



Consulting Engineers South Africa

INFRASTRUCTURE  
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**ENGINEERING THE FUTURE NOW!**

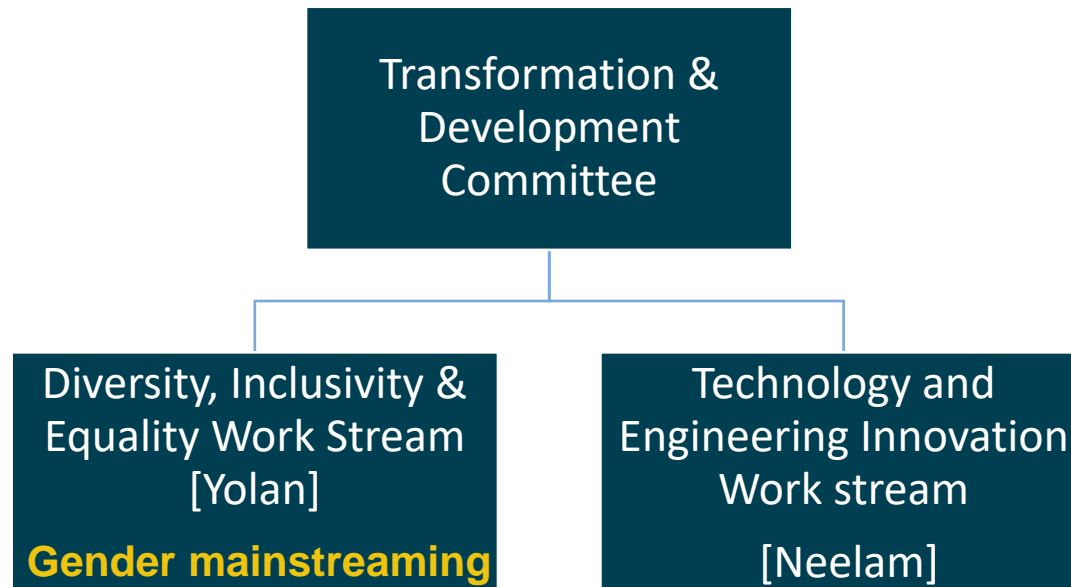
18 - 19 AUGUST 2022

**Transformation – a  
constitutional imperative**  
Refilwe Lesufi (Pr. Eng)

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**Objective:** Transformation Agenda - unpack challenges, propose solutions, and opportunities – provision of basic services

**Pain points** Unemployment, Crime, Poor service delivery, deteriorating infrastructure assets, increase cost of living, etc.



## The Bill of Rights in the South African Constitution

Basic services - Creating decent living conditions

Municipalities must:

- Develop fundable consolidated infrastructure plans.
  - Ensure infrastructure maintenance and repairs to reduce losses with respect to:
    - Water and sanitation.
    - Human Settlements.
    - Electricity.
    - Waste Management.
    - Roads.
    - Public Transportation.
  - Ensure the provision of Free Basic Services and the maintenance of Indigent register.
-

## Human needs

Housing

Health care

Food

Water

Sanitation

Social security

Education

Electricity

Refuse removal

Transportation, etc.

Monkam (2016) - though rural local municipalities are making efforts to provide essential services to the citizens, South Africans have been experiencing **an increasing displeasure with service delivery** at the local level. He also observed that South African local municipalities are branded by **substantial service delivery backlog challenges**, geographical spreading of rural municipalities in the main, **poor financial management, lapse of corporate governance systems, political instabilities** across municipalities, **exploitation of supply chain processes**, and **insufficient skills in critical municipal functions**.

According to the AGSA (2020), audit outcomes for local government for the period 2018-19 : of the 229 municipalities audited, only 2% were fully compliant with the audit

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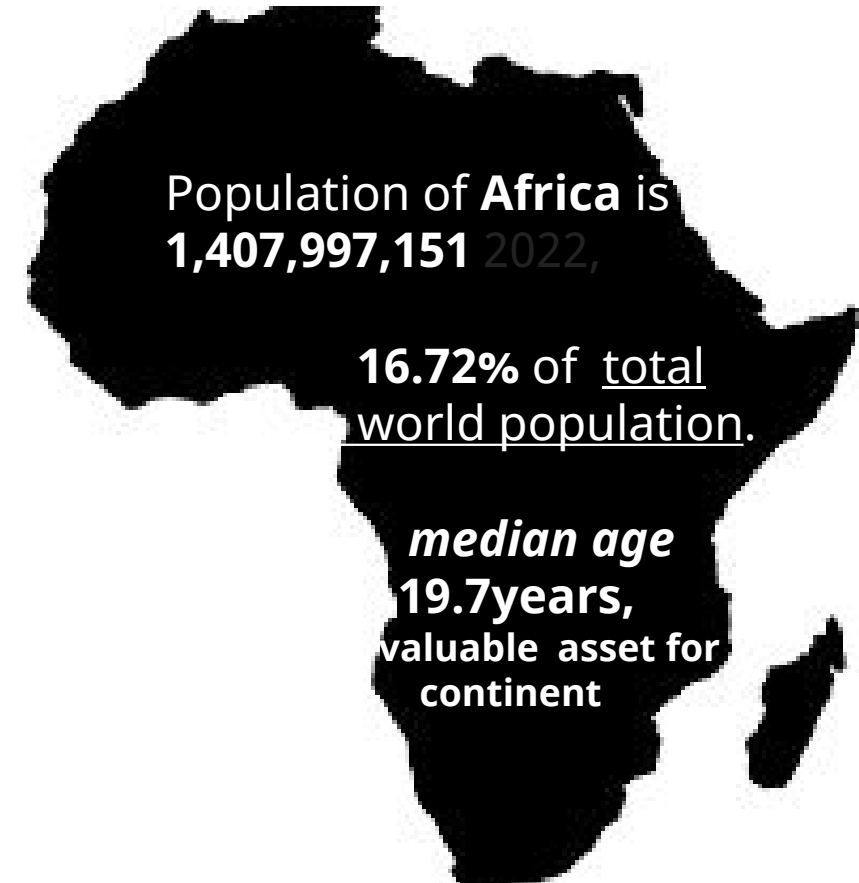
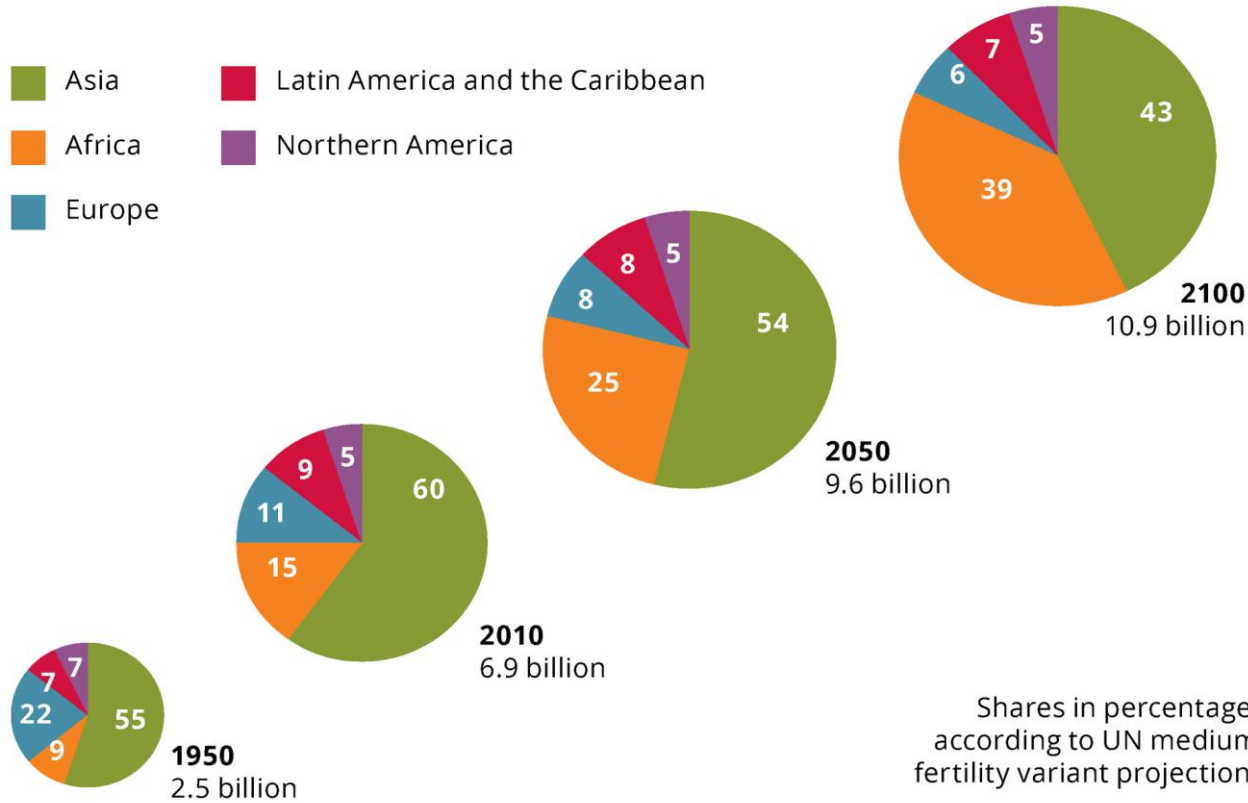
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Source: DailyMavric



Source: TimesLive



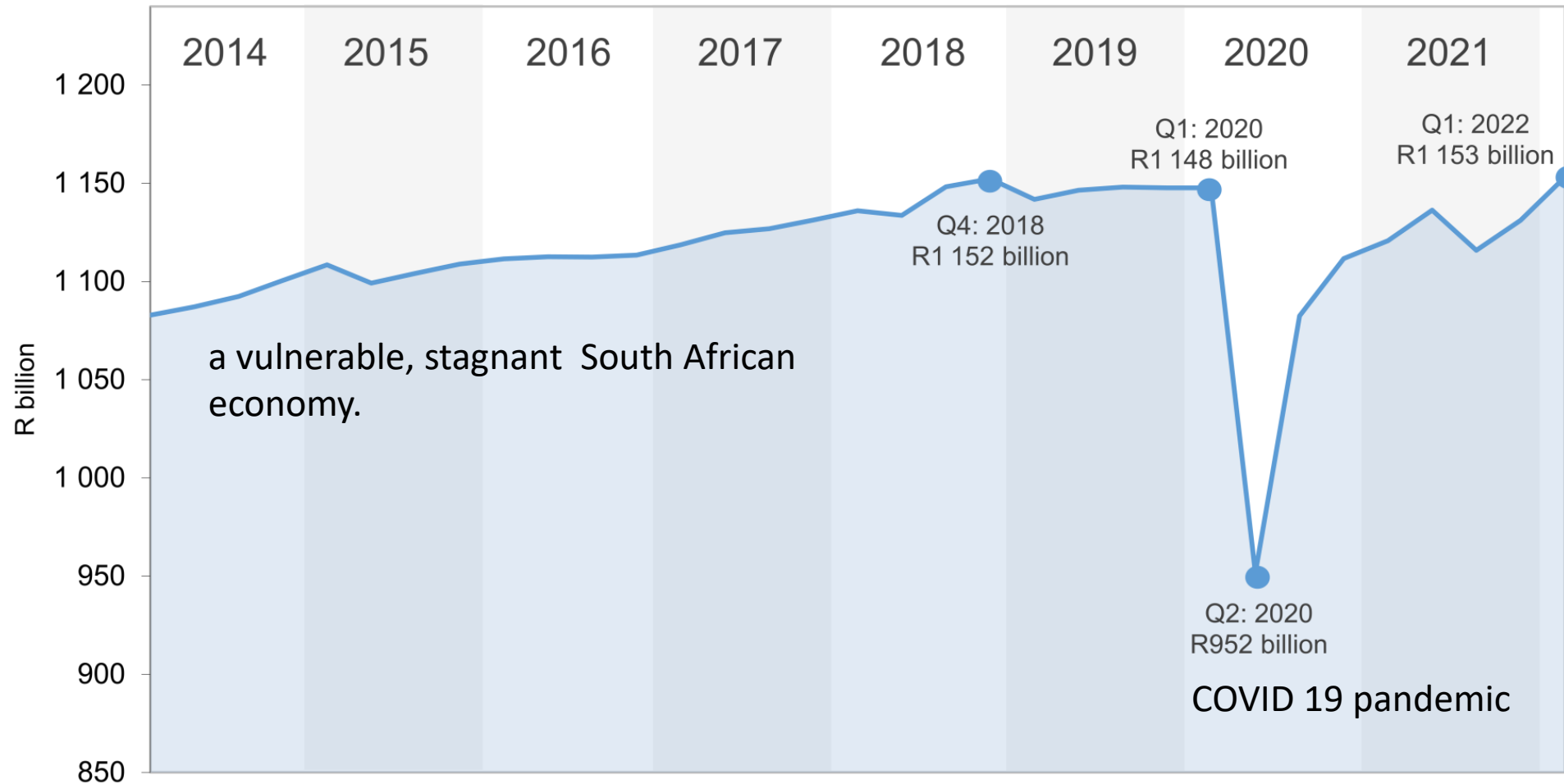
2095 – population 75,203,788 : need to provide basic services for

Source: South African population live

Source: based on the latest United Nations estimates 2022

# COVID-19: In Q1: 2022 the economy returned to pre-pandemic levels

Real GDP (constant 2015 prices, seasonally adjusted)



LOW!

Source: Gross domestic product (GDP), 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2022

Some good news

- National Infrastructure Plan 2050 (NIP 2050)
- *Infrastructure development is critical to attaining South Africa's long-term economic and social goals.*

*Infrastructure delivery will be one of the most significant contributors to South Africa's transition from its historically closed minerals economy to its future as an increasingly globally and regionally integrated and inclusive economy, promoting dynamic investment in the industries of the future.*





South African Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan

## Phases:

**Engage and Preserve:** comprehensive health response to save lives and curb the spread of the pandemic;

**Recovery and Reform** - interventions to restore the economy while controlling the health risks; and lastly,

**Reconstruct and Transform** - building a sustainable, resilient and inclusive economy.

## Enablers

Resource mobilisation; Regulatory changes - a supportive policy environment and enabling conditions for ease of doing business; Building a capable state; Social compacting; Skills development; Economic diplomacy and further integration into the African continent

## Priority interventions

- Aggressive infrastructure investment
- Employment orientated strategic localization
- Reindustrialization and export promotion
- Energy security
- Support for tourism recovery and growth
- Gender equality and economic inclusion of women and youth
  - Green economy interventions;
- Mass public employment interventions;
- Strengthening food security; and
- Macro-economic interventions

- Infrastructure is key driver of economy
- State of our infrastructure

**D+**

The overall grade awarded for the state of South Africa's infrastructure in 2017 is **D+**.  
A short explanation of the symbols are: A = World-class; B = Fit for the Future; C = Satisfactory for Now; D = At Risk of Failure, and E = Unfit for Purpose.

[SAICE Infrastructure Report Card 2017 - SAICE](#)

[saice.org.za/saice-infrastructure-report-card-2017-2/](https://saice.org.za/saice-infrastructure-report-card-2017-2/)

- Infrastructure is aging
  - Lack of maintenance existing infrastructure
  - Budget focus on capital expenditure, not O&M.
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# Transformation agenda – turning challenges into opportunities

- Pause and assess
  - What do we have – how do we preserve it?
  - Long term plan – how do we get there SMART
  - Inclusion of participation of woman, youth and people with disabilities to achieve Infrastructure transformation.
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- Transformation and engineering - vehicle turn tide of our country
- Called to serve - protecting lives and livelihood
- Infrastructure Transformation as a vehicle for changing the country for the better
- Making Constitution chapter 2 – bill of rights a reality
- Transformation agenda to include improved service delivery and sustainable black, women and youth businesses.
- Ensure we help government to meet and exceed constitutional mandate through transformation





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Thank you



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