





### WHY BRAND SOUTH AFRICA EXISTS

- Countries are in constant competition *for share of voice* in a crowded global marketplace for:
  - Inward investment;
  - Trade;
  - Domestic investment;
  - Exports;
  - Tourism;
- The above are easily influenced by perceptions & reputation.
- Brand South Africa's role is to create a positive and compelling brand image for South Africa domestically and internationally.
- Brand South Africa's role is to manage the country's Nation Brand reputation and issues impacting on it.



### BRAND SOUTH AFRICA'S CORE MANDATE

The core mandate of the organisation is to:

**Build** confidence in SA as a trade & investment destination

**Enhance** South Africa's international stature

Influence narrative & perceptions of South Africa

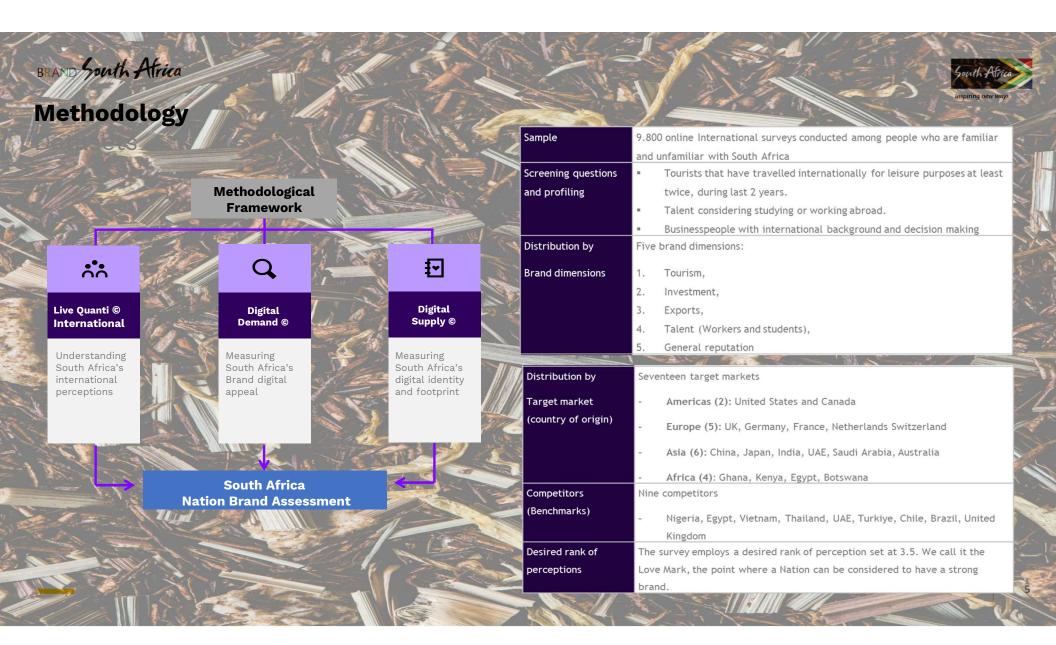
Assist government & the private sector in aligning their global communication strategies to the country brand

**Leverage** strategic pan-African & global platforms & engagements to drive trade promotion and investment



2024/10/23





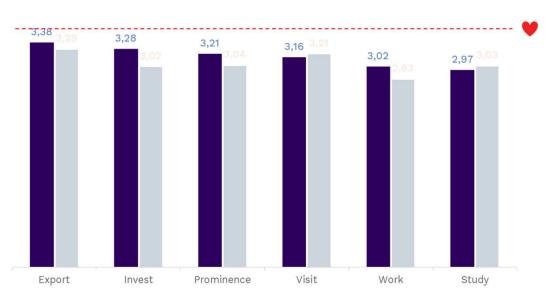


### INSIGHTS FROM SA GLOBAL REPUTATION STUDY

- Perception Improvement: South Africa's perception has improved in most dimensions since 2022, but no dimensions have reached the "Love Mark" (score above 3.5).
- **Key Dimensions:** Exports and investment have shown significant improvement, while tourism & talent have slightly declined. Prominence (general reputation) has grown significantly.
- Market Perception: South Africa is well-regarded for natural assets, sports, and culture, but safety and crime remain concerns.
- Africa and the Middle-East have the best perception about South Africa. Asia, the Americas and Europe fall behind. The Middle-East has improved their perceptions about South Africa, while Europe's have worsened
- The United States of America demonstrates the highest appeal toward South Africa, followed by EU countries, Australia and India
- Policy Impact: International policies, especially peacekeeping efforts and the ICJ case against Israel, positively impact South Africa's reputation.

Perception of South Africa as a place to visit, invest, work or study in and export from.

**2023 2022** 



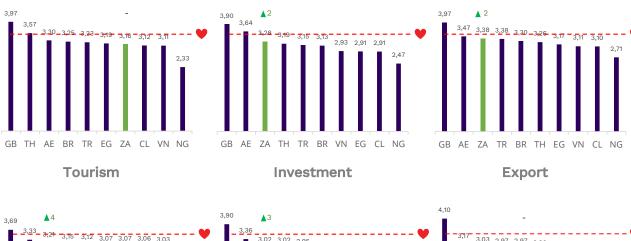


Among benchmarks South Africa ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in majority of the dimensions.

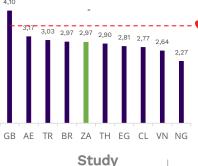
# Well ranked, only behind UK and UAE, except on *Tourism* and *Study*

- When it comes to South Africa's competitors' perception, the United Kingdom outperforms all countries across all dimensions.
- South Africa does well overall, ranking third in the *Prominence, Work, Investment,* and *Exports* dimensions. Compared to last research study performed in 2022, these brand dimensions have jumped in the benchmark ranking.
- Tourism perception ranks lower than other brand dimension but maintains its benchmark ranking position compared to the 2022 report.
- Competitor Comparison: South Africa ranks third in most dimensions behind the UK and UAE, except in tourism and study.

Legend: GB - United Kingdom, AE - UAE, TH - Thailand, TR - Turkiye, BR -Brazil, EG - Egypt, ZA - South Africa, CL - Chile, VN - Vietnam, NG - Nigeria Perception of South Africa in different dimensions compared to competitors. Scale: 0-Extremely negative, 1-Negative 2-Moderately negative,3-Moderately positive, 4-Positive, 5-Extremely positive











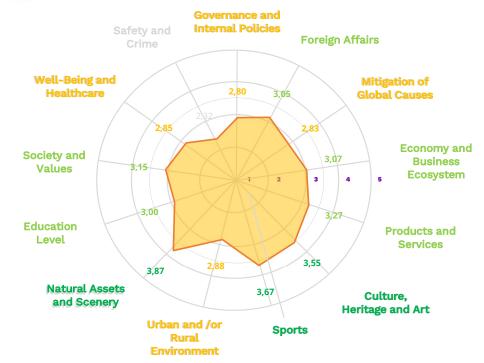
# Foreign Affairs, Economy, Products, Society and Values and Education have positive perceptions

Among them, Education receives the lowest perception score of 3,0, falling in-between moderately negative and negative. It is followed by the Foreign Affairs (3,05), Economy and Business Ecosystem (3,07) and Society and Values (3,15).

Products and Services are regarded most positively in this set, attaining a score of 3,27 moving closer to the Love Mark (3,5).

13 perception elements of the Nation Brand Taxonomy Model© Q9. Could you please rate South Africa in terms of...? - Prominence >4.0 ■ 3.9-3.5 ■ 3.5-3.0 ■ 3.0-2,5 ■ < 2.5 - - - Love Mark (3.5)









# USA is the most important target market

When comparing Digital demand in target markets, the United States take a clear lead in all the dimensions. India in *Prominence* due to the importance of Sports, in particular, *Cricket*.

Other key markets are United Kingdom and India in *Investment*, *Export* and *Study*, and Germany in *Tourism* and *Work*.

#### Top target markets in each Dimension

# Country	Searches	# Country	Searches	# Country	Searches
1 USA	- 926K	1 USA	- 117K	1 USA	- 29K
2 Germany	▲1 759K	2 U. Kingdom	- 103K	2 U. Kingdom	- 17K
3 U. Kingdom	<b>▼</b> 1 660K	3 🔤 India	- 63K	3 India	- 15K
4 India	<b>▲</b> 1 465K	4 Germany	- 52K	4 Germany	- 10K
5 Netherlands	<b>▲</b> 1 409K	5 🎇 Australia	- 41K	5 🤼 Australia	- 8,4K
Tourism		Investment		Export	
# Country	Searches	# Country	Searches	# Country	Searches
# Country  1 India	Searches - 787K	# Country  1 USA	Searches - 149K	# Country  1 USA	Searches
1 India	- 787K	1 USA	- 149K	1 USA	- 48K
1 India 2 USA	- 787K - 755K	1 USA 2 U. Kingdom	- 149K - 102K	1 USA 2 India	- 48K - 31K
1 India 2 USA 3 U. Kingdom	- 787K - 755K - 476K	1 USA 2 U. Kingdom 3 Germany	- 149K - 102K - 77K	1 USA 2 India 3 U. Kingdom	- 48K - 31K - 30K

Prominence Work Study





# Global online searches for South African Exports mainly: Metals, Soft Commodities, and High-Value Products

Global online searches demonstrate a significant interest in South Africa's export sectors, with Metals leading as the top category, reflecting the country's rich mining industry and resource base.

Soft Commodities, such as grains and agricultural products, also show substantial demand from international markets, further solidifying South Africa's position as a key player in global trade.

Export from South Africa inquiries reflect the country's strengths in both Metals (22%) and Soft Commodities (13%), but searches also reveal a growing interest in Products Made in SA, such as manufactured goods (9%) and locally produced goods (7%).





# South Africa Country Investment Strategy (CIS) - opportunities for business expansion

The South Africa Investment Strategy (SAIS) seeks to advance NDP target of 30% of gross fixed capital formation to GDP by 2030 by positioning South Africa as a key preferred African investment destination by:

#### CIS 5 frontiers of strategic investment opportunities

These sectors form the cornerstone of South Africa's economic strategy, offering diverse opportunities for investment and sustainable growth.



**Green hydrogen:** becoming a leading global production site for Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia as export commodities



**Next gen digital:** global business services and digital services, advanced manufacturing, deployment of transformative technologies & digital platforms



**Special economic zones:** anchoring advanced manufacturing and logistics networks taking advantage of South Africa's structural advantages on the continent



**Industrial cannabis:** as a legally and globally traded commodity is projected to be a USD278 billion global marketplace by 2028



Hyper scaling ESG impact investment: the Environmental, Social, and Government impact investment fund marketplace exceeds USD30 trillion.

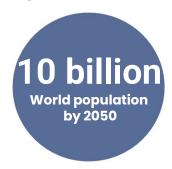
The country's prioritized sub-sectors for driving investment and economic development encompass finance, insurance, real estate, and business services; transport and logistics; manufacturing; mining and quarrying; electricity, gas, and water; as well as agriculture and agri-processing.







# **Key Global Trends**



\$3.4 trillion(2022)

The global value of exports of biodiversity-based goods

19,2%



Biotrade as a percentage of global trade in 2022 up from 14,8 %(2010)

36%



Global exports of biodiversity based products come from Food & Beverage Sector

There are huge opportunities for Biotrade producers and processors to supply the growing global population.

Gen Z care about sustainability more than anyone and are conscious buyers. Population ageing, combined with a longer lifespan, will have immense impact on the global market as it is reshaping consumer lifestyles and purchasing decisions.

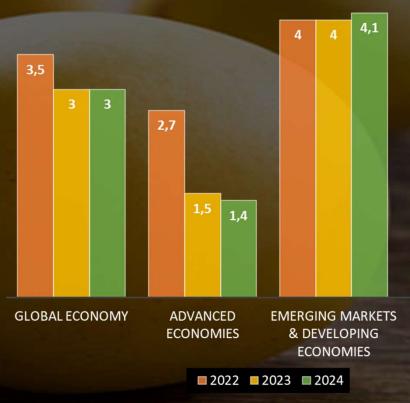
Food and beverages a growing
Biotrade segment as consumer
seek healthier options. Other
market segments Medical
products and cosmetics are also
experiencing growth



# Why the Biotrade Sector Matters?



- Economically Robust Partners: Major global economies like the USA, EU, China, and the UAE are not only sources of significant FDI but also exhibit strong economic fundamentals that present robust trade and export opportunities for South Africa.
- Expanding Consumption Demand: The increasing preference for ethical, natural, and sustainable food products presents South Africa with a unique opportunity to diversify its export offerings and cater to evolving global consumption patterns.
- Rising Demand for Sustainable Health & Cosmetics: As consumers increasingly
  prefer eco-friendly health & cosmetics products with natural ingredients there is
  an opportunity to tap into this growing global market.
- Emerging markets are seeing significant growth, particularly in countries like India (GDP 8.2%) and China (GDP 5.3%). Biotrade positions South Africa to tap into these high-growth markets, enhancing export potential and economic diversification.





# South Africa's Competitive Advantage

3rd most biodiverse country in the world.

5000 PLANT SPECIES CAN ONLY BE FOUND IN South Africa

- ☐ South Africa's commercial agricultural sector is well-developed and integrated into the global supply-value chain.
- ☐ A sophisticated and competitive agro-processing industry is built and supported by South Africa's diverse agricultural sector, accounting for 23% of the country's manufacturing sector and making it the largest sub-sector of manufacturing.
- Counter seasonality: located in the Southern Hemisphere, South Africa enjoys counter-seasonality to the Northern Hemisphere, positioning it well to supply agricultural products to lucrative consumer markets in Europe and North America.
- ☐ Efficient export infrastructure South Africa has a well-established infrastructure network and thanks to its strategic location the country is well positioned to export agricultural produce to world markets.



# **Key Multilateral Partners: A Platform for Biotrade Growth**

South Africa's multilateral partnerships are key to unlocking global opportunities in biotrade, especially in regions like the **EU**, **BRICS**, and **the Americas**, where demand for sustainable, natural products continues to rise.

- ☐ Global Market Access: Partnerships with diverse regions like BRICS, the EU, and the Americas open doors to high-demand markets for natural and sustainable products.
- □ Value-Added Products: Engagement with developed markets supports the creation of high-value, processed biotrade goods, increasing profitability and export competitiveness.
- **Economic Empowerment**: Biotrade drives sustainable rural development and job creation, with local communities benefiting from global market integration.









# **Regional Markets - A Platform for Biotrade Growth**



#### **European Union**

Opportunity: The EU's strong focus on sustainability and natural ingredients creates a lucrative market for South African biotrade products, particularly those adhering to EU environmental standards.

**Biotrade Focus:** Sustainable agriculture, herbal extracts, natural cosmetics.



**Opportunity:** With over 40% of the world's population, BRICS countries are increasingly seeking sustainable, natural products such as cosmetics, herbal remedies, and ethically sourced agricultural goods.

**Biotrade** Focus: Medicinal plants, biodiversity-based cosmetics, agriculture.



Opportunity: North and South American markets are seeing increased demand for natural, eco-friendly products, particularly in the beauty, health, and wellness sectors.

**Biotrade Focus:** Biodiversity-based ingredients, sustainable agricultural products, natural health remedies.



Opportunity: The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) opens a market of 1.2 billion consumers, allowing easier trade of biotrade products across the continent.

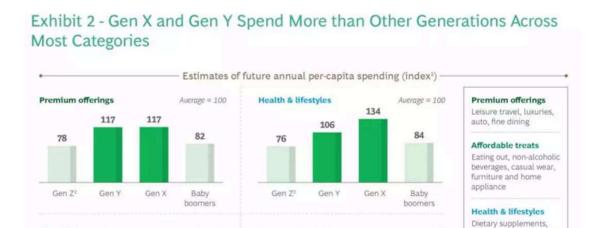
**Biotrade Focus:** Indigenous plants, organic agricultural products, natural skincare.



# **Country Case Analysis - China**



" World's largest consumption market."



**Everyday essentials** 

Average = 100

Baby

boomers

101

Gen X

outdoor activities, sports gear, aesthetic medicine,

tife & health insurance

Everyday essentials Fresh food, semi-ready meals, home and personal care

Top 2 spenders

Sources: BCG CCI-Chinese Future Consumer Survey (Oct 2022, N=9,000); BCG analysis.

Affordable treats

Gen Z2

112

Gen Y

Represents each generation's annual per-capita spending on categories, index = 100 means being on par to the overall average, index > 100 means higher than the overall average; index < 100 means lower than the overall average.

Gen Y

Gen Z2

<sup>2</sup>Gen Z are not yet financially independent, and part of their expenses is paid by their parents.

Average = 100

102

Baby

boomers

128

Gen X

# South Africa

# **Country Case Analysis - China**

# Importance of Guanxi and 'Face' in Chinese Business Culture:

Success in China is heavily reliant on relationships and reputation, often encapsulated by the Confucian concepts of **Guanxi** (relationships) and **Face** (honour and reputation).

For South African businesses, building strong relationships is not just a competitive advantage—it's a necessity. Here's how these concepts can impact business:

- Guanxi: In China, 'Guanxi' refers to the network of personal relationships that often form the foundation of business success.
   South African businesses should focus on building strong, trusted connections with Chinese partners, as these relationships can open doors to opportunities and foster long-term collaboration. Like the South African phrase "It's not what you know, but who you know," 'Guanxi' prioritizes personal connections and loyalty.
- Face: The concept of 'Face' is essential in maintaining one's honour and reputation in China. Publicly losing 'Face'—through criticism or confrontation—can have damaging effects on business relationships. South African





# Strategic institutions for gearing-up for growth

#### **Research and Development**







#### **Export Readiness**





