



SACPLAN

1st STATE OF THE PLANNING PROFESSION REPORT (SPPR)

Prof Mfaniseni Fana Sihlongonyane
SACPLAN Chairperson

Dear Planners and Stakeholders

On behalf of the South African Council for Planners (SACPLAN), it is my privilege to bring to your attention the release of the **1st State of the Planning Profession Report (SPPR)**.

This report represents an unprecedented, comprehensive assessment of our profession, its history, its present standing, and the path ahead. It draws on extensive surveys, interviews, case studies, and workshops with planners across the country, and reflects, in many aspects your own voices and experiences as planners in South Africa.

Of particular significance is the Foreword to this report, written by the Minister for Land Reform and Rural Development, Hon. Mzwanele Nyhontso. The Minister frames the report as arriving at a critical juncture in South Africa's development trajectory, one where spatial transformation, economic inclusion, and service delivery demand a capable and future-oriented planning profession. Importantly, the Minister is unequivocal that this report must not sit on a shelf, it is intended as a catalyst for action.

SACPLAN wishes to affirm that the findings of the SPPR already reflect the key priorities of the Council, and that the report will be used as a base for the implementation of our strategic objectives in the period ahead.

I therefore encourage every planner to take the time to read the full report and to reflect on its findings and recommendations. Your engagement with this report is an important step in shaping the direction our profession takes in the years ahead.

The full report is available [here](#).

Prof Mfaniseni Fana Sihlongonyane
South African Council for Planners – Chairperson

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