburg Project (ammonia), is in the ISA pipeline, awaiting approval.

## National priorities

Four of the 11 Renewable Energy Development Zones (REDZs) planned for South Africa are located in the Northern Cape. REDZs will encourage



**Trina Solar is investing in a huge solar PV power plant near Noupoot.**

localisation through the development of manufacturing hubs that can make components for the sector. REDZs are being developed in support of the implementation of the national Integrated Resource Plan (IRP 2019).

In a similar way in which each of the province's Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and industrial parks is being aligned with renewable energy in some way (either generation or manufacturing), the Boegoebaai Port and Rail Development project has now been expanded to include the adjacent Hydrogen SEZ. The Boegoebaai Port and Green Hydrogen Cluster is regarded as a key priority programme, coordinated by the Northern Cape Economic Development Agency (NCEDA) and ISA.

One of the Strategic Transmission Corridors identified at national level, the Northern Corridor, begins at Springbok in the west and runs through Upington and Vryburg on the way to Johannesburg in Gauteng. Each of those towns will be the focus of an REDZ, with the other REDZ in the province located in the provincial capital of Kimberley. ■

### ONLINE RESOURCES

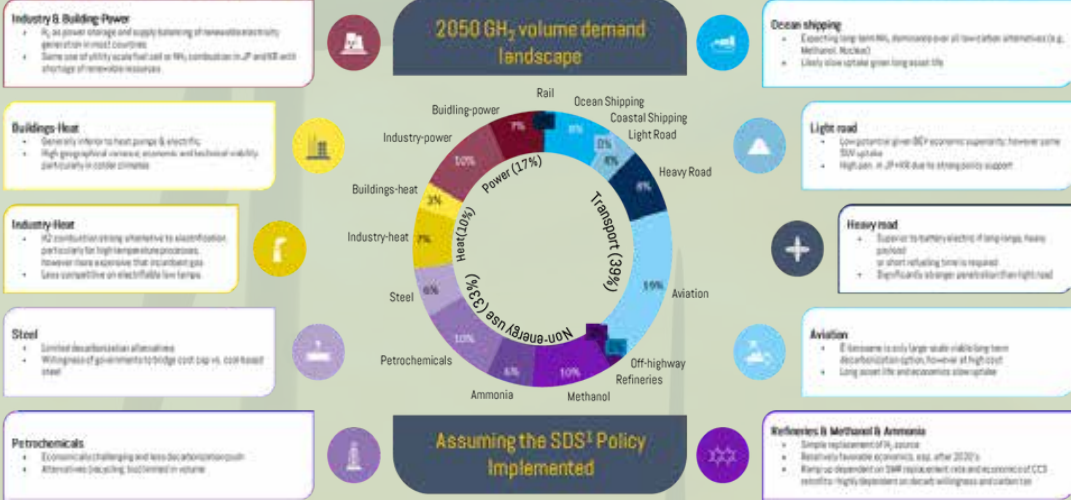
IPP projects: [www.ipp-projects.co.za](http://www.ipp-projects.co.za)

South African Independent Power Producers (IPP) Association: [www.saippa.org.za](http://www.saippa.org.za)

South African Photovoltaic Industry Association: [www.sapvia.co.za](http://www.sapvia.co.za)

South African Wind Energy Association: [www.sawea.org.za](http://www.sawea.org.za)

Green hydrogen has several downstream use cases, that could contribute towards the development of new industries in the Northern Cape and enable the re-industrialisation of industries nationally. This is in addition to the global export market where offtake demand has greater certainty



## COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

The Northern Cape has intrinsic advantages that position it as the ideal centre of a national GH<sub>2</sub> ecosystem



### A High RE Potential

Solar and wind capacity factors of 26% and 37% on average

-11,400 GW of solar and 846 GW of wind capacity can be built



### B Less complex topography

57% of NC land that is available for solar or wind build

Areas not suitable for RE build include protected areas, e.g. Namakwa National Park

98% of NC land is considered flat enough for RE development



### C ~300km of shoreline

Coastline at Beaufort West has capability to support green field deep water port



### D Large mineral deposits

28% of NC's GDP is from mining

Manganese deposits supply 25% of the global demand

Zinc and lead deposits supply 13% of the global demand

Significant mines in the area serve as key tenants for SEZs



### E International accessibility

Can be connected to key industrial hubs (Namibia, Botswana, rest of RSA)

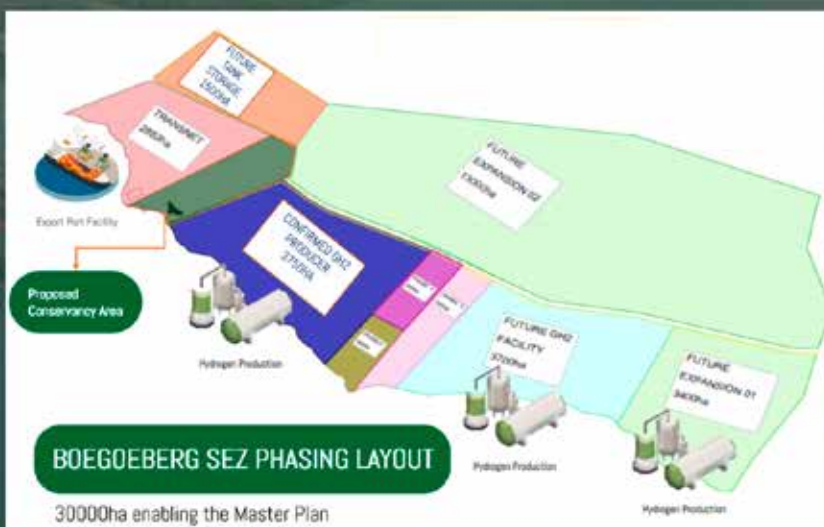
N7 is a key national route to Namibia, and N14 to Botswana

Rail route between Ariansvlei (NC) to Port of Lüderitz

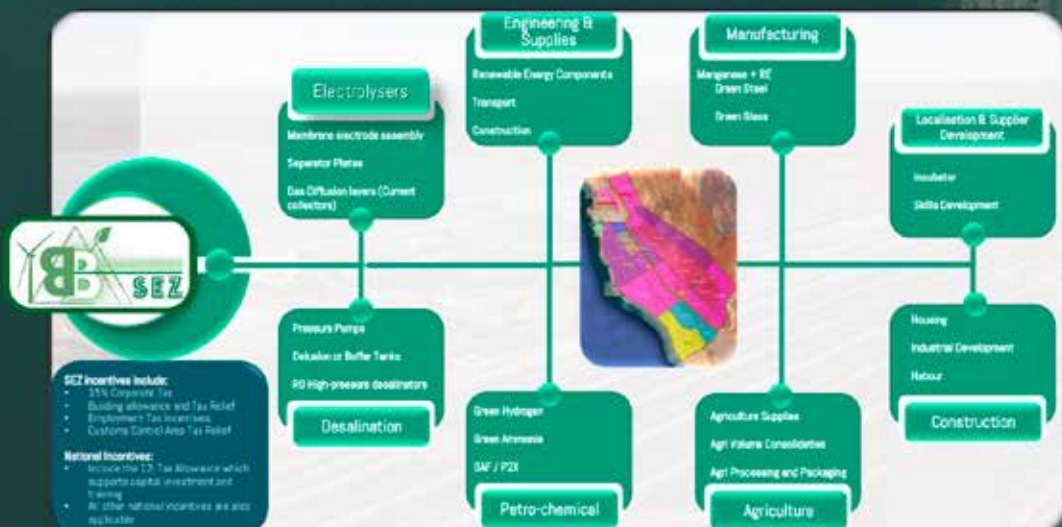


# THE GREEN TRANSFORMATION

The GH2 Hub of Western SADC



## POTENTIAL MARKET ASSESSMENT OTHER ECONOMIC CLUSTER



**THE NORTHERN CAPE HAS INTRINSIC ADVANTAGES THAT POSITION IT AS THE IDEAL CENTRE OF A NATIONAL GREEN HYDROGEN ECOSYSTEM**

# 3

# COMMERCIALIZATION LANES

UNDERPINNING THE NORTHERN CAPE GREEN HYDROGEN STRATEGY

LOCAL  
INDUSTRY  
& GRID

Conversion of existing industries and grids to use green H<sub>2</sub> as a power source, particularly in sectors that will face drop-off in export demand if they do not decarbonise by 2030.

Mining, agriculture and logistics need to convert.

MINING  
&  
TRANSPORT

EXPORT

Producing mass scale green H<sub>2</sub> and derivatives for export, with flow-over into domestic consumption via Boegoebaai se baai.



SA HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CREATE A COMPETITIVE GH<sub>2</sub> ECOSYSTEM BY 2050 - THIS WILL REQUIRE >2X CURRENT INSTALLED GRID CAPACITY IN RENEWABLES...

The Northern Cape wants to position itself as a leader in the GH<sub>2</sub> economy, creating benefits for the province and South Africa and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), that ultimately feed into and leverage opportunities nationally and even regionally.



# The future of solar power: the critical role of accurate and reliable PV solar testing

*"As we migrate towards a more sustainable energy future, the importance of accurate and reliable PV solar testing cannot be overstated. It is through such rigorous testing and unwavering commitment to quality that solar power will truly realise its potential, driving the global energy transition and creating a cleaner, greener future for all." – Lawrence Pratt*



**HALM**

Solar power, with its vast potential, is set to play a pivotal role in the global transition towards cleaner energy. At the heart of this transition lies the importance of accurate and reliable photovoltaic (PV) solar testing. The CSIR's photovoltaic module quality and reliability testing

laboratory, the first of its kind in Africa, provides the critical equipment and know-how for robust testing, helping to ensure the efficacy, durability and sustainability of solar power systems. Independent testing acts as a critical checkpoint in the PV value chain, ensuring that suppliers





deliver high-quality, durable modules capable of withstanding the environmental stresses specific to the region.



**MLT with module.**

### Quality and reliability

The CSIR's PV module quality and reliability lab leverages world-class equipment designed for accelerated reliability stress-testing on PV modules. The testing is tailored to the typical climatic conditions of South Africa, ensuring that only the highest quality modules are developed and installed. By simulating extreme environmental conditions, the lab accelerates failures that would naturally occur over several years in poorly



**Lawrence Pratt, CSIR Principal Researcher.**

constructed modules. The results provide a timely, reliable forecast of a PV module's performance and longevity before construction begins so that potential problems can be mitigated by the module supplier before installation.

The economic implications of accurate PV solar testing are profound. Reliable, high-quality solar modules promise reduced degradation rates, fewer replacements and less maintenance, leading to significant cost savings over time. Pre-construction testing and contractual requirements help ensure the module manufacturer sends only the best modules for your project. For instance, a high-quality, reliable module will perform for 25 years with minimal degradation, reducing the lifecycle cost of solar installations and enhancing the return on investment for utility, commercial and residential-scale users. Low-quality modules may have electrical safety concerns, premature cracking of back sheets and glass and much higher degradation rates, which increase the investment risk. Independent quality and reliability testing helps to differentiate the good from the bad batches, even from Tier 1 suppliers.

## This thought leadership article was written by Lawrence Pratt, CSIR Principal Researcher.

**Experience:** 18 years in solar PV, encompassing research, development, and practical implementation of PV technologies.

**Achievements:** Led the establishment of two ISO 17025 accredited labs for PV module testing, one in the USA and one in South Africa.

**Academic background:** MSc in Applied Statistics (University of New Mexico in 2000), PhD in Computer Science (University of the Witwatersrand in 2024).

**Expertise:** PV module reliability testing, data analytics, machine learning, and engineering management in semiconductors and PV

## About the CSIR

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in South Africa is a premier scientific research organisation committed to fostering innovation and development across various sectors. Established in 1945, the CSIR is dedicated to conducting groundbreaking research and providing technological solutions that address national priorities and enhance the quality of life for all South Africans. With a focus on areas such as health, energy, water and transport, the CSIR leverages its extensive expertise and state-of-the-art facilities to drive economic growth, improve public services and contribute to a sustainable future. By partnering with government, industry and academic institutions, the CSIR continues to be at the forefront of scientific and technological advancements, making significant contributions to the country's socio-economic development.

### Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

From an environmental perspective, the benefits of reliable PV modules are equally compelling. High-quality solar panels contribute directly to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by ensuring that solar power plants operate at optimal efficiency. This efficiency translates into greater energy output per unit of installed capacity, thereby reducing the overall carbon footprint. The role of solar energy in combating climate change is critical, and reliable PV modules are essential for achieving the targets set by international climate agreements, such as the goals of COP28.



*"The CSIR is dedicated to conducting groundbreaking research and providing technological solutions that address national priorities and enhance the quality of life for all South Africans."*

The rigorous testing conducted at the CSIR lab not only ensures current reliability but also helps drive technological innovation. The pre-qualification and certification test methods conducted in the ISO 17025 accredited lab provide valuable feedback to local manufacturers regarding design weaknesses and opportunities for improvement. This includes advancements in crystalline, thin film, high capacitance and bifacial modules. For example, bifacial modules are getting larger while the glass is getting thinner, leading to glass cracking in installations throughout the world. By subjecting the representative modules to the appropriate environmental and mechanical stresses during pre-construction testing, the lab ensures that only the most promising and durable innovations reach the South African market.

### Ensuring financial returns

Safe, reliable PV solar modules are the bedrock of solar farms, large and small. The PV module is the generator, converting energy from the sun (photons) into electrical energy (electrons) extracted from the solar module to perform work. Large-scale solar installations depend on the reliability and efficiency of tens of thousands of interconnected solar cells, PV modules and arrays. Testing all the modules in a PV plant is cost-prohibitive and unnecessary. However, a carefully selected representative sample of modules run through the right test sequence can provide critical information at the early stages of a project to help de-risk the long-term financial returns on the PV plant.

By ensuring the reliability and efficiency of solar systems, countries can accelerate their transition to renewable energy sources, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and contributing to global climate action. Reliable PV modules thus become a cornerstone in achieving the broader objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting sustainable development.

As the world moves towards a more sustainable energy future, the importance of accurate and reliable PV solar testing cannot be overstated. It is through such meticulous testing and unwavering commitment to quality that solar power will truly realise its potential, driving the global energy transition and creating a cleaner, greener future for all. ■



**Testing chambers.**







# Engineering

## Students are studying in Vietnam.

The Northern Cape is gearing up for the creation of a deepwater port on its western flank. As part of those preparations, five students are studying Marine Engineering at the Vietnam Maritime University, pictured. Operated by the Ministry of Transport, the university is located in Haiphong, the port city in the Red River Delta.

The Boegoebaai deepwater port and associated Special Economic Zone planned for the area north of Port Nolloth have the production of green hydrogen among their planned uses. With the possibility of adding value to minerals, exports and logistics also mooted as uses for the sites, the role of engineers will be central to the operation of this planned new hub for economic development.

The same applies to the Namakwa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Project and the Kathu Industrial Park, areas where the concentration of industrial and manufacturing activities will increase the demand for engineers.

A first intake of 50 employees was taken on by the newly formed Northern Cape Construction Company in August 2022. Launched by the provincial government, the company signed up the employees for a CETA learnership programme. After working on road construction, employees will then undertake an enterprise mentorship programme.

The construction timeline of the technically demanding and scientifically advanced Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio astronomy project is eight years, giving ample opportunity for specialist engineers to deploy their skills. Local communities are getting exposure to engineering as a result of the SKA project. The South Africa Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) started offering artisan bursaries in 2011. More recently, the Klerefontein Training Centre was opened in Carnarvon, giving local high school pupils access to an accredited electrical engineering apprenticeship programme. The training programme will provide the MeerKAT and SKA radio telescopes with qualified artisans for their operations and maintenance. The Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) and SKA are placing the recipients of bursaries in the data science programmes of Sol Plaatje University (SPU) and other students

### SECTOR INSIGHT

The Northern Cape Construction Company has been launched.



of astronomy are enrolled at Rhodes University.

The growing renewable energy sector also needs engineers. Some of the projects are tremendously complex, such as the Redstone Concentrated Solar Thermal (CSP) power plant. Grinaker-LTA is the local contractor, and the scope of work includes constructing several structures for the thermal power plant for steam generation and pumps for molten salt. Tanks for hot and cold salt, water treatment, effluent collection and fire protection are further elements.

The South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE) has launched a branch in Kimberley. The SAIEE Northern Cape Centre will attend to the needs of members and hold events of interest related to electrical or electronic engineering. ■

### ONLINE RESOURCES

Consulting Engineers South Africa: [www.cesa.co.za](http://www.cesa.co.za)

South African Institute of Electrical Engineers: [www.saiee.org.za](http://www.saiee.org.za)

Technology Localisation Implementation Unit: [www.tliu.co.za](http://www.tliu.co.za)



## Driving local economic growth



The town of Kathu - located in the Gamagara Local Municipality (GLM) - is the preferred location due to its central proximity to the Postmasburg-Hotazel iron-ore/manganese belt and various established and pending REIPPPP projects. It is envisaged that the Kathu Industrial Park (KIP) serve as a catalyst for accelerated growth of other economic sectors.

## TARGETED SECTORS:

The KIP targets all economic sectors requiring serviced industrial space in the region, but with the major portion of the initial tenant makeup (study phase uptake) primarily serving the established mining sector, by virtue of the KIP's central proximity to the Postmasburg-Hotazel iron-ore/manganese belt. The KIP is also well positioned to serve the emerging REIPP sector in the region.

In addition to the ongoing development of business opportunities within the tenant supply chains, it will be the role of the KIP business incubator to expand coverage of the KIP into other sectors. Study phase tenant engagement and commitment to the project has covered all possible prospective tenants, regardless of size or level of development. The KIP development caters for every kind of tenant facilities, from large customised facilities through to smaller economically efficient mini-factories.

## 2 PHASES

1st Phase:  
434000 m2

2nd Phase:  
189000 m2



# Manufacturing

## Concrete products plant reopens in De Aar.

**D**e Aar is almost exactly equidistant from Cape Town and Johannesburg but in fact the first railway line went through what is now the capital of the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality to get to diamond-rich Kimberley.

At De Aar, the first railway planners built a junction to link the north-south line with the south-east and north-west parts of the network and the town played a vital role in South Africa's economic history.

Agriculture and solar farms are doing well in the current era but the announcement by Colossal Concrete Products that it is to reopen a manufacturing plant in De Aar is of huge significance for the regional economy.

The previous owners of the facility that made precast concrete products for the railways, Aveng Infraset, mothballed the factory but the acquisition of that company by a consortium comprising Colossal Africa Group, Mafoko Holdings, Clone Capital and Randvest Capital has made possible this reset.

The catalyst was the signing by Colossal Concrete Products of a one-year contract with Transnet Freight Rail (TFR) to supply precast concrete railway sleepers for the parastatal's network upgrade.

Colossal has acquired an adjoining property and will consider entering the market for precast wind turbine towers. South Africa's (and the Northern Cape's) renewable energy sector is now achieving the kind of critical mass where manufacturing makes sense. In the neighbouring Eastern Cape province, Nordex has announced plans to build a wind tower plant in Humansdorp which will create 300 jobs. De Aar's central location will again play a role in helping get products to market and gives Colossal a major advantage.

Over and above rail and renewable energy, many construction companies in the Northern Cape (and the adjacent provinces of the Free State and Eastern Cape) will be glad of the concrete precast manufacturing plant being back in business. The same is true for provincial and local governments intent on improving and building new infrastructure.

The long legacy of mining in the Northern Cape means that the skills supporting the sector are still available. The foundry business

### SECTOR INSIGHT

Renewable energy sector has great potential.



that De Beers started in 1891 is still supplying mining houses in South Africa and other parts of the world. Kew Foundries has also supplied sheave wheels to one of India's largest hydroelectric projects.

Anglo American Kumba Iron Ore, as part of its Corporate Social Investment programme, initiated a study into the establishment of an Industrial Park in Kathu. This will boost the manufacturing sector. The Industrial Development Corporation is a strategic partner and the project has been included in national government's National Infrastructure Plan, Strategic Integrated Project 5 (SIP5, Saldanha–Northern Cape Development Corridor). ■

### ONLINE RESOURCES

Kathu Industrial Park: [www.kathuindustrialpark.co.za](http://www.kathuindustrialpark.co.za)  
Manufacturing Circle: [www.manufacturingcircle.co.za](http://www.manufacturingcircle.co.za)  
Northern Cape Economic Development, Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (NCEDA): [www.nceda.co.za](http://www.nceda.co.za)



# Tsantsabane community celebrates newly upgraded hospital

Partnership between Kumba Iron Ore's Kolomela mine, the SIOC Community Development Trust and local and provincial government delivers enhanced public healthcare.



*From left to right: Mavis Kolberg, Corporate Affairs and Social Performance Manager; Thando Njoko, Principal Social Performance; MEC Maruping Lekwene; Beauranne Luvuno, CEO Postmasburg Hospital; Pranill Ramchander, Executive Head of Corporate Affairs; Tebogo Mushi, Kolomela General Manager; Faith Basson, SED Specialist; Keaobaka Matilo, Community Liaison; Tsantsabane Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr Helena English; Masala Mutangwa, Head of Social Performance; Dr Angel Ndlovu, Occupational Medical Practitioner, Kolomela Mine; and Irene Williams, Kgatelopele Municipality Executive Mayor.*

After 18 years, the Tsantsabane community has a working hospital theatre again. The newly upgraded theatre at the Postmasburg hospital was handed over to the Northern Cape's Department of Health by Anglo American's Kumba Iron Ore, providing a major boost for public healthcare in the region.

The lack of a functioning theatre meant no surgical procedures could be performed at the Postmasburg hospital. This meant that patients needing even minor surgeries would have to be transported to Kimberley or Upington, reducing the availability of emergency medical resources in the Tsantsabane municipal area. The new theatre will change all that and will gradually introduce a wider range of surgical procedures.

The new theatre is the result of a partnership between the Northern Cape Department of Health, the Tsantsabane local municipality and the SIOC Community Development Trust. Kumba Iron Ore's Kolomela mine spent around R13-million on the upgrade, with the SIOC-CDT contributing an additional R3-million.

Speaking at the handover of the theatre, Kolomela mine General Manager Tebogo Mushi explained what the theatre will be doing, starting with cataract removals. The theatre project falls within the company's community health facility standard and is an important milestone in local healthcare.

"Only 24% of the people of Tsantsabane are members of a medical aid, which underscores the importance of public facilities in the area. This new theatre is just part of our commitment to building a sustainable community that will thrive long beyond the life of the mine. This is an important milestone in local healthcare, and we are privileged to be able to make this contribution to community health," said Mushi.

MEC for Health in the Northern Cape, Maruping Lekwene, said the new theatre would capacitate the hospital and enhance public healthcare in Tsantsabane. "Kumba and SIOC's contribution is mammoth. We cannot quantify it in rands and cents. We just want to say we appreciate your support from the bottom of our hearts," he said.

Dr Alexandra Plowright, Head of Community Health and Wellbeing at Anglo American, said that building a more equitable healthcare system was part of the company's DNA, and how it does business. It forms an integral part of Anglo American's Sustainable Mining Plan. One of the plan's main focus areas is to create thriving communities through better health, well-being, education and employment outcomes.

"We've got a long history of supporting major public health programmes to help improve the health of our employees and host communities. We've been running major health facilities around our operations over many decades, because good health and well-being are essential to building thriving communities and economies," she said.

The theatre started doing cataract removals in mid-March 2023 as part of its first phase, before moving to more advanced procedures. Phase 1 covers cataracts and male circumcision. In Phase 2, the theatre will provide caesarean sections and other minor surgical procedures; Phase 3 will extend the range of procedures to sterilisations and general minor surgeries, with Phase 4 to provide orthopaedic surgeries. ■

# Banking and finance

Northern Cape miners are listing on the JSE.

**N**ew entrants to the copper-mining sector in the Northern Cape have recently listed on two South African stock exchanges.

Copper 360, active near Springbok, listed on main board and AltX board of the JSE in April 2023. There are now 44 companies in the basic materials sector.

Australian mining company Orion Minerals also recently listed on the AltX and the JSE main board. The company's two main projects which it is financing are the Okiep Copper Project and the Prieska Copper Zinc Project, pictured.

Infrastructure South Africa (ISA) is actively involved in several Northern Cape projects. A special purpose vehicle will be established, with development finance institutions, to tackle the backlog in school infrastructure and a similar idea underpins the financing of a rural roads programme.

The launch by Sanlam Investments of a Sustainable Infrastructure Fund is a sign of the times. The South African state has promised a huge infrastructure drive but in the context of climate change caused by the use of fossil fuels, the investment community is increasingly putting emphasis on sustainability. Sanlam Group will invest R6-billion in the fund and aims to attract a further R5-billion from institutional investors.

The Land and Agricultural Development Bank of South Africa (Land Bank) is a major participant in the Northern Cape financial sector and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), as an equity investor, is another important player.

In 2022, financial services group Old Mutual received permission from the prudential authority of the South African Reserve Bank to apply for a banking licence. The bank will spend R1.75-billion on setting up the bank and intends to launch in 2024.

With the renewable energy sector booming in South Africa, a new sector in need of project funding has opened up for banks. The Northern Cape has attracted a large number of independent power producers. South Africa's four big retail banks (Nedbank, Absa, Standard Bank and First National Bank) have a solid

## SECTOR INSIGHT

Infrastructure is being funded.



presence in the major towns in the province but Capitec is growing fast. Investment holding company PSG has reduced its holding in Capitec Bank from 32% to 4%, earning about R4-billion by selling those shares.

Discovery Bank officially launched in March 2019 and is experiencing rapid growth with deposits of R3.7-billion. Discovery Bank is applying the behavioural model it uses in its health business to reward good financial behaviour.

Most agricultural companies have financing and services divisions, as one would expect in a province with a strong and varied agricultural sector which exports much of its produce. ■

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Association for Savings and Investment South Africa: [www.asisa.org.za](http://www.asisa.org.za)

Auditor-General of South Africa: [www.agsa.co.za](http://www.agsa.co.za)

Banking Association South Africa: [www.banking.org.za](http://www.banking.org.za)

# ICT

## Broadband infrastructure is expanding.

**A** Provincial Broadband Strategy has been compiled by the Provincial Government of the Northern Cape and will now move to implementation. Many state facilities have already been connected, with a focus on health and education.

An electronic dispatch system is working at 91% of the province's health facilities while every one of the public ordinary schools is connected for administrative purposes. The SA Connect programme is helping the province roll out digital connections for teaching: so far 98 schools in the Pixley Ka Seme District have been connected.

Two pilot projects to introduce Coding and Robotics as a subject (at 173 schools) and to convert classrooms (at one school in each of the five districts) into cyber labs have been launched.

Agriculture will also benefit from the Broadband Strategy through a partnership with the Vaalharts Agricultural Distribution Centre (VADC) and Farm Smart Technology. The aim is to improve access to markets and to assist with logistics.

The major telecommunications operators, Vodacom, MTN and Telkom, have recently spent nearly R1-billion in upgrading broadband infrastructure such as base stations. The result is that the province can now boast of 98% cellular network coverage, a remarkable achievement for such a big province. Vodacom is partnering with the provincial government in the provision of digital call centres for emergency medical services (EMS) in Upington and Kimberley.

Sol Plaatje University (SPU) is teaching data analytical skills to undergraduates and many of them are moving into the financial sector on graduation. Another area where these skills are in great demand is radio astronomy. One of the world's great scientific

### SECTOR INSIGHT

Health facilities are connected.

**98%** Cellular network coverage

ventures, the Square Kilometre Array radio telescope project, has been established near Carnarvon and the amount of data that it will generate is so great that it is difficult to comprehend. Many data analysts will be needed.

Another contribution by SPU to the acquiring of digital skills goes beyond the confines of the campus through Hackathons, VacWork programmes and skills development outreach projects. This is done in collaboration with lecturers, Geekulcha students and the NCDev ecosystem (the first app developer ecosystem in the Northern Cape).

Galeshewe now has its own mLab for applications development, thanks to a partnership between the provincial government, the National Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) and the Northern Cape Community Education and Training College. ■

### Internet connectivity    Total facilities    Connected

Health administration	159	145
Public schools administration	554	554
Free library Internet	223	215

Source: SOPA

### ONLINE RESOURCES

National Department of Science and Innovation: [www.dsi.gov.za](http://www.dsi.gov.za)

Square Kilometre Array: [www.ska.ac.za](http://www.ska.ac.za)

Technology Innovation Agency: [www.tia.org.za](http://www.tia.org.za)





# Development finance and SMME support

The IDC is involved in multiple projects, small and large.

From one of the biggest financial investments into the energy sector in South Africa, to a scheme to promote small-scale farming on the banks of the Orange River, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) is intimately involved in the economic future of the Northern Cape.

The Lower Orange River Agricultural Development project that brought more than 200ha under grapes through the Eksteenskuil Agricultural Co-operative was funded by the Jobs Fund administered by the IDC. The co-operative has more than 100 members. More recently, the IDC has joined hands with Saudi Arabian energy giant ACWA Power in constructing the 100MW Redstone concentrated solar thermal power (CSP) plant. The IDC's minority stake in the R11.6-billion project forms part of the more than R13-billion that the entity has committed to the renewable energy sector in South Africa, much of it in the Northern Cape.

Entrepreneurs with smaller budgets can also get help from the IDC, which sometimes manages funds on behalf of other entities, such as the National Department of Tourism in the case of the Green Tourism Incentive Programme (GTIP). This programme will support tourism operators wanting to install technologies that would help them save energy and water. Grants are issued up to R1-million.

SME-Connect is an IDC programme that works with large companies, all of which have Supplier Development programmes (SD) and Enterprise Development programmes (ED), to nurture small

## SECTOR INSIGHT

The Northern Cape Blended SMME Fund has been launched

businesses. The IDC looks to support the small business in one of three ways: access to market, access to finance and business development support (technical or compliance). The corporate partner often supplies the market for the small business, which frees up the IDC to provide startup finance and advice.

A fund has been launched to provide concessionary funding to local entrepreneurs. The R75-million Northern Cape Blended SMME Fund is a joint initiative of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDaT) and the National Empowerment Fund (NEF) and is part of a broader enterprise development programme. DEDaT is also partnering with the National Department of Telecommunications and Digital Technologies, the National Electronic Media Institute South Africa and the Vaal University of Technology to train unemployed young people in cellphone repairs.

The provincial Operation Vala Zonke programme had fixed 23 334 potholes as of February 2024. The Northern Cape Construction Company was launched in 2022 and 50 employees were selected for a CETA learnership programme covering Road Construction Level 3. ■



*Small businesses are getting a head start in renewable energy.*

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Industrial Development Corporation (IDC): [www.idc.co.za](http://www.idc.co.za)  
Northern Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry: [www.nocci.co.za](http://www.nocci.co.za)  
Northern Cape Economic Development, Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (NCEDA): [www.nceda.co.za](http://www.nceda.co.za)  
Northern Cape Solar Business Incubator: [www.nocsobi.org.za](http://www.nocsobi.org.za)

# Northern Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry



**Your ultimate business connection.**

## Our heritage in brief

NOCCI was established on 22 February 2000 when the Chamber of Business and the Kimberley Afrikaanse Sakekamer amalgamated. At the time, these two organisations had served the business community of Kimberley for 120 years.

## Membership advantages

A Chamber assesses and evaluates the needs of the local business community, in particular the need for services to small business at a reasonable cost:

- Monitors developments at the local level
- Mobilises business opinion on local issues
- Exerts a positive influence on the environment in which business operates and helps prospective members grow their business
- Promotes and encourages the pursuit of a high standard of business ethics
- Disseminates information that is useful to the business fraternity
- Creates opportunities for improving business skills
- Extends business contacts locally, regionally and nationally, and allows individual businesspeople to

share in the provincial and national business decision-making processes

- Upholds the market economy and private enterprise system
- Has committees which are ideal places for members of diverse interests to consolidate and unify their thinking as they work together – committees accurately sense the environment, process information and provide valuable guidance to the member
- Holds functions and special events, allowing members to network and learn about interesting topics

## Can you afford not to belong?

The increasingly complex business and social environment requires a comprehensive support structure to ensure the most favourable climate for the continued viable existence of individual businesses in a system of free enterprise. At the same time, the Chamber movement facilitates adjustment by business to those realities that cannot be altered. Involvement in the Chamber movement bears abundant fruit for the well-being of each business. ■

*Website: [www.nocci.co.za](http://www.nocci.co.za)*

## HORSESHOE INN – a Kimberley favourite

**The Northern Cape's premier conference and function centre**



Country elegance, lush gardens and friendly personal service are hallmarks of the Horseshoe Inn.

- Winner of the best conference and wedding centre in the Northern Cape for four consecutive years.
- Close to The Big Hole and the Hoffe Park Stadium.
- Safe undercover parking and airport transfers.

We are famous for our top-notch pub lunches at the Crazy Horse Restaurant and the ladies' bar. Guests can enjoy the pool, relax over cocktails or experience a typical Northern Cape BBQ at the Lapa.

### Accommodation

Each of our 63 rooms and two spacious flats, which can accommodate 168 guests, was designed with maximum comfort in mind. Air-conditioning, en-suite bathroom with shower, flat-screen TVs with DSTV and tea/coffee-making facilities are standard room features.

### Weddings and functions

We have catered for brides from Namibia all the way to Cape Town. We are affiliated with the best wedding planners and our executive chef always delivers quality. We offer a wide range of services for every occasion from weddings to baby showers. We are the premier, all-inclusive conference, product launch and function centre in the province. Facilities are fully air-conditioned and equipped with TV monitors, video and overhead projectors, screens and flip charts. Our largest conference facility can accommodate 600 delegates cinema-style and 350 people classroom-style. With more than 20382 functions/conferences behind us, who can do it better?



# Tourism

Country Hotels is expanding via a franchise model.



## *Wide-open spaces take on a new meaning in the Kalahari.*

Country Hotels, building on a remarkable expansion project which has effectively covered the Northern Cape province over a 13-year period since the first hotel was acquired, is expanding to other parts of South Africa and Southern Africa.

A franchise model of owner-operated properties is being adopted to expand the brand, which currently has 16 properties, all but one of which are in the Northern Cape. Clanwilliam Hotel in the Western Cape, the first hotel that entrepreneur André Thirion acquired, is the geographic exception while the Orange River Rafting Lodge is different in a different way. Every other Country Hotels property is aimed at the corporate market while the lodge is a leisure resort.

Anyone wondering about the trajectory of the Northern Cape economy should factor in the business decision taken by Thirion to open three properties (a hotel, a lodge and an inn) in both Kuruman and Pofadder. Thirion reports that it is not just the mining and renewable energy sectors that are driving bookings, but rather the economy of the province in general.

Springbok, near the copper towns of Nababeep and Okiep, has the architecturally interesting Springbok Inn and a few miles down the N7 highway is Namastat Lodge, which offers four self-catering cabins and 25 campsites. Country Hotels also has a presence in Upington, Calvinia, Kathu, Postmasburg and Kakamas where the hotel is surrounded by vineyards. The group's restaurant group, Badgers Grill, forms part of the franchise package.

While the Country Hotels Group is catering to the corporate market and ensuring that the basics are well covered in a clean and hospitable environment, the Northern Cape is also home to a wide variety of holiday offerings, ranging from self-catering to some of the country's most luxurious resorts.

### SECTOR INSIGHT

Tswalu Kalahari Reserve is a 114 000ha conservation area.

Stretching over 114 000 hectares, Tswalu Kalahari Reserve is the largest privately protected conservation area in South Africa and is a formally designated nature reserve. The views across the plains from the Korannaberg Mountain range are as soothing as they are remarkable.

!Xaus Lodge offers accommodation within 70km of Twee Rivieren in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (KTP). Seclusion is ensured after driving over 91 sand dunes to get to the 24-bed lodge. The lodge is owned by local communities, with support from the Transfrontier Parks Destinations organisation, and the chalets are designed like their own traditional dwelling places. Plans are in place for two new wilderness camps and for the refurbishment of the existing lodge.

Perfect Hideaways lists nine Karoo properties while the Tutwa Desert Lodge offers accommodation in the Greater Augrabies area between the Green Kalahari and the Orange River.

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## Hotels

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The Flamingo Casino in Kimberley is run by Sun International and offers gaming tables, slot machines and conference facilities. The Protea Hotel by Marriott Kimberley has 117 rooms and three suites and is located next to the Big Hole. Also near the capital city's biggest attraction is the historic Kimberley Club Boutique Hotel. Tsogo Sun has two properties in Kimberley: a 135-room Garden Court and a 64-room budget hotel, SUN1.

The riverside town of Upington has a large number of guesthouses and bed-and-breakfast establishments, together with a 90-room Protea Hotel by Marriott.

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## Starry skies

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The Northern Cape has long been known as the best location for astronomy. The town of Sutherland is the site of several huge optical telescopes that attract scientists and tourists every year.

Even though the massive radio astronomy project under construction around Carnarvon, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), does not need dark skies, the huge number of dishes spread across the countryside will probably start attracting its own quota of tourists.

Rather than darkness, the SKA needs minimal radio interference and actually operates in daytime. The best kind of star-gazing can be enjoyed without any telescopes at all in the Northern Cape, so spectacular are the nightly displays in the wide-open outdoors.

There are six national parks in the province, each with distinct geographical and biological features. The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (with Botswana) encompasses 3.7-million hectares, making it one of the biggest conservation areas in the world. Khomani Cultural Landscape within the park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as is the Richtersveld Cultural and Botanical Landscape, part of the Richtersveld Transfrontier Park.

The other four national parks are the flower-infused Namaqua National Park, the Augrabies Falls National Park (where the water thunders), the



***Kuruman Lodge is one of three Country Hotels properties in the town.***

silent Tankwa Karoo National Park and Mokala National Park near Kimberley, "where endangered species roam".

Most of the province lies in the Nama-Karoo Biome and the annual display of spring flowers is spectacular. The Kalahari in the north-east is home to many of the province's biggest mines, but also to great numbers of raptors, vultures and owls. The Diamond Fields region contains the spectacular Big Hole, the Mokala National Park and portions of the famed South African War or Battlefields Route. The Magersfontein War Memorial is an iconic attraction. The Karoo region encompasses the south-eastern portion of the province. While most of the region is dry, the Vanderkloof Dam is a major tourism asset.

The Namakwa region is famous for its flowers, but it also hosts the South African Astronomical Observatory and several historic mission settlements. Springbok and Calvinia are the two major towns in this huge district, which is also the only Northern Cape region with a coastline and soon to be the home of a new harbour. ■

### ONLINE RESOURCES

Northern Cape Tourism: [www.experiencenortherncape.com](http://www.experiencenortherncape.com)  
 Richtersveld Conservancy: [www.richtersveld-conservancy.org](http://www.richtersveld-conservancy.org)  
 South African National Parks: [www.sanparks.org](http://www.sanparks.org)



# Northern Cape Local Government

A guide to district and local municipalities in the Northern Cape Province.

## FRANCES BAARD DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Physical address: 51 Drakensberg Avenue,  
Carters Glen, Kimberley 8301  
Postal address: Private Bag X6088, Kimberley 8300  
Tel: +27 53 838 0911 | Fax: +27 53 861 1538  
Website: [www.francesbaard.gov.za](http://www.francesbaard.gov.za)

### Dikgatlong Municipality

Tel: +27 53 531 6500 | Fax: +27 53 531 0624  
Website: [www.dikgatlong.co.za](http://www.dikgatlong.co.za)

### Magareng Municipality

Tel: +27 53 497 3111/2/3 | Fax: +27 53 497 4514  
Website: [www.magareng.gov.za](http://www.magareng.gov.za)

### Phokwane Municipality

Tel: +27 53 474 9700 | Fax: +27 53 474 1768  
Website: [www.phokwane.org.za](http://www.phokwane.org.za)

### Sol Plaatje Municipality

Tel: +27 53 830 6911/6100 | Fax: +27 53 833 1005  
Website: [www.solplaatje.org.za](http://www.solplaatje.org.za)

## JOHN TAOLO GAETSEWE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Physical address: 4 Federal Mynbou Street,  
Kuruman 8460  
Postal address: PO Box 1480, Kuruman 8460  
Tel: +27 53 712 8700 | Fax: +27 53 712 2502  
Website: [www.taologaeetsewe.gov.za](http://www.taologaeetsewe.gov.za)

### Gamagara Municipality

Tel: +27 53 723 6000 | Fax: +27 53 723 2021  
Website: [www.gamagara.gov.za](http://www.gamagara.gov.za)

### Ga-Segonyana Municipality

Tel: +27 53 712 9300 | Fax: +27 53 712 3581  
Website: [www.ga-segonyana.gov.za](http://www.ga-segonyana.gov.za)

### Joe Morolong Municipality

Tel: +27 53 773 9300 | Fax: +27 53 773 9350  
Website: [www.joemorolong.gov.za](http://www.joemorolong.gov.za)

## NAMAKWA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Physical address: Van Riebeeck Street,  
Springbok 8240  
Postal address: Private Bag X20, Springbok 8240  
Tel: +27 27 712 8000 | Fax: +27 27 712 8040  
Email: [info@namakwa-dm.gov.za](mailto:info@namakwa-dm.gov.za)  
Website: [www.namakwa-dm.gov.za](http://www.namakwa-dm.gov.za)

### Hantam Municipality

Tel: +27 27 341 8500 | Fax: +27 27 341 8501  
Website: [www.hantam.gov.za](http://www.hantam.gov.za)

### Kamiesberg Municipality

Tel: +27 27 652 8000 | Fax: +27 27 652 8001  
Website: [www.kamiesberg.gov.za](http://www.kamiesberg.gov.za)

### Karoo Hoogland Municipality

Tel: +27 53 285 0998  
Fax: +27 53 391 3294  
Website: [www.karoohoogland.gov.za](http://www.karoohoogland.gov.za)

### Khâi-Ma Municipality

Tel: +27 54 933 1000  
Fax: +27 54 933 0252  
Website: [www.khaima.gov.za](http://www.khaima.gov.za)





*The new library at Barkly West.*

### **Nama Khoi Municipality**

Tel: +27 27 718 8100 | Fax: +27 27 712 1635  
Website: [www.namakhoi.gov.za](http://www.namakhoi.gov.za)

### **Richtersveld Municipality**

Tel: +27 27 851 1111 | Fax: +27 27 851 1101  
Website: [www.richtersveld.gov.za](http://www.richtersveld.gov.za)

### **PIXLEY KA SEME DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

Physical address: Culvert Road, Industrial Area,  
De Aar 7000  
Tel: +27 53 631 0891 | Fax: +27 53 631 2529  
Website: [www.pksgdm.gov.za](http://www.pksgdm.gov.za)

### **Emthanjeni Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 632 9100 | Fax: +27 53 631 0105  
Website: [www.emthanjeni.co.za](http://www.emthanjeni.co.za)

### **Kareeberg Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 382 3012 | Fax: +27 53 382 3142  
Website: [www.kareeberg.co.za](http://www.kareeberg.co.za)

### **Renosterberg Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 663 0041 | Fax: +27 53 663 0180

### **Siyancuma Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 298 1810 | Fax: +27 53 298 3141  
Website: [www.siyancuma.gov.za](http://www.siyancuma.gov.za)

### **Siyathemba Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 492 3410 / 3420 | Fax: +27 53 353 1386  
Website: [www.siyathemba.co.za](http://www.siyathemba.co.za)

### **Thembelihle Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 203 0008/5 | Fax: +27 53 203 0490  
Website: [thembelihlemunicipality.gov.za](http://thembelihlemunicipality.gov.za)

### **Ubuntu Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 621 0026 | Fax: +27 53 621 0368  
Website: [www.ubuntu.gov.za](http://www.ubuntu.gov.za)

### **Umsobomvu Municipality**

Tel: +27 51 753 0777/8 | Fax: +27 51 753 0574  
Website: [www.umsobomvumun.co.za](http://www.umsobomvumun.co.za)

### **ZF MGCAWU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

Physical address: Cnr Nelson Mandela Avenue and  
Upington Road, Upington 8801  
Tel: +27 54 337 2800 | Fax: +27 54 337 2888  
Website: [www.zfm-dm.co.za](http://www.zfm-dm.co.za)

### **Dawid Kruiper Municipality**

Tel: +27 54 338 7000  
Fax: +27 54 338 7350  
Website: [www.dkm.gov.za](http://www.dkm.gov.za)

### **Kai! Garib Municipality**

Tel: +27 54 461 6700 / 6300 | Fax: +27 54 461 6401  
Website: [www.kaigarib.gov.za](http://www.kaigarib.gov.za)

### **Kgatelopele Municipality**

Tel: +27 54 384 8600 | Fax: +27 53 384 0326  
Website: [www.kgatelopele.gov.za](http://www.kgatelopele.gov.za)

### **!Kheis Municipality**

Tel: +27 54 833 9500 | Fax: +27 54 833 0690  
Website: [www.kheis.co.za](http://www.kheis.co.za)

### **Tsantsabane Municipality**

Tel: +27 53 313 7300 | Fax: +27 53 313 1602  
Website: [www.tsantsabane.gov.za](http://www.tsantsabane.gov.za)

# Northern Cape Provincial Government



A guide to the Northern Cape's provincial government departments.

Provincial government website: [www.northern-cape.gov.za](http://www.northern-cape.gov.za)

## Office of the Premier

**Address:** JW Sauer Building, Cnr Roper and Quinn Streets, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5016, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 838 2600 / 053 838 2708

**Website:** [www.premier.ncpg.gov.za](http://www.premier.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs, Rural Development and Land Reform

**Address:** 162 George Street, Kimberlite Building, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5018, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 838 9100 / 053 838 9165

**Website:** [www.daerl.ncpg.gov.za](http://www.daerl.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs

**Address:** Larry Moleko Louw Building, 9 Cecil Sussman Road, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5005, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 830 9400 / 086 205 9798 / 086 5622 651

**Website:** [www.coghsta.ncpg.gov.za](http://www.coghsta.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Economic Development and Tourism

**Address:** Metlife Towers, 13th Floor, Cnr Stead and Knight Streets, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X6108, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 839 4000 / 053 833 9496

**State House:** 060 577 3311

**Email:** [dedat@ncpg.gov.za](mailto:dedat@ncpg.gov.za)

**Website:** [www.northern-cape.gov.za/dedat](http://www.northern-cape.gov.za/dedat)

## Department of Education

**Address:** 156 Barkly Road, Homestead, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5029, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 839 6500 / 053 830 7160

**Website:** [ncdoe.ncpg.gov.za](http://ncdoe.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Health

**Address:** James Exum Building, Du Toit Span Road, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5049, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 830 2100

**Website:** [www.northern-cape.gov.za/health](http://www.northern-cape.gov.za/health)

## Department of Roads and Public Works

**Address:** 9-11 Stokroos Street, Squarehill Park, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PO Box 3132, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 839 2277

**Website:** [ncrpw.ncpg.gov.za](http://ncrpw.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Social Development

**Address:** Mimosa Complex, Barkley Road, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5042, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 874 9100

**Website:** [www.socdev.ncpg.gov.za](http://www.socdev.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Sport, Arts and Culture

**Address:** 10 Recreation Road, Florianville, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5004, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 066 489 9256

**Website:** [dsac.ncpg.gov.za](http://dsac.ncpg.gov.za)

## Department of Transport, Safety and Liaison

**Address:** Cnr Phakamile Mabija and Lennox Streets, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X1368, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 839 1700

**Website:** [www.northern-cape.gov.za/dtsl](http://www.northern-cape.gov.za/dtsl)

## Treasury

**Address:** Metlife Towers, 13th Floor, Cnr Stead and Knight Streets, Kimberley

**Postal address:** PBag X5054, Kimberley 8300

**Tel:** 053 830 8200

**Website:** [www.ncpt.gov.za](http://www.ncpt.gov.za)



# COUNTRY HOTELS™



## Kathu Inn

Tel: 053 150 0067  
Email: [book@kathuinn.co.za](mailto:book@kathuinn.co.za)  
[www.kathuinn.co.za](http://www.kathuinn.co.za)



## Kakamas Hotel

Tel: 054 431 0976  
Email: [book@kakamashotel.co.za](mailto:book@kakamashotel.co.za)  
[www.kakamashotel.co.za](http://www.kakamashotel.co.za)



## Springbok Inn

Tel: 027 7181 832  
Email: [book@springbokinn.co.za](mailto:book@springbokinn.co.za)  
[www.springbokinn.co.za](http://www.springbokinn.co.za)



## Clanwilliam Hotel

Tel: 027 482 2888  
Email: [book@clanwilliamhotel.co.za](mailto:book@clanwilliamhotel.co.za)  
[www.clanwilliamhotel.co.za](http://www.clanwilliamhotel.co.za)



## Upington Inn

Tel: 054 338 0444  
Email: [book@upingtoninn.co.za](mailto:book@upingtoninn.co.za)  
[www.upingtoninn.co.za](http://www.upingtoninn.co.za)



## Orange River Rafting Lodge

Tel: 027 761 8777  
Email: [book@orrl.co.za](mailto:book@orrl.co.za)  
[www.orangeriverraftinglodge.co.za](http://www.orangeriverraftinglodge.co.za)



## Kuruman Inn

Tel: 053 712 1666  
Email: [book@kurumaninn.co.za](mailto:book@kurumaninn.co.za)  
[www.kurumaninn.co.za](http://www.kurumaninn.co.za)



## Kuruman Hotel

Tel: 053 712 0117  
Email: [book@kurumanhotel.co.za](mailto:book@kurumanhotel.co.za)  
[www.kurumanhotel.co.za](http://www.kurumanhotel.co.za)



## Kuruman Lodge

Tel: 053 712 3907  
Email: [book@kurumanlodge.co.za](mailto:book@kurumanlodge.co.za)  
[www.kurumanlodge.co.za](http://www.kurumanlodge.co.za)



## Pofadder Hotel

Tel: 054 933 0063  
Email: [book@pofadderhotel.co.za](mailto:book@pofadderhotel.co.za)  
[www.pofadderhotel.co.za](http://www.pofadderhotel.co.za)



## Pofadder Inn

Tel: 054 933 0003  
Email: [book@pofadderinn.co.za](mailto:book@pofadderinn.co.za)  
[www.pofadderinn.co.za](http://www.pofadderinn.co.za)



## Pofadder Lodge

Tel: 054 933 0003  
Email: [book@pofadderinn.co.za](mailto:book@pofadderinn.co.za)  
[www.pofadderlodge.co.za](http://www.pofadderlodge.co.za)



## Postmasburg Inn

Tel: 053 313 2182  
Email: [book@postmasburginn.co.za](mailto:book@postmasburginn.co.za)  
[www.postmasburginn.co.za](http://www.postmasburginn.co.za)



## Calvinia Hotel

Tel: 027 341 1512  
Email: [book@calviniahotel.co.za](mailto:book@calviniahotel.co.za)  
[www.calviniahotel.co.za](http://www.calviniahotel.co.za)



## Tankwa Lodge

Tel: 027 341 1512  
Email: [book@tankwalodge.co.za](mailto:book@tankwalodge.co.za)  
[www.tankwalodge.co.za](http://www.tankwalodge.co.za)



# Fast-tracking projects and lowering the cost of doing business

The Northern Cape Economic Development Agency (NCEDA) is the host of the Northern Cape InvestSA One Stop Shop.

The InvestSA One Stop Shop initiative is geared towards providing investors with services to fast-track projects and reduce government red tape when establishing a business. It is part of the government's drive to become investor friendly by improving the business environment by lowering the cost of doing business as well as making the process easier.

One Stop Shops house government entities such as the South African Revenue Service (to help with customs and tax), Home Affairs, Environmental Affairs, Eskom and the Companies and Intellectual Properties Commission under one roof.

An investor can make an appointment, meet a government representative and be guided by the representative through the process of setting up a business. The One Stop Shops simplify administrative procedures for issuing business approvals, permits and licences and thereby remove bottlenecks that investors may face in establishing and running businesses.

#### **The offering includes, but is not limited to:**

- Providing an accessible entry point for investors in need of regulatory compliance.
- Enhancing regulatory and legal processes.
- Improving approval turnaround timeframes.
- Providing information on incentives (tax, land, training, free trade zones, etc).
- Providing pre-approval information (market data, costs, incentives, project approval, local partners, etc).
- Providing post-approval information (facilitation of permit approvals, information relating to import of equipment and raw materials, central bank profit repatriation, etc) to investors.

#### **Participating national government entities**

- InvestSA is a division of the South African Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (the dtic)
- Business registry: Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC)
- Tax authority: South African Revenue Service (SARS)
- International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC)
- National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS)
- Public electricity utility: Eskom
- Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent (MISA)

#### **Visa facilitation**

Visa and permit applications can be made at Visa and Permit Facilitation Centres. Applications are then assessed by the Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria. Non-South Africans with a legal residency permit in South Africa can apply for a visa or permit at these centres.

There are centres in every province. In the Northern Cape there is a facility in Kimberley. The South African government is reviewing its critical skills list as well as taking steps to make it easier for people who qualify to apply.

#### **The Northern Cape invitation**

The Northern Cape InvestSA One Stop Shop and NCEDA team can advise you on investment opportunities and assist investment and trade opportunities from the same offices. The Northern Cape team is committed and qualified to assist and guide you from concept to investment phase.

***We look forward to hearing from you and partnering with you to make your investment a success!***

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

**Address:** NCEDA Building, First Floor, Corner Villiers and Quinn Street, Kimberley, 8301

**Tel:** +27 53 110 0289 | **Contact:** Acting CEO Mr Hendrik Louw

**Email:** hlouw@nceda.co.za