

## COAT OF ARMS



The coat of arms exemplifies creativity, strength, growth, fertility and unity, which inspire the nation to shine as brightly as the rising sun. The emblem also refers to the Khoisan people, who were the first inhabitants of the region.

### Secretary Bird

The bird is a symbol of protection and a messenger bringing grace to the earth. The uplifted wings refer to the ascendance of the nation.

### Spear & Knobkierie

Symbolise authority and defence. They are shown lying down to depict peace.

### Ears of Wheat

As the emblem of fertility, they symbolise growth and development.

### Motto

'!ke e: /xarra //ke',  
which means  
'Unity in Diversity'

The motto derives from the ancient /Xam language of the San people and includes three of the four click sounds of the African language. It calls for the nation to unite in a common sense of belonging and national pride.



### Rising Sun

A symbol of the rebirth and the source of life, light and the wholeness of humanity.

### Protea

An emblem of the beauty of the land, it symbolises the flowering of the nation.

### Shield & Figures

The shield shows both identity and spiritual defence. The two figures symbolise unity.



The images of the two people greeting each other are taken from the Linton Panel, a famous example of South African rock art now on display in Cape Town's Natural History Museum.

### Elephant Tusks

The tusks symbolise wisdom and strength, moderation and eternity.