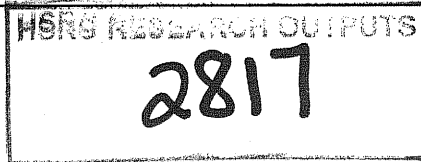




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Riches amidst the rags in the Karoo: The Northern Cape prepares to vote in 2004

Executive Summary

The ruling African National Congress looks set to continue to govern the province after the election with its present majority intact. However, the election is also characterised by uncertainty of the person of the next premier, as Mr Manne Dipico, having served two terms, is set to depart. Significantly, a decline in the provincial economy and large numbers of people living in poverty do not look set to harm the party's support amongst the electorate. The two main opposition parties, the Democratic Alliance and the New National Party are unlikely to make significant inroads into the ANC's support base. It is more likely that these parties will find themselves mainly contesting for loyalties of the white electorate and a small proportion of coloured people. It has been suggested that younger voters in the province, who are unemployed and disillusioned with the ruling party would rather show their protest by not voting, than vote for an opposition party.

At the time of writing, some 41% of the people in the province are unemployed (compared to 28% in 1995) and a slightly higher proportion (43%) live in poverty. Part of the reason for these statistics is the changing nature of the provincial economy. The primary sector (agriculture and mining) has traditionally been the economic mainstay of the province, both in terms of employment and contributions to its Gross Geographic Product. Both sectors, however, are in decline and employ less people. Lack of infrastructure development has also caused several enterprises in the region to relocate to urban centres such as Gauteng or Cape Town and provincial officials complain that educated people leave the province for the same two centres. How the province aims to escape from this cycle of poverty is unclear. Documents and pronouncements by provincial office bearers indicate that the province still expects its main sources of outside investment to come from the primary sector. However, the past decade had undoubtedly been kind to those fortunate enough to be employed in the formal sector. During that time, the annual income for both African and white heads of household had risen enormously.

It can be said that the province is politically stable but in economic decline, should present trends continue, the future bodes ill for the poor and unemployed.

However, several positive developments are afoot. Last year, the 'National Institute for Higher Education' opened its doors in Kimberly, the first institution to offer inhabitants of the Northern Cape tertiary education in their home province. Land reform has proved to be competently pursued in the province. Between 1994 and June 2003 some 529 000 hectares of land had been transferred to previously disadvantaged people in the province. The province can also boast that about 90 poverty alleviation programmes are run throughout the province.

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1 Economic Conditions

1.1 Boom for some, bust for many: Structure of the economy and poverty

The Northern Cape is the country's largest province, it covers 29.7% of the country's total surface and at 361, 830 square kilometres, is three times the size of the Federal Republic of Germany. It is also the province most sparsely populated. According to the Bureau of Market Research, there were 892 248 people (2% of the total population of the country) living in the province in 2002. Of these, some 310 841 are African, 449 780 coloured, 2 504 Indian and 129 123 white. This number is expected to grow to 924 000 by 2006¹. There's about two people per square kilometre in the province (compared to 480 in Gauteng and 101 in KwaZulu-Natal). It is also a comparatively young province. In the Kgalagadi District Municipality, some 38% of the inhabitants were 14 or younger in 2001. In the Namakwa District Municipality, the proportion was 29% and in the Karoo District Municipality, 32%. Statistics for the Siyanda and Frances Baard District Municipalities revealed the same trend. In the former, 31% of the population were 14 or younger in 2001 and 30% in the case of the latter².

According to Statistics South Africa, the province had a Gross Geographic Product (GPP) of some R13.8bn in 2001. An examination of the annual growth rate between 1995 and 2001, reveals that the provincial economy had shrunk slightly in that period (by 0.3%). It is the only province that experienced a negative growth rate during the period under review³. However, the province only produced some 2.09% of the country's Gross Domestic Product⁴.

The table below show the sectoral contributions to the province's GPP in 2001 as calculated by DRI-WEFA South Africa, an economic consultancy⁵.

<i>Table 1: Sectoral Contributions to the provincial Gross Geographic Product of the Northern Cape in 2001</i>	
Sector	Contribution
Agriculture	16.3%
Community, social and personal services	23.2%
Construction	1.9%
Electricity	3.0%
Finance	10.3%
Manufacturing	5.1%
Mining	14.3%
Trade	13.9%
Transport	11.8%

The table above shows that the community, social and personal services sector made the biggest contribution the GPP in 2001 (R2.5bn) followed by agriculture (R1.78bn) and mining (R1.56bn).

According to the expanded definition of unemployment, some 41% (or 162 000 people) of the province's economically active population were unemployed in 2002, compared to 28.5% in 1995⁶. The spread of unemployment reveals that all five district municipalities in the province are suffering from high levels of unemployment. The Frances Baard and Kgalagadi District Municipalities are

¹ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p4,7

² <http://www.demarcation.org.za/municprofiles2003/index.html>

³ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p54

⁴ <http://www.gov.za/province/overview/htm>

⁵ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p48, 50

⁶ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p182; South Africa Survey 1999/2000, p300

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worst off, with both having an unemployment rate of 41%, followed by Karoo District Municipality with 36% and the Namakwa District Municipality with 28%, and Siyanda, with 27%.⁷

According to statistics published by DRI-WEFA South Africa, about 43% (392 562) of the people in the province were living in poverty in 2001⁸. The province is better off than its northern neighbour, the North West province, where 56.1% of the population were living poverty, and the Free State (53%). Its southern neighbour, the Western Cape, has the lowest levels of poverty in the country (21%). According to the same consultancy, 48.9% of the country's total population were living in poverty in 2001. However, the province's main urban centre, Kimberly, experienced a compound annual growth rate of 4.7%, between 1996 and 2001, according the Global Insight SA, an economic consultancy. Statistics provided by the same consultancy suggests that 39.4% of Kimberly's inhabitants lived in poverty in 2001, but that the annual per capita income in centre rose from R11 960 in 1996 to R18 833 in 2001⁹.

Of those living in poverty in the province, some 67.4% were African, 10% Indian, 37.8% coloured people and 4.8% white. The national average for coloured people is 20.4%, showing that members of this group was significantly worse off in this province than their counterparts elsewhere¹⁰.

However, within the context of widespread unemployment and poverty, incomes of working people in the province had shown a remarkable increase. An examination of annual household incomes by the heads of households, published by Statistics South Africa, suggests that the province had by far outperformed the rest of the country in this regard. The tables below show the changes in average annual household income by race and head of household between 1995 and 2000 (the last year when statistics were available) for the province and the country.

Table 2: Average annual household income by race and of head of household in the Northern Cape and South Africa for 1995¹¹

	<i>African (R)</i>	<i>Coloured (R)</i>	<i>Indian (R)</i>	<i>White (R)</i>	<i>All (R)</i>
Northern Cape	17 000	27 000	-b	106 000	38 000
South Africa	32 000	43 000	96 000	137 000	51 000

Table 3 Average annual household income by race and of head of household in the Northern Cape and South Africa for 2000¹²

	<i>African (R)</i>	<i>Coloured (R)</i>	<i>Indian (R)</i>	<i>White (R)</i>	<i>All (R)</i>
Northern Cape	24 000	29 000	-b	173 000	53 000
South Africa	26 000	51 000	85 000	158 000	46 000

⁷ <http://www.demarcation.org.za/>

⁸ According to DRI-WEFA, poverty is defined as the number of people living in households with an income less than the poverty income. Poverty varies according to the size of the household – the larger the household the larger the income required to keep its members out of poverty. Poverty income levers range from R551 for one individual to R2 349 for a household of eight or more members.

⁹ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p55

¹⁰ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p177

¹¹ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p177

¹² South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p177

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Table 4: Changes in the annual household income by race and of head of household in the Northern Cape and South Africa between 1995 and 2000¹³

	<i>African (R)</i>	<i>Coloured (R)</i>	<i>Indian (R)</i>	<i>White (R)</i>	<i>All (R)</i>
Northern Cape	41.2%	7.4%	-b	63.2%	36.5%
South Africa	-18.8%	18.6%	-11.5%	15.3%	-9.8%

a : In 2000 market price value

b : Number of households in this survey too small for analysis.

The tables above show that black heads of households in the Northern Cape had seen their annual income rise by 41% between 1995 and 2000, in sharp contrast to the national figure that shows a decline. Similarly, the annual income of their white counterparts leapt by 63%, making them the biggest earners in the country. In comparison, white household heads in the country's two richest provinces, the Western Cape and Gauteng could look forward to earning R158 000 in 2000. The province's performance in the period under review stands in sharp contrast to the national figure that shows a decline of about 10%. The only other province that saw annual incomes rise during this period was the Western Cape, which shows a relatively small increase of 7%. Annual incomes of household heads declined in all other provinces during the same period. However, it is notable that coloured people in the Northern Cape earn an annual amount that is very much below the national average for that group¹⁴.

The dichotomy of rising affluence for those employed, amid increased misery for those not so fortunate, is reflected in the provincial Gini-coefficient. This is an instrument used to measure equality and inequality within countries or between groups of people. It assigns a value of between zero (perfect equality) and one (perfect inequality). The table below shows the Gini-coefficient by race for the province and the country for 2001.

Table 5: Gini-coefficient by race for the Northern Cape and South Africa, 2001¹⁵

	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Total
Northern Cape	0.59	0.57	0.48	0.46	0.60
South Africa	0.61	0.55	0.49	0.44	0.58

The table above shows that the provincial figures are closely aligned to national trends. It is noteworthy that the Northern Cape, like the rest of country, is characterised by extreme inequality *within* different race groups as opposed to *between* them. Hereby the differences of income within African and coloured communities in the province, are more severe and make those communities more unequal in economic terms, than the white and Indian communities.

1.2 The why's and wherefores: Reasons for prevailing levels of poverty in the province

The Northern Cape, according to certain observers, is still structured like a 'classic economy'¹⁶, meaning that is excessively reliant on the primary sector. According to officials attached to the provincial government, the province's reliance on the mining sector as both an important employer

¹³ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p177

¹⁴ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p177

¹⁵ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p173

¹⁶ Personal Interview with Mr Peter Waiklin, former director of the Orange River Spatial Development Initiative, 24/2/04

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and contributor to it GGP, makes its economy exceptionally vulnerable to international fluctuations in mineral prices. The steady decline in the value of the US Dollar and the fluctuation in strength of the Rand, meant that mining concerns in the province were continuing to rationalise their operations (a process that had already begun about decade before) and not contemplating any significant increases in number of people employed¹⁷. Furthermore, the agricultural sector has also been shedding labour, partly because the structure of subsidies and tariffs that had long protected the sector were almost entirely dismantled after 1994. Game farming has proven to be very profitable (with an average of 30% return of capital invested). However, according to developmental sources in the province, many farmers have proved to be 'reluctant to change' from agricultural enterprises that has proved to be less profitable, such as sheep farming (an average 3% return on capital invested,) many farmers in the region are becoming poorer as a result¹⁸.

Statistics in the last section also revealed the community, social and personal services sector has become the single biggest contributor the provincial GGP. This sector is mainly composed of government employees (local, provincial and national). The growth of this sector can be ascribed to the relative decline of the two primary sectors, as well as to the expansion of the number of employees attached to the provincial government and various local governments in the region. Should present employment trends continue, the province is danger of becoming dependent government in its various forms, and not industry, to provide economic opportunities to its citizens.

Moreover, the massive size of the province and dispersal of its inhabitants creates difficulties in service delivery and the maintenance of infrastructure, which in turn slows down economic development. Provincial officials refer to the spatial difficulties involved in service delivery in the province as a 'key issue' for explaining widespread poverty in the province¹⁹. Underdevelopment in the province led it into a Catch 22 situation. Potential investors bypass the province, and companies based there relocate to urban centres such as Cape Town and Johannesburg²⁰ because of the lack of the appropriate infrastructure and development, thereby compounding the problem. For the province to attract outside investors and promote economic development, it needs more economic development.

Historically, the province had always neglected to develop secondary industries (such as manufacturing). According to provincial officials, this contributed in no small measure to the high levels of unemployment now prevalent. The products of both primary sectors (mining and agriculture) are mostly processed outside the province. When both primary sectors started to employ less people, secondary industries were not capable of offering new employment opportunities²¹. Hence, provincial officials, including the Member of the Executive Committee for Economic Affairs and Tourism, indicate that mineral deposits and agricultural opportunities (especially irrigation farming along the Orange river), is the province's main drawing points for luring outside investors²². In other words, the province is looking to attract the exact same kind industries that have been scaling their

¹⁷ Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04

¹⁸ Personal Interview with Mr Peter Waiklin, former director of the Orange River Spatial Development Initiative, 24/2/04

¹⁹ Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04

²⁰ Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04

²¹ Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04; Personal Interview with Mr Peter Waiklin, former director of the Orange River Spatial Development Initiative, 24/2/04

²² Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04; <http://www.northern-cape.gov.za/departments/>

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operations for the reason it is unable to offer support for other types of industries. Other potentially lucrative industries, such as game farming or mariculture has not been fully explored. Although

involved in tourism (as will be shown below) the provincial government markets the province in a 'generic fashion' according to one commentator, while game ranches mostly prefer to do their own marketing²³.

Unless the province can manage to 'transform its economy' (in the words of one commentator²⁴) high levels of unemployment, accompanied by poverty, will be a feature in the Northern Cape for a long time to come.

1.3 What is to be done? Poverty alleviation efforts

The province had a budget of R2 931.83bn in 2001/2. The two provincial departments charged with poverty alleviation, the Department of Social Services and Population Development and the Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, respectively received 24% and 0.6% of this amount²⁵. The Department of Social Services and Population Development lists 'Anti-poverty' programmes as one of its five 'priority areas' and poverty alleviation falls under its 'Population Development Programme'. A document published by the department shows that there are currently 92 'poverty alleviation projects' in the province that is run under its auspices (see Appendix). Of these, 30 are located in the diamond fields area, 15 in the Lower Orange region, 6 in the Kalahari, 8 in Namaqualand, 12 in Hantam and 21 in the Upper Karoo²⁶. The types of programmes run include brick making, sewing, poultry, cleaning services, coffin making and so on.

According to the Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism's strategic review for the years 2003/4 and 2005/6, the department's main strategy for alleviating poverty will be to encourage the establishment of small and medium sized enterprises (SMME's) and to promote industries related to tourism. Both of these activities fall under the department's programme for 'SMME Development and Business Regulation'.

Some R25, 85m had budgeted SMME development in 2003/4, this amount was set to grow to R31,122m by 2005/6. For tourism promotion, R2, 430m had been budgeted for 2003/4, which would increase to R2, 672m by 2005/6²⁷. However, the department mentions '355 permanent jobs' had been created and 454 temporary ones as part of its consumer protection and board support services programme²⁸.

In the department's strategic review, it claims to have supported several SMME related activities during 2002 and 2003. The report listed the following:

- Hosting a provincial SMME Business Train in De Aar, Uppington and Kimberley.
- The Northern Cape Women in Business Conference in March 2003.
- Hosted and funded the Economic Summit for People with disabilities.

²³ Personal Interview with Mr Peter Waiklin, former director of the Orange River Spatial Development Initiative, 24/2/04

²⁴ Personal Interview with Mr Peter Waiklin, former director of the Orange River Spatial Development Initiative, 24/2/04

²⁵ South Africa Survey 2002/2003. p125

²⁶ <http://www.northern-cape.gov.za/departments/socservice/docs/list1.asp>

²⁷ Department of Local Affairs and Tourism, 'Revised Strategic Plan: 2003/4 to 2005/6', p9

²⁸ Department of Local Affairs and Tourism, 'Revised Strategic Plan: 2003/4 to 2005/6', p6

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- Funded the Kimberly Diamond Soya Mince Project.
- Funded the Siyaya coffin manufacturing project.
- Funded the Wavelength steel project.
- Funded the Bo-Karoo wool and craft project.
- Funded the Kgalagadi Weavers project.
- Funded the Bizza's Welding Works.
- Funded Pae Pae Craft.
- Funded the Disapele Toilet Manufacturing Plant.
- Warrenton Concrete Steel Works.
- Completed the merger between three provincial bodies that aim to promote development in the region, namely the Northern Cape Fishing and Mariculture Development Organisation and two other bodies known as KBIC and KIMEC.
- Finalised the launch of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the province.
- Finalised the province's Integrated Manufacturing Strategy.
- Funded a hydroponics project²⁹.

The department lists a number of activities undertaken to promote tourism in the strategic review. These include assisting '15 international media groups' to tour the province and initiating a 'tourism month'. In so far as marketing the province goes, the department has invested in a variety of promotional items such as calendars, CD-Roms and so on. It has also assisted 13 'previously disadvantaged entrepreneurs to access' the tourism sector. Future plans for tourism development include three partnerships that the department had entered into with outside parties. These include:

- A partnership with South African Tourism and Tekwani Promotions for the development of a 'missionary route' in the province.
- A partnership with Open Africa for an 'adventure cultural route' that will include the Riemvasmaak, Augrabies, Kuboes and Port Nolloth areas.
- A partnership with the provincial Department of Sport, Arts and Culture for a 'Heroes' route that will trace the origins of Chief Galeshewe.

Lastly, the community of Kgalagadi was identified as a rural development 'node' in July 2001. This forms part of the national Integrated Rural Development Strategy, coordinated by the Department of Provincial and Local Government. The programme encourages a broad range of development projects in each of the 13 'nodes' identified. The communities identified by the programme are regarded as exceptionally poor and under-served by national standards. It's initial aim was to provide basic services such as water, electricity, access to roads and sanitation. This would be followed by the introduction of community development projects³⁰.

2 Higher Education: Hope glimmers in the diamond fields

2.1 National Institute for Higher Education

In 2003, the Northern Cape province launched a 'National Institute for Higher Education' to provide the province with a higher education institution. It was officially launched by the Minister of Education, Prof. Kader Asmal.

²⁹ Department of Local Affairs and Tourism, 'Revised Strategic Plan: 2003/4 to 2005/6', p5

³⁰ <http://www.local.gov.za/DCD/news/summary.html>

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The institution is located in the Old Legislature Building in Kimberley and it boasts around 700 registered students. It co-ordinates the provision of higher education programmes in the province. On

offer are a courses leading to Bachelor's degrees in education (in conjunction with the University of Potchefstroom and the University of the Western Cape) and commerce (in conjunction with the University of the Free State). These courses can be pursued up to a master's level if so desired.

The Deputy Head of Administration, Dr Nkosi, indicated that the institution is going to offer mechanical and electrical engineering courses in partnership with Technikon SA in the near future³¹.

The addition of the institute is of critical importance to the province, as it previously had the unfortunate distinction of being the only province in the country without any institution offering higher education. Both provincial officials and development specialists have mentioned that the low skills base in the province could at least be partially ascribed to the absence of such an institution. 'There should have been agriculture and mining colleges in Kimberly for years now' commented one official³². However, while without a doubt a 'step in the right direction' for the province, doubts prevail. Provincial officials and development specialists indicate that the province has immense difficulty in convincing its skilled inhabitants to stay in the province. 'They don't see a future for themselves here, they want to go to Johannesburg or Cape Town'³³ commented a provincial official. According to a developmental specialist 'once they (skilled people) leave, they never come back'³⁴. Higher education does not necessarily translate into employment. It remains to be seen whether the province's declining economy can offer future graduates of the institution sufficient employment opportunities to encourage them to stay in the province.

2.2 Language Policy

According to a request from the SABC, plans were afoot to forcibly integrate schools in the Northern Cape, which would have the effect of reducing the use of Afrikaans in the province's schools. The home language of 66% of the province's population is Afrikaans. The second most widely spoken language is SeTswana (19%) followed by isiXhosa (6.2%)³⁵. According to the Director of the provincial Department of Education's Curriculum and Assessment Directorate, Mr E Martin, there are no plans afoot to forcibly integrate learners in the manner mentioned above. According to him, the department seldom receives any requests for English teachers as Afrikaans was by far the widest language spoken in the province, and secondly because most schools in the province already function on a dual medium basis. However, where requests have been received from schools, the department has responded promptly. He went on to suggest that the only way in which forced 'integration' in the province could take place, was by way of unexpected population movements (which would cause a large number of learners to enter schools in areas where they had not previously lived). As an example, he mentioned that such movements might come about because of successful land restitution claims³⁶.

³¹ Telephonic interview with Dr. Nkosi, Deputy Head: Administration, National Institute for Higher Education in the Northern Cape, 20/02/2004

³² Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04

³³ Personal Interview with Mr Ivan Goladikwe, Chief Statistician, Northern Cape Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism, 24/02/04

³⁴ Personal Interview with Mr Peter Waiklin, former director of the Orange River Spatial Development Initiative, 24/2/04

³⁵ http://www.statssa.gov.za/Archives/Reports/ProvincialStatistics/00_90_03.pdf

³⁶ Telephonic interview with Mr E Martin, Director: Curriculum and Assessment Directorate, Northern Cape Department of Education, 20/2/2004

4 Agriculture: There's a new *baas* on the *plaas*

The importance of agriculture in the provincial economy was explained in section 1.1 (see page 2).

4.1 Land redistribution

The land redistribution programme aims to provide black people with their own land by way of the Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) sub-programme, that is located in the Department of Land Affairs. The LRAD instrument was unveiled in late 2000, and it was envisaged that the scheme would allow 30% of South Africa's agricultural land to be redistributed to black farmers by the year 2020. Initially this policy was the subject of confusion regarding what exactly the Department meant with the phrase 'agricultural land'. Subsequently the phrase was tightened up when the minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs explained that she was referring to a third of agricultural land owned by white people, the date for the completion of the process was also moved up to 2015³⁷.

From 1994 to June 2003, approximately 529,000 hectares of land have been delivered to 5,600 households – with female-headed households constituting 15% of all beneficiary households.³⁸

Most of the land delivered (78%) has been through commonage (land owned by municipalities), followed by Settlement/Land Acquisition Grant (SLAG), and LRAD. The former was the predecessor to the latter. At the time of writing, the following had been accomplished in the province in the way of land redistribution:

- 1 200 households gained access to 410 000 ha of municipal commonage land.
- 3 600 households gained access to access to 75 000 ha of land through SLAG.
- 400 households gained access to 41 200 ha of land through LRAD.³⁹

The statistics above show that the Land Reform programme has continued at a brisk pace in the Northern Cape. However, commonage accounts for the largest proportion of land transferred. Commonage refers to land owned by many rural municipalities in this province and the Free State. Before 1994, such areas were in many cases leased to commercial farmers at competitive rates, providing the municipality with a valuable source of income. After 1997, the Department of Land Affairs insisted that it be used to accommodate emerging farmers.

There are several reasons that account for the successful transfer of commonage land in the region. The first is that the overwhelming proportion of commonage land in the province was so-called 'Act no 9 (of 1987)' land (legislation enacted by the former House of Representatives, a body that was to represent coloured people in the Tri-Cameral parliament). The act set significant portions of land aside for coloured people and held that it should be held in trust by the responsible minister. After 1994, the Minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs became responsible for the land. Unlike the sub-programmes of land redistribution, which requires the state purchase land, and land restitution, which demands a complex set of bureaucratic arrangements regarding the filing and processing of claims, commonage land could be transferred directly to local authorities with relative ease. Development

³⁷ <http://archive.mg.co.za/nxt/gateway.dll/PrintEdition/MGP2003/31v00224/41v00325/51v00376.htm>

³⁸ Hall, R. and Jacobs, P. (2003) "Land Redistribution and Restitution in the Northern Cape and the Free State", PLAAS, University of the Western Cape

³⁹ Hall, R. and Jacobs, P. (2003) "Land Redistribution and Restitution in the Northern Cape and the Free State", PLAAS, University of the Western Cape

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specialists close to the process refer to the years 1996 to 2002 as the 'golden age' of commonage transfers in the province. During that time, staff members of the DLA and members of non-

governmental organisations allegedly shared an exceptionally good relationship regarding the transfer of commonage and consulting of communities and some 312 000 hectares of land was transferred. Purportedly the DLA's emphasis on the LRAD programme has led to a slower rate of commonage transfers⁴⁰.

4.2 Land restitution

The land restitution programme is aimed at giving land back to victims of forced removals that took place under apartheid after June 1913 under various acts that forced people to abandon their land (the Natives Trust and Land Act of 1936, the Group Areas Acts of 1950 and 1956). At the time of writing, some 3 200 claims have been lodged in the province, of which 2,000 were in rural areas (62%) and 1 200 in urban areas (38%). According to the Department of Land Affairs each claim involved an average of 9 households. The average size of a claim was about 622 hectares and 450 claims had been settled by March 2003.

Settled claims in rural areas include, Groenwater, Khoman San, Kono, Majeng, Mier, Riemvasmaak, Ronaldsvlei and Schmidtsdrift. Together, these involved 232,195 hectares and 4 063 households. According to the Department of Land Affairs, some R47.4m were spent in the process of settling the claims⁴¹.

4.3 Farmers and Farm workers

The province has some 3 801 emerging farmers, 6 021 commercial farmers and 11 450 farm workers⁴². The table below provides a breakdown of their numbers by region.

<i>Table 6: Number of emerging farmers, commercial farmers and farm workers in the Northern Cape by region</i>			
Region	Emerging farmers	Commercial farmers	Farm workers
1. Francias Bartman	500	1000	Casual – 1500 Permanent – 800
2. Karoo region	600	700	Casual – 800 Permanent – 250
3. Namaqualand	1700	1666	Casual – 2500 Permanent - 900
4. Siyanda region	1001	2655	Casual – 3500 Permanent - 1200

4.3 Nature conservation and reserves

⁴⁰ Telephonic interview with Mr Kobus Pienaar, Coordinator: Legal Resources Centre, 25/2/04

⁴¹ Hall, R. and Jacobs, P. (2003) "Land Redistribution and Restitution in the Northern Cape and the Free State", PLAAS, University of the Western Cape

⁴² Telephonic Interview with Ncumisa Mhlauli, Media Liaison Officer, Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Nature Conservation, Environment and Land Reform, 23/02/2004

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The Nature Reserves and Conservation Unit (located within the provincial Department of Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Land Reform) is currently in negotiation with De Beers, a sizeable mining concern in the region, with a view to obtaining funding for a black economic empowerment project. This initiative will take the form of a Public Private Partnership.

The unit has trained 12 professional hunters and has also initiated partnership with De Beers, whereby they will gain access to their own land. At the time of writing, the unit has also trained 47 hunters as

part of a skills development programme. A further six people received training as bird guides to assist tourists visiting reserves in the province⁴³.

5 Mining and black economic empowerment: New faces in the boardroom

The importance of the mining industry in the provincial economy had already been explained in section 1.1 (see page 2). According to Mr Gary Joseph, a member of the Northern Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, black economic empowerment in the mining sector of the province was streamlined in the beginning of 2003. At the time, a body that presents mining concerns in the region, the Mine Managers Association, and the provincial government came to an agreement whereby mining concerns controlled by Africans would be encouraged to enter the areas of procurement, purchasing and resource exploitation within the sector. The agreement was coordinated by the provincial Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism and the Office of the Premier. Mr Joseph suggested that whereas previously, the various mining organisations that operated in the province had handled such matters at their own discretion, the agreement created an environment whereby black economic empowerment in the sector could be better coordinated⁴⁴.

6 Border Towns: Lost in transit(ion)?

Pampierstad is a town that is under the jurisdiction of Vaalharts-Morobeng local municipality in the Northern Cape, although it falls under the care of the North West provincial government. The town once formed part of the former homeland of Bohuthatswana. Residents want the town to fall under the Northern Cape provincial government, as there is a widespread belief that this province is more effective in delivering services. Discussions were initiated between the North West government, Northern Cape government, Demarcation board of South Africa and residents with a view to transferring the town to the Northern Cape government. However, no agreement was reached. The matter was subsequently referred to the Office of the President, and no decision has been forthcoming as yet.

Vaalharts-Morobeng municipality works with North West provincial government in terms of service delivery to the town. According to the Mayor of Vaalharts municipality, Ms. C. Qutsu, the North West Department of Developmental Local Government has contributed about R1m towards the construction of 1 200 houses and to improve street lights in Pampierstad⁴⁵.

For the time being the fate of Pampierstad and its 21 000⁴⁶ residents remains unknown. While cooperation between the two provinces had been exemplary, the danger remains that the town could be marginalized in service delivery issues simply by virtue of its cross-border status.

⁴³ Telephonic interview with Mr. A. Mabunda, Director: Nature Reserves Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Nature Conservation, Environment and Land Reform, .23/02/2004

⁴⁴ Telephonic interview with Mr Mr Gary Joseph, a member of the Northern Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 23/02/2004.

⁴⁵ Telephonic interview with the Mayor of Vaalharts-Morobeng Local municipality, Ms. C. Qutsu. 23/02/2004 .

⁴⁶ http://www.world-gazetteer.com/d/d_za_nw.htm

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7 Politics: A vacancy on top of the greasy pole
7.1 Results of the 1994 and 1999 election

The table below shows that the African National Congress controlled 20 of the 30 seats in the provincial legislature after the 1999 elections (it received 64% of the vote in the province, which reflects its national total). It is also notable that support for the New National Party in the province declined from about 41% in 1994 to 24% in 1999.

Table 7: Voting patterns in the Northern Cape in 1994 and 1999 for the National Assembly and Provincial Legislature

	National Assembly 1999		National Assembly 1994		Provincial Legislature 1999			Provincial legislature 1994		
	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Seats	Votes	%	Seats
Total	327,950	100.00	404,579	100.00	327,772	100.00	30	403,772	100.00	30
ACDP	5,295	1.61	1,294	0.32	5,004	1.53		1,610	0.40	
AEB	1,686	0.51			1,722	0.53				
ANC	211,206	64.40	201,515	49.81	210,837	64.32	20	200,839	49.74	15
AZAPO	1,237	0.38			1,360	0.41				
DP	18,952	5.78	5,235	1.29	15,632	4.77	1	7,567	1.87	1
FA	2,292	0.70			1,735	0.53				
IFP	1,448	0.44	1,902	0.47	1,728	0.53		1,688	0.42	
MF	182	0.06	494	0.12						
NNP	73,766	22.49	169,661	41.94	79,214	24.17	8	163,452	40.48	12
PAC	2,083	0.64	3,941	0.97	2,158	0.66		3,765	0.93	
UCDP	830	0.25								
UDM	3,092	0.94			2,936	0.90				
VF/FF	5,229	1.59	17,480	4.32	5,446	1.66	1	24,117	5.97	2
Others	652	0.20	3,057	0.76				734	0.18	

The section below will discuss the activities of the various political parties active in the province.

7.2 African National Congress

The question that will form the backdrop to the election in the Northern Cape is that of the departure of the Premier, Mr Manne Dipico. Premiers are limited to serving two terms and Mr Dipico is of only three Premiers to have served both. According to analysts, in the province he was an exceptionally able party administrator who managed to reconcile the various internal factions and ensure 'stability' within the ruling party. He also had a moderate outlook on race relations that insured him measure of personal support amongst the province's white inhabitants⁴⁷.

It was widely believed that he would be succeeded by Mr John Block, the MEC for Transport, Roads and Public Works until he resigned in late 2003 on account of alleged misallocation of funds. At the time of writing, it is unclear who is to succeed Mr Dipico. The MEC for Health, Ms Peters has been mentioned as probable candidate. She is in her mid-thirties and is commonly thought to carry support of the ANC Youth League in the province. She also sits on the ANC's national leadership body, the National Executive Committee. However, some have questioned whether she is mature enough to

⁴⁷ Personal interview with Mr Lerato Banda, Election Analyst for the Institute for a Democracy in South Africa, 25/2/0

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take charge of the premiership. Her leadership skills have also been called into question. Others in the party have argued that the national leadership should appoint a person from outside the province the post of premier. An ideal candidate would be a person who has a background in the province, but who is currently 'deployed' elsewhere.

According to political analysts familiar with the province, two main factions exist within the party. The first is based in the Frances Baard area. The party membership in the area is a mixture of Africans and coloured people. Most of the party's leadership in the province have traditionally originated from this area. The second is based around the town of Uppington and is composed (like the structures in the Bo Karoo and Namakwa areas) mainly of coloured people. John Block originated from this area and some within this faction insist that Mr Block's political ambitions suffered because of a lack of support from the Frances Baard structure. African members of the party have purportedly displayed some unhappiness about the high proportion of coloured people in the party's provincial list.

The party's campaign in the province links to the national theme of the 'First Decade of Democracy'. Provincially, party officials have used this theme to point out that the province is the newest in country, and that service delivery to Africans and coloured people in the area had been largely ignored prior to 1994. Hence the party will aim to take credit for the establishment of provincial governmental structures and improved levels of service delivery.

Indications are that the rise in unemployment and poverty (see section 1.1) in the province has not led to any significant fall in its support amongst the electorate. Analysts have suggested that young people (people who first voted in 1999 elections and who did not have any direct experience with Apartheid) might be more prone to disillusionment than their elders. However, this part of the electorate will in all likelihood rather not vote, than vote for an opposition party. There is very little doubt that the party will continue to dominate the legislature in the province after the election⁴⁸.

7.3 Democratic Alliance

The expectation is that this party will position itself a strong alternative to the African National Congress (in line with its national prerogatives). Analysts have suggested that this approach will serve to further erode the support base of the New National Party in the province, especially among people who do not feel comfortable with that party's agreement of cooperation with the ANC. There are also indications that the party has been experiencing internal conflict⁴⁹. In contrast to all other parties, the DA in the Northern Cape chose to release its party list on 16 February⁵⁰ with the candidates in alphabetical rather than numerical, order (which would indicate which of the candidates stood the best chance of entering the provincial legislature).

7.4 New National Party

The party's campaign will emphasise 'reconciliation' between races and present itself as being able to influence policy, due to its 'agreement of cooperation' with the ruling party. Analysts have indicated that the party is 'selling a difficult message' as its traditional voters might not approve of the agreement and African voters not necessarily attracted by it⁵¹.

⁴⁸ Personal interview with Mr Lerato Banda, Election Analyst for the Institute for a Democracy in South Africa, 25/2/0

⁴⁹ Personal interview with Mr Lerato Banda, Election Analyst for the Institute for a Democracy in South Africa, 25/2/0

⁵⁰ <http://152.111.1.251/argief/berigte/volksblad/2004/02/16/VB/2k/16.html>

⁵¹ Personal interview with Mr Lerato Banda, Election Analyst for the Institute for a Democracy in South Africa, 25/2/0

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7.5 Other parties

Although several other parties will contest the election in the province, it is not expected that they will make any sizable impact. The United Christian Democratic Party, a party that has its origins in the former homeland of Bophuthatswana, is expected to receive some support from the areas of the province that border the North West province⁵². The Independent Democrats is a recently established party and its support in the region untested. Neither the Inkatha Freedom Party, nor the United Democratic Movement has managed to establish a strong support base in the area

The list below will provide contact numbers for parties that contested the provincial election in 1999.

7.2 Contact numbers for political parties

The list below will provide contact numbers for parties that contested the provincial election in 1999.

- AZAPO

Name: George Mangakane
Tel: 053 832 3146
Cell: 083 479 9799

- New National Party

Provincial Office
Tel: 053 839 8105/8029
Media Liaison and MPL: Mr. K.A. Sinclair: 0834173673

- Freedom Front+

Name: Karel Boshoff
Tel: 053 839 8031

- Independent Democrats

Name: Esau Damoensa
Tel: 084 472 5448

- United Democratic Movement

Provincial office
Tel: 053 6310127
Provincial Organiser: Mr. G. Mothlaping: 0722579864

- United Christian Democratic Party

Media Officer: Mr. B. Modise
Tel: 072 182 4065

- Democratic Alliance

MPL: Dr Chris Liebenberg: 083 399 0256, and Provincial Organiser: Mr. Ross Henderson: 0723842238
Office Tel: 053 839 8038

- African National Congress

Provincial Office

⁵² Personal interview with Mr Lerato Banda, Election Analyst for the Institute for a Democracy in South Africa, 25/2/0

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Tel: 053 831 2230

Media Officer: Mr. Sipho Mbaxa: 0825523841

- Inkatha Freedom Party

Provincial Leader: Hennie Bekker
Cellular: 083 255 4520
Fax: 011 662 1078

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Appendix 1

The following is a list of poverty relief projects as published by the Northern Cape Department of Social Services and Population Development.

Poverty Relief Projects - Northern Cape
Diamond Fields

<i>Number</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Type of Project</i>
1.	San Arts & Crafts	Pottery, tin work
2.	Ithuteng Women Self-Help Organisation (Silk screening)	Fabric printing
3.	Teemaneng Cleaning Service	Cleaning service
4.	Greenpoint Handmade Paper	Paper
5.	Barney Bishop Workshop	Carpentry, clothes, leatherworks
6.	Ikhutseng Women Support Group (Fish & Chips)	Fish and chips
7.	Masibambane Laundry	Laundry service
8.	Ithumeleng - BE Happy Potato Chips	Chips
9.	Boitumelo Women's Project (knitting, sewing, glass recycling)	Toilet sets, bedding, uniforms
10.	Bonita's Wash and Repair of Clothing	Laundry service
11.	Galeshewe Silk Screening Project	Printing of t-shirts
12.	Boipelo Sewing Project	Uniforms, curtains, clothing
13.	Niekerkshoop Vrouesaksie Project	Clothing
14.	Griekwastad Brickmaking Project	Manufacturing of bricks
15.	Helping Hands Sewing Project	Uniforms, curtains, clothing
16.	Zig Zag Needlework Project	School uniforms, curtains, clothing
17.	Delportshoop Women's Development Project	Cakes, biscuits
18.	Plooyburg Needlework Project	Clothing

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19.	Galeshewe Arts and Crafts Sewing Project	Clothing
20.	Agisanang Brickmaking Project	Bricks
21.	Galeshewe Polish Making Project	Manufacturing of polish
22.	Helping Hands Home Industry	Cakes, biscuits
23.	Eureka Sewing Project	Tracksuits, school uniforms
24.	Pniel Development Project	Clothes
25.	Ithuteng Sewing Project	Clothing
26.	Holpan Development Project	Welding, clothing
27.	NG Welsyn - Rose Boutique Greenpoint	School wear, tracksuits
28.	Goeiemoed Sewing Project	Clothing
29.	Niekerkshoop Bakery	Biscuits, cakes
30.	Northern Cape Thusong Industries	Manufacturing of coffins

Lower Orange

<i>Number</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Type of Project</i>
1.	Augrabies Stene	Bricks
2.	Boegoeberg Bakkery	Cakes, biscuits
3.	Cillie Bio House (Vegetable Garden)	Vegetables
4.	Clothing By florida's	Clothing
5.	Kakamas Vegetable Garden	Vegetables
6.	Marchand Bio House (Vegetable Garden)	Vegetables
7.	Masakhane Vegetable Garden- Globlershoop	Vegetables
8.	Omni Funeral Support Services	Funeral services
9.	Pick-a-Clean Services	Cleaning service
10.	PPS Needlework (Progress Needlework, Paballello Children's Clothing, Swartkop Needlework)	Clothing
11.	Siyavuka Laundry Services	Laundry service
12.	Swartkop Woodwork	Woodwork
13.	Upington Spyseniering (rendering services at Marcus Mbetha Secure Care Centre)	Catering service
14.	Vredesvallei Needlework	Needlework
15.	Wikkel en Sukkel Needlework (Keimoes)	Clothing

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Kalahari

<i>Number</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Type of Project</i>
1.	Kalahari Curio Centre	Curio
2.	Olifantshoek Arts and Crafts Curio Centre	Arts & Crafts
3.	Olifantshoek Arts & Craft Curio Centre	Arts & Craft
4.	Helly's Craft Shed	Craft
5.	Candlemaking Craft Shed	Candle making
6.	Bread baking and shoe repair project	Baking of bread, shoe repair

Namaqualand

NUMBER	NAME OF PROJECT	TYPE OF PROJECT
1.	Buffelsrivier Needlework Project	Needlework
2.	Kamiesberg Inloer Home Industry	Home Industry
3.	Kuboes Children's Clothing	Clothing
4.	Garies Leather works	Leather works
5.	Bergsig Laundry, car wash and home industry	Laundry, car wash, home industry
6.	Rooiwal Tomato Project (Vioolsdrift)	Tomato
7.	Port Nolloth Laundry Services	Laundry services
8.	Steinkopf screen printing	Screen printing

Hantam

<i>Number</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Type of Project</i>
1.	Noordkaap Eiers/hoenderboerdery	Chicken and eggs
2.	Van Wyksvlei brick making	Brick making
3.	Loeriesfontein brick making project	Brick making
4.	Middelpos Bakery	Cakes, biscuit
5.	Loeriesfontein vegetable tunnel	Vegetables
6.	Calvinia Ethnic Arts & Craft	Arts & craft
7.	Caladof Gardening project	Gardening
8.	Fraserburg Tripe & Trotters Joy	Tripe and trotters
9.	Carnarvon poultry/chicken farming	Poultry
10.	Caladof Cleaning Project	Cleaning services
11.	Loeriesfontein Needlework Project	Clothing
12.	Van Wyksvlei Home Industry	Biscuits, cakes

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Upper Karoo

<i>Number</i>	<i>Name of Project</i>	<i>Type of Project</i>
1.	Kwa Nomzamo Clothing Manufacturers	Clothing
2.	Gwebindlal Restaurant	Food
3.	Emthanjeni Furnishing Manufacturers	Furniture
4.	First Class Cleaning Services	Cleaning services
5.	De Aar Beading Project	Beads
6.	Colesburg Multi Purpose Centre	
7.	Norvalspont Vegetable Project	Vegetables
8.	Hanover Coffin making	Coffin making
9.	Bet-el sewing and knitting project (Masizakhe small business)	Sewing and knitting
10.	Richmond Development Centre	
11.	Loxton Bakery and community shop	Bakery and shop
12.	Loxton Candle making Project	Candle making
13.	Britstown Leather and tanning project	Leather
14.	Hopetown Rural brick making project	Brick making
15.	Masibambane brick making project	Brick making
16.	Eureka Vegetable Gardens	Vegetable
17.	Strydenburg Donkey Cart community project	Community project
18.	Strydenburg Nutrition Programme	Nutrition
19.	Petrusville Community Shop	Shop
20.	Masikhulisane Project (community shop)	Shop
21.	Noupoort sewing project	Sewing