

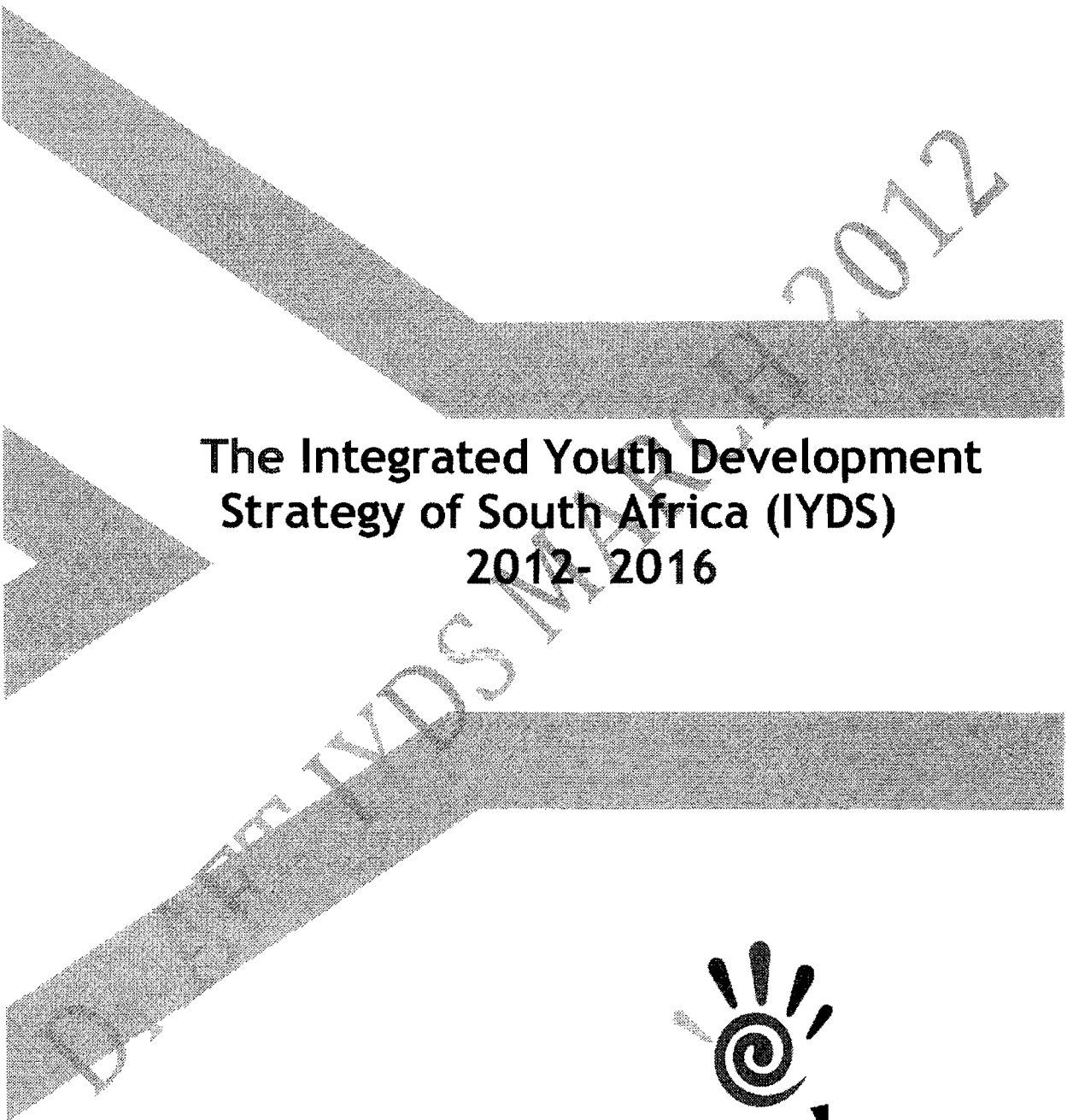
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GENERAL NOTICE

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NOTICE 215 OF 2012

**OUR YOUTH. OUR FUTURE.**



**The Integrated Youth Development  
Strategy of South Africa (IYDS)  
2012- 2016**



NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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#### Disclaimer

The strategic interventions contained in this strategy have been developed by the NYDA in consultation with relevant South African stakeholders, including general public. Youth in particular, were consulted through various platforms across the country; they discussed extensively and endorsed the strategy. During the National Youth Convention which was held in Sol Plaatje Municipality (Kimberly) between 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of August, 2011, South African youth developed a declaration supporting the strategy which was adopted by the convention.

Statistical and other numerical data presented in the IYDS has been carefully selected and reflected as such but NYDA does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included and accepts no consequence of its use thereof. The NYDA encourages wide dissemination of the IYDS and will normally grant permission to reproduce portions of the IYDS.



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**A. FOREWORD, PREFACE AND STATEMENT**

**1.1 FOREWORD BY THE MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY, HONOURABLE MINISTER COLLINS CHABANE**

To be included

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**B. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

AgriSA	Agri South Africa
ART	Anti-Retroviral Treatment
ASGISA	Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative-South Africa
AYC	African Youth Charter
BBBEE	Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment
CCEP	Civic and Citizenship Education Programme
CSI	Corporate Social Investment
COSATU	Congress of South African Trade Unions
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSSRP	Civic Shared Social Responsibility Programme
CTOP	Choice on Termination of Pregnancy
DAC	Department of Arts and Culture
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DCS	Department of Correctional Services
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
DoE	Department of Education
DoL	Department of Labour
DTI	Department of Trade and Industry
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FET	Further Education and Training
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEAR	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
GEM and BEM	Girl and Boy Education Movements
HAART	Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy
HDI	Human Development Index
HEA	Higher Education Act
HEI	Higher Education Institutions
HIV	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus
HRDSSA	Human Resources Development Strategy South Africa
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
IDC	Inter-Departmental Committee on Youth Affairs
IDZ	Industrial Development Zones
IPAP	Industrial Policy Action Plan
IYDS	Integrated Youth Development Strategy
JIPSA	Joint Initiative on Priority Skills Acquisition
KSFA	Key Strategic Focus Area
LED	Local Economic Development
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MerSETA	Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority
MIG	Municipal Infrastructure Grant
MRC	Medical Research Council
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
MYPE	Mid Year Population Estimates
NAFCI	National Adolescent Friendly Clinic Initiative
NASFAS	National Student Financial Aid
NIMSS	National Injury Mortality Surveillance System
NEPA	National Education Policy Act
NGP	New Growth Path
NCD	Non Communicable Diseases
NSA	National Skills Authority
NSDS	National Skills Development Strategy

NSI	National Sports Indaba
NSSF	Norms and Standard for School Funding
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
NYP	National Youth Policy 2009-2014
NYS	National Youth Service
NYSPF	National Youth Service Policy Framework
PAB	Provincial Advisory Board
PGDS	Provincial Growth and Development Strategy
PHC	Primary Health Care
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PHC	Primary Health Care
PSC	Priority Sporting Codes
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
QLFS	Quarterly Labour Force Surveys
R&D	Research and Development
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
RSA	Republic of South Africa
SACC	South African Council of Churches
SAGDA	South African Graduate Development Association
SANYRBS	South African National Youth at Risk Behaviour Survey
SARS	South African Revenue Services
SASA	South African Schools Act
SAQA	South African Qualifications Authority
SDA	Skills Development Act
SDF	Skills Development Fund
SDLA	Skills Development Levies Act
SED	Spatial Economic Development
SETA	Sector Education and Training Authorities
SGB	School Governing Bodies
SRSA	Department of Sport and Recreation South Africa
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TB	Tuberculosis
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
UN	United Nations
UIF	Unemployment Insurance Fund
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNWPAY	United Nations World Programme of Action on Youth
WPAY	Worldwide Programme of Action on Youth
WHO	World Health Organisation
WYF	World Youth Forum

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## 1. CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND & BRIEF LITERATURE OVERVIEW

### 1.1 Background- IYDS concept and overview of policy and legislative framework

South Africa is one of the few countries in Africa that have developed and attempted to implement a comprehensive youth policy. However, any policy requires strategies and programmes for a successful implementation and indeed various strategies and programmes have been conceptualized and implemented since 1994 in order to advance youth development in South Africa. Despite all these efforts though, a closer look at youth development indicators reveals that progress has been made but many challenges of youth development remain enormous. South Africa has acknowledged the need for a concerted effort by all which must be guided by an Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) and in 2008 enacted the NYDA Act Number 54 of 2008. The aforementioned act instructs the NYDA to *develop an Integrated Youth Development Strategy for South Africa.*<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, acknowledging the fact that it is not possible for NYDA on its own to implement youth programmes that will completely integrate South African youth into the economy and society in general, the act unambiguously instructs NYDA to:

- a) Promote a uniform approach by all organs of state, the private sector and non-governmental organisations to matters relating to or involving youth development and;
- b) Partner and assist organs of state, the private sector and non-governmental organisations and community based organisations on initiatives directed at attainment of employment and skills development;
- c) Establish annual national priority programmes in respect of youth development;
- d) Guide efforts and facilitate economic participation and empowerment, and achievement of education and training;
- e) Initiate, design, co-ordinate, evaluate and monitor all programmes aimed at integrating the youth into the economy and society in general;
- f) Initiate programmes directed at poverty alleviation, urban and rural development and the combating of crime, substance abuse and social decay amongst youth;
- g) Endeavour to promote the interest generally of youth, particularly young people with disabilities.

The concept of an Integrated Youth Development Strategy, the goals of the strategy and the role of private, civic and public sector is informed and guided by the above confines. It is also important to note that NYDA as the agency responsible for overall youth development and as per the instruction of the act mentioned above will design and implement some programmes

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<sup>1</sup> NYDA Act Number 54 of 2008

aimed at integrating South African youth into the economy and society in general. Another principal role of NYDA as far as implementation of IYDS is concerned which is stated in the Act is to develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress made by private, civic and public sector. Reporting on results achieved thereof, will be done quarterly and an annually report will be compiled by NYDA. Progress made and reported through this process will then form part of the Status of the Youth Report which the State President of the Republic of South Africa is expected to table before parliament and publish for public consumption every 3 years<sup>2</sup>.

## 1.2 Overview of literature- The South African Youth Status and Context

### 1.2.1 Population and Demographic Outlook of Youth

South Africa has a youth population (14-35 years of age) which is about 37%<sup>3</sup> of its entire population of just over 50, 5 million (the quoted StatsSa Mid Year Population Estimates (MYPE) 2011 figure of 37% excludes the 14 and 35 year olds). This in itself presents a unique situation for youth development; it implies that youth development in South Africa is not just a priority of the youth sector but a nation's main concern if growth and development is a priority. The 2 tables and a graph below depict the South African population structure.

Table 1: Population Distribution by Age from Year 2005-2010

Age Group	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0-4	5,265,523	5,243,899	5,216,905	5,186,353	5,153,944	5,120,704
5-9	5,228,573	5,215,800	5,203,946	5,193,900	5,187,712	5,181,221
10-14	5,228,315	5,249,159	5,257,494	5,252,668	5,231,543	5,202,410
15-19	5,016,193	5,062,472	5,108,465	5,152,316	5,194,242	5,226,212
20-24	4,596,290	4,660,783	4,735,367	4,820,935	4,916,044	5,018,533
25-29	4,271,015	4,323,824	4,381,709	4,438,859	4,487,178	4,518,968
30-34	3,786,001	3,862,627	3,907,863	3,941,632	3,982,084	4,035,763
35-39	2,772,666	2,880,048	3,024,715	3,188,568	3,343,140	3,465,086
40-44	2,435,402	2,428,728	2,420,605	2,425,561	2,458,402	2,524,173
45-49	2,181,740	2,201,041	2,212,869	2,220,660	2,226,249	2,230,468
50-54	1,805,728	1,852,358	1,901,581	1,949,528	1,990,246	2,019,048
55-59	1,476,769	1,511,431	1,544,180	1,577,495	1,613,832	1,653,582
60-64	1,145,008	1,178,327	1,213,429	1,249,651	1,285,519	1,319,609
65-69	854,360	880,530	906,054	931,577	957,829	985,185
70-74	579,874	601,952	625,043	648,708	672,227	695,092
75-79	363,683	378,560	393,569	408,932	424,868	441,484
80+	282,827	295,831	309,545	323,902	338,716	353,934
14-35	19,333,751	19,602,627	19,855,833	20,104,929	20,355,273	20,593,235
% Change		1.39%	1.29%	1.25%	1.25%	1.17%
Total Population	47,289,967	47,827,370	48,363,339	48,911,245	49,463,775	49,991,472
% Change		1.14%	1.12%	1.13%	1.13%	1.07%

<sup>2</sup> NYDA Act Number 54 of 2008

<sup>3</sup> Statistics South Africa, Midyear Population Estimates, Pretoria: Statistics South Africa, 2011

Source: Stats SA Mid-Year Population Estimates Releases, [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

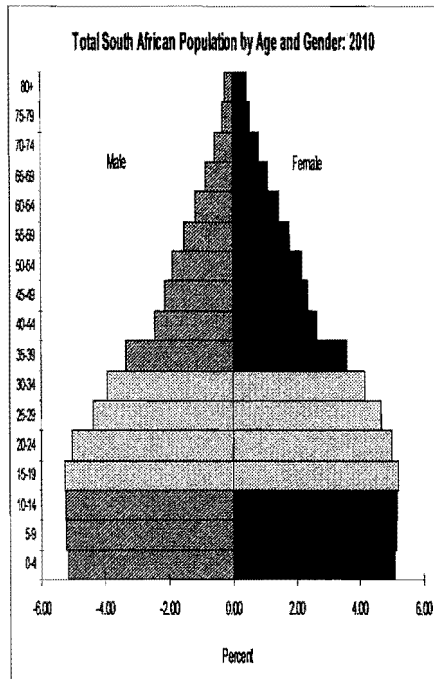
**Table 2: National distribution of population by Province, Population and Age Group (14-35 yrs) in 2010**

Province	Number	Percent	African (%)	Coloured (%)	Indian (%)	White (%)
Western Cape	2,001,171	9,8	37,7	52,8	0,9	8,7
Eastern Cape	2,830,436	13,8	89,2	7,1	0,1	3,7
Northern Cape	439,030	2,1	57,9	36,1	0,4	5,6
Free State	1,169,303	5,7	88,4	2,6	0,6	8,5
KwaZulu-Natal	4,523,868	22,1	89,6	0,7	7,0	2,8
North West	1,259,654	6,2	92,3	1,7	0,3	5,8
Gauteng	4,454,192	21,8	79,7	3,3	3,8	13,3
Mpumalanga	1,558,257	7,6	95,3	0,6	0,4	3,7
Limpopo	2,220,219	10,9	97,9	0,1	0,1	1,9
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>20,593,235</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>6%</b>

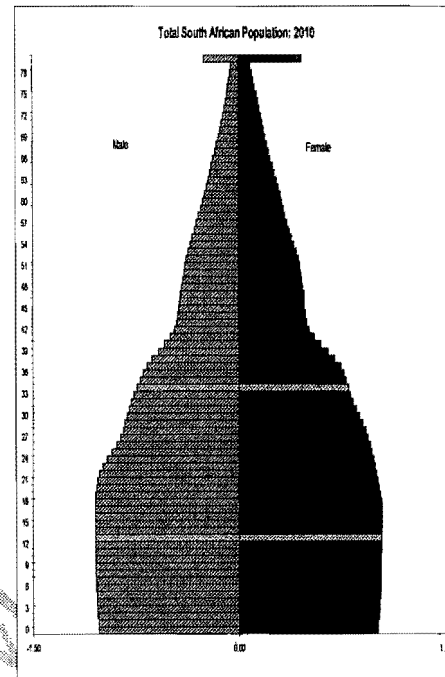
Source: Statistics South Africa, Mid-year Population Estimates, 2010

When assessing the population structure of the South African population, there is a demographic point of significance which is worth noting. South Africa is a youthful country. According to the 2010 MYPE people between ages of 14 and 35 represented 41.2% of the total population, a clear sign that South African population is growing younger and younger. Furthermore a significant 70% of population is aged between 0 and 35 demonstrating a typical youth bulge as represented by the population structure pyramid. Since 2005 the 14 - 35 year old group has been growing at an average of 1.27% whilst the total population has been growing at an average of 1.12%. The youth population continues to grow at a higher rate than the general population, even though overall South Africa population growth rate has declined over the past 20 years. The fertility rate is also significantly lower than the countries in the region. Disaggregation of fertility rates by population groups in South Africa also demonstrate higher fertility rates amongst black Africans (TFR 4.0), who constitute over 80% of the total population compared to the fertility rate amongst Whites (TFR 1.9), Asians (TFR 2.5) and Coloured (TFR 2.5) population groups. The 2 population pyramids below depict graphically, the structure of the South African population, clearly showing the significant bulge around the youth ages.

**Figure 1: Total Population of South Africa by Age Group and gender, 2010**



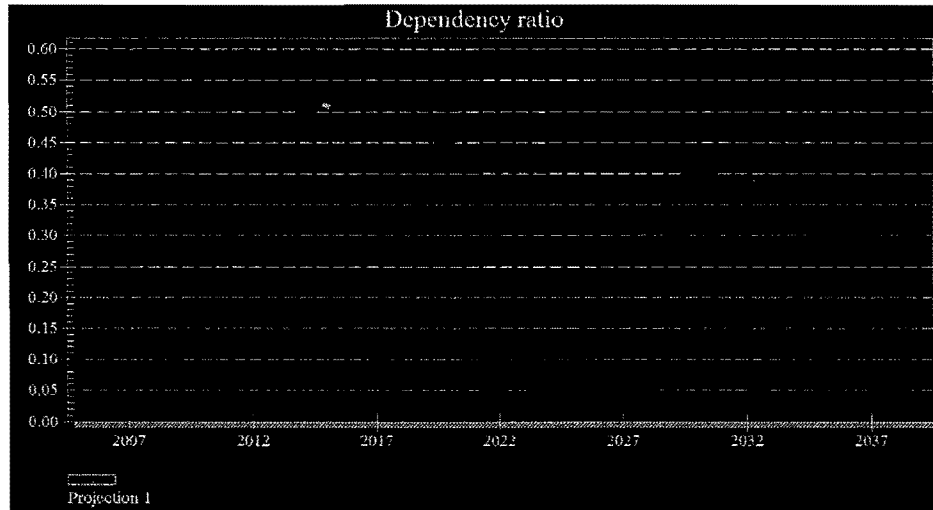
**Figure 2: Total Population of South Africa by single Age and gender, 2010**



The demographic phenomenon observed in South Africa which is characterised mainly by a falling birth rate, demonstrating a bulging youth population on the population pyramid is called a *demographic dividend*. The demographic dividend usually occurs late in the demographic transition of a country, when birth rates fall following a prolonged period of mortality decline. The “*demographic dividend*” by its nature is supposed to provide an opportunity to explore and implement policies and programmes that would get maximum benefits from a youthful population; however the benefits are not automatic. Under such demographic circumstances, it is assumed that resources shift from the dependent children and elders to youth—the age group that comprises the bulk of the productive labour force. In terms of policy making and programming such a population profile would ideally provide an opportunity for increased resource investment in economic development and family welfare, essentially more on youth and less on younger and older age groups.<sup>4</sup> While the large number of youth can put pressure on schools, labour markets, and services, it has been noted that the declining dependency ratios of the demographic dividend allow for an increased investment in education and family welfare (Mattias Lundberg and David Lam, 2007).

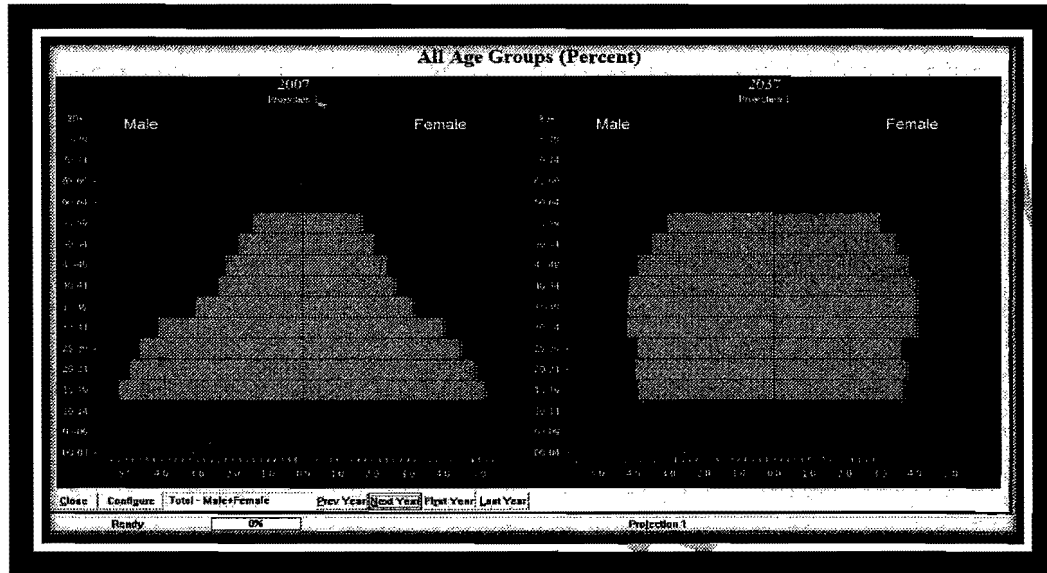
<sup>4</sup> Youth and demographic dividend, UNFPA, Pretoria

Figure 3: South Africa: Projected Dependency Ratios, 2007-2037



When one looks at the South African situation, it is important to note that circumstances are a little different from the norm, dependency is not as low as it would be expected and thus shifting of resources would not be as automatic. Furthermore, even though the economic growth has been steady over the past few years since 1994, with relatively adequate investment made in respect of the economy, youth which constitutes the largest proportion of the population continue to be unemployed and economically not independent. With a projected population structure as depicted in the graph above, which will continue to be youthful till about year 2037, South African policy needs to first respond with innovative programmes and strategies to current youth challenges and then start taking full advantage of the demographic dividend sooner than later.

Figure 4: Age and Sex Structure of the Population of South Africa - 2007 and 2037



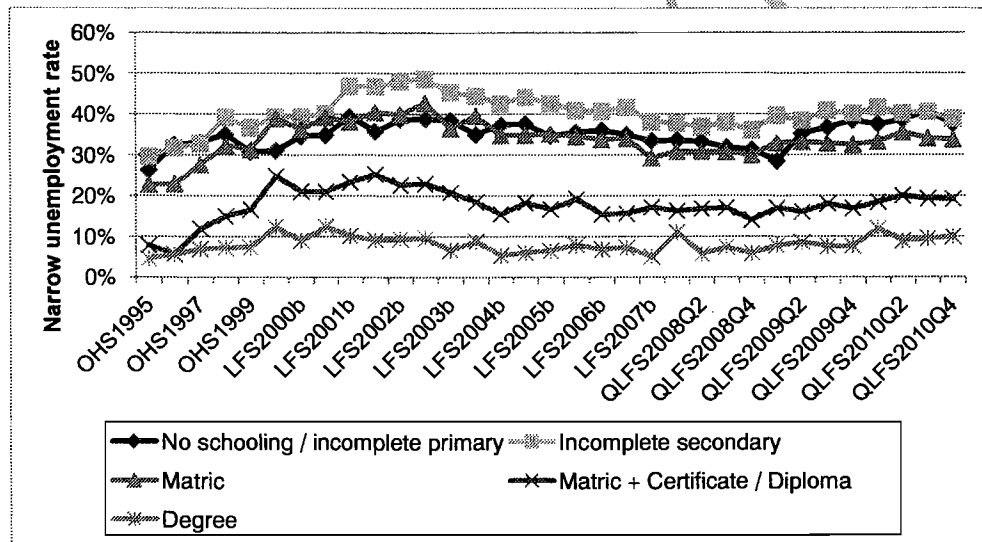
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1.2.1 Economic Participation and Youth

Economic participation of youth in South Africa is poor and characterised by high unemployment and poor entrepreneurial levels. Unemployment amongst youth is estimated to be above 70% of the unemployed compared to the older population groups at about 25%.<sup>5</sup> The high rate of youth unemployment is more pronounced in the age group 15 to 24 years. This pattern of unemployment has been consistent over a number of years with both African and Coloured youth mostly affected by unemployment. Unemployment is arguably not only a function of the ability of the economy to absorb labour, but it is also a function of the level of education and work experience of young people.

Figure 5: Narrow unemployment rates amongst the youth (14 - 35) by education, 1995 - 2010

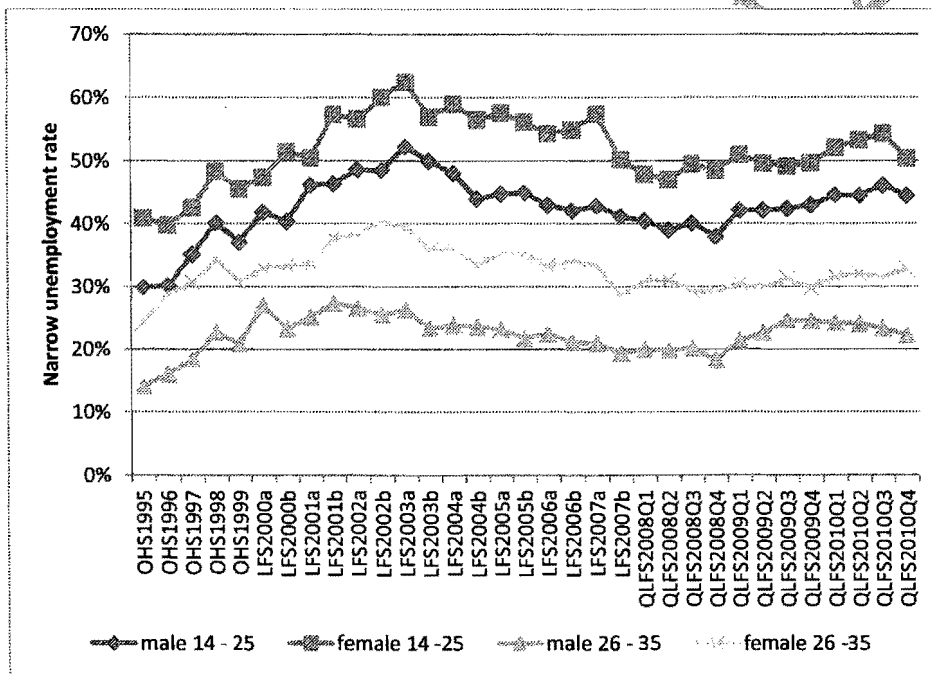


Sources: (Author of Education Section in this document) Stephen Taylor's calculations based on October Household Surveys 1995 - 1999; Labour Force Surveys 2000 - 2007; Quarterly Labour Force Surveys 2008 - 2010

<sup>5</sup> Treasury, 2011, Confronting youth unemployment: Policy options for South Africa

According to the New Growth Path 2010, the core challenges hampering youth's meaningful participation in the mainstream economy are joblessness, poverty, and inequalities. It is a globally trend and in South Africa it is evident, young people are the most affected by unemployment. Globally it is estimated that young people constitute about 25% of the working age population, but they constitute 47% of the unemployed.<sup>6</sup> In South Africa, the Quarterly Labour Force Surveys (QLFS) have consistently depicted a grim situation, high unemployment affecting youth in particular. It was reported that an estimated 320 000 young people between ages 18 and 24 years lost jobs since December 2008.<sup>7</sup> To illustrate this, the graph below depicts an age and gender disaggregated narrow unemployment rates.

Figure 6: Narrow unemployment rates by age and gender, 1995 - 2010



Sources: Stephen Taylor, (Author of Education Section of Draft Youth Status Report, 2011 ) calculations are based on October Household Surveys 1995 - 1999; Labour Force Surveys 2000 - 2007; Quarterly Labour Force Surveys 2008 - 2010

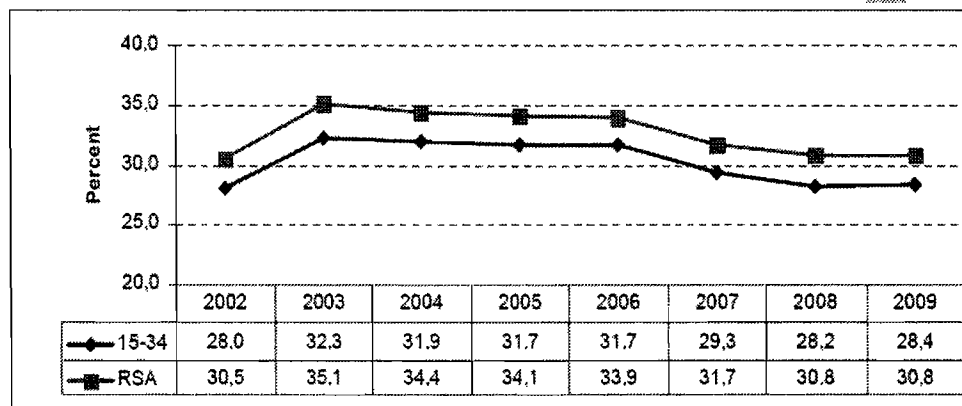
There are arguably a number of underlying factors for lack of adequate youth economic participation in South Africa, such as the increase in the population of the working age which is not equally matched by an increase in job opportunities thus leaving a significant number of young people unable to take advantage of the limited available opportunities of sustainable

<sup>6</sup> World Development Report 2007

<sup>7</sup> Confronting Youth Unemployment: Policy Options for South Africa

employment. Some also argue that youth are not skilled and prepared for the labour market and thus unable to be absorbed by the job market. Of note, is the fact that aforementioned situation affects largely young women; youth in the rural and peri-urban areas and youth with disabilities. It is imperative therefore that any employment or economic development strategy or programme be deliberately biased towards these special categories of youth.

**Figure 7: Percentage of 15-34 years individuals living in households without an employed member<sup>8</sup>**



The illustration above depicts poverty status of youth, poverty and unemployment are interlinked in many cases unemployed youth are also living in poor households. It is against this backdrop that the NYP 2009-2014 and as such, the IYDS places employment creation at the centre of any intervention aimed at youth development.

The past decade and a half of South Africa with regards to youth unemployment has been characterised by the following:

- **Low labour absorption capacity of economy-** labour supply has grown faster than the economy's absorption capacity;
- **High-skill technology Labour Market-** largely non labour intensive labour market which remains highly dependent on high-skill technology resulting in exclusion of many youth, mostly those in rural and semi-rural areas;
- **Available skills vs Labour Market needs-** huge skills mismatch between available skills and labour market needs, many young graduates are unable to be absorbed into mainstream economy;
- **Low entrepreneurship levels-** a shortage of entrepreneurial participation and in particular that of youth. On the whole, management and leadership skills needed to initiate and support economic growth through innovation and entrepreneurship have been lacking;

<sup>8</sup> Source: Statistics South Africa, Social profile of South Africa, December 2010

- **Lack of access to information-** a general lack of awareness of youth on career and entrepreneurial opportunities available within the various sectors of the economy has been evident. Lack of role models for youth within families and communities and across business sectors which is significant for entrepreneurial development is obvious;
- **Possible lack of mentorship/‘hand holding’ support and exit strategies-** within the key identified sectors of economy, mentorship has been cited as one of the key limitations for sustainable youth development. Many a times there are also minimal follow-up/after-care support programmes, such as incubator programmes;
- **Inadequate Economic Growth to fasten employment-** generally the GDP growth has not been consistent and sustained at a level which can create enough jobs (above 4%, or the 6%) in order to start reducing unemployment;
- **A weak manufacturing industry-** the industrial base and beneficiation of both mineral and agricultural products in particular has not developed to any significant degree that can create more job opportunities;
- **Poor support or facilitation of new entry into job market-** the policy frameworks that were meant to support new entrance to the job market and certain minimum standards for the employee have not yielded desired results thus far;

In terms of employment, the lack of targeted and outcome driven interventions both in public and private sector continues to be a concern for a country which has majority of its population being youth.

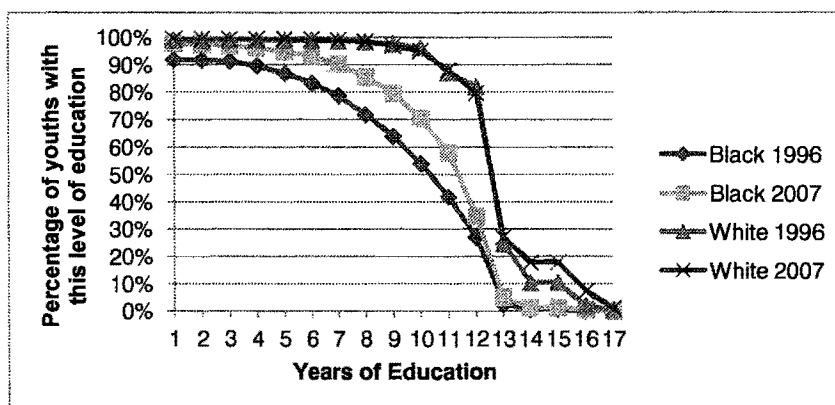
Entrepreneurship is another important aspect of growing an economy and it improves livelihoods for youth. Interestingly though in South Africa, the level of youth ownership of business has also not grown; it is as low as 33% and this viewed against the fact that youth constitutes the biggest proportion of the population at about 41% leaves a lot to be desired. Reasons attributed to obstacles that youth who intend to start business face include lack of start up capital. Most people who start business rely on savings and the selling of assets to start a business and in South Africa young people do not have both of these resources. The use of training programmes for business skills by small business owners is also very low at about 5% and this could be reason for failure of many enterprises. This implies therefore that a deliberate effort should be made to raise the visibility and availability of training programmes to empower aspirant business owners. Worth noting is the fact that, majority (74.5%) of the small business owners are not aware of organisations that give support and advice to business owners. In a survey conducted recently by NYDA, only about 10% youth owned businesses were aware of the NYDA and the services it offers. There is a trend in South Africa where many young people (43%) venture into business because of unemployment rather than being

motivated by seeing an opportunity in the market or motivated by passion for a particular business. This trend could lead to many small businesses collapsing in the early stages of development. The education system and the business support organisations also need to do more to motivate and support youth to be more entrepreneurial.

#### 1.2.2 Education, Skills and Youth

Participation amongst historically disadvantaged groups of youth in education at all levels of education has increased over the past 2 decades or so. In primary and lower secondary education participation is particularly high although it drops off sharply between grade 10 and 11 and once the Matric examination approaches. Consequently, enrolment in higher education is still relatively low, despite moderate increases in recent years. The underlying reason for this pattern in enrolment has been shown to be a low quality of education being achieved throughout much of the early phases of the school system. The low quality of schooling is therefore leaving many people effectively unskilled upon exiting the system, despite spending a long time in school. However, black youth spend longer in school to attain the same (low) levels of education. Many black youth exit school at age 18 or 19 without attaining a Matric, which is the point at which labour market returns to education begin to accrue (reference). The graph below depicts how the numbers of youth decline as years of education attainment increase in South Africa.

Figure 6: Attainment of education by 21-25 year olds by race in South Africa in 1996 and 2007



Sources: Author's of the SA Youth Context 2011, calculations were based on Census 1996, Community Survey 2007

The low quality of education is unfortunately concentrated amongst schools serving poor and historically disadvantaged communities and is therefore acting as a poverty trap for the youth. Given the skills deficits that many youth carry having left the school system, there will be, for a long time in South Africa, a crucial role for second-chance opportunities, technical and vocational forms of training, adult literacy programmes and other post-school educational opportunities. In mid-long term, a major area of policy focus should be on improving the quality of schooling focusing largely on the historically disadvantaged areas.

### 1.2.3 Health and Well-being of Youth

The population mortality data between 2001 and 2008 has indicated high death rates amongst the age group between 25 and 39 years. This age group is coincidentally the most productive age group in any population. The mortality statistics also show that most of the leading causes of deaths amongst the youth are preventable diseases and un-natural causes of deaths such as trauma and violent behaviour. This could suggest that the current health education programmes that promote healthy lifestyles, prevention of diseases and effective treatment of curable conditions are not having the desired effects to reduce unnecessary deaths amongst young people. The Status of youth report published in 2005 demonstrated considerable higher morbidity, wherein it was reported that about 20% of young people were reported to have been admitted to hospital in the last two years. The implication of high mortality and morbidity in

the youth age group is that human capital required for economic and development activities is impaired. Health behaviour and practices based on the research and behavioural surveys conducted with the youth population indicate that a significant proportion of young people are practising risky health behaviours. As an example, the youth risk behaviour survey conducted by MRC shows a significant number of young people who reported to be engaging in un-safe sexual practices, in some cases resulting in pregnancies. Only 30% of young people in this survey reported to have been using a condom consistently when engaging in sexual acts. As a result the 2008 HIV incidence and prevalence survey conducted by the HSRC showed that HIV prevalence is highest between the ages of 20 - 34 years, especially for females.

Table 3: Youth Mortality and Morbidity

Table 3: Number of deaths by age and year of death, South Africa 2000 -2008										
Age Group	Year of death									Total
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
14-19	8,678	9,271	9,931	10,268	10,289	10,241	10,462	10,071	9,890	112,497
20-25	24,271	26,263	28,998	31,858	32,891	33,273	33,056	32,033	30,841	332,602
26-31	39,949	45,929	53,619	61,524	64,031	63,114	61,953	57,765	54,532	586,407
32-35	26,677	31,209	37,726	43,545	48,762	48,449	47,018	46,586	44,916	431,260
<b>Youth Totals</b>	<b>99,575</b>	<b>112,672</b>	<b>130,274</b>	<b>147,195</b>	<b>153,973</b>	<b>155,077</b>	<b>152,489</b>	<b>146,455</b>	<b>140,179</b>	<b>1,462,766</b>
<b>% change</b>	-	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>	
Other ages	314,363	340,286	369,789	406,780	419,646	439,777	458,925	455,417	450,926	4,482,395
Unsp	2,217	1,924	2,037	2,404	3,090	3,277	1,364	1,222	968	32,295
<b>Total</b>	<b>416,155</b>	<b>454,882</b>	<b>502,050</b>	<b>556,779</b>	<b>576,709</b>	<b>598,131</b>	<b>612,778</b>	<b>603,094</b>	<b>592,073</b>	<b>5,977,456</b>

The MRC study further reported that high stress levels were reported amongst in school youth, where 1 in 5 youths had considered committing suicide and 21.4% had attempted suicide. Whilst the 2010 out of school youth risk behaviour survey indicated about 1 in 4 youth contemplated committing suicide and almost a third (32.7%) had made one or more attempts at committing suicide. With high reported pregnancy rates amongst school going young people, high HIV prevalence, extreme poverty and child headed households remaining issues that are not addressed holistically the stress levels and mental illness will remain part of health and wellbeing struggle of the youth. Substance abuse has also been reported to be very high amongst the youth (reference). Of the learners surveyed in the 2008 risk behaviour survey conducted by MRC, 37.6% of the learners reported to be smoking tobacco and 49.6% reported to be drinking alcohol.

## 2. CHAPTER 2: PRESENTATION OF THE STRATEGY AND METHODOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT

### 2.1 Presentation of Strategy

The challenges facing youth in South Africa which the IYDS seeks to address through a uniform approach and effort by all in South Africa can be summarised as:

- *poor economic participation;*
- *low levels of education and skills development;*
- *poor health and well being;*
- *low levels of civic participation and social cohesion of youth,*
- *inadequate participation and commitment to national youth service and;*
- *Poor coordination and no recognition of youth work as a profession.*

Chapters 6 to 12 of this Strategy thus addresses each of the areas stated above, organised into Key Strategic Focus Areas (KSFA's). All sections in these chapters are presented uniformly with sub sections:

- Enabling environment/ Opportunities
- Strategic Goal and Objectives
- Strategic Interventions
- Measurement of Success- Youth Development Indicators
- Implementation Plan- Programmes and Projects

The 7 KSFA's and their description is as follows:

- **Chapter 6: Economic participation** - this chapter will focus on youth unemployment and youth entrepreneurship as well as strategies to achieve economic freedom thereof.
- **Chapter 7: Education and skills development** - this chapter will cover basic, higher education and training, skills development, out of school youth education and skills development opportunities and the link between education and skills to economic opportunities.
- **Chapter 8: Health and Well- being** - this chapter will focus on mortality and morbidity, health behaviour and practice and attempt to provide specific interventions for HIV/AIDS, teenage pregnancy, nutrition and other primary health care issues.
- **Chapter 9: Social Cohesion, National Youth Service and Civic participation** - this chapter will cover youth participation in social and development activities in communities including participation in political process, sports, youth leadership and



deal with issues pertinent for youth in conflict with the law and disabled youth. **National youth service** - this chapter will provide an overview of the NYS programme including international perspectives of NYS programmes and propose strategies for future.

- **Chapter 11: Sports and Recreation** - this chapter will provide an overview of the role of sports and recreation in youth development and nation building and unravel opportunities and strategies for economic and social benefit that can be pursued in this field.
- **Chapter 12: Youth work** - this chapter covers an overview of youth work as a profession and attempts in South Africa to professionalise youth work. Strategies for realisation of this goal will be presented in this chapter.

In terms of the NYDA act Number 54 of 2008, the NYDA is furthermore expected to initiate, facilitate, implement, coordinate and monitor & evaluate youth development programmes that are aimed at integrating youth into the economy and society in general. To this end the NYDA will design and implement fully or with partners in private, public and civic sector over the strategy horizon under what is called an *Anchor Programme*. Chapter 13 of the strategy describes some of the projects under this programme. All projects in the programme have been carefully selected to meet the key criteria of sustainability, maximum impact and potential to deliver quick gains in integrating youth into the economy and society in general.

## 2.2 Methodology of Development of IYDS

The process of development of the IYDS followed a multi-pronged approach which adopted the following methods of data collection and information analysis:

- Literature review of the status and challenges facing youth in South Africa;
- Data collection and buy-in from key stakeholders in the youth sector through various forms of consultation.

The initial step in the process of development of IYDS involved conduction of a desktop study on the available literature about status of youth and the development trajectory in the country, including review of existing legislative and policy framework. This phase largely concentrated on the records from the NYDA and other institutions of youth development that existed prior to establishment of NYDA. Specifically, the NYDA Act Number 54 of 2008, the National Youth Policy 2009-2014, the National Youth Development Policy Framework (NYDPF) 2002-2007, statistics on youth status and context, relevant youth development information from institutions such as StatsSa, research institutions (MRC, HSRC etc), other government departments at all spheres of government and private sector was reviewed.

The main activities of the consultation process included telephone conferencing and interview, meetings with key informants which included key interest parties such as the NYDA board of directors and staff, NYDA's Board of Director's Provincial Advisory Boards (PABs), NEDLAC, Inter-departmental Committee on Youth Affairs (IDC), government departments at all spheres, organised youth formations and structures, the reference group comprised of experts in various KSFA's which was established solely for the IYDS project, and the Director's General Joint Human Development & Social Protection and Community Development Cluster. As the last step in the consultation process, a National Youth Convention was convened in Kimberly, South Africa from 05-07 August 2011 to discuss the Draft IYDS, strengthen its content and endorse it in preparation for submission to the Cabinet of the Republic of South Africa for approval. The National Youth Convention attracted youth from all corners (every municipality, organised national youth structures, political parties and other stake holders & key interest parties) of South Africa, they converged under one roof to scrutinise draft IYDS and arrived at an agreement to adopt it as South African Strategy for youth development.

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### 3. CHAPTER 3: KEY LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS

The IYDS is informed, guided by, and aligned to the legislative and policy frameworks provided for in the following pieces of national and international legal/policy instruments or tools:

#### 3.1 The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act Number 108 of 1996

The Constitution is the supreme law of the country that entrenches specific rights, responsibilities and an ethos that everyone in South African must uphold. In the Bill of Rights, specific human rights are guaranteed and these rights and responsibilities guide the inherent rights and responsibilities of everyone, including youth.

#### 3.2 National Youth Development Policy Framework (NYDPF) 2002-2007

The NYDPF provides the context for the Government's youth action, arguing for an integrated, holistic youth development strategy. It further articulates the values of equity, diversity, redress, responsiveness to the needs and contexts of young people, and an orientation that is sustainable, participatory, inclusive, gender sensitive, accessible and transparent.

#### 3.3 National Youth Policy (NYP) 2009-2014

The goal of the NYP 2009-2014 is to intentionally enhance the capacities of young people through addressing their needs, promoting positive outcomes, and providing an integrated, coordinated package of services, opportunities, choices, relationships and support necessary for the holistic development of all young people, particularly those outside the social, political and economic mainstream.

#### 3.4 National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Act Number 54 of 2008

The Act mandates the NYDA to develop an Integrated Youth Development Strategy for South Africa and initiate, design, coordinate, evaluate and monitor all programmes aimed at integrating the youth into the economy and society in general. The Act further instructs the agency to promote a uniform approach by all organs of state, the private sector and non-governmental organisations to matters relating to or involving youth development.

#### 3.5 Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act 53 of 2003

This law mandates all spheres of government and private sectors to promote the achievement of the constitutional right to equality, increase broad-based and effective participation of