



EU-SOUTH AFRICA STRATEGIC PARTNERS

South Africa is the only strategic partner of the European Union on the African continent.

Under their strategic partnership, the EU and South Africa hold regular meetings and high-level contacts across a wide range of topics from foreign policy and human rights to sustainable development; trade and investments; science, technology and innovation; education and training, and more.

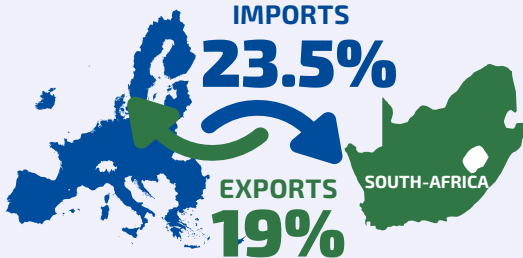
Within the G20, the EU supports the South African presidency's focus on solidarity, equality, and sustainability.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

THE EU IS SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNER WORLDWIDE

THE EU ACCOUNTS FOR
IMPORTS

23.5%



EXPORTS
19%

SOUTH-AFRICA

TO AND FROM SOUTH AFRICA IN 2023

TOTAL TRADE



€49.5
BILLION
IN 2023

EU FOREIGN DIRECT
INVESTMENT (FDI)
IN SOUTH AFRICA

AROUND
€71
BILLION
IN 2022

The EU-South Africa trade relations are firmly anchored in the EU-SADC Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) since 2016. 98% of South African exports to the EU are duty and quota free.

GLOBAL GATEWAY

The EU and South Africa are partners in [the Global Gateway initiative](#). This huge investment programme is planned to build smart, clean and secure connections in the transport, digital and energy sectors. There is also considerable investment in health and education. Some features of the EU/Team Europe Global Gateway approach in South Africa include:



JUST ENERGY TRANSITION PARTNERSHIP, INCLUDING:

- DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS FOR CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS (FOR GREEN ENERGY AND FUTURE INDUSTRIES)
- GREEN HYDROGEN (TO REDUCE EMISSIONS, IMPROVE ENERGY ACCESS, AND BOOST ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS).

PHARMACEUTICALS: BY FOCUSING ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, REGULATIONS, RESEARCH AND SKILLS, THE MAV+ INITIATIVE EXPANDS ACCESS TO VACCINES, MEDICINES AND HEALTH TECHNOLOGY.



STRATEGIC CORRIDORS: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DURBAN-LUSAKA-LUBUMBASHI CORRIDOR WILL REDUCE TRANSPORT EMISSIONS AND DEVELOP NEW ECONOMIC & TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

PEACE, STABILITY, DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- Together, we champion multilateralism, peace, security and stability, globally and in Africa.
- We work to uphold human rights and democracy globally and are committed to the universality and indivisibility of human rights. The EU also actively supports civil society organisations and independent State Institutions in South Africa to combat corruption, promote human rights, democracy and gender equality, and protect human rights defenders.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION



€62.3
MILLION, SO FAR,
IN FUNDING FOR OVER



140
PROJECTS



SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS ARE INVOLVED IN PROJECTS MAINLY PERTAINING TO:



HEALTH



FOOD



BIOECONOMY



NATURAL RESOURCES



AGRICULTURE



ENVIRONMENT



CLIMATE



ENERGY



RESEARCHER MOBILITY



**BEST-REPRESENTED
AFRICAN COUNTRY**

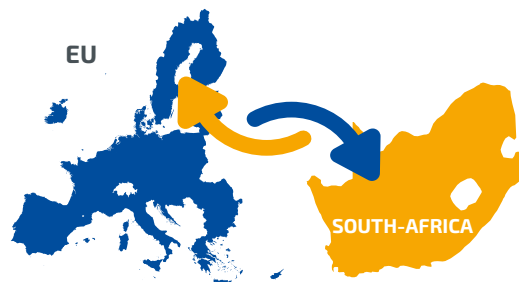
in Horizon Europe,
the EU's research and
innovation programme

HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

ERASMUS+ pays for over

1,000

South African students and staff every year to study or teach in over 300 European universities



AROUND

40

South African universities host more than

500

Europeans annually

SINCE 2022

35 ERASMUS+ PROJECTS

with South African partners in higher education and vocational education and training cooperation building skills in:



ENERGY POVERTY



DIGITAL LEARNING



MARITIME INDUSTRY



HEALTH SCIENCES



HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM



CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE



SMALL BUSINESSES



ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS