

FOREWORD BY THE COUNTRY CHAIR



Hloniphizwe J. Mtolo
– Shell SA's Country Chair

Transformation should open the way to nation-building

The transformation of South Africa is a process that requires a multifaceted response to societal needs; it is a task that must encompass the country's priorities and include addressing the socio-economic challenges of poverty and unemployment. The focus must be on nation-building with wholehearted public and private participation, motivating and enabling change.

Otherwise, without a common objective, the process of societal change risks becoming a series of corporate-focused interventions that concentrate on meeting the regulatory requirements of various industry charters rather than creating opportunities for national growth and development.

The difference between the two concepts is stark. A cooperative approach between private and public participants enables nation-building to be geared to meeting the needs of society. In a macro-environment where change is constant, a simple corporate approach cannot hope to answer the broad spectrum of needs. The risk of forever remaining focused on achieving numbers and percentages means that change will always be slower than required. The focus must be on bringing the 'outside-in', increasing dialogue across divides, consulting the recipients of programmes, and making sure that interventions meet the needs and aspirations of those being offered assistance.

For Shell, as a company with a global presence and representation in the South African market, being an active corporate citizen and active participant in society is inherent in our purpose. We proudly promote nation-building and put our efforts and cash into the breaches in South African society.

We are, therefore, more intent on continuing and improving our efforts in the sphere of nation-building and going beyond compliance. We believe that our contributions to achieving national objectives will be realised by being visible and offering real opportunities to people.





These are achieved through:



Enterprise and Supplier Development

There is often comment that the socio-economic gap in our country is widening. The 'haves' are accumulating more, and the 'have-nots' are increasing. One of the most effective ways of countering this trend is supporting small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs), which are crucial to stimulating economic activity and creating jobs. Our actions within the SME sector are primarily practical programmes aimed at supporting the sustainable development of these businesses.



Skills Development

As Shell South Africa, we are committed to positioning youth for employment. The process begins with education and the promotion of STEM, allying these with the Shell bursary scheme and creating opportunities within the company where academic learning can be complemented with practical 'on the job' experience. These activities are intended to create a future that is meaningful and offers hope for personal development and growth so that the youth can become active economic citizens.

We identify skills that are vital to Shell and the industry at large and offer development opportunities to the youth to acquire these skills through practical work experience. By so doing, we position them to take up permanent employment opportunities post-completion.

Transforming society requires dedication. Efforts must be sustainable and build platforms that will benefit future generations. The objective is a nation that can build futures for all its people.

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS MORE THAN A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO TRANSFORMING SOCIETY; IT IS ALSO ABOUT INVESTING ONESELF IN THE PROCESS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE IMPACT.”

