

15: ARTS, CULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

AIM

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

EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES

Table 15.1 Expenditure by programme

R million	Expenditure outcomes			Preliminary estimates	Medium term expenditure estimates		
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Administration	14,8	17,6	24,3	24,4	20,6	22,4	23,7
Arts and culture ¹	221,0	219,3	266,4	311,0	270,3	294,2	310,8
National archives	11,0	13,2	14,2	15,9	14,7	16,0	16,9
National language services	4,3	6,1	7,9	25,7	26,1	28,4	30,0
Science, technology and information	255,7	276,8	335,4	418,1	474,5	516,5	545,7
Sub-total	506,8	533,0	648,2	795,0	806,2	877,5	927,1
Capital works ²	—	—	—	39,4	38,4	30,0	31,0
Total	506,8	533,0	648,2	834,4	844,6	907,5	958,1

¹ Spending by programme has been reclassified where possible to correspond to the current programme structure.

² Appropriated on Vote: Public Works.

Mission and function of the Department

The Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology has two separate but related functions. Its aims, objectives, and activities can be separated into Arts and Culture and Science and Technology. The Department is responsible for the development of policy and regulations in the arts, culture, science and technology field. Its budget is divided into five programmes corresponding to its aims.

- ◆ *Administration* refers to the overall management and administration of the Department including the offices of the Minister, Deputy Minister and Director-General.
- ◆ *Arts and culture* aims to ensure that all South Africans have equal opportunity for artistic and cultural participation and expression, to conserve the heritage of all people of South Africa, and to promote the South African film industry and international cultural relations.
- ◆ *National archives of South Africa* refers to national archive and heraldic services.
- ◆ *National language services* entails the management and promotion of the language resources and diversity of South Africa.
- ◆ *Science, technology and meta-information* promotes the national system of innovation by ensuring that the science, engineering and technology institutions (SETIs), organisations, policies and international agreements interact constructively within a national culture of science and technology and an articulated vision of the future.

Table 15.2 Economic classification of expenditure

Rmillion	Expenditure outcomes			Preliminary estimates	Medium term expenditure estimates		
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Current							
Departmental personnel expenditure ¹	23,6	31,4	39,3	46,0	51,7	51,7	51,7
Other current departmental expenditure	17,2	18,1	29,6	46,1	36,4	107,8	157,3
Transfer payments	453,7	472,2	573,5	695,6	714,3	714,3	714,3
Capital							
Transfer payments	12,3	10,4	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,2
Acquisition of capital assets	0,3	1,2	4,6	45,5	40,5	32,5	33,5
Total	507,0	533,2	648,2	834,4	844,6	907,5	958,1

¹ Departmental personnel expenditure includes employer's contributions to pension funds at a rate of 17 per cent of basic salary in 1998/99 and 15 per cent of basic salary in subsequent years.

OUTPUTS AND SERVICE DELIVERY TRENDS

The mission of the Department is to realise the full potential of arts, culture, science and technology in social and economic development, in nurturing creativity and innovation, and in promoting the nation's diverse heritage.

The Department disburses grants to institutions that fulfil its aims, objectives and policies. Almost 90 per cent of the budget of the Department consists of transfers to institutions such as:

- ◆ Cultural institutions.

- ◆ Performing arts councils.
- ◆ Heritage institutions.
- ◆ The film industry.
- ◆ Science, engineering and technology institutions (or science councils).

Transfer payments increased by 59 per cent between 1995/96 and 1998/99, and are set to increase by another 15 per cent by 2001/02. The most significant increase is in transfers to the science councils. This reflects Government's commitment to invest in scientific innovations that improve international competitiveness and job-creation potential.

The budget also reflects support to organisations in civil society that promote the development of artistic potential.

Science councils

South Africa has eight statutory science councils and three national facilities which are partially funded from the fiscus. The Department co-ordinates Government funding of these councils. The science councils are:

- ◆ Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- ◆ South African Bureau of Standards (SABS).
- ◆ Council for Minerals Technology (Mintek).
- ◆ Council for Geosciences (CGS).
- ◆ Agricultural Research Council (ARC).
- ◆ Medical Research Council (MRC).
- ◆ Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC).
- ◆ Foundation for Research and Development (FRD).

Other organisations and national facilities funded by Government are:

- ◆ Atomic Energy Corporation (AEC).
- ◆ South African Weather Bureau (SAWB).
- ◆ South African Astronomical Observatory.
- ◆ Hartebeesthoek Radio Observatory
- ◆ National Accelerator Centre.

Key grants

SETIs are funded by a number of departments – for example, the Department of Health funds the Medical Research Council. Table 15.3 provides MTEF estimates of the main transfer payments to institutions funded by Government. Of these, only the HSRC and the FRD are budgeted for on the Vote of the Department.

Table 15.3 Main transfer payments

R million	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Science councils			
CSIR	315,7	336,8	349,0
ARC	259,2	307,5	318,6
MRC	79,6	83,4	86,4
Mintek	81,8	89,9	93,2
CGS	63,8	72,3	74,8
SABS	77,7	77,1	80,0
FRD	250,6	257,1	266,0
HSRC	64,4	69,0	71,5
Film industry	10,7	11,3	12,1
Cultural institutions	101,9	112,8	119,1
Performing arts councils	93,1	82,2	82,2
National libraries	18,9	18,3	18,8
Dictionary institutions	4,3	4,2	4,3

POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

Building a common heritage

The Department facilitates cultural development by establishing policies, institutions and programmes to develop the diverse artistic and cultural talents of all South Africans. This complex task requires clear policies, good management and creativity.

Investing in research

Apartheid isolated South Africa from technological and intellectual development. Improving the lives of people now depends on the country's ability to innovate and to invest in research and development that will create jobs, increase competitiveness and instil a culture of innovation.

Transforming the science councils

During 1998, the Department reviewed the SETIs in terms of competitiveness, national development strategies and 'value for money'. The review recommended transformation of certain institutions and clearer accountability to line departments. The Department has reprioritised allocations to these institutions in line with its broader objectives. The White Paper of Transformation of the Science, Engineering and Technology Institutions will form the framework to transform these institutions to meet the development objectives of the country.

DISCUSSION OF PROGRAMMES

Programme 1: Administration

	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation	Preliminary outcome	Medium term expenditure estimates		
R million		1998/99		1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
1998 Budget	20,2	24,8	24,4	21,4	21,6	–
1999 Budget	–	–	–	20,6	22,4	23,7

Programme 2: Arts and culture

	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation	Preliminary outcome	Medium term expenditure estimates		
R million		1998/99		1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
1998 Budget	273,8	316,4	311,0	273,8	247,3	253,6
1999 Budget	–	–	–	270,3	294,2	310,8

The *Arts and Culture* programme includes transfers to arts councils and organisations that promote arts and culture at national level through cultural projects, exhibitions, creativity, arts education and developing the arts among young people.

Programme 3: National archives

	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation	Preliminary outcome	Medium term expenditure estimates		
R million		1998/99		1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
1998 Budget	14,7	16,2	15,9	15,8	17,0	–
1999 Budget	–	–	–	14,7	16,0	16,9

The *National archives* programme is designed to stimulate interest in natural history, anthropology, art, cultural and natural heritage, creative writing, ichthyology and conservation among the broader community.

Programme 4: National language services

	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation	Preliminary outcome	Medium term expenditure estimates		
R million		1998/99		1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
1998 Budget	26,5	26,1	25,7	30,0	31,8	–
1999 Budget	–	–	–	26,1	28,4	30,0

South Africa has a rich linguistic diversity which needs to be protected and promoted. The Department is responsible for the *National language services* programme which promotes all languages in South Africa, with

particular emphasis on indigenous languages. This programme also funds the national dictionary programme and programmes related to the compilation of a Braille dictionary for the blind.

Programme 5: Science, technology and information

R million	Budget estimate	Adjusted appropriation 1998/99	Preliminary outcome	Medium term expenditure estimates		
				1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
1998 Budget	405,0	425,4	418,1	429,1	452,9	–
1999 Budget	–	–	–	474,5	516,5	545,7

The largest programme in the Department's budget aims to ensure the existence of the requisite infrastructure and information base in terms of institutions, organisations and policies that give effect to the national system of innovation. The HSRC is directly funded by this programme.

The Department also aims to promote science and technology to enhance competitiveness, create employment opportunities, enhance the quality of life and develop human resources. Other objectives are to work towards environmental sustainability, to promote an information society and to promote the role of social processes and an understanding of the problems in development.