



public works & infrastructure

Department:
Public Works and Infrastructure
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

WORXDAILY

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MINISTER ZIKALALA SAYS SOUTH AFRICA IS A STORY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOPE AND RESILIENCE

By Lennox Mabaso

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure Minister, Sihle Zikalala, has assured investors that South Africa has put in place systems, structures and policies that are investor-friendly and are easing ways of doing business in South Africa.

He delivered a keynote address to over 500 global investors in London during his working visit to the United Kingdom, where he presented to investors a plethora of infrastructure investment opportunities in areas such as energy, water, transport and digital infrastructure. The Minister is using his UK visit to promote opportunities for foreign direct investments in mega infrastructure projects especially in the energy, water transport and logistics, hydrogen, harbours and digital infrastructure.

"As South Africa, we are a story of economic growth, hope and resilience to investors and social partners. We are open for business and we guarantee your return on investments in a country that is continuously eliminating red tape, has economic stability, improving the ease of doing business and where the rule of law is jealously guarded by our democratic institutions and our courts," Zikalala told investors.

Minister Zikalala assured investors that President Cyril Ramaphosa is leading the charge for a corruption-free government which honours agreements and contracts with investors. He faced gruelling questions around some of the country's transformation policies such as the BBBEE, localisation and PFMA, which some perceive to be too bureaucratic and impact on investor confidence in South Africa's economy. Minister Zikalala defended the policies as critical in redressing South Africa's economic disparities induced by the pain of its history which left many languishing on the fringes of the economy.

"The South African government is creating a new economic landscape and architecture which is premised on economic inclusion of most of the population. Our quest to address the socio-economic imbalances of the past should be no threat to investors but should be part of building a united and democratic South Africa that benefits all its citizens. This is a consensus that we have built as a country that we want to be Non-racial, Non-sexist and Democratic with a Prosperous population," said Minister Zikalala.

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