

Arts, Culture, Science and Technology

Aim

The aim of the Department is to deal with matters pertaining to arts, culture, science and technology and to render state archive, heraldic and language services at national level.

Policy developments

The Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology aims to realise the full potential of arts, culture, science and technology in social and economic development, fostering creativity and innovation and promoting the country's diverse heritage.

Since 1994, the Department's priority has been to ensure greater equity in funding. Almost 90 per cent of spending of the vote comprises transfers to cultural institutions, heritage institutions, the film industry and science, engineering and technology institutions. In line with policy priorities, the Department has shifted funding from the Performing Arts Councils to the National Arts Council, increased the transfer to the Pan South African Language Board to cater for all official languages, and supported the establishment of new monuments and community art centres.

Science and technology policy is based on the concept of a National System of Innovation, which comprises a set of functioning institutions, organisations and policies that interact constructively in the pursuit of common social and economic goals. The approach focuses simultaneously on developing and maintaining cutting-edge global competitiveness and in addressing the urgent needs of those citizens who are less able to assert themselves in the market.

Developments in the National System of Innovation are evident in the new financing and reporting system for science councils, which establishes a reporting framework that improves accountability and encourages a culture of innovation by introducing the Innovation fund. The fund disburses resources through a competitive bidding process.

Expenditure estimates

Table 14.1 Expenditure by programme

R million	Expenditure outcome			Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Administration	17,6	24,3	26,7	21,1	25,3	25,4	26,4
Arts and culture	219,3	266,4	296,9	302,2	287,8	303,2	326,9
National archives of South Africa	13,2	14,2	17,0	15,8	18,1	19,0	19,8
National language service	6,1	7,9	19,9	26,9	27,9	28,8	29,6
Science, technology and meta-information	276,8	335,4	418,5	478,7	566,2	648,2	740,7
Departmental vote	533,2	648,2	778,9	844,6	925,3	1 024,6	1 143,4
Public works ¹	–	–	39,4	44,3	31,0	32,1	32,3
Total	533,2	648,2	818,4	888,9	956,3	1 056,6	1 175,7
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	–	–	44,4	48,8	89,5	–

¹ Appropriated on Vote 26: Public Works.

- *Administration* provides administrative services, human resources management, training and development.
- *Arts and culture* is responsible for the promotion of arts and culture nationally and internationally and for the promotion of the film industry.
- *National archives of South Africa* comprises the national archives, the National Archives Commission and the Bureau of Heraldry.
- *National language services* comprises translating and editing, language planning, national terminology, and support services to the South African Geographical Names Council.
- *Science, technology and meta-information* promotes the National System of Innovation.

Table 14.2 Economic classification of expenditure

R million	Expenditure outcome			Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Current							
Personnel	31,4	39,3	47,5	52,8	58,1	61,6	64,8
Transfer payments	472,2	573,5	684,9	751,6	837,3	933,4	1 047,5
Other	18,1	29,6	42,7	35,7	26,1	27,1	28,5
Capital							
Transfer payments	10,4	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,2	–	–
Acquisition of capital assets	1,2	4,6	42,1	47,6	33,6	34,6	34,9
Total	533,2	648,2	818,4	888,9	956,3	1 056,6	1 175,7

Transfer payments to cultural, science, technology and engineering institutions account for almost 85 per cent of total spending on the vote. Transfer payments are estimated at R837,3 million in 2000/01, rising to R933,4 million in 2001/02 and R1 047,5 million in 2002/03 as a result of the phasing in of competitive funding of research councils. Spending on personnel rises from R58,1 million in 2000/01 to R64,8 million in 2002/03.

Programme 1: Administration

Table 14.3 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	20,6	21,1	21,1	22,4	23,7	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	25,3	25,4	26,4
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	0,5	0,5	2,9	1,7	–

Administration renders auxiliary services to the various programmes of the Department and is broadly responsible for all administrative services.

Medium-term expenditure estimates for the programme rise to R25,3 million in 2000/01, R25,4 million in 2001/02 and R26,4 million in 2002/03 owing to increases in communication and administration costs.

Programme 2: Arts and culture

Table 14.4 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	270,3	302,2	302,2	294,2	310,8	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	287,8	303,2	326,9
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	31,9	31,9	(6,4)	(7,6)	–

The *Arts and culture* programme aims to ensure equal opportunities for artistic and cultural participation and expression, conserve the cultural heritage of all South Africans, promote the film industry and promote international cultural relations. Targeted industries include music, film and television, crafts, publishing and media.

The decline in the medium-term estimates to R287,8 million in 2000/01, R303,2 million in 2001/02 and R326,9 million in 2002/03 reflect reprioritisation in the Department towards other programmes such as *Science, technology and meta-information*.

Outputs and service delivery trends

Table 14.5 Arts and culture: Key activities and outputs

Key activities	Outputs
Ensuring South Africans have equal opportunity for artistic and cultural participation	Development of the South African theatre, accessibility of the arts to the community; formal and informal education to visitors
Aid to declared institutions	The National Arts Council has funded 2 240 artists, institutions and NGOs since its inception in 1997
Financial assistance to the performing arts councils	5 million people visit the cultural institutions annually
Legacy Project	The creation of 10 new museums, monuments or other commemorative structures to redress past imbalances in historical representations
RDP Projects for the Stabilisation of Youth	42 community arts centres, libraries, museums and theatres have been built and/renovated over the past three years with financing from the RDP Fund
Cultural industries growth strategy	Public-private partnerships, ongoing research, domestic and international market expansion and urban regeneration through culture; creation of export markets and employment opportunities
Promotion of cultural relations internationally and facilitation of international cultural exchange	28 cultural agreements and Bi-national and Joint Commissions have been signed to date; South Africa has joined five multilateral arts and culture organisations; funding is provided for 200 groups and individuals to represent South African arts and culture around the world
Financial assistance to the National Film and Video Foundation to support production houses, individual film producers and funding for education, training and development of young film-makers	R20 million has been allocated to 259 film projects, with more than 60 per cent of the funding targeted at development and training

In line with its commitment to improve access to culture and learning activities for children and youth, the Department established 37 community arts centres by the end of 1999 at a cost of R50 million.

Heritage and cultural attractions accounted for 46 per cent of foreign tourists' reasons to visit the country. Each year about 5 million people visit South Africa's cultural institutions, including natural museums, art galleries and monuments. In 1999/00, the Department allocated R110,8 million to these institutions and the Department of Public Works an additional R38,4 million to develop and maintain their infrastructure.

The Department also promotes culture on the international front. Bilateral cultural agreements enabled 60 South African embassies to promote cultural manifestos during cultural weeks in designated countries, and assisted approximately 400 South African groups to visit nearly 180 countries since 1996.

Policy developments

Resource allocations to the performing arts councils have been decreased incrementally in order to fund a wider and more representative spectrum of the arts, including the National Arts Council and Business Arts South Africa.

Programme 3: National archives of South Africa

Table 14.6 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	14,6	15,8	15,8	16,0	16,9	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	18,1	19,0	19,8
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	1,2	1,2	2,1	2,1	–

The programme *National archives of South Africa* aims to foster national identity and the protection of rights by preserving a national archival heritage for use by Government and people of South Africa. The programme is also responsible for promoting efficient, accountable and transparent government through the proper management and care of government records. The National Archives Commission assists and monitors the activities of the national archives and promotes national coordination of archival policy formulation and planning. The Bureau of Heraldry is responsible for the registration of heraldic representations, special names and uniforms of associations and institutions.

The medium-term allocations are revised upwards to R18,1 million in 2000/01, increasing to R19,8 million in 2002/03, as the programme intends restructuring its activities and implementing a pilot project to test the potential for introducing digital technologies.

Outputs and service delivery trends

Table 14.7 National archives: Key activities and outputs

Key activities	Outputs
Acquisition, preservation and promotion of the use of public and non-public records	Access to public records and public heraldic service; 351 291 records added to the system and 24 895 enquires made on the system 125 heraldic registrations completed Maintenance of a national automated archival retrieval system.
Ensuring proper management and care of all public records	Provision of records; management services to all government bodies
Developing national coat of arms	Phasing in of the new national coat of arms over a 3-year period

Policy developments

The National Archives of South Africa Act of 1996 mandated the establishment of a new national archives system and established the National Archives Commission to support and monitor transformation.

The Department is re-conceptualising and restructuring the national archives service so that its knowledge base is extended and made more accessible to all South Africans. Established archival practice with regard to collections, research and documentation is being broadened to include aspects of South African history that have been neglected in the past.

The preservation of paper-based and audio-visual archives presents a huge challenge in terms of accessibility and use of the archives. The Department plans to run a pilot project to test the potential for introducing digital technologies for the national archives.

Cabinet agreed in January 1999 that South Africa should adopt a new national coat of arms that reflects the culture, identity and aspirations of its people and conveys a message of unity. The new coat of arms will be phased in over three years.

Programme 4: National language service

Table 14.8 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
		1999/00		2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	26,1	26,9	26,9	28,4	30,0	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	27,9	28,8	29,6
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	0,8	0,8	(0,5)	(1,2)	–

The *National language service's* primary function is to meet the language requirements of the Constitution by facilitating, promoting and providing translation and editing services in all the official languages. The programme also manages language diversity through language planning, terminology projects and support services for the South African Geographical Names Council.

The medium-term expenditure estimates are marginally lower at R27,9 million in 2000/01 and R29,6 million in 2002/03.

Outputs and service delivery trends

Table 14.9 National language service: Key activities and outputs

Key activities	Outputs
Language editing and translation of official documents	Editing and/or translation services in all official languages and foreign languages for government departments and various statutory bodies
Developing and promoting the government language policy and of linguistic diversity	A multimedia "Multilingual Awareness Campaign" of R4 million; 40 multilingual workshops on language policy implementation
National terminology	
Advising on national policy concerning technical language	Response to telephonic terminological queries
Disseminating terminological information to language groups and speech communities	Production of a bilingual dietetics dictionary, bilingual ophthalmology dictionary
Grants to certain general dictionary institutions	Promotion of effective communication of scientific knowledge through projects such as the multilingual HIV/Aids term list, election terms and weather terminology.
Pansalb: Promoting and developing the official languages and other languages used by communities	Creation of conditions for the development and equal use of all official languages; launch of a multilingual website
South African Geographical Names Council: Standardisation of geographical names for official purposes	Recognition of place names with special attention to marginalised communities through the correct use of their languages.

The Pan South African Language Board (Pansalb) was established to promote multilingualism in general and to promote and develop previously marginalised languages. In 1999/00 a transfer payment of R11 million was made to the Pansalb to establish national lexicography units for each of the official languages as a matter of urgency. The Board receives a transfer of R13 million in 2000/01. Additional transfer payments of R1,7 million and R0,5 million are made to the *Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal* and the *Dictionary of South African English*, respectively.

Policy developments

Following the Language Plan Task Group's Report to the Minister, a coherent language policy and implementation plan were drafted for a multilingual language dispensation. The language policy provides an enabling framework for promoting South Africa's linguistic diversity and encouraging respect for language rights.

The South African Geographical Names Council was established on 1 October 1999 in terms of the South African Geographical Names Council Act of 1998, to advise the Minister on the correct use and standardisation of geographical names.

Programme 5: Science, technology and meta-information

Table 14.10 Programme expenditure

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1999/00	Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
				2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
1999 Budget	474,5	479,2	478,7	516,5	545,7	–
2000 Budget	–	–	–	566,2	648,2	740,7
Change to 1999 Budget estimate	–	4,7	4,2	49,7	102,5	–

The aim of the *Science, technology and meta-information* programme is to ensure that South Africa's science and technology institutions, policies and international agreements interact constructively in a national culture of science and technology.

The programme:

- Promotes public understanding of science and technology: The aim is to communicate and popularise science through programmes that target women, youth and rural communities. The focus is also on development and improving the quality of life of the target groups.
- Administers the Innovation Fund: Promotion of an information society, biotechnology and value-adding in material or manufacturing were identified as priorities during 1999/00.
- Coordinates funding to the science councils: A three-stream funding approach was introduced for science councils. It includes Parliamentary grant funding for core operations of the science councils, funds made available through competitive processes such as the Innovation Fund, and a third stream of funds secured externally for contract specific activities.
- Administers the National Libraries Act of 1998 and the South African Library for the Blind Act of 1998, and handles Legal Deposit matters that involve administering the Legal Deposit Act of 1997: The aim is to render advice on improving access to government information, promote access to scientific and technological information sources, and to formulate and maintain policy regarding meta-information in Government's departmental libraries.

The medium-term estimates for the programme are increased to R566,2 million in 2000/01, R648,2 million in 2001/02 and R740,7 million in 2002/03, reflecting the Department's policy shift towards *Science, technology and meta-information*.

The programme includes the core funding of the Human Sciences Research Council and the National Research Foundation:

- The HSRC focuses on coordinating relevant research and leadership in human sciences to ensure that core capabilities and expertise are built in South Africa. It also plays a critical role in enhancing multi-disciplinary research by engaging other research institutions regarding socio-economic change and human behaviour, and the introduction and impact of new technologies on society. The Council received a grant transfer of R64,4 million for 1999/00 and anticipates contract and other income of nearly R26,7 million. Transfers in 2000/01 amount to R61,2 million, declining to R52 million in 2002/03.
- The National Research Foundation replaced the Foundation for Research Development in April 1999. It aims to support and promote research through funding human resources development and providing research facilities to facilitate the creation of knowledge,

innovation and development in all fields of science and technology. In 1999/00, it received a grant allocation of R250,1 million and projected own income of about R93,3 million. The transfer increases to R271,7 million in 2000/01, R288,7 million in 2001/02 and R311,7 million in 2002/03. The fund provides grant funding primarily to researchers in the higher education sector. It also administers the Technology and human resources for industry programme, which encourages linkages between industry and higher education institutions.

Outputs and service delivery trends

Table 14.11 Science, technology and meta-information: Key activities and outputs

Key activities	Outputs
Science and technology development	
Formulating policy in support of the National System of Innovation; funding research and technology development through the innovation fund.	Grants to scientific institutions such as the SA Astronomical Observatory, Hartbeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory, National Accelerator Centre and the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology Optimal development and deployment of resources in technology areas
Establishing and maintaining science, engineering and technology databases	Funding projects and exchanges of personnel in support of international cooperation in science and technology
Science and technology cooperation promotion	
Developing and implementing policy on international science and technology cooperation.	Promoting public understanding of science, engineering and technology
Entering into and maintaining bilateral and multilateral science and technology agreements with other countries.	Highlights public awareness of the impact science and technology can make on the quality of life of all people
Initiating and managing investigations and research pertaining to international science and technology cooperation and liaison	Increased number of children making career choices in the areas of mathematics and science.
Meta information and libraries	
Developing national policy on meta-information, libraries and legal deposits	Grants to national libraries

At present, international collaboration takes place with 28 countries. An example is the Southern African Large Telescope project. It involves the building of a 10 metre class telescope near Sutherland in Northern Cape. Government will fund 50 per cent of the R100 million construction costs over five years, with the other 50 per cent funded by international partners in exchange for viewing time.

Financial assistance was awarded for the production and distribution of Braille, and large print literature to the visually handicapped. R2,7 million was given to the South African Library for the Blind, R6,1 million to the South African Library in Cape Town, R10,1 million to the state library in Pretoria and R0,6 million to Literature for the Visually Handicapped in Johannesburg.

The first Conference on Women in Science and Technology was held in September 1998 to address gender disparities in science, engineering and technology and to raise awareness and public understanding of gender issues in these fields. A follow-up conference was held in February 1999. The conferences highlighted the contribution of women, particularly from disadvantaged communities, to science, engineering and technology; facilitated government support by promoting initiatives of women; and deliberated on increasing the involvement of young girls and rural, disabled or other women. It was agreed that the Department would develop a policy framework on gender issues in the public understanding of science, engineering and technology, and identify programmes that raise awareness and promote the role of women.

Technology for Women in Business is another initiative whereby a science council is in partnership with government departments and a non-governmental organisation. It is aimed at supporting women in business, enabling them to apply technology-based solutions to problems.

Policy developments

The framework of the National System of Innovation outlines key objectives for science and technology, including promoting competitiveness and employment, enhancing the quality of life, working towards environmental sustainability and promoting an understanding of the role of social processes and problems in development.

The Innovation Fund was launched in 1998/99 to finance research, technology development and promotion, and the establishment and maintenance of science, engineering and technology databases. The fund is accessed through a competitive process between science councils, higher education institutions, non-governmental organisations and the business sector. Allocations to the fund rose from R30 million in 1998/99 to R75 million in 1999/00, and increase to R125 million in 2000/01.

In 1999/00, 22 medium-term projects were approved; total allocations amounted to:

- R9,1 million for promoting the development of official languages
- R9 million for screening indigenous flora
- R7,9 million towards seasonal weather forecasting for agriculture, water and fisheries
- R7,6 million for primary health care low dose digital X-rays.

The National Advisory Council on Innovation was appointed in terms of the National Advisory Council on Innovation Act of 1997 to advise the Minister on matters relating to science and technology. It also provides recommendations on the allocation of funding for science councils.

Science councils

South Africa has eight statutory science councils, which are partially funded by Government. The Human Science Research Council (HSRC) and the National Research Foundation receive transfers from the Department. The remaining six councils are funded by transfers from their respective departments. The Department coordinates funding for these councils, ensuring that their activities are in line with Government policy priorities and that administrative structures promote a climate innovation.

The Financing and Reporting System for science councils introduces performance output measures in line with Government's approach on service delivery indicators for departments. The system also grants the science councils autonomy in respect of the internal organisation, operational practices, staff provision and utilisation of state funding for mandated activities.

Table 14.12 Transfers to science councils

R million	Transfers			Revised estimate	Medium-term expenditure estimate		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Agriculture							
Agricultural Research Council	308,9	316,2	284,0	259,2	265,3	244,1	224,5
Arts, Science, Culture & Technology							
Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology	14,4	16,9	67,0	120,5	193,5	260,7	330,6
Human Science Research Council	87,6	89,8	93,3	64,4	61,2	56,3	51,8
National Research Foundation	162,6	162,6	210,4	250,5	271,7	288,7	311,7
Council of the Africa Institute of South Africa			3,2	5,3	7,3	7,3	7,3
Health							
Medical Research Council	66,3	66,3	76,4	79,6	108,2	132,2	150,5
Minerals and Energy							
Council for Mineral Technology	73,0	83,0	83,1	81,8	77,7	71,5	65,8
Council for Geoscience	59,7	64,6	65,8	63,8	60,6	55,8	51,3
Trade and Industry							
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research	266,4	316,4	313,5	315,6	299,9	275,9	253,8
SA Bureau of Standards	45,9	67,1	75,0	77,7	78,7	81,4	85,0
Total	1 084,8	1 182,9	1 271,7	1 318,5	1 424,1	1 473,7	1 532,3

Funding to the science councils amounts to R1 424,1 million in 2000/01, increasing to R1 473,7 million in 2001/02 and R1 532,3 million in 2002/03. Transfers to the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Mintek, the Council for Geoscience and the HSRC decline by about 15 per cent over the medium term. The allocation for the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology includes special projects for science and technology, as well as the innovation fund. The Africa Institute of SA collects, processes, interprets and publishes data on events, trends and problems in Africa in the political, economic and social fields.

According to the three-stream funding mentioned above, the councils are able to secure external funds by contracting for certain activities. The CSIR generates approximately 55 per cent of its total income from external sources and the South African Bureau of Standards about 70 per cent. Mintek has generated about 40 per cent of its own income for the past three years, while the Agricultural Research Council and the Medical Research Council raise about 35 per cent.