



### **A Bold Vision**

*Employment is critical to South Africa's development and growth.*

The fundamental departure point of government's approach is that employment should not be the residual outcome of other policies but the overarching goal of economic policies. There is also a dynamic relationship between growth, employment and development. Rising employment and living standards have positive economic outcomes and are a vital source of sustainable economic growth.

### **A New Approach**

This vision necessitates a new approach of integration instead of "silo" based departmental programmes. Government seeks to avoid ad-hoc policy development in many different sites within the state, policy coherence is the new focus, including in respect of macro and micro economic policies and economic and social policies.

The creation of an Economic Development Department with policy and planning functions provides further means to strengthen government efforts to implement its economic programme. The Department has new functions not taken on within the state previously as well as responsibility for certain existing functions carried out by other departments. This is achieved in the context of an evolving model of co-operative and effective governance, which ensures both horizontal co-operation and integration of policy across national institutions of government and state, as well as vertical co-operation between different spheres of government, at national provincial and local levels.

### **EDD's Aim**

The aim of the Economic Development Department is to promote economic development through participatory, coherent and coordinated economic policy and planning for the benefit of all South Africans:

It will therefore:

- co-ordinate the economic development contributions of government departments, state entities and civil society;
- contribute to efforts that ensure coherence between the economic policies and plans of the state and state entities on the one hand, and the government's political and economic objectives and mandate on the other; and
- promote government's ability to achieve its goals of advancing economic development with decent work opportunities.