

# 2021 REPORT THEME

The global covid-19 pandemic has defined the world and its interactions, and will play a role in every facet of our lives for some time to come.

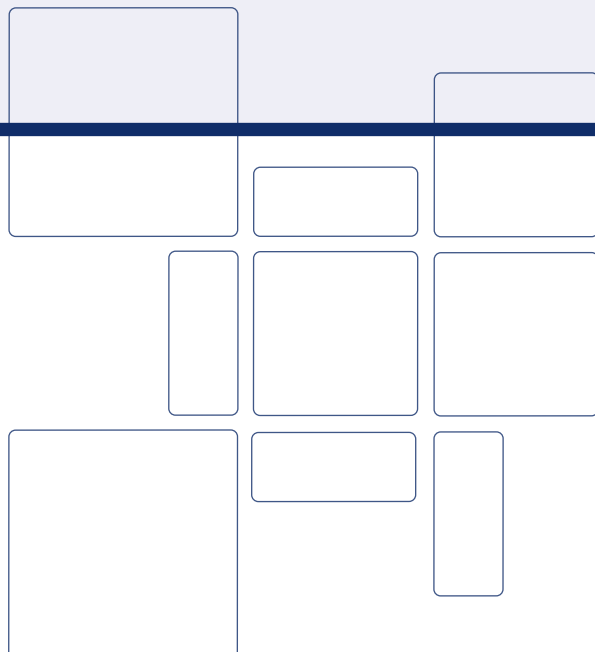
Responding to the economic disruption caused by the pandemic, the South African government released a R500 billion fund to cope with its ramifications.

At the same time the public sector was urged to focus on governance, transparency and accountability when dispensing these funds. The AGSA, with the support of the president, audited these covid-19 initiatives with proactive real-time audits to hold the public sector accountable for its spending, address weaknesses and prevent further mismanagement, fraud and accountability failures.

During these audits, we enhanced our cooperation with the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and Office of the Public Protector to avert a duplication of efforts by sharing documentation and information on covid-19 expenditure investigations. This coordination to complement each other's mandates and functions contributed to a Fusion Centre of the different law enforcement agencies and public bodies that could collectively investigate covid-19-related expenditure.

Our informative special reports on the real-time audits enabled proactive oversight and action.

Our positive influence on the lives of citizens has increased our relevance during a difficult time for our country. Our annual report reflects this theme of our **Increased relevance in a changing world.**



# ABOUT THIS REPORT

In line with the constitutional value of accountability, each year the Auditor-General of South Africa provides Parliament with detailed reports on the organisation's annual activities (s. 181(5) and s. 188 of the constitution). The Public Audit Act 25 of 2004 (PAA) gives legislative effect to our constitutional mandate.

In addition, we align to the following best practice, standards and legislation:

- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards – index can be found on page 161 – 163
- International Integrated Reporting <IR> framework – index can be found on page 164
- King IV principles and codes
- ISSAI P-12
- Sustainable Development Goals – index can be found on page 166

This report on our annual activities is based on the performance areas documented in our *2020-23 strategic plan and budget*. An index of our objectives and initiatives can be found on page 165.

The outcome of our annual benchmarking against best practice, standards and legislation plays a role in defining the format of the report and enhances the transparency and completeness of our reporting.

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*This integrated annual  
report is available on  
the AGSA website  
[www.agsa.co.za](http://www.agsa.co.za)*