

Small Business Development

Budget summary

R million	2025/26				2026/27	2027/28
	Current payments	Transfers and subsidies	Payments for capital assets	Total	Total	Total
MTEF allocation						
Administration	194.7	–	5.2	199.9	208.8	218.0
Sector Policy and Research	81.7	–	0.2	81.9	86.3	89.0
Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development	116.7	372.2	0.3	489.2	500.8	522.8
Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship	68.9	2 078.0	0.2	2 147.1	2 254.1	2 358.1
Total expenditure estimates	461.9	2 450.2	6.0	2 918.1	3 050.0	3 187.9
Executive authority	Minister of Small Business Development					
Accounting officer	Director-General of Small Business Development					
Website	www.dsbd.gov.za					

The Estimates of National Expenditure is available at www.treasury.gov.za. Additional tables in Excel format can be found at www.treasury.gov.za and www.vulekamali.gov.za.

Vote purpose

Lead and coordinate an integrated approach to the promotion and development of entrepreneurship among small, medium and micro enterprises and cooperatives, and ensure an enabling legislative and policy environment to support their growth and sustainability.

Mandate

The Department of Small Business Development is tasked with leading and coordinating an integrated approach to the promotion and development of entrepreneurship, small businesses and cooperatives; and ensuring an enabling legislative and policy environment to support their growth and sustainability. The realisation of this mandate is expected to lead to a transformed and inclusive economy driven by sustainable and innovative small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) and cooperatives. The department's mandate is guided by a legislative framework that includes:

- section 3(d) of the Industrial Development Act (1940)
- the Businesses Act (1991)
- the 2004 cooperatives development policy
- the Cooperatives Act (2005), as amended
- the Cooperatives Amendment Act (2013)
- the National Small Enterprise Amendment Act (2024).

Selected performance indicators

Table 36.1 Performance indicators by programme and related outcome

Indicator	Programme	MTDP outcomes	Audited performance			Estimated performance	MTEF targets		
			2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Number of SMMEs exposed to global market opportunities per year	Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development	Outcome 7: Increased investment, trade and tourism	242	68	317	200	200	200	200
Number of infrastructures (including products markets) for SMMEs refurbished or built per year	Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development		– ¹	2	5	5	6	7	7
Number of cooperatives supported financially per year	Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development		– ¹	– ¹	– ¹	– ¹	50	50	50

Table 36.1 Performance indicators by programme and related outcome (continued)

Indicator	Programme	MTDP outcomes	Audited performance			Estimated performance	MTEF targets		
			2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Number of informal businesses supported through the informal micro enterprises development programme per year	Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development	Outcome 7: Increased investment, trade and tourism	— ¹	— ¹	2 045	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
Number of township and rural enterprises supported financially and/or non-financially per year	Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship		— ¹	18 759	20 509	30 000	40 000	40 000	40 000
Number of crafters supported through the craft customised sector programme per year	Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship		953	659	596	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000

1. No historical data available.

Expenditure overview

Over the medium term, the department will focus on exposing SMMEs and cooperatives to global market opportunities, refurbishing or building approved business infrastructure for SMMEs and cooperatives, supporting informal businesses, and reviewing policies to eliminate regulatory and administrative red tape in municipalities, which hinders the growth of SMMEs.

Expenditure is set to increase at an average annual rate of 5.6 per cent, from R2.7 billion in 2024/25 to R3.2 billion in 2027/28. Funds allocated to support SMMEs account for an estimated 84.4 per cent (R7.7 billion) of the department's budget over the MTEF period. Of this, R6 billion is transferred to the new Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency, which was formed through merging the Small Enterprise Development Agency, the Small Enterprise Finance Agency and the Cooperative Banks Development Agency.

To enable an estimated 120 000 township and rural enterprises and 1 000 start-up SMMEs to access business development support, R3 billion is allocated over the medium term to the *Funding Support and Coordination* subprogramme in the *Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship* programme. This programme also funds the craft customised sector programme, which is allocated an estimated R38.9 million over the period ahead to provide financial and non-financial support to a targeted 3 000 crafters.

As part of the department's efforts to implement SMME hubs across all districts over the medium term, in partnership with municipalities, it aims to establish 40 industrial clusters that provide accommodation, shared equipment and infrastructure among formal, informal and operational entrepreneurs. Spending on this is projected to be R958.8 million over the period ahead.

The department will also focus on empowering women, young people and people with disabilities by exposing a targeted 600 SMMEs and cooperatives to global market opportunities, and supporting a targeted 6 000 informal businesses over the next 3 years. To carry out these activities, a combined R173.4 million is allocated to the *Value Chain and Market Access Support* subprogramme and the *Economic Transformation Initiatives* subprogramme in the *Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development* programme.

Expenditure trends and estimates

Table 36.2 Vote expenditure trends by programme and economic classification¹

Programmes											
1. Administration											
2. Sector Policy and Research											
3. Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development											
4. Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship											
Programme	Audited outcome			Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/Total (%)
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28
Programme 1	112.5	122.5	142.6	162.4	13.0%	4.9%	199.9	208.8	218.0	10.3%	6.7%
Programme 2	22.8	20.9	14.4	47.7	27.8%	1.0%	81.9	86.3	89.0	23.1%	2.6%
Programme 3	81.2	113.7	130.8	173.7	28.8%	4.5%	489.2	500.8	522.8	44.4%	14.2%
Programme 4	2 668.7	2 536.4	2 435.7	2 324.3	-4.5%	89.7%	2 147.1	2 254.1	2 358.1	0.5%	76.6%
Subtotal	2 885.3	2 793.4	2 723.6	2 708.1	-2.1%	100.0%	2 918.1	3 050.0	3 187.9	5.6%	100.0%
Total	2 885.3	2 793.4	2 723.6	2 708.1	-2.1%	100.0%	2 918.1	3 050.0	3 187.9	5.6%	100.0%
Change to 2024 Budget estimate				—			373.8	388.2	405.7		

Table 36.2 Vote expenditure trends by programme and economic classification¹ (continued)

Economic classification				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28	2027/28
Current payments	212.4	236.0	319.9	378.9	21.3%	10.3%	461.9	481.9	503.7	10.0%	15.4%
Compensation of employees	138.4	144.4	181.5	234.1	19.1%	6.3%	265.0	277.1	289.6	7.3%	9.0%
Goods and services ¹	73.9	91.6	138.4	144.8	25.1%	4.0%	197.0	204.8	214.1	13.9%	6.4%
of which:					0.0%	0.0%				0.0%	0.0%
Advertising	0.5	0.5	0.8	2.7	73.9%	0.0%	32.4	36.8	38.5	143.4%	0.9%
Consultants: Business and advisory services	1.0	7.1	5.7	8.4	105.6%	0.2%	31.9	33.0	34.5	59.9%	0.9%
Inventory: Other supplies	17.3	29.7	57.5	37.1	29.0%	1.3%	36.7	37.0	38.7	1.4%	1.3%
Operating leases	11.9	9.5	10.2	11.0	-2.6%	0.4%	13.3	14.3	13.9	8.1%	0.4%
Travel and subsistence	17.2	22.0	31.7	46.5	39.3%	1.1%	42.6	43.7	46.2	-0.2%	1.5%
Venues and facilities	3.6	1.6	3.2	9.0	36.0%	0.2%	9.2	10.8	11.0	7.0%	0.3%
Interest and rent on land	0.0	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.0%	–	–	–	0.0%	0.0%
Transfers and subsidies ¹	2 669.6	2 550.5	2 394.5	2 323.0	-4.5%	89.4%	2 450.2	2 562.0	2 677.9	4.9%	84.4%
Departmental agencies and accounts	842.0	915.8	1 404.5	1 316.1	16.1%	40.3%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-99.1%	11.1%
Public corporations and private enterprises	1 821.0	1 625.0	981.2	997.1	-18.2%	48.8%	2 450.2	2 562.0	2 677.9	39.0%	73.2%
Non-profit institutions	5.4	8.6	8.0	9.4	20.1%	0.3%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-95.3%	0.1%
Households	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.5	-26.6%	0.0%	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.0%
Payments for capital assets	3.3	6.9	6.7	6.2	24.0%	0.2%	6.0	6.2	6.4	0.9%	0.2%
Machinery and equipment	3.2	6.9	6.7	6.2	24.0%	0.2%	6.0	6.2	6.4	1.0%	0.2%
Software and other intangible assets	0.0	–	–	0.0	20.5%	0.0%	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.0%
Payments for financial assets	0.0	–	2.5	–	-100.0%	0.0%	–	–	–	0.0%	0.0%
Total	2 885.3	2 793.4	2 723.6	2 708.1	-2.1%	100.0%	2 918.1	3 050.0	3 187.9	5.6%	100.0%

1. Tables with expenditure trends, annual budget, adjusted appropriation and audited outcome are available at www.treasury.gov.za and www.vulekamali.gov.za.

Transfers and subsidies expenditure trends and estimates

Table 36.3 Vote transfers and subsidies trends and estimates

				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R thousand	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28	2027/28
Households											
Social benefits											
Current	1 178	1 022	780	472	-26.3%	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	–
Households	703	1 022	596	431	-15.0%	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	–
Employee social benefits	475	–	184	41	-55.8%	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	–
Other transfers to households											
Current	18	100	37	–	-100.0%	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employee social benefits	18	100	37	–	-100.0%	–	–	–	–	–	–
Departmental agencies and accounts											
Departmental agencies (non-business entities)											
Current	841 961	915 760	1 404 483	1 316 074	16.1%	45.1%	1	1	1	-99.1%	13.1%
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	3 471	1 393	1 537	–	-100.0%	0.1%	1	1	1	–	–
Small Enterprise Development Agency	666 091	738 751	1 226 206	1 131 397	19.3%	37.9%	–	–	–	-100.0%	11.3%
Small Enterprise Development Agency: Technology programme	156 525	159 445	160 466	167 672	2.3%	6.5%	–	–	–	-100.0%	1.7%
Small Enterprise Development Agency: Capacity-building programme	15 874	16 171	16 274	17 005	2.3%	0.7%	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.2%
Public corporations and private enterprises											
Other transfers to public corporations											
Current	1 757 963	1 546 618	922 214	933 810	-19.0%	51.9%	1 919 988	2 027 883	2 119 735	31.4%	69.9%
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	2 050	1 302	2 510	2 833	11.4%	0.1%	12 384	12 951	13 534	68.4%	0.4%
Small Enterprise Finance Agency: Township Entrepreneurship Fund	–	–	1 509	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Small Enterprise Finance Agency: Blended finance	425 118	362 501	294 514	298 209	-11.1%	13.9%	–	–	–	-100.0%	3.0%
Small Enterprise Finance Agency: Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Fund	1 058 761	903 325	384 951	344 181	-31.2%	27.1%	–	–	–	-100.0%	3.4%
Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency	272 034	279 489	238 729	288 587	2.0%	10.9%	1 907 604	2 014 932	2 106 201	94.0%	63.1%
Communication licences	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Table 36.3 Vote transfers and subsidies trends and estimates (continued)

	Audited outcome			Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24				2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R thousand											
Other transfers to private enterprises											
Current	63 085	78 346	58 961	63 289	0.1%	2.7%	530 175	534 117	558 131	106.6%	16.8%
Various institutions:	–	–	58 961	–	–	0.6%	–	–	–	–	–
Cooperatives incentive scheme	13 020	5 092	–	–	-100.0%	0.2%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Cooperatives development support programme	30 065	73 254	–	63 289	28.2%	1.7%	310 846	316 797	331 032	73.6%	10.2%
Various institutions: Product markets	20 000	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.2%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Black business supplier development programme	–	–	–	–	–	–	219 329	217 320	227 099	–	6.6%
Non-profit institutions											
Current	5 414	8 613	8 000	9 388	20.1%	0.3%	1	1	1	-95.3%	0.1%
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	5 414	8 613	8 000	9 388	20.1%	0.3%	1	1	1	-95.3%	0.1%
Total	2 669 619	2 550 459	2 394 475	2 323 033	-4.5%	100.0%	2 450 165	2 562 002	2 677 868	4.9%	100.0%

Personnel information

Table 36.4 Vote personnel numbers and cost by salary level and programme¹

Programmes

1. Administration
2. Sector Policy and Research
3. Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development
4. Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2025			Number and cost ² of personnel posts filled/planned for on funded establishment												Average growth rate (%)	Average: Salary level/ Total (%)			
Number of funded posts	Number of posts additional to the establishment																		
		Actual			Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate											
		2023/24			2024/25			2025/26		2026/27		2027/28		2024/25 - 2027/28					
			Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost					
Small Business Development																			
Salary level	346	47	257	181.5	0.7	318	234.1	0.7	341	265.0	0.8	327	277.1	0.8	324	289.6	0.9	0.6%	100.0%
1 – 6	57	14	33	11.1	0.3	53	13.5	0.3	56	14.4	0.3	56	15.2	0.3	56	16.0	0.3	1.8%	16.9%
7 – 10	144	17	119	62.8	0.5	125	70.3	0.6	137	83.0	0.6	136	87.4	0.6	134	90.4	0.7	2.2%	40.6%
11 – 12	75	1	52	51.5	1.0	71	72.8	1.0	78	83.5	1.1	78	87.6	1.1	77	91.4	1.2	2.7%	23.3%
13 – 16	52	–	36	47.9	1.3	49	68.5	1.4	51	74.5	1.5	51	78.6	1.6	51	83.0	1.6	1.1%	15.4%
Other	18	15	17	8.2	0.5	19	9.0	0.5	19	9.5	0.5	6	8.3	1.4	6	8.8	1.5	-31.9%	3.8%
Programme	346	47	257	181.5	0.7	318	234.1	0.7	341	265.0	0.8	327	277.1	0.8	324	289.6	0.9	0.6%	100.0%
Programme 1	166	29	132	86.8	0.7	158	100.9	0.6	162	109.1	0.7	151	114.1	0.8	149	119.3	0.8	-1.9%	47.4%
Programme 2	51	2	14	12.3	0.9	45	37.8	0.8	58	50.1	0.9	57	52.4	0.9	56	54.7	1.0	7.5%	16.5%
Programme 3	60	1	57	41.3	0.7	52	44.4	0.9	58	51.1	0.9	57	53.5	0.9	57	55.9	1.0	3.1%	17.2%
Programme 4	69	15	54	41.0	0.8	62	51.0	0.8	63	54.6	0.9	62	57.1	0.9	61	59.7	1.0	-0.8%	18.9%

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Departmental receipts

Table 36.5 Departmental receipts by economic classification

	Audited outcome			Adjusted estimate	Revised estimate	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Receipt item/ Total (%)	Medium-term receipts estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Receipt item/ Total (%)
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24					2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R thousand												
Departmental receipts	144	61	2 419	330	330	31.8%	100.0%	74	80	85	-36.4%	100.0%
Sales of goods and services produced by department	56	56	62	66	66	5.6%	8.1%	69	73	76	4.8%	49.9%
Sales by market establishments of which:	20	18	17	22	22	3.2%	2.6%	23	25	26	5.7%	16.9%
Parking	20	18	17	22	22	3.2%	2.6%	23	25	26	5.7%	16.9%
Other sales of which:	36	38	45	44	44	6.9%	5.5%	46	48	50	4.4%	33.0%
Commission received from on the deduction of insurance/premiums from employees' salaries	36	38	45	44	44	6.9%	5.5%	46	48	50	4.4%	33.0%
Fines, penalties and forfeits	—	—	3	—	—	—	0.1%	—	—	—	—	—
Interest, dividends and rent on land	3	5	1 212	24	24	100.0%	42.1%	5	7	9	-27.9%	7.9%
Interest	3	5	1 212	24	24	100.0%	42.1%	5	7	9	-27.9%	7.9%
Sales of capital assets	—	—	—	240	240	—	8.1%	—	—	—	-100.0%	42.2%
Transactions in financial assets and liabilities	85	—	1 143	—	—	-100.0%	41.6%	—	—	—	—	—
Total	144	61	2 419	330	330	31.8%	100.0%	74	80	85	-36.4%	100.0%

Programme 1: Administration

Programme purpose

Provide strategic leadership, management and support services to the department.

Expenditure trends and estimates

Table 36.6 Administration expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification

Subprogramme	Audited outcome			Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24				2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R million											
Ministry	25.5	31.6	36.8	30.5	6.2%	23.0%	28.7	29.1	30.7	0.2%	15.1%
Departmental Management	27.8	18.1	20.5	25.3	-3.1%	17.0%	27.1	28.4	29.7	5.5%	14.0%
Corporate Management Services	41.1	55.4	65.6	79.0	24.4%	44.6%	114.2	119.2	124.2	16.3%	55.3%
Financial Management	18.1	17.5	19.7	27.6	15.1%	15.3%	29.9	32.0	33.5	6.6%	15.6%
Total	112.5	122.5	142.6	162.4	13.0%	100.0%	199.9	208.8	218.0	10.3%	100.0%
Change to 2024				—			23.1	23.9	24.7		
Budget estimate											
Economic classification	109.5	115.0	135.8	156.5	12.6%	95.7%	194.7	203.4	212.3	10.7%	97.2%
Current payments											
Compensation of employees	70.3	72.7	86.8	100.9	12.8%	61.3%	109.1	114.1	119.3	5.7%	56.2%
Goods and services	39.2	42.3	49.0	55.6	12.4%	34.5%	85.5	89.2	93.0	18.7%	41.0%
of which:											
Advertising	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.4	84.9%	0.6%	32.3	36.7	38.5	199.4%	13.8%
Audit costs: External	4.8	3.3	3.4	6.0	8.1%	3.3%	4.7	5.1	5.4	-3.8%	2.7%
Bursaries: Employees	0.3	0.0	1.4	1.8	83.9%	0.6%	1.8	1.8	1.9	3.1%	0.9%
Computer services	7.2	5.3	4.4	5.9	-6.1%	4.2%	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.7%	3.6%
Operating leases	11.9	9.5	10.2	11.0	-2.6%	7.9%	13.3	14.3	13.9	8.1%	6.7%
Travel and subsistence	7.9	12.4	17.3	15.5	24.9%	9.8%	11.0	11.4	12.8	-6.2%	6.4%
Interest and rent on land	0.0	—	—	—	-100.0%	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transfers and subsidies	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.4	-15.0%	0.5%	—	—	—	-100.0%	0.1%
Public corporations and private enterprises	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Households	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.4	-15.0%	0.5%	—	—	—	-100.0%	0.1%
Payments for capital assets	2.3	6.5	6.1	5.4	34.0%	3.8%	5.2	5.4	5.6	1.2%	2.8%
Machinery and equipment	2.2	6.5	6.1	5.4	34.1%	3.7%	5.2	5.4	5.6	1.3%	2.8%
Software and other intangible assets	0.0	—	—	0.0	20.5%	—	—	—	—	-100.0%	—
Payments for financial assets	0.0	—	0.1	—	-100.0%	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	112.5	122.5	142.6	162.4	13.0%	100.0%	199.9	208.8	218.0	10.3%	100.0%
Proportion of total programme expenditure to vote expenditure	3.9%	4.4%	5.2%	6.0%	—	—	6.9%	6.8%	6.8%	—	—

Table 36.6 Administration expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification (continued)

Details of transfers and subsidies				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome							2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25					2024/25 - 2027/28	
Households											
Social benefits											
Current	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.4	-15.0%	0.5%	—	—	—	-100.0%	0.1%
Households	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.4	-15.0%	0.5%	—	—	—	-100.0%	0.1%
Public corporations and private enterprises											
Other transfers to public corporations											
Current	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Communication	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Personnel information

Table 36.7 Administration personnel numbers and cost by salary level¹

Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2025			Number and cost ² of personnel posts filled/planned for on funded establishment												Average growth rate (%)	Average Salary level/ Total (%)			
Number of funded posts	Number of posts additional to the establishment	Actual			Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate											
		2023/24			2024/25			2025/26		2026/27		2027/28		2024/25 - 2027/28					
		Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost						
Administration			Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost					
Salary level	166	29	132	86.8	0.7	158	100.9	0.6	162	109.1	0.7	151	114.1	0.8	149	119.3	0.8	-1.9%	100.0%
1 – 6	41	14	26	8.7	0.3	39	8.3	0.2	42	8.8	0.2	42	9.3	0.2	42	9.8	0.2	2.5%	26.6%
7 – 10	61	4	49	25.3	0.5	59	32.0	0.5	58	34.1	0.6	59	36.6	0.6	58	38.0	0.7	-0.5%	37.8%
11 – 12	27	–	25	22.8	0.9	25	24.4	1.0	25	25.8	1.0	25	27.2	1.1	25	28.2	1.1	-0.6%	16.0%
13 – 16	23	–	17	22.2	1.3	20	27.6	1.4	22	31.3	1.4	22	33.1	1.5	22	34.9	1.6	2.7%	13.7%
Other	14	11	15	7.9	0.5	15	8.6	0.6	15	9.1	0.6	3	8.0	2.7	3	8.4	2.8	-41.5%	5.8%

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Programme 2: Sector Policy and Research

Programme purpose

Oversee transversal support within the sector to provide a conducive environment for small, medium and micro enterprises.

Objectives

- Create an environment in which SMMEs can thrive over the medium term by:
 - reducing regulatory and administrative burdens
 - providing enabling regulation and legislation for the small enterprise ecosystem
 - enhancing evidence-based business information and sector-wide monitoring and evaluation
 - increasing the contribution of SMMEs and cooperatives in priority sectors
 - improving the coordination of ecosystem support for small enterprises.

Subprogrammes

- *Business Intelligence and Sector-wide Monitoring and Evaluation* manages the provision of evidence-based business information and sector-wide monitoring and evaluation.
- *Intergovernmental Relations and Business Efficiency* manages and facilitates intergovernmental relations to reduce administrative and regulatory burdens for SMMEs.
- *Sector-specific Support* manages initiatives to increase the development, participation and sustainability of small-scale manufacturers in key industries.

Expenditure trends and estimates

Table 36.8 Sector Policy and Research expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification

Subprogramme				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24				2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25	2025/26		
Business Intelligence and Sector-wide Monitoring and Evaluation	5.0	4.2	7.0	12.8	36.9%	27.4%	34.2	36.1	36.6	41.9%	39.2%
Intergovernmental Relations and Business Efficiency	7.6	16.7	7.3	14.0	22.8%	43.1%	19.7	20.6	21.5	15.4%	24.8%
Sector-specific Support	10.3	–	0.1	20.9	26.7%	29.5%	28.1	29.7	30.9	14.0%	35.9%
Total	22.8	20.9	14.4	47.7	27.8%	100.0%	81.9	86.3	89.0	23.1%	100.0%
Change to 2024 Budget estimate				–			14.5	16.3	15.8		
Economic classification											
Current payments	22.6	20.8	14.3	47.5	28.2%	99.4%	81.7	86.2	88.8	23.2%	99.7%
Compensation of employees	16.5	16.1	12.3	37.8	31.8%	78.2%	50.1	52.4	54.7	13.1%	63.9%
Goods and services	6.0	4.7	2.0	9.7	17.1%	21.2%	31.6	33.8	34.1	52.1%	35.8%
of which:						–					–
Administrative fees	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	89.7%	0.3%	0.3	0.3	0.3	7.5%	0.4%
Catering: Departmental activities	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	126.2%	0.5%	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.4%	0.5%
Communication	0.4	0.0	–	0.2	–27.7%	0.6%	0.2	0.2	0.2	17.3%	0.3%
Consultants: Business and advisory services	0.1	3.5	1.4	5.7	380.6%	10.1%	26.9	28.2	28.2	70.9%	29.2%
Travel and subsistence	3.7	0.9	0.5	2.3	–13.9%	7.0%	3.3	3.9	4.1	20.6%	4.5%
Venues and facilities	0.7	0.0	–	0.4	–17.5%	1.1%	0.3	0.3	0.3	–8.4%	0.4%
Transfers and subsidies	0.1	–	0.1	–	–100.0%	0.2%	–	–	–	–	–
Households	0.1	–	0.1	–	–100.0%	0.2%	–	–	–	–	–
Payments for capital assets	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	–	0.5%	0.2	0.2	0.2	7.4%	0.3%
Machinery and equipment	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	–	0.5%	0.2	0.2	0.2	7.4%	0.3%
Total	22.8	20.9	14.4	47.7	27.8%	100.0%	81.9	86.3	89.0	23.1%	100.0%
Proportion of total programme expenditure to vote expenditure	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	1.8%	–	–	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	–	–
Details of transfers and subsidies											
Households											
Social benefits											
Current	0.1	–	0.0	–	–100.0%	0.1%	–	–	–	–	–
Employee social benefits	0.1	–	0.0	–	–100.0%	0.1%	–	–	–	–	–
Other transfers to households											
Current	0.0	–	0.0	–	–100.0%	0.1%	–	–	–	–	–
Employee social benefits	0.0	–	0.0	–	–100.0%	0.1%	–	–	–	–	–

Personnel information

Table 36.9 Sector Policy and Research personnel numbers and cost by salary level¹

Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2025			Number and cost ² of personnel posts filled/planned for on funded establishment												Average growth rate (%)	Average: Salary level/ Total (%)
Number of funded posts	Number of posts additional to the establishment	Actual			Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate								
		2023/24			2024/25			2025/26		2026/27		2027/28		2024/25 - 2027/28		
Sector Policy and Research			Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost		
Salary level	51	2	14	12.3	0.9	45	37.8	0.8	58	50.1	0.9	57	52.4	1.0	7.5%	100.0%
1 – 6	6	–	2	0.7	0.3	6	2.2	0.4	6	2.4	0.4	6	2.5	0.4	–	11.1%
7 – 10	14	–	3	1.8	0.6	11	6.5	0.6	16	10.3	0.6	16	10.9	0.7	11.5%	27.1%
11 – 12	18	–	4	3.8	1.0	15	14.6	1.0	22	22.1	1.0	22	24.1	1.1	12.8%	37.8%
13 – 16	11	–	5	5.9	1.3	11	14.3	1.3	11	15.1	1.4	11	16.8	1.5	–	20.3%
Other	2	2	1	0.0	0.1	2	0.2	0.1	2	0.2	0.1	2	0.2	0.1	–	3.7%

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Programme 3: Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development

Programme purpose

Drive economic transformation through the provision of integrated development and support services for informal businesses, cooperatives and micro enterprises.

Objectives

- Provide development and support services for informal businesses, cooperatives and micro enterprises to encourage economic transformation over the medium term by:
 - increasing the participation of SMMEs and cooperatives in domestic and international markets
 - expanding access to financial and non-financial support for small enterprises in rural and township economies.

Subprogrammes

- *Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development* provides leadership to the branch and coordinates the provision of business infrastructure services to small businesses, cooperatives and the informal sector.
- *Economic Transformation Initiatives* manages economic transformation through providing development and support services to informal businesses, cooperatives and micro enterprises.
- *Value Chain and Market Access Support* manages the provision of support to access and grow markets in value chains.

Expenditure trends and estimates

Table 36.10 Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification

Subprogramme				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28	
Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development	31.3	73.3	4.7	71.3	31.5%	36.2%	321.7	328.2	342.5	68.7%	63.1%
Economic Transformation Initiatives	39.7	5.1	22.0	55.0	11.5%	24.4%	119.0	122.9	128.4	32.6%	25.2%
Value Chain and Market Access Support	10.2	35.3	104.2	47.4	67.0%	39.5%	48.4	49.7	51.9	3.1%	11.7%
Total	81.2	113.7	130.8	173.7	28.8%	100.0%	489.2	500.8	522.8	44.4%	100.0%
Change to 2024 Budget estimate				–			280.8	284.0	296.2		
Economic classification											
Current payments	38.0	35.2	60.5	110.1	42.6%	48.8%	116.7	119.7	124.6	4.2%	27.9%
Compensation of employees	14.6	28.9	41.3	44.4	44.8%	25.9%	51.1	53.5	55.9	7.9%	12.1%
Goods and services	23.4	6.4	19.1	65.7	41.1%	22.9%	65.5	66.3	68.7	1.5%	15.8%
of which:											
Administrative fees	0.1	0.8	5.1	0.3	69.7%	1.3%	0.4	0.4	0.4	8.0%	0.1%
Catering: Departmental activities	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.4	147.6%	0.1%	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5%	0.1%
Communication	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	-37.7%	0.1%	0.1	0.1	0.1	18.7%	–
Inventory: Other supplies	17.3	–	–	37.1	29.0%	10.9%	36.7	37.0	38.7	1.4%	8.9%
Travel and subsistence	3.8	3.3	8.4	23.9	84.7%	7.9%	24.9	25.0	25.7	2.5%	5.9%
Venues and facilities	0.7	1.4	3.1	3.1	62.9%	1.6%	3.1	3.2	3.3	2.1%	0.7%
Transfers and subsidies	43.1	78.3	70.1	63.3	13.7%	51.0%	372.2	380.7	397.9	84.6%	72.0%
Departmental agencies and accounts	–	–	1.5	–	–	0.3%	–	–	–	–	–
Public corporations and private enterprises	43.1	78.3	60.5	63.3	13.7%	49.1%	372.2	380.7	397.9	84.6%	72.0%
Non-profit institutions	–	–	8.0	–	–	1.6%	–	–	–	–	–
Households	–	–	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Payments for capital assets	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	32.0%	0.2%	0.3	0.3	0.3	-5.0%	0.1%
Machinery and equipment	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	32.0%	0.2%	0.3	0.3	0.3	-5.0%	0.1%
Total	81.2	113.7	130.8	173.7	28.8%	100.0%	489.2	500.8	522.8	44.4%	100.0%
Proportion of total programme expenditure to vote expenditure	2.8%	4.1%	4.8%	6.4%	–	–	16.8%	16.4%	16.4%	–	–

Details of transfers and subsidies				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28	
Households											
Social benefits											
Current	–	–	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employee social benefits	–	–	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Departmental agencies and accounts											
Departmental agencies (non-business entities)											
Current	–	–	1.5	–	–	0.3%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	–	–	1.5	–	–	0.3%	–	–	–	–	–
Public corporations and private enterprises											
Other transfers to public corporations											
Current	–	–	1.5	–	–	0.3%	61.4	63.9	66.8	–	11.4%
Small Enterprise Finance Agency: Township Entrepreneurship Fund	–	–	1.5	–	–	0.3%	–	–	–	–	–
Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency	–	–	–	–	–	–	61.4	63.9	66.8	–	11.4%
Other transfers to private enterprises											
Current	43.1	78.3	59.0	63.3	13.7%	48.8%	310.8	316.8	331.0	73.6%	60.6%
Various institutions: Cooperatives incentive scheme	–	–	59.0	–	–	11.8%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Cooperatives development support programme	13.0	5.1	–	–	-100.0%	3.6%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Product markets	30.1	73.3	–	63.3	28.2%	33.4%	310.8	316.8	331.0	73.6%	60.6%
Non-profit institutions											
Current	–	–	8.0	–	–	1.6%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	–	–	8.0	–	–	1.6%	–	–	–	–	–

Personnel information

Table 36.11 Integrated Cooperatives and Micro Enterprise Development personnel numbers and cost by salary level¹

[illegible]

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Programme 4: Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Programme purpose

Oversee the promotion of a sector that enhances entrepreneurship and innovation during the establishment and growth of small, medium and micro enterprises, and ensures their sustainability.

Objectives

- Enhance entrepreneurship and innovation over the medium term by:
 - improving integrated and streamlined business processes and systems for SMMEs
 - scaling up and coordinating support for SMMEs, cooperatives and village and township economies

- expanding access to financial and non-financial support to small enterprises as well as rural and township economies.

Subprogrammes

- *Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship* provides leadership to the programme and manages the provision of innovative solutions that support the management of transversal applications and digital business support.
- *Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development* manages the formulation of policy instruments and advocacy work aimed at the inclusion of SMMEs in the mainstream economy.
- *Funding Support and Coordination* oversees the expansion of access to finance for SMMEs, cooperatives and the informal sector through an integrated approach.

Expenditure trends and estimates

Table 36.12 Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification

Subprogramme				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22 - 2024/25		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25 - 2027/28	
Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship	5.8	0.2	1.8	8.1	11.9%	0.2%	9.4	9.9	10.3	8.4%	0.4%
Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development	1 128.8	1 241.9	1 656.3	1 628.2	13.0%	56.7%	1 201.5	1 254.6	1 312.5	-6.9%	59.4%
Funding Support and Coordination	1 534.1	1 294.3	777.6	688.0	-23.5%	43.1%	936.2	989.6	1 035.2	14.6%	40.2%
Total	2 668.7	2 536.4	2 435.7	2 324.3	-4.5%	100.0%	2 147.1	2 254.1	2 358.1	0.5%	100.0%
Change to 2024 Budget estimate				–			55.4	64.0	68.9		
Economic classification											
Current payments	42.3	65.0	109.3	64.8	15.2%	2.8%	68.9	72.6	77.9	6.3%	3.1%
Compensation of employees	36.9	26.8	41.0	51.0	11.3%	1.6%	54.6	57.1	59.7	5.4%	2.4%
Goods and services	5.4	38.2	68.3	13.8	36.7%	1.3%	14.3	15.5	18.2	9.6%	0.7%
of which:						–					–
Administrative fees	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	35.2%	–	0.1	0.1	0.1	-14.6%	–
Catering: Departmental activities	–	0.3	0.8	0.1	–	–	0.8	0.9	1.4	119.2%	–
Communication	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	-35.5%	–	0.3	0.3	0.5	58.3%	–
Consultants: Business and advisory services	0.3	2.0	3.1	2.1	93.9%	0.1%	4.0	3.7	5.1	34.3%	0.2%
Travel and subsistence	1.8	5.4	5.6	4.9	38.3%	0.2%	3.4	3.3	3.6	-9.5%	0.2%
Venues and facilities	2.2	–	–	4.3	26.0%	0.1%	5.6	7.0	7.1	18.4%	0.3%
Transfers and subsidies	2 625.7	2 471.1	2 323.7	2 259.3	-4.9%	97.1%	2 078.0	2 181.3	2 280.0	0.3%	96.9%
Departmental agencies and accounts	842.0	915.8	1 402.9	1 316.1	16.1%	44.9%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-99.1%	14.5%
Public corporations and private enterprises	1 778.0	1 546.6	920.7	933.8	-19.3%	52.0%	2 077.9	2 181.3	2 280.0	34.7%	82.3%
Non-profit institutions	5.4	8.6	–	9.4	20.1%	0.2%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-95.3%	0.1%
Households	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	-52.6%	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	–
Payments for capital assets	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	-27.7%	–	0.2	0.2	0.2	-2.5%	–
Machinery and equipment	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	-27.7%	–	0.2	0.2	0.2	-2.5%	–
Payments for financial assets	–	–	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	2 668.7	2 536.4	2 435.7	2 324.3	-4.5%	100.0%	2 147.1	2 254.1	2 358.1	0.5%	100.0%
Proportion of total programme expenditure to vote expenditure	92.5%	90.8%	89.4%	85.8%	–	–	73.6%	73.9%	74.0%	–	–

Table 36.12 Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship expenditure trends and estimates by subprogramme and economic classification (continued)

Details of transfers and subsidies				Adjusted appropriation	Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome											
R million	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2021/22	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2024/25	2027/28
Households											
Social benefits											
Current	0.4	–	0.1	0.0	-52.6%	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	–
Employee social benefits	0.4	–	0.1	0.0	-52.6%	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	–
Other transfers to households											
Current	–	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employee social benefits	–	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Departmental agencies and accounts											
Departmental agencies (non-business entities)											
Current	842.0	915.8	1 402.9	1 316.1	16.1%	44.9%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-99.1%	14.5%
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	3.5	1.4	–	–	-100.0%	–	0.0	0.0	0.0	–	–
Small Enterprise Development Agency	666.1	738.8	1 226.2	1 131.4	19.3%	37.8%	–	–	–	-100.0%	12.5%
Small Enterprise Development Agency: Technology programme	156.5	159.4	160.5	167.7	2.3%	6.5%	–	–	–	-100.0%	1.8%
Small Enterprise Development Agency: Capacity-building programme	15.9	16.2	16.3	17.0	2.3%	0.7%	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.2%
Public corporations and private enterprises											
Other transfers to public corporations											
Current	1 758.0	1 546.6	920.7	933.8	-19.0%	51.8%	1 858.6	1 964.0	2 052.9	30.0%	75.0%
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	2.1	1.3	2.5	2.8	11.4%	0.1%	12.4	13.0	13.5	68.4%	0.5%
Small Enterprise Finance Agency: Blended finance	425.1	362.5	294.5	298.2	-11.1%	13.9%	–	–	–	-100.0%	3.3%
Small Enterprise Finance Agency: Township and Rural Entrepreneurship Fund	1 058.8	903.3	385.0	344.2	-31.2%	27.0%	–	–	–	-100.0%	3.8%
Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency	272.0	279.5	238.7	288.6	2.0%	10.8%	1 846.2	1 951.0	2 039.4	91.9%	67.4%
Other transfers to private enterprises											
Current	20.0	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.2%	219.3	217.3	227.1	–	7.3%
Various institutions: Black business supplier development programme	20.0	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.2%	–	–	–	–	–
Various institutions: Asset Assist	–	–	–	–	–	–	219.3	217.3	227.1	–	7.3%
Non-profit institutions											
Current	5.4	8.6	–	9.4	20.1%	0.2%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-95.3%	0.1%
Various institutions: Craft customised sector programme	5.4	8.6	–	9.4	20.1%	0.2%	0.0	0.0	0.0	-95.3%	0.1%

Personnel information

Table 36.13 Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship personnel numbers and cost by salary level¹

Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2025			Number and cost ² of personnel posts filled/planned for on funded establishment												Average growth rate (%)	Average: Salary level/ Total (%)			
Number of funded posts	Number of posts additional to the establishment		Actual			Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate										
			2023/24			2024/25			2025/26		2026/27		2027/28				2024/25 - 2027/28		
			Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number		Cost	Unit cost	
Enterprise Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship			54	41.0	0.8	62	51.0	0.8	63	54.6	0.9	62	57.1	0.9	61	59.7	1.0	-0.8%	100.0%
Salary level	69	15																	
1 – 6	5	–	1	0.4	0.4	3	1.2	0.4	3	1.3	0.4	3	1.3	0.4	3	1.4	0.5	–	4.8%
7 – 10	40	13	35	20.4	0.6	34	20.8	0.6	35	22.8	0.6	35	23.6	0.7	34	24.4	0.7	-0.4%	55.6%
11 – 12	14	1	10	9.7	1.0	15	15.7	1.0	15	16.6	1.1	15	17.5	1.2	15	18.5	1.2	–	24.2%
13 – 16	9	–	8	10.4	1.4	9	13.2	1.5	9	13.9	1.5	9	14.7	1.6	9	15.5	1.7	–	14.5%
Other	1	1	1	0.1	0.1	1	0.1	0.1	1	0.1	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	-100.0%	0.8%

1. Data has been provided by the department and may not necessarily reconcile with official government personnel data.

2. Rand million.

Entity

Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency

Selected performance indicators

Table 36.14 Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency performance indicators by programme/objective/activity and related outcome

Indicator	Programme/Objective/Activity	MTDP outcome	Audited performance			Estimated performance	MTEF targets		
			2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Number of SMMEs and cooperatives supported through the technology transfer assistance programme per year	Technology	Outcome 1: Increased employment and work opportunities	..1	..1	..1	..1	7	8	9
Number of SMMEs and cooperatives whose turnover has increased by a minimum of 5% per year	Impact and sustainability		..1	..1	..1	..1	900	1 000	1 100
Number of people who attended entrepreneurship awareness sessions per year	Enterprise development		..1	..1	..1	..1	24 000	26 000	28 000
Number of SMMEs and cooperatives in priority sectors supported with non-financial business development to scale up their businesses per year	Enterprise development		..1	..1	..1	..1	110	120	130
Number of SMMEs and cooperatives supported with business development per year	Enterprise development		..1	..1	..1	..1	3 000	3 500	4 000
Number of SMMEs and cooperatives linked to local markets per year	Enterprise development		..1	..1	..1	..1	150	200	250
Number of jobs facilitated and sustained per year	Job creation through supporting SMMEs and cooperatives	Outcome 4: Increased infrastructure investment and job creation	..1	..1	..1	..1	142 242	144 371	144 371

1. No historical data available.

Entity overview

The Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency was established in 2024 in terms of the National Small Enterprise Amendment Act (2024). The agency consolidates previous functions of the Small Enterprise Development Agency, the Small Enterprise Finance Agency and the Cooperative Banks Development Agency into a single government entity that aims to streamline a cohesive and effective response to the needs of small enterprises, particularly among disadvantaged groups in underserved areas. Accordingly, the agency is mandated to provide comprehensive financial and non-financial support to small enterprises that are poised for growth and have the potential to drive job creation and economic activity.

Over the medium term, the agency will focus on promoting entrepreneurship and coordinating the small enterprise development ecosystem. It plans to do this while prioritising key growth and transformation sectors, including tradeable services, manufacturing, agriculture, construction, mining and green industries. By accelerating the rollout of the asset assist and general dealer grant support programmes, the agency aims to provide SMMEs with equipment and raw materials of up to 15 per cent of the value of the equipment. This is aimed at helping small businesses that do not qualify for funding from financial institutions. An estimated R900 million over the MTEF period is allocated for this purpose.

Expenditure is expected to decrease marginally to R2.4 billion in 2027/28, as funds are reprioritised between the department and the agency. Spending on goods and services is expected to account for the bulk of the agency's budget over the medium term (R4.3 billion), with spending on compensation of employees constituting an estimated R2.6 billion. Revenue is expected to increase from R2.6 billion in 2025/26 to R2.9 billion in 2027/28, due to accumulated unspent funds from the National Skills Fund that are rolled over to 2027/28.

Programmes/Objectives/Activities

Table 36.15 Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency expenditure trends and estimates by programme/objective/activity

	Audited outcome			Revised estimate	Average growth rate (%)		Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		2021/22 - 2024/25	2024/25		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R million												
Administration	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	223.0	229.8	243.2	–	–
Ecosystem and stakeholder management	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	31.0	31.0	42.6	–	–
Business development services	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	907.7	945.1	1 027.0	–	–
Business development - cooperative banking institutions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	17.8	18.9	19.7	–	–
Finance services	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 235.7	1 022.9	1 033.4	–	–
Total	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 415.2	2 247.7	2 365.9	–	–

Statements of financial performance, cash flow and financial position

Table 36.16 Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency statements of financial performance, cash flow and financial position

Statement of financial performance												
	Audited outcome			Revised estimate	Average growth rate (%)		Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)	Medium-term expenditure estimate			Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		2021/22 - 2024/25	2024/25		2025/26	2026/27	2027/28		
R million												
Revenue												
Non-tax revenue	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	666.7	656.0	785.7	–	–
Sale of goods and services other than capital assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	110.4	99.1	103.2	–	–
Other sales	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	110.4	99.1	103.2	–	–
Other non-tax revenue	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	556.3	556.9	682.5	–	–
Transfers received	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 907.6	2 014.9	2 106.2	–	–
Total revenue	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 574.3	2 671.0	2 891.9	–	–
Expenses												
Current expenses	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 415.2	2 247.7	2 365.9	–	–
Compensation of employees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	880.0	860.8	851.0	–	–
Goods and services	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 498.9	1 358.9	1 489.1	–	–
Depreciation	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	27.2	19.7	18.4	–	–
Interest, dividends and rent on land	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	9.1	8.3	7.4	–	–
Total expenses	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 415.2	2 247.7	2 365.9	–	–
Surplus/(Deficit)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	159.1	423.2	526.0	–	–
Cash flow statement												
Cash flow from operating activities	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	294.1	484.1	545.7	–	–
Receipts												
Non-tax receipts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	190.5	160.4	163.5	–	–
Sales of goods and services other than capital assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	74.2	63.9	66.2	–	–
Other sales	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	74.2	63.9	66.2	–	–
Other tax receipts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	116.3	96.5	97.3	–	–
Transfers received	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 907.6	2 017.2	2 106.2	–	–
Financial transactions in assets and liabilities	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	182.3	182.3	243.1	–	–
Total receipts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 280.3	2 359.9	2 512.8	–	–
Payment												
Current payments	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 986.3	1 875.8	1 967.1	–	–
Compensation of employees	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	880.0	860.8	851.0	–	–
Goods and services	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 106.3	1 015.0	1 116.1	–	–
Total payments	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 986.3	1 875.8	1 967.1	–	–

Table 36.16 Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency statements of financial performance, cash flow and financial position (continued)

Cash flow statement					Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)				Average growth rate (%)	Average: Expenditure/ Total (%)
Audited outcome				Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate				
Net cash flow from advancing activities (financial institutions only)				–	–	–	(430.7)	(296.4)	(369.3)	–	–
Disbursements and other payments	–	–	–	–	–	–	(1 268.0)	(1 046.4)	(1 062.4)	–	–
Repayments and other receipts	–	–	–	–	–	–	837.3	750.0	693.0	–	–
Net cash flow from investing activities				–	–	–	225.3	255.6	311.4	–	–
Acquisition of property, plant, equipment and intangible assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	(14.4)	(12.3)	(20.2)	–	–
Acquisition of software and other intangible assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	(16.0)	(5.0)	(5.0)	–	–
Other flows from investing activities	–	–	–	–	–	–	255.8	272.9	336.6	–	–
Net cash flow from financing activities				–	–	–	(30.8)	(31.9)	(33.1)	–	–
Borrowing activities	–	–	–	–	–	–	(15.0)	(15.0)	(15.0)	–	–
Repayment of finance leases	–	–	–	–	–	–	(15.8)	(16.9)	(18.1)	–	–
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents				–	–	–	57.9	411.4	454.6	–	–
Statement of financial position											
Carrying value of assets				–	–	–	364.6	361.7	373.0	–	–
of which:											
Acquisition of assets				–	–	–	(14.4)	(12.3)	(20.2)	–	–
Investments	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 070.9	1 134.4	1 158.0	–	–
Inventory	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.4	0.4	0.4	–	–
Loans	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 178.5	1 060.1	1 092.2	–	–
Receivables and prepayments	–	–	–	–	–	–	404.5	540.8	474.4	–	–
Cash and cash equivalents	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 766.4	4 553.6	5 311.4	–	–
Taxation	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	0.0	0.0	–	–
Total assets				–	–	–	6 785.3	7 650.9	8 409.4	–	–
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)				–	–	–	(1 652.0)	(1 677.2)	(1 709.8)	–	–
Capital and reserves	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 167.3	3 167.3	3 167.8	–	–
Capital reserve fund	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 081.5	1 081.5	1 081.5	–	–
Borrowings	–	–	–	–	–	–	68.3	61.6	54.0	–	–
Deferred income	–	–	–	–	–	–	3 363.3	4 274.0	5 082.1	–	–
Trade and other payables	–	–	–	–	–	–	268.4	277.0	283.6	–	–
Provisions	–	–	–	–	–	–	95.4	91.2	91.5	–	–
Derivatives financial instruments	–	–	–	–	–	–	393.0	375.5	358.6	–	–
Total equity and liabilities				–	–	–	6 785.3	7 650.9	8 409.4	–	–

Personnel information

Table 36.17 Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency personnel numbers and cost by salary level

Number of posts estimated for 31 March 2025		Number and cost ¹ of personnel posts filled/planned for on funded establishment															Average growth rate of personnel posts (%)	Average: salary level/ Total (%)
Number of funded posts	Number of approved establishment posts	Actual			Revised estimate			Medium-term expenditure estimate										
		2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28				
Small Enterprise Development Finance Agency		Unit cost			Unit cost			Unit cost			Unit cost			Unit cost				
		Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost	Number	Cost	Unit cost		
Salary level	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 136	880.0	0.8	992	860.8	0.9	927	851.0	0.9	–	–
1 – 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	275	81.2	0.3	224	72.2	0.3	226	98.0	0.4	–	–
7 – 10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	510	416.1	0.8	447	409.2	0.9	419	445.9	1.1	–	–
11 – 12	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	204	171.1	0.8	188	168.4	0.9	174	162.0	0.9	–	–
13 – 16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	137	179.7	1.3	123	177.0	1.4	103	129.8	1.3	–	–
17 – 22	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	31.9	3.2	10	33.9	3.4	5	15.3	3.1	–	–

1. Rand million.