

Spring 2010

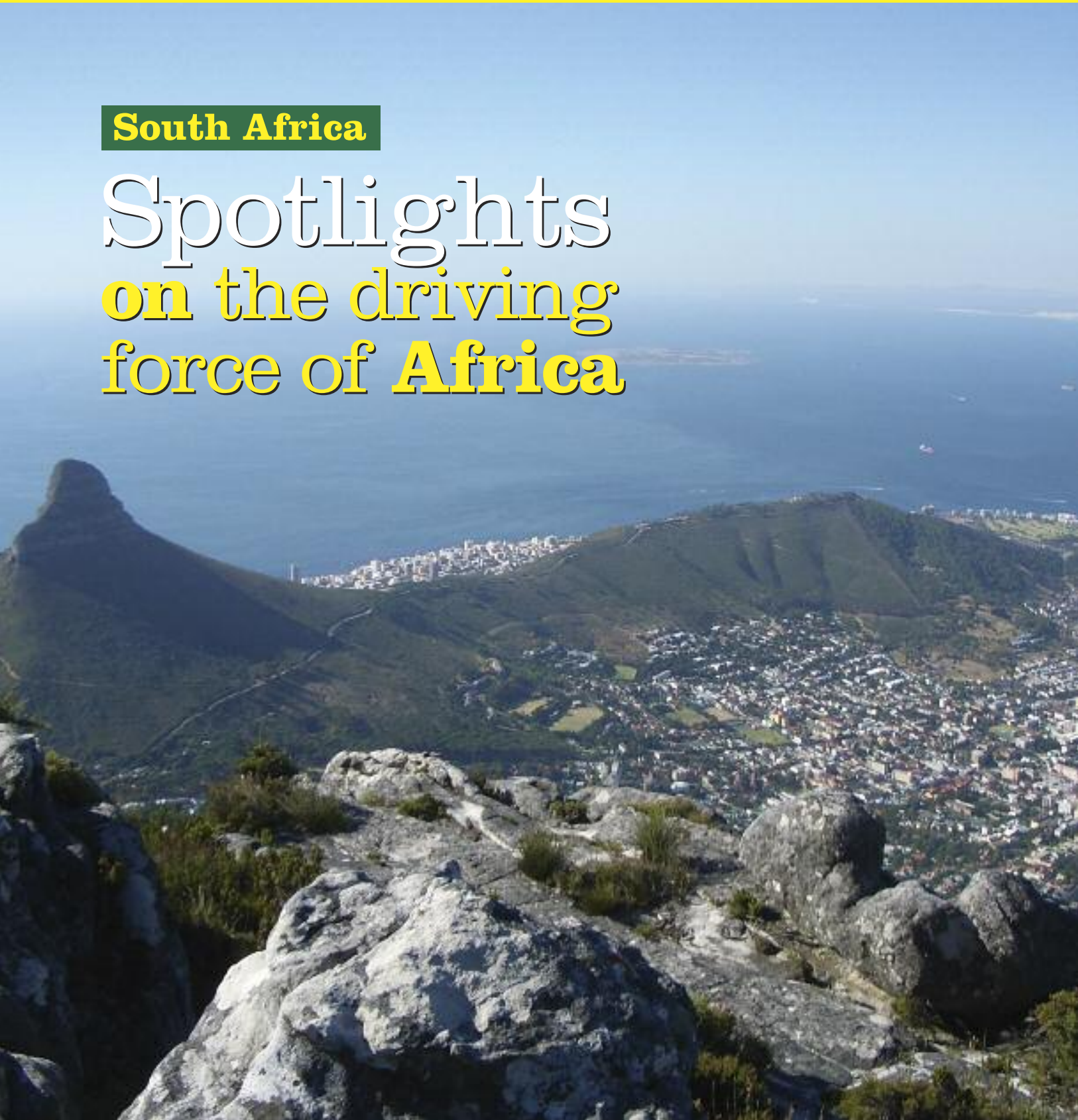
NomAd

The world is our adventure

 MAZARS

South Africa

Spotlights
on the driving
force of **Africa**



POPULATION
49 million
inhabitants

AVERAGE AGE
24.4 years

POPULATION
GROWTH
0.28%

BIRTH RATE
19.93 births/
1,000 population

INFANT
MORTALITY RATE
44.42/
1,000 births

FERTILITY RATE
2.38 births/woman
*(OECD countries:
1.8 birth/woman)*

LIFE EXPECTANCY
Men: **49.81** years
Women: **48.13** years

RELIGIONS
more than 80% Christian,
Muslim, Hindu,
Jewish, etc.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES
11 languages:
Afrikaans 13,3%,
English 8,2%,
Ndebele 1,6%,
Northern Sotho 9,4%,
Sotho 7,9%,
Swazi, Tsonga 4,4%,
Tswana 8,2%,
Venda, Xhosa 17,6% and
Zulu 23,8%.



A wealth of diversity

The first Soccer World Cup held on African soil allows visitors and television viewers internationally to discover the many faces of a country that is now at peace with itself and fully engaged on the world stage. Encouraged by its remarkable development potential and exciting cultural diversity, in the decade leading up to 2010, South Africa has been able to acquire quality infrastructures in the telecommunications and financial services sectors that help make it the leading economic power in Africa.

Thanks to its dynamic domestic market as well as its standing as a regional economic linchpin,

NoMaAd, the Mazars group's magazine for its clients and partners, offers a voyage of discovery to one of the countries around the globe where Mazars is expanding its business. Mazars is an international, integrated and independent organisation, specialised in audit, accounting, tax and advisory services.
www.mazars.com



Economy

GNP
\$488.6 billion

GNP, distribution by sector
Agriculture: 3.5%
Industry: 32.1%
Services: 64.4%

GNP growth
2008: 3.1%
2009: -1.9%

GDP Per capita
\$10,000

Working population
17.32 million
Agriculture: 9%
Industry: 26%
Services: 65%

Export volume
\$68 billion

Import volume
\$70.24 billion

Major trade partners
Japan, United States, Germany, United Kingdom, China, Netherlands

Unemployment
24%

Inflation
7.2%

Agricultural products
corn, wheat, sugar cane, fruits and vegetables, beef, poultry, mutton, wool and dairy products, etc.

Industrial products
top global producer of gold and platinum, diamonds, automobile assembly, steelmaking, metallurgy, textiles, chemical products, shipbuilding, etc.

Currency
Rand (ZAR)
(1 euro = 10,4871 Rands)

Political organisation, geography and climate



Political regime
Republic (Independence: 1910)

President
Jacob Zuma

Political and administrative organisation

South Africa has a parliamentary government. The President, elected by the Parliament, is both head of state and head of government. The Parliament is bicameral, comprising a lower house, the National Assembly, and an upper house, the National Council of Provinces (NCOP). The 400 members of the National Assembly are elected by proportional representation from party lists. The NCOP, which replaced

the Senate in 1997, has 90 members representing the nine provinces. Since 1994, the country's geographic, administrative and political structure of four provinces and ten Bantustans has been replaced by nine new integrated provinces: Western Cape, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, North West, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo.

Each province has a unicameral Provincial Legislature (single house of parliament) and an Executive Council chaired by a prime minister.

Geography and climate

Capitals: Pretoria (executive capital), Cape Town (legislative capital), Bloemfontein (judicial capital)

Surface area: 1,214,470 km². Two mountain ranges stretch across the north and south of the country respectively: the Drakensberg

mountains from KwaZulu-Natal to Cape Province and the Pilanesberg, a vast volcanic region, around Pretoria. The northwest is plains country, particularly in the Orange Free State, known as the breadbasket of the nation. This region also has rich mining resources. The Kalahari desert also extends into parts of northwest South Africa.

In addition, South Africa has almost 3,000 kilometers of coastline, sometimes rocky, particularly in the Cape region. Further to the east, is a sandy coast where the country's major seaside resorts are located (Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London and Jeffreys Bay, to name a few). The Cape region has a Mediterranean climate, while that of Durban is subtropical. Conditions along the Atlantic coast are desert-like, and the northern plateaus enjoy a tropical climate.

South Africa is a primary development zone for Mazars, which now has several offices in all the major cities.

In this issue of Nomad we invite you to explore what South Africa has to offer. We take a look at the South African economy and financial

arena, Mazars' presence and growth prospects in the country, as well as its culture, literature and sport.

We wish you an enjoyable read.

South Africa opens up to the world

In less than twenty years, South Africa has moved from international isolation to harmonious integration in the global community. After the dismantling of the apartheid regime and a successful democratic transition, the country is making full use of its cultural diversity and has become a preeminent regional power. Today, as it prepares to host the Soccer World Cup, South Africa is, without doubt, the leading economic force of the African continent.



For South Africans, 2010 will be a memorable year across many fronts: it is both the 20th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison on Robben Island, after 27 years of incarceration and the first time the Soccer World Cup will be held on African soil. Several hundred million spectators and television viewers will be able to discover the many facets of this modern, pacified country that is a beacon of hope for all of Africa.

A successful democratic transition

Just two decades ago, the country was beginning a very delicate transition to multiparty democracy, racial equality and more equitable distribution of wealth. The aspirations of some ignited the fears of others, and violence was a daily reality. Despite the progress of negotiations between FW. de Klerk's National Party and the ANC (African National Congress), the situ-

ation was extremely tense and the 1994 presidential elections, the first with universal suffrage, promised to be challenging. Against all expectations, however, the transition took place without any major problems. As anticipated, Nelson Mandela was elected and appointed a government of national union. The measures taken during his presidency would ultimately contribute to the radical transformation of the country.

In 1993, South Africa adopted an interim constitution. The final constitution was adopted in 1996. This is one of the world's most liberal constitutions in terms of human rights guarantees and protection. In 1996, Nelson Mandela created the "Truth and Reconciliation" Commission (TRC), under the chairmanship of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. This process used peaceful dialogue to shed light on the atrocities of the previous decades and contributed to calming relations between communities with a long history of conflict. A vast land reform policy

Key steps in the history of South Africa

2.5 million years BC: Estimated date of existence of the people of the Taung Child, whose fossilised skull was discovered in 1924 in the Kromdraai caves. South Africa is one of the cradles of humanity.

Between 40,000 and 25,000 BC:

Arrival of the San and Khoi and development of their culture, which is the world's most ancient along with that of the Australian Aborigines. They are joined, around the year 300, by the African migrant, farmers and herders from the Niger Delta.

THE ARRIVAL OF EUROPEANS

1448: The arrival of the first European company, under the Portuguese commander Bartolomeu Dias, at Mossel Bay. In **1497**, Vasco de Gama explores the southern coast of Africa and gives the name "Natal" to one of the regions he visits ("Christmas" in Portuguese).

1652: Arrival of the Dutch, led by Jan van Riebeeck, at the foot of Table Mountain near Cape Town.

They are joined in **1688** by several hundred Huguenots fleeing France after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. During the century that follows, certain Dutch colonists move away from the Cape Town colony into the interior of the land.

They adopt the name Voortrekkers ("nomadic pastoralists") and develop the Afrikaans language out of the Dutch language.

1797: Arrival of the British, who take possession of Cape Town.

A CENTURY OF CONFLICTS

1835: Start of the Great Trek: 4,000 Boers from the area of Cape Town take to their wagons to colonise the interior of the country. More than 10,000 others will follow suit in the next ten years. In **1838**, they defeat the Zulu army at the Battle of Blood River.

Fearing too strong a Boer expansion, the British annex Natal in 1843.

1877: First Anglo-Boer War. The defeat of the British army during the battle of Majuba Hill convinces Her Majesty's government to sign the Pretoria Convention, recognising the independence of the Transvaal.

1899: Second Anglo-Boer War, ending in an Afrikaner defeat. The terms of the Peace of Vereeniging signed in **1902** make them subjects of the British Crown.

THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE INSTITUTION OF APARTHEID

1910: The British founded the Union of South Africa, a union of the Cape, Natal, Transvaal and the Orange Free State colonies, in the form of a dominion with a parliament and extensive autonomy.

1948: Institution of the apartheid policy of racial segregation. The laws establishing apartheid are voted in **1950** and establish the principle of social and geographic segregation.

1960: Nelson Mandela founds a military wing to the ANC following the Sharpeville massacres, an organisation known as Umkhonto we Sizwe ("Spear of the Nation"), which carries out

guerrilla attacks against industrial, civilian and military infrastructures.

1961: Severing of ties with Great Britain and exit from the Commonwealth. The Republic of South Africa succeeds the Union of the same name.

1963: Imprisonment of Nelson Mandela.

1976: Soweto uprising. School youths initiated an uprising as a result of the imposition of Afrikaans as the method of teaching in all black schools.

1983: Institution of a tricameral (three chambers) parliament, with separate representation for people classified as Colored and Indian. No representation is in place for black South Africans. Riots spread through the towns and the abolition of certain symbolic apartheid measures (prohibition of mixed marriages, elimination of benches and buses reserved for whites, etc.) leads to tensions within the Afrikaner community.

THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

1990: F.W. de Klerk, who became head of state the previous year, lifts the ban on the ANC and the communist party. He abolishes censorship and suspends capital punishment. The majority of political prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, are released.

1994: First democratic elections. The new South African constitution is adopted in **1996**.



was also implemented, with the aim of using public financing to restore arable land to black farmers who had been dispossessed since 1913. The Employment Equity Act was promulgated in 1998, introducing equal access to employment. It applies to all companies of more than 50 employees, as well as to municipalities and all government agencies, and aims to overcome previous discrimination in wage equality and access to management positions. In 2003, the Black Economic Empowerment Act was introduced in order to promote the ownership of businesses by black people in South Africa

A soaring economy

The successful democratic transition created a stable foundation for South African economic development, which also benefited from the country's return to full standing in the international community. Founded on enormous mining resources – South Africa is one of the world's leading suppliers of gold, platinum and diamonds – the national economy is also bolstered

The emergence of a black middle class

Beginning in 1994, South Africa began implementing an affirmative action policy aimed at promoting better representation of the black majority in the country's different sectors of activity (administration, public and para-governmental sector, nationalised and private companies).

This wide-ranging initiative, furthered again by the 1998 Employment Equity Act, led to the emergence of a black middle class, which has gradually been moving into the neighborhoods previously reserved for white South Africans. Real estate sales to black homeowners, for example, have risen by

almost 700% since 2000 in the residential suburbs north of Johannesburg.

The upward mobility of the black community is also proven by new car purchases (in 2004, 31% of owners of new vehicles were black, compared with only 11% in 1990) and the opening of bank accounts. The number of accounts opened by black clients at Wesbank, for example, rose by 40% between 2001 and 2005. Today they account for a quarter of total clientele.

It is estimated that blacks now make up more than half of South Africa's middle class.



by an active agricultural sector and many strengths in the industrial arena, including car and medical equipment manufacturing and shipbuilding. However, one of the country's main strengths today lies in its banking and finance sector. Banking activity in particular has expanded rapidly. South Africa is host to many financial institutions, both domestic and foreign, which offer a wide range of services rivaling those of the most industrialised nations.

Its telecommunications network is another strength for the country which has excellent urban zone coverage. In 2007, South Africa already numbered 42 million mobile telephone subscribers, or 82% of the population. Tourism has also benefited from the easing of international relations. Several million visitors explore the country's game reserves each year, which offer some of the most biodiverse experiences on the planet. The organisation of the Soccer World Cup, including the major airport, road and hotel infrastructure improvements that it requires (see box, below), will help sustain and expand the country's tourism industry.



2010 World Cup: the whole world will be watching

South Africa has already proved its ability to play host to major international events with the Cricket World Cup in 2003 and the Rugby World Cup in 1995. That year, Nelson Mandela greeted the victory of the national team by appearing in a Springbok jersey, a past symbol of white power. However, hosting the Soccer World Cup is, as the saying goes, a whole different ball game. Twenty-four teams from all over the world will take part in an event with a far greater international reach. A Soccer World Cup requires larger investment, and the anticipated rewards are also a lot greater. Significant construction efforts are underway to make room for all the games in the competition: five stadiums in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Rustenburg and Bloemfontein were completely renovated and five were built from scratch in Durban, Polokwane, Cape

Town, Port Elizabeth and Mbombela. In addition to these projects, much of the country's communication, transportation and leisure infrastructures have been expanded or refurbished, including the Gautrain, a high-speed railway which will link Pretoria and Johannesburg to the Johannesburg international airport.

The numbers speak for themselves: for a total investment of almost 13 billion Rands (1.2 billion euros), the World Cup will create close to 160,000 jobs and add 21 billion Rands to the country's GDP, a profit of almost 8 billion Rands. The event is also expected to generate 7.2 billion Rands in taxes. More than three million tickets have been sold, while 350,000 visitors are anticipated and expected to spend some 9.8 billion Rands whilst in the country.

Tremendous cultural wealth

With its many communities – San, Khoi, Ndebele, Sotho, Swazi, Tsongas, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, Zulu, Indians, Afrikaner, etc. – and eleven official languages (see General Information, p. 2), South Africa easily earns its title as the “Rainbow Nation”. Many of the nation's artists have brought the country's musical talent to the world stage. The names Myriam Makeba, Johnny Clegg and Hugh Masekela come to mind.

Certain South African writers have also achieved international recognition. Two of them – Nadine Gordimer and J.M. Coetzee – were recently awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. In cinema, Charlize Theron received an Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in the film *Monster* in 2004. The South African film *Tsotsi* also got an Oscar for Best Foreign Language film in 2005. And Neil Blomkamp, with *District 9*, was one of the revelations of 2009.

More broadly, UNESCO includes eight South African sites on its World Heritage list, including Robben Island and the Kromdraai region, one of the birthplaces of humanity where in 1924 the fossilised skull of Taung, an Australopithecus africanus hominid from 2.5 million years ago, was discovered.

Despite structural difficulties related to the persistence of certain inequalities, a consistently high crime rate and the ravages caused by HIV, South Africa today is a peaceful country, which has overcome the worst challenges of its conflict-filled history. It has succeeded in combining modernity with tradition, opening up internationally, building a richly diverse society and affirming itself as a significant economic player for the 21st century.

More broadly, the event will be broadcast in 207 countries around the world, giving South Africa unprecedented media coverage. A successful World Cup will increase the country's attractiveness to foreign investors, and have a substantial impact on South Africa's long-term development. The country will reap the benefits of the World Cup for years to come.

Finally, because this World Cup will be the first ever on African soil, South Africa wants the entire continent to benefit from the event. “*We want the World Cup to strengthen regional integration, Pan-African solidarity and the image of the continent as a whole,*” say the members of the Organising Committee. “*This is an exceptional opportunity for us to bury the still existing image of a ‘continent at risk’ and promote Africa's amazing development potential.*”



Solid governance practices and a healthy financial system

As the leading economic power of the African continent, South Africa has worked to establish top quality financial institutions over the past 15 years. The country can also rely on regulatory systems and agencies on a par with those in industrialised countries.

National Bank, employing more than 28,000 people in its 374 local agencies; Standard Bank, present in 38 countries around the world, including 18 in Africa; Nedbank and its subsidiaries Nedbank Limited and Imperial Bank Limited; and Absa, which has almost 12 million customers and more than 36,000 employees. The first three are owned in their majority by domestic shareholders, while Absa was recently acquired by the Barclays group. All offer a full range of services to retail customers, companies and public sector organisations.

Next to these four giants, South Africa also hosts a wide variety of smaller financial institutions doing business regionally. Many major international banks – Deutsche Bank, Citybank, Calyon, HSBC, JP Morgan Chase, Bank of China, etc. – have also established subsidiaries and sales offices in the country.

Rapid IFRS conversion

The South African economy has also benefited from the country's rapid and successful conversion to IFRS. According to the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA), IFRS has allowed local companies to become more attractive to foreign investors, particularly by reinforcing the credibility of their financial results and improving the operation and efficiency of the country's capital markets. In this area, South Africa has played a pioneering role for the continent as a whole and the South African experience should encourage other countries to adopt international accounting standards, both in Africa and beyond.

A dynamic audit market

Like all business sectors in South Africa, audit has undergone considerable regulatory changes

in recent years. An auditing profession act came into force in 2005, dictating, in particular, the creation of an independent regulatory and supervisory body, IRBA (Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors). Comprising qualified members – including auditors – appointed by the Ministry of Finance, IRBA serves to set and enforce professional standards and ethics in compliance with international standards. Within this newly stabilised regulatory framework, many major business entities, both local and international, who wish to expand their business and draw benefit from the country's development potential, are very active on the market. With its governance code, IFRS adoption, financial sector expansion, dynamic telecommunications and major public works improvements being carried out for the Soccer World Cup, the South African market is full of promise. For audit and advisory services players, it therefore offers a wealth of opportunity.

In the area of governance, in 1994 South Africa adopted a Code of corporate practices of conduct, based on discipline, transparency, independence – to avoid conflicts of interest – and individual, collective and social responsibility. This code is inspired by Western models and applies to all listed or nationally owned companies, local and national government administrations and financial institutions. It has allowed South Africa to take its place among emerging economies as one of the most proactive countries in the area of corporate governance.

It has also contributed to the strong growth of the Johannesburg financial market. The South African stock market – Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) – ranks 16th in the world today, with several hundred companies listed and total capitalisation of some \$600 billion.

First-rate financial institutions

The country's banking system has experienced considerable growth, under the supervision of the SARB (South African Reserve Bank). Four major players dominate the market: First



Solid roots for future growth

When it integrated the South African offices of Moores Rowland into its international partnership, in 2007, Mazars acquired the expertise of a leading domestic player in audit and advisory services. Now Mazars is poised to draw full benefit from the promise of this rapidly developing market.



Key data

MAZARS IN SOUTH AFRICA

6th ranking audit and advisory services organisation in South Africa

National Chairman
Hilton Saven, co-CEO of Mazars Group

More than **800 professionals**, in **9 offices** in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Paarl, Port Elizabeth, George, Plettenberg Bay.

47 partners

Four major areas of business
audit, accounting services, tax and advisory services

2009 turnover:
€22 million

Main clients

Bouygues, Thalès, Afrimat, Spanjaard, Stefanutti Stocks, Pinnacle Point Holdings, Areva, Publicis, and around 15 companies listed on the JSE. The Mazars' clients portfolio also includes many family-owned companies.

The story of Mazars in South Africa began almost 80 years ago and illustrates a remarkable capacity to offer quality services over time. Exclusive relationships developed with certain "historic" clients reach back more than half a century. At each stage of its development, the organisation has been able to acquire new skills, while still maintaining the personalised approach and professional and ethical excellence for which it is admired.

The structure began taking its current form in 1995. Four regional firms – Baker Musikanth in Cape Town, Goldberg Jaffe in Johannesburg, Cohen Morris in Port Elizabeth and Boulle Saad & Levin in Durban – decided to unite their forces to create the modern incarnation of Moores Rowland South Africa. From 1995 to 2007, the organisation extended its geographic coverage, adding offices in Bloemfontein, East London, George and Pretoria. At the same time, Mazars was beginning to develop beyond the borders of Europe, and entered into a relationship with Moores Rowland South Africa that led, in the 2000s, to the signature of correspondence agreements.

A further step was taken in 2007 with the integration of the Cape Town, Johannesburg and Paarl offices into the international Mazars partnership (and thus Praxity international alliance). One year later, all the South African offices became full members of Mazars.

Striving to create value

Today, Mazars has nine offices spread across South Africa, in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Bloemfontein, George, Paarl, Port Elizabeth and Plettenberg Bay. The organisation employs almost 800 professionals, including 47 partners and has a turnover close to 22 million euros. It ranks 6th amongst national audit firms, has been certified by the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and counts large listed companies, both South African and international, among its clients. A significant proportion of the client base also comprises Owner Managed Businesses (OMBs), which Mazars supports in their development efforts. It has, in particular, acquired extensive expertise in the construction and real estate sectors, which occupy a significant place in the South African economy.

The Mazars offer focuses on four main service areas. Firstly, audit services, for clients of all sizes, and with the consistently held desire to combine strict respect for professional ethics and regulations and value creation for the company. Secondly, accounting services, in compliance with national or international standards, and with the ability to carry out all services relating to bookkeeping and account preparation, financial reporting and the full range of accounting transactions. Thirdly, tax advisory services, in a constantly evolving legislative context, which makes financial planning increasingly complex for companies. This is why Mazars has chosen to adopt a much



tailored approach that takes the specificity and unique parameters of each client and each assignment as a starting point. Following these guiding principles, the Mazars tax advisory team provides assistance with tax investigations, managing employer contributions and social insurance payments and corporate and international taxation issues. They also manage indirect taxation such as value-added tax. The professionals at Mazars can also provide a service to associations, or manage inheritance tax issues. The fourth and final component of the Mazars offer is high-added-value advisory services. The goal in this area is to help companies implement long-term strategies that will allow them to project their value in an increasingly competitive environment. For example, Mazars provides services to help clients implement external growth strategies, conclude strategic alliances, or pursue international expansion.

Its teams assist companies in implementing their performance improvement processes and strategies, environmental or internal risk reduction programmes.

A focus on talent development

Because Mazars rejects ready-made solutions and bases the success of its assignments on professional excellence and establishing long term relations with its clients, the organisation must be able to call on talented professionals who combine technical and relational expertise. This is why out-of-the-box thinking and communication skills are among the top criteria for selecting the men and women who join the South African offices. It is for the same reason that Mazars pays particular attention to the training of new arrivals. By investing in these talented newcomers, the organisation is preparing for a future of sustainable growth.



Mazars Corporate Finance: choosing excellence

The Mazars Corporate Finance team in South Africa is made up of experienced professionals, able to serve listed companies and financial institutions, as well as OMBs. Based in Johannesburg and Cape Town, the Corporate Finance team carries out assignments across the country, and beyond its borders throughout Southern Africa.

Mazars Corporate Finance in South Africa has an excellent Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) rating. This reflects the real efforts put in place to promote employment, social and professional mobility for population groups that were victims of discrimination during the apartheid era, as required by the BEE policy introduced by the government in 2003.

It offers support in areas including financial due diligence reviews, fairness reports, purchase price allocations with application of IFRS 3, listings on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (which has certified it for this purpose), company valuations, mergers and acquisitions, feasibility studies, investment and restructuring advisory services. Mazars experts have also acquired significant expertise in designing and reviewing financial models.

In an environment where many companies choose to work exclusively with providers able to demonstrate excellent BEE ratings, the level reached by Mazars Corporate Finance (2 on a scale of 1 to 8, with 1 the highest score) ensures broad market access.

Key Contact



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From Mazars Moores Rowland to Mazars

On 1 April 2010, Mazars Moores Rowland became Mazars across the entire territory of South Africa. *“For two and a half years, since our integration into the partnership, we have chosen, at first, to keep the name Moores Rowland and combine it with that of Mazars,”* says Hilton Saven, National Chairman. *“We believed that the long history and strength of the Moores Rowland brand in South Africa justified this decision during a transitional phase. Today, we feel that the Mazars name has acquired enough of a reputation for us to proceed with it alone. We are proud to present ourselves to our clients and on our market under the name Mazars.”*



An expanding presence in Southern Africa

By bringing South Africa into the partnership, Mazars created a foundation for pursuing growth across the entire region. The Group has direct locations in Botswana, Madagascar, Mauritius and Angola.

Mazars’ Botswana office is a natural offshoot of the integration of the Moores Rowland offices in South Africa. This integration took effect on 1 April 2008, providing Mazars with six offices – in the capital city Gaborone, as well as in Lobatse, Ghanzi, Selebi-Phikwe, Palapye and Maun – and 110 professionals, including four partners, in a nation measuring 600 km² with a population of almost two million. Thanks to this dense geographic coverage, Mazars is one of the leading trio of audit firms in Botswana, with a clientele mainly comprising South African and local companies.

Mauritius joined the partnership towards the end of 2009. Mazars in Mauritius has four offices and 75 professionals, including two partners, with the main agency located in the capital of Port Louis. Further strengthening Mazars’ regional coverage are the more than 100 professionals in Madagascar and the recently opened office in Angola. This location is piloted with the Mazars teams in Portugal, and will serve European and Brazilian companies in Portuguese-speaking Africa. The organisation also has a correspondence agreement in Kenya, which lays the groundwork for new expansion in the English-speaking regions around continent.

Three questions for Hilton Saven

National Chairman in South Africa and Group co-CEO

South Africa is a fulcrum for Mazars’ development across the region today. What does this mean in concrete terms?

South Africa has excellent infrastructures, so it makes sense that it would serve as a starting point for our growth across the continent. Specifically, we are creating an “excellence center” in South Africa which will pilot all our regional business. South Africa is a resource center for the Group in terms of risk management, training, marketing and human resources, offering its expertise in these areas to the other countries of southern Africa.

What are Mazars’ growth prospects outside of South Africa?

Southern and central Africa have considerable growth potential, in particular such countries as Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. We can anticipate working for humanitarian aid organisations and international lenders who are active in the region, for example.

Other than the countries in which Mazars is already present, do you have any short or medium-term plans for development?

In the short term, we will concentrate on reaching agreements in Namibia and Zambia. Further down the line, Mozambique and the other countries mentioned earlier are on our radar for development. We also of course plan future growth across all of English-speaking Africa.

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Stefanutti Stocks Ltd Pushing forward with Mazars

Founded in 1971, Stefanutti Stocks Holdings Ltd ('Stefanutti Stocks') is one of the largest industrial engineering and construction companies in the country. Having grown phenomenally over the past 15 years, it was recently listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, and has been one of Mazars' major clients in South Africa since 2007.

“I n 1996, our turnover was only 84 million Rands. In 2010, it will reach close to 7,5 billion Rands.” With these two figures, Dermot Quinn, CFO of Stefanutti Stocks, illustrates the company's growth over the past two decades. Today, with more than 9,000 employees, Stefanutti Stocks is solidly positioned among the national leaders in its business sector, contributing to the design and construction of major infrastructures, industrial and mining facilities and public works projects. Its clients include both the government and provincial and municipal authorities, mining operations, large companies, financial institutions and real estate developers. In recent years, among the major projects undertaken by the organisation for the Soccer World Cup, Stefanutti Stocks participated in the construction of the new Durban stadium, the Johannesburg and Cape Town international airport upgrades and the construction of the Gautrain, which will connect Johannesburg city center with the international airport.

Stefanutti Stocks' business also reaches beyond the country's borders into Southern Africa (Angola, Mozambique, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe), Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and several Persian Gulf states. “The international sector generates almost a quarter of our turnover,” says Dermot Quinn, “and is an area of priority development for us.”

«A partner who understands our strategy and supports our development»

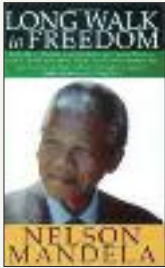
A milestone in Stefanutti Stocks' trajectory: in 2007, the group decided to undertake a private placement of its shares on the stock market. “This gave us the resources to structure and better integrate the full range of our business activities,” says Mr. Quinn. This major step in the company's growth was also the opportunity for Stefanutti Stocks to seek out the skill and expertise offered by a qualified partner. “We examined the characteristics and advantages of selected audit and

advisory services firms, and once we were ready, we went with Mazars. The Corporate Finance team helped us with the reporting aspects of the private placement of our shares. We were attracted by the quality of service provided and entrusted Mazars with the audit of our South African units.” A relationship which has grown and strengthened since then. “Mazars was able to understand the specifics of our business, the commercial environment and our Group strategy,” says Mr. Quinn, “and we have established reliable relationships with the two partners – Mark Snow and Brian Bank – who certify our accounts. We are pleased to have chosen Mazars.”

With outstanding growth under its belt, Stefanutti Stocks can look ahead to the future with confidence. “The South African market is still promising,” concludes Mr. Quinn, “and we also want to expand our international presence.” An adventure in which Mazars will be a partner of choice. “We are aware of Mazars' international reach, and intend to continue our collaboration beyond the South African borders.”



English French

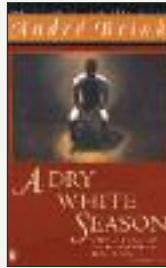


Long Walk to Freedom

Nelson Mandela

1994, Abacus

An engrossing autobiography by Nelson Mandela, written shortly after his release from prison. The tale of a difficult life marked by resistance, battles and victory. An essential testimonial from one of the great moral leaders of our time.

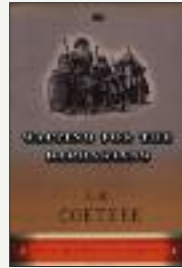


A dry white season

André Brink

1980, Penguin

The story of an impossible friendship between a white history professor and the black janitor at the school where he teaches. Banned in South Africa at the time of its publication and then translated into nearly a dozen languages.

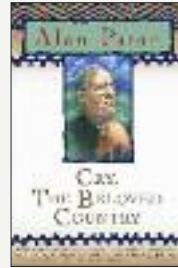


Waiting for the Barbarians

J.M. Coetzee

1980, Penguin

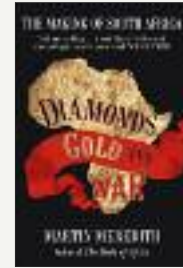
A universal parable about dictatorial government and its inherent fear of the outsider. John Maxwell Coetzee received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2003.



Cry the beloved country - Alan Paton

1948, Charles Scribner

A social protest against the structures of the society that would later give rise to apartheid. Paton brilliantly highlights many of the problems afflicting post-war South Africa such as the degrading of the land reserved for the indigenous populations, the disintegration of the tribal community, and the flight to the urban areas.



Diamonds, gold and war The British, the Boers and the making of South-Africa

Martin Meredith

2007, Public Affairs

A well-documented history of the creation of South Africa and its rise to independence.

Recommended listening



AMANDLA

A revolution in four-part harmony

2003, BMG

The soundtrack to the documentary of the same name. This collection highlights the rich variety and beauty of the traditional music of the townships. It showcases stars of the national music scene, including Mariam Makeba and Hugh Masekela.



PAUL SIMON

Graceland

1986, Warner Bros

Paul Simon brought together talented local musicians for an album that succeeds in blending American and South African musical heritage.



LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO

The best of

1992, Shanashie

The best of the mbube masters (a capella singing). 16 superb tracks sung in Zulu and in English.



The Making of Modern South Africa Conquest, Apartheid, Democracy

Nigel Worden

2007, Wiley-Blackwell

An excellent historical synthesis of the forces and events that formed the South Africa of today.



South Africa - Culture Smart the essential guide to customs and culture

David Holt-Biddle

2007, Kuperard

A perfect introduction to the cultural and social diversity of the Rainbow Nation. Crucial to avoiding mistaken generalisations.



July's People

Nadine Gordimer

1982, Penguin

A strong account of racial tensions in a country regulated by an official segregation policy. By the winner of the 1991 Nobel Prize for Literature.

Internet resources

<http://www.southafrica.info>

The official web portal for South Africa. All things current about the country. In English, French, German and Portuguese.

<http://www.news24.com/Content>

All the latest South African news on line. A very complete website.

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Un arc en ciel dans la nuit

Dominique Lapierre

2008, Robert Lafont

A beautiful reconstruction of an epic tale about women and men who have given birth to a new South Africa, a Rainbow Nation.



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