



# INFRASTRUCTURE *Dialogues*



## Infrastructure after 20 Years of Democracy

Reflecting on 20 years of infrastructure delivery;  
How does looking back help us to look forward?

15 May 2014  
13h30 for 14h00

Two decades on from the start of democratic government, South Africa is a dramatically different country. Twenty years is a significant milestone. It prompts commentators to pontificate about the state of the nation and pen essays as to where we are going as a country. Some hard thinking is not a bad thing. Yet how we interpret the past is itself influenced by assumptions and selective memory. These things matter because expectations are strongly influenced by the past and therefore shape choices going forward.

In the run up to national elections on 7 May, government's record is a key topic in the political contest. Infrastructure, in its broad sense, is a central part of that 'before and after' picture, of those with infrastructure and those without, of those that got some and those that have still to get some. The Presidency has published the ***Twenty Year Review South Africa 1994 – 2014*** elaborating on the progress made while acknowledging shortcomings where they occurred. This dialogue will use that report as a point of departure to reflect on what past infrastructure activities relating to human settlements, basic services and network infrastructure can do to improve future performance. The opening address will be given by the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation. A panel of speakers will reflect on how to measure societal progress when speaking of infrastructure and propose their ideas of what the key learnings are from 20 years of infrastructure delivery. This will set up the space in Infrastructure Dialogue style for each participant to apply the dictum "now you know better you can do better."

### Information:

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Venue: DBSA, Auditorium, 1258 Lever Road, Headway Hill, Midrand

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