

# Geodesy @ DLRRD

*Aslam Parker*

*Chief Director:: National Geospatial Information,  
Branch National Geomatics Management Service*



**land reform &  
rural development**

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



**SAGWG**  
South African Geodesy  
Working Group

# Applicable Legislation :

- 1) Land Survey Act, 1997 (Act 8 of 1997)
  - Duties of CD: NGI listed in sec 3 (A), establish and maintain a national control survey system;
  - Secs 42, 43, 44 – beacons and marks of national control survey system
- 2) SDI Act 53 of 2003 and Policy on the Pricing of Spatial Information



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# National Control Survey System

- Firstly, the unique spatial reference framework provides integrated, unambiguous positioning, connected locally, nationally and internationally.
- Defines the South African Coordinate Reference System (Coordinate System and Geodetic Datum)



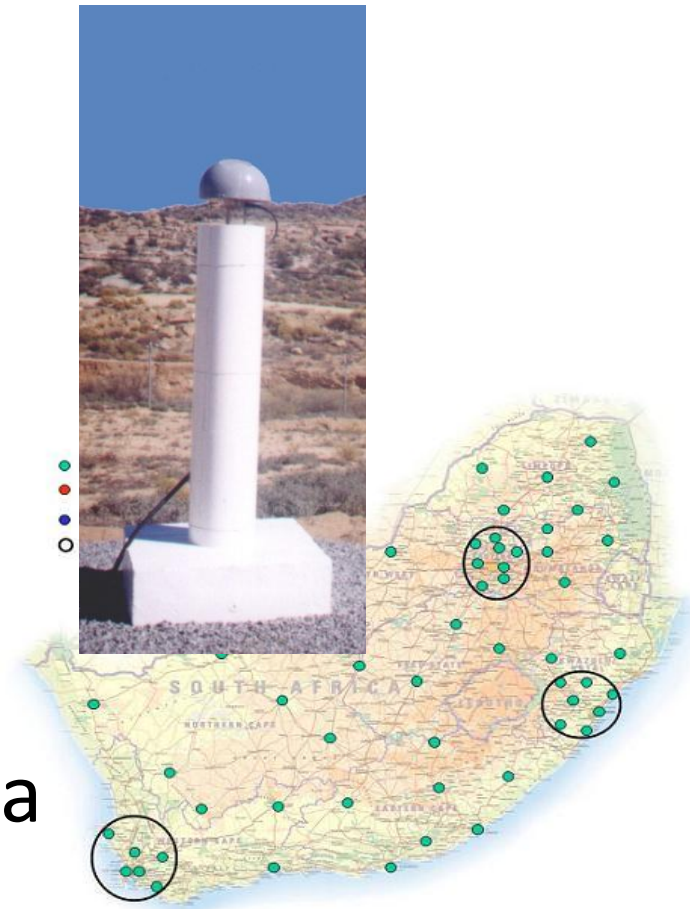
land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# National Control Survey System

- Passive Network
  - Co-ordinates and heights of  $\pm 28\ 000$  trigonometrical beacons and  $\pm 25\ 000$  town survey marks.
- Active Network
  - TrigNet: The SA Network of Continuously Operating GNSS Reference Stations
  - Host for African Reference Frame (AFREF) data center



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# SA Land Levelling Datum (SALLD)

- Reference surface: Adopted mean sea level at Cape Town (referenced to BM 1).
- Origin: constrained to mean sea level as determined from average tidal observations at Cape Town harbour in 1900 and 1907.
- Precise levelling commenced in 1904 and the first provisional adjustment between Cape Town, Pretoria and Durban occurred in 1943.



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# Realisation of Hartebeesthoek94

- 29 000 Trigonometrical Beacons
- 24 000 accessible Town Survey Marks
- 70 Permanent GNSS reference stations.

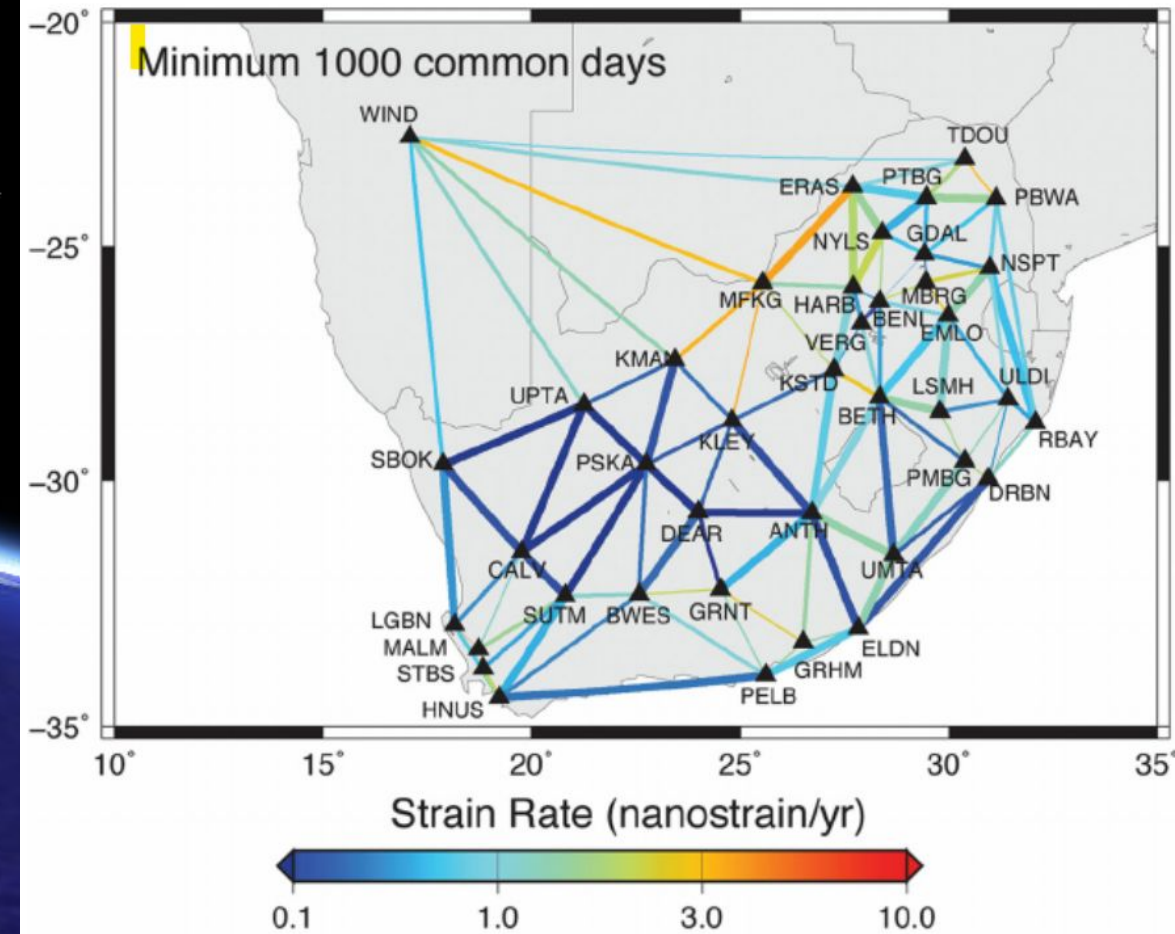
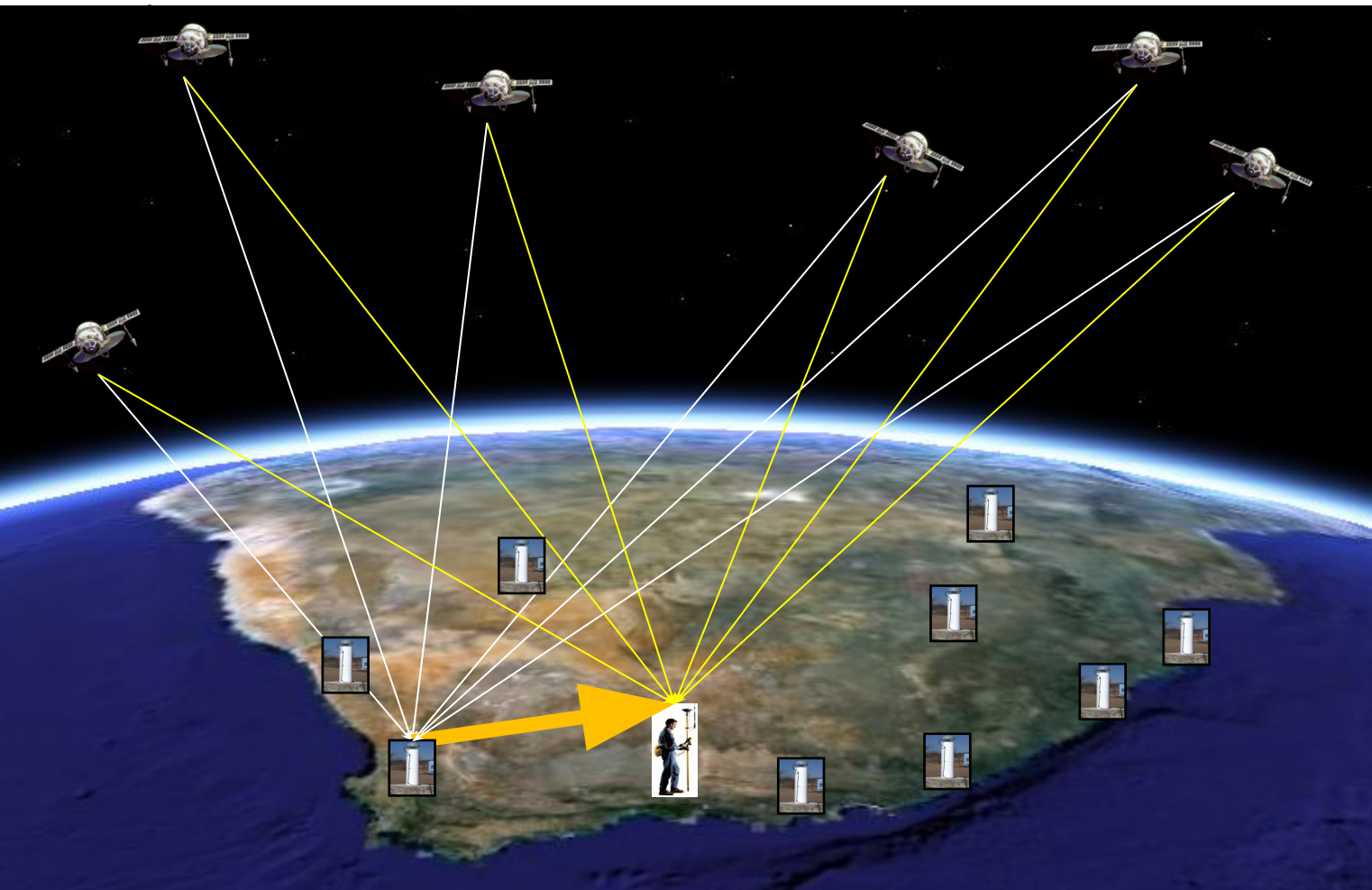


land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# TrigNet [www.trignet.co.za](http://www.trignet.co.za)



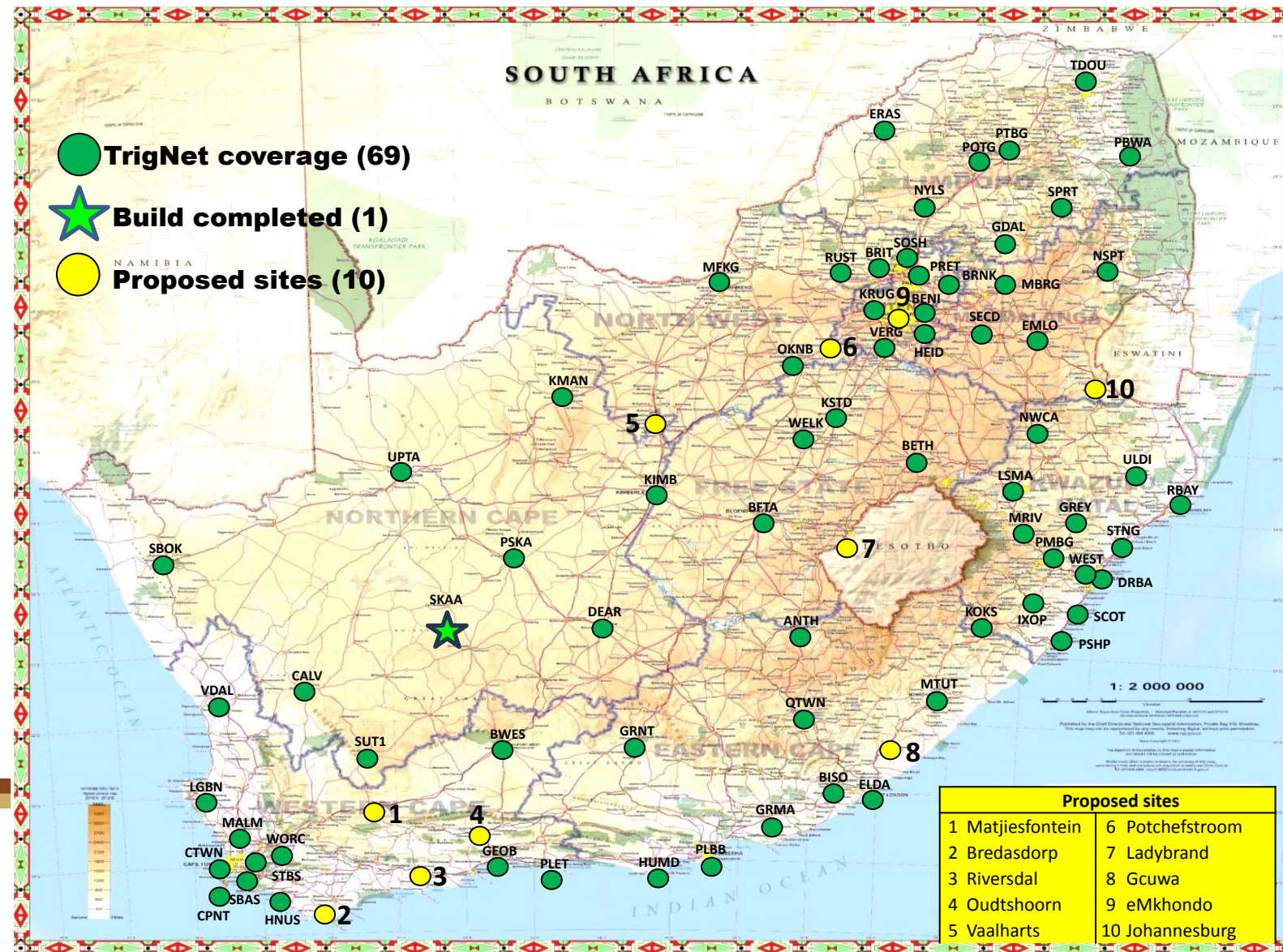
land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# TrigNet @ 2025



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# TrigNet Status

- 70 functional stations
- Modernization a priority
- Numerous scientific applications SANSA using to space weather prediction.
- Geoid model used to convert from to Ortho heights.
- Coordinates transmitted in ITRF2014 (epoch 2018) but also available in Hartebeesthoek94



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# Realisation of LLD

- Numerous precisely levelled bench marks,
- $\pm 20\,000$  Town survey marks (> unofficial) ,
- Approximately 29 000 Trigonometrical beacons

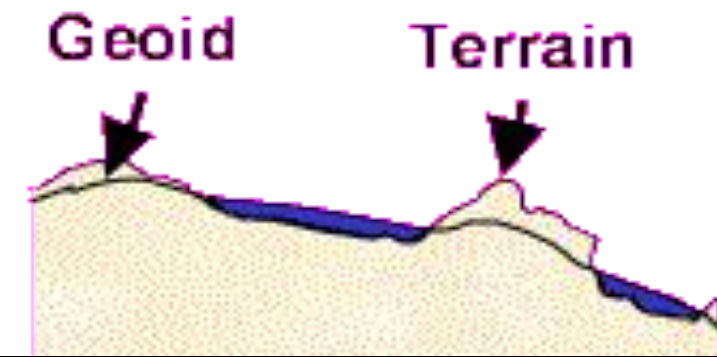


land reform &  
rural development

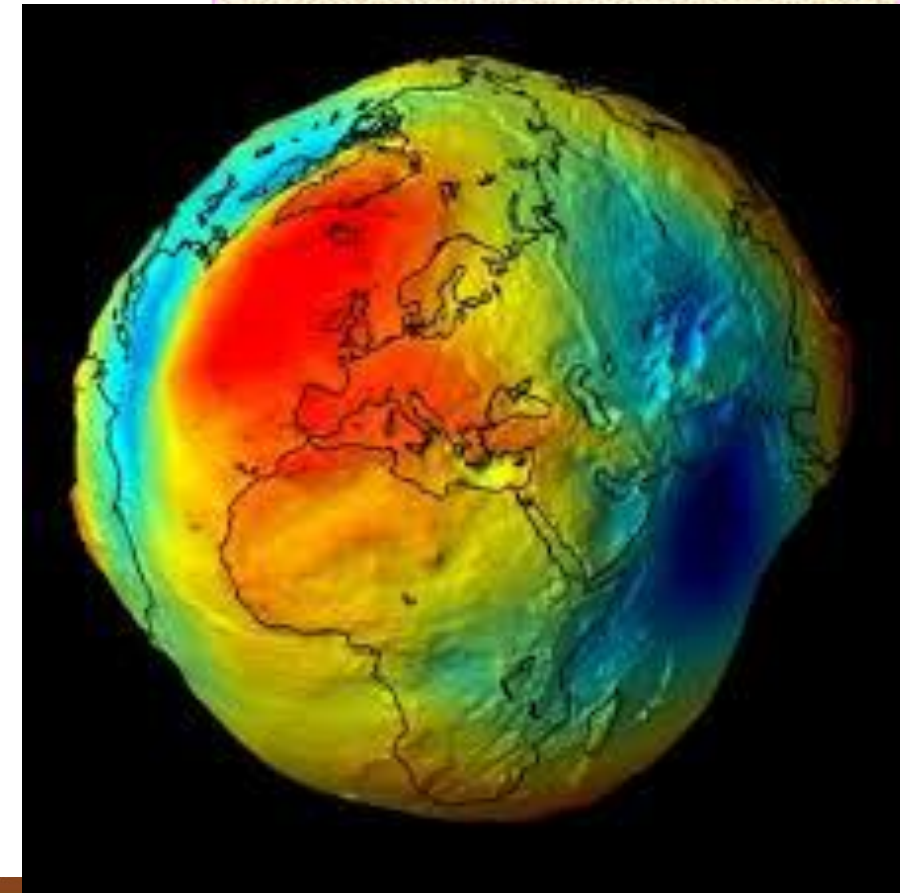
Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# The SA Geoid2010



- That equipotential surface that on average coincide with mean sea level.
- In SA, ellipsoidal heights ( $h$ ) > orthometric heights ( $H$ )
- The geoidal undulation ( $N$ ) is defined as  $H = h - N$



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# Spatial/Coordinate Reference Systems (SRS/CRS)

- CRS = Coordinate Reference System
- Set of mathematical rules for specifying how coordinates are to be assigned to points (coordinate system) that are related to the real world by a datum/reference frame.



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# Spatial/Coordinate Reference Systems (SRS/CRS)

## South African Coordinate Reference System (current)

Geodetic Datum  
(Hartebeesthoek94)

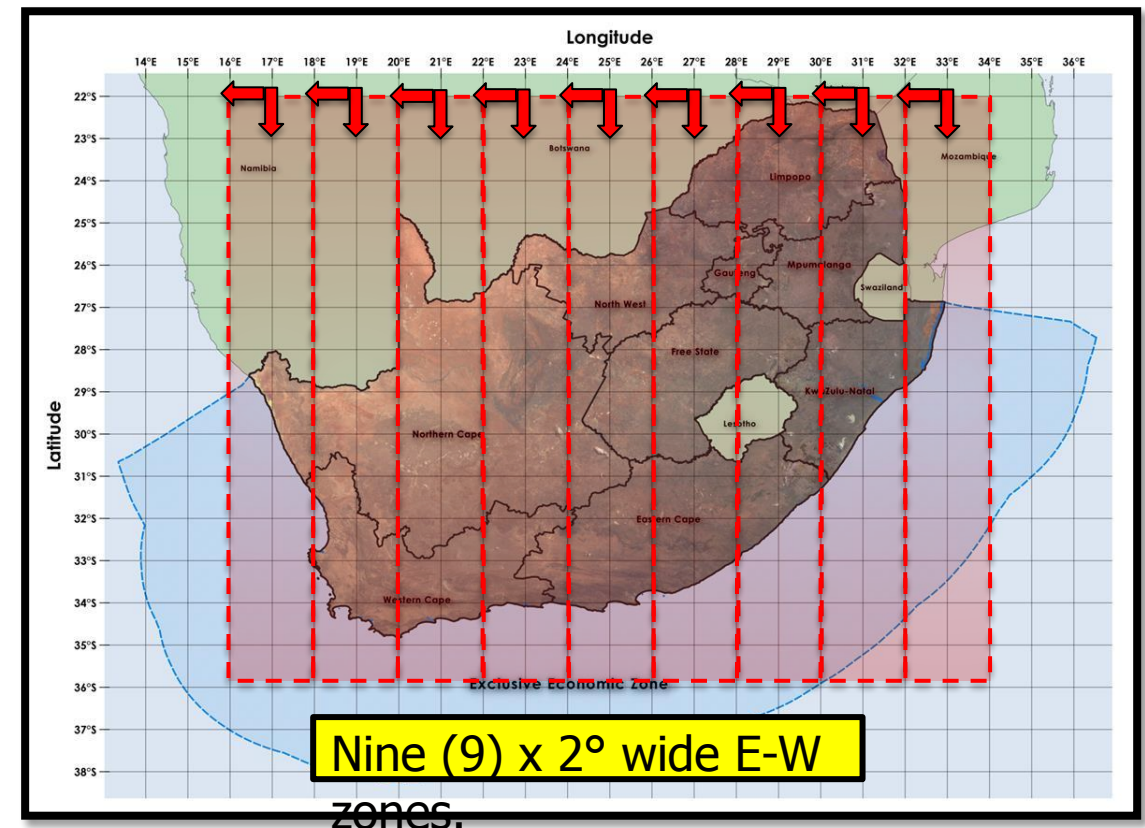
Coordinate System  
(Gauss Conformal)

WGS84  
ellipsoid

Coincident  
with ITRF91  
epoch  
1994.0

Transverse  
Mercator  
Projection

Coordinate  
System  
Conventions



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# Geodesy is central to affirmation of International Boundaries

- SA has borders with Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Eswatini (Swaziland) and Lesotho.
- DLRRD is SA lead in positional aspects during multilateral process.
- Also international maritime boundaries and EEZ



An Integrated, Prosperous  
and Peaceful Africa



African Union Headquarters P.O. Box 3243, Roosevelt Street, W21616, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Tel: +251 (0) 11 551 77 00 Fax: +251 (0) 11 551 78 44



land reform &  
rural development

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# THANK YOU



**land reform &  
rural development**

Department:  
Land Reform and Rural Development  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

