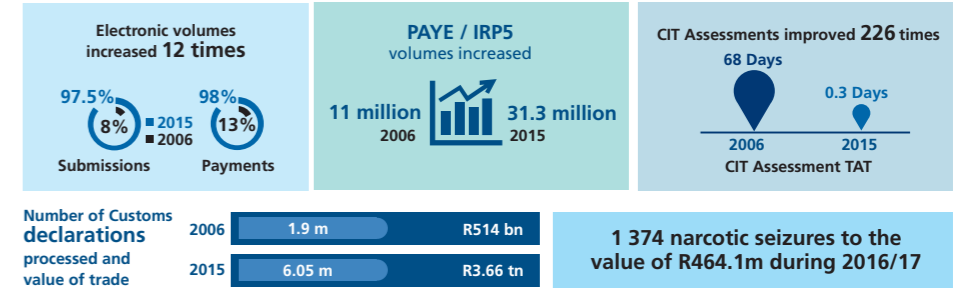


20 YEARS | TAX & TRIUMPHS

1997-2017

Since the Modernisation Programme was launched in 2007, tax and customs revenue collected by SARS has increased from R321 billion to R900 billion to over R1 trillion within ten years, and the number of registered taxpayers, traders and other persons grew from 8.24 million to more than 20 million.



A message from SARS Commissioner



Our trajectory of development has been plotted against a timeline punctuated by achievements that defined SARS as a leader among revenue authorities.

SARS was created as a semi-autonomous organ of state in 1997, in the stages of the birth of democracy in our country. SARS has matured over the last 20 years to become

a tax authority that is recognised for its professionalism and efficiency.

The organisation reflects South Africa's progression, from a neglected and deteriorating institution, into an efficient administration that embodies constitutional values and practices responsible administration. **Commissioner, Tom Moyane**



EVERYONE CALLED US THE RECEIVER OF REVENUE

What most people would not remember, is that back then we still sold Revenue Stamps!

Businesses could purchase revenue stamps from Inland Revenue, and attach them to certain legal documents to make them legal. That is one of the ways revenue was collected. We also collected various licenses and levies which we no longer collect now.

All payments to SARS were made by cash or cheque. Very few of us had computers, and even if you had one, it was it was not connected to the Internet. Every single income tax, VAT and PAYE return was submitted on paper and had to be processed manually. In fact,

everything was done on paper. PAYE recons and all the certificates were manually submitted and Inland Revenue kept strict stock of all IRP5 books. For the bulk of taxpayers their individual returns were processed by a Central Editing Team, while provisional taxpayer returns, company and Trust returns were processed by assessors, one by one.

FROM "DUMB TERMINALS" TO STATE-OF-THE-ART SYSTEMS

Back then, most the work that was done from a tax point of view was done on what you would term "Dumb Terminals." These were display monitors that had no processing capabilities, a far cry from the modern technology that we use today.

Then there was SARS

The Katz Commission was established in 1994 to conduct a comprehensive review of South Africa's then under-performing tax system. After years of planning and extensive work, the directorates of Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise were moved out of the Department of Finance to a new entity called the South African Revenue Service (SARS) which was formally established in October 1997.

Numerous legislative changes had to be effected following the recommendations of the Katz Commission. With the cut of a



Former Minister of Finance, Trevor Manuel cuts the ribbon with former Deputy Minister of Finance, Gill Marcus during the inauguration of Lehae la SARS in 1998

SARS Footprint in 2017

Branch operations

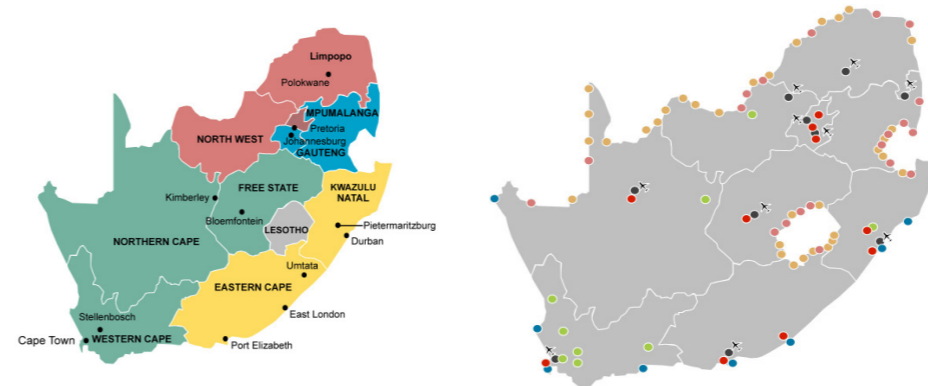
- 53 Branches
- 1 Contact Centre over 4 sites
- 21 Mobile Tax Units
- 60 Portable Registration kits

Customs and Excise

- Airport (13)
- Seaport (11)
- Port of Entry (27) (Designated¹)
- Port of Entry (32) (Non-Designated)
- Excise Office (9)
- Customs Office² (10)

Note:

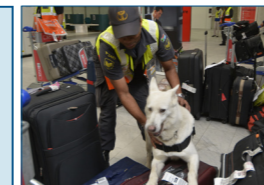
1. Customs is only present at designated ports of entry where commercial and passenger traffic can flow
2. Customs offices in PTA & JHB also have an Excise office presence.



SPECIALISED DOG UNIT

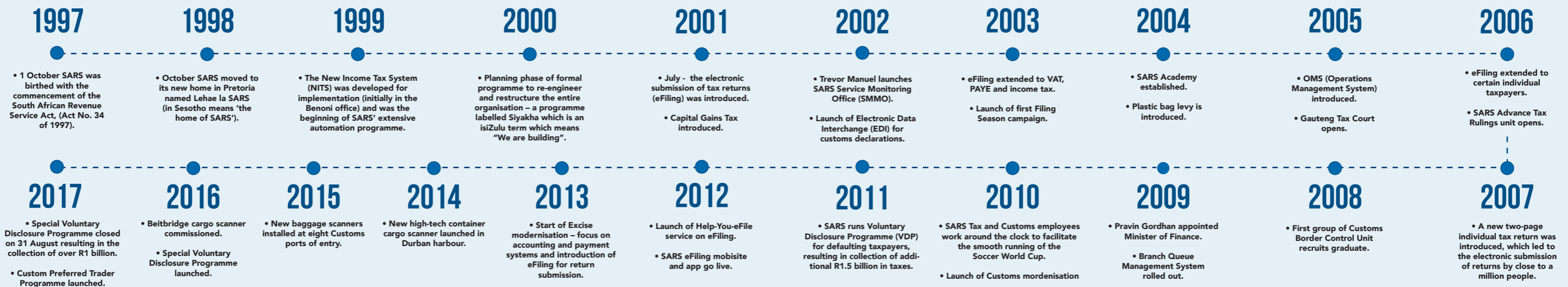
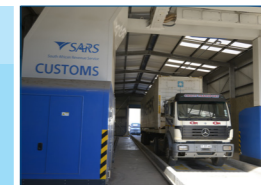
117 dogs and 123 handlers

56.9% trained in narcotics
26.8% detects trafficking in endangered species in 2016/17



2016/17 Non-Intrusive Inspections Capability

R7.5 m revenue yielded and R11.7 m illicit goods detected through scanning



EVOLUTION OF THE SARS LOGO

Part of establishing the new organisation involved finding a new logo for SARS, and a competition was run among staff to design the new logo.

