## **SOUTH AFRICA**

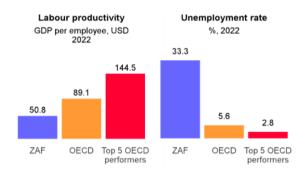


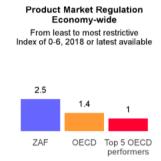
## Performance gaps

## Recommendations

#### Product and labour markets functioning

- Regulatory policies remain restrictive and competition is low in many key network industries.
- South Africa compares unfavourably in most product market regulation indicators, in particular indicators assessing distortions induced by state involvement.
- Align sector regulators and the Competition Commission to strengthen competition policies and their enforcements.
- Privatise State-Owned Enterprises operating in competitive market segments, such as commercial banking, energy, and logistics.



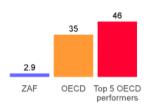


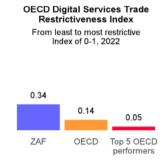
### Digital transition

- Lagging telecommunication infrastructure, in particular the roll-out
  of fibre-optic cable, is slowing down digitalisation. Only 2.4% of
  inhabitants have access to high-speed internet. In addition, access
  to telecommunication services is highly unequal across the
  country.
- Take advantage of any public construction works to install openaccess telecom infrastructure.
- Subsidise the expansion of the network outside city centres through grants, conditional on making the infrastructure openly accessible.

### Fixed broadband subscriptions Per 100 inhabitants

2021 or latest available



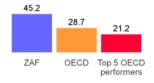


## Inclusiveness, social protection, and ageing

- Poverty remains high, despite an extensive and well-functioning means-tested cash-transfer system that provides support to the elderly, children, and people with disabilities. Unemployed and informal workers receive little support.
- Strengthen the social transfer system to cover unemployed individuals by, for instance, making permanent the Social Distress Relief grant introduced during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Consider the introduction of an additional means-tested benefit for households with income below the minimum subsistence line.

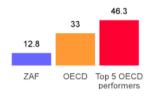
## Mean poverty gap after taxes and transfers

Line at 60% of median disposable income 2021 or latest available



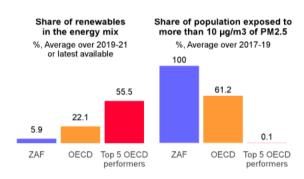
#### Strength of redistribution

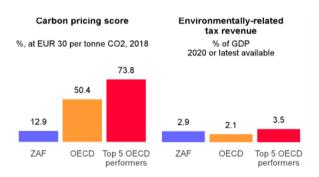
Differences in Gini coefficients between market & disposable income relative to coef. on disposable income %, 2021 or latest available



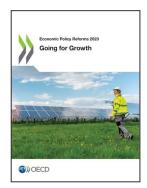
#### Climate transition

- CO2 emissions per unit of GDP are high, reflecting in part the highenergy intensity of the economy, but also the elevated dependence on coal as a main energy source. 80% of electricity production still comes from coal.
- Progressively reduce exemptions to the carbon tax to increase its base.
- Increase and accelerate the procurement of renewable electricity from independent power producers.





#### Overall performance Economy Inequality and poverty **Environment and climate** Thousands USD per capita 2021 or latest available Welfare cost of premature deaths 2022 or latest available due to ambient particulate matter Gini coefficient after taxes % GDP equivalent, 2019 and transfers (index of 0-100) Poverty rate, line at 60% of Gross Domestic Product median disposable income (%) 61.8 33.9 2.9 45.3 ZAF OECD ZAF OECD ZAF OECD



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