

Country Historic Profile: SOUTH AFRICA

World Bank Group Archives
Profile completed: October 9, 2020

Basic Historical Information

Membership days for each affiliate

Information is taken from [World Bank Group membership page](#).

- IBRD: December 27, 1945
- IDA: October 12, 1960
- IFC: April 3, 1957
- MIGA: March 10, 1994
- ICSID: not a member

First loan(s)

Information taken from [Projects & Operations website](#).

- January 16, 1951: [Electric Power Development Project](#)
- January 16, 1951: [Transportation Project](#)

Resident Mission establishment

Information taken from internal World Bank Group Archives resource.

- April 1, 1994

Photo resources related to country

Hyperlink links to photos in the World Bank Group Archives' [Photo Catalog](#) for a given country. Digitization and description of archival photos are ongoing, and photos are added to the catalog regularly. In instances where the catalog contains no photos for a given country, check back frequently for additions, or contact the Archives for consultation by emailing archives@worldbank.org.

- [Historical photos related to South Africa](#)

Project profiles related to country

Link is to a list in the [Projects & Operations website](#) of all projects approved, dropped, or in the pipeline for a given country. Each project links to a project profile that includes description, financial details, and lists of reports, archival record folders, and photos, when available. This can be helpful to study the evolution of the Bank's work in the country over time, and to identify notable projects that represent important shifts or moments in the country's history. Projects are also excellent examples of case

studies of how the Bank made an impact in a particular sector. The WBG Archives have original records and other information related to these projects. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

- [South Africa project profiles in Projects & Operations](#)

Description of operational records in Archives Holdings

Archival records relating to Bank operations are described according to the ISAD(g) standard and are accessible in our [Archives Holdings catalog](#). Descriptions include lengthy organizational histories of the regional vice presidency responsible for operations in that region and a description of records created and transferred to the Archives by that vice presidency. The descriptions in the catalog can be helpful to understand the organizational context of Bank work, and to understand more about the content of the records in the Archives.

- [Records of the Africa Regional Vice Presidency](#)

Chronology events

Events have been selected from the Archivists' Chronology, an 800+ page resource compiled by Bank Group archivists over the course of the institution's history. Events chosen include important firsts, milestones and other events that evidence the country's development history and/or its relationship with the World Bank Group. The Archivists' Chronology is accessible on [this page](#). This list of events can be helpful to determine if you'd like to dig deeper into any moments in the country's history of engagement with the Bank. The WBG Archives may have original records and other information about these events. Email archives@worldbank.org for guidance.

Bretton Woods Conference; Representatives from South Africa Attend

July 1-22, 1944

IBRD Articles of Agreement Signed by South Africa

December 27, 1945

Vice President Garner Begins Visit to the Union of South Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia

March 10, 1950

Bank Mission to Union of South Africa

July 30, 1950

First Funding for South Africa

January 23, 1951

Bank Announces Missions to South Africa, the Gold Coast and East Africa

October 9, 1952

IFC Articles of Agreement Signed by South Africa

April 3, 1957

President Black Begins African Trip, Includes Stop in South Africa

March 6, 1958

IDA Articles of Agreement Signed by South Africa

October 12, 1960

President Preston Meets Nelson Mandela

December 5, 1991

MIGA Articles of Agreement Signed by South Africa

March 10, 1994

Resident Mission in South Africa Established

April 1, 1994

Approval of First Loan to Post-Apartheid South Africa Announced

May 30, 1997

World Bank Group Timeline Events

Events are selected from the [World Bank Group Timeline](#). The Timeline is an online platform created by the Archives designed to highlight the important events in the Bank Group's history and to illuminate those events through a variety of archival records, photos, video and audio clips, oral history transcripts, reports, and more.

[Lewis T. Preston becomes World Bank Group President](#)

September 1, 1991

Early Country Economic Reports

Reports have been selected from the [Documents & Reports website](#), a database of publicly available World Bank Group authored reports and publications dating to the opening of the Bank in 1946. Country economic reports selected here are, in many cases, some of the earliest economic studies ever published on Bank member countries. Reports discussing the whole economy of a country, rather than individual sectors, are prioritized in this list.

Report on the economy of South Africa	December 21, 1949
External debt of the Union of South Africa	December 22, 1950
South Africa - Report on the economy	August 31, 1953
South Africa - Current economic position and prospects	November 30, 1955
South Africa - Current economic position and prospects	September 30, 1957
South Africa - Current economic position and prospects	November 30, 1958

South Africa - Current economic position and prospects	November 30, 1961
South Africa - Current economic position and prospects	August 31, 1965

Country Assistance Strategies

List is based on a similar list compiled by World Bank's Secretary's staff. Introduced in 1990 and replaced by the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) in 2014, the CAS is an overview of each borrowing country's current economic situation and contains a discussion of its development challenges, prospects, and project-planning. CASs were often initially published as part of project documents but later on were published as standalone documents.

South Africa - Country assistance strategy	March 1, 1999
South Africa - Country Partnership Strategy	December 12, 2007
Regional integration assistance strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa	March 18, 2008
South Africa - Country partnership strategy progress report	March 16, 2010
South Africa - Country partnership strategy for the period FY2014-2017	October 17, 2013

Staff Newsletters

Resources have been selected from the World Bank Group's [Documents & Reports website](#). The World Bank has produced a staff newsletter since 1947. The publication has changed its name twice: from International Bank Notes to Bank Notes in 1971 and then to Bank's World in 1982. The newsletter moved online in 2000 and physical publication ceased. In addition to offering news relating to Bank operations and country development, the newsletters were intended to foster a sense of community among staff by highlighting social events, marriages and births, arrival of new staff, recreational events, favorite cooking recipes submitted by staff, and features on different aspects of staff's home country and culture.

International Bank Notes -- Vol. 2, Iss. 10	June 1, 1948	"Conditions in the Union of South Africa"
Bank's World -- Vol. 14, Iss. 4 and 5	May 1, 1995	"The Beginning of a New South Africa - From Darkness to Light"

Oral histories

Oral histories are selected from the World Bank Group Archives' [Oral History website](#). The site contains transcripts of oral history interviews with departed staff and, in lesser number, Executive Directors and other individuals affiliated with or impacted by the World Bank Group. Interviews were conducted as part of an ongoing effort by the Archives to collect the personal stories and reflections of Bank Group staff. A portion of the interviews were conducted as research for publications. Each transcript provides a valuable first-person account of Bank activities and decision-making from the very beginning of its operations.

Katherine Marshall	January 30 and 31, 2007
Geoffrey B. Lamb	November 19, 2007

Online exhibits

Online exhibits are authored by World Bank Group staff and are accessible on both the Archives' [external site](#) and as a [series of older exhibits](#) in the Documents & Reports website. Exhibits focus on notable personalities and accomplishments in the Bank Group's history.

Title: [Nelson Mandela, South Africa, and the World Bank Group](#)

Originally published: December 2013

Executive Directors

The list is based on the World Bank Group [Board of Directors website](#). The country following the name of each ED indicates their nationality.

GARLAND, J. M., (Australia)	November 11, 1959	October 31, 1962
GARLAND, J. M., (Australia)	November 1, 1962	January 17, 1966
O'DONNELL, M. W., (Australia)	January 18, 1966	October 31, 1966
O'DONNELL, M. W., (Australia)	November 1, 1966	January 1, 1967
STONE, John Owen, (Australia)	February 2, 1967	October 31, 1970
YOUNG, Alan W. (New Zealand)	November 1, 1970	December 7, 1970
KNIGHT, R. L. (New Zealand)	December 8, 1970	February 9, 1973
McLEOD, Stanley A. (New Zealand)	February 11, 1973	October 31, 1974
MSEKA, Leonard K. (Malawi)	July 1, 1995	October 31, 1996
GAOSEB, Godfrey (Namibia)	November 1, 1998	October 31, 2000
ABRAHAM, Girmai, (Eritrea)	November 1, 2000	October 31, 2002 PD to November 14, 2002
KASEKENDE, Louis A. (Uganda)	November 1, 2002	October 31, 2004
SINAMENYE, Mathias, (Burundi)	November 1, 2004	October 31, 2006
KETSELA, Mulu, (Ethiopia)	November 1, 2006	October 31, 2008
MCINTOSH, Toga Gayewea, (Liberia)	November 1, 2008	October 31, 2010
MOKATE, Renosi (South Africa)	November 1, 2010	October 31, 2012
MUHTAR, Mansur, (Nigeria)	November 1, 2012	October 31, 2014
LOURENCO, Ana, (Angola)	November 1, 2014	November 1, 2016
KUNENE, Patience Bongiwe, (South Africa)	November 1, 2016	October 31, 2018
MOHAMMED, Haruna, (Nigeria)	November 1, 2018	February 1, 2019
SHUAIBU, Larai Hajara, (Nigeria)	October 10, 2019	October 31, 2020
MANUEL, Armando (Angola)	November 1, 2020	present

For More Information

If you would like information or guidance on accessing more historic sources, we invite you to contact us by emailing archives@worldbank.org.