3 FUTURES FOR SOUTH AFRICA

THE DINOKENG SCENARIOS
To create a **space** and **language** for open, reflective and reasoned **strategic conversation** among South Africans **about possible futures for the country**, and the opportunities, risks and choices these futures present.
Dinokeng
“a place of rivers”
...all our pasts have flowed together to meet at this place and time, and all our futures will flow from here.
# The Scenario Team

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WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

WHAT ARE OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

WHAT ARE OUR CHALLENGES
WHAT UNDERLIES THESE CHALLENGES

Three inter-related trends manifesting after 1994:

- A citizenry that is disengaging and becoming increasingly dependent on the state
- Weak state capacity and an unaccountable government
- A leadership that reflects a culture of materialism and narrow self-interest, and a lack of ethics and accountability
“Futures are never given. They are created”
Scenarios are not predictions. They describe possible pathways into a future.

Our future will not necessarily be purely one or the other.

Scenarios must be relevant, challenging, plausible and clear.

The seeds of the future exist in the present.
WHERE TO FROM HERE?

SCENARIO 1: Walk Apart
SCENARIO 2: Walk Behind
SCENARIO 3: Walk Together

Each pathway or scenario will lead to a different future
THE MESSAGE OF WALK APART

If we fail to address our critical economic and social challenges and if we fail to strengthen the state:

- Citizens will *disengage* further
- Pockets of *alternative control* and delivery by unaccountable groups outside the state will develop
- Our country will *decline* and disintegrate rapidly
THE COMPARATIVE PATHS OF THE THREE SCENARIOS

CHARACTER OF CIVIL SOCIETY

CAPACITY OF THE STATE

Engaged

WALK TOGETHER

Effective

WALK BEHIND

Disengaged

WALK APART

2009

2020

2020
THE MESSAGE OF WALK BEHIND

- State-led development requires the **capacity** for planning, coordination and delivery
- Large-scale state projects require heavy **borrowings**
- State directed investment weakens private initiative and state control creates **citizen dependency**
- Pervasive state intervention and control is therefore **unsustainable**
THE COMPARATIVE PATHS OF THE THREE SCENARIOS

Character of Civil Society

Capacity of the State

Engaged

Disengaged

Ineffective

Effective

2009

2020

WALK TOGETHER

WALK APART

WALK BEHIND

2020
THE MESSAGE OF WALK TOGETHER

- We can address our critical economic and social challenges only if civil society, business, labour and the state engage and cooperate.

- Together we need to increase accountability, build the capacity of the state, deliver core public services, and develop a common identity and nationhood.

- We can succeed if and only if citizens and leaders from all sectors rise above their narrow self-interests and contribute purposefully to building our nation.
The three scenarios suggest three different possible futures for South Africa.

We are all standing at a crossroads, each one of us, citizens and leaders must choose how we walk forward.
• Through the choices each one of us make, we will create our nation’s future

• What will you choose to do? When? How? With whom?

• What will your next step be?
3 FUTURES FOR SOUTH AFRICA

“If you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk together.”

African Proverb